

I am proud to recognize this milestone and wish these firefighters a long and honorable career of service to the Plumstead community.

RECOGNIZING THE AMERICAN
ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL
ENGINEERS AND SCIENTISTS

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 27, 2026

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists (AAEES) for its leadership in advancing environmental engineering and science across our country.

The AAEES is the premier professional organization dedicated to recognizing excellence in environmental engineering and science while promoting the highest standards of ethics, innovation, and public service. The AAEES's commitment to advancing technical expertise in this field has strengthened the professions that safeguard our Nation's public health, natural resources, and environmental quality.

Environmental engineers and scientists play a vital role in addressing many of the most pressing challenges facing our Nation. Their work supports the protection of drinking water supplies, improves air quality, advances sustainable infrastructure, remediates contaminated land and water, strengthens community resilience, and develops innovative solutions to emerging environmental challenges. Their expertise helps ensure that communities across the United States have access to safe water, healthy ecosystems, and infrastructure that supports economic growth while protecting the environment.

As our Nation continues to invest in resilient infrastructure, clean water systems, environmental stewardship, and technological innovation, the contributions of environmental engineers and scientists have never been more important.

Today, I commend the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists for its enduring contributions to the engineering and scientific professions and for its unwavering commitment to excellence, innovation, and service. I extend my sincere appreciation for the Academy for their dedication to advancing the environmental professions and improving the quality of life for all Americans.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists for its remarkable achievements and in wishing the Academy continued success in fulfilling its important mission to promote continual improvement in environmental engineering and science education and practice.

RECOGNIZING THE COSUMNES
RIVER COLLEGE ATHLETICS DE-
PARTMENT'S 55TH YEARS OF
SERVICE

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 27, 2026

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Cosumnes River College (CRC) Athletics Department as it celebrates 55 years of athletic excellence.

File CRC Athletic Program has become a model of academic and athletic achievement in the Sacramento region and across California's community college system.

Competing in one of the most demanding conferences in the state, CRC student-athletes have distinguished themselves not only through their performance in competition, but through their leadership, character, and service to the campus and community they represent.

The 2025–26 academic year stands among the most successful in the departments history. Eight of CRC's ten athletic programs earned postseason berths, and the softball program advanced to the 2026 3C2A State Championship. The CRC Athletics Department earned twenty-five All-Conference selections and three All-American honors. The achievements on the field were matched in the classroom, where the department posted a cumulative 3.401 grade-point average: the highest in CRC Athletics history. One hundred and eight student athletes earned the Scholar-Athlete recognition, including thirty-six who achieved a perfect 4.0 grade-point average overall.

Under the leadership of Athletic Director Collin Pregliasco, CRC Athletics has built a culture in which academic excellence and top-notch-on-the-field performance go hand in hand. Early mornings, long bus rides and countless hours of training have shaped CRC student athletes to embody the discipline, accountability, and perseverance that define Hawks tradition and generational success.

Mr. Speaker, I invite all my colleagues to join me in honoring the Cosumnes River College Athletics Department on fifty-five years of excellence. We celebrate the student-athletes, coaches and staff whose dedication continues to build a legacy of triumph, leadership, and opportunity for generations to come.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF
JOE NEVES

HON. VINCE FONG

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 27, 2026

Mr. FONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague Representative DAVID G. VALADAO, to honor Joe Neves as he retires from the Kings County Board of Supervisors after an honorable 32 years of service. As the longest-serving seated board member in California history, Mr. Neves has shown a longstanding commitment to service in our community.

If there is one defining characteristic of Mr. Neves' tenure, it is this: true leadership is root-

ed in common sense, a deep connection to the community, and an unwavering commitment to putting hardworking families first.

Throughout his time on the Board, Mr. Neves played a pivotal role in advancing energy projects that created new sources of revenue for local landowners and schools while helping power regional operations. He was also a major force behind the development of solar energy zones on fallowed, water deprived farmland, repurposing unused land into productive assets that support both the local economy and California's energy future.

Long hailed as a community champion, Mr. Neves has dedicated himself to finding middle ground, consistently working to keep administrative operations running smoothly. This dedication is evident in the work that the Kings County Board of Supervisors has accomplished during Mr. Neves' three decades as board member. This includes boosting state and federal investment into the County's community and educational hubs, such as a \$13 million investment in the Hanford and Lemoore public library branches.

His commitment to agriculture and public service has also earned him numerous honors throughout his career. Last year, Mr. Neves was recognized as Ag Supporter of the Year for his steadfast advocacy on behalf of the Kings County agricultural community. He has also been named Lemoore Citizen of the Year and received the Tachi Tribe Award, reflecting the deep personal relationships and broad respect he has earned across the county.

Mr. Speaker, please join Representative VALADAO and me in congratulating Joe Neves on 32 years of dedicated service on the Kings County Board of Supervisors and wishing him a happy and healthy retirement. Thank you.

HONORING CHIEF MARK SCHMIDT

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 27, 2026

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Mark Schmidt and recognize an extraordinary career spanning more than 40 years in law enforcement, including nearly three decades as Chief of Police of the Upper Makefield Police Department.

Since becoming Chief in 1997, Chief Schmidt has transformed and strengthened the department through his vision, leadership, and unwavering commitment to excellence. Under his leadership, the department doubled in size, growing from 9 to 18 officers, constructed state-of-the-art headquarters, and continually modernized its operations through advanced technology, equipment, and training.

Among Chief Schmidt's proudest accomplishments was leading the department to PLEAC accreditation in 2020. This prestigious designation reflects the department's commitment to the highest standards of professionalism, accountability, and excellence in law enforcement. The department has proudly maintained that accreditation ever since.

Chief Schmidt has also been a steadfast advocate for the professional development of his officers. He has encouraged advanced training and higher education, and under his leadership, numerous officers have earned master's degrees while continuing to serve their community.