

NEW HAMPSHIRE COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY COUNCIL CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

(Ms. KUSTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize and celebrate the New Hampshire College and University Council, which recently celebrated its 50th anniversary.

I would also like to recognize Thomas Horgan, the president and CEO of the council, who announced earlier this week that he will be stepping down after 23 years on the job. Tom has been a leader in the higher education field for many years and has made a tremendous impact on our community.

The New Hampshire College and University Council has long been committed to working to strengthen the Granite State's higher education system and ensuring that students are given the opportunities they so deserve. The council works tirelessly to collaborate with both public and private institutions and to promote greater awareness and understanding of New Hampshire higher education at every level, from students, professors, and administrators, all the way to the college presidents.

New Hampshire's colleges and universities are major contributors to our State's economy, employing over 17,000 people throughout the Granite State, with salaries and benefits exceeding \$1 billion. Education at every level is vitally important. We must continue to promote higher education in New Hampshire.

RECOGNIZING MR. GUS BELL

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Gus Bell and his 50 years of service to the Hussey Gay Bell Firm, a design and architecture company located in Savannah, Georgia, dedicated to innovating the engineering field.

Mr. Bell joined the company in 1966 and, with his hard work, purchased the company 20 years later. He then led Hussey Gay Bell's expansion to international clients, proving itself an international pioneer in architecture and engineering.

While a big one, this is only one of Mr. Gus Bell's many accomplishments. For the last five decades, Mr. Bell has also dedicated himself to the enrichment of the State of Georgia. He has chaired the board of Mercer's medical school, founded the St. Andrew's School Board, and represented the State of Georgia in a major water dispute. Mr. Bell's influence is felt throughout the region and, certainly, beyond.

I am honored that Mr. Bell is a resident of Georgia's First Congressional

District, and I thank him for his dedication to our area.

On a personal note, I thank him for all of his assistance to me while I was mayor of the city of Pooler. I am honored to call him my friend.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE

(Mr. KILMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a warning, a warning that the voices of the American people are at risk of not being heard.

Outside groups funded by the deepest of pockets have taken center stage in this year's election. The Center for Responsive Politics reported this week that outside spending has already reached two-thirds of a billion dollars in 2016. That is more than twice what these groups spent at this point just 4 years ago. Wave after wave of these ads dominate our screens and turn political debate into a pro wrestling match.

But there is more to the problem. This system gives a small group of the wealthiest Americans a disproportionately loud voice. It affirms the fear that so many Americans have that special interests and deep pockets have undue say. That is not good for the future of our country or of our democracy.

It is time we stood up and said, "Enough." It is time we stood up and said that corporations are not people. It is time we pass campaign finance reform, and it is time we revitalize our democracy and bring people power back.

OBAMA'S CASH PAYMENTS TO IRAN

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, sadly, my remarks condemning the shocking \$400 million ransom payment to Iran were understated. Yesterday, The Wall Street Journal revealed:

The Obama administration followed up a plane load of \$400 million in cash sent to Iran in January with two more shipments totaling \$1.3 billion . . . lawmakers have voiced concern that Iran's military units . . . would use the cash to finance military allies, including the Assad regime in Syria, Houthi militias in Yemen, and the Lebanese militia, Hezbollah.

Last month, The Augusta Chronicle disclosed: "No legitimate case can be made that none of the . . . billions . . . will fund terror. It's inevitable. The White House even admits it."

I appreciate House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman ED ROYCE's efforts to advance legislation to ensure this can't happen again for enemies who still chant, "Death to America. Death to Israel."

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and may the President, by his actions,

never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism. The President's legacy is American families at greater risk of attack, ever, with financing.

REMEMBERING CONGRESSMAN MARK TAKAI

(Ms. HAHN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, 2 weeks ago, I attended the funeral of one of our colleagues, my good friend, Congressman Mark Takai of Hawaii, who lost his battle with pancreatic cancer.

Mark was a great leader. He served his country both in the military and the Hawaii National Guard, as well as being a public servant in the Hawaii State House and here in the U.S. Congress.

He was taken from us far too soon. Mark was only 49 and left behind his wife and two children. He was a wonderful father and deserved more time with them.

Pancreatic cancer has one of the lowest survival rates of any cancer. Just 6 percent survive 5 years past their diagnosis. While death rates for other cancers are declining, pancreatic cancer is projected to become the second leading cause of cancer-related death in the U.S. in the next 4 years.

Every year, pancreatic cancer survivors and family members walk the Halls of Congress advocating for more Federal funding for pancreatic cancer research, with the goal of doubling their survival rates by 2020.

For too long, those calls have fallen on deaf ears. But perhaps now, in the wake of losing one of our own colleagues, Congress will do what is right and dedicate much-needed funding to curing this deadly disease.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. PAT WALKER

(Mr. WOMACK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Pat Walker of Springdale, Arkansas, who passed away on September 3 at the age of 97.

Pat was a northwest Arkansas icon whose spirit of philanthropy touched so many lives. She not only provided critical resources for charities involved in medicine, the arts, education, and her beloved Razorbacks, but she also inspired those around her to get involved and be of service to their fellow man.

She was steadfastly dedicated to our community, and the honors bestowed upon Pat are evidence of this. A member of the Arkansas Women's Hall of Fame, Pat was named one of the Most Distinguished Women in Arkansas. She was a lifetime member of the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute, the 2002 American Heart Association Tiffany award recipient, inducted into the Towers of Old Main, and was a member