

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING MR. EDWARD HAMBERGER ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

**HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 7, 2019*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Edward Hamberger on his retirement from the Association of American Railroads (AAR), where he has served as President since 1998. As a member of the Transportation and Infrastructure committee, and having worked alongside him for 14 years, I am pleased to recognize his contributions and commitment to America's rail transportation.

As President of AAR, Mr. Hamberger was committed to improving the safety and efficiency of our nation's rail transportation network. His more than 40 years of professional experience have spanned the legislative and executive branches of government, and private legal practice. As President of AAR, he was instrumental in elevating the voice of the rail industry during the consideration of important legislation including the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users, the Passenger Rail Reform and Investment Act of 2015 and the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act of 2016. Working collaboratively with Members of Congress, Mr. Hamberger was able to ensure these bills put forward policies that have improved safety and contributed to the strength of the industry.

In addition to his work with AAR, Mr. Hamberger has served as an appointed member of the Private Sector Advisory Panel on Infrastructure Financing and as a member of the Presidential Commission on Intermodal Transportation. Most recently, he served on the Blue Ribbon Panel of Transportation Experts, after being appointed by the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission. He is also a Board Member with Railine, GoRail, and the University of Denver Intermodal Transportation Institute.

His impact on transportation extends to the farthest reaches of our transportation network, and I am grateful for his service and expertise. As a policymaker, I will miss his thoughtful contribution to national dialogue and his charismatic demeanor.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Hamberger's retirement and professional accomplishments throughout his career. While his presence will be missed on Capitol Hill, I wish him, and his wife Susan, a happy retirement.

CELEBRATION AND RECOGNITION OF GEORGE SCIMGER

**HON. PAUL MITCHELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 7, 2019*

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Elba Township Deputy Fire Chief George Scimger's 45 years of service to Lapeer County.

Born and raised in North Branch, Michigan, Mr. Scimger has served and protected our community for decades, working his way from a firefighter, to captain, to assistant chief, and now deputy chief.

In addition to his duties as a firefighter, fire-fighting instructor, and hazmat instructor, Mr. Scimger has contributed to many organizations serving as chairman for both the Lapeer County Fire Association and the Michigan State Firemen's Association.

George has been honored many times for his commitment to the community. The Lapeer County Fire Association awarded him the award for Firefighter of the Year and Outstanding Officer two times. Also, his home township, Elba Township, awarded him the Chief's Award two times.

He has been a dedicated husband, father, and grandfather to his wife of 53 years, Carol, their three children, and four grandchildren.

I join George's family, friends, and the Lapeer County community in thanking him for the years of service and wish him well in his retirement.

RECOGNIZING STUDENTS AND FACULTY OF BIG TIMBER GRADE SCHOOL AND SWEET GRASS COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

**HON. GREG GIANFORTE**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 7, 2019*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the students and faculty of Big Timber Grade School and Sweet Grass County High School for supporting and encouraging Barrett Artukovich, a 7-year-old, second-grade student from Big Timber who is battling cancer.

In early December 2018, Barrett was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma, a form of cancer that can advance quickly throughout the body and weaken the immune system. Barrett is undergoing a unique, personalized, two-year treatment plan in Colorado where he and his parents, Bill and Heather Artukovich, will travel frequently for clinical visits.

The Big Timber community has rallied around the family, offering generous support.

Because of the treatment, Barrett's head is shaved, and he wears a hat. The boys in Barrett's class shaved their heads in support of their friend. Big Timber Grade School and

Sweet Grass County High School recently observed "Wear a Hat for Barrett Day" with students wearing hats in school with a one-dollar donation to support a fund for the Artukovichs.

The schools kicked off "Barrett's Penny War," a competition among each grade level to see which grade raises the most money through the end of February.

The high school boys basketball team named Barrett its honorary captain for the season. With his parents taking precautions, Barrett attended the emotional game where the team presented him with an autographed basketball and team picture.

With the help of a grant, Barrett participates virtually in the classroom using a telepresence robot. The device provides a two-way audio/video connection which allows Barrett to interact with his teacher and classmates from home.

Barrett's uncle set up an online campaign to help with travel, accommodations, and other expenses. The initial goal of \$20,000 was met within a day, according to Bill Artukovich.

Madam Speaker, for their encouragement and support of a classmate battling cancer and his family, I recognize the students and faculty of Big Timber Grade School and Sweet Grass County High School for their spirit of Montana.

IN MEMORY OF TROOPER LUCAS B. DOWELL

**HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 7, 2019*

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, the Commonwealth of Virginia mourns the loss of Trooper Lucas B. Dowell of the Virginia State Police. Trooper Dowell was killed in the line of duty on February 4, 2019, at the age of 28. His life, although too short, showed a commitment to the rigorous calling of law enforcement.

Trooper Dowell was a native of Chilhowie in Smyth County. He participated in athletics during his days at Chilhowie High School, playing football and baseball. After graduating in 2009, he pursued an interest in law enforcement. At Radford University, he earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice. He graduated from the Virginia State Police's 122nd Basic Session in November 2014 and subsequently served in its Appomattox Division. While executing a search warrant in Cumberland County as part of a Virginia State Police Tactical Team, a suspect opened fire and Trooper Dowell was hit. He later died at Southside Community Hospital in Farmville.

Law enforcement can be a demanding vocation, requiring sacrifices that may include, as the example of Trooper Dowell shows, the ultimate sacrifice, one's life. This is a loss for the Commonwealth of Virginia, Smyth County, and the Town of Chilhowie. I mourn his loss, yet I am grateful that he and the other men

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