

Born and raised in Minneapolis, Prince rooted his life and work in Minnesota, building his home and studio Paisley Park just 20 minutes southwest of Minneapolis. Prince filmed various scenes from his iconic film “Purple Rain” in the city and pioneered the “Minneapolis Sound” in the late 1970s and 1980s that influenced music for decades to come.

It was that sound, and Prince’s remarkable voice and vision, that propelled him to historic heights. He sold 39 studio albums and 150 million records worldwide. Prince won seven Grammys, an Oscar, and a Golden Globe, and he was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2004, the first year he was eligible.

Throughout his extraordinary life, Prince always called Minnesota home. He wrote a song about the Minnesota Vikings, appropriately titled “Purple and Gold.” In 2015, when the Minnesota Lynx won their third WNBA championship, he held a concert at Paisley Park. And just a few days before his passing, Prince hosted a dance party there and made a brief appearance.

Prince envisioned that Paisley Park would be open to the public one day and now, as a museum, recording studio, live music venue, event space, and education organization, Paisley Park is dedicated to fulfilling that dream and keeping Prince’s memory alive and connected to his hometown. As we continue to mourn his loss, we also continue to celebrate his life, his legacy, and his music. This year’s 10th anniversary celebration in the Twin Cities brings together people from around the world and from all walks of life to celebrate the contributions and impact that Prince had on the community.

Like most Minnesotans and Americans, I remember listening to Prince for the very first time. His talent and creativity changed music forever, and he will forever be missed.

So today, I rise to honor Prince and his legacy as we mark Minnesota’s 10-year celebration. ●

RECOGNIZING UTAH’S APPOINTEES TO THE SERVICE ACADEMIES

● Mr. LEE. Mr. President, it is my distinct pleasure to recognize 17 exemplary men and women who are among the best and brightest that Utah has to offer. These individuals have answered the call to service and have received appointments to the U.S. Air Force Academy, the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, the U.S. Military Academy, and the U.S. Naval Academy.

As a member of Congress, it is my privilege under title 10 of the U.S. Code, to nominate a number of young men and women to these iconic service academies. But receiving a congressional nomination does not guarantee acceptance. To be admitted, each applicant must meet—on his or her own merits—the academies’ rigorous standards.

I am happy to report that each individual has done this and more. They

have demonstrated impressive mental and physical aptitude. Perhaps more importantly, they have shown their high moral character and capacity for leadership, courage, honesty, prudence, and self-discipline. They maintain a steadfast commitment to serve and stand up for our country.

I can say without hesitation that you would be hard pressed to find a more accomplished, talented, patriotic group of American citizens anywhere. They will be a credit to our Nation as they begin their journeys in Colorado Springs, Kings Point, West Point, and Annapolis. I look forward to seeing what they accomplish in their academic years and beyond.

It is my honor to recognize and congratulate these fine Utahns in the U.S. Senate:

Rieder N. Birch will be attending the U.S. Military Academy at West Point after graduating from Park City High School. He earned the AP Scholar with Distinction Award for his high number of AP classes and excellent test scores. He was a member of the National Honor Society, Fly Fishing Club, Youth Group Bible Study, and Especially for Athletes where he was an officer. He played lacrosse for the high school team and a local club team. He worked on a local mayoral campaign, coached lacrosse, and was a counselor at Basin Recreation Camp.

Sebastian William Bodily accepted an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy. A 2025 graduate of Park City High School, Sebastian has successfully spent this year at the Naval Academy Preparatory School. In high school, Sebastian was captain of the football and track & field teams, where he held multiple state and school records. He helped his fellow students in the Hope Squad and was vice president of the Investment Club. He has followed his Marine father’s advice in life’s challenges to “adapt and overcome.”

Matthew Jackson Cernyar will join the cadets and his brother at the Air Force Academy. He prepared for the academy by taking a large number of AP and concurrent enrollment classes while maintaining straight A’s. At Wasatch High School he served as president of HOSA, and vice president of both Turning Point USA and the Let’s go to the Moon Club. He was on the wrestling team, track & field team, and captain of the cross country team. Jack worked with special needs students as a peer tutor and through his church’s ministry.

Ayaan Garg will be joining his brother at the U.S. Naval Academy. The Providence Hall High School graduate was a member of the Navy Junior ROTC where he served in several leadership positions and earned the NJROTC Student of the Year Award three times. He played on the tennis team and ran on the cross country team. Ayaan was the Service Officer for the National Honor Society, the Health and Ecology Instructor for a Youthline humanitarian trip to India, and the Mayor Pro-Temp on the Lehi Youth City Council.

Jacob Nicholas Hamblin, a graduate of Corner Canyon High School, will be attending the Air Force Academy. Jacob stayed busy in high school with both academics and sports. He took a number of AP classes while maintaining straight A’s. He was captain of the high school swim and mountain bike teams. Both sports prepare him to compete in triathlons where he won the U.S. National Off-Road Championship. Jacob is inspired by his father’s service in the Army Reserves and Utah National Guard to always be his best.

Mei Li Han will be joining the cadets of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point after

studying this last year at the University of Utah and interning in my Washington, DC office. She graduated from Park City High School where she was captain of the mountain bike team and president of the National Honor Society. She was a member of the Park City Ski and Snowboard and Ski Mountaineering teams. She also found time to take fourteen AP classes, participate in orchestra, and complete the U.S. Senate Youth Program.

Marshall Stephen Huber will be attending the Air Force Academy after graduating from Brighton High School. He was a captain of the track & field team and the football team. He earned the 5A Offensive Lineman of the Year, First Team All-State, and Scholar Athlete of the Year awards in football. Marshall was a member of Especially for Athletes and served on the Leadership Council. In addition to being a leader on the field, he leads his peers as they work together to clean elementary schools, and is an example to his siblings.

Isabel Avery Illian, from Cedar City, chose to accept an appointment to the Air Force Academy. Her time at SUCCESS Academy, a charter school tied to Southern Utah University, where she maintained a 4.0 GPA, prepared her well for an academy. She earned team and state honors on the track & field and cross country teams. Izzy plays viola for the Symphonic orchestra and Orchestra of Southern Utah. She achieved a Superior Rating in the State Viola Solo and Ensemble competition. She also volunteered at an elementary school with kindergarten and first grade students.

Keira Marie Jones worked hard to prepare for the Naval Academy and is sure to have received good advice from her brother. The gymnastics standout graduated from Springville High School with a 4.0 GPA and a challenging academic course load. As vice president of the senior class, president of the National Honor Society, and an officer in the Key Club, Keira led numerous service projects and completed over 95 hours of service herself that included repainting park benches, making comfort kits, and working at the local food bank.

Ellen Renee Kennedy graduated from Waterford School and has been attending the University of Utah. She has accepted an appointment to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. An academy graduate inspired her to find meaning and purpose, so she is taking her talents to the Army. She served in student government and volunteered with animal shelters and the Park West Bees. She was captain of the volleyball team and most valuable player on both the high school and club teams. She was the assistant coach of a high school team during college.

Caden Roger Kerrigan will follow his grandfathers into the Navy, having accepted an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy. From Draper, he graduated from Juan Diego Catholic High School where he took a high number of AP classes, was awarded the AP Scholar Award, and represented his school at Boys State. Caden has been recognized as a natural leader—as captain of the wrestling team, coach for both wrestling and Jiu-Jitsu, a sports referee, supervisor at multiple jobs, and older brother to his siblings.

Preston Callister Lang will join the midshipmen at the U.S. Naval Academy after graduating from Snow Canyon High School. Preston is a straight-A student who scored a 36 composite on his ACT has prepared himself both academically and physically for the academy. He was captain of the wrestling team and represented Utah three times in the U.S. Marine Corps 16U/Junior Nationals Freestyle and Greco-Roman National Championships. He helps others by coaching youth wrestling and performing acts of service as a member of his church youth group.

Edward Anthony Jonathan Peek will be attending the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy after his graduation from Judge Memorial Catholic High School. AJ was a member of the state champion basketball team that went All-State three times. He also played football and lacrosse. He served as captain of the basketball team and as a counselor at Camp Elim youth camp. AJ enjoys making music by playing piano and writing and recording his own pieces.

Gianni Michael Renzetti is on his way to Kings Point, New York to attend the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. From Clinton, Gianni attended Northridge High School. As a member of the Air Force Junior ROTC, he earned the Air Force Sergeants Association Award and the American Veterans Award. He served as Cadet Chief Master Sergeant and Cadet Executive Officer. He was selected to attend the highly competitive AFJROTC Flight Academy where he logged over eighty hours of flight time and earned his private pilot's license.

Jacob Garrett Scott will trade the mountains of the Wasatch Front in Midway for the Colorado Front at the Air Force Academy. A graduate of Wasatch High School, Garrett kept a 4.0 GPA with sixteen AP classes and six concurrent enrollment classes. He was a member of the Air Force Junior ROTC, president of the Let's go to the Moon Club, the Hive Newsletter, the Milkmen Quartet, and vice president of Interact. He was captain of the cross country team and on the long jump team. He is a co-founder of Sycamore Swing and a host on the Heber Valley Railroad.

Berkley Jan Smith, after graduating from Mountain View High School and spending a year at the Georgia Military College as a Falcon Scholar will enter the U.S. Air Force Academy. Berkley has been preparing herself by taking a range of AP, concurrent enrollment, and college classes. She was a leader in the Mountain View Dance Company, a member of the mountain bike team, Model UN, and Mock Trial where she earned honors. She served as vice president of the Georgia Military College chapter of Turning Point USA.

Conor Lorin Squires, a graduate of Lone Peak High School, will be attending the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. Conor served on the Alpine Youth Council and as a leader in his church youth group. With these groups and on his own he found countless ways to volunteer in his community, including assembling food kits, setting up flags, helping refugees and those with special needs. He maintained a 4.0 GPA throughout high school while still participating in several sports and extracurricular activities.

It has been inspiring to nominate each of these exceptional young men and women. They give me great hope for the future of our armed services and confidence in the destiny of our Nation.

To these 17 appointees, and to all their future classmates from around the country, I commend your achievements and your demonstrated lifelong commitment to service.

While this is but the beginning of your journey, I urge you to remember the foundation of your success thus far. You would not have arrived at this point without the dedication and example of your parents, family, teachers, coaches, and mentors. Moreover, you would not have arrived at this point without your own sacrifice and hard work.

Strive to continue on the path of strong moral character and to keep

love of country as a guiding principle. Look to the past with gratitude and to the future with conviction.

If you stay this course, I have no doubt your future holds great things in store.●

TRIBUTE TO DEPUTY SHERIFF SILAS TAYLOR AND DISPATCHER STACY WOOD

● Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Bourbon County Deputy Sheriff Silas Taylor and Bourbon County Dispatcher Stacy Wood for their extraordinary actions in saving the life of a woman stranded in rising floodwaters on April 2, 2026.

On that day, a woman was trapped inside her vehicle after it was caught in high water along a flooded roadway. Unable to escape and with the cold water rising to her head, she faced a life-threatening situation. Throughout the ordeal, Dispatcher Wood remained on the phone with the victim, providing reassurance and critical assistance as emergency responders rushed to the scene.

Upon arrival, Deputy Taylor immediately assessed the danger and, without hesitation, entered the floodwaters to rescue the stranded woman. Acting alone and swimming against the water's current, he pulled her from the vehicle and brought her to safety. His quick actions and courage saved her life.

This rescue serves as a powerful reminder of the dedication and selflessness displayed by first responders every day. Dispatcher Wood's calm professionalism and Deputy Taylor's decisive actions exemplify the highest standards of public service. As a former marine and member of a family with deep roots in Bourbon County law enforcement, Deputy Taylor continues a proud tradition of service to others.

I now ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Deputy Taylor and Dispatcher Wood as they receive the Life Saving Award. Their bravery and unwavering commitment to duty reflect the very best of Bourbon County and the State of Kansas.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. JAMES GARY ADCOX

● Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Dr. James Gary Adcox for a lifetime of service to our Nation, our veterans, and the field of higher education.

A first-generation college student from Antioch, TN, Dr. Adcox exemplifies the power of hard work, perseverance, and service. He honorably served in the U.S. Air Force for 22 years, retiring after a distinguished career that included leadership positions at the U.S. Air Force Academy and Headquarters Space Command. Throughout his military service, he provided critical support to servicemembers, wounded warriors, refugees, and military communities around the world, earning the re-

spect of colleagues and commanders alike.

Following his retirement from the Air Force, Dr. Adcox dedicated more than two decades to advancing educational opportunity and student success. His leadership has been especially impactful for veterans, Active-Duty military personnel, first-generation students, and underserved communities. Through innovative programs such as the University of North Georgia's SOAR initiative and his work establishing support services for student veterans, he has helped countless individuals pursue their educational goals and achieve lasting success.

Dr. Adcox has also contributed significantly to higher education policy and access through his service on numerous State and regional boards and task forces, helping strengthen opportunities for students across Tennessee and beyond.

His many honors—including the Dr. John McCurdy Leadership Award, the President's Service Award, and his designation as president emeritus of the National Association of Branch Campus Administrators—reflect the extraordinary impact of his life's work.

Dr. Adcox's career has been defined by leadership, service, and a steadfast commitment to helping others succeed. I am proud to recognize his contributions and thank him for the lasting difference he has made in the lives of students, veterans, and communities across our country.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:59 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1041. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from transmitting certain information to the Department of Justice for use by the national instant criminal background check system, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6047. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to increase the dollar amounts for the payment of certain disability compensation and dependency and indemnity compensation under the laws administered by the Secretary.

The message further announced that the House agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 6644) to increase the supply of housing in America, and for other purposes, with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 201(b) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6431), and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Speaker appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the Commission on International Religious Freedom for a term effective May 26, 2026, and ending May 14, 2028: Mr. Theogene Anthony Mills