

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2018 ARTS AWARDS

#### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize ARTSFAIRFAX (formerly the Arts Council of Fairfax County) and the recipients of its 2018 Arts Awards. These awards recognize the extraordinary contributions of those who support the arts in our community including artists and arts organizations, as well as individuals and businesses in Fairfax County, the City of Fairfax, and the City of Falls Church. The economic benefit of that support cannot be overstated.

Each year, ARTSFAIRFAX honors a select group of individuals, companies, or organizations that have made extraordinary contributions to the local arts community. It is my honor to include in the RECORD the names of the 2018 recipients:

The 2018 Jinx Hazel Arts Award is being presented to the Claude Moore Charitable Foundation. Founded in 1987 by Dr. Claude Moore, the Foundation works to enhance educational opportunities for young people. Having given more than \$62 million to organizations and programs throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Foundation is one of Virginia's largest philanthropic organizations. Its support in Fairfax County has been broad, consistent, and generative, with donations of more than \$8 million to organizations and programs including: Claude Moore Colonial Farm, George Mason University's Fall for the Book festival, George Washington Teachers Institute at Mount Vernon, Lorton Arts Foundation, Foundation for Fairfax County Public Schools, Fairfax Library Foundation, Artist-in-Education Bluemont Concert Series, the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra, Virginia Chamber Orchestra, Fairfax County Parks Authority, ARTSFAIRFAX, and many more.

The 2018 Arts Education Award is being presented to the American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras (AYPO). Since 1964, AYPO has provided rigorous, conservatory-quality orchestra training and performance experience for thousands of gifted, young musicians from Northern Virginia. Nearly 90 percent of AYPO members live in Fairfax County and more than two-thirds are minorities. All students take part in competitive auditions and all are selected solely on their musical achievements. These ensembles are open to all youth in the region, not just AYPO members. This has allowed AYPO to serve a broader base of students within Fairfax County Public Schools. For 54 years, AYPO has helped young people develop their musical skills and an appreciation for orchestral music to provide opportunities that are rarely available in the schools.

The 2018 Arts Impact Award is being presented to the Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts. Each year, nearly 400,000 people enjoy performances at the Filene Cen-

ter, The Barns at Wolf Trap, and Children's Theatre-in-the-Woods. Wolf Trap is a cornerstone of Fairfax County's cultural fabric. Education also has long been core to Wolf Trap's mission. Though national in scope, the Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts has roots in Virginia and has been partnering with Fairfax County Public Schools for more than 30 years. During the 2016–2017 school year, the Institute served more than 17,000 children, educators, and parents/caregivers across 18 counties in the Commonwealth, including Fairfax.

The 2018 Arts Philanthropy Award is being presented to Virginia McGehee Friend. Ms. Friend is an avid supporter of Washington West Film Festival, Greater Reston Arts Center, Arena Stage, Washington National Opera's Domingo-Cafritz Young Artist Program, Smithsonian Craft Show, Just Neighbors, Loudoun Hunger Relief, Mobile Hope, Canine Companions for Independence, and the National Humane Education Society. Throughout her life, Friend's tireless dedication and immense generosity to the arts in Fairfax County and across the region have served as a model for philanthropy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipients of the 2018 Arts Awards and in recognizing and thanking the visionaries, leaders, and supporters who help to make our Northern Virginia communities rich with cultural opportunities.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, due to unavoidable circumstances relating to my health, I was physically absent from the House of Representatives on November 16, 2018. On that day, I missed two recorded votes.

On Roll Call No. 419, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 5787, had I been present, I would have voted "Aye."

On Roll Call No. 420, on Passage of H.R. 6784, had I been present, I would have voted "Aye."

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. FRANCIS ROONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. FRANCIS ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, my missed vote was due to a family event.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 419.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. PRAMILA JAYAPAL

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, had I been present for roll call vote 420 on Friday, November 16, 2018, I would have voted 'no'.

### RECOGNIZING THE AWARD RECIPIENTS OF THE 2018 CENTREVILLE IMMIGRATION FORUM ANNUAL DINNER

#### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Centreville Immigration Forum on the occasion of its 4th Annual Dinner. The theme of this year's gala is "Celebrating Our Global Community" and will recognize the rich diversity of cultures in Northern Virginia.

Northern Virginia is blessed by its diversity. In Fairfax County, nearly 1 in 4 residents is foreign born. More than 100 languages are spoken in our schools, and we are home to more minority-owned technology firms than anywhere else in the nation. Our variety of cultures and heritages do not divide us; they make us stronger.

Three exceptional individuals will be honored during this gala who have gone above and beyond in ensuring that everyone, regardless of their country of origin, has full access to the benefits and opportunities this community and our nation provide. I am pleased to include in the RECORD names of the following 2018 Annual Dinner honorees:

Mr. Rodrigo Velasquez

Rodrigo is a proud product of Fairfax County Public Schools where he attended elementary, middle, and high school. Rodrigo graduated from Robert E. Lee High School in 2012 and later graduated from George Mason University in 2016 with a Bachelors in Communication with a focus in Public Relations. A formerly undocumented immigrant from Bolivia, he was the President of Mason DREAMers, where he helped build the organization's ability to advocate for undocumented immigrants to have better access to higher education. He was also the first Student Support Coordinator at George Mason University, the first position of its kind in Virginia. In this position, he helped undocumented, low income, homeless, and first-generation college students find financial and social support.

Ms. Afeefa Syeed

Ms. Syeed is a cultural anthropologist who most recently served as Senior Advisor at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), where she worked to develop policy, define best practices, highlight success stories, and build internal capacity and tools to

• 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.

frame country strategies that reflect greater expertise in engaging in dynamic cultural contexts. She has advised the White House, National Security Council, State Department, UN Democracy Fund, World Bank and various in-country government and non-governmental institutions. Afeefa also founded and is the current Head of School for Al Fatih Academy, a Reston, VA independent school whose core curriculum is peace education and civic engagement.

Mr. Ilryong Moon

Born in Seoul, Korea in 1957, Mr. Moon immigrated to the United States in 1974. He quickly became involved in his local community, primarily through his service on the Fairfax County School Board, to which he was elected in 1995. He has served in a variety of capacities on the School Board, as an At-Large Member, Braddock District Representative, Vice-Chairman and Chairman. In addition to his service on the School Board, he has also served on the Urban Policy Task Force, Affordable Housing Advisory Committee, the Police Chiefs Diversity Task Force and the Virginia State Advisory Committee to the U.S. Civil Rights Commission.

Mr. Speaker, the efforts of these individuals are noteworthy not only because they are rooted in an appreciation for our region's cultural and ethnic diversity, but also because they help to strengthen the bonds of friendship and cooperation in our community. I congratulate them on their awards and ask my colleagues to join me in commending them for their service to the Northern Virginia region.

#### REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF MRS. EMMA ROBERTA DAVIE WILSON

#### HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life of an extraordinary Georgian and a great American, Mrs. Emma Roberta Davie Wilson who passed away at the age of 90. She was a loving mother, daughter, sister, and friend. Mrs. Wilson was a wonderful teacher who had a passion for educating youth.

Having spent her entire life as a Georgia resident, Mrs. Wilson attended Main High School in Rome, Georgia. After receiving her high school diploma, she attended Paine University in Augusta, Georgia, where she received her degree in early childhood education. Mrs. Wilson dedicated 25 years of her life to the Atlanta Public School System at Thomas Heath Slater Elementary School. Her tenure within this institution of public learning personifies what it means to be a public servant.

In 1948, she married the late Eddie Daniel Wilson. Together, Mr. Speaker, they had five beautiful children, and a host of grandchildren. Mrs. Wilson was also a most devoted Christian. She was a loving member at Macedonia Baptist Church in Joyland Community in Atlanta, Georgia. And she was a Sunday School teacher who helped lead many young children to Christ at an early age.

I celebrate Mrs. Wilson for her admirable service to the youth of our nation, the city of

Atlanta, and the State of Georgia. My colleagues and I extend our deepest sympathies to her surviving friends and family members, which include five children, four grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and a host of nieces and nephews. Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my condolences to Mrs. Wilson's family and friends during this time of sorrow.

#### HONORING TROOP 3055

#### HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and remember the three beautiful Girl Scouts, and one loving mother, of Troop 3055, who tragically lost their lives on November 3, 2018. On that Saturday morning, Autumn Helgeson, Jayna Kelley, Haylee Hickie, and Sara Schneider were volunteering their time to pick up trash on the side of the road as a service to their community, when they were fatally struck by a hit and run driver. Though my words can never reverse the awful heartbreak that their families have suffered, I hope that by speaking today we can pay tribute to these girls, who at the time of their death were simply trying to make their community a better place.

Today, we pray for the families, friends, and Troop of these girls, and for Madalyn Zwiefelhofer, who was sent to the hospital in critical condition as a result of the accident. Please know that the entire community stands with all of the families during this difficult time.

#### HONORING CPL. BILL EIEMAN

#### HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service and sacrifice of Corporal William Eierman, a member of the Jacksonville Beach Police Department. Cpl. Eierman is being honored today with the Medal of Valor and Law Enforcement Purple Heart.

On August 8, 2018, after hearing of gunshots, Cpl. Eierman ran toward a scene where a suspect had shot a marked patrol car and was fleeing from officers. While pursuing the suspect, Cpl. Eierman engaged with him and was shot twice. Thanks to Cpl. Eierman's heroism, no one else was hurt and the individual was brought to justice.

Officer Eierman is a dedicated father and husband who has served the Jacksonville Beach community for 16 years as a member of Jacksonville Beach Police Department after previously working as a Jacksonville Sheriff's Office corrections officer. In addition to being a family man, Cpl. Eierman is active in his church and always looking for ways to give back to the community he serves.

On behalf of a grateful community, I want to thank Cpl. William Eierman for the courage he displayed on that day, and every day. We thank you for your service and wish you a speedy recovery.

#### RECOGNIZING THE ASIAN PACIFIC DEVELOPMENT CENTER

#### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Asian Pacific Development Center, a community based non-profit organization that was founded to serve Asian American Pacific Islanders, but now extends its services to all immigrant and refugee communities in the Aurora/Denver metro area. The Asian Pacific Development Center has done so now for nearly four decades.

The influx of refugees and immigrants from the Asia Pacific region into Colorado shortly after the end of the Vietnam War was the impetus for the creation of the Asian Pacific Development Center. These new arrivals in Colorado faced challenges overcoming language barriers and mental health issues, such as post-traumatic stress disorder and depression. To address these challenges, the Asian Pacific Development Center was founded in 1980, staffed with social workers, attorneys, psychologists and psychiatrists.

Today the Asian Pacific Development Center does much more. In fact, it serves as a "one-stop" shop offering compassionate care and an array of other services to immigrants and refugees such as English as a second language instruction. The Asian Pacific Development Center strives to provide all these services in a culturally appropriate manner. These support services strengthen the health and wellbeing of immigrants who are transitioning into life in Colorado.

A key factor in the effective delivery of all these services is the Asian Pacific Development Center's Executive Director Harry Budisidharta. He has done a remarkable job and has become a very well-respected leader, not only for the Asian Pacific Development Center, but of our entire community. I am proud that the Asian Pacific Development Center is located in my hometown of Aurora, Colorado.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 39TH ANNIVERSARY OF CATHOLICS FOR HOUSING, INC. AND 2018 FATHER GERARD CREEDON HOUSING AWARD RECIPIENTS

#### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 39th anniversary of Catholics for Housing, Incorporated and to congratulate the 2018 Father Gerard Creedon Housing Award recipients.

Founded in response to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Pastoral Letter entitled, "The Right to a Decent Home," Catholics for Housing, Incorporated was established in 1979 under the tireless leadership of Father Gerard Creedon and sustained by a dedicated group of community members who work to expand affordable housing options and prevent homelessness.

Now in its 39th year, Catholics for Housing has grown substantially in both clientele and

breadth of mission. Since its inception, the organization has expanded to provide assistance in 21 counties within the vicinity of the Arlington Catholic Diocese. It has adapted over the years with new goals and a renewed vision, while remaining true to its core mission of collaborating with others to support the development, construction, and rehabilitation of affordable housing. Catholics for Housing projects include affordable housing initiatives, affordable rental housing, senior citizen rental assistance, security deposit assistance, and collaborative education and advocacy efforts.

Catholics for Housing is sustained through the dedication and generosity of its board, staff, volunteers, and many community partners.

It is my honor to include in the RECORD the following Catholics for Housing partners for sustaining the vision established by Father Creedon and our dedicated community members. The 2018 Father Gerard Creedon Housing Award honorees are:

Mr. Robert Gibson is one of the co-founders of Catholics for Housing and is being recognized for his steadfast support of affordable housing and homelessness prevention.

Mr. Jonathan N. Francis, Esquire is being recognized for the assistance he provided to the residents of East End Mobile Home Park when they all faced eviction when the property was declared a health hazard due to ongoing sewer leaks.

The City of Manassas is being recognized for approving the sale of East End Mobile Home Park and working with Catholics for Housing as it rehabbed the water and sewer problems.

The leadership and actions taken by these honorees resulted in the preservation of affordable housing for approximately 300 residents.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the 2018 Father Gerard Creedon Housing Award recipients and in commending the efforts of Catholics for Housing, who continues to work with its partners to provide needed support and assistance to many of our most vulnerable neighbors.

#### RECOGNIZING OMNI FAMILY HEALTH, INC.

#### HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Omni Family Health, Inc. for forty years of service throughout California's Central Valley.

Omni Family Health, Inc. was established in 1978 as a health center in the town of Buttonwillow, an unincorporated farming community in California's San Joaquin Valley. Responding to a profound shortage of medical care in the area, community members founded Buttonwillow Health Center. Before long, Buttonwillow Health Center was invited to expand to neighboring towns and eventually became Omni Family Health.

The San Joaquin Valley is an extremely rural region with a large population of underserved communities. Due to high unemployment and large populations of migrant workers, medical care can be difficult for many to

attain. Omni Family Health, Inc. directly responds to these needs, providing medical, dental, and behavioral health services to everyone, regardless of their ability to pay. They strive to break longstanding barriers in the region and meet the communities' needs head-on. They are a mission-oriented organization, demonstrating a strong commitment to underserved communities. Omni Family Health, Inc. also prioritizes the respect of staff and the hiring of compassionate people. That simple show of respect has led to decades-long careers at Omni.

From their humble beginnings, Omni Family Health, Inc. has rapidly become one of the largest networks of health centers in the San Joaquin Valley. By the end of this year, they will be operating thirty health centers in Kings, Kern, and Fresno Counties. Their 750 employees serve over 100,000 patients, while their facilities generate \$123,000,000 in economic benefits. Their contributions have made them an invaluable and treasured member in the communities they serve.

Omni Family Health, Inc. has gained a national reputation for their exceptional care and compassion. In 2015, they were awarded two achievements by the National Association of Community Health Centers: The Outstanding Achievement Award and the Migrant Health Center of the Year Award, which they are extremely proud of. While Omni Family Health, Inc. serves a diverse population of patients, migrant workers will always be their passion. It was the small farming community of Buttonwillow, California, that birthed their mission, so being nationally recognized for their service to migrant workers was especially meaningful to them.

Omni Family Health, Inc. shows no signs of slowing down. As they continue to grow and meet the needs of the San Joaquin Valley, they remain committed to their two core ideals, providing healthcare for their community through compassionate service. The San Joaquin Valley will be forever thankful for the work they have done, and excited for the work they will still do.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Omni Family Health, Inc. for forty years of service and wishing them further success in their future.

#### IN MEMORY OF OFFICER MICHAEL HUFFMAN

#### HON. DAVID P. JOYCE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor the life and service of a constituent of mine, Madison Village Police Officer Michael Huffman. Officer Huffman, a 19-year veteran officer, unfortunately passed away while on duty on Wednesday, November 14, 2018. Originally from Painesville, Officer Huffman enjoyed working on cars and spending time with his wife, Viola, and his family. His legacy and dedication to public service will always be remembered. My prayers are with Officer Huffman's family, his friends, the Village of Madison, and the Madison Village Police Department during this difficult time.

#### RECOGNIZING MICHELLE MCGOVERN

#### HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I, along with Representative FRANKEL and Representative HASTINGS, rise today in recognition of the accomplishments and extensive public service record of United States Senator BILL NELSON's State Director, and our dear friend, Michelle McGovern.

Since her time as a student at Florida Atlantic University, Michelle has demonstrated a passion for government and the capacity to lead. Her tireless work ethic, combined with her many successes, earned her election as FAU's student body Vice-President and appointment to Florida's Board of Regents, as the first and only FAU student appointee.

Fast forward to today and Michelle has honorably served Senator NELSON and the State of Florida for 18 years. She rose quickly through the ranks from a Legislative Correspondent to her current position as State Director. In each of her roles, she exemplified leadership and collaboration, while providing superior service to the citizens of Florida.

In addition to serving the entire state, Michelle devotes much of her time to serving her local community. She is a past President of the Forum Club of the Palm Beaches, SunFest, and the West Palm 100. She has also served on the Mayor's Nominating Committee for the City of West Palm Beach, Charter Review Committees for West Palm Beach and Wellington, and Wellington's Education Advisory Board. Michelle is currently the Chairwoman of the School Advisory Committee at Binks Forest Elementary School, where she has long been active in the PTA. On top of all this, Michelle and her husband John, have raised two wonderful daughters, Emilia and Victoria.

Today we ask this body to recognize Michelle McGovern for her endless dedication and leadership in our community. Michelle has demonstrated a commitment to service that we should expect from all of our civil servants. We, along with the citizens of Florida, thank her for her service.

#### HONORING MONTEREY COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY DEAN FLIPPO

#### HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the long and distinguished career of retiring District Attorney Dean D. Flippo, who has served the people of Monterey County since 1972. Mr. Flippo's retirement comes after serving eight terms as Monterey County District Attorney. I had the distinct privilege to serve under Mr. Flippo as an Assistant District Attorney and can personally attest to his character. While our community is losing an exceptional public servant, we certainly wish him the best on his well-earned retirement.

Mr. Flippo received his bachelor's degree in 1963 at the College of William & Mary and

earned a Juris Doctorate from Wayne State University Law School in 1966. He began his law career in the United States Army in 1967, where he served as a Chief Prosecutor, Post Judge Advocate, and Military Judge. He was awarded the Army Meritorious Service Medal for his honorable service to our country.

Mr. Flippo began his career as a prosecutor in Monterey County in 1972 as an Assistant District Attorney and was overwhelmingly elected to the position of District Attorney in 1990. During his tenure as District Attorney, Mr. Flippo was instrumental in establishing numerous innovative programs to improve public safety in Monterey County. Among these programs was the award-winning Truancy Abatement Unit, which has received statewide recognition for success in working closely with schools and families to bring about compliance with mandatory school attendance laws. Mr. Flippo was also instrumental in making the Monterey County District Attorney's office one of California's most productive in child support enforcement. This effort was recognized in 1999, when Mr. Flippo was awarded the Outstanding Manager of the Year by the National Child Support Enforcement Association. Under Mr. Flippo's leadership, the Monterey County District Attorney's office maintained a steadfast commitment to finding new ways to protect our community.

In addition to his professional accomplishments, Mr. Flippo has also served in numerous civic and community organizations. Among the most important lessons I learned from my time as a prosecutor is the paramount importance of serving one's community both inside and outside the courtroom, and Mr. Flippo certainly embodied this ideal. He is the past President of the California District Attorneys Association (CDAA) and a past member of the Board of Directors of the National Child Support Enforcement Association. He is also the State Chair for the CDAA Consumer Protection Committee and a Board Member of the National District Attorneys Association. Locally, he is involved in serving on the board of directors of numerous organization including the Monterey Peninsula College Foundation, Monterey Peninsula Foundation Grant Committee, Child Abuse Prevention Council, Children's Council of Monterey County, and Community Alliance for Safety and Peace. He was also an educator at Golden Gate University and Monterey Peninsula College, where he taught Public Administration, Administration of Justice, American History, and American Government to the next generation of public servants. Mr. Flippo's extensive service to his beloved community stands as an enduring legacy.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to share the accomplishments and distinguished record of one of Monterey County's most committed and decorated public servants. I know he is looking forward to spending more time with his wife, Renee; daughter, Tracy; son, Derek; daughter-in-law, Marianna; and grandchildren, Katherine, Anne, and Douglas. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our best wishes to District Attorney Dean Flippo and his family and thank him for his innumerable contributions to the central coast of California.

RECOGNIZING DR. GERALD L. GORDON

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an individual who has made an indelible mark on the Fairfax County community and the Northern Virginia region as a whole. Dr. Gerald L. Gordon, President and CEO of the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority, is retiring from that role after 35 years of extraordinary service. During his tenure, he has guided Fairfax County through incredible transformative changes.

When Dr. Gordon joined the EDA in 1983, Fairfax County had a population of approximately 661,000. Our commercial sector was small compared to those of our regional neighbors, with 32 million square feet of office space supporting 243,000 jobs. Fairfax County was largely a bedroom community for federal workers who commuted to Washington, D.C. and the surrounding area. Fast forward 35 years and today, the population of Fairfax County has nearly doubled to more than 1.1 million.

Fairfax County is home to a thriving commercial sector anchored in Tysons with over 117 million square feet of commercial real estate supporting over 600,000 jobs across the county. Ten Fortune 500 companies make their headquarters in Fairfax County, more than 30 states. Fairfax County has evolved from a bedroom community to the economic engine of the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Dulles corridor, which stretches from Tysons to the Loudoun County line supports more tech jobs than any other region of our country outside of California. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the unemployment rate in Fairfax County at the end of September, 2018 was 2.5 percent lower than the Commonwealth of Virginia rate of 2.9 percent and more than a full percentage point lower than the national unemployment rate of 3.7 percent.

Successfully managing this explosive growth and economic expansion requires visionary leadership from the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to make the necessary investments to ensure that the groundwork could be laid for the transformation that is well underway. Visionary leadership is not enough by itself however. It is also critical that the County government had a willing and able partner in Dr. Gordon and the Economic Development Authority. The benefits of the partnership that we were able to forge are still being recognized and will be for decades to come.

Dr. Gordon leaves an extensive legacy of accomplishments. These include the creation of the Emerging Business Forum to support small minority and woman-owned businesses and the successful campaign for Fairfax County to host the 1998 World Congress on Information Technology. He has also received a litany of awards, including the Virginia Business Person of the Year Award from Virginia Business Magazine in 2010, the Leadership Fairfax Northern Virginia Leadership Award in 2011 and the Jeffrey A. Finkle Organizational Leadership Award from the International Economic Development Council in 2015. Virginia Business has listed him annually as one of its 50 Most Influential Virginians since 2013. He

is also a widely respected author who has written 13 books on economic development and strategic planning.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Dr. Gordon for his many decades of service to our community and congratulate him on his vast array of accomplishments. While he will be dearly missed and leaves behind sizeable shoes to fill at EDA, he will be leaving Fairfax County better positioned to face tomorrow's challenges. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him continued success and all the best in his retirement.

HONORING MS. GINA WIRONEN

**HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a proud servant of the people and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Ms. Gina Wironen. Gina has been an integral part of the Leominster School District for over four decades as an educator and administrator.

In her 43-year career in education, Gina has held many prominent roles within the Leominster School District including serving as the Assistant Principal of Saint Leo School and Principal of Samoset Middle School. Most recently, Gina worked as the Director of Community Engagement and Media Relations for the entire school district.

Throughout her distinguished career, Gina has consistently been recognized for her exemplary service to our district, including: the Learning for Life Leadership Award, Teacher of the Year—Leominster Rotary Award, and most recently, the M.W.C.C. Lifetime Achievement Award.

Because of Gina's leadership and advocacy, Leominster has become one of the most active and collaborative districts that participates in the United Way Youth Venture program.

This service-oriented educational experience works with children and young adults to create ventures using their passions to support the community. Due to Gina's efforts, over 74 service teams have made an impact within the district since the program's inception in 2002. Gina has continually worked to expand the program within Leominster and all of Central Massachusetts.

Mr. Speaker, this alone would be an impressive list of achievements that deserves our respect and gratitude. But since 2013, Gina has successfully advocated in support of the development of two new innovation schools in Leominster, and secured funding for a new athletic facility for the local high school. Gina understands that education does not just happen in schools. She has worked with the entire community to enhance what is happening in the classroom.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress and the people of Massachusetts, I would like to thank and recognize Gina for her work in the Leominster School District to improve the Massachusetts education system. Her tireless efforts have forever changed Leominster for the better.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TULSI GABBARD**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House Chamber on November 16, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on roll call vote 420.

REVEREND DR. WASHINGTON LEE LUNDY'S 50TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY AT EVENING STAR BAPTIST CHURCH

**HON. HAKEEM S. JEFFRIES**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Reverend Dr. Washington Lee Lundy's 50th Pastoral Anniversary at Glen Terrace in Brooklyn, New York on Saturday, November 17, 2018. Since the founding of Evening Star Baptist Church in 1916, Reverend Dr. Washington Lundy has served as the second senior pastor in the church's 102-year history.

From an early age, Reverend Dr. Lundy was called to preach, initially at First Baptist Church in his hometown of McKinney, Virginia. After graduation from high school in 1954, he studied at Virginia Union University, in Richmond, VA. A year later, he moved to New York completing his studies at Manhattan Community College. Settling in Bedford Stuyvesant, Brooklyn, he joined the congregation of Evening Star Baptist Church where first Senior Pastor Reverend Marcellus French Logan presided. There he met "the love of his life," Dorothy Fields, whom he married and raised two children with, Christopher Lee and Valerie Anita.

Upon the passing of Rev. Logan, Evening Star Baptist Church recognized Reverend Dr. Washington Lee Lundy as Senior Pastor on November 5, 1968. During his dedicated service to the congregation and surrounding com-

munity, he went on to pursue a Doctorate from Baltimore School of the Bible. In his 50 years of leadership at Evening Star, Reverend Dr. Lundy helped organize the Gates Avenue Block Association and established the Evening Star Baptist Church Scholarship Fund for students entering college and those returning to school for higher education. He also solidified the longevity of the church by settling the church's mortgage and founding the Eastern Baptist Association School of Religion and Evening Star Youth Ministry.

Reverend Dr. Lundy proudly represented Evening Star across the country and world. He served as Vice Moderator at Large of the Eastern Baptist Association (EBA) of New York, and then as Moderator of the EBA from 1988 to 1992. He was elected as Vice President at Large of the Empire Baptist Missionary Convention of New York, and then as its President for six years. He also served as Vice President of the National Baptist Convention USA—North East Region. More recently, in 2010 he was the host for the New York State Convention for the 20th Baptist World Congress in Hawaii. Globally, he has carried a message of hope and faith, traveling to various countries in Europe, Asia, the Middle East and Australia.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of this great spiritual and community leader, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating the Reverend Dr. Washington Lee Lundy on his 50th Pastoral Anniversary at Evening Star Baptist Church.

RECOGNIZING THE AWARDEES OF  
THE 14TH ANNUAL FAIRFAX  
COUNTY HISTORY CONFERENCE

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Fairfax County History Commission on the occasion of the 14th Annual Fairfax County History Conference.

Since 1969, the Fairfax County History Commission has worked to identify, document,

record and preserve the historic past of our region. Few areas in the country are as rich in history as ours. Indeed, the history of this region is the history of our country. The History Conference provides an opportunity to reflect on the accomplishments of the past year and to recognize our neighbors who have made significant contributions to preserving and promoting our local history. Through the dedicated efforts of the History Commission and its many volunteers, we are assured that our history will not be lost and will be available for future generations.

This year, several of these dedicated individuals are being honored for their commitment to the preservation and education of history. I am proud to include in the RECORD their names:

Ms. Carolyn Cornwell Miller, for her efforts in collecting, preserving, researching and maintaining the history of the rural schools of Great Falls, Virginia.

Mr. Chuck Mauro, for his extensive body of work documenting the history of Fairfax County, including numerous books, plays, lectures and an award-winning movie, "The Battle of Chantilly (Ox Hill)."

Mr. Gregory P. Wilson, for his efforts serving our country and Fairfax County by preserving, researching and maintaining the history of this area—specifically regarding the contributions of his Quaker ancestors and the Civil War leaders they encountered.

Ms. Eloise Lorenze, for her efforts in preserving, researching and maintaining the history of the Greenway area of McLean, Virginia through commentaries, photographs and oral histories.

Dr. Patricia Farrell Donahue, for her exemplary work in preserving, researching, documenting, analyzing and presenting a complete and thorough review of the history of the Pimmit Hills area of Fairfax County.

I commend the Fairfax County History Commission for helping to ensure that the abundance of history that is available to our community will be preserved far into the future. I congratulate all of the honorees and ask my colleagues to join me in thanking each of them for the important work they do for the Northern Virginia Community.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JIM COOPER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, on November 16, 2018, during debate on H.R. 6784, the Manage our Wolves Act, I voted incorrectly on Roll Call Vote No. 420. My vote should have been cast as 'NO.'

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H. RES. 1138 PASSAGE**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I'm proud to be an original cosponsor of House Resolution

1138, and I wholeheartedly support its passage.

H. Res. 1138 condemns the heinous anti-Semitic attack on the building housing three congregations, Tree of Life, Dor Hadash, and New Light in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania that resulted in the deaths of 11 innocent people. The resolution honors the memory of the victims of the attack, as well as offers condolences to and expresses support for their families, friends, and community.

I am saddened and outraged by this hateful act. Unfortunately, anti-Semitic incidents have been on the rise—increasing 57 percent in 2017. This horrific shooting at the Tree of Life synagogue is yet another manifestation of this ancient hatred.

Congress stands united in condemning the deadly attack on the Tree of Life synagogue, remembering all who were taken from us on that fateful day, and wishing speedy recovery for those who survived. Last week, Members

of Congress passed this bill, not as Republicans or Democrats, but as Americans who oppose intolerance.

The freedom to worship is a core principle of this nation—one that our forefathers enshrined in our Constitution to protect us all from undue prosecution. As a Jewish Member of Congress, I stand ready to fiercely defend the right of all Americans to freely exercise their religious beliefs. With anti-Semitism on the rise, we must redouble our efforts to eradicate it at home and abroad.

I pray for the victims of the Tree of Life shooting and their families, and I know that our community will work to promote religious tolerance and freedom everywhere.

COMMEMORATING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF LSU'S PENNINGTON BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH CENTER

**HON. GARRET GRAVES**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 30 year anniversary of LSU's Pennington Biomedical Research Center. Founders C.B. "Doc" and Mrs. Pennington donated to the university in hopes of building "the biggest and best nutrition research center in the country." Their vision has largely been accomplished. As the center has grown, they've become a premiere scientific research institution—highly sought after to publish medical research on chronic disease prevention and to host national medical symposiums. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) selected Pennington Biomedical for several medical studies such as diet risk factors for heart disease, the effects of diets on blood pressure, and diabetes prevention. Over the past 30 years, there have been 212,123 scientific citations from over 5,000 Pennington Biomedical publications. Their work has improved the quality of life for millions of people worldwide. I'm proud to represent this premiere research facility, housed at one of Louisiana's finest schools. Well done, Pennington Biomedical Research Facility, on an incredible 30 years of excellence and discovery.

RECOGNIZING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF LEADERSHIP FAIRFAX

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an organization that has made an incredible mark on our Northern Virginia community. Since 1988, Leadership Fairfax has dedicated itself to shaping the future leaders of tomorrow. The dedication of Leadership Fairfax to this endeavor is one that I know well; a number of my staff from my time as Providence District Supervisor and later as Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors are Leadership Fairfax alumni.

Through both the Leadership Fairfax Institute and the Emerging Leaders Institute, Leadership Fairfax identifies the leaders of tomorrow and works to equip them with the knowledge, experience and skills to not only become more productive employees within their organizations, but also to become more productive members of society and their communities as well. As part of their training programs, enrollees in both LFI and ELI are given a contemporary issue facing Fairfax County to solve. These collaborations have led to invaluable insight for both the public and private sectors and have at times illuminated possible avenues for partnerships where none seemed to exist previously. Recent ELI and LFI programs have focused on increasing ethics and transparency in government, something which is called for now perhaps more than at any previous point in our history. I commend Lead-

ership Fairfax for its continued dedication to enhancing civic life in Northern Virginia.

One of the benefits of Leadership Fairfax that I have valued the most is the ability to foster consensus on difficult issues. In Fairfax County, we can pride ourselves on having a model of civil discourse and debate when it comes to dealing with the problems of government. Even though we might have strong disagreements on an issue, we have been able to engage in these discussions without having the forum devolve into personal attacks. As the national political environment grows ever more toxic, it is even more vital that we have programs like Leadership Fairfax which remind us that the main objective of government is to solve problems, not to score political points for one party or another.

Mr. Speaker, we in Northern Virginia are blessed with an abundance of civic engagement and a belief in giving back to one's community. That abundance is something which is unique to our region, cultivated over time by the efforts of organizations like Leadership Fairfax. I want to especially thank Tim Sargeant, Karen Cleveland and all the members of the Board of Directors, staff and volunteers that have worked to continue that cultivation over the last three decades. I also extend my congratulations to all of the graduates of Leadership Fairfax, past and present, for the work you do every day in our community to make it a better place. All your efforts are truly selfless and are worthy of our highest praise. Congratulations on this momentous anniversary. I look forward to celebrating your continued contributions for many years to come.