

Upon his graduation from high school, Alexander attended Susquehanna University and earned a Bachelor's of Science degree in Finance and Information Systems in 2005. He worked full-time after college and attended Drexel University's LeBow College of Business at night. In 2011, he received a Master's of Business Administration in Investment Management and International Business. In July 2015, Alex obtained his green card and married his wife, Erin, later that same year in October. They currently reside in Selinsgrove with their three adopted cats and are currently restoring one of the town's historic properties on Market Street.

Today, Alexander remains a selfless member of his community. He previously served as a volunteer firefighter, takes part in 5k races and soccer games to raise money for charitable causes, and frequently participates in volunteer opportunities through his employer, Prudential Financial. He is also an avid fan of the Philadelphia Eagles, Flyers, and Phillies.

Madam Speaker, if today we were tasked with finding some living proof that demonstrates how alive and well the promise of America is today, I would respectfully reference this invitation to congratulate Alexander V. Mitrenko on becoming a citizen of the United States of America. We, as a free and democratic nation, congratulate and welcome him, as he is officially guaranteed the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

RECOGNIZING THE METROPOLITAN
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL
CHURCH

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Church for its many contributions to the District of Columbia. Metropolitan, also known as the National Cathedral of African Methodism, was founded in 1838 and has been a leading spiritual and community resource ever since.

On July 2, 2019, Metropolitan held a well-attended and informative community meeting on D.C. statehood. This meeting at the church was an act of leadership in keeping with its long tradition of deep involvement not only with its members but also with the District.

Metropolitan began as two separate churches, Israel Bethel AME and Union Bethel AME. In 1838, these two churches came together. The combined churches received an official sanction from the Baltimore Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church on July 6, 1838.

The church retained the name Union Bethel until 1870 when the Baltimore Conference designated a new church name and the construction of a new "Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Church." Along with the new designation, the Baltimore Conference attached two key conditions—the first was that the church needed to be located near the Capitol and White House, and the second was that each Annual Conference of AME churches was called upon to donate money for the

construction of the Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Church. To represent the gratitude of the congregation, the church was built with stained glass windows for each contributing Annual Conference.

The church has done pathbreaking work over the years, from hiding enslaved Africans in the 19th century, to educating community members about AIDS and voting rights. Metropolitan is not only a leading place of worship but also a community resource, promoting intellectual and political achievement through the Bethel Literary and Historical Society since 1850. Metropolitan has opened its doors to many prominent visitors such as Barack Obama, Fredrick Douglass and Eleanor Roosevelt.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Church for its 180-year history of contributions to its members and to the District of Columbia for its leadership and for encouraging discussion of the Washington, D.C. Admission Act, which would make D.C. the 51st state.

HONORING THE WORLD WAR II,
KOREAN WAR, AND VIETNAM
WAR VETERANS OF ILLINOIS

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2019

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War veterans who traveled to Washington, D.C. on June 5, 2019 with Honor Flight Chicago, a program that provides World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War veterans the opportunity to visit their memorials on The National Mall in Washington, D.C. These memorials were built to honor their courage and service to their country.

The American Veteran is one of our greatest treasures. The Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen who traveled here on July 10th answered our nation's call to service during several of its greatest times of need. Across the world, these brave Americans risked life and limb, gave service and sacrificed much, all while embodying what it is to be a hero. We owe them more gratitude than can ever be expressed.

I welcome these brave veterans to Washington and to their memorials. I am proud to include in the RECORD the names of these men and women for all to see, hear, and recognize, and I call on my colleagues to rise and join me in expressing gratitude:

John G. Aister; Victor J. Alvarez; Brownie J. Andrews, Jr.; Joseph J. Arcara; William J. Arndt; Gordon W. Atkins; George E. Batson; Charles Bennett; John C. Bierman; James Terry Blue, Sr.; John J. Borg; Walter L. Brooks; Robert A. Bryant; Patrick Butler; John W. Cannon; James M. Clemons; Leroy Cobb; Matthew W. Connor.

William J. Dierks; Jack H. Doyle; William Thomas Dzingel; Duane Arthur Foss; Charles W. Fruehe; Dennis W. Galloway; Richard Gardner; Philip L. Givens; Robert Wesley Godfrey; John P. Greaney; Robert L. Gurley; James A. Haegele, Sr.; Ernest R. Hanna; Edwin W. Hendry; James John Hennessy; Thomas J. Henry; Superman J. Horn; Archie Hubbard, Jr.

Michael M. Hughes; Holman B. Ingram; Angelo Irizarry; Nello D. Isabelli; Ronald J. Janiak; Robert E. Jensen; Theodore B. Knapp; Harold B. Koenen; Ronald J. Konetsky; James J. Kosinski; Richard Kowalski; Joseph Kwak; Earl M. Laib; Andrew Leverenz; James O. Lewis; William R. Lindberg; Robert B. Locknar; Stanley R. Lokaj.

Bernard LoMonaco; David L. Lowe; Stewart G. Margolis; Joseph Martinek; Dwight C. McConnell; Stuart W. McDowell; Edward W. McQuiston; Robert J. Miserve; Fernando E. Montilla; Leonard W. Morris; Jerry I. Mosenson; Charles E. Nichols; Earl A. Nordmeyer; Harlan W. O'Cull; William O'Neill; Paul M. Obinger; Stanley J. Penczak.

Steven L. Penczak; George L. Peso; Dennis R. Rokita; Kent Romanus; Ralph H. Schmalfeld; Terrence Lee Schmidt; James Schwartz; Robin P. Schwarz; Auberay L. Smith; Lynwood Smith; Gerald S. Snarski; Joseph J. Stachon; Leroy E. Stahr; Willard Stockfish; Myron I. Strepka; Albert F. Struska; Alexander C. Styrzula; Edward Sulita.

Robert Sweeney; James J. Sykucki; Donald G. Tollefsen; Gregory B. Tweedy, Sr.; John J. Valverde; Hector H. Villarreal; Robert W. Vogeltanz; Leonard A. Wantroba; Lawrence Weiss; Edward K. Weyna; Edward S. Weyna; James C. Wightman; Clyde Wilson; Samuel Wilson; Leo W. Wysocki; Ascher Daniel Yates; and Daniel R. Yatsko.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2019

Ms. FRANKEL. Madam Speaker, on roll call votes 431, 432, and 433, I was not present because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "YEA," "YEA," and "YEA" respectively.

IN RECOGNITION OF DON
SCHIMMELS' 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2019

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Don Schimmels of Luxemburg, Wisconsin on celebrating his 100th birthday.

Born on July 10, 1919, Don grew up in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and graduated from Messmer High School in 1938. He enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1940 and specialized as a mechanic, repairing aircraft such as fighter jets, P39s and P40s, and bombers.

During his service, Don was stationed on Canton Island in the South Pacific Ocean for nine months. Used by the U.S. military as a refueling stop for combat aircraft travelling from Hawaii, the Island played a crucial role in supporting U.S. air forces during WWII. Don was on the Island during the pivotal Gilbert and Marshall Islands campaign that took place from November 1943 through February 1944.

After serving for five years, Don was discharged in 1945. He used the GI Bill to earn degrees in literature and history. He later