

Andrew was born on June 22, 1923, in Saratoga Springs, New York, and graduated from White Plains High School in 1941. He briefly attended New York University before entering the United States Army on March 4, 1943, at the height of World War II. Andrew was assigned as a Demolition Tech with the 1884th Engineer Aviation Battalion, with whom he served in the Ryukyus campaign, a pivotal campaign in the Pacific Theater, which included the Battle of Okinawa. Andrew and his unit handled the construction and repair of airfields in remote and hostile areas throughout the Western Pacific. After being honorably discharged at the end of World War II, Andrew opted to re-enlist with the Army Corps of Engineers on February 21, 1947, and served as a surveyor with the 817th Engineer Aviation Battalion for another three years.

On February 20, 1950, Andrew was honorably discharged, and in recognition of his dedicated service to the United States, he was presented with the Good Conduct Medal with Clasp, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with two Service Stars, the American Campaign Medal, and the World War II Victory Medal.

After his military service, Andrew went on to receive his bachelor's degree from Skidmore College and worked as a land surveyor for over fifty years, including ten years working for the National Park Service, and another eight years with the Vermont Highway and Human Services Department.

Andrew and his wife, Ethel, were married for fifty years and raised three children together: Patricia, Marion, and James. They were also heavily involved with Boy Scout Troop No. 13 in Schuylerville, New York, and were proud to see their son and grandson both attain the rank of Eagle Scout. On July 4, 2019, Andrew passed away, leaving behind a legacy of service to his country and his community.

On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I am honored to recognize World War II Veteran Andrew G. Stine.

RECOGNIZING U.S. ARMY SERGEANT MAJOR KEVIN FACEMYER

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize Sergeant Major Kevin Facemyer, a remarkable leader from South Jersey, who is retiring after 27 years of dedicated military service to our great Nation.

From enlisting in the U.S. Army with a Ranger contract in 1996, to serving with the 75th Ranger Regiment, to deployments in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan, Kevin exemplified courage and commitment in some of the most challenging missions of our time. He went on to lead with distinction in the Maryland Army National Guard, where he trained future leaders, prepared units for combat, and supported critical domestic operations. Over his career, he earned some of the Army's highest honors, including the Legion of Spirit Medal, Bronze Star, and Purple Heart, as well as recognition in the orders of Saint Maurice and Saint Michael. As Kevin retires with 27 years of combined service, we salute his extraordinary career, his devotion to his soldiers, and his steadfast defense of our country.

God bless Kevin and God bless the United States of America. The greatest country on the face of the Earth.

HONORING PETER ERRANTE

HON. MIKIE SHERRILL

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

Ms. SHERRILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Peter P. Errante, who is retiring after 41 years of faithful and dedicated service as a civilian employee of the U.S. Army at Picatinny Arsenal.

Mr. Errante chose to apply his knowledge and experience to the U.S. military's armaments enterprise at Picatinny Arsenal located in New Jersey's 11th Congressional District. The contributions he has made to our national defense, and to our allies' defense, are enormous, and we all owe him a debt of gratitude.

Mr. Errante started out his career as an engineer, and in October 2002, he was selected as the Deputy Product Director for Crew Served Weapons as part of the newly formed Program Executive Office Soldier, Project Manager Soldier Lethality Organization. He served a key role in standing up for that organization and will continue that position up to his retirement on September 30, 2025.

As Deputy, Mr. Errante executed over \$7 billion in acquisitions and delivered over two million crew served weapons and accessories to soldiers and allies. He was directly responsible for weapon life cycle management, including development, production and sustainment of the M249 Squad Automatic Rifle, M240 Machine Guns, M2/M2A1 Machine Guns, Mk19 Grenade Machine Guns, Multi-role Anti-Armor Anti-Personnel Weapon Systems (MAAWS) M22, M24, M25/M25A1 Binoculars, Mounted Machine Gun Optics, M107, M110, and M2010 Sniper Rifles, Medium Caliber Weapons, Common Remotely Operated Weapon Stations (CROWS), and Non-Standard Weapons and Optics. Thanks to his efforts, Picatinny's Armaments Center has continued to develop and sustain vital combat systems that both our warfighters and our allies depend on and will continue to use in the future.

I want to thank Mr. Errante for the critical engineering and program management that he and his team have done over his career to support our national defense, and I wish him the best for a well-earned and restful retirement.

COMMEMORATING THE 100-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBBY'S PUMPKIN FACTORY

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the 100th anniversary of Libby's Pumpkin Factory in Morton, Illinois. For a century, Libby's has been at the heart of our agricultural economy, building a legacy that has made Morton the "Pumpkin Capital of the World."

Since commencing operations in 1925, the Libby's plant in Morton has grown into the largest pumpkin canning operation in the United States. Its operations have had an immensely positive impact on local family farms, the environment, and cultivating the next generation of agricultural professionals.

The plant's local impact is remarkable, sourcing more than 90 percent of its pumpkin crop from within a 45-mile radius of Morton, supporting countless family farms and providing an economic boost to the area.

The Morton facility has a stellar record of environmental sustainability, operating as a zero-waste-for-disposal facility, recycling water used during pack season, and ensuring that every part of the pumpkin—from seed to stem—is repurposed.

Libby's has also invested in the next generation of agricultural professionals by partnering with regional institutions of higher education, including the University of Illinois, to fund scholarships and create innovative opportunities for learning best practices.

Mr. Speaker, today we honor Libby's and its employees past and present, for their enduring commitment to innovation, excellence, and positive community impact. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Libby's Pumpkin on 100 years of excellence and in recognizing Morton's proud legacy as the Pumpkin Capital of the World.

RECOGNIZING CHESTER FIRST AID SQUAD'S 80TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

Mr. KEAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service and commitment of the Chester First Aid Squad. Since 1945, the Chester First Aid Squad has provided exceptional care in times of need. For 80 years, these volunteers have provided free and professional support to the people of Chester and to neighboring communities during medical emergencies. The squad has logged thousands of hours administering emergency assistance to others exemplifying the spirit of sacrifice and volunteerism that embody New Jersey's 7th Congressional District.

I ask my colleagues today to join me in commending this exemplary organization and congratulating them on 80 years of extraordinary community service.

RECOGNIZING EAGLE SCOUT MADELINE DELEIGHA MILLER

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize Madeline Miller of Logan Township, who at just sixteen years old has earned the rank of Eagle Scout, a distinction achieved by only a small percentage of Scouts nationwide. At such a young age, Madeline has already shown remarkable dedication, leadership, and service. For her Eagle project, she designed and built dog play

equipment at the Triple Seven Animal Rescue in Elmer, South Jersey, creating a doghouse tunnel, hurdle, and even re-purposing a fire hydrant to provide a lasting space for the animals in their care. Madeline is currently a student at Padua Academy, an institution known for preparing young women through a strong Catholic education rooted in academic excellence and community service. She is a role model for her peers, and her Eagle rank reflects not only her perseverance but also her deep commitment to faith, service, and community.

I congratulate Madeline on this spectacular accomplishment and I look forward to seeing what else she achieves. God bless Madeline and God bless our United States of America. The greatest country on the face of the Earth.

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF THE LANCASTER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate and recognize the Lancaster County Conservation District (LCCD) on their 75th anniversary.

In 1950, the Lancaster County Conservation District, then called the Soil Conservation District, was officially incorporated by the county. Though the Conservation District had officially been organized since 1938, it only covered the southern part of Lancaster County. The new organization was wholly operated by its volunteer board until they hired their first employee in 1965.

The Lancaster County Conservation District raises awareness of environmental challenges and helps individuals and organizations with navigating them. Three quarters of a century since its founding, the LCCD has moved beyond its original scope of soil conservation. New programs include an erosion and sedimentation program, which helps to protect water quality, educational programs such as the Youth Conservation School and the Envirothon, their own Chesapeake Bay and watershed programs, an annual tree sale, and much more.

Just as important is the LCCD's collaboration with farmers and the local community, which makes everything they do possible. Farmers work with the LCCD because better agronomics and better environmental practices are intertwined. The LCCD also builds inroads with farmers to increase environmental awareness. An example of this is their Plain Sect program, which provides outreach to the local Amish and Mennonite communities, which comprise a significant portion of the farms in the district.

With the dedication of 40 employees, the LCCD leads the way in soil conservation and water quality. We owe our beautiful scenery and quality of life in part to the LCCD, which is why I am grateful for their work in Pennsylvania's 11th Congressional District. Congratulations to the Lancaster County Conservation District on 75 years, and I wish them many more years of success.

RECOGNIZING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PASO DEL NORTE HEALTH FOUNDATION

HON. VERONICA ESCOBAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

Ms. ESCOBAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 30th anniversary of the Paso Del Norte Health Foundation in El Paso, Texas.

Established in 1995, the Paso Del Norte Health Foundation has worked to ensure our binational tri-state community has the knowledge, resources, and support needed to lead healthy and productive lives.

For three decades, the foundation has partnered with countless local and national organizations to address some of the most critical challenges in the borderland—from chronic disease prevention, expanding mental health support, and helping develop the next generation of healthcare leaders.

The PDNHF has supported local governments, non-profits and educational institutions to promote health and the well-being of our community. Over its 30-year history, the PDNHF has helped reduce smoking, promoted diabetes awareness and increased physical activity and healthy eating, created a medical forgivable loan fund, programing to support oral health, support for the community through the COVID-19 pandemic, and support in growing El Paso's quality of life assets.

The community is grateful for PDNHF's investment in our region and congratulates the board and staff committed to this mission. I ask all my colleagues to join me in celebrating the incredible legacy of the Paso Del Norte Health Foundation.

WELCOMING HIS ALL-HOLINESS ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH BARTHOLOMEW TO THE UNITED STATES

HON. ABRAHAM J. HAMADEH

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

Mr. HAMADEH of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer a warm welcome to His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, the spiritual leader of 300 million Orthodox Christians throughout the world and the current Archbishop of Constantinople, serving in one of the oldest sees in Christendom. This month, Patriarch Bartholomew will visit Washington, D.C., where he will be recognized as this year's recipient of the prestigious Templeton Prize, an award that has been garnered in the past by great historical figures such as Mother Teresa, the Dalai Lama, and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

In his previous visits to the United States, His All Holiness has had visitations with five Presidents, he has spoken to both houses of Congress and has been awarded the Congressional Gold Medal; the highest award that civilian Congress can bestow. His next trip will maintain that longstanding tradition of friendship between the United States and the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

It is Patriarch Bartholomew's life that embodies ethical and principled leadership and

the patriarch's perseverance that became proverbial. Fluent in seven languages and a holder of several doctorates in Canon Law, he has tirelessly championed the cause of religious freedom, inter-faith dialogue and environmental responsibility—earning the endearing nickname “the Green Patriarch”, by stating that damaging God's creation is a sin.

At a time when religious persecution, catastrophes and tensions among religious communities seem to be dominating news headlines, Patriarch Bartholomew presents an alternate vision: “War in the name of religion is war against religion,” he tells us. He calls on people of faith of all traditions to be “peace-makers” and protectors of the Earth.

There are thousands of Greek-Americans living in Arizona's 8th Congressional District, including the hundreds of faithful at St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church in Peoria. They, and Orthodox Christians throughout our land, welcome this visit with joy. My constituents are particularly proud of the fact that Patriarch Bartholomew has been an outspoken defender of human dignity and has reached out to Jewish and Muslim leaders throughout the world.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in welcoming His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew to Washington, D.C., and in paying tribute to his decades of ministry for peace, reconciliation and environmental stewardship. May God continue to bestow his example as a guide to defend religious freedom, choose cooperation over conflict, and secure a healthier, safer America for future generations.

HONORING EAGLE SCOUT ALEXANDER JOHN SCALICE

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to celebrate Alexander John Scalice of Gallo-way Township, whose hard work and dedication have earned him the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest distinction in the Boy Scouts of America.

Throughout his Scouting journey, Alex earned an impressive 40 merit badges in areas ranging from science, citizenship and communications, as well as serving in elected leadership roles within his troop. For his Eagle project, Alex designed and built six oar carriers for the Cedar Creek High School Crew team, where he proudly rowed for four years. Recognizing the financial challenges faced by the program, he secured donations from local businesses and individual supporters, organized a team of volunteers, and led them in completing this project. His work not only solved a practical problem for his teammates but also provided equipment that will support the program for many seasons to come. His commitment to service extended beyond Scouting. Alex volunteered many hours with his church and community, earning two Catholic Scouting emblems, demonstrating his devotion to both faith and country. As he prepares to study Biology and Pre-Med in college, Alex stands a role model for young people across South Jersey and a source of pride for his family, his troop, and our community.

I congratulate Alex on this outstanding achievement. God bless Alex and God bless