

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2019

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great respect and sincere admiration that I rise today to celebrate Black History Month and its 2019 theme—Black Migrations. This year's theme reflects on the mass movement of African Americans from the rural south to northern, western, and mid-western cities of the United States from approximately 1916 to 1970. This profound movement has played a critical role in changing the landscape of American society for the better and has helped to shape our wonderfully diverse and truly remarkable nation.

During World War I, the first large migrations took place, with over 400,000 African Americans moving from the south and inhabiting major northern cities such as Chicago, Detroit, and Pittsburgh. In the 1920s, another 800,000 people left the south, followed by another 400,000 in the 1930s. Between 1940 and 1960, over 3,300,000 African Americans had migrated from southern states to resettle in northern and western cities. While there were numerous reasons for this migration, many individuals and families were hoping to escape the economic oppression they were experiencing in the south, which left little room for economic growth. World War I created a demand for workers in the steel mills, factories, and railroads, and most people moved for higher paying jobs. When the migration began, a factory wage in the north was more than three times the amount an African American could expect to make working the land in the south. By World War II, African American people continued to move north but also settled west, in California, Oregon, and Washington.

Black migration influenced religion, music, literature, arts, social perspectives, tradition, and the history of our nation, and we are forever grateful for the impact it had on creating a rich, culturally diverse America. In addition, African Americans now had a new voice in shaping public policy through political activism. However, while the movement brought more opportunity and ideas, African Americans continued to fight with racism, prejudice, and injustice. During this time, there were numerous race riots in the north, including the Chicago Race Riot of 1919, which lasted thirteen days, leaving 38 people dead, 537 people injured, and 1,000 black families without homes. While our great country has made tremendous strides in the fight for equality and civil rights, there is much work to be done.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in celebrating Black History Month. This month and always, it is important that we honor and celebrate America's greatest advocates for equal rights and civil liberties. As we pay tribute to these

heroes of American history, let us remember their profound perseverance, sacrifice, and struggle in the fight for freedom and equality, and the remarkable impact their contributions have had in shaping our great nation.

RECOGNIZING RABBI DAVID STEINHARDT'S 25 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2019

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I am honored to rise today in recognition of the important work done by Rabbi David Steinhardt of B'nai Torah Congregation.

For 25 years, Rabbi Steinhardt has offered a religious home in the B'nai Torah congregation. As a member myself, the Rabbi has brought words of wisdom, healing, and inspiration to me, my family, and the Jewish community of Boca Raton. His deep commitment to teaching and advancing Jewish values has brought B'nai Torah to preeminence. His sermons reinforce our values and provide spiritual guidance, and his deep commitment to Israel is most appreciated by our community. For these 25 years of leadership, I am grateful for Rabbi Steinhardt.

In times of hardship, such as after the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas, Rabbi Steinhardt has created a space for mourning and healing within B'nai Torah. After the Tree of Life synagogue shooting in Pittsburgh, he welcomed local leaders of all religious denominations for a powerful community-wide vigil. Rabbi Steinhardt's work with the Interfaith Clergy Association has contributed significantly to the strength of our broader community.

As we begin this new year, I am confident Rabbi David Steinhardt will continue to be a cherished member of the Boca Raton community. I greatly appreciate Rabbi Steinhardt's dedication to the congregants of B'nai Torah and the people of South Florida, and I am pleased to honor him.

CHRISTIAN BANZIGER EARNS THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2019

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Christian Banziger of Sugar Land, TX for earning the rank of Eagle Scout. Eagle Scout is the highest honor a Boy Scout can earn.

Only a small percentage of Boy Scouts reach the rank of Eagle Scout. This honor requires years of effort to develop the necessary

leadership, service and outdoor skills. To earn it, Christian developed and provided leadership to others in a service project. For his project, Christian built a table and benches for the Arya Samaj Greater Houston and Vedic Culture Center. His dedication to our community has prepared him to be a leader in his future career. The leadership skills he has learned through Boy Scouts are already benefiting our community, just as the contributions of Boy Scouts continue to benefit our communities in countless ways.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Christian Banziger for becoming an Eagle Scout. We are proud of his continued success and thank him for his dedication to making our community a better place.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2019

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central California (BBBS) on the occasion of their 50th anniversary. Since its creation, BBBS has assisted in establishing meaningful, professional, and long-lasting relationships between adult volunteers and young adults.

Big Brothers of America was created in 1904, by Ernest Kent Coulter. Ernest worked as a children's court clerk in New York City and watched countless young boys shuffle in and out of the courtroom. He believed that if caring adults could guide and help the children, they could stay away from trouble and grow up to become productive members of their community. At the same time, members of the organization Ladies of Charity, were maintaining friendships with young girls who had gone through the New York children's court. This organization would become the Catholic Big Sisters. This growing movement of mentorship brought caring role models into the lives of children across the nation.

In 1946, the United States Congress recognized Big Brothers of America as a social welfare organization. The simultaneous growth of the two organizations led to the merging of Big Brothers of America and Big Sisters of America into Big Brothers Big Sisters of America in 1977.

Locally, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central California has served over 20,000 children and their families. In 1997, satellite offices were opened in Hanford and Madera, to cover an expanded service area of Kings and Madera counties. Expanding yet again, in late 2007 BBBS merged with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tulare County and became the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central California to reflect their new region. Today, BBBS Central California

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