

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 13, 2019*

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I was unable to have my votes recorded on the House floor Monday, February 11, 2019 due to unexpected family obligations in Wisconsin. Had I been present, I would have supported the passage of both bills considered on the floor.

## TRIBUTE TO NAT "KING" COLE

### HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 13, 2019*

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Nat "King" Cole, who was born one hundred years ago on March 17, 1919 in Montgomery, Alabama.

Mr. Cole is recognized for being one of the most distinguished and exemplary music recording artists of all time and as a talisman for the civil rights movement.

Nat King Cole began his music career with a focus on jazz, having founded the Nat King Cole Trio as a young man. The band quickly became an influential melodic phenomenon. He signed with Capitol Records in 1943, and the release of his first album, *The King Cole Trio*, followed in 1945. The album was widely successful as it hit the top of Billboard's inaugural album chart. The talented pianist and vocalist went on to record approximately 700 songs under Capitol Record's label, including 150 singles that appeared on the R&B, Pop and/or Country charts of Billboard. Mr. Cole's success caused Capitol Record's legendary Hollywood building on Vine Street to be informally nicknamed "The House That Nat Built."

In 1946, he hosted the nationally aired, fifteen-minute "King Cole Trio Time," which was the first broadcast of its kind to have an African American musician as a host. Mr. Cole made history once again in 1956 when he became the first African American performer to host his own network television show, NBC's "Nat King Cole Show." He also appeared in numerous films, including *St. Louis Blues* and *Cat Ballou*.

Along with his legendary musical career, Mr. Cole is remembered for his milestone leadership in the civil rights movement. After purchasing a house in the all-white Hancock Park neighborhood in 1948, he became a target of the Ku Klux Klan who burned a cross on his family's lawn. This horrific incident spurred him to help overturn a 1920's City of Los Angeles statute that allowed the neighborhood to be segregated.

Before Mr. Cole's premature death in 1965, when he was just 45 years old, his final album, *L-O-V-E*, reached number four on the Billboard album chart. At that time, Capital

Records had sold more than nine million Nat King Cole records. Nat King Cole received many honors including being inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, receiving a Recording Academy Lifetime Achievement Award and being featured on a U.S. Postal Service commemorative stamp.

Married in 1948, Mr. Cole and his wife, Maria had five children: Natalie, Carole, Nat Kelly, Casey and Timolin. In 2008, their twin daughters, Timolin and Casey Cole, founded Nat King Cole Generation Hope to help fund music programs for schools across America.

I ask all Members of Congress to join me in recognizing Nat King Cole on the one-hundred-year milestone of his birth. Mr. Cole's life is a lesson in success despite adversity, the triumph of respect, talent and civility coupled with cultural, business and political savvy.

## RECOGNIZING THE CITY OF SUMAS, WASHINGTON

### HON. SUZAN K. DELBENE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 13, 2019*

Ms. DELBENE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the City of Sumas, which was voted to have the best-tasting water in Washington State. I congratulate them on this exemplary achievement.

On August 29, 2018, the Evergreen Rural Water of Washington held its sixteenth annual Water Taste Test, and the City of Sumas placed first among twenty-three competitors from across Washington state. The judges graded the water samples on taste, odor, and clarity. This is the second time in seven years Sumas has won best-tasting water title in the state.

By placing first in Washington State's Water Taste Test, the City of Sumas then qualified for the Great American Water Taste Test, hosted by the National Rural Water Association in Washington, D.C. On February 6, 2019, the City of Sumas' water sample placed fifth in the nation.

I am incredibly proud to see the City of Sumas' hard work and efforts be recognized at the state and national levels.

Again, I congratulate the City of Sumas on their accomplishments and look forward to enjoying a glass of their water the next time I am in town.

## CELEBRATING THE RAMONA TOWN HALL 125TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 13, 2019*

Mr. HUNTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a celebrated moment for one of San Diego County's true historical landmarks

located in my district. It is very rare to have a piece of living history in our community, but we are blessed with such a place on Main Street in Ramona, California, with the Ramona Town Hall. It is both a snapshot of the pioneering spirit of the Old West, as well as evidence of a thriving community spirit. The Ramona Town Hall is celebrating its 125th Anniversary this year and I would like to take a moment to highlight this important achievement.

In 1894, property lots were donated to the community on which to build a structure that would serve the people of the Santa Maria Valley. Designed by architect William S. Hebbard, the Ramona Town Hall, also known as Town Hall of Nuevo and Barnett Hall, would become one of the largest, and oldest, adobe structures in Southern California and serve as Ramona's first high school, bank, library, movie theater, justice court and community dance hall.

Ramona Town Hall was also home to many of the town's religious groups while their churches were being built, as well as the birthplace of many other local organizations, including the Ramona Grange, the Santa Maria Masonic Lodge, the Ramona Pioneer Historical Society, the Ramona Chamber of Commerce, the Ramona Art Guild, the Town Hall Players and the Ramona Council of Arts, Unlimited. Events that took place at Ramona Town Hall included temperance meetings, Turkey Days, voting polls, 4-H Youth benefits, political meetings, as well as community theater and silent film festivals. The Ramona Town Hall was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1994.

Despite this proud history, the fate of Ramona Town Hall at times became seriously in question. Since its inception, Ramona Town Hall has operated solely on fundraisers, grant monies, private donations and rent collected for a variety of events. While always seemingly in demand, there was a very real possibility at one point of the Ramona Town Hall closing its doors. Thankfully, the people of Ramona have never allowed this to happen and, due to the faithful service and dedication of private citizens on the Ramona Town Hall Board of Trustees, they help maintain and manage the Town Hall to ensure that it remains viable, available to the community, and a continued source of local pride. I have had the honor and pleasure myself of speaking with my constituents on several occasions at the Ramona Town Hall.

I want to congratulate the people of Ramona, particularly the private citizens who volunteer their time and resources toward ensuring the Ramona Town Hall continues to serve its intended purpose. Their commitment toward this cause is a reflection of the Ramona community as a whole and provides confidence to us all that the Ramona Town Hall will continue to be a local asset and treasure for years to come.

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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.