

Bryan was born in Spokane's Hillyard neighborhood. Along with his sisters, he was raised alone by their mother, Tina Braman-Fields, after their father abandoned them.

His childhood in Hillyard, Cheney, and north Spokane was marked by instability and hardship including periods of homelessness. Despite these challenges, Bryan's deep Spokane roots and the strength of his family shaped a resilient young man determined to rise above adversity. That determination would go on to define his life and his career.

Bryan attended Shadle Park High School where he was an outstanding track and field athlete before deciding to join the football team. With exceptional athletic talent and unwavering resilience, he conquered every obstacle in his life, ultimately rising to prominence as an NFL linebacker and earning a Superbowl ring with the Philadelphia Eagles in 2018.

Known for his relentless spirit and generosity, even in his final days, Bryan rallied family and friends for a joyful ice cream night during the final stages of his battle with cancer.

His spirit was and remains unbreakable. Bryan passed away last week, but his legacy lives on in his daughters, Blakely and Marlowe; his family; and all who were fortunate to know him.

Spokane is proud to call Bryan Braman one of its own, and his beautiful life will continue to inspire us all.

AND STILL I RISE

(Mr. GREEN of Texas was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise today to speak truth to power, as well as speak truth about power. I rise to speak truth about what is happening to the Palestinians in Gaza.

I rise to ask: What do we call it when we have a group of people who are being denied food and denied the very essence and necessities of life? What do we call it when their homes are being destroyed, when their schools are being destroyed, and when their churches and their infrastructure are being destroyed? What do we call it when we do this to them as a group? We call it collective punishment. It is called collective punishment, Mr. Speaker.

What do we call it when we have a group of people who are being pushed around, pushed from one end of Gaza to the other? What do we call it when they are literally being slaughtered as they are seeking food? What do we call it when people say that they ought to be removed from their land? We call it ethnic cleansing, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, what do we call when it appears to me that there is a deliberate and systemic effort to destroy in whole or in part the Palestinian people? What do we call it when we destroy them in whole or in part?

We are witnessing before our very eyes, Mr. Speaker, genocide in Gaza, and we say nothing.

I am amazed at how this country that stands for liberty and justice for all, this country that has a Statue of Liberty, how this country can see what is happening in Gaza and not call it what it is.

There is a fear among us. We refuse to speak truth to power. We refuse to speak truth about power. Today, I am going to do it. I am doing it because these are precious babies that are being slaughtered.

We see the bodies. We see the homes. We see the infrastructure. We say nothing. Who are we? What is wrong with us? What is going on? Here is what is going on.

□ 1020

We have an authoritarian leader who is supporting another authoritarian leader. Our President and the Prime Minister of Israel are working together, and they are doing this. Our President said there would be hell to pay if they did not move or if they did not surrender—not in those exact words, but that was his intentionality. He is talking about the people of Gaza.

I am not talking about Hamas. They did a dastardly deed. What Hamas did can never be justified. They were wrong, but you can't justify what is happening in Israel right now. It is collective punishment. It is ethnic cleansing, and it is genocide.

Mr. President, Donald John Trump, I say to you, Mr. President, you have been trying to hide from this, but, Mr. President, you can't hide. I charge you with genocide.

Mr. Netanyahu, you are the perpetrator. I charge you with genocide.

Also, I want this Congress to know that, yes, I voted against sending any additional monies to Israel for munitions. I voted against it. This genocide is going to continue until we have the courage to say no more—no more money to kill babies, no more money to say you are going to move people and create some sort of riviera on the Mediterranean, no more.

I will not vote for any more money. I stand where I stand. I said what I said, and I mean what I mean.

We cannot, as a great nation, continue to stand silent as we see collective punishment, ethnic cleansing, and genocide in Gaza committed against people and children.

We can't stand silent. History will not be kind to us.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

HONORING DAWSON THOMPSON

(Mr. EZELL of Mississippi was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. EZELL. Mr. Speaker, if you have ever played the game of golf in the Mississippi heat, you know the game gives nothing away. The course doesn't care about your story, but every now

and then, someone comes along who plays the game with so much heart, so much resolve, it demands our respect.

Dawson Thompson is one of those people. Raised in Pascagoula and born with achondroplasia, Dawson never asked for shortcuts. Even after surgeries, even when given permission to ride a cart, he walked every hole every round because that is what his competitors were doing and because that is who Dawson is.

Earlier this month, Dawson competed in the U.S. Adaptive Open, one of the most competitive and inspiring stages in golf. He carried not just his clubs but the hopes of a town, a State, and anyone who has ever been told a dream was out of reach.

Mr. Speaker, Dawson Thompson didn't just represent Pascagoula, Mississippi, with pride. He showed the Nation what quiet strength and true perseverance look like.

I am proud to congratulate Dawson on his remarkable achievement, and I know the entire Fourth District joins me in celebrating his journey and hoping this is just the beginning.

COMMEMORATING SIX TRIPLE EIGHT

(Mr. DAVIS of Illinois was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commemorate the extraordinary service and enduring legacy of the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion, known with pride and reverence as the Six Triple Eight.

Formed in 1944 during World War II, the Six Triple Eight was the first and only all-Black, all-female battalion deployed overseas in United States military history. Comprising over 850 courageous women from the Women's Army Corps, the WAC, the unit represented 32 States across our Nation. Many trained at Fort Des Moines, Iowa, a rare opportunity afforded to African-American women at the time.

These women answered the call to serve their country despite the dual burdens of racism and sexism, which too often obscured their contributions. Yet, their mission was essential.

Deployed to England and later France, the Six Triple Eight was tasked with clearing an enormous backlog of more than 17 million pieces of undelivered mail, reconnecting American troops with their loved ones.

Operating in grueling conditions in cold, dark, and often dangerous warehouses, they worked around the clock in three shifts, accomplishing in just 3 months what had been projected to take 6 months. Their guiding motto: No Mail, Low Moral. It was more than a slogan. It was a lifeline.

By restoring vital communication between soldiers and their families, they uplifted the spirit of the Armed Forces and strengthened the emotional backbone of a nation at war.

Despite their unprecedented success, the women of the Six Triple Eight returned home to a country that failed to

properly recognize their valor. For decades, their contributions were left out of the mainstream military narrative.

That silence began to break, though, in 2022 when Congress passed and the President signed the Six Triple Eight Congressional Gold Medal Act, affirming that these women's sacrifice and excellence are integral to our national story.

Let the record show, let the record reflect, the Six Triple Eight was not merely a military unit. It was a living testament to discipline, resilience, and the unyielding patriotism of Black women in service to a country that had yet to fully serve them in return.

As we enter this legacy into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, I call upon my colleagues and future generations to honor the Six Triple Eight, not only in commemoration but in our ongoing pursuit of justice, equity, and historical truth.

It is recognized that August 10, 2025, is Six Triple Eight Day in Illinois.

□ 1030

Mr. Speaker, I urge all residents across the Nation to honor the service, sacrifice, and legacy of the women of the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion. The women who served in the 6888th battalion from Illinois are listed in this communique.

Mr. Speaker, I thank them for their service and dedication.

PAYING RESPECTS TO SENATOR BRUCE ANDERSON

(Mrs. FISCHBACH of Minnesota was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I am sad to say that I rise today to pay respects to my friend, a colleague, a man I served with for many years in the Minnesota legislature, and a kind and good man, Senator Bruce Anderson.

He passed away unexpectedly leaving Minnesota and his family to mourn the loss of a great man.

A Navy veteran of the Vietnam war, he was an advocate for veterans and for rural communities and a man I was honored to serve with. He will be deeply missed by so many of us, and I send my deepest condolences to his family and all of those who knew him. I will keep them all and him in my prayers.

EXTENDING SYMPATHY TO THE WELU FAMILY OF
MILROY

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to extend my sympathy to the Welu family of Milroy following the tragic loss of Melvin in a farming accident.

Melvin was born and raised in Milroy, a third-generation farmer, a lifelong active member of St. Michael's Catholic Church, and an amateur historian. He loved his Milroy community, reviving the Milroy Fun Fest and following the local sports teams closely.

He loved spending time with his children and taking his grandchildren on tractor rides around the farm. He loved his wife, Bev, and their Saturday night dates.

I send my deepest condolences to the Welu family as they navigate through this difficult time. I will be keeping Melvin, his family, and the community of Milroy in my prayers.

RECOGNIZING ARTHUR COIA OF RHODE ISLAND

(Mr. AMO of Rhode Island was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. AMO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a recently passed giant of the labor movement in Rhode Island and around the country, Arthur Coia.

Labor was the heart and soul of Arthur Armand Coia. He was born into a family of labor leaders. As a member of Local 271 in Providence since his teenage years, he worked in construction while going to Providence College and attending law school. He was always close to his union roots.

A union man through and through, he dedicated his life to expanding workers' organizing rights. He fought for the right to earn a fair paycheck and have dignity and safety on the job.

He started out as the business manager of the Rhode Island Laborers' District Council and rose to become the general president of LIUNA and vice president of the AFL-CIO.

Arthur worked tirelessly to make life better for the working men and women of our country. He helped found the Laborers' Health & Safety Fund of North America, transforming job-site safety, and the Laborers-Employers Cooperation and Education Trust, helping union labor train workers and expand market share.

There is no doubt that his work saved lives, prevented accidents, and helped union labor gain new opportunities in the 21st century.

Arthur was not only a labor leader, he was also a dedicated father, grandfather, husband, and friend. My thoughts are with his family at this incredibly difficult time.

I hope they, as I do, take heart in his service to the movement and to others. His contributions will not be forgotten.

RECOGNIZING ALAN HASSENFELD OF RHODE ISLAND

Mr. AMO. Mr. Speaker, Alan Hassenfeld, another titan in Rhode Island, spent his life bettering the lives of countless individuals in our country and around the world.

Born in Providence in 1948, Alan dedicated his professional life to bringing joy to generations of children as the CEO of his family's company, Hasbro Toys.

Alan helped the company acquire quintessential children's brands like Play-Doh, Monopoly, and Nerf, and took their iconic tuber, Mr. Potato Head, to new heights in the Hollywood film "Toy Story."

Growing up in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, I have fond memories of Mr. and Mrs. Potato Head statues popping up across Rhode Island. Under Alan's guidance, Hasbro teamed up with the

State of Rhode Island for a tourism campaign featuring the whimsical statues of the spud made by local artists highlighting the Ocean State's role as the birthplace of fun.

However, it was outside the toy chest that Alan's incredible civic spirit and unmatched generosity shone. His contributions to Rhode Island's civic life were numerous and impactful.

Alan spearheaded a political ethics reform movement, pioneered concepts of social responsibility at the corporate level, and worked to end the use of child labor in toy production supply chains. He invested in generations of public sector leaders. He founded the Hassenfeld Child Health Innovation Institute at Brown University to improve family mental health and created RI For Gun Safety to promote common-sense gun reform.

Perhaps most notably, he provided the vision and the founding donation for Hasbro Children's hospital in Providence.

Thanks to Alan, Rhode Island is home to a world-class pediatric healthcare facility providing for the specialty and emergency needs of the littlest New Englanders.

Alan was a philanthropist, businessman, and reformer, but, most important, he was a dear friend, husband, stepfather, uncle, and granddad.

Before taking this office, and once sworn in, Alan provided me wise counsel sharing pragmatic, solutions-oriented advice on how to be of service and make change.

Alan exemplified community spirit and dedication to others, business acumen, incredible generosity, friendship, and, of course, leadership. He represented the best of Rhode Island, and he will be truly and deeply missed.

JULY 24TH, UTAH'S STATE HOLIDAY

(Mr. KENNEDY of Utah was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. KENNEDY of Utah. Mr. Speaker, on February 25, 1846, beleaguered residents of Nauvoo, Illinois, began leaving their homes and farms behind, crossing the frozen Mississippi River by ferry and wagon to escape persecution. Only the sickest and poorest remained behind, and even they were finally forced out by mob action. All crossed Iowa to Nebraska, just north of Omaha, their winter quarters on the Missouri River.

Why do I bring up these sad memories from long ago?

Utah still celebrates the day when they finally arrived at a place of safety, the valley of the Great Salt Lake, on July 24, 1847. July 24 is a State holiday for Utahns. Those hardy, resilient pioneers, carrying with them the sick and desperately poor from burning Nauvoo, found temporary refuge among the kind members of the Omaha Tribe.

They made an agreement with the Omaha through their Chief, Big Elk, who welcomed the pioneers, understanding the trouble they had recently