

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MOLLY EDWARDS

HON. PAUL D. RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2018

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I address the House today, the last one with Molly Edwards serving on my staff. After more than five years, Molly is moving on from the House, where she will be missed by not just me but the many with whom she worked to make this institution shine. A proud—very proud—North Carolina native, Molly was part of our team at the Ways and Means Committee, and she was there for the unexpected journey to the speaker's office. It has been a privilege to watch her take on ever-expanding roles over these years. Through hard work Molly earned her way to be my director of press operations. When dignitaries or diplomats visited or whenever the biggest events had the world watching the Capitol, Molly was there to ensure things always went off without a hitch. With a steady hand, as well as some southern charm, no moment was ever too big or challenge too great. Poised under pressure, she is a true professional. And she has always made me look far more polished than I really am. I am enormously grateful for Molly's service, and I wish her nothing but the best in her next adventures.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH JEFFERSON PARK

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2018

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of First Baptist Church Jefferson Park in Newport News, Virginia.

First Baptist Church Jefferson Park was established in the fall of 1918, following a long period of uncertainty and displacement for its future congregation. When the United States government purchased Mulberry Island in response to the outbreak of World War I, those already living on the island were forced to uproot their lives and relocate. This also meant that the thriving church community which had already made a home on the island had to be broken up; when Colossian Baptist Church's property was repurposed by the government and its congregation moved to their new location in Newport News, not everyone could go with it. Many former members were forced to live far apart following their relocation, branching off and eventually setting down roots in areas all across the city. Jefferson Park became such an area, and although the area was significantly underdeveloped with no public schools, mail delivery, or church, a small group of pioneers from Mulberry Island came to call it home.

Deacon William & Mrs. Lucy Wooten, also originally from Mulberry Island, heard the group's call for a church in their new location at Jefferson Park. With the help of other community members, Deacon William built their first place of worship, including the pews, pulpit, and communion table. At the time there was not sufficient money or space for a proper setup for an organ, piano, or formal choir, and the church was lit with kerosene lamps rather than electricity. Despite the limited space, enthusiasm and membership for the church grew under the leadership of Reverend Zechariah White, who served as a spiritual pillar for the congregation in the church's early days despite never serving as pastor. In 1925 Reverend J.O. Atkinson was able to oversee the construction of a larger church building to accommodate the congregation's needs.

Reverend Atkinson became First Baptist Church Jefferson Park's first official pastor in 1920, following the death of Reverend M. Massenburg, who was called to pastor the congregation but unfortunately passed before his installation. Following Reverend Atkinson's departure from the church in 1927, he was succeeded by Reverend T.H. Ashe in 1929, Reverend F.A. Rylander in 1937, Reverend Mack Samuel in 1940, and Rev. O.D. Henry in 1952.

The First Baptist Church Jefferson Park congregation expanded in 1967, following Reverend Dr. Bernard Schiele's purchase of nearby property and subsequent construction of a new church.

Reverend Dr. Reginald C. Woodhouse was installed as First Baptist Church Jefferson Park's next pastor in 1999, and the church has only continued to grow and expand since then. The church's community is incredibly active, participating in a variety of ministries and programs established by Rev. Dr. Woodhouse, including Youth Choir, Junior Gleaners, Little Angels Choir, Junior Deacons, Junior Trustees, Junior Clerks, and Youth Bible Study.

First Baptist Church Jefferson Park's congregation takes the call to community engagement seriously, which is evident in their annual Education Day Celebration, Church-School partnership with Newsome Park Elementary School, and Tutorial Program.

Over the last 100 years, The First Baptist Church Jefferson Park has been served by many dedicated men of faith—Rev. Zechariah White, Rev. M. Massenburg, Rev. J.O. Atkinson, Rev. T.H. Ashe, Rev. F.A. Rylander, Rev. Mack Samuel, Rev. O.D. Henry, Rev. Dr. W. Bernard Schiele, and Rev. Dr. Reginald C. Woodhouse.

Mr. Speaker, as First Baptist Church Jefferson Park of Newport News, Virginia celebrates this historic milestone, its congregation can take pride in an inspiring 100 years of fellowship, worship, and service. I would like to congratulate Reverend Dr. Reginald C. Woodhouse and all of the members of the church's congregation on this joyous occasion, and I wish them many more years full of growth and prosperity.

IN HONOR OF TWENTY YEARS OF SERVICE BY CHILDREN'S SAFE HARBOR

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2018

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize the Children's Safe Harbor for their twenty years of service to the communities of Montgomery, San Jacinto, and Walker counties.

The Montgomery County Children's Advocacy Center, Inc., also known as Children's Safe Harbor (CSH), was established over two decades ago to address child abuse. Specifically, CSH cares for children between the ages of two and seventeen who have suffered sexual abuse, physical abuse and trauma. Since this important organization opened its doors on August 31, 1998, it has provided a safe place for children where they can be heard, helped and healed.

From the beginning, CSH's principle mission has been to provide a supportive, safe environment for children while enhancing the coordination between criminal investigations and the monitoring of child abuse cases. Instead of children unnecessarily accessing multiple law enforcement agencies and child protection systems to seek healing and justice, CSH utilizes a multi-disciplinary, team-oriented approach to successfully coordinate effective, efficient, and child-centered casework. This method allows CSH to offer victimized children the care they need while also ensuring that the evidence necessary for prosecution is gathered effectively and mental health resources for children and non-offending family members are coordinated through completion of care.

First founded in Montgomery County, CSH has since expanded its operations and is now a multi-county resource for children and families. In its first few months, approximately 23 children were referred to the organization. Now, the average number of cases assisted by CSH totals over 200 a month. Though the increase in requests for help brought forth new challenges, CSH met them head-on. CSH's hard work and selfless service has helped 14,369 vulnerable children seeking the healing and justice they deserve—a truly incredible accomplishment.

In 1993, I joined my fellow CSH board members and signed a charter application to initiate this life-changing nonprofit organization. It is amazing to see the miracles this organization has accomplished since its founding, and I am proud to recognize CSH for the crucial work it has done in our community over the past twenty years.

To the staff, volunteers, and community leaders, such as my close friend Executive Director Victoria Constance, Ph.D., who have worked tirelessly to make CSH the life-changing organization it is today—thank you. Without your dedication, CSH would not be able to

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