

RECOGNIZING MICHAEL J. SHEEHAN, AKA "THE PROFESSOR," FOR THE 900TH EPISODE OF WORDS TO THE WISE

### HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 18, 2019*

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it's my honor to recognize Mike Sheehan, also known as "The Professor," upon the occasion of the 900th episode of his program Words to the Wise on WTCM NewsTalk 580 in Traverse City, Michigan. Through his exceptional insight, expert knowledge of the English language, and unique ability to teach with accuracy and humor, The Professor has become an indispensable part of Michigan's First District.

Born and raised in the southside of Chicago, Sheehan spent much of his early life as a monk in the Order of St. Augustine, being ordained as a priest in 1965. He would later leave the priesthood to become an instructor of English at the Olive-Harvey College of the City Colleges of Chicago, where he taught for 26 years and wrote three textbooks, a dictionary, and two novels. Upon retirement, he and his late wife decided to make Northern Michigan their home. Deciding to stay active in his retirement, Sheehan has served on the state of Michigan's Commission on Services to the Aging and is a member of the Society of Midland Authors, the Dictionary Society of North America, the American Dialect Society, and Michigan Writers. He also received the Distinguished Senior of the National Cherry Festival award in 2013.

For the past 18 years Mike has also hosted a weekly radio show, Words to the Wise, on WTCM NewsTalk 580. This show, which is heard by listeners in 19 counties throughout Michigan, dives into the interesting, humorous, and sometimes bizarre world of grammar, spelling, punctuation, and etymology. His unique passion and sense of humor have resulted in his show being beloved by students, retirees, and everyone in between. The 900th episode of Words to the Wise will air live from the City Opera House in Traverse City, Michigan, on July 16.

Madam Speaker, it's my honor to recognize "The Professor" for hitting the milestone of 900 episodes full of entertainment and education. Michiganders can take great pride in knowing the First District is home to such a dedicated individual. On behalf of my constituents, I wish Mike all the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING THE LIFE OF FORMER INDIANA POLITICIAN, GENE SNOWDEN

### HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 18, 2019*

Mr. BANKS. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life of former Indiana politician and community leader, Gene Snowden.

Snowden was a lifelong public servant in Indiana state and local politics, having served in the Indiana House of Representatives and In-

diana State Senate in a legislative career that spanned nearly 20 years.

He served as an Indiana City Councilman for Huntington and as Mayor of Huntington, Indiana. In his political career, he lost just one election.

Snowden was an active member of his community, involved heavily in his church and civic organizations like the Police Athletic League, the Salvation Army, the Huntington County Historical Society, the Boy Scouts, United Way, Christian Literature for Africa, and others.

While there's not enough words to fully encapsulate all of Gene Snowden's accomplishments, his life is proof positive of the timeless legacy each one of us can forge, for ourselves and generations to come.

I offer my deepest condolences to his wife, four daughters, six grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren whom he leaves behind.

HONORING EDGAR J. CURTIS FOR RECEIVING THE ORDER OF LINCOLN AWARD

### HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 18, 2019*

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Edgar J. Curtis for receiving the Order of Lincoln award from the Office of the Governor. This prestigious award is the highest honor that the state of Illinois can present for professional achievement and public service.

Ed currently sits as the President and Chief Executive Office of Memorial Health Systems in Springfield. He is also a member of the Southern Illinois University Board of Trustees, and a Southern Illinois University—Edwardsville School of Nursing Hall of Fame member. Throughout his professional career and philanthropic efforts, Ed has had tremendous impact on the medical community in Illinois.

Ed has always had a passion for helping others and improving the lives of those around him. Since junior high, he has wanted to make a difference in the medical field. Ed attended Southern Illinois University—Edwardsville, where he received his bachelor's degree in nursing. Later Ed earned an MBA from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, who also named him an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters. After his schooling, Ed turned his focus to helping others, and has done just that throughout his career.

Again, I extend my sincere congratulations to Edgar J. Curtis for receiving the Order of Lincoln award.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT COLONEL JEFFREY J. IGNATOWSKI FOR HIS SERVICE TO LETTERKENNY MUNITIONS CENTER

### HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 18, 2019*

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to salute the service of Lieuten-

ant Colonel Jeffrey J. Ignatowski, who has served his nation and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania admirably as Commander of the Letterkenny Munitions Center (LEMC) in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania over the last two years. During Lieutenant Colonel Ignatowski's command, LEMC executed six worldwide ammunition rehearsal of concept drills, implemented a tier meeting process that accelerated work flow and communication, and multiplied employee suggestion implementation program participation.

His leadership has strengthened LEMC's reputation as the Army's premier munitions center, orchestrating the distribution, maintenance, and demilitarization of munitions from around the globe. On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th District, I want to thank Lieutenant Colonel Ignatowski and his family for his selfless service, and moreover highlight the sense of purpose with which he has handled every project managed in his time at Letterkenny Munitions Center.

His leadership and the progressive changes he made will live on, and it is with the utmost appreciation with which I wish him the best as he continues to serve his nation in new capacities. I take great pleasure in congratulating Lieutenant Colonel Ignatowski on his prodigious accomplishments and thank him for his tireless devotion to duty and continued service to the state and to the nation.

HONORING MICHAEL NGUYEN

### HON. TED S. YOHO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 18, 2019*

Mr. YOHO. Madam Speaker, I would like to bring attention to the unjust detention of an American citizen, Mr. Michael Phuong Minh Nguyen, in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Mr. Nguyen was arrested on July 7, 2018 while visiting elderly relatives in Vietnam. He has since been held at the Phan Dang Luu Detention Center in Ho Chi Minh City. While the Vietnamese government still has not provided any evidence of wrongdoing that would justify his arrest, the Vietnamese government has confirmed they are charging Mr. Nguyen for allegedly violating Article 109 of Vietnam's Penal Code, engaging in activity against the government.

I have worked with my colleagues in Congress, the Administration, our embassy personnel, as well as with Mr. Nguyen's family, to encourage the government of Vietnam to find a fast, transparent, and fair resolution to this case. Unfortunately, Mr. Nguyen is still being held in Vietnam. It is disheartening that an American citizen be detained for such a prolonged time before a trial is held.

Over the past four decades, our two countries have built a strong relationship based on trade, trust and mutual respect. My hope is that we can continue this relationship without the detraction of these kind of events. I will continue to urge a just resolution for Mr. Nguyen until he can return to his family and friends in the United States.