

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE STEPHEN T. AYERS

HON. JEFF FORTENBERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 2, 2018

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize and pay tribute to the Honorable Stephen T. Ayers, the 11th Architect of the Capitol, on his retirement after 21 years of service to the United States Congress.

Stephen started his career as an officer in the U.S. Air Force. In 1997, Mr. Ayers joined the Architect of the Capitol as an Assistant Superintendent for the Senate Office Buildings. He served in several capacities over the next decade before his appointment as Architect of the Capitol in May 2010.

As Architect of the Capitol, Mr. Ayers is responsible for overseeing the well-being of the buildings and structures that Americans understand as icons of American history including: the House and Senate Congressional Office Buildings, the Capitol Visitor Center, the Library of Congress, the U.S. Supreme Court, the Thurgood Marshall Federal Judiciary Building and the crown jewel of the portfolio the United States Capitol. Additionally, the care and improvement of more than 570 acres of grounds are under the supervision of the Architect of the Capitol.

During his tenure, Mr. Ayers oversaw the restoration of the U.S. Capitol Dome, a major undertaking that repaired and restored the most recognizable symbol of liberty and democracy in the world. The dome was completed under budget and ahead of schedule. Other notable projects under Mr. Ayer's tenure include the Ulysses S. Grant Memorial project, as well as the launch of the Cannon House Office Building renewal.

The Legislative Branch Appropriations Subcommittee has come to depend on Stephen and his team for their hard work and professionalism. As Mr. Ayers departs his post; the leadership, dedication, and bright smile he brought to work day in and day out will be missed.

I wish Stephen and his wife Jennifer, all the best in this next phase of their lives.

HONORING THE ASIAN AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AND MS. JANICE RYBA FOR THEIR EXEM- PLARY SERVICE

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 2, 2018

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with sincere admiration that I recognize the Asian American Medical Association, which will host its 42nd Annual Gala on Saturday, November 10, 2018, at Avalon Manor in Merrillville, Indiana. Each year, the Asian American Medical Association pays tribute to prominent, outstanding citizens and organizations for their contributions to the community. In recognition of their efforts, these honorees are awarded the prestigious Crystal Globe Award.

The Asian American Medical Association has been a tremendous asset to Northwest Indiana. Its members have dedicated them-

selves to providing quality medical services to the residents of Northwest Indiana and have served their communities through many cultural, scholastic, and charitable endeavors.

At this year's Annual Gala, the Asian American Medical Association will present the Crystal Globe Award to one of Northwest Indiana's finest citizens, Ms. Janice Ryba, JD, MJ, MHA. Janice has worked for over thirty years in the healthcare field in Northwest Indiana, primarily within the Community Healthcare System. In 2007, her extensive experience and exemplary leadership led to her being named Chief Executive Officer of Saint Mary Medical Center in Hobart, Indiana. Under Ms. Ryba's direction, Saint Mary Medical Center has seen immense success and been recognized for its innovation. Recently, Saint Mary's incorporated a brand new surgical pavilion, intensive care unit, and a six-story patient tower that features private patient rooms with the most up-to-date technology. Additionally, Saint Mary's has expanded services in Porter County with the new Valparaiso Health Center. Under Ms. Ryba's leadership, providing compassionate care with the finest technology is the goal of the organization, and she and the talented staff at Saint Mary's continue to go above and beyond. For her lifetime of service, she is truly worthy of the prestigious honor bestowed upon her.

Ms. Ryba has also given much of her time and efforts to numerous organizations in Northwest Indiana and throughout the state including the Quality of Life Council, American Red Cross of Northwest Indiana, and the Indiana Hospital Association Council on Hospital Governance, to name a few.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending the members of the Asian American Medical Association as well as this year's Crystal Globe Award recipient, Ms. Janice Ryba. For her dedication to her outstanding career in the medical field and her remarkable service to the community of Northwest Indiana, Janice Ryba is worthy of the highest praise.

HONORING AMAGDA PEREZ WITH CALIFORNIA'S THIRD DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 2, 2018

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Amagda Perez as a woman of the year. She is an instructor at the UC Davis School of Law and a committed advocate for the legal rights of immigrants. As co-director of the Immigration Law Clinic at UC Davis and as an attorney with the California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation, she has extensive experience working with immigrants of varied nationalities and other marginalized communities. Professor Perez brings to her work a wealth of experience and expertise in immigration and poverty law, allowing her to successfully advocate for some of our community's most vulnerable. In her work at the UC Davis Immigration Law Clinic, Professor Perez supervises law students in the preparation of deportation defense cases. This work is important both in its advocacy for the rights of immigrants as well as the invaluable education and experience it

provides for future immigration attorneys. Her work mentoring the next generation of legal scholars and advocates is of critical importance to shaping the future of our society. The generosity Professor Perez shows in lending her time, knowledge, and experience to her students, and to those in need of representation, is truly worthy of recognition.

CONGRATULATING THE NORTH COUNTRY PRENATAL/PERINATAL COUNCIL ON ITS 30TH ANNIVER- SARY

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 2, 2018

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the North Country Prenatal/Perinatal Council on its 30th Anniversary.

Founded in 1988, the North Country Prenatal/Perinatal Council (NCPPC) became the first perinatal network in New York State, serving Jefferson, Lewis, and St. Lawrence Counties. Since then, the NCPPC has worked hard to bolster maternal and family health by developing a number of services and programs to improve access to this crucial form of care. As the regional coordinating council for maternal and child health issues, the NCPPC also manages grants for teen pregnancy prevention, community enrollment in insurance programs, Healthy Families Jefferson County, and a family resource center. As a result of the NCPPC's persistent outreach and dedication, our North Country women, children, and families can continue to access the care they need.

On behalf of New York's 21st district, I want to congratulate the North Country Prenatal/Perinatal Council and their dedicated employees on their 30th anniversary. We are thankful for their service to our local communities, and we look forward to watching them continue to thrive for many years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF ANDREW CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 2, 2018

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church, of Montross, Virginia on their 170th anniversary.

The church was founded in 1848 when land was deeded from Joseph and Susan Lyell, and its name honors Bishop James O. Andrew who helped found the Southern branch of Methodism in the 1840's. Originally located under a grove of oak trees, Andrew Chapel has been served by more than 58 clergy and is currently led by Rev. Kevin F. Elmore. Through the years, the congregation has seen many changes in facilities and programs, yet Andrew Chapel continues to leave an invaluable impact on the Montross community. Currently, Andrew Chapel has a congregation of over 100 members who show unwavering commitment to loving their neighbors in a Christ-like manner. They facilitate free health

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

clinics, deliver “meals on wheels” every month, help supply the local food pantry, donate gifts during the holidays to local families in need, and support scholarships to high school graduates pursuing higher education opportunities. Their vision statement, “Hope and grace for all God’s children through Christ,” is a fitting anthem that embodies all their efforts in bringing glory to God.

Mr. Speaker, I pray for Christ’s guidance as the congregation comes together in this time of celebration and reflection. May God continue to bless Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church as they spread the good news of the Gospel and live out Christ’s love in our community.

TRIBUTE TO CREOLA BLACKWELL

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 2, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Creola Blackwell on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

Our world has changed a great deal during Creola’s life. Since her birth, we have revolutionized air travel and walked on the moon. We have invented the television, cellular phones and the internet. We have fought in wars overseas, seen the rise and fall of Soviet communism and witnessed the birth of new democracies. Creola has lived through eighteen United States Presidents and twenty-two Governors of Iowa. In her lifetime, the population of the United States has more than tripled.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent Creola in the United States Congress and it is my pleasure to wish her a happy 100th birthday. I invite my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Creola Blackwell on reaching this incredible milestone and wishing her even more health and happiness in the years to come.

HONORING GLORIA DIAZ WITH CALIFORNIA’S THIRD DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 2, 2018

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Gloria Diaz as a woman of the year. She exemplifies the qualities of selfless service and possesses a deep desire to help others in the community. Her professional work and volunteerism demonstrates her commitment to improving her community. As a Clinical Service Manager for the Vacaville Police Department, Gloria has worked for more than two decades as a mental health clinician and care provider. She oversees more than twenty grants that provide funding to programs that are vital in assisting members in the community who need urgent care and aid during a crisis. In her leadership role at the Family Resource Center in Vacaville, Gloria dedicates her time selflessly to assist hundreds of individuals and families gain financial support and access to direct-need services. Each year through the Family Investigative Response Service Team and Youth Services Section, Gloria works to support internship opportunities for college students to gain valuable experience in the field of mental health counseling. Her role in putting together the successful and expanding Summer at City Hall program aimed at supporting students focused on ca-

reers in public service exemplifies her fondness for community service. Gloria Diaz’s tireless efforts and devotion to this program have been instrumental to its continuous success. Her hard work in helping those in need is inspirational and demonstrates what it truly means to serve your community.

RECOGNIZING THE PASSING OF DAVID AYALA-ZAMORA

HON. PRAMILA JAYAPAL

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 2, 2018

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize David Ayala-Zamora, who died on Wednesday, October 17, 2018. David’s passing is a huge loss for the City of Seattle and the Pacific Northwest region. As a union organizer and immigrant rights organizer, David was a true champion for justice.

David was born into a middle-class family in El Salvador. During the 1980s, David was one quarter away from graduating with a degree in electrical engineering when he decided to put his studies on hold to organize with teachers during El Salvador’s civil war. He also worked for a government institute that managed pensions for public employees as the grievance secretary, often putting him in very challenging and dangerous situations.

David’s visibility as a union leader and his calls to end the war eventually led to his arrest and torture by Salvadoran security forces. His early experiences being tortured shaped the core of his character and he brought that strength and resilience to everything he did. David described being tortured as “The best experience in my life. Being tortured is like running a marathon. It taught me how committed I am in the struggle for justice. And it has fortified me in some ways, because you learn how much capacity you have in this body.”

Forced into exile in the United States where he eventually became a U.S. citizen, David returned to organizing work in his new home. He was driven to continue this work, saying that “Those of us who were touched by people who gave everything for justice, we have to try to keep them alive and with us through the work we do.”

David’s work continues to be felt across the Pacific Northwest region. He was one of the organizers who launched the day laborer organizing project that became Casa Latina, which continues to advocate for immigrant workers’ rights. Many years later, he worked with me as the Organizing Director at OneAmerica, the organization that I founded and where I served as Executive Director for 11 years. David was a true partner to me, helping me to expand our organization across Washington State as we grew OneAmerica to be the state’s largest immigrant rights organization. David was exceptional at seeing leadership qualities in ordinary people and helping them to develop that leadership to do extraordinary things. Thanks to his work, OneAmerica was able to strengthen power within underrepresented immigrant communities and win major policy victories from maintaining driver’s licenses for undocumented immigrants, to organizing for the creation of Washington State’s first and only majority-minority congressional district, and pushing for a state Voting Rights Act.

David also worked for many years at SEIU in Portland and Seattle, organizing low-wage workers to bring justice to the workplace; as the Field Director at Working Washington where he organized airport workers at the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport to fight for fair wages and a safe workplace; and as the Organizing Director at Promise Arizona, orga-

nizing around voting rights, civic participation, and health care.

David is survived by his wife, Siohvan Sheridan Ayala, and his children, David Ayala-Lindeman, Margarita Anne Ayala-Sheridan, and Maura Ruth Ayala-Sheridan; his father, David Ayala-Dominguez; and five brothers and sisters, Ana Betty Ayala de Giron, Obed Edgardo Ayala-Zamora, Ruth Ayala-Zamora, Yani Ayala-Zamora, and Eliud Ulises Ayala-Zamora.

David was a trusted advisor and partner to me in fighting for immigrant and worker justice. His irrepressible laughter, his deep appreciation for life, and his hunger for justice has sustained and inspired so many across the Northwest and in El Salvador. A light has gone from our world, but David’s legacy shines brightly with all those he touched and all the movements he helped build. His lasting impact on the region will endure for many years to come.

COMMEMORATING 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF LAKEWOOD FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 2, 2018

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the one hundred twenty-fifth anniversary of the Lakewood Fire Department.

In 1893, citizens of Lakewood joined together to form the Lakewood Bucket Brigade. Neighbors and friends intent on preserving the safety of their community set the foundation for more than a century of service to come.

Dedicated to protecting its citizens, the village of Lakewood was covered by not one, but two fire companies for nearly forty years. Lakewood Hook and Ladder Co. No. 1, later known as Lakewood Hose Co. No. 1, was formed in 1899. Through generous donations from J.W. Packard, the Lakewood firefighters received land for a new fire hall and 1915 Model T Ford Chemical Fire engine. In 1924, Lakewood’s second fire company, known as the Lakewood Chemical Co. Inc., was formed. In 1964 the Lakewood Hose Co. No. 1 and the Lakewood Chemical Co. merged to become the present day Lakewood Fire Co. Inc.

Over the years, the Lakewood Fire Department has grown in size and expanded in their capabilities. By adding marine rescue units, heavy rescue vehicles, ambulances, and ladder trucks, the Lakewood Fire Department has adapted to meet the safety needs of their community. Construction and later renovation of a training center has ensured Lakewood firefighters are well prepared for the dangers they may face in the line of duty.

One hundred twenty-five years of service to the community is certainly a cause for celebration. I congratulate the Lakewood Fire Department for their impressive record of hard work and look forward to many more years of them keeping our community safe.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to celebrate the Lakewood Fire Department’s one hundred twenty-five years of service.