

on a unique combination of tools and techniques that are peer driven, professionally guided, and spiritually based. As news spread of HARP's devotion to both those incarcerated and former program participants, incarcerated individuals from other jail systems began to request transfers to Chesterfield specifically to join the program.

HARP's commitment to compassion, innovation, and excellence has strengthened Virginia's First District and improved the lives of countless individuals and families. They place a large emphasis on former participants as well, helping them gain access to recovery housing and allowing them to return to therapy sessions and group meetings.

HARP offers a hopeful alternative to tragedy for families affected by addiction. They represent a proactive partnership between local government, health professionals, and community stakeholders dedicated to reducing the devastating impact of substance use disorders. I am proud of the work being done by Sheriff Karl Leonard and all those involved in HARP's implementation. Their efforts are a reminder that compassionate, evidence-based approaches can save lives and build stronger communities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in honoring the 10-year anniversary of the Chesterfield County HARP Program as it continues to address critical social and spiritual needs, and strive to help treat not just symptoms, but the root causes of addiction. I wish Sheriff Karl Leonard, along with the entire HARP team, all the best as they continue to serve the community.

HONORING KOREAN WAR ARMY  
VETERAN EARL SEELOW

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 20, 2026*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor United States Army Veteran Earl Seelow.

Earl Seelow was born on October 20, 1932, in Edinburg, New York, to his parents, Edwin and Flora Seelow. He was raised in the same close-knit community that he would continue to serve throughout his life.

Earl entered the United States Army on November 13, 1952. He trained as an Infantryman and was deployed to Korea as a replacement soldier. He was assigned to Company E, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, where he served for the duration of the Korean War. During his service, Earl fought in two of the most intense engagements of the conflict in the fierce Third Korean Winter campaign, including the Battles of Pork Chop Hill and Old Baldy.

Earl was honorably discharged on November 12, 1954, at the rank of Technical Sergeant. For his courageous service, he was awarded the Korean Service Medal with two Bronze Service Stars, two Overseas Bars, the United Nations Service Medal, the Combat Infantry Badge, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Emblem.

Following his military service, Earl married the love of his life, Valerie, on April 21, 1956. They shared 67 years of marriage and raised

four sons together. Earl built a long and steady career at the International Paper Company in Corinth, where he worked for nearly 37 years before retiring in 1994. During that time, he served as a UPIU Union Officer for 22 years.

After serving our country, Earl returned home to serve his community. He served with the Edinburg Fire Department as the Assistant Fire Chief, managed the Community Bowling Center, served as Corinth Town Assessor for five years, worked as a crossing guard for the Corinth School, and later worked alongside his son Jim at the Olde Saratoga Brewing Company for 12 years. Earl dedicated more than 52 years to Corinth Little League as a coach, umpire, and Executive Board member. He was a member of Free and Accepted Masons Lodge 22, Shriners Valley of Albany, Oriental Temple of Troy, American Legion Post 533, and the New York State Assessors' Association.

His life reflected steady leadership, service, and commitment to others. On behalf of New York, I am honored to recognize Korean War Army Veteran Technical Sergeant Earl Seelow.

CELEBRATING THE GARDENING  
GAYS FARM'S COMMUNITY IM-  
PACT

**HON. EUGENE SIMON VINDMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 20, 2026*

Mr. VINDMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Gardening Gays Farm of King George County, Virginia, on earning multiple honors in the 2026 King George "KG Best of the Best" Awards, a community-driven recognition of outstanding local businesses.

Through the votes of their neighbors and customers, Gardening Gays Farm was recognized in several categories, including best customer service, best family-owned business, best small business, best agriculture or farm business, best grocery or convenience store. This recognition reflects their outstanding service, quality, and community engagement. Their success is a testament to the dedication, innovation, and integrity that define this family-owned farm.

I had the pleasure of visiting Gardening Gays Farm and witnessed firsthand the passion and hard work that have made it such a beloved local institution. From their commitment to sustainable farming practices to the welcoming atmosphere that they create for families across the region, it is clear why so many in King George County hold them in such high regard. Small businesses like Gardening Gays Farm are the backbone of our rural communities and an essential part of Virginia's proud agricultural heritage.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the owners and team at Gardening Gays Farm on these well-deserved honors and wishing them continued success in the years ahead.

RECOGNIZING PATRICK KELIHER

**HON. CHELLIE PINGREE**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 20, 2026*

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to recognize Patrick Keliher as the 2025 recipient of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Captain David H. Hart Award. This recognition honors Pat's remarkable leadership and contributions toward improving Atlantic Coast marine fisheries.

As former Commissioner of the Maine Department of Marine Resources, Pat spearheaded countless initiatives—from restoring passage for sea-run fish species like Atlantic salmon to rebuilding working waterfront properties after historic storms ravaged our coast. His efforts have strengthened our environment, commercial fisheries, and coastal communities.

While Commissioner, Pat engaged stakeholders on some of the toughest issues facing our state. He worked diligently to understand the concerns of Maine's fishing communities and translate those concerns and recommendations into public policy. He skillfully facilitated a pause on federal whale regulations and continuously explored opportunities to protect Maine's heritage lobster industry, while securing funding for broader fisheries and marine mammal research. Further, he helped steer Maine's fisheries and marine economy through crisis during the pandemic.

Pat embodies transformative public service. His tireless work ethic, commitment to the health of our coast and coastal economy, and collaboration across industries have made our state a better place in innumerable ways. I could not imagine a more deserving recipient of this honor.

I commend Pat for his unparalleled career of service and congratulate him on this award.

HONORING LUIS FRANCISCO  
RAMOS RAMIREZ, BREVARD  
COUNTY'S JANUARY VETERAN  
OF THE MONTH

**HON. MIKE HARIDOPOLOS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 20, 2026*

Mr. HARIDOPOLOS. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor Luis Francisco Ramos Ramirez, who has been selected as January's Brevard County Veteran of the Month.

Mr. Ramos Ramirez proudly served our Nation in the United States Army, answering the call to duty during a critical moment in our history. He served for three years, including time in Vietnam, where he conducted reconnaissance missions—some of the most dangerous and demanding assignments in combat. Not only did he serve honorably, but he also volunteered to remain in Vietnam for additional time, demonstrating extraordinary courage and selflessness.

For his service, Mr. Ramos Ramirez earned the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal with two Bronze Service Stars, and the Vietnam Campaign Medal—decorations that reflect both valor and sacrifice.

Like so many of our veterans, his legacy extends beyond the uniform. His commitment to protecting our freedoms reminds us that the liberties we enjoy today were secured by Americans willing to put country before self.

On behalf of Florida's Space Coast and a grateful Nation, we thank Luis Francisco Ramos Ramirez for his service, his sacrifice, and his example. It is an honor to recognize him here today.

RECOGNIZING MADELINE BROBST  
RECEIVING A PERFECT SCORE  
ON THE ACT

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 20, 2026*

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to formally recognize an exceptional young student, Madeline Brobst, a senior at Franklin Christian Academy who has received a perfect composite score of 36 on the ACT exam. Through disciplined study, steady composure during examinations, and unwavering commitment of time and talent, Ms. Brobst has achieved academic success and joined the ranks of the best and brightest students in Tennessee and our country.

In addition to her intellectual capability, Ms. Brobst serves as a mentor to eighth grade students at Franklin Christian Academy; she is a member of the Student Leadership Team, National Honor Society, and the worship team during school chapel services. During her time at Franklin Christian Academy, Ms. Brobst has participated in numerous theatrical and musical productions.

It is with great distinction and pride that I honor Madeline for achieving a perfect ACT score, a remarkable feat accomplished by only a very small percentage of students nationwide. This achievement places her among the most academically accomplished students in our country and reflects a level of brilliance that is truly commendable.

Earning a perfect score on the ACT is a testament to remarkable intellectual ability, diligent preparation, and an unparalleled commitment to academic excellence. It demonstrates not only mastery across English, Mathematics, Reading, and Science, but also the persistence, focus, and determination required to perform at the highest level under rigorous testing conditions.

Madeline's dedication to learning and pursuing the highest standards of performance speaks to both her exceptional aptitude and her strong character. Achievements of this caliber do not occur by chance; they are the result of sustained hard work, personal sacrifice, and a devoted commitment to excellence.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Madeline Brobst on this milestone of academic distinction. We commend her for this outstanding accomplishment and look forward with confidence to the many successes that will undoubtedly follow in her academic and professional journey.

RECOGNIZING UNITED STATES  
NAVY PETTY OFFICER SECOND  
CLASS KATRINA GRAMER

**HON. LISA C. McCLAIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 20, 2026*

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Petty Officer Second Class Katrina Gramer for her honorable service to the United States Navy and her unwavering dedication to supporting our veteran community. Her service in uniform and her continued dedication to fellow veterans represents the very best of our service members and the values they uphold. It is my privilege to recognize her as our February 2026 Veteran of the Month.

A native of Port Huron, Michigan, Petty Officer Gramer enlisted in the United States Navy in 1999. She completed basic training at Great Lakes, Illinois, and went on to attend Anti-Submarine Warfare Training School in San Diego, California, where she trained as a Sonar Technician.

Her first duty station was in Yokosuka, Japan. While her ship was operating in the Middle East, the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, occurred. In the days that followed, her ship launched some of the first Tomahawk cruise missiles into Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, answering our Nation's call during a defining moment in American history. She later served in California, continuing her dedicated service.

Throughout her time in uniform, Petty Officer Gramer earned numerous military honors, including the Meritorious Unit Commendation, Navy Unit Commendation, National Defense Service Medal, and Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal. These awards recognize her hard work and the strong performance of the units she served with.

Following her honorable discharge in 2005, Mrs. Gramer continued to pursue excellence. She earned two degrees: one in Early Childhood Development and another in Business Administration. She successfully operated a home childcare business while raising her three children. Once her children reached school age, she discovered a new calling: serving those who have served.

Mrs. Gramer has devoted herself to supporting veterans and their families. She has held leadership positions within her local Veterans of Foreign Wars Post, maintains membership in her local American Legion Post, and has served as both Co-Director and Vice President of a local veterans' resource center. She is an active member of her local honor guard, where she performs live taps at services and provides honors at football games, ceremonies, and parades, ensuring that the sacrifices of our service members are remembered with dignity and respect.

Today, she serves as a Veteran Service Officer for the Vietnam Veterans of America Michigan State Council. In this role, she assists veterans, their families, surviving spouses, and caregivers in navigating the VA benefits system. She takes great pride in ensuring that those who served our Nation receive the benefits and recognition they have earned.

Mrs. Gramer currently resides in Holly, Michigan with her husband, their three children, and their beloved pets, including her

trained service dog, Tinkerbell. She is a proud Navy mother, as her oldest child currently serves on active duty, carrying forward the family's strong tradition of military service. Together, their family enjoys camping, kayaking, bonfires, and sharing meals with one another.

Mr. Speaker, Petty Officer Second Class Katrina Gramer's commitment to service extends far beyond her time in uniform. Through her leadership, advocacy, and tireless work on behalf of veterans and their families, she continues to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those who have served our nation. It is my great privilege to recognize her dedication and to honor her as our February 2026 Veteran of the Month.

HONORING MAYOR CHARLES  
HARVEY

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 20, 2026*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mayor Charles Harvey for his dedication to his community, Bolivar County and surrounding areas.

Charles Harvey served as Mayor of Duncan, Mississippi, for over 30 years, making him one of the longest-serving municipal leaders in the region. His decades of service reflect sustained trust from the community and a deep commitment to the town's well-being.

Under Mayor Harvey's leadership, the Town of Duncan was recognized as a "Healthy Hometown" through a statewide program, showcasing the town's efforts to improve health and wellness for residents. The initiative included developing a walking trail along a former railroad bed, promoting outdoor activity and healthy living among all ages. This work was supported by grants and community engagement and involved events like walking clubs and "Walk to School Day," making health a priority in local policy.

Duncan received a Healthy Hometown award, reflecting ongoing efforts to create spaces and programs that encourage physical activity and general wellness. Though detailed public records of specific housing projects in Duncan are limited due to the town's small size, Mayor Harvey has consistently voiced concerns about housing and worked to address community needs. His long tenure suggests ongoing engagement with issues like property conditions, residential opportunities, and community stability common priorities in small rural towns where housing quality and availability directly affect residents retention and quality of life.

Mayor Harvey's longstanding service has also been characterized by his role as a community advocate and organizer—bringing residents together for initiatives that improve quality of life and supporting and partnerships for health and housing-related projects. His involvement in statewide wellness programs brought recognition and resources to Duncan that might otherwise not have been accessible.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mayor Charles Harvey for his unwavering dedication to the people of his community, this great state, and our Nation.