

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### HOWARD GREAGOR TRIBUTE

#### HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 9, 2012*

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Howard Greagor. Mr. Greagor is a treasured local historian and has published six books on the Western way of life in southwestern Colorado.

Mr. Greagor was born in Colorado in 1924 and has lived here all his life. As a former cattle rancher, newspaper contributor, and published author, Mr. Greagor commands a deep understanding of the issues and lifestyle defining southwestern Colorado. In 1965, Mr. Greagor began writing short stories which were later compiled into his first book, *In the Company of Cowboys*, published in 1990. Since then, Mr. Greagor has put his extensive knowledge of Western life to good use in a collection of books that informs all who are interested in the origin of community traditions like Pioneer Day.

When he is not busy writing, researching, and marketing his books, Mr. Greagor enjoys time with his large family including his wife Betty with whom he has been happily married for more than 60 years, and his many children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to recognize Howard Greagor. I rise today in honor of his contributions to the preservation of southwestern Colorado history and his accomplishments as a Western author.

### VICTORIA ARLEN

#### HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 9, 2012*

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate Victoria Arlen of Exeter, New Hampshire on winning a gold medal and three silver medals at the Paralympic Games in London, England. It is truly a prestigious distinction to be one of a few athletes from around the globe to represent their country, and Victoria's outstanding performance in the Games has brought pride to both New Hampshire and the United States.

At a young age, she was diagnosed with Transverse Myelitis, a neurological disorder that causes inflammation of the spinal cord. Awaking after two years in a coma, she fought back against this disease and used her strong spirit and determination to overcome the challenges she was presented with. With the support of her parents and twin brothers, Victoria excelled in her recovery and has emerged as a world class athlete.

Throughout her brief career, she has consistently exceeded expectations and did again in London, beating several highly ranked competitors and setting a new world record in the

100-meter freestyle S6 where she took home the gold medal. She earned her silver medals in the 400-meter Freestyle, the 50-meter Freestyle, and the 4x100m Women's Freestyle relay with her U.S. teammates. With her athletic talent and effort, and strong drive and will, she has quickly become one of the top swimmers in the world.

Her motto of "face it, embrace it, defy it, and conquer it" has guided her to success and I believe she has inspired young athletes across the country to strive for their dreams no matter the challenges they face. On behalf of the First District of New Hampshire, I commend Victoria on her outstanding accomplishments and wish her all the best in the future.

### A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF AL WAGNER

#### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 9, 2012*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a sad and heavy heart to honor the life of one of Central California's most treasured public servants, Mr. Al Wagner of Wasco, California. Al led an exemplary life filled with a strong faith in God and a reverence for service. His dedication and loyalty to the people of the San Joaquin Valley, coupled with his warm and caring nature made him a true source of pride for our Valley. We say goodbye to Al as a son, brother, friend, mentor, and dedicated public servant.

His many contributions to the San Joaquin Valley and California were exemplified through his work in the California State Legislature, which began in 1998 when he served as Chief of Staff for then Assembly Member Dean Florez, and subsequently as District Director for State Senator Michael J. Rubio. Upon retiring from public service with elected officials, Al went to work at Valley Baptist Church, where he also worshipped.

Al genuinely cared about people and it was reflected in his superior moral character and advocacy work. He was a dependable and effective champion for the people he most cared about and always maintained a commitment to fighting for what was right, meritorious, and fair. He was fluent in American Sign Language and Spanish—further indicating his true dedication to service. Al also managed to find time to do business-related work for Baptist missions in poor villages and orphanages in Central and South America, as well as Eastern Europe.

A valued political strategist and community activist, Al served as a friend and mentor to many up-and-coming politicians, including several members of my staff. Al willingly shared his expertise and leadership in hopes of developing the next generation of leaders for our Valley, State, and Nation.

Al will be best remembered by those who knew him for his wit, love of people, and sim-

ple generosity. He gave of himself freely, and for that selflessness, we honor him.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to the life of Al Wagner—a faithful public servant, friend, and great American.

### RECOGNIZING AND CONGRATULATING TAIWAN'S 101ST ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. ANDY HARRIS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 9, 2012*

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, on October 10, 2012, America's very good friends, The Republic of China commonly known as Taiwan, will celebrate their 101st anniversary.

Both the United States and Taiwan share the fact that they are relatively new countries when compared to the rest of the world. Taiwan is 101 years old and the United States just celebrated its 236th birthday; both are much younger than those countries with roots dating back to some of the ancient civilizations.

But in the past 100 years, America has changed so much and, arguably, Taiwan has changed even more. In the last 16 years alone, Taiwan has become a full blown democracy with a President and Legislature being directly elected by its citizens. In 1996, Taiwan had their first Presidential election and during that time they have had three peaceful transfers of power from one party to another.

The people of Southeast Asia are fortunate to have a beacon of democracy like Taiwan to look up to, and we Americans are fortunate to call them friends and allies. Under President Ma's leadership, I am confident that Taiwan will continue to thrive and our relationship will prosper.

### TRIBUTE TO MR. CHRIS SARACINO

#### HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 9, 2012*

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize one of St. Louis' finest citizens and community leaders, Mr. Chris Saracino. Chris Saracino comes from a restaurant family that has been serving St. Louisians for over 50 years. His father Bartolino Saracino, Sr. opened his first restaurant in the 1960's. Chris has been working in his family's business since he was a young boy.

Currently Chris and his brothers own three of the most profitable restaurants in St. Louis; Bartolino's Osteria, Bartolino's South and Chris' Pancakes and Dining. His service to the Italian American Community is exemplary. Chris has been President of the Hill Business

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