

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF AMILCAR CORDOVA

**HON. ALAN GRAYSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 16, 2014*

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, to recognize Amilcar Córdova. Mr. Córdova hails from the “City of Giants,” Carolina, Puerto Rico. He persuaded his mother to move to the United States after his graduation from high school in 1985. His family moved to Pennsylvania, where he began working at a national insurance company as a mail clerk. He slowly started moving up the ranks within the industry until he became a Health Claims Supervisor.

In 1994, Mr. Córdova moved to Orlando, FL this time with his own family. After moving, he left the insurance industry for a sales career in advertising. In 2008, Mr. Córdova co-founded Amigos Profesionales Business Network, an organization that focuses on introducing and showcasing Hispanic professionals and business owners to the general market. Inspired by both his new profession and having an in-depth understanding of the growing vibrant and thriving Hispanic demographic, in 2010 he founded his own advertising agency, Córdova Marketing Solutions, which specializes in the development of small businesses by providing consulting, marketing, and advertising services.

In 2010, he also joined the Puerto Rican Chamber of Commerce of Central Florida as its Executive Director and in 2013 he was elected President. In this capacity, he has organized trade mission trips to Puerto Rico to help establish connections between businesses in the Commonwealth and Central Florida.

He has also been a member of Hispanic Young Professionals and Entrepreneurs (HYPE), an organization that strives to provide guidance and support to Hispanic youth in middle and high school. HYPE promotes higher education and vocational training in order to prepare youth for their future careers so that they can advance our economy and improve our community.

Mr. Córdova is the Marketing and Public Relations Director of The Valle Law Firm. He recently became an Authorized Local Expert for Constant Contact, a company that provides tools to empower small businesses to grow customer relationships and level the playing field.

Mr. Córdova has two sons, Amilcar Córdova II and Schavier Córdova, and three grandchildren, Yamilette, Gabriel, and Isabella. His mother, Aida I. Cruz lives in Orlando, FL, and his father, Gypsy M. Córdova, still lives in Puerto Rico.

I am happy to honor Amilcar Córdova, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for his contributions to the Central Florida community.

HONORING PEGGY KIRKPATRICK FOR OVER 22 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE FOOD BANK FOR CENTRAL & NORTHEAST MISSOURI

**HON. VICKY HARTZLER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 16, 2014*

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to recognize Peggy Kirkpatrick who has served the needs of Missouri citizens for over 22 years as the Executive Director of the Food Bank for Central & Northeast Missouri and will be retiring at the end of this year. This incredible woman has cared for and made a resounding difference in the lives of thousands of families in Missouri’s 4th District and beyond.

Mrs. Kirkpatrick began her career at the Food Bank for Central & Northeast Missouri over two decades ago. Transforming a nearly-shuttered program into one of the most prominent food banks in the United States, Peggy’s legacy will continue long after her retirement. Under Mrs. Kirkpatrick’s leadership, the Food Bank went from distributing about 3.4 million pounds of food in 1992 to over 36 million pounds in 2013. She was also instrumental in making the Food Bank one of only two in the entire nation, at that time, to not charge client agencies for their products and services. I rise to recognize Mrs. Kirkpatrick’s passion for her tireless work to better the lives of those in her community.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I call all my colleagues to join me in applauding the service and commitment of Mrs. Kirkpatrick. Her steadfast and enduring service is a shining example for all. We are blessed to have such dedicated citizens like Peggy serving us, and we wish her the best in the years to come.

CELEBRATING 160 YEARS OF THE DEKALB MUNICIPAL BAND

**HON. ADAM KINZINGER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 16, 2014*

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise today in celebration of the DeKalb Municipal Band as they celebrate 160 years of concerts this December.

From humble beginnings as the Silver Cornet Band in 1854, the DeKalb Municipal Band has a history as interesting and unique as its many members. In its early years it was the official band of the Third Regiment of the Illinois National Guard, and was later renamed the DeKalb Military Band following the return of musicians who served in World War I. In the 1930s, Hopkins Park was built and the band found a permanent home for concerts. Since then, Hopkins Park has been outfitted with a wooden shell, funded by the band members themselves, which was eventually

upgraded to the current concrete and steel band shell that includes seating for 3,000 to enjoy today’s concerts.

As one of the most historic bands in the Midwest, the DeKalb Municipal Band keeps the tradition of providing music and entertainment to DeKalb and the surrounding communities alive with their annual summer concert series, including their July 4th Fireworks Spectacular. The commitment of the musicians, conductors, and volunteers who have helped the Municipal Band survive and thrive for 160 years is to be commended. DeKalb and the surrounding communities can take pride in the Band’s historic traditions and I know we can all look forward to many more decades of music in Hopkins Park.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Illinois’ Sixteenth District of Illinois, I wish to express our appreciation and sincere congratulations to all those who have helped make the DeKalb Municipal Band a success over the past 160 years.

SCOTLAND

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 16, 2014*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is an exciting and historic time for self-determination in Scotland. Scots (and others) are voicing the pros and cons for Scotland’s vote this week on independence. To go it alone or not from the United Kingdom is the question before the feisty Scots.

Thousands of Scots came to the United States for a new life over 300 years ago. My own family line traces back to Scotland and the Weems (Wemyss) clan. (Some would say it explains my personality.) The Weems castle, built in the 15th Century, still proudly stands in the town of Fife, Scotland.

My ancestors fought with Robert the Bruce in the Battle of Bannockburn in 1314. The King of England, Edward II, invaded Scotland with the largest English Army to ever attack Scotland. His army outnumbered Robert the Bruce’s common Scot army 4 to 1. But the Scots are fearsome warriors. After days of hand to hand combat, the Scots beat the English and declared Scotland’s de facto Independence.

However, Scotland and England were joined under the United Kingdom 400 years ago.

Texas Weems came by way of the Carolinas in the 1700s then they moved to Tennessee and finally settled in early Texas in the 1800s.

From America’s struggle for Independence and Texas’s successful fight for Texas independence from Mexico (Texas was a sovereign republic from 1836–1845), such causes are noble but difficult. During the Texas War of Independence, at least four Scots fought and died at the cradle of Texas liberty—The Alamo.

If government truly is of the people, by the people and for the people, then people that

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