

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### HONORING ANNIE AVERY

#### HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 17, 2018

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Annie Avery, the newly crowned Ms. Alabama Nursing Home 2018. Ms. Avery was the only African American among the top 10 finalists in the 35th annual pageant held at the Hyatt Regency Birmingham on Monday, July 30, 2018. She has lived at East Glen Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation for 6 months and has already established herself as a valuable leader at the facility.

Born in New Orleans, Ms. Avery was a longtime resident of "The Big Easy," graduating from Booker T. Washington High School in New Orleans. Later, she married James Avery, Jr. and together, the couple raised two sons. She is the grandmother of nine grandchildren, 29 great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild.

In New Orleans, Ms. Avery served as a historic preservationist, community organizer, and motivational speaker.

Ms. Avery's passion for activism started at a young age. As a young woman, she courageously marched with Dr. King during the Civil Rights Movement in an effort to secure equal voting rights for all Americans. Her passion for equality and justice carried her through countless missions in life and led her on numerous adventures.

Some of her most cherished memories from her many adventures include a walk through Nelson Mandela's prison cell during her visit to South Africa. She says that this moment affected her deeply because of "the spirit [she] felt knowing he served 27 years in those walls and his carvings on the walls." Additionally, Ms. Avery says that her visit to a church in Savannah, Georgia that was built by slaves had a significant impact on her. When asked what the purpose of the holes on the church floor were, she stated that she "felt a body movement" because the holes were for the slaves' breathing as they hid from slave holders. Inspired by these experiences, Ms. Avery formed 'Ladies in Red,' an organization that recognizes women and the obstacles they have overcome in their lives.

Ms. Avery served as the Director of the African American Heritage Preservation Council of the Preservation Resource Center in New Orleans, which was founded on the idea that African Americans needed to be stewards of their history. She also worked with the First Time Homebuyer's Association, served as chairwoman of the Crescent City Peace Alliance, and as assistant director of the Comeback Alliance, an organization designed to purchase and renovate historic buildings. For all of her hard work and dedication, Ms. Avery was recognized as the 2002 Woman of the Year in New Orleans.

Following Hurricane Katrina, Ms. Avery moved from New Orleans to Denver, Colo-

rado. After a year and a half in Denver, she relocated to Birmingham to be near her son, Calvin, following his retirement. She has said that she likes Alabama, because she enjoys the local jazz and blues music and historic houses. She says it reminds her of her time in New Orleans.

Today, Ms. Avery continues to be an inspiration to both the workers and the other residents at East Glen, going so far as to establish a "Ladies in Red" group at the nursing facility. Ms. Avery says she hopes to establish as many groups as she can in nursing homes throughout Alabama, saying it brings her joy to make everyone feel welcome in her home.

Additionally, Ms. Avery is a member of the community prayer line and is the Secretary of Resident Council at East Glen. The staff at East Glenn admire how Ms. Avery never allows her physical impairments to affect her personality or keep her from serving as an inspiration to all at the facility.

I am honored to congratulate Ms. Avery on being crowned Ms. Alabama Nursing Home 2018. Because of her impact at East Glen, her significant contributions to the community, and the respect and praise she receives from those close to her, I know that she is most deserving of this remarkable and respected recognition.

For her exemplary accomplishments, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the life and legacy of Annie Avery, an extraordinary resident of East Glen in Birmingham, Alabama.

### HONORING JAMES KELLY

#### HON. JOSH GOTTHEIMER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 17, 2018

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of James Kelly, who celebrated his 90th birthday on July 20, 2018. James is known by his friends and neighbors in Tenafly as a deeply committed member of our community. Always there for others, James is a dedicated father, husband, grandfather, and career police officer, who has devoted his life to keeping his community safe. People like James are what make North Jersey such a special place to live.

Born in 1928 in Philadelphia, James moved to New York City with his family in his teenage years. In New York, James worked in his family's grocery store, until joining the New York Police Department. In 1950, James married his adored wife Lorraine, with whom he enjoyed a loving marriage of fifty-eight years. With Lorraine, James raised three daughters, Pat, Adrienne, and Lisa, and now has seven grandchildren and one great grandchild. A lover of Jazz music and corny jokes, James always makes sure to entertain his entire family during each and every gathering. James continues to be an essential member of his family and community, and is cherished by all who know him.

Mr. Speaker, I am deeply grateful for James Kelly's invaluable contributions to our community and our country, and I am confident that he will continue to inspire everyone around him with his quick wit and abiding commitment to service. I congratulate James Kelly on his 90th birthday and wish him many more years of success and happiness.

### IN RECOGNITION OF DR. DONALD E. CORNFORTH

#### HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 17, 2018

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Dr. Donald E. Cornforth, a Central Valley resident who provided outstanding medical care to his community for over twenty years.

Donald E. Cornforth was born in Media, Pennsylvania on November 2, 1942. In 1964, he completed his undergraduate degree at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado. Four years later, upon graduating from Loma Linda University School of Medicine, Mr. Cornforth began a year-long internship at Fitzsimons General Hospital. Following this internship, Dr. Cornforth began his Radiology Residency at St. Joseph's Hospital in Colorado and became certified by the American Board of Radiology in 1975.

Dr. Donald Cornforth's drive and dedication to help those in need was further demonstrated when, during his final year in medical school, he made the selfless decision to enlist in the United States Army. After five years of Active Duty, two of which were spent as a Radiologist at Ireland Army Hospital in Fort Knox, Kentucky, Major Cornforth was honorably discharged.

Over the next fifteen years practicing radiology, Dr. Cornforth continuously proved himself to be a fundamental leader within the medical community. During this time, Dr. Cornforth developed innovated services within his field and even brought his knowledge and services to Saudi Arabia for a teaching sabbatical. Additionally, Dr. Cornforth performed groundbreaking procedures including Colorado's first percutaneous trans-renal kidney stone extraction and the world's first percutaneous trans-renal UPJ endopyeloplasty.

Then, in 1991, Dr. Cornforth brought his expertise to the Central Valley as the President of San Joaquin Imaging Medical Associates in Bakersfield, California. Dr. Cornforth upheld his commitment to provide vital medical services to those in need while leading various practices throughout the Kern County. His most notable practice, Quest Imaging Medical Associates, Inc. became a permanent fixture of the San Joaquin Community Hospital in 2010, expanding access to these critical services throughout the community.

Whether he was serving our country in the United States Army or serving those within our

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