

Class 2 State final on December 13, 2025.

Strasburg's come-from-behind victory under the leadership of second year Head Coach Tripp Lamb showed resilience and composure. Senior Brady Knight, playing both running back and linebacker, helped lead the comeback and finished as one of three Rams to rush for over 100 yards. Juniors Quincy Williams and Linkyn Bosworth also surpassed the century mark on the ground, while Williams delivered game-changing defensive play. Quarterback Brayden Hough added a late rushing score to seal the victory.

Mr. Speaker, this win belongs to not only this year's team, but to decades of Strasburg athletes and coaches, including Jeff Smoot, Glenn Proctor, and Mark Roller, who laid the foundation for success.

This championship is a testament to perseverance, teamwork, and a community that never stopped believing. I proudly commend the Strasburg High School Rams on making history.

#### NATIONAL NEWS ON IMMIGRATION

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the recent arrests of 1,328 illegal immigrants across Virginia. Among those arrested were individuals wanted for serious crimes, including murder, rape, sexual assault, kidnapping, DUI, and attempted murder.

During the Biden administration, our immigration laws went unenforced. When individuals who entered our country illegally are allowed to remain in our communities, the rule of law is undermined and public safety is put at risk. Govern Spanberger and prosecutors like Fairfax Commonwealth Attorney Steve Descano are making it harder to enforce our immigration laws, weaken cooperation with ICE, and remove dangerous criminals from our communities.

The Trump administration and House Republicans are taking action to restore accountability and protect our communities. These efforts not only make Virginia safer but also strengthen public safety across our entire Nation.

#### RECOGNIZING THE DELAWARE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. McDOWELL). The Chair recognizes the Member from Delaware, Representative MCBRIDE, for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCBRIDE. Mr. Speaker, last month, the Delaware Community Foundation celebrated 40 years of contributing to the social and financial health of the First State.

Initially pioneered by my predecessor in this Chamber and our former Governor, Pete DuPont, the Delaware Community Foundation is one of the top 100 community foundations in the country and has spent the last four decades infusing financial support into critical initiatives, community partners, nonprofits, and education for Delawareans across our State.

Today, DCF is led by my friend and neighbor, Stuart Comstock-Gay, a community leader who is dedicated to improving the quality of life for all Delawareans.

Over the last 40 years, DCF has engaged in philanthropy, community collaboration, and thoughtful investments in medical research, scholarships for students, nonprofit support, and improving health equity.

DCF, like community foundations across the country is a critical driver of investment that can and have made a difference in the lives of every Delawarean.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate DCF on this tremendous milestone, and I thank them for their decades of enduring support and community impact that have shaped the lives of countless Delawareans.

#### REMEMBER 9/11

Ms. MCBRIDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the lives lost 25 years ago on September 11, 2001. What started as a beautiful Tuesday in September turned into a day of horror, as nearly 3,000 lives were lost in the deadliest terrorist attack against our Nation in history. Two and a half decades later, our hearts go out to all those for whom that day brought a fateful call, for some from a loved one in a plane or trapped in a burning building and for others, in the hours or days after, to learn that their missing parent, child, or sibling had perished.

Across our country, Americans will gather for this somber commemoration to pay tribute to the lives lost in Lower Manhattan, Northern Virginia, and western Pennsylvania, and to recommit to the charge echoed so often in the aftermath of the attacks to never forget.

Let us never forget the tragedy and loss of that day nor the heroism that illuminated a nation in one of its darkest hours. As planes were hijacked, fires raged, and fear struck in the hearts of Americans everywhere, heroes literally ran into the fire and charged a cabin, sacrificing themselves to save others; first responders flocked to the Twin Towers and into the Pentagon to save lives; and firefighters, police officers, medical providers, and ordinary citizens confronted death and destruction to save as many lives as they could.

As the long effort to find those missing began after the towers fell, many left their own families to focus full time on digging through smoldering rubble to find as many survivors as possible. Many who dedicated months of their lives to that rescue mission saw their own lives cut tragically short from the toxins they inhaled at Ground Zero.

The sacrifice of those on the ground was matched by those in the air above Pennsylvania that morning, as the bravery of passengers on Flight 93 saved countless lives in our Nation's Capital. Once they realized the fate before them—targeting either the White

House or the very building we stand in today—they decided to act. These passengers, who were strangers just 2 hours before, joined together to intervene in a cruel plot to attack the very symbols of freedom and democracy.

That was the power of the heroism on and after September 11. There were no strangers to those who risked everything to save anyone.

As I stand in this Chamber 25 years later, I remain as inspired by their service and sacrifice as I was as an 11-year-old watching on TV.

When I think about how scared all of us were on that day, I am reminded of one of my favorite quotes from Mr. Rogers, who shared that when he was young and used to see something scary on the news, his mother would tell him to look for the helpers.

On that day and in the days and weeks that followed, helpers were everywhere. Heroes were everywhere. Mr. Speaker, 25 years later, let us not only remember, but let us also recommit ourselves to summoning just a fraction of the courage of the helpers in the wake of that tragedy.

May God bless the memories of those lost, and may we remember the enduring legacy of courage that saved lives two and a half decades ago.

#### RECOGNIZING SHANNON BINGHAM

(Mr. BACON of Nebraska was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Shannon Bingham of Omaha, Nebraska.

Shannon is an entrepreneur, keynote speaker, author, and advocate whose life and service have been profoundly shaped by the power of adoption. Recently named a two-time Nebraska Merit Mother of the Year, Shannon has dedicated her life to strengthening families, supporting children, and raising awareness about adoption.

Her advocacy began in her own home when Shannon adopted her son Seth. She quickly realized that adoption is not simply about welcoming a child into a family. It is a lifelong commitment to unconditional love, understanding, and growth. Like many adoptive families, their story has been filled with both joy and significant challenges. Through it all, Shannon developed an understanding of the unique needs of adoptees and the importance of ensuring families have the resources they need to thrive.

What began as a personal family journey has grown into a powerful mission to help others. In 2023, Shannon, Seth, and their family stood alongside Nebraska Governor Jim Pillen as he proclaimed National Adoption Awareness Month in the State of Nebraska. Since then, this inspiring mother-and-son duo have continued to use their voices to support families navigating their own adoption paths.

Today, Shannon continues as an adoptive family mentor with the Nebraska Children's Home Society. In

this role, she provides support and encouragement to prospective and adoptive families. She has also shared her family's story across numerous television media and speaking platforms, using every opportunity to educate, advocate, and inspire.

Through her platform, Adoption is an Option, Shannon works to increase awareness, encourage families to consider adoption, and advocate for children awaiting permanent loving homes. She believes that every child deserves a true sense of connection, belonging, and the knowledge that they are deeply loved.

By sharing both the beautiful moments and the real challenges of adoption, Shannon has become a champion for children and families across Nebraska and beyond. Her story is a testament to this belief that while adoption begins with a single act of love, its impact echoes for generations.

Shannon and her husband, Kurt, have three children, Seth, Ian, and Nora.

#### RECOGNIZING SUE MORRIS

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sue Morris, a leader and a true champion of community transformation in Nebraska.

For 25 years as president of Heritage Omaha, she shaped the culture and civic landscape of our region. Under her leadership, the organization realized over \$1 billion of community projects and raised more than \$750 million in private philanthropic funds. From the Holland Performing Art Center and the Joslyn Art Museum to the University of Nebraska Omaha's Baxter Arena and Charles Schwab Field, her work has transformed our community.

Sue's approach to philanthropy is to always focus on stewardship, ethics, and deep community impact. She mastered the art of aligning a donor's unique passion with a meaningful public need, viewing herself not just as a fundraiser but as a facilitator for the common good.

Her recent work represents what she calls the crown jewel of her professional life. As president of the Veterans Trust, Sue spearheaded the development of the new Ambulatory Care Center at the Omaha VA Medical Center, which serves thousands of veterans across Nebraska and western Iowa. The Ambulatory Care Center was the first-of-its-kind public-private partnership under the landmark legislation known as the CHIP-In for Veterans Act, which Sue helped shepherd through Congress. Her efforts on behalf of veterans continue to see the CHIP-In for Veterans Act become the permanent pathway for construction of veterans' healthcare facilities through public-private partnerships.

After leaving Heritage Omaha in 2020, Sue served as an adviser at Nebraska Philanthropic Trust until retiring in July 2026. Today, Sue remains a vital force in our community, driven by a simple and enduring desire to make a positive impact.

#### HONORING DIANA FLORES

(Mr. VEASEY of Texas was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my dear friend, an incredible person in education in Dallas, and that is Diana Flores, a DISD trustee.

After 30 years of hard work and dedication to the community in education, Ms. Flores is the longest-serving member of the Dallas College Board of Trustees. Throughout her tenure, she served numerous roles, including chair of the board from 2018 until 2020 and vice chair on two occasions. Most recently, she chaired the board's education and workforce committee. She has helped to build a connection between higher education and the needs of the North Texas workforce like no other.

During her service, Ms. Flores helped guide Dallas College through periods of tremendous growth, including the 2019 bond program to modernize campuses and expand educational opportunities at El Centro in downtown Dallas.

After three decades, my dear friend, Ms. Flores, retired on August 30, 2026. Diana did so much for our young people in the community, especially her work through LULAC. Her work with scholarships and other merit-based educational programs really are like no other.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Diana on her retirement. I thank her for everything she has done to serve the community, and I wish her well in the next 30 years.

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#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF VERNELL STURNS

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my dear friend and neighbor, Vernell Sturns.

This is a legend right here, Mr. Speaker, someone who rose from Mount Enterprise, Texas, down in the Piney Woods of east Texas, on to KU, part of that tremendous KU background that helped shape the city of Fort Worth.

Vernell Sturns passed away on August 23, 2026, at the age of 86.

Mr. Sturns' life was dedicated to making Fort Worth and north Texas a better place for all. He was the city's first Black assistant city manager and later was acting city manager and chief administrative officer. He was also the CEO of Dallas Fort Worth International Airport, one of our country's busiest and most successful airports, in 1991.

He served in various leadership roles throughout north Texas, including as a trustee of TCU and later on the board of trustees at Jarvis Christian College near east Texas, where he was from.

Mr. Sturns was also a force of the Metropolitan Black Chamber of Commerce in Fort Worth and so many other organizations.

Vernell's life touched so many people throughout Fort Worth, and I would not have time to list all of them here.

To his wife, Debra; his children, Michael, Robert, Paula, and Chris; and his grandchildren, I send my sincerest condolences. Their dad and their grandfather was an amazing man whose legacy will live forever.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF FORT WORTH CIVIL RIGHTS AND COMMUNITY ADVOCATE JOHNNY LEWIS

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, this is very sad for me.

I rise today to honor a good friend of mine who was a community leader in Southeast Fort Worth and the Southside, Johnny Lewis.

Johnny was just an incredible person who loved the community. Raised in Historic Southside of Fort Worth, Johnny Lewis dedicated his life to improving opportunities for others as vice president of the Historic Southside neighborhood.

Johnny was from Georgia, but he loved the Southside of Fort Worth and lived there for more than 50 years. He worked hard to make sure that there was quality economic development, worked hard to make sure that the youngsters weren't getting in trouble, worked hard to do things about crime in the community, and was really on the front line of so many.

He and his wife, Shirley, who preceded him in death, were just absolutely amazing people who loved Fort Worth, and you can see their influence with the monuments and the various edifices along Evans Avenue and East Rosedale and Terrell Avenue, where they lived and made a difference.

Johnny was an amazing person who served our country in the military, and his entire family, his daughter, his brother, his nieces—that entire family is incredible, and we want to keep them in prayer because we know that Johnny is going to be someone who is missed in that family for a long time to come, as he will be missed in our community.

#### RECOGNIZING MARY ANN KELLAM

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my dear friend Mary Ann Kellam, who served 12 incredible years at the Irving Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. She did so much to make sure that the Chamber was in tip-top shape, and the Chamber received so many awards. I hate that I was unable to make Mary Ann's retirement party, but she is going to be missed. She was an incredible person.

#### CHOICE BEFORE OUR COUNTRY

(Mr. MANN of Kansas was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, there is a fundamental choice before our country today: Do we trust the American people, or do we trust Big Government?

Conservatives believe that freedom grows when the American Government gets out of the way. We believe in rewarding hard work, protecting free speech, securing our borders, lowering taxes, giving parents autonomy, and creating an economy where Americans can build, grow, and prosper.