

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

REMEMBERING WORLD WAR II VETERAN, VAUDEVILLIAN MUSICIAN AND FULLERTON RESIDENT, CHARLES PAUL PECORARO

HON. GILBERT RAY CISNEROS, JR.

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2019

Mr. CISNEROS. Madam Speaker, it is with immense sadness and great humility that I rise to mark the passing of another member of America's greatest generation. Charles Paul Pecoraro was an entertainer, a businessman, a veteran of the Second World War, a stalwart member of the veteran's community in Southern California, and most of all, a beloved family man who passed away at the age of 100 on July 2, 2019.

Charles Pecoraro was born in the living room of his parents' small Manhattan apartment on November 29, 1918. It was the height of the First World War but also the age of ragtime, when New York City had more horses than cars. Charles' life spanned and exceeded what we now refer to as the American Century.

Music was his family's business and his greatest passion. By the age of seven he was accompanying his father, a classically trained Sicilian mandolin player. Before he turned twenty he was a veteran of the Vaudeville circuit, having toured up and down the East Coast playing jazz guitar and earning his chops in concert halls, speakeasies, dance clubs, and Broadway orchestra pits.

When America entered the Second World War, Charles didn't hesitate. He joined the Coast Guard and served aboard the *Admiral H.T. Mayo* (AP-125). Charles sailed on the ship's shakedown cruise, then transiting the Panama Canal, helped ferry troops during two trips across the Atlantic. Transiting the Panama Canal again, Charles continued his service in the Pacific where he and his shipmates transported more troops to the Okinawa campaign.

Evading U-Boats in the Atlantic and outrunning Japanese submarines and aircraft in the Pacific, Charles attained the rank of Petty Officer 1st Class. He would ultimately return to his music career, before beginning what his family refers to as his third act. Charles met the love of his life Lucy, his wife of 53 years. He, Lucy, and their only son "Charlie" Charles Pecoraro, Jr. moved to Fullerton, California in the 1970s so that Charles could join his brother Steve. Together, they opened Angelo's & Vinci's, a neighborhood institution that still stands and continues to thrive only blocks from my office. Its success is carried on by the spirit of the two Sicilian-American brothers who founded it.

Like many men of his generation, Charles was modest to the extreme. A deeply devoted religious and family man, he spoke little of his wartime service. Only after his son was grown did Charles' neighbors in Fullerton convince

him to share his story with others. He joined Fullerton's American Legion Post 142, where he became a quiet example of service to others and a fixture at events. In fact, one of those events was Fullerton's Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony where I had the honor to shake his hand.

Madam Speaker, at this time, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Charles Paul Pecoraro for his dedication to God, country, the arts and most of all his surviving family members, wife Lucy and son Charles. We are blessed to have had this man for a century and to have his memory continue to inspire us.

TRIBUTE HONORING MEGAN POSER

HON. MAX ROSE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2019

Mr. ROSE of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my distinguished colleagues to join me in honoring my constituent Megan Poser for her efforts to dispel the stigma of addiction and to congratulate her on receiving the Girl Scout Gold Award.

No community has been hit harder by the opioid epidemic than Staten Island. And at just 17 years-old, Megan decided that she wasn't going to just sit around and wait for others to do something about it. She decided she'd take it upon herself to change the perception and the stigma surrounding this crisis. Beyond her research of the drug epidemic on Staten Island, she took the initiative to become trained in the use of naloxone, a drug that has saved countless lives in our borough.

She also surveyed young people in our community about the dangers of this crisis, because she recognizes that the first step in overcoming the opioid epidemic is addressing the perception of the issue. She built on her findings to create a presentation that she then used to educate her fellow young Staten Islanders about the nature of the drug epidemic. She became certified in Mental Health First Aid which gives people the tools to help someone experiencing a mental health or substance use-related crisis.

The Girl Scouts have already recognized Megan's hard work and dedication to the Staten Island community by presenting her with its Gold Award, and it is my honor to do the same here in the Halls of Congress. She has successfully set herself up on a foundation of service to her community that is already having an impact on Staten Island, and I am confident that she will continue to build on these accomplishments to make the world a better place.

So, Madam Speaker, today I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Megan for her selfless and compassionate service to the Staten Island community. Megan's commitment to ex-

tend this project beyond receiving the Girl Scout Gold Award shows a continued love for learning and educating her peers. Ms. Poser is already an inspiring leader and I look forward to seeing her other projects unfold.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. JADA RUSSELL

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2019

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of my dear friend, Mrs. Jada Russell, who passed away on July 2, 2019, after her battle with breast cancer. Jada was a beloved and admired woman whose light lit up any room she was in. She was a brilliant professional known for her gift of marketing and public relations work.

More importantly, Madam Speaker, Jada was a woman full of compassion known for her drive to give back to our hometown of Chicago, Illinois and who used her talents to amplify the voices of those who have too-often been left out of the conversation.

A ballet dancer in her youth, Jada was known in her community as a strong leader who was consistently willing to provide guidance and support to her many friends and colleagues. After graduating from the Fashion Institute of Technology, Jada began her career at Guess Jeans, going on to work for Condé Nast, and as a publicist for Johnson Publishing Company. As the founder of High Style Marketing, Jada's talents attracted the attention of such prominent figures as Dwayne Wade, Common, Rhymefest, and Reverend Jesse Jackson. Madam Speaker, I also had the distinct privilege of working with Jada and benefitted immensely from her passion and expertise.

Though the world lost Jada too soon, we take comfort in knowing that her memory lives on in those who continue to love her: her devoted husband, Julius Russell, her sister, Sybil Goodlett Smith, her father, Bill Goodlett, and the countless lives she touched through her good works.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of my wife, Paulette, my staff, and all those I serve in the 1st Congressional District of Illinois, I extend my heartfelt sympathies and prayers to Jada's friends and family as I mourn this deep loss with them.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE TERRIBLE CONDITIONS WITNESSED AT DETENTION FACILITIES BY REPRESENTATIVES OF IMMIGRANT FAMILIES TOGETHER

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2019

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to express concern

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