

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING CURTIS HIGH SCHOOL

HON. DANIEL M. DONOVAN, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2016

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Curtis High School football team for winning the Public Schools Athletic League city championship.

After steamrolling their opponents throughout the regular season and playoffs, the Warriors defeated Erasmus Hall High School 24–21 at Yankee Stadium to capture the championship title and finish the season ranked first overall in New York City. Closing out their season with an undefeated 12–0 record, these young athletes proved that hard work, dedication, and perseverance are the keys to victory. The Warriors never backed down from tough competition this past season, and they definitely won't back down next season.

Led by head coach Peter “Gambo” Gambardella, the Warriors demonstrated nothing but pure excellence on the field. Moreover, this team showed its dominance in the stats. Wide receiver Amad Anderson, Jr. finished the regular season tied first overall in touchdown receptions in the league; running back Ty'Son Lawton finished second in rushing yards and tied for first in rushing touchdowns; and quarterback Quincy Barnes finished second in passing yards and first in passing touchdowns. But as each of them knows, you always put your team before any personal glory. The Warriors exemplified teamwork and cooperation, so their championship should come as no surprise to their classmates, teachers, or parents.

Mr. Speaker, this team gave their time, effort, and sweat to be where they are today. Their championship was well-deserved and I wish them nothing but continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF CARLO SCISSURA CEO & PRESIDENT, BROOKLYN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2016

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Carlo Scissura, who is receiving Greenpoint YMCA's Spirit of Service Award, given in recognition of Mr. Scissura's efforts to better the community in which he lives and works. Mr. Scissura has worked to expand and strengthen the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce, making it the largest and fastest-growing Chamber of Commerce in New York State.

In 2012, Mr. Scissura became President and CEO of the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber is one of New York's

premiere business advocacy and leadership organizations. Under Mr. Scissura's leadership, membership in the Chamber has grown by more than 200 percent. Mr. Scissura has launched a series of highly successful and innovative programs, including Explore Brooklyn, Brooklyn-Made and Chamber on the Go, leading to a historic period of growth and development in the Chamber. The Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce has become a national model for business development, outreach and technical assistance, and regional branding.

Prior to joining the Chamber, Mr. Scissura served as both Chief of Staff and General Counsel to former Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz. In this role, Mr. Scissura focused on advancing the Borough's economic development agenda. Mr. Scissura worked alongside the Mayor's Office, Council, and Economic Development Corporation (EDC), and served on the boards of EDC, the Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corporation and Brooklyn Public Library.

In addition to his professional success, Mr. Scissura has a long history of service to his community. This began nearly twenty years ago, when he was elected to Community School Board 20 in 1999. During his time on the Board, Mr. Scissura reinvigorated various Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Committees. In recognition of his outstanding dedication, Mr. Scissura was appointed to the Community Education Council in 2004, where he served as President and Chairman of the Legislative Committee. In this position, Mr. Scissura continued his advocacy for increased community and parental involvement. Today, Mr. Scissura serves as Vice President of the Federation of Italian-American Organizations, where he has led the construction of the new Italian Cultural and Community Center. Mr. Scissura has received numerous honors and awards for these contributions to his community.

Mr. Scissura was born and raised in Bensonhurst, and currently resides in Dyker Heights. As a lifetime Brooklyn resident, Mr. Scissura has been an advocate for Brooklyn throughout his career.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Mr. Carlo Scissura for his continuous commitment to improving his community and his incredible leadership of the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce.

HIGHLAND COUNTY COMMISSIONER TOM HORST

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2016

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate Highland County Commissioner Tom Horst on a distinguished career serving the residents of Highland County and Southern Ohio.

Tom has served our community for 40 years in a multitude of ways.

Tom has served in the Lynchburg and Hillsboro Police Departments and as Highland County Sheriff; he worked for the Ohio Attorney General in the Bureau of Criminal Investigations, and he has served as Highland County Commissioner.

In all aspects of his service, Tom has left an incredibly positive impact in our community. Highland County is truly a better place because of Tom Horst and his dedication and commitment to making it a better and safer place to live.

We are extremely fortunate to have had Tom's commitment and service in our community, and I wish him a very happy retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE PAHOKEE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM WINNING ITS 7TH STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2016

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Pahokee Senior High School football team of Pahokee, Florida. On December 8, 2016, the Pahokee Blue Devils won their 7th state championship. They finished their season 14–0, defeating all of Florida's top rated teams in Class 1A. Along the way, the Blue Devils won the Muck Bowl, which annually pits them against the Raiders of Glades Central High School in Belle Glade, Florida, one of Florida's most well-known rivalries, for the first time in eight years.

First year coach Mr. Orson Walkes, who won four state titles with the team as an assistant, guided his very talented players to the peak of perfection. With their winning effort in 2016, they have shown the potential for future championships. While the seniors will be adding their skills to the football teams of some of America's finest colleges and universities next season, returning players will be joined by other talented players in what will surely be another exciting season for the Blue Devils.

Mr. Speaker, The Blue Devils of Pahokee, Florida are the only football team from Palm Beach County to win a state championship this year. I am delighted that such a fine coach and extremely talented group of players represent my Congressional district.

IN RECOGNITION OF BROOKLYN DEPUTY BOROUGH PRESIDENT DIANA REYNA

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2016

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Deputy

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Borough President Diana Reyna, who is receiving Greenpoint YMCA's Spirit of Service Award, given in recognition of her efforts to better the community in which she lives and serves. Deputy Borough President Reyna has been a dynamic and effective leader who has worked for real change.

Deputy Borough President Reyna made history as the first Dominican-American woman elected to public office in New York State when she won her seat in the New York City Council in 2001. As a Councilwoman, she garnered praise as an advocate for affordable housing and economic development, and she pushed for funding for family literacy and youth programs. Additionally, she has been a tireless supporter of women and minority owned small businesses, supported high-tech innovation, and encouraged entrepreneurs and start-up companies. She also sought to fight crime in her district. She authored a bill that increased fines for illegal conversions from industrial to residential uses, which passed the Council in 2007 and was signed into law by Mayor Bloomberg.

Ms. Reyna became Deputy Brooklyn Borough President in 2014. As Deputy Borough President, Ms. Reyna has been a champion for the BQ Green Project, which would create a park that connects communities separated by the Brooklyn Queens Expressway, allowing for new open spaces, bolstering local businesses, and improving quality of life for thousands of residents in the community. She has also fought for zoning laws that would allow for affordable industrial spaces to remain in Brooklyn in an effort to keep industry and jobs in the borough.

In every position she has held, Deputy Borough President Reyna has demonstrated dedication to families and businesses in our great city. She is a tenacious and effective public servant who has instituted great changes to the borough of Brooklyn and New York City at large.

Deputy Borough President Reyna has lived in New York her whole life, growing up in Brooklyn. She attended Pace University in Pleasantville, New York. From there, she went on to work as Chief of Staff for a New York State Assembly member. Deputy Borough President Reyna is a proud resident of Brooklyn, NY, a place she believes "holds our future, our children, our neighbors, our artists, our entrepreneurs, our schools, and our businesses."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Brooklyn Deputy Borough President Diana Reyna for her continuous commitment to improving her community, city, and country.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF THE HONORABLE W.J. "BILL"
USERY

HON. JODY B. HICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2016

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of the late Honorable W.J. "Bill" Usery Jr., a man who left a legacy of service to our Nation and the Tenth Congressional District of Georgia, which I have the honor of representing. Mr. Usery was

a native of Baldwin County where he attended Georgia Military College. Shortly after, he proudly served in the United States Navy repairing warships as an underwater welder in the Pacific Fleet. In 1952, he started his career in labor activism when he joined the International Association of Machinists.

Following years of being the chief mediator in major labor-management disputes, President Gerald Ford appointed Mr. Usery as the United States Secretary of Labor, a post where he defined the modern era of labor-management and helped our Nation maintain its forward momentum and status as a global leader. During his tenure, our Nation witnessed better working conditions, better wages, better relations between labor and management, and an overall better way of life.

Mr. Speaker, his advice and counsel were valued by the Commander-in-Chiefs whom he served, including Presidents Gerald Ford, Richard Nixon, John F. Kennedy, and Bill Clinton. The Honorable Mr. Usery was born, raised, and spent the last years of his life in Milledgeville, Georgia, where he continued to serve, making generous donations to his alma mater.

Mr. Speaker, I had the privilege to meet this remarkable Georgian this spring during a ceremony that I held in my district to recognize our WWII veterans, and it is with pride that I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and legacy of the Honorable W.J. "Bill" Usery.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN
CATSIMATIDIS JR.

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2016

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. John Catsimatidis Jr. who is receiving Greenpoint YMCA's Spirit of Service Award, given in recognition of Mr. Catsimatidis's efforts to better the city of New York. Mr. Catsimatidis is a driven and hard-working New Yorker who has shown dedication both to his business endeavors and philanthropic causes.

Mr. Catsimatidis serves as an executive of the Red Apple Group, where he is involved in all areas of the business, but focuses mainly on the energy resources, investment divisions, and job creation. In August, 2016, Mr. Catsimatidis was also appointed to the board of the Gold Coast Bank in Brooklyn, NY.

Mr. Catsimatidis has always been involved in various philanthropic activities. Mr. Catsimatidis supports the Catsimatidis Family Foundation, which makes generous donations to organizations including the Police Athletic League and the Alzheimer's Association. Mr. Catsimatidis also serves on the Emerging Leaders Council for the Federal Enforcement Homeland Security Foundation, which provides financial aid, scholarships, grants, and critical support to Federal Law Enforcement officers and their families in times of need. Mr. Catsimatidis's steadfast support of these families throughout New York City exemplifies his dedication to our community.

Mr. Catsimatidis graduated from New York University's Leonard Stern School of Business in 2015. While at NYU, Mr. Catsimatidis served as President of the NYU College Re-

publicans, a premier political organization on campus. This position gave Mr. Catsimatidis the opportunity to hold debates, host speakers, and cultivate informational political dialogues for the student body. Additionally, Mr. Catsimatidis was elected Chairman of the New York State Federation of College Republicans. In both of these positions, Mr. Catsimatidis sought not only to contribute to politically active student groups on campus, but more importantly to foster healthy, respectful, and bilateral political discussion. For his contributions to the NYU community, Mr. Catsimatidis was named one of NYU's Ten Most Influential Students of 2015, and received the Presidential Service Award.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Mr. John Catsimatidis Jr. for his contributions to New York's vibrant business community and dedication to local philanthropic causes.

CONGRATULATING THE KOREAN
LANGUAGE NEWS SERVICE,
WEEKLY FOCUS ON ITS 10TH AN-
NIVERSARY

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2016

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Korean Language news service, Weekly Focus, on its 10th Anniversary, and by extension President Hyun Joo Kim, and her entire staff. I am proud to represent the largest Korean community in Colorado in my Congressional District. Throughout the ten years that Weekly Focus has been running, the service has worked tirelessly to not only represent their community, but to also connect Coloradoans by offering a way to communicate and learn from each other.

Since its founding in 2006, Weekly Focus has grown to be the biggest and most influential Korean language newspaper in Colorado. Thanks to this tremendous news service, Korean-Americans and Coloradoans have a dependable source of news that features a weekly publication of 128 pages.

Hyun Joo Kim's passion and diligence, as well as that of her staff, has allowed Weekly Focus to develop and become an important part of our community. By creating a reliable newspaper with quality articles, Weekly Focus has undoubtedly improved Korean-American representation within the media of Colorado as well as residents living in the 6th Congressional District.

I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to the Weekly Focus newspaper and its entire staff for their hard work and dedication these past 10 years.