Congressional Record — Extensions of Remarks

May 9, 2018

Corps. Basic Trainee Avery was stationed at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas (Lackland Air Force Base was also where I did basic training in the United States Air Force). It was there that James Avery completed pilot training and commanded a B-26 Bomber, flying 44 missions over Germany in World War II. After the war, he attended the University of Illinois for Industrial Design, and then went on to teach at the University of Colorado. In 1954, while visiting his in-laws in Kerrville, Texas, James Avery decided to go into the jewelry making business. His business started with a two-car garage, a small workbench, a few hand tools, and some scraps of silver and copper.

James Avery Artisan Jewelry is now operating 80 stores in 5 states with the headquarters remaining in Kerrville, Texas. This original one-man operation has grown to over 3,500 employees. After running the business for over 50 years, James Avery handed the reins to his son in 2007.

James Avery was a bold, innovative, and generous man who touched the lives of many people through his work, his art, and his giving spirit. The 64-year success of James Avery Artisan Jewelry reflects as a testament to his early leadership. The company’s mission statement is to “celebrate life through the beauty of design,” and the life of James Avery should be forever celebrated through his artistic legacy. And that's just the way it is.

IN RECOGNITION OF DETROIT JEWISH NEWS’ 75 YEARS OF SERVICE TO OUR MICHIGAN COMMUNITY

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Detroit Jewish News as they celebrate 75 years of service to our Michigan community. Their journalism enriches the lives of countless Michigan residents.

Founded in 1942, the Detroit Jewish News was established to give voice to southeast Michigan’s growing Jewish population. The paper was founded with the mission of providing diverse viewpoints while advocating for Jewish unity and representing issues that affect both the local and international Jewish American community. After it was purchased by Charles Buerger, owner of the Baltimore Jewish Times in the 1980s, the paper was transformed into what would become a national voice for Jewish Americans. Today, the Detroit Jewish News is published by Jewish Renaissance News and headquartered in Southfield, Michigan where it serves the same population that it set out to more than 70 years ago.

Years after its founding, the Detroit Jewish News remains in weekly circulation, reaching over 40,000 Michigan residents each week through its paper route and website. It is considered the largest, most comprehensive Jewish newspaper in North America and seeks to represent varied voices in its publication. Its main journalistic focus includes local news, the arts, spirituality and religion as well as an esteemed opinion page that represents Jewish Americans from all walks of life. The paper has won numerous honors from the Michigan Press Association, including Design, Editorial Writing and Local Columnists. These accolades underscore the paper’s commitment to honest and accessible news coverage, and we look forward to the Detroit Jewish News’ continued service in the years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I’m pleased to join me in honoring the Detroit Jewish News as they celebrate 75 years of service to our Michigan community. Their hard work is vital to the fabric of southeast Michigan’s vibrant Jewish community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SUSAN WU RATHBONE

HON. GRACE MENG OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Ms. MENG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Susan Wu Rathbone also known as “Auntie Wu,” for her tireless efforts supporting the Chinese American community. Susan is widely recognized for her long record of helping Chinese immigrants transition to life in the United States. In our community, she has been hailed as a “very special lady” and “one of the unsung heroes” of Queens.

She comes from Anhui Province in China. She met and married her husband in China, and immigrated to the United States in 1946. In 1947, Susan established “Auntie Wu’s Hotline” which aided many Chinese immigrants as they settled in America.

Susan embodied the spirit of empathy and worked to make sure Chinese immigrants had the tools to succeed. After creating Auntie Wu’s Hotline, she went on to establish Chinese Immigrant Services which offers education programs for Chinese immigrants.

Susan has also been a strong supporter of women’s rights. She founded the Queens Chinese Women’s Association which has helped the careers of many Asian American women leaders. She also became the first Chinese woman to receive the Susan B. Anthony award from the National Organization for Women—New York City in 1987, the Emigrant Award from the Emigrant Savings Bank in 2001, and was honored by the Queen’s Borough President for her service to Queens in 2003.

Her work made Queens, New York a better place. I urge all of my colleagues to rise with me as we celebrate the amazing life of Susan Wu Rathbone.

IN HONOR OF HEIDI WELCH

HON. ANN M. KUSTER OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Heidi Welch who will retire this spring after serving for 20 years as music director at Hillsboro-Deering High School. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Heidi’s dedication and enthusiasm for music and the arts. Heidi’s dedication and enthusiasm for music and the arts have inspired generations of students in the Hillsboro-Deering community.

In 2013, she was recognized as New Hampshire’s Teacher of the Year and served as the Granite State’s representative as a finalist for the National Teacher of the Year. Through Heidi’s leadership, the Hillsboro-Deering band and chorus consistently wins accolades at national competitions. Heidi envisions a successful career as a music director for “HillCat Summer Theatre”, as an adjunct professor at Keene State College, and soon will be receiving a Ph.D. in her field of music education. Heidi was once even selected as a guest conductor of the Boston Pops Orchestra.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire’s Second Congressional District, I thank Heidi for her many years of service and being a part of what makes the Granite State’s public schools so special. Her legacy of teaching will continue through the countless students she has inspired. I am honored to recognize and congratulate Heidi on her retirement and wish her the best of luck in the years ahead.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MR. CYRUS MARTIN “RUSS” JOLLIVETTE

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mr. Cyrus Martin “Russ” Jollivette, a civic leader and former executive at Florida’s Blue Cross Blue Shield, who died on May 7, 2018, at the age of 71.

Mr. Jollivette was born on August 5, 1946, in Miami, Florida, the son of Mr. Cyrus Martin and Mrs. Frances Edna (Reeves) Jollivette. Mr. Jollivette earned a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration in Management from C.W. Post College of Long Island University, a Master of Business Administration from Long Island University, and Juris Doctor from the University of Miami School of Law.

Mr. Jollivette served in multiple senior-level positions at the University of Miami for 24 years, from 1977 to 2001, including as executive assistant to former University of Miami President Edward “Ted” Foote. Prior to working at the University of Miami, Mr. Jollivette was managing editor from 1971 to 1977 of the Miami Times, a black-owned newspaper founded in 1923. In 2011, the National Newspaper Publishers Association recognized the paper as the top black newspaper in the country.

After leaving the University of Miami, Mr. Jollivette served in several high-level capacities at insurance giant Blue Cross Blue Shield Florida, including as vice president, before opening his own public relations firm in 2014. While there, Mr. Jollivette develop a generous spirit for University of Miami School of Nursing and Health Studies for scholarships for minority nursing students.

Mr. Jollivette also served as a trustee at St. Thomas University and Jacksonville University, a board member of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Miami, a member of the Orange Bowl Committee, was on the Jacksonville Host Committee for the 2005 Super Bowl, chairman of the United Way of Northeast Florida and Jackson Aviation Authority.