

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

three Overall Championships. He has been instrumental in combining his leadership with technical expertise to support both the company and the community.

Shawn's leadership and guidance have strengthened the Wendelville Volunteer Fire Company and its connection to the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the United States House of Representatives join me in honoring Shawn Christman for his remarkable 25 years of service and in wishing him continued success and fulfillment in his ongoing commitment to the community.

RECOGNIZING COURT REPORTING
AND CAPTIONING WEEK 2026

HON. JAMES R. WALKINSHAW

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. WALKINSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the National Court Reporters Association's 2026 Court Reporting and Captioning Week, observed each February to honor the dedicated professionals who preserve accurate and impartial records of court proceedings across our Nation.

Court reporters and captioners are essential to the fair administration of justice. By creating precise and impartial records of court proceedings, they safeguard due process, protect the rights of individuals, and ensure that judicial decisions are grounded in a complete and reliable record. Their work is foundational to accountability, transparency, and public confidence in our courts.

Court Reporting and Captioning Week highlights both the technical skills required in this profession and its importance to public protection and the rule of law. Court reporters and captioners serve throughout our justice system, ensuring that proceedings at all levels are accurately recorded and accessible for future use.

Beyond their technical expertise, court reporters and captioners play a critical role in expanding access to justice and ensuring equity within our legal system. Court reporters and captioners help ensure meaningful participation for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing and support broader public access to court proceedings and civic processes.

I am also proud that the National Court Reporters Association is headquartered in Res-

ton, Virginia, within Virginia's 11th Congressional District. Their presence in our community reflects the important role this profession plays in strengthening access to justice nationwide.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Court Reporting and Captioning Week and in thanking these professionals for their indispensable service to our court system and the rule of law.

RECOGNIZING MR. DALE GREER

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Mr. Dale Greer upon his retirement and to commend him for a lifetime of service to the Cullman community and the State of Alabama. Over the course of more than three decades in economic development, Mr. Greer has helped shape the future of Cullman County through his steady leadership, dedication to public service, and commitment to creating opportunities for others.

Mr. Greer was born in Birmingham and moved to Cullman with his family more than 50 years ago. Cullman has been his home ever since, and his career reflects a deep and lasting investment in the place and people he has served.

Throughout his professional life, Mr. Greer earned a reputation as someone who could be trusted to bring people together, solve problems, and make progress happen. In addition to his work in economic development, he also served the community in many roles over the years, including time spent working at the local electric cooperative and Chamber of Commerce, as well as earlier work as a newspaper reporter and managing editor—experiences that helped shape his understanding of the community he would go on to serve so faithfully.

Mr. Greer's influence can be seen through his involvement with numerous civic and community organizations. He has served as a founding member of the Board of Directors for the Cullman Parks & Recreation Foundation, contributed to the Cullman Rotary Club, and supported Wallace State Community College through the Future Foundation and Alumni As-

sociation. He also served on the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and helped establish the Leadership Cullman program, as a member of its first graduating class.

Mr. Greer's service has extended beyond Cullman as well. He served as Past President of the Economic Development Association of Alabama and was appointed to the Alabama Workforce Council, where he served as Chairman. He also represented Alabama through the Southern Economic Development Council and was later named an Honorary Life Member.

Among Mr. Greer's many accomplishments, he helped develop the Operation Round-up Program for the Cullman Electric Cooperative and Cullman Power Board, an initiative that has generated millions of dollars to support students by allowing customers to round up their bills to the next highest dollar. He also served as the project manager for the Duck River Dam and Reservoir Project, which helped secure Cullman's water source for the next 100 years and stands as one of the most significant long-term infrastructure achievements for the region.

Mr. Greer has also demonstrated a lifelong commitment to professional growth and excellence. He is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma Economic Development Institute, completed coursework at Georgia Tech, and attended the Intensive Economic Development Course at Auburn University. He is also a graduate of Wallace State Community College and Athens State University.

Retirement marks the close of one chapter and the beginning of another, but the impact of Dale Greer's work will continue to be felt for decades to come. His leadership, service, and devotion to Cullman County have left an enduring legacy that will benefit families, businesses, and future generations.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to recognize Mr. Greer's family, who has supported him throughout his distinguished career and years of service. Dale is married to his wife, Lorraine, and together they are proud parents to Jeremy Greer, Cory Greer, Casey Link, Alex Boike and Brandon Boike. Mr. Greer also has seven grandchildren.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Dale Greer on his retirement, and I extend my sincere gratitude to him for his many years of service to our community and our great State of Alabama.