

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING DEBBIE AND DONALD
JOHNSON

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2018

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the countless contributions of Debbie and Donald Johnson and the mark they have made on their community in Santa Paula, California. For a quarter of a century, Debbie and Donald have tirelessly served the City of Santa Paula and its residents by chronicling the community's news and happenings.

Santa Paula residents since 1979, Debbie and Donald Johnson founded the twice-weekly Santa Paula Times in 1993, following the closure of the 105-year-old Santa Paula Daily Chronicle, of which Donald was the publisher and Debbie was the office manager. Together they published the Santa Paula Times for 25 years, never missing an issue.

The numerous accolades they have received over the years are a testament to their civic virtue. Debbie and Donald Johnson have been honored as the 2015 Citizens of the Year by the Santa Paula Chamber of Commerce; the 2015 Jesse Victoria Business of the Year Award by the Latino Town Hall; and the 1994 and 2009 Business of the Year Award; as well as the 1991 Good Practices Award by the Santa Paula Chamber of Commerce.

In addition, Donald is a veteran of the Vietnam War, serving in the United States Army from 1968 to 1970. For his distinguished service, he received the Bronze Star, the National Defense Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Good Conduct Medal. Donald continued his public service by serving two terms on the Santa Paula City Council and was appointed as mayor twice.

Debbie Johnson was president of the Downtown Merchants Association, which staged the annual Hot Summer Jazz and Art. Both Donald and Debbie are co-founders of the Citizens Patrol and founding directors of the Santa Paula Police and Fire Foundations, and Debbie has been a leading force for the annual Moonlight at the Ranch fundraiser that benefits public safety organizations in the region.

Debbie and Donald Johnson strongly support many charitable activities in Santa Paula and have been lauded for their steadfast commitment to organizations including the Santa Paula Chamber of Commerce, the Boys & Girls Club of Santa Paula, the Santa Paula Optimist Club, and the Santa Paula Education Foundation.

For these reasons, it is my honor to recognize Debbie and Donald Johnson for their dedicated efforts in serving the Santa Paula community and embodying a level of civic engagement and participation to which we should all aspire. I thank Donald and Debbie

for establishing the Santa Paula Times, a local journalistic institution that will not soon be forgotten.

HONORING MIKE LOVE OF THE
BEACH BOYS

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2018

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mike Love, a founding member of The Beach Boys, one of the most popular rock groups in history. Love has spent an extraordinary fifty-five years and counting as the group's lead singer and one of its principal lyricists, with thirteen Gold albums, fifty-five Top 100 singles, and four number-one hits. He has received an Ella Award for his songwriting and, as a member of The Beach Boys, is a member of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, the California Hall of Fame, the Vocal Group Hall of Fame and he has received a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award.

The Beach Boys, from their California roots to their international fame, are a unique American story, one of overnight success, age-defying longevity, musical genius and spirituality. Mike Love is the only band member to be part of it each and every step of the way. It's an American story of how a sheet metal apprentice became the quintessential front man for one of America's most successful rock bands, singing in more than 5,600 concerts in twenty-six countries.

Love wrote the lyrics for pop classics such as "Good Vibrations," "California Girls," "Surfin' USA," and "Kokomo." Mike's partnership with his cousin Brian Wilson has few equals in American pop music, though Mike has carved out a legacy of his own. He co-wrote the lyrics to eleven of the twelve original Beach Boys songs that were Top 10 hits while providing the lead vocals on ten of them. The band's unprecedented durability also provides a glimpse into America's changing cultural mores over the past half century.

Mike's latest solo album, "Unleash the Love," was released in November 2017 with his hope that "if we all can unleash whatever love inside of us, we can collectively make this world better." His memoir, *Good Vibrations: My Life as a Beach Boy*, released in 2016 and is a New York Times bestseller.

A husband, a father, and an avid environmentalist, Love's life is as rich and layered as The Beach Boys' harmonies themselves. Love has been married to his wife, Jacquelyne Piesen, since 1994 and has eight children: Brian Love, Ambha Love, Michael Love, Jr., Melinda Love, Summer Love, Christian Love, Teresa Love and Hayleigh Love.

COMMENDING NORTH JERSEY
MAYORS AND COUNCILMEMBERS

HON. JOSH GOTTHEIMER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2018

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the mayors of Sussex and Warren Counties, who convened last month for my Fifth District Mayors Summit. I'm proud to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with these leaders to save taxpayer dollars, invest in critical infrastructure, improve rural broadband connectivity, and provide law enforcement and firefighters with the resources they need to protect our communities.

In North Jersey, we are paying far too much in taxes and getting far too little in return. My District pays some of the highest taxes in the nation, yet we receive only 33 cents back for every dollar we send to Washington. Compare that rate to that of the "Moocher States" including Mississippi, whose citizens receive \$4.38 back for every dollar they send to D.C. These states are giving themselves relief and sticking New Jersey with the bill.

We must continue working hard at the local level to stop New Jersey from becoming America's piggy bank. With the new challenges created by the recently passed Tax Hike Bill, we have to be more creative than ever in bringing federal dollars to the District and fighting for federal grants to boost our return on investment. Our mayors have already seen record successes in earning grants that support our cops, firefighters, and towns. For example, in Wantage Township, the Fire Department received \$102,000 in federal funds for safety and operations through the Department of Homeland Security's Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program—the first AFG grant awarded to Wantage in thirteen years.

In Belvidere, the town received more than \$1 million in federal excess equipment programs—more than \$857 per family—through which the Police Department and Department of Public Works received equipment. That equipment included fifteen workstation computers, a network server, trucks, trailers, and six generators that can function as an electric power plant and provide electricity to the Fire Department, Police Department, and two storm shelters in the event of a major storm. Our work together is about fighting for North Jersey and helping our residents reduce their tax burden.

I am leaving no stone unturned in clawing back federal resources for New Jersey and hope that by shining a light on these public servants, our mayors can build on their success, and save more money for their towns and taxpayers. There is nothing partisan about this; it's just good for New Jersey.

This year, I am thankful for the fourteen mayors and leaders who attended our summit, rolled up their sleeves, and put in the week-end hours to help strengthen their towns:

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