

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF CONGREGATION BETH SHALOM

HON. BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER
OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 5, 2018

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to proudly recognize Congregation Beth Shalom in Northbrook, Illinois on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

Congregation Beth Shalom is the spiritual home to more than one thousand families and is, without a doubt, an integral part of the Northbrook community.

For the past half century, from generation to generation, the synagogue has pursued a mission of enriching lives through inclusion in the ever-evolving ideals of Jewish observance, life-long learning, and acts of kindness.

Across the years, Beth Shalom has built an extraordinary community of Jewish faith, family and tradition. Every day, through the annual cycle of the seasons, and across the long arc of life's events, multiple generations join together to pray, learn, teach, and work together in service to the community, the Jewish people and the State of Israel.

Through Limud (study), Tefillah (prayer), and Tzedakah (acts of justice and loving kindness), Beth Shalom is a living example of Jewish values and vibrant Jewish life.

The Congregation prides itself on warmth and friendliness to members, celebrating that "Shalom" is the Hebrew word meaning welcome. I can think of no better example of this warmth than the special holiday services customized to embrace people with special needs.

Beth Shalom is also a force for positive social action in the Tenth District. Their activities include delivering groceries to families in need, feeding the homeless, supporting our military troops overseas, hosting blood drives, and mentoring youth attending school in inner city Chicago.

As well, Beth Shalom is proud home to countless community leaders, young and old, who work tirelessly to improve lives in the Chicago area, our nation and the world.

I congratulate my dear friends, Rabbi Aaron Melman, Assistant Rabbi Ari Averbach, Cantor Steven Stoehr, and Rabbi Emeritus Carl Wolkin, and the entire Beth Shalom Congregation on this anniversary.

I wish Congregation Beth Shalom many more years of success as they write the next fifty years of their history.

IN CELEBRATION OF CARLO
VERARDI

HON. LEE M. ZELDIN
OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 5, 2018

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize WWII veteran Carlo Verardi upon the oc-

casation of his 100th birthday. Carlo was born on June 8, 1918, in Bernardsville, New Jersey. He was one of 13 children in a proud Italian-American immigrant family.

Upon completing basic training, Carlo was assigned to the 9th Division, 60th Infantry, Front Line Medical Battalion as medic. He served with distinction in the European and African Theaters. During his service in the European Theater, Carlo was seriously wounded by a grenade as he rescued a soldier from the field of battle. The blast from grenade was so strong that both Carlo and the wounded soldier were thrown through the air. Miraculously both men survived, but Carlo was paralyzed from the waist down for over a year and was evacuated to London hospital to recover from his injuries. For his actions, Carlo received the Bronze Star Medal. After nearly four years of service, he received an honorable discharge with the Combat Medical Badge, Combat Infantryman Badge, WWII Victory Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with three service stars, Army of Occupation Medal and American Defense Service Medal.

Upon returning home, Carlo met and married his wife, Mary. Together they raised five children. Carlo worked for the City of New York in the Parks Department and retired after 30 years. A passion for remembering and honoring those who fought during WWII is a cause that drove Carlo and his wife Mary to contribute greatly to the construction of the WWII Memorial in Washington, D.C. A contribution that will serve as an eternal monument to the brave service members, like Carlo, who sacrificed so much in defense of our great nation.

MARGARET AGNEW

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 5, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Margaret Agnew for receiving the 2018 Trivity Health and SilverSneakers National Instructor of the Year Award.

This award honors SilverSneakers instructors who put in tireless dedication and efforts into making their classes a great experience and encouraging members to get more out of life. Margaret was selected as the winner based on her experience and teaching style. She has more than 34 years of experience as an instructor and teaches nine different SilverSneakers classes at Apex Community Recreation Center in Arvada, Colorado.

Margaret's commitment to those she teaches is commendable and has helped many class members become inspired and motivated to live their best life.

Congratulations to Margaret Agnew for this well-deserved recognition by Trivity Health and SilverSneakers.

IN HONOR OF MRS. VEOLA
DOTSON PORTER

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.
OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 5, 2018

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great woman of faith, compassion, dignity, grace and a dear friend of longstanding to my wife Vivian and me, Mrs. Veola Dotson Porter. Sadly, Mrs. Porter passed away on Tuesday, May 29, 2018. Her funeral service was Tuesday, June 5, 2018, at 11:00 am at the Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in Columbus, Georgia.

Mrs. Porter was born on November 28, 1921, in Gantien, Georgia to the union of Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Dotson, Sr. She was the eldest of six children that were born to this union. Her formative years were spent in what is now the Milgen Road-University Avenue area in Columbus, Georgia.

Her life would change forever when she met Mr. Jake D. Porter, Sr. at the Smith Grove AME Zion Church. She married Mr. Porter in 1942 and five children were born to this union.

Her life was truly blessed because of her love for God and her family. She learned from the Christian example of her parents and passed the lessons learned on to her children who in turn are passing them on to her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Moreover, she had a love for people and this fueled her desire at a very young age to become a nurse. She attended and graduated from Practical Nursing School in Columbus. Her nursing career began at St. Francis Hospital and ended with her becoming a private duty nurse with a specialization in New Born Care. During her nursing career, she upheld the principles as enunciated in the last sentence of the original Florence Nightingale Pledge: "I shall be loyal to my work and devoted toward the welfare of those committed to my care." I believe Florence Nightingale would have been proud that such a woman entered her beloved profession. She ended her distinguished nursing career after 40 years and went on to serve as a faithful volunteer at the information desk at the Columbus Government Center.

Mrs. Porter achieved much success in her life, but none of it would have been possible without her strong faith in God. Her spiritual journey after Smith Grove took her to Hopewell Baptist Church in Upatoi, Georgia. Following her beloved husband's death in 1980, she joined the Friendship Missionary Baptist Church where she served diligently as a Sunday School Teacher, member of the Choir No. 2 and the Deacons' Wives.

She is survived by her children, Deloris, Jake, Ibrahim, Melvin, and Gwendolyn; two sisters; Deborah and Ange; her 21 grandchildren and 37 great-grandchildren; and many other family members and friends.

George Washington Carver once said that, "How far you go in life depends of your being

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