

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE SERVICE OF SHANNON BOOK

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise and salute the extraordinary military career of Shannon Book and am proud to award him with a Congressional Veteran Commendation. Throughout his years of service and beyond, his presence, energy, and sincerity set him apart from other individuals.

Shannon served in the U.S. military for 17 years, including two combat tours during the invasion of Fallujah and in An Nasiriyah, Iraq. He served as a Fleet Marine Force Corpsman and helped fellow Marines overcome physical wounds on the battlefield.

Following his active-duty service, Shannon continued to serve others through his leadership in Operation Turkey, an organization that provides meals to individuals and families in need during the Thanksgiving holiday. Whether through logistics management, organizing volunteers, preparing food, cooking, packaging meals, or delivering them to doorsteps, Shannon demonstrates his commitment to serving by being among the first to arrive and the last to leave.

Shannon continuously advocates for veterans by pouring his heart into his music. Shannon has become a voice for many veterans, giving expression to the struggles that are often difficult to articulate for veterans coming home after service. His songs and performances open doors for conversation, connection, and healing, and he has truly changed the lives of so many, traveling across the Nation.

I commend Shannon Book for his brave service to our country. From battlefield medic to community leader and musical artist, his commitment to our country is unwavering. He is a fitting recipient of a Congressional Veteran Commendation, and I celebrate his dedication to being a leader and role model, both in uniform and as a civilian.

HONORING ST. ANNE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate St. Anne Catholic School on their designation as a 2025 National Blue Ribbon School.

Since 1982, the Blue-Ribbon School Award has recognized the most exemplary public and private schools for outstanding academic performance and significant progress in closing achievement gaps among students.

From its inception in 1927 to its continued excellence through the 21st Century, St.

Annes has continued to pave a bright path of academic leadership and set an example for schools and communities in the Chicagoland area.

St. Anne Catholic School's exceptional performance hasn't gone unnoticed. The school has previously achieved Blue Ribbon status earning the honor in 2006 and 2016. Earning three blue ribbon awards is a distinction held by very few schools in the country.

Although the Blue-Ribbon School Award has been canceled, it is imperative to recognize schools like St. Annes, which deserve praise and congratulations for this outstanding achievement.

Mr. Speaker, please join me and all our colleagues in the House of Representatives in recognizing St. Anne Catholic School for their exceptional and continuous success in educating and nurturing the brilliant future minds of this Nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, due to an illness in my family, I missed the following Roll Call votes on December 11, 2025. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 322; YEA on Roll Call No. 323; YEA on Roll Call No. 324; NAY on Roll Call No. 325; NAY on Roll Call No. 326; NAY on Roll Call No. 327; YEA on Roll Call No. 328; NAY on Roll Call No. 329; YEA on Roll Call No. 330; NAY on Roll Call No. 331; and NAY on Roll Call No. 332.

TRIBUTE TO DR. HENRY W. WIGGINS, JR.

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Henry W. Wiggins, Jr., a physician, honorable veteran, civic leader, and social activist.

Dr. Henry W. Wiggins, Jr. was born on March 18, 1933, in Clearfield, Pennsylvania, to Henry and Janie Wiggins. He graduated with honors from Clearfield High School (Class of 1951) and lettered in track, football, and basketball. He then attended Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology (Class of 1955). Following Franklin & Marshall, Dr. Wiggins attended medical school at Howard University (Class of 1959), which was followed by an internship in internal medicine and radiology at University Hospital at the University of Iowa.

Dr. Wiggins admirably served our country in the United States Navy as Chief Radiologist

and Lieutenant Commander at Naval Hospital Bremerton in Bremerton, Washington. Following his military service, Dr. Wiggins served as a radiologist at Michael Reese Hospital, Mercy Hospital, Provident Hospital, Roseland Community Hospital, and St. Bernard Hospital, where he also served as Chair of the Radiology Department and as a member of the Board of Trustees. Dr. Wiggins also served as faculty at the University of Chicago Medical School.

In 1965, Dr. Wiggins marched from Selma to Montgomery in protest of voting rights discrimination. An essay he wrote about that experience expressed both his fear in facing such hatred and racism as he joined others in that march, and his bravery—knowing that it was his responsibility to “stand up and be counted” as people were denied the right to vote. He was always a man of principle who believed in doing the right thing, even when it was hard. Personally, Dr. Wiggins was a global traveler, an avid golfer, and until the very end, a die-hard Chicago Bears and Chicago Bulls fan. He was quite the bookworm, and there was not a day that went by that he did not complete the crossword puzzle or watch his two favorite shows, Jeopardy! and Wheel of Fortune.

Dr. Wiggins was preceded in death by his parents, Henry Wiggins, Sr. and Janie Wiggins, and by his siblings, Frances Sellers, Steward Wiggins, Nancy Brown, and Margaret Wiggins. He is survived by his wife, Carolyn; his children, Kay Lucas, Juliana Echols (Bryan), Lee Anne Young (Carl), and Henry Wiggins (Jennifer); and his siblings, Anna Wiggins, Sarah Mitchell, Mary Jane Wiggins, and Elizabeth “Libbi” Graves. He was also the joyful “PaPa” to ten grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He leaves behind many nieces, nephews, friends, colleagues, and even strangers who benefited from his generosity and kindness.

Dr. Wiggins peacefully breathed his final breath on November 16, 2025, with his family by his side. They will carry forward his spirit, values, and devotion to community.

RECOGNIZING MR. MITCHELL GEORGE ANGELOS

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I am honored and humbled to recognize Mr. Mitchell George Angelos of York, Pennsylvania, upon the auspicious occasion of his 100th Birthday.

Mr. Angelos' life has been dedicated to the service of our Nation. Knowing that he likely would be drafted for World War II, he finished high school in three years. He was, indeed, drafted in August 1944, and reported to Engineering Basic Training at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, where he was taught how to be an Infantryman and build Bailey modular bridges. Next,

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

he went to Demolition Specialist School and learned how to lay mines, booby traps, and defuse those of the enemies.

At the end of his training, Mr. Angelos developed a severe infection and was taken to an Army hospital; thus separating him from his unit, which deployed to Europe while he recovered. After landing in La Havre, France, in 1945, he learned that many of his comrades from boot camp had perished in the Battle of the Bulge.

On a train to Belgium, the Soldiers were tightly packed in boxcars; as Mr. Angelos put it, like a "herd of cattle." After finally arriving in Verviers, Belgium, he fell ill and walked about a mile to sick bay; ultimately being hospitalized while the rest of the Soldiers in his unit moved on.

Eventually, Mr. Angelos landed in Mar-seilles, France, where his battalion prepared to deploy to the Pacific, and where he learned that the first atom bomb was dropped. Post-war, he was assigned to the Labor Supervision Battalion at Camp Calle, France, where he supervised 200 German Prisoners of War (POW) for the next seven months. He learned how to drive there, and his instructor was a German POW who "borrowed" a Jeep from the Camp motor pool. Another German POW made him some trench art—a small, model boat about 24 inches long—that he has to this day.

After the War, Mr. Angelos earned a degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh, graduating at the top of his class. During his career, he worked primarily in the military field, was considered an expert on fuses, and holds 7 U.S. Patents in his name. He was the Program Manager for the M-456 HEAT 105mm artillery round—the precursor to the HEAT round used in today's M1 Abrams tank.

Mr. Speaker, I am humbled and privileged to recognize Mr. Mitchell George Angelos on the great occasion of his 100th Birthday, as well as his tireless and selfless service to our Nation during World War II; truly he is the epitome of The Greatest Generation. His is an example of a "life done right"—as evidenced by a family and many friends who love him dearly, and the countless people whose lives he has affected in myriad ways. He sets the standard by which we all should be judged.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
MARION JOSEPH BROWN, JR.

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Marion Joseph Brown, Jr. has demonstrated the highest ideals of service, both in his two decades of military duty and in his continued commitment to his community. I am honored to recognize him with a Congressional Veteran Commendation.

Mr. Brown served in the United States Army from 1969 to 1989. After completing Field Artillery School, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant and later attended the advanced course. Throughout his Army career, he served with distinction in the Federal Republic of Germany, Fort Riley, Kansas, Fort Sill, Oklahoma, the Republic of Korea, Fort

Hood, Texas, Fort Lee, Virginia, and Okinawa, Japan. His assignments ranged from firing platoon leader and fire support officer to honor graduate of the Command and General Staff College. He concluded his military service as Assistant Professor of Military Science in the ROTC detachment at Oklahoma State University. Mr. Brown's awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, and Army Achievement Medal.

Following his retirement from the Army, Mr. Brown continued to embody the principle of "service after service." His work with Temple ISD allowed him to advocate for at-risk students, and he later served as District Director for Texas State Senator Troy Fraser. Mr. Brown has also been deeply involved in his community through the Lions Club, Rotary International, and other local service organizations.

I extend my deepest appreciation to Mr. Marion Joseph Brown, Jr. for his dedicated service to our Nation and for his lifelong commitment to improving the lives of others.

RECOGNIZING AIMEE VOSPER ON
HER RETIREMENT

HON. JAMES R. WALKINSHAW

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

Mr. WALKINSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Aimee Vosper on the occasion of her retirement from the Fairfax County Park Authority and to commend her for more than a decade of distinguished service to the residents of Fairfax County as Park Authority Deputy Director for Planning and Development and Chief of Business Development.

For over ten years, Aimee Vosper has provided steady, thoughtful leadership to one of the largest park systems in the country. Throughout her tenure, she demonstrated an unwavering commitment to stewardship, public service, and preservation, while also showing genuine care for the well-being of Park Authority staff, stakeholders, and community partners. Her work reflects a deeply held belief that parks strengthen our communities and improve quality of life for all residents.

Aimee's leadership is evident in the countless projects she helped lead during her tenure, including the renovation of the 139,000-square-foot Mount Vernon Rec Center and major land acquisitions that moved the Park Authority closer to its goal of setting aside ten percent of Fairfax County as parkland. These efforts set new standards for accessibility, sustainability, and recreational opportunities in Fairfax County.

During the unprecedented challenges of the pandemic, Aimee's steady leadership helped ensure that Fairfax County parks remained safe and accessible at a time when residents needed them most. She consistently balanced complex political challenges and competing priorities with empathy, professionalism, and an unshakeable commitment to the residents of Fairfax County.

Her vision and strategic leadership strengthened the Park Authority's planning, resource management, development, and marketing in truly lasting ways. Aimee Vosper's impact will be felt for generations, and her service reflects the highest standard of what it means to be a public servant.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Aimee Vosper for her outstanding contributions to the Fairfax County Park Authority and in wishing her a joyful, fulfilling, and well-earned retirement.

RECOGNIZING TIFFIN CALVERT
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL ON WIN-
NING THE DIVISION VII STATE
GIRLS VOLLEYBALL CHAMPION-
SHIP

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is with a great deal of pride that I rise to pay a very special tribute to an outstanding high school volleyball team in Ohio's 5th Congressional District. The young women of the Tiffin Calvert Catholic High School girls' volleyball team have represented their school ably on their way to achieving the Division VII State Girls Volleyball Title. In their effort to surpass all other teams in the Division VII State Volleyball Playoffs, the Calvert Senecas overcame the challenges posed by intense competition.

In pursuing the State Championship, Tiffin Calvert defeated the Monroeville Eagles to win the state volleyball championship. The members of this very special team have shown that their sport requires an individual effort for a team result. Their hard work and dedication, both on and off the court, in achieving this accomplishment, is truly outstanding.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to the Tiffin Calvert Catholic High School girls volleyball team. On behalf of the people of the 5th District of Ohio, I am proud to recognize this great achievement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I missed two votes on December 15, 2025. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 336, final passage of H.R. 3187, to require the Secretary of Agriculture to convey a parcel of property of the Forest Service to Perry County, Arkansas, and for other purposes, and YEA on Roll Call No. 335, final passage of S. 284, Congressional Award Program Reauthorization Act.

HONORING PRESCOTT
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Prescott Elementary School on their designation as a 2025 National Blue Ribbon School.

Since 1982, the Blue-Ribbon School Award has recognized the most exemplary public and