

IN REMEMBRANCE OF BARBARA PIERCE BUSH, MATRIARCH OF A GREAT AMERICAN FAMILY, CHAMPION OF FAMILY AND LITERACY, AND TRAILBLAZER

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2018

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in remembrance of Barbara Pierce Bush, the matriarch of one of America's great families, and former First Lady of the United States.

Barbara Bush was a descendant of the 14th president, the wife of the 41st and the mother of the 43rd.

Barbara Bush, the widely admired wife of one president and the fiercely loyal mother of another, was born June 8, 1925 in Rye, New York.

Barbara Bush attended a prestigious boarding school in South Carolina, where she met George Herbert Walker Bush at a school dance when she was 16 and he was a year older.

Three years later, Barbara Pierce married her sweetheart and their love lasted for 73 years, until she was departed from her beloved by death.

George and Barbara raised their family mainly in West Texas, where they settled after the end of World War II and where the future President went into the oil business.

Barbara Bush was a plainspoken woman who was instantly recognizable with her signature white hair, pearl necklaces, and earrings.

Mrs. Bush was an early supporter of the Civil Rights Movement, Planned Parenthood, and was a tireless champion of many charitable causes, especially literacy.

Barbara Bush raised more than \$1 billion for literacy and cancer charities.

Barbara Bush recognized that education was the key that unlocked the door of human potential.

Literacy was Barbara Bush's special cause, which led her to establish the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy.

Shortly after the end of her husband's presidential administration, the Bush Family returned to Texas, and all Houstonians were lucky to call her and her husband, George H. W. Bush, the 41st president, our neighbors and dear friends.

Barbara Bush's books include an autobiography and one about post-White House life.

Her children's book about their dog, Millie, and her puppies written during her White House years was a best seller, as were her other books.

In 2001, when George W. Bush took office, Barbara Bush became the only woman in American history to live to see her husband and son elected president.

Barbara Bush lived a full life and will be remembered in American history, alongside only Abigail Adams, for the impact her life had on this country.

Barbara Bush is survived by her husband and their children George, Jeb, Neil, Marvin, and Dorothy.

I ask the House to observe a moment of silence in memory of Barbara Pierce Bush, the Former First Lady of the United States.

RECOGNIZING CEI ON 40 YEARS OF INVESTING IN MAINE

HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2018

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank an organization in my District that is celebrating 40 years of supporting rural communities, economies, and families in Maine and across the nation.

In the 1970s, social activist and theology student Ron Phillips came to Maine to replicate a community-based economic development model he had seen succeed in places around the world. So began Coastal Enterprises Inc.—or CEI as it has become known—which made its first loan in 1978 to rebuild a waterfront facility that had burned down and was central to the local fishing community.

Since its humble beginnings, CEI has loaned over \$1.3 billion, which in turn has leveraged an additional \$2.8 billion in investment. At this point, it is hard to find an area of Maine's rural economy and community infrastructure that CEI has not touched. Adapting to the greatest needs and opportunities of our state over the last four decades, it has helped build more than 2,000 affordable housing units, invested in over 2,700 businesses, supported over 37,000 jobs, and created or preserved more than 5,800 child-care openings.

But CEI is not only a source of financing for worthy projects. It is trusted partner and leader in moving Maine forward, whether that means helping recent immigrants launch their own businesses, supporting women entrepreneurs, strengthening our state's agricultural and fisheries industries, or providing counseling to help Mainers stay in their homes.

Despite its growth, the organization has stayed true to the communities it serves and to its founding values. CEI's staff is just as comfortable conversing with CEOs and corporate financiers as they are with fishermen on the dock and farmers in the field.

I have been proud to work closely with this organization both in Washington and in Maine. I wholeheartedly thank CEI for its work, celebrate its impact on our communities over the last 40 years, and wish it many more years of success.

IN RECOGNITION OF SHERIFF DUDLEY GREENE

HON. MARK MEADOWS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2018

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sheriff Dudley Greene of McDowell County, North Carolina. I would like to express my gratitude to Sheriff Greene for 35 years of serving and protecting the citizens of Western North Carolina.

Sheriff Greene began his career with law enforcement in 1983 as a Patrol Officer at Newland Police Department in Avery County after completing law enforcement training at Mayland Community College. Sheriff Greene went on to become the Police Chief at Newland Police Department after only two

years with the department. He then served as a Special Agent with North Carolina Alcohol Law Enforcement for two years before starting as a Detective and Chief Deputy in Avery County Sheriff's Office in 1990.

In 1994, Sheriff Greene began his career with McDowell County Sheriff's Office and has faithfully served in various positions over his tenure. Prior to becoming Sheriff, he held many important roles, including Criminal Investigation Detective, Jail Captain, and Detective Captain. As Detective Captain, he was recognized as McDowell County's Deputy of the Year by the county commissioners in 2002. Sheriff Greene has served as Sheriff of McDowell County since his election in 2008 and has successfully handled numerous cases for the people in his community.

Sheriff Greene and his wife Allyson have two children: Mary Beth who lives in New York and Julian who is serving in the United States Army. Sheriff Greene attends Grace Community Church in Marion, North Carolina.

Through his dedication to the citizens of McDowell County and wide-ranging involvement in his community, Sheriff Greene has enriched the lives of the people he has faithfully served. It is my distinct honor to recognize his outstanding work and express the best wishes of the people of Western North Carolina to Sheriff Greene on the occasion of his retirement.

TRIBUTE TO BECKY AND BRAD KRAMER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Becky and Brad Kramer. They were honored by the Midwest Partnership with the Entrepreneur of the Year Award at their annual banquet on January 25, 2018.

The Entrepreneur of the Year Award recognizes entrepreneurial spirit and the substantial growth of a small business venture in Midwest Partnership's region. The Kramer's own Kramer's Cafe in Orient and have recently renovated a two-story commercial building that now houses Harry's Bar and Orient Lofts.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Becky and Brad for receiving this outstanding award and for working hard to make their community a better place to live and work. I am proud to represent them in the United States Congress and I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating them and in wishing them nothing but continued success.

ALYSSA MARTINEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Alyssa Martinez for receiving the 2017 Rising Star Award from the Arvada Chamber of Commerce.

Each year the Arvada Chamber recognizes Arvada's finest men and women for their involvement and dedication to the community.

Specifically, the Rising Star Award recognizes a high school student who exemplifies extraordinary skills in entrepreneurship, innovation, community impact and leadership.

A student at Arvada High School, Alyssa has proven to be a leader for the student body and exemplifies high moral conduct and provides a positive example for all students daily. Alyssa is the poster child for doing the right thing while also excelling in everything she puts her mind to.

Congratulations to Alyssa Martinez for this well-deserved award, and I thank her for her contribution to our community.

COMMEMORATING ISRAEL'S 70TH YEAR OF INDEPENDENCE

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2018

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate Israel's Memorial Day, Yom Hazikaron, and Israel's Independence Day, Yom Ha'atzmaut. Israel's transition from Memorial Day to Independence Day is a time to reflect about the sacrifices of the people of Israel for their country. And, as the country transitions from sadness to celebration, it is an opportunity to recognize and praise the achievements of Israel.

Starting with its very founding, Israel has overcome immense obstacles, including near constant attacks from its neighbors. And yet, over the last 70 years, Israel has grown tremendously. Its economy is one of the most dynamic in the world, drawing investors and innovators from around the globe. Its contributions to technology, medicine, and culture have greatly benefitted the international community. Israel has a longstanding history of aid work, most recently providing aid to Syria and responding to natural disasters in Haiti. And, of course, Israel continues to be a refuge for Jewish people fleeing anti-Semitism.

On this 70th anniversary of the modern state of Israel, I celebrate the values that the United States and Israel share: the ideals of freedom and pluralism. Israel is a nation that prides itself on promoting freedom and self-determination. It seeks peace with its neighbors, and the United States must continue to support Israel in its quest for peace.

As a strategic partner and friend, the United States stands in solidarity with Israel against its enemies. We will continue to look for ways to strengthen the partnership between our countries. I am proud to celebrate Yom Ha'atzmaut with our ally, Israel, and look forward to the nation's continued success.

RECOGNIZING GERARD PLACE AND ITS DEDICATED ADVOCATES DURING NATIONAL VOLUNTEER MONTH

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2018

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as we recognize April as National Volunteer Month to call special and deserved

recognition to Gerard Place and its dedicated advocates.

Gerard Place opened its doors and its heart to a community in need in 2000, under the auspices of twelve Congregations of Women Religious in my hometown of Buffalo, New York. These Women of Faith brought a closed city corner back to life for homeless single parents and children through counseling, education, employment, housing and life skills training.

With its core values ingrained in the organization's building blocks of compassion, reverence, integrity and collaboration, Gerard Place's programs have been highly successful as more than 90 percent have transitioned to independent housing.

Statistics are a required reporting tool of course, but Gerard Place's real impact is found in the faces and heard in the stories of second chances given and opportunities seized by women now living productive, purposeful lives. With individualized, intensive support, families are strengthened, careers are pursued and a better future is within reach.

Understanding the work is never complete, Gerard Place is expanding its offerings with the rehabilitation of the Community Center to bring classroom space, job readiness training and quality childcare to the neighborhood.

As is the case in so many of our mission driven non-profits, the leadership and staff of Gerard Place will be the first to share that so much of what has been achieved and so much that is left to do is only possible thanks to the tireless dedication of its amazing volunteers.

It is a belief I share as a true example of how lives are changed by those inspiring people among us who give their time, talent and treasure back to their communities. Without the more than 100 volunteers devoting more than 6,000 hours annually in a multitude of roles including engagement with program participants, staff support, event organization and board membership, the goals of Gerard Place would be unattainable.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to acknowledge and add my thanks to the outstanding volunteers of Gerard Place for everyday of every month they give hope and help to those they selflessly serve in our community.

HONORING JACOB AND JOAB BOWEN

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2018

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate two of my Hall County neighbors, Jacob and Joab Bowen, who were honored by the community as "Farmers of the Year" at the Annual Agribusiness Awards Program.

Jacob and Joab's father, Paul Bowen, started a chicken farm in 1987. Following his example, the two brothers have worked on their family's farm since its inception.

Each year, the Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce and the Hall County Cooperative Extension host the awards ceremony to highlight achievements in our community's agriculture industry. In the last decade, Jacob and Joab have succeeded in managing their farm's

expansion, earning them an honor at this year's event.

What began as a small operation has grown into a large-scale farm that contains 16 chicken houses and several acres for cattle. Annually, the Bowen farm produces more than 22 million pounds of antibiotic-free chicken.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the Bowen brothers for their diligence in a crucial yet often undervalued profession. Our communities depend on the food that Jacob, Joab, and many Northeast Georgia farmers produce, and I am grateful for their work.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE RONALD A. SARASIN

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2018

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Honorable Ronald A. Sarasin on the occasion of his retirement as President and CEO of the U.S. Capitol Historical Society. Since January 3, 2000, Ron has directed the Society as it has communicated the rich heritage of Congress and the U.S. Capitol to a wide, diverse audience. School children, scholars, historians, artists, people from all walks of life, and even Members of Congress have learned more about this great institution because of programs offered by the Society.

Under Ron's leadership, classroom programs, symposia and lectures, awards and outreach, and recognition of the history of Congressional committees has flourished. The Society has brought elementary and secondary students to the Capitol for tours and visits to our offices. It has sponsored symposia where scholars have shared their research and insights. It has taught about Constantino Brumidi and his beautiful artwork. At a recent Society event, guests were invited to climb the temporary stairs and walk on the scaffolding to view the restoration of the ceiling of the Brumidi Corridors at eye level.

During Ron's tenure, the Society has dedicated over \$100,000 to fund fellowships for historians, political scientists, artists, and scholars of other disciplines. The Society even became a publisher, producing 12 books on Congress.

Ron has been a great ambassador for Congress. He has led countless numbers of students, visiting dignitaries, business executives, international guests, and Society members on tours of this great building. As a former Representative from Connecticut, Ron knows our institution well and has been generous in sharing his insights.

As Members of Congress, we too have been enriched by the Society. As guests to the annual presentation of the Freedom Award over the years we have met American icons such as filmmaker Ken Burns, historian David McCullough and writer, director and star of "Hamilton," Lin-Manuel Miranda. We have been honored by Society dinners celebrating the history of the Congressional committees on which we serve. We have been feted at welcoming receptions for new Members of Congress and at thank you receptions for Members who retire.

Ron's outstanding leadership was recognized when the National Endowment for the