

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF WILLIAM "BILL"
GORDON

HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2018

Ms. ESTY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the life of Mr. William "Bill" Gordon and recognize his contributions to the State of Connecticut and our shared hometown of Cheshire, Connecticut. Bill passed away on July 9, 2018 at the age of 85, after a long life of dedicated service to our community.

Bill was born and raised in Delmar, New York. It was here, at Bethlehem Central High School, where Bill fell in love with athletics. Bill would go on to be a star running back and track athlete in high school before receiving his Bachelor's Degree in Economics from Wesleyan University. After college, Bill was drafted into the Army where he served in post-war Korea. Bill continued to excel in athletics as a member of the Army football and track teams, and even returned to the U.S. early to participate in the All Army Meet.

Bill returned to Connecticut in 1958 and began his career at Traveler's Insurance in Hartford. He then went back to school, this time at the University of Connecticut, where he earned his Master of Business Administration degree and became a devoted Huskies fan. Bill went on to work at Colonial Bank before subsequently joining and leading Eastern Management Services. Even with his busy professional career, Bill was an active member of our Cheshire community, serving on various civic and town boards, with particular devotion over the decades to both the Cheshire Rotary Club and First Congregational Church on the Green in Cheshire. In every one of these organizations Bill sought to make a difference in the lives of his friends and neighbors.

As someone who has known and worked with Bill for nearly 25 years at First Church, I am enormously grateful for his friendship, wisdom, humor and judgement. Bill was one of those rare people who was admired by all who knew him and I count myself fortunate to have had the benefit of his guidance and good heart. I will miss him greatly.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Gordon led a remarkable career and enthusiastically lent his talents to improve the Town of Cheshire and State of Connecticut. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor his life and memory here today. I offer my deepest condolences to his wife, Marilyn Gordon, and all of his family. We mourn Bill's loss, but celebrate his extraordinary legacy.

COMMEMORATING 53RD ANNIVERSARY OF MEDICARE AND MEDICAID

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2018

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 53rd Anniversary of the passage of Medicaid and Medicare, two of the most beneficial and consequential government programs ever launched.

On July 30, 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed Medicare and Medicaid into law as part of the Social Security Act and in the process made good on the commitments made by Presidents Theodore Roosevelt, Franklin Roosevelt, Harry Truman, and John Kennedy to provide health security to Americans in their old age.

Medicare is a promise kept to those who have contributed a lifetime to our nation so they could enjoy their golden years with peace of mind and the security of reliable, affordable, and high quality healthcare.

Likewise, Medicaid created a crucial partnership between the government and the people to provide a basic health care safety net for the most vulnerable Americans: children of adults with low incomes, persons with disabilities, and the poor.

Mr. Speaker, 53 years later, the legacy of these programs have proven how effective and critical government action can be to the life and wellbeing of our nation's most vulnerable.

In 1965, almost half of all Americans aged 65 and older had no health coverage, living in fear that the colossal healthcare costs would drive them and their families into poverty.

Today, because of Medicare, over 98 percent of seniors have health insurance, which has led to a five-year increase in life expectancy for those over 65.

Today, 55 million Americans rely on Medicare for health care, ranging from preventive services, hospital visits, lab tests, to critical medical supplies, and prescription drugs.

It is difficult for some to imagine what 1965 was really like, when today affordable, accessible and available health insurance is a reality for so many people living with disabilities.

Before Medicaid was enacted, children from poor families, pregnant women, and low-income working Americans were not able to afford even the most basic medical care they needed to remain healthy and productive.

When the legislation was first passed, many claimed that Medicaid would not live up to its promise; but today, because of expansion of Medicaid through passage of the Affordable Care Act, the program provides comprehensive coverage for over 70 million children, pregnant women, low-income adults, and people living with disabilities.

Mr. Speaker, it cannot be seriously disputed that Medicare and Medicaid have changed our country and made it better.

In my home state of Texas and in communities across the country, both programs have significantly changed the lives and improved health outcomes of many Americans over the past century and represent the best of American values.

Unfortunately, Texas has the highest percentage of uninsured in the nation, and Texas' refusal to participate in the Medicaid expansion created by the Affordable Care act puts the poor residents of my state in jeopardy.

So the 53rd anniversary of Medicaid is bittersweet for Texans because while we celebrate a program that has saved lives, helped people live longer, expanded care to marginalizes communities, and reduced disparities in access to healthcare, thousands of low income Texans still do not have the peace of mind that comes with access to affordable, quality health care enjoyed by low-income residents of states that have expanded their Medicaid program with funds made possible by the Affordable Care Act.

In the 18th Congressional District of Texas there are 195,400 persons with Medicaid and 74,704 with medical care provided by Medicare.

Mr. Speaker, my constituents favor the Affordable Care Act because they understand the insecurity and feeling of helplessness of being uninsured or underinsured.

Like Medicare and Medicaid, the Affordable Care Act, or "Obamacare," was vehemently opposed and derided by its adversaries, who said it was too costly, would not work, was unnecessary, or would change the character of America for the worse.

Like the critics of Social Security, Medicare, and the G.I. Bill, all of whom are silent now, they are wrong.

The Affordable Care Act has been an unqualified success.

This historic legislation has extended affordable health coverage to tens of millions of Americans, and has helped to bring and peace of mind to many of those for whom relief seemed far out of reach.

The Affordable Care Act was driven by a simple premise: that citizens of the most prosperous nation on earth should not be forced to choose between their health and their financial security.

Since the passage of the ACA in 2010, the number of uninsured Americans has fallen by nearly one-third, or roughly 16 million people.

These Americans come from all walks of life.

They are women, who can no longer be denied coverage or be forced to pay exorbitant amounts for coverage simply because of their sex.

They are nine million seniors and persons with disabilities, who have saved an average of \$1,600 on expensive and lifesaving prescription medication.

And they are this country's most at risk citizens; people who are working hard and struggling make ends meet while living in near-poverty, and who have been covered by Medicaid expansion in 32 states and the District of Columbia.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

These benefits have been felt across the country, especially in my home state of Texas:

1. 10.7 million individuals with pre-existing conditions such as asthma, cancer, or diabetes—including up to 1,632,000 children—no longer have to worry about being denied coverage or charged higher prices because of their health status or history;

2. 4.9 million uninsured Texans have new health insurance options through Medicaid or private health plans in the ACA Marketplace; and

3. 5.2 million persons on private insurance have gained coverage for at least one free preventive health care service such as a mammogram, birth control, or an immunization in 2011 and 2012.

In addition to the tangible healthcare benefits for millions of families, the ACA has had powerful effects on the financial state of our nation.

Since the passage of the Affordable Care Act, we have extended the solvency of the Medicare Trust fund by more than a decade, and helped save taxpayers \$116 billion through new Medicare efficiencies.

The Department of Health and Human Services has estimated that hospitals saved more than \$5.7 billion in costs that would have normally gone unpaid by patients without insurance.

Contrary to the claims of the ACA's critics, private insurance companies have leaped at the opportunity to compete for business among the newly insured, and the healthcare industry has boomed.

Through all of these successes, however, House Republicans remain obsessed with destroying this law, and with unraveling the security it provides to millions of Americans.

Medicare and Medicaid also continue to drive innovation and are set the standard for coverage, quality, and innovation in American healthcare.

Mr. Speaker, Medicare and Medicaid continue to play crucial roles in providing equitable and affordable healthcare, leading innovation in payment and delivery reform, carrying out outreach to the most vulnerable communities, and reshaping the delivery of care for the future.

Because of these programs, more Americans have access to affordable, equitable health care today than at any point in our history.

And I am committed to making sure that number will continue to grow.

On this 53rd anniversary of Medicare and Medicaid, we should remember that a healthy America is a prosperous America.

And as we look ahead to the next half century, we can celebrate that what was put in place in 1965 has given us the foundation for a healthy and prosperous future for all Americans.

TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF THE LIFE
OF JAMES PERRY THURBER

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2018

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of an extraordinary American, a true patriot, and one of the most highly re-

spected and beloved members of my congressional district, James P. Thurber.

Jim Thurber was born on June 3, 1928, and died on June 16, 2018, at the age of 90. He lived a full and exceptionally productive life, and he will be missed by all who were privileged to know him.

Jim Thurber graduated from Milton Academy, Stanford University and George Washington University where he received a Master's degree in International Relations. He also attended the National War College from 1973–1974.

Jim married the love of his life, Emily (Emy) Forrest in 1950, and together they raised four children: James Perry Thurber III (Debra McGibbon); Harriette Thurber Rasmussen; Alexander Forrest Thurber (Courtney Graham); and Mary Thurber Martin, and have 12 beloved grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren.

Prior to his long Foreign Service career, Jim Thurber was a reporter and editor for the Wall Street Journal and worked at Stanford University as an academic administrator. He served with courage, dignity and effectiveness in the Foreign Service for 23 years. When he was serving in Islamabad, Pakistan, the U.S. Embassy was attacked, and Jim earned the State Department's Award of Valor for his actions during that crisis. He served as Director of the USIA's operations in North Africa, the Middle East and South Asia, and he retired as Minister Counselor for Public Affairs at the U.S. Embassy in Canada in 1990.

Jim Thurber spent his entire life in service to his country. His public service included serving as Mayor of the City of Los Altos, and June 3, 2002 was designated by the City as Jim Thurber Day, for the Mayor who served the most consecutive years in that office. He served as President of the Los Altos History Museum; President of the Foothill-DeAnza Foundation; Director of the Campaign Ethics Foundation; and Treasurer of the Foreign Service Association of California. He served on the boards of many organizations, including the Los Altos Community Foundation; the Santa Clara County Airports Commission; the League of Conservations Voters; Goodwill Industries of California and many more. Jim was extremely active in the Democratic Party in California and was an elected member of the Santa Clara County Democratic Central Committee and the California State Democratic Central Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in extending our sincerest condolences to Jim Thurber's wife, Emy, and to his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, and in doing so, honor a great, good and gentle man who loved his country and served it with distinction.

Jim made our world better, and our country and our community stronger. How blessed I am to have known him and been inspired by his integrity and patriotism.

REMEMBERING OFFICER DIEGO
MORENO

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2018

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Officer

Diego Moreno. An eight-year veteran of the Kent Police Department, Officer Moreno tragically passed away while in the line of duty last Sunday, July 22, 2018. He is survived by his wife Shelly and two children.

A dedicated public servant, Officer Moreno was doing what he had done tirelessly during his 8 years on the force: keeping his community safe. He was known for his kindness, bravery, and unrelenting commitment and dedication to the residents of his community. He has received multiple awards for his service, including one in 2011 for saving a child from drowning. In 2017, Officer Moreno once again saved a life by administering aid to a resident suffering from a drug overdose. These are just a few instances of bravery and dedication that Officer Moreno exemplified throughout his career.

Officer Moreno will forever be remembered as an active and caring member of our community. He served with immense integrity, earning the respect of his colleagues as he courageously gave his all to the City of Kent. His profound sense of duty will live on as an example for us all. Officer Moreno will be greatly missed.

IN HONOR OF MR. SAM SCHMIDT

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2018

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Sam Schmidt, who is a former IndyCar driver and advocate for the disability community.

On January 6, 2000, Sam Schmidt crashed on a test run in Orlando, Florida while practicing for the season-opening Indy Racing League event. He endured a massive hit, severing his spine between his third and fourth vertebrae. Following the crash, he was placed on a respirator for five months, and life sentenced in a wheelchair, but he knew he was one of the lucky ones.

Sam vowed that when he was able to leave the rehabilitation hospital, he would not forget the less-privileged patients he had met. Shortly thereafter, Sam became a team owner with Rick Peterson, to head Schmidt Peterson Motorsports. He started the foundation with a firm belief that at end of the day, he would fight to find a cure for paralysis and help individuals overcome spinal cord injuries and other neurological disorders. He also formed the Sam Schmidt Paralysis Foundation, with the help of several of his closest friends, which is leading the charge to find a cure to paralysis by funding scientific research, medical treatment, rehabilitation, and technological advances.

Fast-forward, fifteen years later, when Sam finally began to feel like himself normal again, he traded in his wheelchair for a modified Corvette that he could drive at Indianapolis Motor Speedway once again. The breakthrough was the work of a team of engineers for seven months on a special car that many thought couldn't be built, but it turned out to be a vehicle that Sam could drive by just moving his head.

Sam Schmidt is not only a loving husband to his wife Sheila, and father to their two children, Savannah and Spencer, but he is determined to get back on his feet and is dedicated

to helping others get out of their wheelchairs and continue to live their dreams.

In honor of his dedication and perseverance, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Sam Schmidt for his tremendous efforts to assist the disability community and encourage people to find their passion.

HONORING FRANK E. MARRA

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2018

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate one of my constituents who is larger than life itself, Mr. Frank E. Marra. I want to wish you the happiest of birthdays as you turn 100, just the latest amazing milestone in an amazing life.

The son of Italian immigrants, Frank, was the first of Arthur (Arturo) and Mary's (Carmelina) three sons born in New York City, just before the Armistice which ended World War I. Frank attended PS 57 Theodore Roosevelt High in the Bronx before answering the call to service. Frank would join the National Guard for a short period of time before enlisting in the U.S. Military in 1941.

As a member of the U.S. Army's 258th Field Artillery, Frank trained for several months in the United Kingdom before his deployment in Europe. Frank fought the Axis powers in Normandy, through Northern France, Belgium in Ardennes, at the Battle of the Bulge, in Lichtenstein, Austria, and Germany. It has been said that Frank was the first soldier to fire an artillery shell into Nazi Germany, as our forces pushed forward to victory.

Following WWII, Frank returned home, and married Cecilia Genovese, who had sent him care packages during his time in Europe. The two honeymooned across the country and settled in San Bruno, California. In late 1947, Frank and Cecilia returned to New York, and had their two sons, Albert, and Eugene. Frank and Cecilia had a remarkable romance, and were married an incredible 70 years, until Cecilia's passing 2 years ago at the age of 97.

Mr. Speaker, Frank Marra has lived quite a life. He saw the stock market crash of 1929, the resulting Great Depression, and served during World War II. He saw the Yankees greats such as Babe Ruth, Joe DiMaggio and Mickey Mantle play baseball, and witnessed the first men walk on the moon. He held down two jobs, which allowed him to send both his children to college and grad school, and he volunteered for many years at St. Bart's Church and the Jewish Home for the Blind. He danced with his wife at the weddings of two of his grandchildren and he has held in his arms three young great-grandchildren: Margaret, Cecilia, and Dominick. Frank Marra has experienced and achieved the American Dream, and his distinguished life deserves our honor and recognition. Happy birthday Frank, I wish you many more happy and healthy years to come.

OFFICER ADAM JOBBERS-MILLER

HON. FRANCIS ROONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2018

Mr. FRANCIS ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Officer Adam Jobbers-Miller, who recently passed away at the age of 29.

Officer Jobbers-Miller spent his life placing service above self. From 2009 to 2015, Jobbers-Miller was a respected member of the Wayne Fire Department in Wayne, New Jersey. Then Fort Myers was fortunate enough to have Adam Jobbers-Miller join their team as a devoted officer of the law. As soon as he began his career with the Fort Myers Police Department, it was apparent to all those around him that Officer Jobbers-Miller would stop at nothing to protect and serve the people of Southwest Florida.

On Saturday, July 21st, Officer Jobbers-Miller responded to a call at a gas station in Fort Myers. An armed assailant at the gas station fired several shots at the FMPD officers, one of which struck Jobbers-Miller. He was immediately rushed to Lee Memorial Hospital, where he remained in critical condition until he passed away on July 30th. His passing brings great sorrow not only to the Fort Myers law enforcement community, but to our entire Southwest Florida community.

Every day, our officers and first responders put themselves in harm's way to ensure that the safety of all its citizens are protected. Officer Jobbers-Miller made the ultimate sacrifice to maintain this safety, and for that we are all immensely thankful.

In the face of certain danger, Adam Jobbers-Miller never hesitated to act in a truly heroic manner. His life of selfless service was tragically cut short, but his tireless dedication to the welfare of others will forever be remembered by all who were fortunate to know him. Kathleen and I extend our deepest condolences to Officer Jobbers-Miller's family, friends, and fellow officers.

HONORING ROBERT GHIRELLI

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2018

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the retirement of a distinguished constituent of mine, Robert P. Ghirelli, of West Covina, CA. Mr. Ghirelli is retiring after almost four decades of public service to the citizens of Southern California. His career exemplifies the work of water quality professionals who every day advance the health of our nation's waters to provide economic, recreational, and environmental benefits to us all. He is a graduate of the University of California, Los Angeles with an undergraduate degree in bacteriology and a doctorate in environmental science and engineering, and he holds a master's degree in health science from California State University, Northridge.

Most recently, Mr. Ghirelli has served as the Assistant General Manager at the Orange County Sanitation District (OCSD), the third

largest clean water agency west of the Mississippi River. In this role, he has overseen the day-to-day operations of six hundred employees and a \$164 million annual operating budget that delivers water quality improvements to the regions rivers, streams, and coastal waters for the 2.6 million residents served by OCSD.

Prior to joining OCSD, Mr. Ghirelli had a distinguished role serving for 13 years as the Executive Director of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles/Ventura Region. He reported directly to a nine-member board of directors appointed by the California Governor and confirmed by the State Senate. In this position, he administered the region's clean water programs and the management of one hundred water quality professionals that ensured the approval of water and waste discharge permits, compliance with federal and state water quality mandates, and effective monitoring of water quality. Following the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Mr. Ghirelli entered the private sector to provide his expertise in demystifying the regulatory process and enhancing efficient and effective compliance with our state's water quality protection programs.

Mr. Ghirelli returned to the public sector in 1998 when he joined OCSD as its Director of Technical Services where his responsibilities included managing the District's environmental affairs and regulatory compliance programs, environmental laboratories, and industrial waste control programs.

Mr. Ghirelli has dedicated his life to advancing the professionalism of his vocation by actively participating in regional, state, and national public agencies and trade associations related to water quality, water resources, and utility management. He has served in the following organizations: Board of Directors of the San Gabriel River Watermaster; Board of Directors of the California Association of Sanitation Agencies; Member of the California Association of Sanitation Agencies; Valencia Heights Water Company, West Covina; Commissioner and Past President of the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project; Board Member and Past President of the Southern California Alliance of Publicly Owned Treatment Works; Board Member of the National Water Research Institute; Board Member of the Southern California Salinity Coalition; Board Member of the Orange County Business Council; Member of the Science Advisory Panel of the American Association of Environmental Engineers and Scientists; Member of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies; Member of the American Public Works Association; Member of the Water Environment Federation; Member of the California Water Environment Association; and Member of the Executive Advisory Council of the Environmental Science & Engineering Program at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Mr. Ghirelli has been a leader in providing common sense solutions to waste water problems and delivering the highest level of water quality to the citizens of Southern California. He has also mentored the next generation of water professionals. After decades of dedicating his time to improving our water resources, I wish Mr. Ghirelli the best in his retirement.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR THE LIFE OF
RALPH ARNOLD KUIPER

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2018

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of an extraordinary American, a true patriot, and a highly respected member of my congressional district, Ralph Arnold Kuiper.

Ralph Kuiper was born on March 29, 1939, in New Jersey, and grew up in a small town in Southern California. He graduated from Corona High School where he excelled in art, academics and sports, and went on to Stanford University where he studied Mechanical Engineering. He also earned a Master's degree and a Ph.D. from Stanford.

Ralph worked at Lockheed's New Products division where he served in management positions including Director of Research at Lockheed Technology Center. During his long career he mentored emerging engineers and high school students. After retirement, Ralph became a full time volunteer in the community, serving as a coach for children's sports, supporting the World Affairs Young Ambassadors Program and the Los Alto Youth Theatre. He was Chair of the Peninsula Chapter of the World Affairs Council for 13 years, and served 14 years on the Board of the Los Altos Stage Company. He and his wife travelled extensively and supported everything Stanford, especially the Freeman Spogli Institute, football and basketball.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in extending our sincerest condolences to Ralph Kuiper's wife, Carol, and to their children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews, and in doing so honor a great, good and gentle man who loved his country and served it with distinction. Ralph made our world better, and our country and our community stronger. How privileged I am to have known Ralph and represented him.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF MAMIE
PINDER

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2018

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I am humbled to honor the life of my dear friend and beloved member of our South Florida Community, Mamie Pinder.

Mamie passed away at the age of 79, leaving behind an amazing legacy of service to our community's children and families.

As a school teacher and prominent GOP political activist in South Florida, she worked tirelessly to advocate for the needs of others each and every day.

Mamie pioneered the Miami-Dade County program for English for Students of Other Languages, a program affording children the ability to learn English while in school.

Mamie's curriculum enriched the lives of so many children and their families, and I was honored to join her in her efforts to improve our community, one child at a time.

In addition to teaching in our schools, she served as a voice for the African American and female communities, at home and abroad.

Whether she was organizing an advocacy event, or spearheading the agenda for the Old Cutler Republican Woman's Club, Mamie's commitment to equality and fair rights remained steadfast.

She was a courageous conservative woman who never ceased to put the needs of others before her own, and her determination to better the lives of those around her was an inspiration to us all.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize this upstanding woman, and I am confident that her memory will live on through all those she knew.

Mamie Pinder was loved by so many and I join her family and friends in celebrating the life of this teacher and patriot.

God Speed, Mi Amiga my friend.

TRIBUTE TO DELORES HADDEN
SMITH

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2018

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of service led by the late Delores Hadden Smith. Delores, fondly known as "Dee" was a resident of Gowanus Houses and always looking for a way to give back to the community she cherished.

For 44 years, Delores served as an educator in the New York City public school system. Her passion for teaching was contagious, as she was adored by her students and recognized for the "Who's Who Among American Teachers" national honor.

Delores was also active in public service outside the classroom. By engaging with Parent Teacher Association boards, South Brooklyn Colony House board, Community Board 6, Gowanus Old Times Day Committee and many others, she coordinated local events, much to the delight of her fellow community members. In 2010, she was honored with an Honorary PhD in Humanities from Cathedral Theological Seminary.

Described by those who loved her as someone who brightened every room she filled, Delores' memory will be cherished forever. A faithful member of the Bethel Baptist, she taught Sunday School, Youth Choir and more.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Delores Hadden Smith and her family for her lifetime of hard work, joy and service.

CELEBRATING BEA LUMPKIN: 100
YEARS OF FIGHTING FOR JUSTICE
AND INSPIRING GENERATIONS OF ACTIVISTS

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2018

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, Beatrice Shapiro Lumpkin came roaring into the world in 1918 in New York City, the daughter of Russian immigrants. An activist for social justice from her earliest days, Bea credits her

parents with teaching her the importance of collective action in the face of social injustice, a principle that has guided her life.

In the 1930s, Bea threw herself feet first into the social and political struggles transforming the nation during the Great Depression. She attended rallies and stood on street corners denouncing Hitler and the wave of fascism gripping Europe. She participated in the 1930 National Hunger Protest that saw one million unemployed people descend on their state capitols demanding relief. Bea joined the fight for unemployment insurance and Social Security—all before she graduated from high school in 1934.

Bea enrolled in Hunter College, a free college for women where she studied chemistry. At just 18, she took time off from school to accept the challenge of organizing New York's laundry workers, a campaign that resulted in 30,000 people (mostly women) organized under the newly-formed Congress of Industrial Organization (CIO).

Bea moved to Buffalo in 1942 where she married and had two children, Carl and Jeanleah. She and her husband amicably divorced and Bea went to work for Western Electric. Bea still found time to organize a Wallace for President Committee in support of Progressive Party Candidate Henry Wallace's bid for the presidency. At a fundraiser for Wallace, Bea met her partner and the love of her life Frank Lumpkin. As an interracial couple, they encountered many hard looks and racial slurs.

The two married in 1949 and moved to Gary, Indiana, where they had two more children, Paul and John. Bea and Frank were an impressive team. When they discovered that the septic tanks in their predominantly African-American neighborhood had contaminated the water wells, they organized their neighbors and launched a seven-year battle that won them safe drinking water.

In 1962, Bea and Frank moved to Chicago, where for decades they were involved in every civil rights struggle—and there were many. They joined the fight for fair housing, against lynching, and against segregation.

Bea began her career in education at age 47 when she became a Chicago Public School teacher. She later became an assistant math professor at Malcolm X College, publishing numerous groundbreaking books on the multicultural roots of mathematics and science. To this day, she is an active member of the Chicago Teachers Union, never missing a rally, always fighting for the rights of teachers and their students who deserve a quality education.

In 1983, Harold Washington, former Illinois State Senator and U.S. Congressman, ignited the hopes and dreams of Chicagoans across the city when he ran for and won election as mayor. Bea and Frank were on the frontline of the campaign and remained committed supporters throughout his administration.

That same year, the Republican Governor of Illinois proposed a budget that slashed funding for basic human needs. Bea and Frank responded to the call to join the Crisis March to Springfield. They walked 200 miles to the state Capitol with a group organized by Illinois Public Action, stopping for meetings in small towns, talking to the media as they went, and being met for the last mile by more than one thousand supporters. The Governor capitulated and the cuts were restored. As the

organizer of that march, I had the opportunity to begin a never-ending friendship with Bea and with Frank that lasted until he died.

Bea wrote many books, but her most acclaimed is *Always Bring a Crowd: The Story of Frank Lumpkin Steelworker*, that chronicles Frank's battle against Wisconsin Steel. On March 28, 1980, Wisconsin Steel closed its plant with no notice. Three thousand workers lost their jobs, their last paycheck, their benefits and their pensions. With Bea at his side, Frank formed the Save Our Jobs Committee. Their fight would last 17 years and win those workers \$19 million.

Bea participated in the formation of the Coalition of Labor Union Women in 1974, remains

involved in the organization, and continues to mentor young trade union sisters.

To this day, Bea remains active on the national and local stage. She is an activist member of the Illinois Alliance of Retired Americans, fighting to protect and expand Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid. She is a familiar face at demonstrations, peace vigils, and rallies. She has joined countless picket lines including in front of laundries, as she did as a young organizer, still fighting for workers' rights.

By example, Bea Lumpkin has demonstrated how one person's passion for social justice can transform families, communities and societies. For the last one hundred years,

Bea has devoted her life to improving the condition of others, from exploited laundry workers in New York City to unemployed Steel workers in Chicago, from union women fighting for equality in the workplace to seniors demanding affordable health care.

It's impossible to feel cynical about the potential of ordinary people to shape history when one thinks about the indelible mark Beatrice Lumpkin has had on so many lives. Her relentless and passionate pursuit of justice has inspired me to be a better person and fills me with hope for the future.