

"When it came time to choose a location for his presidential library after Bush left the White House, there was interest from several schools, including the University of Houston and his alma mater, Yale University," Becker said. But even though Bush did not attend Texas A&M, the university "had his heart," she said.

"He loved service. That was his life motto, and he fell in love with A&M the first time he came and gave a speech here," Becker said. "It was sort of a slam dunk that it would be here, and he loved it up here."

"The '41@100' celebrations continue Thursday with the grand opening of the Marine One/4141 Locomotive Pavilion. The new 29,000-square-foot building at the George H.W. Bush Presidential Library & Museum features the retired Marine One helicopter used frequently by Bush during his time in office, as well as the Union Pacific 4141 locomotive that led Bush's funeral train from Houston to his final resting place on the library grounds. The building will be open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m."

The Today Show's article entitled, "Jenna Bush Hager shares letter to her late 'Gampy' George H.W. Bush on his 100th birthday" shared remarks that the former President's granddaughter had to say about her grandfather. The article said:

"He was gentle," Jenna said. "He led with kindness. He wanted to be the type of leader that listened."

"Jenna Bush Hager is remembering her late grandfather, the United States' 41st president, George H.W. Bush, on what would have been his 100th birthday.

"On June 12, Jenna paid tribute to her late 'Gampy' by reading to viewers a letter she wrote to him about his impact on her life.

Dear Gampy,

We miss you. We miss your letters and emails. We miss racing through the waves of the Atlantic on your boat fishing . . . laughing and debating around the dinner table.

We miss your rules: Don't be afraid to shed a tear when your heart is broken or because a friend is hurting. Nobody likes an overbearing big shot. As you succeed, be kind to people. Thank those who help you along the way.

We miss your quiet compassion, like when you shaved your head for the son of your secret service agent who had leukemia.

We miss your belief that our country is greater when we work together, and your lifelong dedication to our country as one of the youngest navy pilots in World War II.

On this day, many of your grandkids—inspired by you—will jump out of a plane. Your milestone birthday tradition that you so proudly did in honor of the nation's military.

Gampy, you have been gone for eight years, but we feel you still as we look into the sky and see a thousand points of light . . . in simple acts of love . . . in the smiles of your great grandchildren.

"Jenna's tribute had TODAY co-anchor Hoda Kotb in tears.

"The life lessons he taught that you summed up in that short piece were incredible," Hoda said. "And what struck me so, was the kindness. It's like, we're better when we're kinder."

"He was gentle," Jenna said. "He led with kindness. He wanted to be the type of leader that listened."

"George H.W. Bush passed away at the age of 94 in 2018, less than 8 months after the death of his wife of 73 years, Barbara Bush.

"Jenna and her twin sister, Barbara, were both greatly influenced by their Gampy. Barbara chose to marry right after getting engaged to Craig Coyne in 2018, so that her ailing grandfather could attend.

"George H.W. Bush, like Jenna, loved putting his feelings down on paper.

"He wrote us the most beautiful letters when he was in his 70s, 80s, about being together, about how all he wanted was us to come home and that that was what brought him the most joy, was to be surrounded by his grandkids and his family," Jenna shared on TODAY on June 5.

George H.W. Bush and Barbara shared six children: Former President George W. Bush, 77, Jeb Bush, 71, Neil Bush, 69, Marvin Bush, 67, Dorothy Bush Koch, 64, and Pauline 'Robin' Bush, who died at the age of 3 from leukemia."

The Wall Street Journal's article entitled "The George Bush Century" by James A. Baker III, the former President's Secretary of State, said:

"At a time of political dysfunction, the 100th anniversary of President George H.W. Bush's birth provides an opportunity to examine his leadership traits, which could help America regain its national footing. Those qualities—which made him the best one-term president in U.S. history and one of the best ever—include these:

"Selflessness. Born into a family with a tradition of public service, Bush put his nation above himself. He did so as the 20-year-old son of an influential East Coast banker who risked his life as a Navy pilot and was shot down over the Pacific during World War II. As president he was domestically rebuked for refusing to thump his chest after the Berlin Wall fell. He reasoned that triumphalism might hinder tense relations with the faltering but still dangerous Soviet Union.

"Trustworthiness. What started as a wary relationship with Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet Union's last leader, developed into a strong, personal bond that Gorbachev credited with improving relations between the countries. The two worked together to reunite Germany, eject Iraq's troops from Kuwait and negotiate two nuclear arms-reduction treaties.

"Pragmatism. Bush recognized that savvy responses were often more effective than bold ones. Conservative in nature, he preferred stability and calm. His decision against marching to Baghdad in 1991 was driven by a pragmatic assessment of potential risks of occupation. The decision, much criticized at the time, proved wise.

"Respect for experience. Bush often advised aspiring young politicians to avoid being like a Dalmatian in a fire house, running every time the bell rings. Instead, he told them to get a job, start a family and do other things that would allow them to build a full life. By the time he became president, Bush had worked in the Texas oil patch, raised five children to adulthood, and served as a congressman, ambassador to the United Nations, top diplomat in China, director of the Central Intelligence Agency and vice president. No one knew the world as thoroughly and clearly.

"Leadership by example. Always a workhorse rather than a show horse, Bush let his actions speak for him. The 'kinder, gentler nation' he envisioned wasn't merely a political bromide. He and Barbara Bush dedicated personal time to support and promote education and service-oriented programs. The Bushes didn't show class. They were class.

"Bipartisanship. He didn't mind butting heads with Democrats, or with fellow Republicans for that matter. But he refused to demonize opponents, and he always looked across the aisle for bipartisan solutions, such as the Clean Air Act and Americans with Disabilities Act.

"The political climate was far more temperate when Bush was in the White House than it is today. Debates could be rancorous,

but they reached nothing like today's feverish and destructive pitch. As I watch the calamity that American politics has become, I yearn for the brand of wise, courageous and humble leadership that George H.W. Bush embodied. His virtues remind us of what we have lost—and can regain if we follow his example."

Joe Strauss, former Speaker of the Texas House, had this to say about the former President in the San Antonio Express-News article "Celebrating President George H.W. Bush, who governed with principle."

"This week marks what would have been the 100th birthday of President George H.W. Bush. It is a time to celebrate a man who distinguished himself by what he accomplished and how he led.

"Bush's presidency from 1989 to 1993 was highly consequential: The United States won the Cold War, helped broker the peaceful reunification of Germany and liberated Kuwait from Saddam Hussein. Bush signed the landmark American with Disabilities Act and the Clean Air Act. Strength and diplomacy abroad, combined with kindness and compassion at home, defined his time in the White House" . . .

"Sununu writes, "President Bush's decades of integrity and credibility allowed him to move these powerful leaders in unison toward a common goal. They trusted his tactics and strategy, and most importantly they trusted that he would ensure that they shared the credit for the success of this world-changing effort" . . .

"Bush, however, did not waver. He said of one critic, 'He couldn't have been uglier and meaner. But that Just made me more determined to do what was right.'

"As president, he agreed to a deficit-reduction deal with congressional Democrats that reduced spending while also making modest increases in tax rates. Because he had famously promised not to raise taxes, Bush knew this decision could cost him reelection, and in large part, it did. But the deal also reversed growing deficits and paved the way for a balanced federal budget in the years after he left office.

"Throughout his life, Bush demonstrated the moral fiber that we should expect, if not demand, from great leaders. Even many Americans who disagreed with his policies understood that he put his service to others above any personal gain or glorification—a style that is growing less and less familiar in an age when we seem to measure elected officials by their visibility in the media rather than their effectiveness in office."

HONORING DR. JOHN REILLY, JR.
ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JASON CROW

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2024

Mr. CROW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of John Reilly, Jr., MD, and congratulate him on his upcoming retirement. For nearly a decade, Dr. Reilly served as the Dean of the University of Colorado School of Medicine and Vice Chancellor for health affairs at CU Anschutz, where he led the charge in establishing Aurora and Colorado as national leaders in health care and biomedical research.

During his tenure, he elevated CU Anschutz to the top tier of academic medical centers in the Nation, expanded programs to serve more people across our state, and recruited leaders who will extend this legacy for decades to

come. During Dean Reilly's tenure, medical school curriculum and clinical training settings were updated to better prepare medical students for productive and fulfilling careers, medical research for the school of medicine grew by 67 percent, and CU Medicine faculty cared for more Coloradans than any other medical group—serving 727,000 people through 4.2 million patient visits in 2023.

Dr. Reilly's commitment to community service is exemplified by his efforts to strengthen partnerships for those residing in Colorado. Under his guidance, CU Anschutz established the Aurora Wellness Community, a transformative initiative aimed at enhancing access to primary care for underserved populations in north Aurora. The Aurora Wellness Community Center will offer comprehensive health and wellness programming, including childcare and a food bank to address the diverse needs of north Aurora. Further, under the leadership of Dr. Reilly, the CU School of Medicine collaborated with Traverse Academy, a school within the Cherry Creek School District, which led to the establishment of the Nation's first mental health treatment facility operated by a school district.

Dean Reilly's contributions to improving health care access, quality, and research will be felt in Colorado and across the country for decades to come. I want to congratulate Dean Reilly again on his upcoming retirement and thank him for his service to our community, Colorado, and our Nation.

CELEBRATING CHICAGO CUBS LEGEND, RYNE SANDBERG

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2024

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ryne Sandberg and join the Chicago Cubs in celebrating the dedication of his new statue outside of historic Wrigley Field.

A Hall of Fame second baseman, Mr. Sandberg played 15 seasons with the Chicago Cubs, starting in 1982. By the time Mr. Sandberg retired in 1997, he held the record for most Gold Glove Awards by a second baseman, the most consecutive errorless games by a second baseman and the most home runs by a second baseman. In 2005, Mr. Sandberg was elected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame and had his number, 23, retired by the Cubs.

Mr. Sandberg is a living legend and as a Cubs fan I could not be happier that he is receiving a statue here in Illinois' 5th District. Mr. Speaker, please join me and all our colleagues in the House of Representatives in recognizing Mr. Sandberg's legacy and congratulating him on the unveiling of his statue.

RECOGNIZING WORLD OCEAN DAY

HON. JENNIFER A. KIGGANS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2024

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize World Ocean Day, celebrated annually on June 8th. This day of-

fers a valuable opportunity to celebrate our oceans, which are not only a source of immense beauty and wonder but also a vital component of our U.S. economy. As we commemorate this day, I want to emphasize the significance of fishing communities and the necessity of maintaining abundant ocean resources. They are integral to the economic health and sustainability of fishing communities and our Nation.

The fishing and seafood industries plays a significant role in our economy at home in Virginia. In 2022, the Commonwealth of Virginia had 28,729 jobs in the U.S. Seafood Industry, according to the Fisheries Economics of the United States 2022 Report by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. These jobs resulted in \$851,594 in income for Virginians and \$3,519,973 in sales, inserting millions of dollars back into our communities.

Fishing communities look different across the United States, but they all depend on healthy ocean ecosystems for their livelihoods. These communities form the backbone of coastal economies, and thriving fisheries help them provide jobs, protect food security, and secure cultural heritage and recreational opportunities for all Americans. The economic impact of the fishing industry is substantial, contributing billions of dollars to the national economy and supporting countless families and businesses.

However, fishing communities face unprecedented challenges on many fronts. Pollution and other environmental challenges threaten the health of marine ecosystems and the sustainability of fish stocks, which in turn directly impacts fishing communities and jeopardizes their way of life and economic stability. At the same time, coastal development and the loss of working waterfronts are also making it more difficult for fishing communities to survive.

To secure the future of our fishing communities and the economic vitality of our oceans, we must prioritize fishing communities and the sustainable fisheries that support them. This includes:

Sustainable Fishing Practices: Implementing management efforts that prevent overfishing and promote the rebuilding of fish populations.

Habitat Protection: Safeguarding critical marine habitats, such as coral reefs, mangroves, and seagrass beds, which support a diverse range of marine life, including fish.

Pollution Reduction: Addressing sources of ocean pollution, including plastic waste and chemical runoff, to protect marine ecosystems and the species that inhabit them.

Adaptability to change: Enhancing the resilience of fisheries and coastal communities through adaptive management strategies.

Resilient fishing communities: Preserving working waterfronts and improving the ability for fisheries to avoid and recover from disasters.

In recognition of this year's World Ocean Day, let us reaffirm our commitment to safeguarding our oceans and the communities that depend on them. By working together to conserve marine ecosystems and achieve sustainable fisheries, we can secure a brighter future for our fishing communities and for generations to come.

CONGRATULATING MARIE HANSEN AS A FINALIST FOR THE 2024 EDUCATION MINNESOTA TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. ANGIE CRAIG

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2024

Ms. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank and congratulate Marie Hansen on being a finalist for Education Minnesota's 2024 Teacher of the Year.

Marie has taught at Burnsville High School for sixteen years, taking after her father who was a teacher and coach for 35 years. As a teacher of 11th grade AVID, 11th grade English, dual-enrollment courses with a local community college and 10th grade English, she is an inspiration to her community and the students she works with.

Ms. Hansen believes that her students are preparing to take the world by storm, and lead with humor, warmth and curiosity as they grow into our nation's next generation of leaders. This recognition by her peers and officials at Education Minnesota is supported by the immense appreciation for her contribution to public service in my district.

I am honored to recognize Marie Hansen today as a model for meaningful educators, and I thank her for the work she is doing to create community in her classrooms.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2024

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call No. 258, I mistakenly voted NO when I intended to vote YES. It is a general principle of mine to vote NO if I do not know the full extent of the amendment. I did not have the complete information on the amendment while on the floor at the time of the vote. Since then, I have gathered more information and based on that information I would have voted in support of the amendment.

RECOGNIZING MERIDIAN HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. MICHAEL GUEST

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2024

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Meridian High School basketball team and Coach Ron Norman on the exceptional achievement of winning the 2024 MHSAA 7A Basketball State Championship. This championship is a result of the team's incredible work ethic and determination throughout this season.

The 2024 MHSAA 7A championship is the team's first championship since 2017 and is a testament to what can be accomplished when a group of individuals come together as a team. During this season, these young men were put to the test against tenacious opponents, and they did not waver. In the end,