

has been an outstanding citizen and philanthropist. His infinite kindness and professionalism have been an inspiration to me as a member of Congress.

Bruce has been an active volunteer in our community as well. He has served as the Past Chair of the Tennessee Theatre Foundation and has been part of many great organizations, including the East Tennessee Foundation, the United Way Campaign, In Leadership Knoxville, the Knoxville Chamber Partnership, the Board of South College, and Tenn Path. Additionally, he has also served on the boards of Friends of the Smokies and the Bijou Theatre, and currently serves on the boards for South College, the UT School of Nursing, the East Tennessee Foundation, Cherokee Country Club, and Leadership Tennessee. He has left a legacy throughout East Tennessee, and his service to this community will be greatly missed.

Bruce has been married to his wife, Tami, for 44 years and has three children and eight grandchildren. Another testament to them both, their entire family remains close-knit, and all live within the same community.

I am honored to recognize Bruce for his many years of service and congratulate him on his retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE GARDEN CLUB
OF ALEXANDRIA'S CENTENNIAL

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2025

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of The Garden Club of Alexandria, which was founded in 1925 and distinguished by a century of hands-on service, civic leadership, and lasting contributions to our community.

For one hundred years, The Garden Club of Alexandria has been a cornerstone of our community, dedicated to inspiring a love of gardening, advancing civic beautification and championing environmental stewardship.

Its members have transformed public spaces—such as the gardens at the Ramsay House Visitor Center and Gadsby's Tavern in Alexandria—into vibrant, welcoming places for all to enjoy. They have educated generations on the importance of protecting our natural environment and worked diligently to preserve historic gardens across Virginia, including Mount Vernon and Green Spring in my district.

This centennial marks more than longevity; it also celebrates the enduring impact of The Garden Club of Alexandria. Through their tireless efforts and shared love of gardening, members have enriched our community in countless ways. Their legacy of service exemplifies the very best of civic involvement.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to all past and present members of The Garden Club of Alexandria and look forward to their continued impact throughout our community.

HONORING MR. JAMES ANDERSON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and legacy of Mr. James Anderson of Goodman, Mississippi, a centenarian whose story is a testament to faith, humility, and resilience across generations.

Mr. Anderson was born on September 18, 1923, in rural Sallis, Mississippi, in Attala County, the seventh of eight children in a family of sharecroppers. His early life was rooted in the soil, working the fields with his family and attending school part-time when farming allowed. Like many of his generation, he grew up during a time of deep racial and economic adversity but endured with quiet strength and an abiding belief in community.

He later worked on farms, in factories, and as a bus driver, eventually retiring after decades of service. His career included driving for Dick's Drive-In and the local school system, and he served as a custodian and bus driver at Goodman-Pickens Elementary School, where he left a lasting impact on countless children. He retired from the school in 2005, continuing a life of labor, love, and service.

Mr. Anderson was drafted and completed both basic and combat training in the U.S. military during World War II. Although he was never deployed into combat and was discharged without explanation, he has always maintained a deep respect for those who serve, and he continues to honor veterans with dignity and gratitude.

A pillar in both his family and his faith, Mr. Anderson was ordained a deacon in 1947 and remained steadfast in that calling. He was married to the late Annie Lou Anderson for 73 years, until her passing in 1993. Today, at the remarkable age of 102, he still tends his yard, grows vegetables, and lives beside one of his daughters, Mrs. Dorothy Falls, who lovingly cares for him in Goodman, Mississippi.

Mr. Anderson's philosophy is simple yet profound: "All I know is love one another and be good to each other." In those words, and in the quiet witness of his life, lies the essence of what it means to be a good neighbor, a faithful servant, and a great American.

Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. James Anderson, a living bridge between our Nation's past and future and a reminder that love, work, and faith remain the pillars of a meaningful life.

THE TRIUMPH OF LIFE

HON. JENNIFER A. KIGGANS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2025

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD remarks submitted at the request of a Virginia Beach constituent, Rabbi Dr. Israel Zoberman of Temple Lev Tikvah, and are a reflection of his views:

THE JEWISH HIGH HOLY DAYS 5786

The Jewish High Holy Days of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, an ancient people's peak spiritual drama of courageous con-

templation and heartfelt contrition, are captured in the life and work of Rabbi Irving Greenberg, acclaimed modern Orthodox rabbi and author. His latest book, *The Triumph of Life (A Narrative Theology of Judaism)*, is Greenberg's own triumphant accomplishment offering Jews and non-Jews alike an encompassing scholarly yet accessible work of theological art, bound to rank high as a pioneering beacon of light, learning and enlightenment in our postmodern new age with revolutionary promise as well as colossal dark threats to human life, the painstakingly garnered civilization and the very survival of all life on our planet Earth. Greenberg attributes the impetus to writing this inspirational guide—which aims to reassure readers from all persuasions that covenantal life of the spirit is worth laboring and fighting for—to his shaking 1961 experience in Israel while attending Tel Aviv University as a Fulbright scholar and encountering the enormity of the Holocaust for the first time.

Referring to the famous Adolf Eichmann trial of the notorious SS officer in Jerusalem, with profound impact on an entire mesmerized nation. I vividly recall as a teenager living then in Israel and myself son of Polish Holocaust survivors, the shock of the horrific events described by shaken witnesses. The author offers us a touching confessional of a crisis of faith of an Orthodox raised Jew, challenging his basic assumptions about God, covenant and life's meaning. "My loving wife (Blu is a distinguished feminist Orthodox Jew and author) and family saved me from nihilism and despair by showing me the incredible tenacity and unspent power of embracing life. The emergent State of Israel suggested to me that the Divine was still operating in the world, and testified to the human capacity to take power for reestablishing life and reasserting its value."

Referring to his book with its far-reaching conclusions of ushering in the hoped for messianic era which Greenberg testifies is within human reach in our postmodern era with its new opportunity for creative human unity within enriching diversity, upholding universal human dignity and equality via restoring God's violated image, "I hope it will appeal to non-Jewish readers as well, especially to Christians, partners in the struggle to overcome millennia of hostility and delegitimization. People of all religions must work together to repair the world politically, economically, and culturally, and turn the Earth into the paradise all humans deserve." The admirable Orthodox rabbi who found his way back to faith and his own particular belief structure following a most challenging crisis impacted by the shattering Holocaust, was enabled to reach beyond the confines of his own faith's traditions and give credit where it's due.

His own Jewish people historically have not lacked fracturing divisions among opposing ideologies not allowing for urgently required unity at times of grave danger, such as during the Holocaust. The prosecution of the Gaza War following Hamas's barbarism both united and divided Israelis with a backlash of antisemitism in the United States and Europe. It is evident that events in Israel affect the Jewish Diaspora, even as the author emphasizes the debt of the latter to the Israeli partner. It is clear though that influential American Jewry is the glue to the essential relationship between Israel and the United States. Greenberg hails Israel's 1948 creation as reassuring that God's covenant with the Jewish people yet continues in spite of the Holocaust's heavy toll. The world's only Jewish state's robust democracy with multiple accomplishments benefiting humanity has served as a source of pride and unity to world Jewry even though

challenges to Israel's existence and character persist from within and without. May life's universal blessing yet triumph!

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF CLIFTON LEWIS

HON. SCOTT FRANKLIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2025

Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Clifton Lewis, a beloved constituent from Bartow, Florida, who passed away on Sunday at the age of 82. Clifton was a veteran, a community leader, a tireless advocate for historic preservation and the driving force behind one of Florida's most important cultural landmarks, the L.B. Brown House.

Clifton devoted more than two decades of his life to preserving and sharing the extraordinary story of Lawrence B. Brown, a man born into slavery who rose to become a respected builder, businessman and community leader in Bartow. When the Victorian home Brown constructed faced demolition in the late 1990's, Clifton stepped forward. He rallied neighbors, secured state support and carefully led the restoration of the structure. Thanks to his conviction and leadership, the L.B. Brown House stands today as one of the only known surviving homes in Florida built by a formerly enslaved person.

But Clifton did far more than save a building, he revived a legacy. He founded and directed the L.B. Brown Heritage Festival, which celebrated its twenty-fourth year in 2025 and now attracts thousands of visitors. Through historical presentations, reenactments, music, food and fellowship, Clifton brought people together to honor the resilience, faith and contributions of African Americans in Polk County and across our Nation.

His work gained national recognition. The Smithsonian displayed artifacts from the site, and the National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C., includes an exhibit dedicated to Brown and the Bartow home, a testament to Clifton's perseverance in telling this remarkable American story.

Clifton also served his country honorably in the United States Army and broke barriers as the first Black telephone technician in Washington, D.C. Throughout his life, he remained a man of deep faith, boundless positivity and unwavering commitment to his community. Even as he battled serious health challenges, he continued welcoming visitors to the museum, guiding tours and encouraging others to carry the work forward.

His friends and fellow historians remember him as gracious, diplomatic and always focused on preserving not just facts, but the humanity and soul of a community. His leadership inspired a generation of local preservationists, and his legacy will live on through the museum, the festival and the many lives he touched.

Mr. Speaker, Clifton Lewis was a remarkable Floridian and a guardian of our shared history. On behalf of Florida's 18th District, I extend my deepest condolences to his wife, Vendarae, his family, his friends and all who continue the mission he championed. May his

memory be a blessing and may his life's work continue to educate and inspire for many years to come.

CONGRATULATING CALVIN W.
SCHMIDT ON HIS SERVICE TO
JOHNSON & JOHNSON

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2025

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Calvin W. Schmidt for his years of service to Johnson & Johnson. Calvin is currently the Sr. Vice President and Worldwide Leader, Government Affairs & Policy, and is retiring after twenty years with the company.

During his tenure, Calvin exemplified the highest standards of advocacy before Congress and engaged the American people on many critical public health and public policy matters. I have had the opportunity to work with Calvin and collaborate with J&J on those pressing issues as well as the work of patient advocates and associations dedicated to the better health of the Nation. Calvin has also been a fierce advocate for Johnson & Johnson's business in Pennsylvania and the thousands of innovators and healthcare professionals that call J&J home.

After earning his bachelor's degree from Vanderbilt University, Calvin spent fifteen years at Mars, Inc. His experience at J&J spans many roles including: U.S. President, Internal Medicine; President, Wellness & Prevention Inc., where he was the founding leader of Johnson & Johnson's health and wellness business; and Worldwide Vice President, Human Resources, where he supported the J&J Consumer Family of Companies, Enterprise Supply Chain, Information Technology, and the Law Department. His commitment to purpose-driven leadership, rooted in his commitment to J&J's Credo, has greatly enriched Johnson & Johnson.

His commitment to improving healthcare goes beyond his day-to-day work. Calvin serves on the Foundation Board of Overseers for the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, represents Johnson & Johnson on the Healthcare Leadership Council as the associations 2024 to 2025 Chairman of the Board and sits on the Foreign Policy Association Board of Directors, and is a member of the Board of Directors for Mars, Inc.

I hope that he and his wife Christa, and their children Gavin, Caidyn and Alsten, will have many wonderful years ahead of them traveling the world and enjoying a well-earned and much-deserved retirement.

RECOGNIZING STATE SENATOR
ANN REST FOR HER SERVICE TO
MINNESOTA

HON. KELLY MORRISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2025

Ms. MORRISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor State Senator Ann Rest for her decades of dedicated service in

the Minnesota Legislature and her deep commitment to improving the lives of all Minnesotans.

For over 40 years, my friend and former colleague Ann Rest has served with distinction. First elected to the Minnesota House in 1984, she served eight terms before being elected to the Minnesota Senate, where I had the privilege of serving alongside her.

During her Senate tenure, she held key leadership roles, including Assistant Majority Leader and President Pro Tempore. In 2023, she made history as the first and only Minnesota legislator to chair the Tax Committee in both chambers.

Her career is marked by legislative achievements that strengthened Minnesota's economy and communities. She championed fairer tax policy, supported investments in public education, and worked to make government more transparent and accountable. Most notably, she played a central role in a \$3 billion tax bill in 2023 delivering relief to families, seniors, and small businesses across our state. In 2025, she was honored as a "Legislator of Distinction" by the league of Minnesota Cities for her effectiveness and dedication.

Senator Rest is a hardworking, resilient person and an accomplished legislator. She is also a diehard Twins fan and a devoted grandmother. Her legacy is felt not only in her legislative achievements, but also in her care for her constituents. On behalf of countless Minnesotans, I offer Senator Rest my sincere gratitude for her decades of service to our great state. I wish her a very happy and well-deserved retirement and a winning season for the Twins next year.

RECOGNIZING MAYOR BRIAN
HOLTZCLAW FOR TWELVE
YEARS OF LEADERSHIP IN MILL
CREEK

HON. SUZAN K. DeIBENE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2025

Ms. DeIBENE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mayor Brian Holtzclaw for his twelve years of dedicated service to the City of Mill Creek. Mayor Holtzclaw was elected to the city council in 2013, served as Mayor Pro Tempore, and has led the city as mayor since 2020. During his tenure, he has championed thoughtful city planning and growth, helping Mill Creek expand economic opportunities and enhance tourism while preserving the city's character.

Mayor Holtzclaw has lived in Mill Creek since 2003 and is deeply engaged in the community he serves. He helped advance the South Town Center Project and the DRCC properties, which include four city-owned parcels the city is exploring for a new community campus. He is also an avid cyclist, a hobby he pursues with energy and enthusiasm. His collaborative approach within Snohomish County has strengthened regional partnerships while keeping Mill Creek's unique identity intact.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Mayor Holtzclaw for his leadership and service. He has left a lasting mark on Mill Creek, and I wish him well as he begins the next chapter of his life.