

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### IN RECOGNITION OF THE 9/11 FIRST RESPONDERS

#### HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 7, 2016*

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the many first responders to the September 11th terrorist attacks of 2001, as well as to recognize that this September will be the 15th anniversary of that national tragedy.

That day was a time of intense panic and immense sorrow for all Americans, with many losing friends, family, and loved ones. Yet in spite of all of this, our brave first responders from our police services, our fire fighters, and emergency medical services went above and beyond the call of duty to save the lives of their fellow citizens, so that they could go home to their families and friends.

These amazing men and women faced this terror attack with the greatest courage and conviction anyone could exhibit. The valor and fortitude which they showed is beyond expression, with many giving their lives so that their fellow Americans could live. However, many of those who endured and survived are still suffering from the ordeal, with many experiencing PTSD, depression, and physical ailments. These men and women represent the very best of our nation. We should all strive to live up to their extraordinary example.

It is important that we do whatever we can for these heroes, and as such I would like to thank the Hylton Performing Arts Center for their event entitled "Helping First Responders Find Hope, Healing and Resilience" which will be held in Manassas on September 10th, 2016. Through events like this, caring Americans are helping raise awareness to these unfortunate conditions.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask my fellow Members of Congress to join me in honoring some of the bravest of our nation's heroes, and to thank them for all that they did during our country's most desperate hour. May God bless them, and all those whose lives were affected by this day.

### HONORING THE PEDROZO FAMILY

#### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 7, 2016*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize The Pedrozo Family. The Pedrozo's have deep rooted ties to public service in Merced County and are known for their tireless efforts on behalf of the community. They are being honored by Catholic Charities of Merced in appreciation of their service to the Valley.

The late Joe and Barbra Pedrozo raised their six children on the family's dairy farm.

They instilled the importance of faith and serving others in their children. Those guiding words have shaped the Pedrozo family. They have been actively involved in Our Lady of Mercy School, St. Patrick's Parish and Sacred Heart Churches, among many other local causes.

Joe is a local business owner and was a volunteer coach for Our Lady of Mercy School sports and City Leagues for 25 years. He gave classes to vocational instruction students at the Juvenile Hall for Merced County Office of Education. Diana has also been an active member of the community, having served as the Executive Director of the Merced County Farm Bureau and as a member of the Merced County California Women for Agriculture.

John and Kelly Pedrozo are parents to two sons and a daughter, 6 grandsons and one granddaughter due this fall. John is a proud graduate of Our Lady of Mercy. He has been on the Merced County Board of Supervisors for twelve years. In this role he has served as an advocate for farmers and Merced County's most underserved. John previously served on the Our Lady of Mercy School Board and the Merced Union High School District Board of Trustees. Kelly worked for Merced County Child Support Services for 30 years. Kelly and John have been supporters of 4-H, St. Patrick's Parish and OLM School.

Ted and Juanita Pedrozo have been married for 35 years, are parents to four children, grandparents to one grandson and another grandson is due in October. Ted and John have a catering business known throughout Merced County for providing food for local charitable and non-profit organizations. Juanita is a teacher and school administrator, serving in this role for 36 years. Ted and Juanita are active members of St. Patrick's Parish and supporters of Our Lady Of Mercy School and local 4-H programs.

Judy (Pedrozo) and Harry Blackburn have been married for 24 years. Judy was a teacher and currently serves as Principal at Our Lady of Mercy School. Harry has worked for a private company for 24 years and is a store manager. Judy serves on the Fresno Diocesan School Board. Judy and Harry are active members of St. Patrick and strong supporters of Our Lady of Mercy School.

Josh and Heidi Pedrozo are continuing the tradition of service in the Pedrozo Family. Josh is a teacher at Merced High School and has been a Merced City Councilman for eight years. Heidi assisted the people of the 16th district while serving as a representative in my office, as well as the office of Congressman Dennis Cardoza. Heidi is currently a teacher at El Capitan High School. Their son Owen is a student at Our Lady of Mercy and they are expecting a daughter this fall.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the great contributions of the Pedrozo Family. Their contributions will have a lasting impact on the community for years to come. I congratulate the Pedrozo's for this honor and ask that you join me in wishing them continued success.

### TRIBUTE TO ANGELA CONNOLLY

#### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 7, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Polk County (Iowa) Supervisor Angela Connolly for being honored as a 2016 Iowa Women's Hall of Fame recipient by the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women.

Angela Connolly, a native Iowan, was born to second-generation Italian immigrants and cultivated a strong work ethic at her parents' small Italian restaurant. She attended college in Kansas, returning to Iowa and marrying her husband, Tom, raising three children and overseeing the development of the next generation with four grandchildren.

Ms. Connolly began her career in the Polk County Public Works Department, working for nearly 20 years before being elected a Polk County Supervisor in 1998. She is only one of three female Supervisors ever elected in over 150 years to the Polk County Board of Supervisors and still serves in that post today.

"Community engagement" is the key phrase for Ms. Connolly. Evidenced by her dedication to civic activities, she currently serves as Co-Chairman of The Tomorrow Plan and is Tri-Chairman for Capital Crossroads: A Vision for Greater Des Moines and Central Iowa as well as Chairman for Rebuilding Together. She aptly represents the Polk County Board of Supervisors on a long list of boards and commissions.

Ms. Connolly has played a leadership role in many significant efforts to improve the lives of area residents. She advocates for mental health issues, domestic violence victims, homeless challenges, and most visibly in recent months, the efforts to stop hunger in Polk County. She is a proponent of the Des Moines downtown revitalization efforts as well as updating the historical Polk County Courthouse complex. She never stops and works tirelessly for all Iowans.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Angela Connolly in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Angela Connolly on receiving this esteemed designation and in wishing Ms. Connolly a long and successful career.

### IN RECOGNITION OF CYRUS JONES

#### HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 7, 2016*

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Cyrus Jones, head coach of Lincoln

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