

She was elected to City Council in 1981 and was elected Mayor in 1987.

As Mayor, Jackie understood that in addition to serving its residents, the City of Utica also plays a vital role in strengthening the region as a whole. She led the efforts to improve essential city services and responsiveness to constituents and businesses. Jackie spearheaded efforts to improve local roads including the widening of important roadways like M-59 and Van Dyke Avenue. Working closely with her on this project, I saw firsthand her dogged determination. Jackie also saw the value in establishing strong working relationships with her neighboring communities of Sterling Heights and Shelby Township as they shared services and resources. They even held their annual State of the City addresses together.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Jackie and wishing her and her husband Jerry, and all their children and grandchildren the very best as they begin this next chapter. I am grateful to Jackie for her many years of dedicated public service, as well as for her friendship, and I am so pleased to join with the entire community in paying tribute to her, which is so deeply deserved.

BOND COUNTY BICENTENNIAL

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 5, 2017

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the bicentennial anniversary of Bond County in my home state of Illinois.

Bond County was created on January 4th, 1817 by an act of the Illinois Territorial Legislature. This event occurred nearly two years before Illinois was admitted into the Union as the 21st state.

The initial dimensions of Bond County were quite unique, as it was only 24 miles wide, but stretched over 600 miles north to include a portion of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The county gets its name from Shadrach Bond, who had been an army colonel in the War of 1812, and, given the county's initial layout, had farmed well north of present-day Bond County. Shadrach Bond also served as the first governor of Illinois.

Over time Bond County gave birth to numerous other counties in the state, and ceded some of its land to Wisconsin and Michigan as well, so that today Bond County is one of the smaller counties in Illinois. Yet its rich history, along with the spirit and pride of its people, has outlasted all of these changes.

This year Bond County has planned a grand celebration in recognition of its bicentennial. This celebration began on January 5th with a commemorative program and a special proclamation by the County Board. Later this year, on July 2nd, the main celebration will occur with tours, a parade, food and many other activities, climaxing with a fireworks show.

I ask that we all join in that celebration as we pay tribute to the history and the people that made Bond County, and to the pioneering spirit that lives today in all of its citizens.

I stand today to salute Bond County on its 200th anniversary and to wish it the very best in the future.

KATE FOGLEMAN EARNS SPOT ON KIDS SWEETS SHOWDOWN

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 5, 2017

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Kate Fogleman of Sugar Land, TX, for earning a spot on the Food Network show, Kids Sweets Showdown.

Kate is a 10-year-old girl who just loves to bake. She fell in love with watching kids baking competitions on the Food Network and was inspired to apply herself. After being turned down for the Kids Baking Championship show, she persevered and succeeded in earning a spot on the Food Network's new show, Kids Sweets Showdown. The show features talented kids preparing "merry sweet treats" in hopes of staying on the judges' "nice list." Kate was featured on two episodes of the show, Santa Express and Snow Day Doughnuts. When she's not baking, Kate spends her time on her schools yearbook committee and dancing competitively for Dance Works in Missouri City, TX.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Kate Fogleman for earning a spot on Kids Sweets Showdown. We are extremely proud of her and look forward to her future success as a baker.

IN HONOR OF PATRICK J. MITCHELL

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 5, 2017

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the loss of a great Arizonan and American, Patrick J. Mitchell, 61, from Yuma, Arizona, who worked in Washington for many years, on November 27, 2016. Pat was a trusted advisor and advocate for many in Congress and he will be missed as a powerful advocate (with an Arizona perspective) for education, environment and natural resources, and labor issues in Washington DC councils.

Born in Yuma, AZ, on April 13, 1955, Pat was an accomplished athlete at Yuma High School where he was elected student body president. He went on to his beloved University of Arizona where he was elected student body president and from which he graduated in 1977. He received his Juris Doctorate from Arizona State University in 1981. Pat spent the next 35 years in politics and government fighting to improve the lives of others. He served as a congressional aide to Arizona Senator Dennis DeConcini, chief of staff to Representative Louise Slaughter from New York, political advisor to Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano and the late Representative Mo Udall from Arizona, and senior advisor to two presidential campaigns, including serving with the Simon campaign in Iowa. Pat also was a special assistant attorney general for the State of Arizona. He went on to start his own government affairs firm, Strategic Impact

in Washington D.C., where he focused on appropriations, water and land management, and higher education issues. A beloved Arizona Wildcat fan, Pat was a member of the UA Bobcat Senior Honorary Society and served on the university's alumni board. He was also deeply involved with the Yuma community and in supporting Yuma's Catholic High School.

Pat cherished his family and he is predeceased by his parents, Henry and Helen (Curry) Mitchell of Yuma, and is survived by his brother Bryan Mitchell, sister Kathleen Dyer, nephews Ian and Dan Mitchell, and grandnieces Erin and Emily Mitchell. He often spoke of his father's military service to the nation.

Pat worked hard to ensure that the working families of Arizona had a voice when it came to national policy and debates, whether related to access to higher education or the natural beauty of the Nation. Pat was among those that rose to the challenge in a Republic that needs the best to engage in these national discussions. Few in this world loved their state and its people more.

IN RECOGNITION OF GENEVIEVE M. KUZIA

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 5, 2017

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Genevieve M. Kuzia, who is turning 100 years old on January 5, 2017.

Gerry, as she is known to all, was one of seven daughters born to Stephanie and Anthony Kazmierzczak in Boston, Massachusetts. As a child Gerry moved with her family down to Delaware for three years so her father could work on the railroad. In 1923, they moved back to the Commonwealth and settled in Hyde Park. After finishing at Hyde Park High School in 1935, Gerry worked for a law firm in Boston for several years.

It was at the wedding of a family friend that Gerry met Francis A. Kuzia, who had just been honorably discharged from the Marine Corps. Francis, or Frank as he was known, and Gerry fell in love and were married on July 13, 1942 and settled in Hyde Park to have three children—Paul, Susan and Robert. After raising three wonderful children and spending her time as a fulltime caring and loving mother, Gerry went back to work for the Hyde Park branch of the Boston Public Library where she worked for 16 years till her retirement in 1982.

After losing the love of her life, Frank, in 1993, Gerry moved to Braintree, Massachusetts before moving to the Cape Cod Senior Residences in 2009 due to failing eyesight. Always armed with a smile and a kind word, Gerry is beloved at Cape Cod Senior Residences.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Gerry on this joyous occasion. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing her many more years of good health and continued happiness.