

HONORING ASHLEY GUTWEIN

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a former member of my staff, Ashley Gutwein, for her work in my office and her service to our state.

Ashley served as Senior Counsel for more than a year in our Washington, D.C. office, handling my judiciary, financial services, national security, intelligence, foreign affairs, and armed services legislative portfolios. Before that, she was part of our office in Indiana during my first run for Congress. Ashley's dedication to our team has been outstanding, and it's been a pleasure getting to work with her over the years.

On a personal note, Ashley is a positive spirit, talented thinker and loyal friend, with a smile that lights up any room. I am grateful for her friendship and look forward to cheering Ashley on as her career, no doubt, continues to prosper.

HEZBOLLAH AND IRAN ARE
PREPARING FOR WAR ON ISRAEL**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the terrorist group Hezbollah and their Iranian patrons are preparing for war against our Israeli allies. We know this because Israel discovered at least two tunnels crossing into their territory from Lebanon. These tunnels are not for smuggling or any other purpose. They are for the sole purpose of enabling terrorists to sneak into Israel for attacks. This is just more evidence that Hezbollah and Iran are committed to Israel's destruction. We, as Israel's strongest allies, must act to prevent this.

For more than two decades Hezbollah and Iran have been building an arsenal of weapons tailored specifically for eradicating the Jewish State. The attack tunnels recently unearthed are just the latest addition to this growing arsenal. But like many of Hezbollah's weapons, these tunnels are not to challenge Israel's military but to kill its civilians. Despite this fact, no Lebanese leaders have condemned these tunnels or called for their destruction. This is unacceptable.

One of the fundamental responsibilities of a state is to live at peace with its neighbors. Lebanon, however, allows terrorists to stockpile weapons and build attack tunnels in order to wage war on its southern neighbor. If the war that Hezbollah and Iran want comes, it will be the Lebanese people who suffer. During the last war, only twelve years ago, over a thousand Lebanese civilians were killed in the crossfire. Today, with Hezbollah building attack tunnels and weapon stockpiles under homes and civilian structures, it is inevitable that this will happen again.

It is time that the international community and Lebanese government act. For too long they have bullied our friends in Israel while terrorists like Hezbollah prepare to commit mass murder. The warning signs are clear.

These tunnels show that it is Hezbollah and Iran who are the aggressors.

All who stay silent now must accept that the blood will be on their hands when war erupts. And that's just the way it is.

UPON THE OCCASION OF THE RE-
TIREMENT OF LARRY PATTER-
SON, CITY MANAGER OF SAN
MATEO**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Larry Patterson as he departs his position of City Manager after 18 years of stellar service in that role and as Public Works Director for the residents of San Mateo. His retirement has been planned for a while, but this does not make his departure any easier for those of us who've known this man for decades.

Larry has a reputation for taking on the toughest tasks of city governance. Thanks in great part to his efforts, the city's former race-track, Bay Meadows, has been transformed into a 21st century hub of high technology, housing and transportation-related businesses. Where ponies once trotted, Survey Monkeys now play. While many councils and staff contributed to this transformation, the roads, sewers, water, and rail station placement were heavily influenced by the expert vision of Larry Patterson.

San Mateo has several areas that flood. Larry was a champion of these residents through many years of heavy rains or drought. Every City Manager or Public Works Director must also be cognizant of the federal Clean Water Act and the responsibilities of the city under that law. In alliance with Foster City, Larry Patterson devoted countless hours to the development and construction of a \$1 billion + wastewater treatment plant improvement project that will soon allow residents to comply with federal law and to protect our environment for decades to come.

Some little boys really don't grow up, and Larry Patterson's interest in transportation—including trains and roads—illustrates that phenomenon wonderfully. Under Larry's stewardship, and in alliance with Caltrain, San Mateo replaced four rail bridges including one that had long given expensive haircuts to oversized trucks. During his tenure, the city began planning for the impacts of high speed rail and brought the grade separation project at 25th Avenue into construction. The intersection of Highway 92 and El Camino Real was a proverbial gleam in the eye of most San Mateo leadership, but Larry Patterson pushed forward over years and ultimately, in alliance with his highly capable staff, created an interchange that replaced a confusing cloverleaf with a safe intersection that efficiently serves the entire county.

Larry is not all about roads, bridges and rail. He's also a man of the people. San Mateo's Spanish-speaking residents increasingly have their voices heard in city hall because Larry began a program, in alliance with the San Mateo Adult School, to teach Spanish speakers in the city about city government. I should also note his service to the people of Half Moon Bay while on the City Council during the

1990's. It was an extraordinary time in that city's history. As a city manager Larry is, in effect, a "two-fer" for any city councilmember because he's walked in their shoes.

In the past year or so, Larry embarked upon a special assignment, in part at my request. He leads a countywide effort to create a flood and sea level rise resilience district. This district, once formed, will permit San Mateo County to play in the big leagues by securing Army Corps and other federal and state funding. San Mateo County is ground zero in California for sea level rise. Larry waded into this difficult discussion so that future generations in San Mateo County would not have to wade across incoming tides to get to their homes and places of work.

Mr. Speaker, San Mateo has been well served by Larry Patterson. He became City Manager at a time when the economy was accelerating, but he also worked as a senior manager during the darkest days of this nation's recession. He navigated public challenges brilliantly during his years with the city and has now earned a standing ovation for his good humor and great accomplishments across decades. He leaves behind a strong team and a grateful city council and community. He personifies the term public service. We wish Larry Patterson well in the years ahead. He is an outstanding leader, friend, and American.

HONORING EMILY DANIELS
SPAULDING**HON. LUKE MESSER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a former member of my staff, Emily Daniels Spaulding, for her work in my office and her service to our state.

Emily worked in my Indiana office for nearly a year, serving as one of my most senior staffers. Emily has an incredible work ethic and was a tremendous asset to our organization. She brought a wealth of experience and knowledge to our team and was someone I could rely on for on the ground political advice.

On a personal note, I admire Emily's commitment to her faith and family. Emily works very hard and delivers great results. But, you always have the sense that Emily's priorities are in the right order.

I want to thank Emily for her friendship and her hard work in our office. I wish her and Brian continued success in all that God has planned for her family.

POSTMASTER FRAZIER B. BAKER
POST OFFICE**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 7230, a bill I sponsored to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 226 West Main Street in Lake City, South Carolina, as the "Postmaster

Frazier B. Baker Post Office". This bill pays a tribute to a true American hero.

Frazier B. Baker was appointed Postmaster of Effingham, South Carolina in 1892 by President Benjamin Harrison, and in 1897, he was appointed Postmaster of Lake City, South Carolina by President William McKinley.

After Baker was appointed Postmaster of Lake City, local citizens in the predominantly white community subjected his family to months of hostility. The post office mysteriously burned down, and multiple gunshots were fired at him. Residents filed numerous complaints regarding his performance as postmaster, but federal postal administrators determined the allegations were unsubstantiated.

After relocating the post office to his family's home following the previous arson, a lynch mob set fire to it the morning of February 22, 1898. The mob aimed their guns at the home, killing Baker and his two-year-old daughter Julia and injuring his wife and three of his five surviving children. The attack sparked media attention, public uproar, and fundraising efforts on behalf of the Baker family.

Although the state of South Carolina failed to prosecute the mob; federal prosecutors and postal administrators took on the murder investigation. Thirteen men were arrested and charged with twenty-four criminal counts including "a conspiracy to injure and oppress Frazier B. Baker in the free exercise" of his civil rights. The trial began on April 10, 1899 in Charleston, South Carolina with an all-white jury which acquitted three and deadlocked on the remaining accused. The judge declared a mistrial and federal prosecutors did not reopen the case.

Justice was never served for Frazier B. Baker and his family. Designating the U.S. Post Office located at 226 West Main Street in Lake City, South Carolina in his honor is a fitting tribute to his memory.

I thank my colleagues in the South Carolina delegation for their unanimous support of this bill. I urge its passage by the House to honor this outstanding South Carolinian and great American.

IN RECOGNITION OF BILL SLATON

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Bill Slaton as he retires from his post as Board Member of the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD). I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Slaton for his leadership and commitment to the residents of Ward 7 and all of California.

Mr. Slaton was elected to the SMUD Board in November 2002 and has been a diligent leader and representative for the many residents in Ward 7. As a testament to his dedication, Mr. Slaton has served as the Board president three times.

Mr. Slaton's career began after he graduated from the University of Texas with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration. His career in the Sacramento region has been a testament to public service. For years, he served on the Policy Makers Council (PMC) of the American Public Power Association and acted as a strong advocate for customers of

more than the 2,000 public power agencies. Additionally, he has sat on the board of directors for two community banks where he was instrumental in structuring financing for information technology projects utilized by public agencies. In 2012, Mr. Slaton continued his work in advocacy for Californians when he was appointed by Governor Brown to the California Public Employees Retirement System Board of Administration.

Since he has lived in the Greater Sacramento Region, Mr. Slaton has been an inspiring leader for our faith-based community and all who live in the greater region. He served as the chairman of the board of KVIE-Channel 6 and has been a beloved member of Point West Rotary. As a leader in our robust faith community, Mr. Slaton acted as the president of the Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region and is a co-founder of the Jewish Community Foundation of the West.

Mr. Speaker, as family, friends and fellow SMUD Board Members gather to celebrate Mr. Slaton's inspiring career, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring his dedication to the Board and to our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN SEYBERT

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor John Seybert who is leaving the city council of Redwood community, he has served as a councilmember since 2009. He also served as Mayor from 2015 to 2017. His public service began in 2001 when he joined the Planning Commission. When the Great Recession arrived, John stepped up to the challenge as he joined the city council and was immediately confronted with difficult choices to make in the city's budget. His candidacy for council was a very important act of leadership during a time of great stress.

John is passionate about people, buildings, and the quality of life of city residents. He initially moved to Redwood City to lead the development of housing for his then-employer, and he never departed from that commitment to people and their basic needs. Under the leadership of John and his fellow councilmembers, they devised a way to encourage housing development in the downtown that has led to an increase of thousands in the city's core.

Where once the city's downtown was known locally for its bleak storefronts and failing attractions, today's downtown Redwood City is vibrant, bustling and attractive to families and to young people alike. From the major cinema to the history museum to the entry of major employers such as Box.com, John has played a decisive role in ensuring that Broadway moved from darkened storefronts into a blaze of prosperous businesses and nighttime lights and joyous visitors.

I want to note that it takes an especially dedicated local official to join the board of directors of a wastewater treatment entity. John joined with relish and brought his building experience to bear on the board of the Silicon Valley Clean Water Agency. During his service, major upgrades of the system were com-

menced or completed and the agency's finances remained sound despite the challenges of a recession and the ever-present threat of litigation.

John also served on the council's utilities committee, personnel committee, city-owned property committee, and the 101/Woodside Road Interchange Committee. He served on the Airport Land Use Committee, the Belmont/Redwood Shores School District Committee, and on the board of our local housing non-profit, HEART.

In his regular work, John is the facilities manager for our public transit agency, SamTrans. His professional and public work are only made possible by the support of his wife, Donna, as well as his daughters Jessi, Heather and Megan, and his granddaughter, Molly. John's life is full by any measure.

As we take the measure of departing city councilmember John Seybert, I want to note that he's been a thoughtful and respectful colleague and representative. It may be difficult to serve in public life during our modern era, but John has demonstrated that service may be performed in such a manner as to build the public's confidence in the institution of local government. The residents of Redwood City and the county owe John Seybert thanks for his example, and we wish him well as he removes himself from the dais to begin the next phase of his life, that of private citizen deeply dedicated to the public's best interests.

HONORING PRESIDENT GEORGE HERBERT WALKER BUSH

SPEECH OF

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 10, 2018

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of President George Herbert Walker Bush. A patriot and family man, the 41st President of the United States served his country honorably throughout his decades of public service. From the House of Representatives to the White House, he was a man of character who instilled strong conservative values in his leadership.

In 1942, just 6 months after Pearl Harbor, the loss of life and destruction motivated the future president to join the Navy on his 18th birthday. He would become one of the youngest aviators in our country's history; having completed his training, he was commissioned just three days before turning 19 years old. In 1944, he and his crew would partake in the Battle of the Philippine Sea, a crucial battle of WWII that disabled Japan's ability to conduct large-scale aircraft carrier operations. At just 19 years old, he risked his life and took a stand for democracy, a part of the greatest generation who heard and answered the call of duty.

Piloting his own airplane, a Grumman TBF Avenger, the young aviator and his crew took heavy fire near the Bonin Islands during a bombing run. His airplane was damaged and the engine caught fire as he attempted to maneuver away from the fight after successfully dropping his payload. Unfortunately, he was the only aviator to escape with his life of those shot down during that bombing raid. Awaiting rescue in the waters of the Pacific after his