

RECOGNIZING DOREEN NEILSON

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary dedication and service of Doreen Neilson, who has devoted 60 years to serving the Town of Pendleton and the Wendelville Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary. Over the course of her long and distinguished career, Doreen has held numerous leadership and administrative roles, providing unwavering support to both the firefighters and the community.

Together with her husband Victor, she helped establish and run the famous Fish and Chips at the Annual Wendelville Field Days and has contributed to countless social and fundraising activities that sustain the Wendelville Volunteer Fire Company. Her dedication has ensured that the Ladies Auxiliary remains a vital part of the organization and the community.

Doreen's leadership, experience, and commitment have served as an example for all members of the Wendelville Volunteer Fire Company and the broader community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the United States House of Representatives join me in honoring Doreen Neilson for her remarkable 60 years of service and in wishing her continued success and fulfillment in her ongoing commitment to the community.

OPPOSING THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S SWEEPING NATIONAL TARIFFS

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following letter from the National Taxpayers Union, signed by 469 economists, opposing the Trump Administration's sweeping national tariffs as dangerous economic policy, for consideration by the Supreme Court as it evaluates the potential violations of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA):

469 ECONOMISTS: BIGGEST TRADE THREAT IS IF TARIFFS ARE LEFT IN PLACE

In the case of Trump v. V.O.S. Selections, the Trump Administration's submission to the Supreme Court of the United States argues that terminating its sweeping national emergency tariffs would have catastrophic consequences for our economy.

This is backwards. The greater threat to the economy of the United States is not that the Trump Administration's tariffs will be struck down, but that they will be allowed to remain in place.

As economists, we know that broad-based tariffs impose net costs on the economy. They divert resources from their most efficient use, while making it more difficult and expensive for U.S. businesses to access inputs and capital goods, like steel and machinery for manufacturers and fertilizer and agricultural equipment for farmers.

Additionally, by increasing production costs for domestically made products and reducing the amount our trading partners can

earn by selling to the United States, tariffs reduce export opportunities for U.S. producers.

The Trump Administration's April Executive Order, Regulating Imports with a Reciprocal Tariff to Rectify Trade Practices that Contribute to Large and Persistent Annual United States Goods Trade Deficits, asserts that trade deficits constitute an unusual and extraordinary threat to the economy of the United States. However, this allegation is not backed by sound economic theory or empirical evidence.

Trade deficits primarily reflect underlying macroeconomic factors such as the U.S. savings rate and the desire of our trading partners to invest in the United States. The United States has experienced trade deficits for 49 consecutive years, yet, during this period, real GDP, national wealth, and median incomes have all grown substantially. Moreover, U.S. industrial capacity reached a historic high in August. Even if you believe trade deficits are harmful, no serious claim can be made that they are either catastrophic or constitute a national emergency.

In technical terms, the U.S. current account deficit is offset by a surplus in the capital account. There is no inherent threat to our economy if our trading partners invest in U.S. companies or buy Treasury bonds instead of purchasing American-made exports. In fact, it is not uncommon for the U.S. trade deficit to increase when the economy is growing and to decrease when it is not. The significant reduction in the trade deficit during the Great Recession is the most prominent recent example.

As the Supreme Court considers the Trump Administration's argument that the trade deficit represents an extraordinary threat, we respectfully encourage it to consider the centuries of economic theory and evidence and the overwhelming consensus among economists that suggest otherwise.

RECOGNIZING CANDI MUNDON KING ON HER APPOINTMENT AS VIRGINIA'S SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

HON. EUGENE SIMON VINDMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. VINDMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Candi Mundon King on her appointment as Virginia's Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Born and raised in Portsmouth, Virginia, Secretary Mundon King is a proud graduate of Norfolk State University and has been a lifelong champion for the people of Virginia.

From 2021 until her appointment, she represented Virginia's 23rd House District, which includes parts of Prince William and Stafford Counties. During her time in the Virginia House of Delegates, she remained a strong advocate and proven leader within the General Assembly.

Having served as Chair of the House Committee on Counties, Cities, and Towns, Vice Chair of the Public Safety Committee, and as a member of the House Finance and Labor and Commerce Committees, Secretary Mundon King advocated for important legislation across sectors, including securing pay raises for teachers, protecting victims of human trafficking, providing paid sick leave for home health care workers, and safeguarding renters from unauthorized home access.

Most notably, she passed the historic Virginia Omnibus, landmark legislation that transformed maternal health care across the Commonwealth by allocating almost \$7 million in funding.

She also founded the Sickle Cell Caucus and the Black Maternal Health Caucus, advancing health equity for communities across Virginia. With more than two decades of experience in advocacy and community engagement, Secretary Mundon King brings a deep understanding of governance and service to her new role. Prior to serving as Delegate, she worked in philanthropy and global advocacy at leading organizations. As Deputy Director of CARE, she advanced its advocacy agenda and helped secure passage of the Global Food Security Act.

At the Gates Foundation, she worked with senior leadership to strengthen relationships with elected officials, appointed leaders, and community partners, while leading community relations efforts in Washington, D.C. Beyond her professional service, Secretary Mundon King has remained deeply rooted in her community. She serves as a Girl Scouts troop leader, volunteer color guard coach, a member of the Virginia Employment Commission, and the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation. She is also an active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

I want to personally congratulate Secretary Mundon King on this well-deserved appointment and commend her unwavering and continued commitment to the people of the Commonwealth.

I have had the pleasure of working alongside her on critical issues, including maternal health, and have witnessed firsthand her leadership and tireless advocacy.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Candi Mundon King on her appointment to serve as Secretary of the Commonwealth of Virginia and wish her great success.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF JOHN PHILLIPS MACNAUGHTON, JR.

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, a few days ago the U.S. House of Representatives—and the House Armed Services Committee—bid farewell to one of its most invaluable, talented, professional staff experts: Mr. John Phillips MacNaughton, Jr.

At the end of January, Phil, as he is known, completed 30 years of public service to our Nation. That service began as a plebe entering the U.S. Naval Academy in 1996, continued as a naval aviator who flew missions in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as missions all over the world, and then transitioned to Capitol Hill, where he worked as a staff member at the Navy Office of Legislative Affairs and finally as a director on the Armed Services Committee. As so many in the Navy and Congress can attest, our country benefited from his experience, knowledge, judgement and wisdom at every post he was assigned to. He retired from the U.S. Navy Reserve holding the rank of Commander and received well deserved commendations and medals for his outstanding service.

Mr. Speaker, as both the Chair and Ranking Member of the Seapower and Projection Forces Subcommittee to which Phil devoted much of his time on the Hill, I had the privilege of seeing up close his work in action. The Seapower Subcommittee has a long tradition of bipartisan success, thanks in large part to Phil's ability to rise above partisan squabbling and work with Members and staff from both sides of the aisle. When Phil first came to the committee, Congressman Ike Skelton, the 14th Chair of the Armed Services Committee, took him under his wing and gave him an education on how to successfully navigate the sprawling annual task of passing the National Defense Authorization Act. He could not have learned from a better teacher.

At Seapower, Phil diligently followed the north star of the Constitution's mandate in Article One, Section 8, Clause 13, that "Congress shall provide and maintain a Navy". He recognized, as did the founders, that the United States is a maritime Nation and ensuring a strong fleet is essential to our success and national security. During his time, the National Defense Authorization Act plussed up Navy shipbuilding every year above the budgets submitted by Presidents Bush, Obama, Trump 1.0, Biden, and Trump 2.0. Programs at the high end of complexity, such as the Columbia and Virginia class submarines, and at the lower end, like supply ships and the maritime training ships, all grew because of Phil's work.

In 2023, Phil was at the epicenter of what could be described as the pinnacle of his Congressional service, namely, passing the AUKUS legislative authorities which brought that critical security agreement for Australia, the U.K. and the U.S. to life. Operating under a very tight legislative timeline, Phil tirelessly worked with House and Senate committees—many outside of the Armed Services Committees—as well as the Pentagon, State Department and the Embassies of Australia and the U.K. to ensure that all necessary legal authorities fell into place when the measure was signed into law in December 2023.

Mr. Speaker, Ambassador Kevin Rudd from Australia described Phil's work as follows:

Mr. MacNaughton played an integral role in drafting and shepherding through the groundbreaking AUKUS authorizing legislation in 2023. Over the course of his time working with our Embassy, he has shown deep expertise and incredible work ethic to help take AUKUS where it is today. He has helped to strengthen the bilateral relationship between our countries and advance our Alliance collaboration at a critical strategic moment. He is a much-valued friend of Australia.

H.E. Dr. Kevin Rudd AC, Australia's Ambassador to the United States.

As Phil departs, it can truly be said that his work here on Capitol Hill made a difference, and over time as subs and ships are launched, and our alliance with Australia and the U.K. deepens and grows, he can look back with great satisfaction for time well spent.

To him, his wife Micki, his children Cooper, Jack, and Parker: I wish them all the best on their next chapter in life and thank them sincerely for being part of Phil's amazing work on behalf of our Nation.

HONORING WWII VETERAN
DONALD TISDALE

HON. LANCE GOODEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. GOODEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the historic life and accomplishments of World War II veteran Reverend Donald Tisdale of Wills Point, Texas. During WWII, Reverend Tisdale served on the USS *Hooper Island*, a Luzon-class repair ship serving the U.S. Pacific Fleet in 1945. He worked as a radio operator and regularly handled coded communications. In the course of his radio duties, Reverend Tisdale personally received the uncoded message relaying information about the atomic bomb being dropped on Hiroshima on August 6, 1945.

For his dedicated service to our Nation, he received several service medals, most notably the Overseas Medal. Later in life, Reverend Tisdale served as a pastor with multiple Texas congregations, including Edgemont Park Baptist Church and the First Baptist Church of Wills Point. He recently celebrated his 99th birthday. It is my honor to recognize Reverend Tisdale's long life of service to our country and community, and I wish him the best in the coming years.

RECOGNIZING HALL AMBULANCE

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise along with Representative VINCE FONG, to recognize Hall Ambulance on its 55th anniversary and to commend them for their significant contributions to the Central Valley. Hall Ambulance was founded on February 10, 1971, when Mr. Harvey L. Hall began responding to medical aid calls from his home in Bakersfield using a single Cadillac ambulance. From these humble beginnings, Mr. Hall built a trusted emergency medical service by forging strong relationships with patients, emergency room nurses, physicians, and public safety personnel throughout Kern County. Guided by compassion and an unwavering commitment to delivering exceptional care, he established a new standard of care—one defined by innovation, professionalism, and attention to detail. His leadership helped transform emergency medical services in the region, from requiring attendants to accompany patients during transport to introducing paramedic services to Bakersfield in 1975, placing the community among the first in California to benefit from pre-hospital advanced life support care.

Since its founding, Hall Ambulance expanded its reach across Kern County, serving communities from Wasco to Frazier Park, Taft to Boron, and many regions in between. Under the continued leadership of Mr. Hall's wife, Lavonne C. Hall, the company expanded into Delano and grew to provide paramedic services to ninety-four percent of Kern County's population.

Hall Ambulance has played a defining role in the evolution of modern emergency medical services and has earned national recognition

for elevating standards of care within the ambulance industry. In 2020, on the 50th anniversary of the Wedworth-Townsend Paramedic Act, the California Ambulance Association and the National EMS Museum honored Hall Ambulance for its foundational leadership, recognizing the organization among seventeen native Californians who helped shape emergency medical services nationwide. Today, more than 500 dedicated employees continue Mr. Hall's legacy, upholding a mission rooted in care, compassion, and service.

Mr. Speaker, Representative VINCE FONG and I invite our colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in congratulating Hall Ambulance on 55 years of service to the Central Valley. Their steadfast commitment ensures that families across the region receive lifesaving emergency medical care when they need it most.

RECOGNIZING THE LIMA NOON OPTIMIST CLUB'S ANNUAL YOUTH APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share positive news about young people from Ohio's 4th Congressional District. Today, I am pleased to commend to the House twelve high school students who are being honored for their outstanding leadership skills and volunteerism.

On February 11, 2026, the Noon Optimist Club of Lima will recognize Andrew Baldauf, Vivian Elrod, Sheldyn Fetter, Daniela Garcia, Jackson Niesen, Emersyn Painter, Eli Pohlman, Russell Powell, Aniya Prowant, Michael Sherrick, Alexandria Weber, and Laila Woods at its annual youth appreciation luncheon. These students were each nominated by their schools for being good role models for their peers.

I thank the Optimists for their efforts to celebrate the many achievements of these students and am proud to join in the accolades to them. They have my very best wishes for continued success in their lives in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING SHAWN CHRISTMAN

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary dedication and service of Shawn Christman, who has devoted 25 years to serving the Town of Pendleton and the Wendelville Volunteer Fire Company. Over the course of his career, Shawn has served as President and two-time Chief, holding many officer positions while providing guidance and training to new and current firefighters.

Shawn is a certified State Fire Instructor and has also led community initiatives, including the Santa Run for Christmas and the Lancaster Christmas Parade, helping the Wendelville Volunteer Fire Company achieve