

HONORING THE PRINCE HALL UNIVERSAL LODGE NUMBER 1 OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 172 years of service of the Prince Hall Universal Lodge Number 1 of Alexandria, Virginia. The Prince Hall Free Masonry began in Alexandria in 1845. Over the past 172 years, Universal Lodge Number 1 has worked on significant issues such as slavery, education and schools, church buildings, and the general welfare of African Americans. I greatly commend their many years of service to the Alexandria community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed Roll Call vote numbers 66 and 67. Had I been present, I would have voted Aye on both.

IN HONOR OF SCOTT GRAVES

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Mr. Scott Graves the pride of Bronte, Texas. For more than 12 years, Scott has been a leader in the field of agriculture policy and helped shape a better vision and future for our nation.

Since coming to work as an intern on Capitol Hill, Scott has demonstrated his ability to master complex policy issues and work with members and staff to craft unique solutions. He continually equips members of the House Committee on Agriculture, and the Republican Conference as a whole, with the knowledge and resources we need to serve the American public. His leadership of the Agriculture Committee has positioned them for tremendous success as they begin to reauthorize the Farm Bill this Congress.

I have known Scott for many years and have always known that he was someone I could count on to get the job done. Scott and I worked together for two years and he succeeded me as Chief of Staff to Mr. CONAWAY from Texas. I think fondly on the time we spent together and am proud of what we accomplished. I am even more proud of the character of the husband, father, and colleague I now simply call friend.

Personally and professionally Scott is fun to be around, and he makes everyone around him better. There is no doubt that Scott will be sincerely missed, but I am excited for what the future holds for this extraordinary public servant.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in recognizing the impressive career of Mr. Scott

Graves and wishing him well as he, Haley, and Bronte begin the next chapter of their lives.

HONORING STEPHEN B. HOVEN UPON HIS RETIREMENT AFTER 19 YEARS OF SERVICE TO SSM HEALTH

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent of mine, Mr. Stephen B. Hoven, on his retirement from SSM Health as the Vice President of Public Affairs following 19 years of service.

In August 1997, Mr. Hoven joined SSM Health, founded by the Franciscan Sisters of St. Mary, as the Vice President of Public Affairs. In this position Mr. Hoven provided leadership in multiple external markets. He has also collaborated with public policy leaders in municipal affairs, and local, state and federal governments which have positively benefitted SSM Health. Additionally, Mr. Hoven has coordinated civic and community events throughout Missouri. Mr. Hoven has helped further SSM Health's vision and mission throughout the communities they serve during his 19 years of service. The passion Mr. Hoven has shown for his job, the people who work at SSM, those they serve and his country has been a true asset to SSM.

Mr. Hoven began his career in public affairs in 1982 as the Manager of Public Affairs for Ozark Air Lines in St. Louis during which time he oversaw the coordination of state legislation in 25 states. Additionally, as Manager of Public Affairs, he managed civic affairs for 65 cities and handled the corporate charitable program. In 1986 he moved to the St. Louis Regional Commerce and Growth Association. From 1986 to 1990 he was the Administrative Assistant to the president of that association. Then from 1990 to 1994 he was Vice President of Government Affairs and Transportation. In 1994 Mr. Hoven stepped into the role of Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of a 4,000 member chamber of commerce. This chamber of commerce was committed to increasing their regional cooperation and also expanding their economic growth opportunities in the St. Louis region.

Mr. Hoven has volunteered many hours throughout his professional career to numerous civic and charitable organizations, including the boards of the Museum of Transportation, the Japan-American Society, the American Cancer Society, the Leadership Council of Southwestern Illinois, the Boys and Girls Town of Missouri, the Associated Industries of Missouri, the St. Louis Sports Commission and the St. Louis Regional Commerce and Growth Association's Public Policy Council. Each one of these groups has been positively impacted by Mr. Hoven's service.

With this retirement Mr. Hoven will now be able to spend more time with his wife Jill, and they look forward to spending more time with their beloved dogs. Mr. and Mrs. Hoven are planning to live part of the year in Colorado and will be RV traveling as well, but will still be a regular presence in their Warren County home in Missouri's 3rd District.

I ask you in joining me in recognizing Mr. Steve Hoven on his retirement. The commitment he has shown to the SSM Health and his community is a commendable accomplishment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today regarding missed votes on Monday, January 30, 2017. Had I been present for roll call vote number 66, H.R. 374, To remove the sunset provision of section 203 of Public Law 105-384, and for other purposes, I would have voted "yea." Had I been present for roll call vote number 67, H.R. 538, the Ocmulgee Mounds National Historical Park Boundary Revision Act of 2017, I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES B. RENACCI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, I missed votes on Monday, January 30, 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call No. 66 and Yea on Roll Call No. 67.

TRIBUTE TO ALL-TIME SCORING LEADER FOR MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TORI JANKOSKA

HON. JOHN R. MOOLENAAR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mr. MOOLENAAR. Mr. Speaker, today, I, along with Representative BISHOP pay tribute to Tori Jankoska, the all-time scoring leader for Michigan State University Women's Basketball.

Tori was born and raised in Freeland, where she grew up with a passion for competition. As a young girl, Tori was unable to compete with her peers. She grew up with asthma and other illnesses that kept her from playing with the other kids. Through her own perseverance, she was able to play with her siblings and her passion for sports started to grow. As a student at Freeland High School, Tori raised the bar for her own team and her competitors. It wasn't long before her talent was noticed by the coaches at MSU.

When starting her basketball career at MSU, Tori knew that was where she wanted to be. She also knew that she had a chance to do something great. Regarded by her coaches as having the highest basketball IQ on the court, Tori has proven her acumen time and again. Now, as the all-time point leader for MSU, she has written her own legacy into the record book as one of the best college women's basketball players of all time.

Tori has overcome obstacles and excelled at the highest level of competition. On behalf

of the Fourth & Eighth Congressional Districts of Michigan, we are honored today to recognize Tori Jankoska for her lifetime of work on and off the court and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF ANA SKIDMORE OF TWOFOOT CREATIVE FOR RECEIVING THE ATHENA ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ana Skidmore, entrepreneur and founder of TwoFoot Creative, for receiving the ATHENA Organizational Leadership Award. Ana has achieved business success through her hard work and vision in founding TwoFoot Creative, a wedding and event planning organization that has successfully served the community for 10 years.

Founded in 2007 by Ms. Skidmore, TwoFoot Creative has established a reputation as a premier wedding and planning organization that effectively serves its clients. The organization offers full service wedding planning services, including negotiating contracts, invitation design and comprehensive scheduling of the wedding week for clients. TwoFoot Creative has received many accolades for its outstanding service, including being named a Knot "Best Of" wedding planning company for seven years in a row. In addition, colleagues have named TwoFoot as having the "Best Team" at the wedding industry's Event Professionals in Class Awards that are held annually in Metro Detroit. These awards and distinctions speak to the high quality of work and effective service that the organization provides to its clients.

The success and acclaim of TwoFoot Creative speaks to the vision and tireless efforts of Ms. Skidmore and the other team members. Starting a successful company requires a unique combination of entrepreneurial spirit, vision and leadership that few possess. Having created an award-winning organization that consistently wins praise from its clients and other industry professionals, Ms. Skidmore has proven to exemplify these values. I am proud to recognize Ms. Skidmore and TwoFoot Creative for their success, and it is my hope that they continue to grow and serve the community in the coming years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Ana Skidmore for her outstanding entrepreneurial success. The acclaim and business success of TwoFoot are inspiring and deserving of the ATHENA Organizational Leadership Award.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 68.

INTRODUCTION OF THE JOINT RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF THE FINAL RULE OF THE UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE RELATING TO MITIGATION POLICY

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation disapproving of the Compensatory Mitigation Policy (CMP) rule finalized in the final days of the Obama administration. On December 23, 2016, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) released its final Endangered Species Act (ESA) CMP, which violates existing environmental law and puts future economic development across the country at risk. This rule establishes policies that are a significant departure from existing practices regarding compensatory mitigation and limits private-sector, voluntary involvement in developing compensatory mitigation plans. My legislation utilizes the Congressional Review Act to block this dangerous rule and will prevent the potential catastrophic impacts it would have on our nation's economy.

The CMP exceeds USFWS' statutory authority by adopting the mitigation goals of "net conservation gain" and "no net loss," which are not grounded in federal statute. This directive is a significant departure from existing practice and runs counter to current law. The policy will lead to an extensive, time-consuming valuation process in which development projects are required to initiate an assessment process, as well as undertake advance mitigation that could tie up many economic projects in burdensome, costly procedures.

This overbroad policy could jeopardize an extensive range of economic development activities in every corner of the U.S., while also impacting a wide-range of industries, including: agriculture, forestry, mining, natural resource development, energy production, conservation projects, and building and road construction. The final CMP will also have significant strategic, legal, and financial implications for development projects large and small, while ensnaring future economic growth in a maze of permitting setbacks and bureaucratic red-tape.

We must protect our country's economic future and ensure burdensome rules and regulations promulgated by a bloated bureaucracy do not threaten desperately needed job creation and economic growth. The integrity of the law is threatened by misguided federal policies like the USFWS's CMP rule, and I urge all members to join me in supporting this legislation to block yet another oppressive and overreaching regulation promulgated by the previous administration.

RECOGNIZING SCOTT GRAVES

HON. DAVID ROUZER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Mr. ROUZER. Mr. Speaker, Scott Graves will soon be leaving his post as staff director

for the House Agriculture Committee to pursue new opportunities, and it is my privilege to recognize his many contributions over the years to farm and ranch families all across America.

Scott has served as a trusted advisor to Chairman MIKE CONAWAY for nearly twelve years. His start as an intern is a familiar one to many Capitol Hill staffers. In Scott's case, he started out as an intern for the House Agriculture Committee in January 2005. It was at that time when I first met Scott. I was a staffer myself back in 2005, working for U.S. Senator Elizabeth Dole.

Scott's knowledge, sound judgment and strong work ethic eventually elevated him to staff director of the Committee where he has led efforts to increase innovation in agriculture, improve markets, strengthen our farm economy, reform the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, repeal the Country of Origin of Labelling law and much more. Without question, Scott has been a vital contributor to the many legislative successes of the House Agriculture Committee.

There's no doubt Scott will continue to have great success in his new endeavors. On behalf of the fine farm families and consumers all across North Carolina, thank you, Scott, for your hard work and dedication to America's farm and ranch families and our rural communities. You will certainly be missed.

HONORING BRUCE DEPUYT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Bruce DePuyt, who will be leaving NewsChannel 8 this week after over two decades of outstanding journalism and service to Washington, D.C. and the national capital region.

For 23 years, Washingtonians have turned to Bruce for insight and in-depth reporting on local and national news. Bruce had a talent for bringing local and regional voices together—from elected officials and police chiefs to community leaders—to speak and inform D.C. and area residents on a host of topics important to this region and the nation. Even before arriving at NewsChannel 8, however, people could turn to Bruce for trusted journalism wherever he was reporting.

A graduate of the University of Maryland in 1984, Bruce got an early start in journalism as a college radio station student-host calling women's basketball. After graduating, he went on to work as a reporter and anchor at WVIR in Charlottesville, Virginia, and produced an award-winning weekly talk show, "21 This Week," on Cable News 2 in Montgomery County, Maryland, where he won a Cable Ace award. In 1993, Bruce joined the team at NewsChannel 8, where he has been ever since.

Bruce's career at NewsChannel 8 has been marked by smart commentary, excellent reporting, and penetrating questioning. In 2013, he was named the Best TV Personality by the Washington Blade magazine, and Washington City Paper readers named him the Best Newsmaker in 2010. For his brilliant reporting, Bruce was also awarded the Cronkite Award