

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT J.  
HARRIS'S LEADERSHIP

**HON. DAVID P. JOYCE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize a great leader of the U.S. fastener industry. He is one of the basic building blocks of virtually all manufacturing, Robert J. Harris, Managing Director of the Industrial Fasteners Institute (IFI) since 1995, retired from the Institute on December 31, 2017. Rob brought financial stability and strategic leadership to IFI, the trade organization that has represented the U.S. fastener manufacturing industry since 1931. Under his guidance, the Institute became the recognized authority in the development of all technical standards for fasteners, a critical component of ensuring capability and safety across all products.

Rob's leadership was perhaps most visible during the 1990s, when a pending regulatory burden imposed by the well-intentioned but fatally flawed Fastener Quality Act (FQA) threatened to shut down the industry and place severe limits on production of automakers, aerospace manufacturers, and a host of other U.S. and international producers. Working with a coalition of IFI members, as well as, representatives of the auto, aerospace, heavy equipment, appliance and other manufacturers, Rob developed and implemented a strategy to revamp the decades-old FQA. Congress approved the Fastener Quality Act Amendments Act in 1998, and it has been a great success in the twenty years since. Before joining IFI in 1995, Rob had already enjoyed a varied and successful career. A native of Kentucky, he graduated from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy and subsequently earned a master's degree in International Finance from the College of William and Mary and an MBA from DePaul University. He served in the U.S. Navy in Vietnam as a gunboat Captain.

Along with all of the residents of the 14th Congressional District of Ohio, I congratulate Rob on a well-deserved retirement.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BISHOP  
ALEXIS THOMAS

**HON. RUBEN GALLEGO**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and work of Bishop Alexis Thomas, who passed away on January 18, 2018.

Bishop Alexis Thomas was many things to many people. He was a pastor, a leader, and a friend. He was a father, a son and a brother. He was a dynamic and passionate leader not just at Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church, but throughout our community in Phoenix.

Having received his license to preach the gospel at the young age of seven, it is perhaps unsurprising that Bishop Thomas was destined for a life in service of God and his community. Before he was ordained as the Bishop of the State of Arizona in 2003, Bishop Thomas served for eighteen years as the Senior Pastor of Pilgrim Rest, which grew by leaps and bounds under his compassionate leadership.

Bishop Thomas' service extended well beyond Pilgrim West Baptist Church. Not only did he serve on the Board of Directors of the Greater Phoenix Black Chamber of Commerce, but he also founded the African American Christian Clergy Coalition in 2001 and co-founded the African American Strategic Alliance Coalition in Phoenix.

I want to take this opportunity not only to remember and celebrate Bishop Thomas' many accomplishments, but also to share my sincere condolences with Bishop Thomas' family and friends, as well as with the broader Phoenix community mourning his loss.

I was fortunate enough to work alongside Bishop Thomas on issues of social justice. We served together as a part of My Brother's Keeper, and I witnessed firsthand his boundless determination to make our community—and our world—a better place. Bishop Thomas will be recalled fondly by many as a counselor, friend and mentor. He will also be remembered as a man with a sincere and remarkable vision for change. Through our work together in support of the Congressional Black Caucus, I feel incredibly fortunate that I was able to witness Bishop Thomas' inspiring leadership firsthand.

Bishop Thomas worked miracles large and small every day. He touched more lives than perhaps we will ever know.

Mr. Speaker, while we are devastated by his loss, we know that Bishop Thomas' legacy of service and love will live on forever in our community.

IN HONOR OF LEAH COSNER'S  
100TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

**HON. LIZ CHENEY**

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to Leah Cosner on the celebration of her 100th birthday.

I join her friends and family in extending my best to her on this occasion and in celebrating her life and contributions to our great state. I hope she uses this momentous day to do the same.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my congratulations to Leah Cosner on her birthday. May her year be filled with happiness and blessings.

HONORING LASA JOINER

**HON. DAVID SCOTT**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary Georgian and a great American, Lasa Joiner.

Lasa has been involved in Georgia legislative issues for over thirty years, and is well known throughout the State of Georgia and around the country for her interest and expertise in mental health issues.

Lasa Joiner first began serving as an advocate for and advisor to the Georgia Psychiatric Physicians Association during the 1988 Session of the Georgia General Assembly and became their Executive Director in 2003. So respected for her leadership, the Georgia Psychiatric Physicians Association awarded her with the 2008 Dancing Elephant Award for excellence in administrative leadership.

Lasa was the first woman to Chair the Board of the Georgia Department of Human Resources, the largest department in state government. She also chaired the Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Committee and the Rehabilitation Services Committee.

Lasa Joiner's years of outstanding advocacy for psychiatric professionals and their patients and her tireless efforts to improve access to quality mental health care in Georgia, have undeniably made our state a better place for all of its residents.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Lasa Joiner on her retirement, and extend my sincerest wishes for her continued health and happiness.

God bless Lasa Joiner.

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HANOVER PARK, ILLINOIS

**HON. PETER J. ROSKAM**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the incorporation of Hanover Park, Illinois.

Hanover Park is a model for other cities and towns to follow through its continued dedication to building a friendly and welcoming community for residents and visitors alike. Located just 17 miles from O'Hare International Airport and 45 minutes from downtown Chicago, Hanover Park has thriving business parks, a growing retail community, and easy access to global markets.

In the years since its first permanent settlers in 1874 and its incorporation in 1958, Hanover Park has become a center of culture and commerce. As a home to 80 nationalities and 30 spoken languages, it is a diverse village. Hanover Park is a great place to work, live, and

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