

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF ROBERT CROSSK

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with deep sadness but with fond memories that I take this time to remember one of Northwest Indiana's finest citizens, Mr. Robert Crossk, former Hobart City and Lake County Councilman. Bob's service to the people of Northwest Indiana is worthy of our deepest admiration. Mr. Crossk passed away at the age of 86 on Sunday, January 27, 2019, but the impact he has had on his community will live on for generations to come.

Robert Crossk epitomized what it means to be a civil servant, working tirelessly and without self-interest for all the residents of Lake County, Indiana. Mr. Crossk served on the Hobart City Council from 1979 to 1983 before his election to the Lake County Council. Councilman Crossk went on to represent the sixth district of Lake County from 1983 to 1998. Bob was a remarkable civic leader who was known for his hard work, dedication, and integrity. A union man by trade, Bob was a member of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 150 for much of his life. Mr. Crossk also devoted much of his energy to charitable organizations such as the Knights of Columbus and Veterans of Foreign Wars. For his passionate dedication to helping others throughout his lifetime, Bob Crossk is truly worthy of the highest praise.

Robert Crossk leaves to cherish his memory a loving family. He is survived by his wonderful wife, Gladys, and their four beloved daughters, two sons, six grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren, not to mention many other dear friends and family members whose lives have been enriched by having known him. Bob will also be forever remembered by a grateful community of Lake County residents who he selflessly served with distinction for so many years.

I especially want to note that I have known Bob for my entire life. For every one of those days, I have only known Mr. Crossk to be a gentleman, possessed an expansive and warm personality, and an unflagging generosity of spirit. My life has been enriched because Robert Crossk assisted me along the path of life.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Robert Crossk for his outstanding devotion to the community of Northwest Indiana and beyond. Bob's life of service is to be commended, and his unwavering commitment to making the region a better place will serve as an inspiration to us all.

RECOGNIZING JOHN W. ROGERS, JR. FOR EXCEPTIONAL CON- TRIBUTIONS TO CIVIC LIFE

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize John W. Rogers, Jr. for his lifetime of service to the people of the City of Chicago, the State of Illinois, and to our nation. As a business leader, philanthropist, and tireless advocate for opening new opportunities for people of color, John has a history of exceptional contributions to our civic life that continue to the present day.

Born and raised in the City of Chicago, John Rogers, Jr. is the product of parents notable for their own achievements: his father was a judge and former Tuskegee Airman, and his mother was the first African-American woman to graduate from the University of Chicago Law School and to argue a case before the United States Supreme Court. After completing his secondary education at the University of Chicago Laboratory Schools, John attended Princeton University where he earned a degree in Economics and co-captained the school's Ivy League championship varsity basketball team. His interest in finance can be traced to a gift of stock for his 12th birthday, a present that ignited a lifelong fascination with investment and the complexities of financial valuation.

After two years working as a stockbroker at a Chicago investment banking firm, John launched an investment fund informed by his understanding that the highest returns are generated by patience and a research-driven approach to uncovering hidden value. That methodology has built Ariel Investments, LLC into a highly respected firm employing more than 100 analysts and staff and managing more than \$11 billion in assets. John's financial acumen is valued by the boards of directors of some of our nation's largest and most consequential enterprises, including the New York Times Company, Exelon and Nike.

The achievements of John Rogers, Jr. are not limited to the world of finance—his civic engagement extends to cultural institutions (he is a life trustee of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra), and he has been a bold champion committed to strengthening underserved communities and addressing inequities experienced by people of color. He is the first African-American recipient of Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson award, recognizing his service to the Princeton University alumni community and to organizations including the Chicago Urban League (where he is a life director), the Rainbow PUSH Coalition Wall Street Project, and Project Vote (an organization dedicated to enfranchising underserved communities and empowering individuals to exercise their constitutional right to vote). He has served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the University of Chicago Laboratory

Schools, is a trustee of the University of Chicago, and, either personally or through Ariel Investments, generously endowed scholarships for under-resourced students at the Laboratory Schools, provided seed money to underwrite an investment fund that introduces financial management to students at Ariel Community Academy (a K–8 school in the Chicago Public School system), and funded a finance internship program for University of Chicago students of color interested in careers in financial services. John also serves on the Board of Directors for the Obama Foundation, where he works to help build the next generation of civic leaders.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the grateful citizens of Illinois, I want to thank John W. Rogers, Jr. for all that he has done and all that he continues to do to improve our nation and to open opportunities historically inaccessible to communities of color.

RECOGNIZING JACK STENSWICK OF MALTA

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jack Stenswick of Malta who serves as his town's goodwill ambassador.

A lifelong Malta resident, Jack is one of the town's most known and loved figures. He warmly greets and talks with everyone he sees, whether he's walking around town or riding his three-wheel cycle, a gift from the people of Malta.

"Jack definitely embodies the spirit of Montana," says Dina Sainato-Meneely, Executive Director at Malta Opportunities, Inc. (MOI). "He's so well-known, and well-liked that it might take him all afternoon to go to the store and back. He is undoubtedly our town's goodwill ambassador, and certainly a good ambassador for people with developmental disabilities."

Though developmental disabilities may present challenges, Jack Stenswick overcomes them and has never allowed them to limit his natural ability to make others feel welcome and loved.

A member of the Knights of Columbus, Jack volunteers for local service projects through the organization and his local church. Supporting almost every civic event, celebration, or activity in town, he greets everyone by name and shares the joy of their friendship.

"Anybody who has been to Malta will know Jack, and you can't help but like him," says Dave Rummel, who helps supervise Jack as a groundskeeper for the cemetery, one of the many places Jack has worked in Malta through MOI.

"He's Malta's unofficial town greeter," Rummel said. "Everyone likes to spend time with him. Even folks from miles away remember Jack and are always glad to see him."

• 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.

Madam Speaker, for overcoming the challenges he has faced to serve as a beloved pillar of Malta and the town's goodwill ambassador, I recognize Jack Stenswick for his spirit of Montana.

CELEBRATING THE 101ST ANNIVERSARY OF LITHUANIAN INDEPENDENCE

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 101st anniversary of Lithuanian independence. It is an honor to recognize a nation with such rich and vibrant history and whose immigrants and descendants have enriched the cultural landscape of our nation.

Chicagoland is fortunate to be home to the largest Lithuanian diaspora population in the world. With Little Lithuania on the Southwest Side of Chicago and a significant part of the community in Lemont and Cicero, I am proud to represent a part of this heritage. The celebration of Lithuania's 101st anniversary pays due respect to the signing of Lithuania's Act of Independence on February 16, 1918, an act that sought to restore an independent state. Although true independence was not achieved until after World War I and the fall of the German Empire, this single rebellious act paved the way for what has become a free and democratically governed state. Lithuanian-Americans have reason to celebrate their heritage proudly.

One such place where Chicagoan Lithuanians have found a home is in Marquette Park at the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, founded by Lithuanian immigrants in 1927. A beautiful new church was constructed in 1957 incorporating influences from the Lithuanian folk baroque style and Lithuanian folk art. This includes a gold-plated reproduction of the Virgin Mary from a shrine in Siluva, Lithuania. Now led by Pastor Juanius Kelpšas and Father Gediminas Keršys, this beautiful church continues to receive numerous parishioners and visitors, each bearing witness to a rich component of Lithuanian-American history.

In 2015 I had the opportunity to visit Lithuania with a congressional delegation led by then-Speaker Boehner to celebrate and strengthen the bonds between our countries. I had a wonderful experience meeting Lithuanians and enjoying the beauty of the country in Vilnius and on the Baltic Coast. One of my most cherished memories was my visit to Our Lady of the Gate of Dawn.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring Lithuanian Independence Day. At home, I have witnessed firsthand the positive contributions Lithuanian-Americans bring to our local community, and I trust that the bonds between our two nations will remain strong.

PAWEL ADAMOWICZ DEMOCRATIC LEADERSHIP EXCHANGE PROGRAM

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the legacy of Mayor Pawel Adamowicz

of Gdansk, Poland, who was tragically murdered just a few weeks ago.

Mayor Adamowicz was a powerful voice for liberty in Poland, and always acted with the best interests of his people at heart.

A resurgent Russia seeks to undermine transatlantic solidarity and Western resolve. In the face of transatlantic challenges, we must strengthen U.S.-Polish relations.

That is why we must extend a hand of friendship to the next generation of democratic, transatlantic leaders. These shared democratic values go back to our nations' founding, and are critical to liberty in Europe today.

I am honored to introduce legislation to establish the "Pawel Adamowicz Democratic Leadership Exchange Act." This program would equip the next generation of leaders with the skills and networks needed to strengthen transatlantic relationships.

In honor of Mayor Adamowicz's legacy, I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation. I ask that it be brought to the floor for a vote without delay.

IN RECOGNITION OF TEXAS SENATOR JANE NELSON

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to my friend Texas State Senator Jane Nelson. On Tuesday, January 8, 2018, Senator Nelson gaveled in the first day of the Texas Senate, becoming the first woman to usher in the opening session.

Senator Nelson is a true trailblazer. First elected in 1993, she is the highest-ranking Republican in the Texas Senate. During her tenure, Senator Nelson has led efforts to promote fiscal responsibility, strengthen education, and care for Texas veterans. She made history in 2013 when she was appointed as the first woman to chair the Texas Senate Committee on Finance, and in this role continues to oversee the creation of the Texas budget.

Senator Nelson lives in Flower Mound and represents portions of Denton and Tarrant Counties. A former teacher and fellow University of North Texas alum, she previously served two terms on the State Board of Education. As a public servant and longtime North Texas fixture, Senator Nelson is deeply committed to our community. I am grateful for her many years of service, and I congratulate her on this groundbreaking achievement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I missed votes due to circumstances beyond my control. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on Roll Call No. 78; nay on Roll Call No. 79; and yea on Roll Call No. 80.

DEER TRAIL RODEO'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. BUCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Town of Deer Trail, Colorado for commemorating its 150th year of rodeo competition.

The first rodeo in the world was held in Deer Trail, Colorado on July 4, 1869. Multiple organizations, including the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame, History Channel, and Guinness Book of World Records have recognized this milestone. Deer Trail should be appropriately recognized for fostering and promoting rodeo, and thereby helping to preserve our Western culture.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Fourth Congressional District of Colorado, I extend my congratulations and best wishes to the Deer Trail Rodeo. We look forward to their continued success.

VETERAN OF THE MONTH—DR. CLARENCE G. OLIVER, JR.

HON. KEVIN HERN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Dr. Clarence G. Oliver, Jr. of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma.

Dr. Oliver has worn many hats. He's been a teacher, journalist, school administrator, Army officer, newspaper editor and publisher, community leader, university professor, author, and the Dean of Education at Oral Roberts University.

In all of these roles, Dr. Oliver has proven himself to be a service-minded leader and a role model for many.

An American hero, Dr. Oliver served our country as an Infantry master sergeant during the Korean War. He received a direct appointment as a second lieutenant, Infantry, in 1952 and served in command and staff assignments for two decades, plus another 10 years in the U.S. Army Reserves.

Dr. Oliver's career of service extends far beyond his military accomplishments.

He was superintendent of one of Oklahoma's fastest-growing schools and served as an administrator for 30 years. After serving as the Dean of Education at ORU, he continues to volunteer as an adjunct professor and guest lecturer and serves on doctoral degree dissertation committees.

Dr. Oliver was twice chosen as the Oklahoma Superintendent of the Year.

The Broken Arrow Chamber of Commerce recognized him as the "Outstanding Citizen of the Year" in 1975 and again in 1992 and awarded with the Chamber's "Legacy" award in 2011. In 2015, the Chamber created the "Dr. Clarence G. Oliver, Jr. Lifetime Achievement Award", further testament to the impact Dr. Oliver continues to have on his community.

I am honored to recognize Dr. Oliver today for his service both in our military and as a citizen and educator, and I am honored to call him my friend.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF
MRS. TERESA GARCIA MEDINA

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Mrs. Teresa Garcia Medina, a beloved community leader and public servant of Missouri's Fifth Congressional District. In life, Mrs. Medina embodied a selfless dedication to her family, her innumerable friends, and the larger community of Kansas City, Missouri. Throughout her ninety-five years of life, Mrs. Medina served the people around her with a generous spirit and a warm heart.

Mrs. Medina was born to Cristobal Garcia and Carlota Hernandez in 1923. Throughout her life, Mrs. Medina always put her faith and her family first, both as a loving wife to Agustin "Chino" Medina and as a mother to their four children. She is survived by her children and their spouses; Enrique and Maria Chaurand, Cris and Mary Medina, Mike and Yolanda Casey, and Sandy Medina; as well as nine grandchildren and eleven great grandchildren.

Teresa Garcia Medina grew up in the Historic Westside of Kansas City, Missouri, a predominantly Latino community, and attended Our Lady of Guadalupe School. During this time, Teresa and her sister, Jessie Nieto, would make friends and community ties that would last a lifetime. Mrs. Medina and her sister would later use the skills they learned at Our Lady of Guadalupe to work as tailors at Jack Henry on the Plaza. Far from forgetting the community from which she came, Mrs. Medina continued to give back through her work as a member of La Union Cultural Mexicana Femenina and Las Guadalupeñas. The legacy of her impact on the community continues through her children and grandchildren, as they remain active in the Latino community of the Greater Kansas City Metropolitan Area.

Throughout her life, Mrs. Medina's personal faith was the central focus. She served steadfastly as a member of the Sacred Heart/Guadalupe Catholic Parish for many decades. In the 1990s she worked alongside other Mexican-American women of her congregation to preserve Las Guadalupeñas when the Bishop and other leadership threatened to close their chapel. Traveling from door-to-door, gathering support and financial resources, these devout women successfully fought to keep the institution open as a pillar of the community. Actions like this demonstrate the fervent faith that Mrs. Medina carried with her and why she was cherished by all who knew her.

Those who knew her said they would always remember her warm smile and her gentle ways, her kindness to the neighborhood children, and her love for her community. Mrs. Medina personified the full and overflowing life of a Catholic and lived each day to the fullest. She was beloved by those who knew her and will be missed by all.

Please join me and all of Missouri's Fifth Congressional District in honoring Mrs. Teresa Garcia Medina for her commitment to social justice and her contributions to the Latino community in Kansas City. It is with great respect that I urge all my fellow citizens across

the city and the country to join me in showing our appreciation to Mrs. Medina, and send our deepest condolences to her family and the innumerable people touched by her life.

HIGHLIGHTING THE NEED TO REPLACE ENBRIDGE'S LINE 3 PIPE-LINE

HON. PETE STAUBER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. STAUBER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight the critical need to replace Enbridge's Line 3, an aging pipeline dangerously corroding and operating at only 51 percent.

Line 3 pipeline replacement project is on its fourth year of review and has met or exceeded every single required environmental standard. The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission unanimously voted to issue its Certificate of Need last year.

The project will create more than 4,000 construction jobs and enjoys the support of construction trade unions throughout the state. The project is supported by dozens of elected officials and thousands of Minnesotans. It will also generate an additional 19 million dollars in property tax revenue, providing a significant funding increase to rural schools.

With all this benefit, it was greatly disappointing to hear we would have further delays.

Unfortunately, certain state officials in Minnesota feel beholden to, in the words of our operating engineers, "environmental extremism." These environmental extremists are the same folks that vandalized the current pipeline just last week, ironically creating a dangerous situation for themselves and the environment they claim to protect.

The voters of northeastern Minnesota sent me to Congress to advocate for their jobs and safe use and protection of our natural resources. Therefore, I will continue to champion commonsense projects like the replacement of the Line 3 pipeline.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF ROBERT J. TUCCI

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Robert J. Tucci, who passed away peacefully on Monday, January 14, 2019 at the age of ninety-two years old.

Bob Tucci, of Fairlawn and formerly of Canton, was born to the late Paul and Rose (Marino) Tucci on August 31, 1926. Robert graduated from Canton McKinley High School where he was a three-sport letterman in football, basketball and baseball. Bob played on two McKinley Bulldog state championship football teams and served as captain his senior year. He played in the first North-South All-Star football game and was later inducted into the Canton McKinley Football Hall of Fame.

After high school, Bob went to the University of Cincinnati to play football, however, his ca-

reer there was cut short while he served our country in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. After the war, Robert became a Bricklayer for Local No. 6, from which he retired at the age of 59. He and his wife, Jo, enjoyed their retirement by traveling to all 50 states and numerous countries.

In addition to his parents; Robert was preceded in death by his loving wife of 65 years, Josephine on November 5, 2018; brother, August Tucci; sister, Antoinette Caster; and granddaughter, Andrea Rose Teodosio. He is survived by his children, Linda (Thomas) Teodosio of Munroe Falls, Paul (Laura) Tucci of Canal Fulton, and Robert, Jr. (Elizabeth) Tucci of Akron. He is also survived by grandchildren, Christopher (Katherine) Teodosio, and Bradford, Angela, Nicholas, and Alexander Tucci; and two great-grandchildren, Charlotte and Ava Teodosio.

The family extends their gratitude to the staff at the Village of St. Edward's, Cleveland Clinic Hospice and Senior Helpers for their loving care of Robert and Josephine over the last year.

I am very proud to be a friend of his daughter, Judge Linda Tucci Teodosio, and his son-in-law, Judge Thomas Teodosio. I extend my deepest sympathies to all the family and friends whose lives were blessed by Robert Tucci.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE McMATH MIDDLE SCHOOL TIGER JAZZ BAND

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the notable achievements of Denton ISD's Carroll McMath Middle School Tiger Jazz Band.

This past year, the McMath Jazz Band was named the top middle school jazz ensemble in the state by the Texas Music Educators Association. Recently, they had the honor of playing at the University of North Texas's Kenton Hall, home of the Grammy-nominated One O'Clock Lab Band. The McMath Tigers are the first middle school jazz ensemble to perform in this famed music venue alongside UNT's acclaimed faculty.

In recognition of the students' music proficiency, the McMath Jazz Band will perform at the Texas Music Educators Association's annual convention in San Antonio on February 14, 2019.

The ensemble musicians include: Eli Adams, Tajalli Baugher, Aaron Borges, Vahid Baugher, Jaydan Chavez, Evan Chuah, Nicole Cygan, Isaac Dean, Ethan Desjardins, Rowan Eshbaugh-Soha, Alexander Evangelopoulos, Lily Fosmire, Caleb Harold, Travis Harris III, Nicholas Iaia, Gerald Jones, Elliot Kensing, Jake Meyering, Jesse Mumford, Kaie Oliver, Josiah Panter, Nicholas Salas, Amari Toney, Jonathan Weaver, Daniel Wen, Jeremiah Williams.

These young student musicians, under the leadership of Band Director Mr. Travis Harris and Assistant Band Director Mrs. Kelsey Gaskill, have worked as a team to reach their goals. I congratulate these North Texas students on their success, and wish each of them the best in their future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE BOST

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, on February 12, 2019, I was unavailable to vote in the House. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on Roll Call No. 76 and yea on Roll Call No. 77.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRENDA L. LAWRENCE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, on February 11, 2019, I was not able to cast my votes during the vote series due to prior obligation in my District. Had I been in attendance, I would have voted: Yes on H.R. 1065—Social Media Use in Clearance Investigations Act of 2019 (Sponsored by Rep. STEPHEN LYNCH/Oversight and Reform Committee); and Yes on H.R. 1079—CASES Act (Sponsored by Rep. GARRET GRAVES/Oversight and Reform Committee).

USPS INTERPRETATION OF RSIA

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. YOUNG. Madam Speaker, it was my pleasure as Dean of the House of Representatives to swear you in at the beginning of this Congressional Session. I pledge to work with you on all matters affecting our Nation and my home State of Alaska.

I want to bring to the attention of my colleagues, and the United States Postal Service (USPS), which receives a certain level of federal funding for forgone revenue due to free and reduced rate mail under the Financial Services and General Government (FSGG) Title of the appropriations package, an issue that is critical to safe and stable passenger air service in Alaska.

Alaska is unique in comparison to other States within our Union in that we have special mail service to provide roughly the equivalent of universal postal service, on par with the rest of the country, to remote Alaskan communities throughout my State which are not connected to the U.S. road system. By way of aviation, vital "bypass" mail service is provided via air carriers to towns and villages all over Alaska. This service is critical to the State of Alaska and to my constituents. USPS has jurisdiction over this program and, from time to time, has implemented its interpretations that diverge from Congressional intent of the Rural Services Improvement Act (RSIA)—a law that I helped develop with my former Senate colleague Ted Stevens, and which governs the USPS mail-delivery system for Alaska.

The intent of RSIA is very similar to the intent of the USPS funding included in the Financial Services appropriations bill—to ensure

that rural postal delivery is maintained at prior year levels and to prevent the closure of important rural post offices.

There is only one airline in Alaska that now delivers mail and passengers "from the first to the last mile" to the far reaches of the State—to Native communities, to communities on the Aleutian chain, and the northern-most towns and villages in the State. This airline, Ravn Air, has been disadvantaged by the USPS's interpretation of RSIA that does not grant the air carrier the status as an "existing mainline carrier" under the statute. This status will help further ensure that viable passenger service and mail delivery is maintained throughout the State.

From time to time, it is fair and appropriate for USPS to objectively reevaluate its interpretation of RSIA to provide an updated application of the law and to consider Ravn for this status.

I intend to follow up with USPS and its new Commissioners regarding this request. The entire Alaska Congressional Delegation has previously written USPS on this matter and I will continue to reach out to my Senate Colleagues for review of this with USPS in light of changes within USPS itself, and changes in the airline industry and marketplace in Alaska.

I thank my colleagues and with that I will vote for passage of the Financial Services bill as part of the final FY '19 Appropriations package.

IN HONOR OF THE OUTSTANDING CAREER OF GRAHAM T. "BUBBA" MOORE, JR.

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Graham T. "Bubba" Moore, Jr. on his nearly fifty years of outstanding service to our community as he retires from Barnhill Contracting Company, located in North Carolina's Eighth Congressional District.

Graham—or Bubba as he's known to his friends—started his career in 1973 and retires today as the Vice President of Barnhill Contracting Company after 46 years of service in Fayetteville, North Carolina. He graduated from North Carolina State University in 1973 with a degree in engineering, and in that same year he married his lovely wife, Betty Gail. Together they've raised two children, Landis and Gray, and one grandchild, Evelyn.

Over the years, Bubba has become a pillar of the community. While the list of his community involvements is quite extensive, Bubba has time and again stepped up to help our soldiers, veterans and their families—no small feat considering Fayetteville is home to Fort Bragg, the largest military installation in the world. Bubba has served as the Vice-Chair of the Ft Bragg Special Activities Committee, Chairman of the Military Affairs Council of the Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce, and on the Board of Directors for the Sandhills Military Council.

On top of these public positions, Bubba has always been known as someone who wanted to help our troops behind the scenes. Bubba went to visit soldiers in Afghanistan at Bagram Air Field in Kandahar and delivered Christmas

gifts and Holiday Cheer to our deployed soldiers. He also helped organized family trips for Gold Star family members and was instrumental in supporting children of deployed soldiers attend exclusive productions of "Disney on Ice" at the Crown Center. These were things that may not have received public attention, but that didn't matter to Bubba; he just cared about giving back to the place he's called home for so long.

I wish Bubba a long and happy retirement, and I know I speak for countless people in the community when I say he will be missed at Barnhill Contracting Company.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Bubba for his incredible career and service to our community.

IN HONOR OF JOHNNIE MAE BROOKS-DALE THOMPSON

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, today, I rise in recognition of an inspiring member of our community and graduate of Texas' first African American Women's College, Johnnie Mae Brooks-Dale Thompson.

This Texas trailblazer was born in Houston on September 17, 1925, and graduated high school at the young age of 14. Johnnie Mae then enrolled in Mary Allen Jr. College—the first black women's college in the state of Texas. During her time at Mary Allen, Johnnie Mae was a strong academic student and her skills in mathematics allowed her to become a member of the prestigious Kappa Epsilon Honor Society. Outside of the classroom, Johnnie Mae was able to foster her love of music—which was developed early on in her childhood—by taking advantage of Mary Allen's music program and singing in the college choir. While working in the school library, Johnnie Mae discovered a deep passion for education that propelled her to earn her master's degree from Texas Southern University in 1951.

Johnnie Mae was able to combine her passions of education and music as a fifth-grade music teacher in Navasota, Texas—a job that gave her ample opportunity to spread her love of music to new generations.

It comes as no surprise to those who know her best that Johnnie Mae's professional career was defined by her commitment to living a service-oriented life. No matter what she was doing, be it teaching music to children, volunteering in her local church, or educating the future generations of Texans—Johnnie Mae did it with an infectious attitude of positivity and joy. Whether it's through her involvement in the church or her rigorous social schedule, Johnnie Mae continues to be a prominent figure in her community, even now at the age of 93.

Johnnie Mae Brooks-Dale Thompson has led a life of selfless service and spiritual devotion—always embodying her adage: "Before you do something that is nice or negative, think how you would feel if someone did this to you." Let us celebrate not only institutions like Mary Allen College, but also individuals like Johnnie Mae. I know I join her family, friends, and the entire Eighth District of Texas

in honoring all she has accomplished thus far in her extraordinary life.

HONORING CHARLES BALDINGER

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. COOPER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Charles Baldinger of Nashville, Tennessee.

While attending the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Charlie was diagnosed with anaplastic astrocytoma—a rare Stage 3 malignant brain tumor. He found the bad news after a near-fatal accident. As a cadet, Charlie fell 20 feet during a rope-free bouldering set. The fall resulted in a trip to the hospital where it was discovered that he had a brain tumor.

Nevertheless, Charlie graduated from West Point, was commissioned as an Infantry Officer, but then was forced to medically retire. Yet he kept learning and kept excelling. Charlie earned his master's degree from Lipscomb University. Charlie began treatments while at Lipscomb and allowed its College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences to use his body for research. He underwent test treatments that allowed data to be gathered for the purpose of better understanding how to treat cancer. Even during his illness, Charlie continued his service to others.

Charlie passed away peacefully on January 6, 2019. He was a brother, son, grandson, husband, and friend, who will always be remembered by his loved ones.

CONGRATULATING CAL OZAKI

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, I rise to call your attention to a notable retirement taking place at the nation's lead nuclear energy research and development laboratory.

For the last thirty-one years, Cal Ozaki has served in leadership roles at the Argonne-West/Idaho National Laboratory facilities in Eastern Idaho.

As director of INL's Campus Development office, Cal played a principal role in developing the laboratory's campus in Idaho Falls.

As laboratory liaison to the DOE Office of Nuclear Energy in Washington, D.C., Cal was a one-stop office for the agency to access INL facilities and capabilities.

As director of INL's Facility Operations and Maintenance office, Cal was responsible for 2 million square feet of laboratory space, support facilities and infrastructure.

Finally, in his current position, manager of Public Affairs & Strategic Initiatives, Cal has helped educate his fellow citizens about INL's important clean energy and national security work.

But today's recognition cannot just focus on Cal's professional accomplishments. I also would like to mention his decades of remarkable public service.

Cal currently serves as an inaugural trustee at the new College of Eastern Idaho. He is a

past chairman for the Idaho Falls Chamber of Commerce and served on the board of directors for the United Way and Eastern Idaho Economic Development Council. And, for the last 25 years, Cal has participated in community delegation exchanges with the Idaho Falls-Tokai Mura, Japan, Sister City program. With a smile on his face and a hearty laugh in the air, Cal has made a significant contribution to the quality of life for all of us in Eastern Idaho. Cal and his wife Cindy are pillars in the Idaho Falls community and their legacy of service and giving back is greatly appreciated.

It is my great honor to congratulate Cal on a notable career, thank him for his public service, and wish him and his wife, Cindy, all the best in retirement.

RECOGNIZING THOMAS C. BALLARD AS THE OKALOOSA COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

HON. MATT GAETZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Thomas Ballard as the Educational Support Professional of the Year for Okaloosa County, Florida.

Mr. Ballard is a P.E. Classroom Assistant at Mary Esther Elementary School. For many years, Mr. Ballard has served the Okaloosa County School District with exceptional passion and an unwavering commitment to excellence.

Prior to his service with the school district, he served as a full-time firefighter with the City of Mary Esther from 1981 to 2009. Mr. Ballard's exemplary contributions earned him numerous awards; such as the "City of Mary Esther Life Saving Medal" and the "Military Order of World Wars Award of Appreciation".

Sharing his invaluable experience gained as a firefighter, Mr. Ballard graciously assisted in the creation of his school's Crisis Plan.

He continually demonstrates his dedication to his school and community by participating in additional duties such as acting as a member of the school safety committee and serving as a volunteer firefighter at Florosa Fire Department.

Mr. Ballard displays incredible devotion to helping students and children in his community feel safe and happy. He generously donates his time to proactively address needs identified in the community as evidenced by his organization of the first official Volunteer Umpires for the Mary Esther Little League.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Thomas C. Ballard for his many contributions and for his profound impact in the Okaloosa County School District. I offer my gratitude for his service and wish him all the best for continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I mistakenly voted AYE, when I meant to vote NO on

Roll No. 81 (Buck of Colorado Amendment No. 2) to H.J. Res. 37—Directing the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities in the Republic of Yemen that have not been authorized by Congress.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BETA LAMBDA CHAPTER OF ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY, INC.

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise today to recognize a significant milestone in one of the pre-eminent organizations, not only in the Fifth Congressional District of Missouri, which I proudly represent, but throughout the region—the Beta Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated. As a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity myself, I am especially proud to recognize this great accomplishment. It is truly an honor to celebrate the Beta Lambda Chapter's Centennial observance on February 17, 2019 in Kansas City, Missouri.

The Beta Lambda Chapter was chartered in January 1919 with ten charter members who laid a strong foundation of fraternal fellowship in the Greater Kansas City Metropolitan Area. The effort to organize the Beta Lambda Chapter in Kansas City, Missouri began in April 1918, upon the request of graduate members of the fraternity who resided in Kansas City. An application for the Chapter was made during the 1918 convention held in Cleveland, Ohio by Brothers T.C. Brown, W.H. Bruce, L.H. Norwood, Thomas Taylor, J. Oliver Morrison and Guy Booker. Favorable action was taken by the convention and the Chapter was established in January 1919 making it the second oldest graduate chapter and first graduate chapter west of the Mississippi River. The charter members of the Beta Lambda Chapter were all outstanding members of the Kansas City community and of their respective professions. Faced with cultural realities of the early Twentieth Century, these charter members found in each other a source of mutual support, enlightenment and a retreat of friendship and fraternity. Each sensed a significant void created by the pervasive permanence of American institutional racism and exclusionary practices that were predominant during that era. Throughout its history, the Beta Lambda Chapter has proudly upheld the high standards of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity.

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated was founded in 1906 at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. Our founding Jewels are Henry Arthur Callis, Charles Henry Chapman, Eugene Kinckle Jones, George Biddle Kelley, Nathaniel Allison Murray, Robert Harold Ogle, and Vertner Woodson Tandy.

Beta Lambda has been privileged to host the Thirteenth Annual Convention in 1920, Twenty-Eighth Annual Convention in 1940, Thirty-Sixth Annual Convention in 1950, Seventy-Fourth Annual Convention in 1988 and Eighty-Eighth Annual Convention in 2008. Beta Lambda won the "McGee Memorial Cup" as Outstanding National Chapter from 1945 to 1947. Additionally, the Beta Lambda Chapter won National Alumni Chapter of the Year in

1997 for its leadership and service in social justice, education and development for mankind.

Beta Lambda is led today by Hon. Ardie A. Bland, Damon E. Roath as Vice President, and William A. Griffin as Recording Secretary. Additional officers include: Johnathan Bernard, Terence M. Goree, Joseph C. Lewis, Rev. Kevin L. Nelson, Howard A. Berry, Eric J. Haliburton and Thomas A. Phillips.

One hundred years in the life of any person, organization or institution is a significant milestone and serves as a testament of fidelity to principles, seriousness of purpose and devotion to goals and objectives. Thus, the reason for intentional recognition to such an amazing local treasure.

Madam Speaker, please join me and our colleagues in expressing our collective congratulations to the Beta Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and extending our heartfelt wishes for even greater success as it begins its second century.

HONORING FORMER SILVIS MAYOR JOE TERRONEZ ON HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Joe Terronez on his 90th birthday. Mr. Terronez is the first Hispanic mayor in the state of Illinois and is the former mayor of Silvis, Illinois.

Joe Terronez began a long career of public service when he was first elected alderman in 1963 before later going on to serve the City of Silvis as its mayor. He was one of the first Hispanic city council members in the state and his dedication to his community is admirable. One of the best examples of Mayor Terronez's service to others, although there are many, was when he renamed 2nd Street in Silvis to "Hero Street." Although this street is only one and a half blocks long, over 100 of its residents were members of the military, including six who gave the ultimate sacrifice defending our freedoms. As a result, Mayor Terronez dedicated this street to honor their sacrifices. Actions such as this embody Mayor Terronez's spirit of giving back to others. As he celebrates this milestone, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude for his many years of service to others.

It is because of dedicated leaders such as Mayor Terronez that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally honor Mr. Joe Terronez on his 90th birthday.

RECOGNIZING JAMES M. BOSWELL ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th birthday of a veteran, neighbor, father, dedicated man of faith,

and friend to many, Mr. James Boswell. Mr. Boswell is a lifelong resident of Wilson, North Carolina.

James Marshall Boswell was born on February 2, 1919 in Wilson, North Carolina. His parents taught him and his three brothers to work hard, although neither his mother nor father had more than a fifth grade education. His father supported the family as a factory worker. Mr. Boswell recalls him sharing two double beds with his three brothers in their rented home. He would later go to work with his father at the wagon factory where he would perform hard manual labor for 40 hours a week, earning \$12 per week. He worked at the factory until a friend offered him a job at a drive-in making \$15 a week. In 1938, James wed his beloved wife, Alma "Mozelle" Woodall Boswell. They were married for 76 years until her passing in 2014.

Mr. Boswell was working for the FBI in Washington, D.C. when Japan attacked the United States in 1941. Mr. Boswell felt it was his duty to serve his country, so he joined the U.S. Army Air Corps at the start of World War II. He qualified to fly the new B-17 Flying Fortress. He flew 51 combat missions throughout Italy, France, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Hungary, Greece, Germany, and Austria during his three years of service. Mr. Boswell credits the Tuskegee Airmen for his crews' safe returns, and says he remained in contact with many of them for several years after returning home.

James Boswell's three brothers also served our country with honor. The youngest, Harvey, served as a Merchant Marine. George Boswell served with the 8th and 9th Air Forces in Europe during World War II. Delmar was a paratrooper in the 82nd Airborne.

Having worked most of his life, James Boswell returned home to Wilson where he opened a grocery store, the Super Food Center, located on Herring Avenue.

In addition to his service to our country, Mr. Boswell has selflessly given of his time and efforts to work in his community, serving as a Mason and Shriner for nearly 65 years. He is also a faithful member of First Christian Church in Wilson, where he has held several positions in leadership including chairman, elder, and deacon. Today, James Boswell continues to drive himself to Faith Christian Church every Sunday.

The most important thing to James Boswell has always been his family. He has one daughter, Debby Boswell Keller of North Carolina, and one son, James Boswell, Jr. of Illinois. In describing her father, Debby stated, "he is the most caring and giving person I know."

James Boswell has lived an incredible life that, by the grace of God, has spanned an entire century. His selfless and lifelong dedication to his country and community are beyond remarkable, and he is truly an inspiration and role model for us all. His love for his family, friends, church, and community knows no bounds.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to such a dedicated and honorable veteran. I am immensely proud to have Mr. James Marshall Boswell as a constituent, and I wish him a very Happy 100th birthday. May God continue to bless him and his family.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PUBLIC BUILDINGS RENEWAL ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I introduced the Public Buildings Renewal Act (PBRA) of 2019. This bipartisan legislation will spur private investment in public building infrastructure throughout the United States by creating \$5 billion in Private Activity Bonds for the development of government-owned public buildings.

In every American community, there are serious concerns about the condition of our schools, public hospitals, justice facilities, universities, police and fire stations. With state and local budgets becoming increasingly strained, officials have chosen to save money by steadily reducing capital investment in public buildings. But years of underinvestment have led to facilities that are inadequately maintained, fail to comply with current codes or disability requirements, and do not have adequate security—endangering the general public. Throughout the country, the average public-school building is at least 40 years old, and the current backlog of maintenance and repair projects adds up to more than \$45 billion annually in unmet funding needs. The Public Buildings Renewal Act will reverse this trend by unlocking private sector capital for the public's benefit. It is past time that we upgrade our public buildings to provide a safe, modern, and efficient experience from coast to coast.

While this legislation is not a panacea to solve all of our infrastructure needs, it is an important aspect of our strategy to rebuild and renew America. I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to pass it into law.

HONORING THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE U.S. COAST GUARD IN KODIAK, ALASKA

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. YOUNG. Madam Speaker, I am honored to express my deepest gratitude to all of the Coast Guard members stationed in Kodiak that do so much for Alaska and this country.

Our Coast Guard base in Kodiak is the largest in the nation and truly vital to protecting our shores and coastal waters. Home to Air Station Kodiak, the Kodiak Naval Operating Base, and three cutters, Kodiak is a linchpin of coastal security in the North Pacific.

I am sure I do not need to teach anyone about the vital role the Coast Guard serves in Alaska. The area of responsibility assigned to Coast Guard units within Alaskan waters is the largest in the nation, spanning a massive 3,853,500 square miles and more than 33,000 miles of coastline. This enormous geographic responsibility includes the patrol of the North Pacific Ocean to protect those traversing the often-rough waters and to stop large-scale high seas drift netting as well as other illegal fishing practices that rob Alaskans of our livelihood and one of our most valuable natural resources.

From a national perspective, the Coast Guard is responsible for protecting our coastal borders and keeping those in our waterways safe through port, waterway and coastal security, drug and migrant interdiction, maintaining maritime aids to navigation, search and rescue missions, living marine resources and marine safety, ensuring defense readiness, marine environmental protection, ice operations, and other law enforcement operations. Through these important missions, the Service saves thousands of American lives every year.

I was glad to speak with Coast Guard leadership recently about the great work performed already this year, even during the political divide in Washington, D.C. Every man and woman in the service is a testament to the spirit and drive that makes America so great and I want to assure all of our Coast Guard men and women that I am working to support and represent their interests in Congress just as I have done my whole career. I would like to thank everyone in the Coast Guard for the outstanding work they do, day in and day out to protect Alaska and our country. America is truly better off thanks to the Coast Guard.

RECOGNIZING THE VANDALIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Vandalia Historical Society for being awarded the Historic Preservation Award. This is a rare and prestigious award made possible through the hard work and dedication of the members of the Vandalia Historical Society.

This society sponsors a variety of fundraisers to help maintain the historic Vandalia Old National Capitol, the second capitol for the state of Illinois. The major project underway is the raising of funds for the replacement of all windows in the building. All upgrades and construction are historically accurate. Due to the efforts of this group, the building has been maintained for the public to enjoy, for school and tour groups to learn the history of this grand old building and to learn its importance to our state and national history.

Madam Speaker, due to their efforts, the Old State Capitol will be standing open to welcome future generations. It is my pleasure and honor to recognize the Vandalia Historical Society upon receiving the prestigious Historic Preservation Recognition Award, and I wish the society the best in all of its future endeavors.

BAHRAIN MUST CHANGE DIRECTION

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, today marks the 8th anniversary of the beginning of the Pearl Uprising in Bahrain.

On this day eight years ago, thousands of Bahrainis gathered in peaceful protests to de-

mand greater political freedom, and political and constitutional reform.

Their demands were not new—the roots went back to the 1970s.

They were not radical: Bahrainis wanted greater popular participation in governance, equal access to socio-economic opportunities and development, action against corruption and an end to the practice of political naturalization.

And they were not sectarian—even though Bahrain is a majority Shi'a country ruled by a minority Sunni monarchy.

But by the end of March 2011, what started as a moment of hope had been met with massive repression by the Bahraini government and security forces sent by Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. As protests grew and spread, at least 35 people died, some 3,000 people were injured, thousands were detained or lost their jobs, and many were brutally tortured, including medical doctors.

King Hamad bin Isa al-Khalifa of Bahrain did take some steps to address the people's demands. His appointment of the 5-member Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry (BICI) to examine the government's response to the protests was an important gesture. And the 26 recommendations contained in the BICI report, which the monarch promised to implement, did inspire some new hope that change was possible.

Many of us in Congress urged the government to fully implement the BICI recommendations and to cease the repression of human rights defenders and peaceful opposition leaders.

But in the years since, hope has been completely dashed. Some initial important reforms have been rolled back, opposition political societies are banned, peaceful human rights defenders and popular opposition leaders are spending their lives in jail, sectarian divisions have hardened, hundreds have been stripped of their citizenship, no independent press remains, the most recent elections were a sham—and to top it all off, the Bahraini government has supported the Saudis in the brutal war in Yemen and the senseless embargo of Qatar.

Madam Speaker, some observers turn a blind eye to Bahrain's increasingly authoritarian rule because they accept Bahrain's argument that Iran is to blame for encouraging the Shi'a population to rebel.

These days, any mention of Iran is often enough to silence legitimate criticism.

But what I see is a Bahraini government whose own policies deepen sectarian divisions and create the conditions for unrest.

In spite of their majority status, Bahraini Shites are less likely to hold jobs in the all-important public sector. They are almost entirely disqualified from serving in the police or military. They live in highly segregated neighborhoods with inferior public services compared to Sunni areas. They are systematically underrepresented in the lower house of parliament.

No one should be surprised that this stark political and economic inequality causes grievance. Add to that Bahrain's crushing of political expression and channels of participation, and you have a recipe for fostering extremism.

No government that does this can be considered a true United States ally in the war against terrorism. You cannot claim to be fighting extremism when your own policies foster it.

On this anniversary, I renew my call to the government of Bahrain to free Nabeel Rajab, Sheikh Ali Salman, Abdulhadi al-Khawaja, Abduljalil Al-Singace, Ahmed Humaidan, Naji Fateel and all other prisoners of conscience jailed for exercising their most fundamental human rights.

And I call on the government to end the prohibition on political societies, decriminalize all speech, allow national and international press to operate without state intervention, stop rendering its citizens stateless, strip the National Security Agency of its power to arrest, bring its anti-terrorism legislation into line with international human rights standards, integrate its security forces and end discrimination against the Shi'a population everywhere it exists.

Only if these steps are taken will the rights of all the Bahraini people, the country's long-term stability and America's national interests be assured.

HONORING VICTOR GONELLA

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleagues, Representative JACKIE SPEIER and Representative MIKE THOMPSON, to honor Victor Gonella for his enduring commitment to the protection and restoration of California's salmon fisheries, and his exemplary service as the founder and president of the Golden Gate Salmon Association.

Born in San Francisco, Victor developed a childhood passion for fishing that has greatly informed his public service throughout his life. His focus on salmon began after his family moved to Mill Valley: he fished off the waters of Sausalito on his first boat when he was still in high school.

Following high school, Victor began to race motorcycles and started his own repair and custom engine fabrication facility. He rented a workspace from a local auto dealership, and eventually ran the dealership's parts and service center. Victor would go on to buy the dealership and move it to Petaluma, adding a second dealership soon thereafter.

As Victor built up his dealership and custom racing business, he never lost sight of his passion for salmon fishing. In 2008, when California experienced the first closure of ocean salmon fishing, Victor took action and founded the Golden Gate Salmon Association to restore California's largest salmon runs. In doing so, Victor would make California history by bringing together disparate stakeholders, including leaders from the commercial and sport fishing industries, conservation groups, and businesses connected to fishing, for a common cause. Over the next few years, Victor developed the financial and logistical backbone of the organization, coordinated fundraisers throughout Northern California, and assembled community leaders to support the organization's mission.

After establishing Golden Gate Salmon Association, Victor spearheaded its development of a plan to restore Central Valley salmon runs, utilizing available science and research funded by the organization. This process would be the beginning of a number of critical

restoration projects that the organization sponsored and successfully completed, with many still underway.

Madam Speaker, as ocean life continues to decline all over the world, organizations like Golden Gate Salmon Association are critical in protecting the natural habitat, wildlife, and fisheries that we all rely on and cherish. We therefore ask our colleagues to join us in thanking Victor Gonella for his tireless efforts to not only protect valuable natural resources but the communities that rely on them.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, due to family illness on Wednesday, February 13th, I was not present to cast my vote on the Motion to Recommit on H.J. Res. 37 which contained a provision denouncing anti-Semitism in all its forms. I strongly agree with the motion's denunciation of anti-Semitism, and had I been present my vote would have been "YEA" on Roll Call No. 82. I also would have voted "YEA" on Roll Call No. 83.

HONORING PASTOR PIERCE'S SIXTH ANNIVERSARY AT MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH OF GREENSBORO

HON. MARK WALKER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. WALKER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bishop Bryan J. Pierce's sixth anniversary as the Senior Pastor and Chief Executive Officer of Mount Zion Baptist Church of Greensboro. Beginning to preach at the age of six and ordained by nineteen, Bishop Pierce is a man after God's own heart. It was in June of 2011 that Bishop Pierce became the Chief Administrative Officer at Mount Zion and worked diligently until his elevation to Senior Pastor on January 1, 2013. He strongly believes that he who serves the city, wins the city, which is expressed through a Church-wide campaign called No Greater Love, where members of Mount Zion come together to serve the Greensboro community. Also serving as 1st Assistant to 2nd Presiding Bishop, Bishop Pierce is a noted songwriter, arranger and producer. He successfully released his first solo debut album, which reached No. 3 on Billboard's Top Gospel Albums Chart by capturing an amazing sound that has facilitated openings for the Glory of God to be manifested in the lives of His people. With 20 years of Senior Pastoral Leadership, we honor another anniversary of service and the faithful future he is sure to bring our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF PAMELA C. ROBERTSON'S RETIREMENT

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I ask for the House's attention to recognize Pamela C. Robertson as she retires after years of civil service.

A native of Anniston, Alabama, Robertson graduated high school in 1976 and attended Ayers State Technical College with a certificate of completion in Business and immediately entered the workforce at AOD Federal Credit Union in 1978.

She began her civilian government service at Fort McClellan, Alabama, in 1979 as GSO4 Secretary-Steno. She served as Administrative Assistant in the Foreign Student Allied Liaison Office, Budget Assistant and Budget Analyst in the U.S. Army Chemical School and Accounting Technician with the Federal Bureau of Prisons in Talladega, Alabama. From 1988 until 1999, she worked as a Budget Analyst at Fort McClellan. After Fort McClellan closed due to BRAC, she transferred to the Anniston Army Depot in the same capacity and become the Budget Officer in 2007. She will retire as Director of Resource Management, a position she's held since 2013.

Robertson has won several awards including: The Superior Civilian Service Award (Louis Dellamonica AMC outstanding person of the year), AMC Commander's coin, Army Achievement Medal, several special acts and performance awards.

She is involved in the Supervisory Committee of a local federal credit union and a volunteer in the pre-school department of her church. She's also an active member of the Chemical Corps Regimental Association, Order of the Dragon.

In August 2019, Pamela Robertson will retire with 40 years of primarily Army service.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Pamela on her retirement and thanking her for her service to our country.

TRIBUTE TO THEODORE JOSEPH "TED" STATON

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. STIVERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the people of Ohio's 15th Congressional District to celebrate the life and legacy of one of Upper Arlington, Ohio's most distinguished citizens, a man who devoted his life to the service of others, Mr. Theodore Joseph "Ted" Staton. His commitment to good, ethical governance cannot be understated, and he made a lasting impact on my city, Upper Arlington.

An incredibly passionate and hardworking man, Mr. Staton valiantly offered his skills to Ohio serving as a City Manager for the City of Upper Arlington since 2011. He displayed strength and tenacity throughout his leadership positions on the Executive Board of the League of Women in Government, the Upper Arlington Community Foundation Board of

Trustees, as the Chair of the Central Ohio Mayors and Managers Association, and the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission. Mr. Staton successfully led these organizations gracefully though both prosperous and challenging times. He continuously propelled Upper Arlington's community towards a bright and successful future.

To attempt to quantify the impact Mr. Staton made is impossible. He was a firm believer in the value of good, ethical governance. Due to his proven track record of these values, Mr. Staton was awarded the 2019 Outstanding Mentor Award from the International City/County Management Association; 2018 Upper Arlington Stewardship Award, and 2018 Ohio City Manager's Association Award for Career Achievement. His legacy will live on in the memories of those who knew him and loved him: his wife Carol; two sons, Paul and Bennet; and his extended family and friends.

As a dedicated public servant, community leader, family man, friend, and mentor Mr. Staton consistently seized upon new opportunities to enrich the lives of others. He enhanced the teamwork and collaboration with every organization he joined. Upper Arlington, Ohio is undeniably a better place because of Mr. Staton and the tremendous life of public service he lived, and I am honored to celebrate his legacy.

HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING INSECURITY

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, today I rise to join my colleagues in discussing the disparaging effects of homelessness and housing insecurity in our communities.

In 2018, communities across the country faced a continuing housing affordability crisis that left thousands of Americans homeless and without any stable place to live.

For the second year in a row, the number of people experiencing homelessness in the United States increased.

In 2018, 552,830 people lived in emergency shelters, transitional housing, or were not sheltered at all.

This is nearly 2,000 more people than in 2017.

This is an ongoing problem that demands our immediate attention.

The state of Texas claims just under 9 percent of the population of the United States.

Sadly, 23,548 people are homeless in Texas.

This is 4 percent of the country's entire homeless population.

More than 10,000 men and women can be found on the streets of Houston, homeless, on any given night.

Of these, 3,000 are considered chronically homeless.

Those who are categorized as chronically homeless are people who have been continuously homeless for a year or more or those who have been homeless four or more times in the past three years.

Many of the chronically homeless suffer from a mental illness and/or a substance abuse problem.

Percy Lyons is one of these people whose home does not come with an address.

Mr. Lyons has made his home under a bridge.

He has all the comforts of home: a military cot, tucked behind a cement barrier, for a bed; a propane stove, hidden in a drainpipe, for cooking and heat; and hollow cement blocks function as shelves to hold his few articles of clothing and an extra pair of shoes.

Mr. Lyons is just one of those 3,000 people who are surviving on the streets of Houston.

Thankfully, Houston Police Department (HPD) is trying to help meet the needs of the city's homeless population.

HPD has created the Homeless Outreach Team.

This team is staffed with four officers, who instead of responding to complaints or ordinance violations, work on building relationships with those who live on the streets.

These heroes work with Houston's homeless residents to navigate the social services available and have helped hundreds of people move off the streets and into permanent housing.

These officers can discuss success stories, like that of Randall.

Randall spent over 30 years living on the streets.

The Homeless Outreach Team was able to help Randall get into a treatment program.

Unfortunately, there are not more stories like Randall.

Instead, the majority of those who are chronically homeless slip through the cracks, unable to find their way through the complex system of social services.

Each night in the United States of America an estimated 553,000 men, women, and children spend the night on the streets.

This is a national emergency.