

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

private schools for outstanding academic performance and significant progress in closing achievement gaps among students.

From its inception, Prescott Elementary has continued to pave a bright path of academic leadership and set an example for schools and communities in the Chicagoland area.

Prescott Elementary has earned Illinois' top "Exemplary" rating for the fourth consecutive year. For academic performance, the school is once again in the top 10 percent of Illinois public schools. This K–8 CPS school serving a majority student of color population and offering a rigorous academic program in reading, writing, math, science, and social studies maintains continued success. The school also prioritizes social-emotional learning (SEL), restorative practices, and a culture that helps students thrive both academically and personally.

Although the Blue-Ribbon School Award has been canceled, it is imperative to recognize schools like Prescott Elementary, 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 Prescott Elementary for their exceptional and continuous success in educating and nurturing the brilliant future minds of this Nation.

**SALUTING THE SERVICE OF
JOSEPH ALAN MATHIS, SR.**

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. Joseph Alan Mathis, Sr. with a Congressional Veteran Commendation in honor of his exemplary service to the United States, both in uniform and through decades of continued commitment to his community.

Mr. Mathis began his military career in 1970 when he volunteered for service in the United States Army. He rose rapidly through the enlisted ranks from E–1 to E–6 and went on to serve four years in Germany before returning stateside to Fort Bliss. While stationed there, he completed a Bachelor of Science in Business Management, graduating Summa Cum Laude. He later attended the newly established Combat Arms Staff Service School and subsequently served with the 7th Infantry Division Combat Aviation Brigade in California.

Promoted to Major, Mr. Mathis was assigned as Chief for Battlefield Automation in Combat Developments at Fort McClellan. He was later selected to serve as the Chemical Officer for the 25th Infantry Division before choosing to retire in order to dedicate more time to his family. Over the course of 23 years, as both an enlisted soldier and commissioned officer, he distinguished himself through leadership, technical expertise, and service to others. He also gave back as a church musician and choir leader, extending his sense of service far beyond his military duties.

Following his honorable retirement, Mr. Mathis continued serving the Nation for another 23 years as a contractor supporting the Program Executive Office, where he helped develop advanced technical data systems. He

has remained deeply engaged in community service as well as a leader in the Lions Club, President of the Gatesville Exchange Club, a supporter of local emergency management efforts, and an active volunteer with Operation Stand Down Central Texas.

I am honored to commend Mr. Joseph Alan Mathis, Sr. for his outstanding service to our country and his steadfast dedication to the Central Texas community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE LEVIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, my flight was delayed on Monday, December 15, 2025, and I missed votes that evening. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 335, and YEA on Roll Call No. 336.

**HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF BOBBY N. FURR**

HON. RALPH NORMAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Bobby Neal Furr of Indian Land. He was born to Luther and Leona Furr on April 14, 1938, and grew up working on his family's dairy farm. It was there that he learned the early values of hard work, humility, and perseverance. Mr. Furr was drafted into the Army in 1961 and served honorably in South Korea at the Demilitarized Zone. He was in the Military Police, held the rank of Private First Class, and was a sharpshooter.

Upon returning from service, he married Kathy Fisher Furr in the spring of 1963. Four years later, the couple had their first of three daughters: Kathryn Teresa Furr, in December of 1967; Barbara Furr (1972); and Angele Furr (1977) joined the family shortly after. Mr. Furr, often referred to as a 'jack of all trades,' even built the family's home with his bare hands—filling it with love, laughter, and unwavering faith.

He took tremendous pride in providing for his family, often working multiple jobs at once, six days a week—but never seven. On that sacred Sabbath day, Mr. Furr would be found attending Pineville Church of the Nazarene, a church he called home for 85 years. He loved God and served faithfully in many roles, from Sunday School superintendent to youth leader, usher, and janitor. Mr. Furr served wherever he was needed. His servant's heart led him to join numerous work and witness mission projects around the world.

Mr. Furr's pride and joy was his family. He cherished his wife and daughters and never failed to put their well-being above his own. Even after retiring from Celanese Fiber Industries in 1999, Mr. Furr went back to work—now as a full-time grandparent. Mr. Furr was blessed with three grandsons and played a tremendous role in each one's life, including picking them up and caring for them after school. They loved their Granddaddy deeply.

In his free time, Mr. Furr could usually be found working in his shop, in his garden, or in the yard. He made it a priority to have daily morning devotions, and prayer was a constant part of his life.

Mr. Furr met our Savior face to face on August 21, 2025, at the age of 87. He was surrounded by his devoted wife, three loving daughters, and his closest friends on this side of eternity. He led a life of unwavering faith and a commitment to serving others.

Please join me in celebrating the life of Mr. Bobby Furr, a man whose presence strengthened his community, his church, and, most importantly, his family. As we honor his memory, we extend our deepest sympathy to his wife, daughters, and all who loved him.

May his legacy of service and love continue to inspire all who follow.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON ESTES

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

Mr. ESTES. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for the following Roll Call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: YEA on Roll Call No. 335, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass S. 284, the Congressional Award Program Reauthorization Act, and YEA on Roll Call No. 336, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, 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.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ASHLEY HINSON

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

Mrs. HINSON. Mr. Speaker, due to flight delays as a result of winter weather, I missed Monday evening votes. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 335, and YEA on Roll Call No. 336.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RASHIDA TLAI

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

Ms. TLAI. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 336, H.R. 3187, and YEA on Roll Call No. 335, Congressional Award Program Reauthorization Act.

**COMMENDING THE SERVICE OF
GORDON B. LOGAN**

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise and am privileged to present Mr. Gordon B.