

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION FOR MACAIDAN GALLEGOS

HON. RON BARBER

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to welcome back to Tucson a very special boy who is coming to visit his father's gravesite on the third anniversary of his burial.

MacAidan Gallegos is the son of United States Army Staff Sergeant Justin Gallegos, a brave soldier, who was tragically killed three years ago in Afghanistan. Born in Tucson, Arizona, Justin graduated from Tucson High School before joining the Army in 2002.

Staff Sergeant Gallegos deployed twice to Iraq, fighting insurgents and helping to secure freedom for Iraqi citizens who were yearning for an end to the repression they had experienced for generations. He then deployed to Afghanistan, in support of the American effort there to put down the Taliban, fight al-Qaida and help the Afghan people.

Justin often requested the hard assignments. Except for his wife Amanda and his son MacAidan, the Army was his life. He was a fearless man who worked as a scout in hostile terrain, a gunner on Humvees and as a security guard to high-ranking officers.

As a testament to his courage and dedication as a soldier, Justin earned more than a dozen medals including three Purple Hearts, two Army Commendation Medals and two Army Achievement Medals. He also earned the Bronze Star for his actions that day defending his combat outpost with his comrades and fighting back the Taliban.

MacAidan is coming to Tucson to visit his father's grave at Evergreen Cemetery. While the visit will be sad, I am positive that MacAidan, and his mother Amanda Marr will relive the wonderful times they spent with Justin. My hope is that MacAidan will continue to learn about Justin—a fantastic dad, brave soldier and deeply loved husband.

I am honored to meet MacAidan, and share in the memories of his father and of his time in Tucson. It is in remembrance that we keep the faith of a father lost, missed and revered. Yet we also celebrate his shining achievements, his bravery as a soldier and his beautiful boy MacAidan.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF PACIFICA

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Rotary Club of Pacifica on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

Rotary International brings together business and professional leaders to help build

peace and goodwill in the world, and the Pacifica club fulfills Rotary's admirable mission of "Service above Self."

The Rotary Club of Pacifica equips students with the skills and resources to thrive and become contributing members of society. Scholarships and underwriting coaching for student loans help students and their families afford college. Other projects spark curiosity and motivation in young people including the Dictionary Project, which involves distributing dictionaries to every third grader in the Pacifica School District. Likewise, Rotary Club-sponsored career days teach middle school students about vocations and professions, sparking curiosity and motivation at a young age.

The newly built Rotary Plaza, a beautiful public space in Pacifica, represents the Rotary Club of Pacifica's commitment to service. Rotary Plaza was created in partnership with local arts organizations, businesses and public offices to celebrate the Club's 50th anniversary. This project provides an essential outdoor space for people to gather, talk and connect with others.

In addition, Pacifica's Rotary Club does whatever is needed to beautify and improve the community—from painting the public library, to landscaping the Boys and Girls Club. The club holds annual food drives, provides financial aid to single-parent families and assists in rescue operations from flooding in lower Linda Mar. The Rotary Club of Pacifica creates an essential social safety net for needy families.

The Club's reach even extends beyond the close perimeters of Pacifica—to Pakistan, where it provides vocational training for Afghan refugees. It makes microcredit loans to women with families in Ecuador, Guatemala and Colombia. Because of the Rotary International's persistence, polio will soon be eradicated from the world, and the Rotary Club of Pacifica has consistently participated in this important global mission.

Mr. Speaker, it is right to honor the Rotary Club of Pacifica on this day, October 12, 2012, for 50 years of outstanding service and to wish the members the best for the next 50 years.

TRIBUTE TO TOM DUFFORD

HON. ROBERT T. SCHILLING

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. SCHILLING. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Tom Dufford on his recent retirement. For more than 40 years Tom has faithfully carried out the mission of the Social Security Administration, and I applaud and admire his dedication to those he serves.

From his start as an intern back in 1972 and to his rise to Operations Supervisor in 2009, Tom has been a leader with tremendous loyalty and a passion for service. Over the course of his career he has received many

awards for his work at the Social Security Administration, including the 2009 Regional Commissioner's Citation for Area 2.

I join the many who have commended Tom's efforts in saying "thank you." It is stories like this that make me proud to serve the 171 District and all the hard-working individuals who reside there. I am honored to have Tom as my constituent.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM (BILL) PUTNAM, JR.

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2012

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize William, Bill, Putnam Jr., a recent recipient of the National Eagle Scout Association's Outstanding Eagle Scout Award and the Distinguished Citizen Award.

The Outstanding Eagle Scout Award was first awarded in 2010 as part of the 100th Anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America. A local council can honor one recipient per year and Bill is the Ozark Trails Council's first recipient.

A Carthage native, Bill first became involved with scouting in Cub Scouts, where his mother served as a Den Mother. He received the Arrow of Light, earned his Eagle Scout Award in 1959, and is a brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow. This latest addition to his scouting accolades, the Outstanding Eagle Scout Award, is awarded to Eagle Scouts who have demonstrated outstanding achievements at the local, state, or regional level. Bill has served as an inspiring example to his family and neighbors. This is evident in the fact that his son John, two brothers and three nephews are also Eagle Scouts.

Bill is a Rotarian who was named Carthage's Citizen of the Year in 1995 and received the Spirit of Giving Award from the Carthage Area United Way in 2009. He was named to the Prep School All-America Swim Team in 1961, was recognized as an Outstanding Alumnus at Beloit College, and is a member of the school's Athletic Hall of Honor.

Bill is the president of TAPJAC Company Inc. He has served on numerous boards including the board of the Ozark Trails Council-Boy Scouts of America, Carthage Area United Way, Carthage Republican City Committee, Carthage Community Foundation, Carthage City Council, Missouri Southern State University Board of Regents, Board of Public Works, and Hardware Wholesaler.

The Distinguished Citizen Award recognizes noteworthy and extraordinary leadership of citizens in communities across the United States. Bill's numerous achievements stand as testimony to his exemplary quality of character. I am proud of his achievements and honored to call him a neighbor in the 7th Congressional District of Missouri.

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