building. During severe weather, he volunteered to deliver food and medication to elderly residents and veterans. Throughout his career, he shared his knowledge and experience with the next generation of law enforcement officers as an instructor at TLETA and the New Sheriffs School.

Yet, a career in public service is defined by more than moments of heroism. It is also defined by faithfulness in the little things—the everyday responsibilities that rarely make headlines but make an enormous difference to the people you serve. Sheriff Sugg understood that.

Under his leadership, careful budgeting resulted in seven consecutive years without an audit finding. He oversaw the installation of a new roof at the jail and critical repairs to its sewer system. He also secured patrol vehicles and new equipment for the Sheriffs Office without additional cost to taxpayers.

These accomplishments may not always earn a medal, but they represent an essential part of effective public service. They demonstrate Sheriff Sugg's commitment to responsible stewardship, fiscal accountability, and ensuring that the resources entrusted to his office were used wisely.

Above all, Sheriff Sugg never lost sight of the people he served. He treated the people he served and the men and women who served alongside him, with compassion, kindness, and respect. In doing so, he embodied the very best of Tennessee's tradition as the Volunteer State.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Sheriff Kevin L. Sugg on his retirement and thank him for 39 years of faithful service to Houston County and the State of Tennessee. His courage has saved lives, his leadership has strengthened his community, and his example will continue to inspire the law enforcement officers who follow in his footsteps. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sheriff Sugg for his distinguished career and in wishing him and his family all the best in this next chapter.

May God bless him and his family, and may God bless all those who put on the badge and answer the call to serve.

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF LITTLE TOKYO NUTRITION SERVICES

HON. JUDY CHU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2026

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate the distinguished Little Tokyo Nutrition Services on its 50th anniversary

Founded in 1976, Little Tokyo Nutrition Services was created to provide for the well-being of Little Tokyo's senior citizens. For the past half century, Little Tokyo Nutrition Services has grown into an invaluable resource for our community, dedicated to reducing food insecurity for seniors in the Little Tokyo and Boyle Heights neighborhoods of Los Angeles.

Little Tokyo Nutrition Services is a pillar of our community, serving more than 100 affordable meals each day to senior citizens who are living on limited income, or unable to prepare meals or shop for groceries independently. In addition to providing meals on site, Little Tokyo Nutrition Services delivers approximately 80 meals directly to homebound seniors throughout the community so that those who are most vulnerable continue to have access to nutritious food, ensuring no one is left hungry simply because they cannot leave their home.

Little Tokyo Nutrition Services addresses social isolation and promotes access to supportive services by creating a welcoming and supportive environment where seniors can foster lasting connections and a sense of belonging. Through regular social gatherings and activities, Little Tokyo Nutrition Services helps seniors remain actively engaged with their community.

Beyond nutrition and supportive services, Little Tokyo Nutrition Services helps seniors navigate the everyday challenges of modern life. Whether they need assistance with technology or transportation to their medical appointments, Little Tokyo Nutrition Services has ensured that our seniors can access the essential services and support they need.

I am proud to recognize Little Tokyo Nutrition Services on this incredible milestone and congratulate the organization on 50 years of serving seniors.

IN MEMORY OF WALLACE MEEKS

HON. CLAY FULLER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2026

Mr. FULLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Wallace Meeks. Wallace Meeks lived a life centered around the people he loved most: his family and his community.

A proud Northwest Georgian, Wallace called LaFayette home. Above all else, he was a devoted family man. He and his wife, Judy, shared 58 years of marriage and built a family that became his greatest legacy. Together, they raised three sons, Wally, Stacey, and Anthony. Wallace was also a proud grandfather and great-grandfather who was blessed to watch his family grow across generations.

The strength of a community comes from people who work hard, care for their neighbors, and put their families first. Wallace represented those values throughout his life, and his memory will live on through the many people who knew and loved him.

I am grateful for Wallace's life and the example he leaves behind. Mr. Speaker, please join me in keeping Judy, the entire Meeks family, and all those who loved Wallace in your prayers during this difficult time.

May God bless the Meeks family and bring them comfort in the days ahead.

INTRODUCTION OF THE REGIONAL GREAT LAKES PARTNERSHIP ACT

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2026

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Representative TIM WALBERG, and fellow co-chairs of the bipartisan Congressional Great Lakes Task Force, in introducing H.R. 10639, the Regional Great Lakes Partnership Act. This bill designates the Great Lakes Commission as the ''Regional Great Lakes Partnership'' for purposes of participation in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Regional Ocean Partnerships Program.

The Regional Ocean Partnerships Program, authorized by Division J, the Oceans and Atmosphere Division, of the Fiscal Year 2023 National Defense Authorization Act (P.L. 117–263), provides support to regional organizations voluntarily convened by Governors to coordinate interstate water and coastal management, data sharing, and environmental planning. In the three years since its creation, the Program has successfully supported four regional groups spanning the East, West, and Gulf coasts of the United States mainland.

However, the Great Lakes Region has not yet been included in the Program due to the absence of a designated regional organization to receive the Federal funds and facilitate interstate coordination. By formally adding the Great Lakes Commission through this legislation, Congress can increase Federal support for research and conservation work vital to the eight-State Great Lakes Region and the world's third-largest economy. Importantly, this bill leverages an existing, well-established working body rather than creating a new entity, thereby prioritizing efficiency, cost-effectiveness, and continued investment in healthy watersheds, resilient coastlines and working waterfronts, and economic vitality across the Great Lakes Region.

This bill, H.R. 10639, is a companion to S. 4573, which was introduced earlier this year by the senior Senators from Michigan and Ohio, Senator GARY PETERS and Senator BERNIE MORENO, and which the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, ordered to be favorably reported to the full Senate on September 16, 2026.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to advance this bill into law and urge the leadership of the Committee on Natural Resources to move it forward in the legislative process.

HONORING JAMELA SMITH-FOLDS AS ONE OF CALIFORNIA'S 8TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT'S WOMEN OF THE YEAR

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2026

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Jamela Smith-Folds as she is honored as one of California's 8th Congressional District's Women of the Year. Jamela Smith-Folds is an exceptional member of the West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD) Board of Trustees, and she has proven herself an extraordinary leader in her 15-year career in education. A pillar of our community, her deep commitment to student success is rooted in her own remarkable journey.

As a child, Jamela Smith-Folds struggled with reading until a single teacher recognized her potential and invested time in her igniting her lifelong passion for learning, This experience shaped her core philosophy every child deserves to be seen, taught, and championed. She has served as a WCCUSD classroom teacher, homeschool educator, devoted parent