

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF WILLIAM J.
NOONAN'S RETIREMENT

HON. MARK E. AMODEI

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. AMODEI. Madam Speaker, on July 31st, an era will end. After a long and successful career in government and the gaming industry—the last 18 years of which he spent at Boyd Gaming—William J. Noonan will retire. Bill's long career—truly an American success story—has midwestern roots. A graduate of Missouri State before receiving his master's in public administration from the University of Kansas, Bill spent years managing cities all across this country. From Springfield, Missouri, to small towns in Florida, and eventually to Las Vegas in the 1990s, Bill's positive energy and inspiring leadership guided cities large and small through some of the toughest and most exciting of economic times.

When Bill first landed in Las Vegas in 1990, it was a city of just under a million people. Gaming was not widely legalized throughout the country, but was about to be . . . and Bill sensed a boom coming. He worked with city leaders to prepare for what was to come and would soon take his skills into the private sector for a number of companies who needed to understand the key relationship that exists between the gaming industry and the communities in which they operate. Bill was exactly the right person for the job.

Since those humble beginnings of his youth, Bill has actually run a casino, dined with US presidents, overseen corporate philanthropies that have donated millions to communities and worthwhile causes, successfully recruited a professional football team to Las Vegas, and helped a city gather itself together after the horrific events of October 1 in his role as chairman of the Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce.

For his leadership to community and country, Bill's been recognized numerous times—by his industry as the Gaming Professional of the Year; by his alma mater as an outstanding alumnus; and by his state by serving on a number of prestigious boards. But if you know Bill, you know he really only cares about the appreciation of those with whom he works and the recognition of his lifelong love Sylvia and their beautiful family . . . with whom he now gets to spend a lot more time.

I wish my friend well. I thank him for his contributions, and I congratulate him on his retirement.

CELEBRATING THE 150TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE CITY OF ORAN

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the city of Oran in Scott

County, MO on its 150th anniversary. The city of Oran, founded on July 16, 1869, was originally dubbed "St. Cloud" for the French town outside of Paris. The city was known to locals as "The Land of the Watermelon."

After some debate in the community and the opening of a new post office in 1882, the city officially decided on the name Oran. Captain Ward L. Smith, a retired sailor, selected the name Oran in honor of the second most important city in Algeria, which he had visited during his time in the Navy. Oran is a North African word for lion and is historically associated with the Berber legend of "the Mountain of Lions."

Traditions are a staple in Oran. Over the years, the city has hosted fall festivals, town celebrations, and picnics. Its most famous tradition is the Fourth of July picnic, which dates to 1908. Since its inception, the picnic has been celebrated annually except for a three-year break during World War II. The picnic features a multitude of activities for families and a firework show. The celebrations attract people from all walks of life each year.

Today, the city maintains its familiar farm town character, even with a growing population of over 1,300 residents. It is a charming community with a noteworthy history in the agricultural development of the Bootheel and of family values. It is my great pleasure to celebrate Oran today on the occasion of its sesquicentennial birthday before the U.S. House of Representatives.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MIDLAND
SHERIFF GARY PAINTER

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Midland Sheriff Gary Painter, who was taken from us far too soon. Sheriff Gary Painter served Midland County with unconditional dedication for 34 years, and will be remembered by West Texans as a patriot of integrity and valor.

Sheriff Painter is a native Texan, growing up a farming community north of Lubbock where his family planted cotton and grains. After graduating from Plainview High School, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and dutifully served his nation through two tours of duty in Vietnam. His unrelenting dedication to our country earned him the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, the Vietnam Service Ribbon with 6 devices, the Presidential Unit Commendation, and the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry. He was honorably discharged from the United States Marine Corps with the rank of Sergeant on August 31, 1970.

Upon his return to Texas, he began his career in law enforcement, working for the Texas Department of Public Safety, Culberson County's Sheriff's Office, Presidio County's Sheriff's

Office, and the Midland Police Department before joining the Midland County Sheriff's Office in 1982.

Throughout his nine terms as Sheriff of Midland County, Gary dedicated himself to improving the office. He utilized the latest technologies, helping law enforcement work faster, smarter, and better. He also notably organized the first multi-jurisdictional narcotics task force in West Texas, keeping our community safer.

Sheriff Painter has left behind a huge pair of boots to fill. His legacy as a courageous, selfless, public servant will be remembered and honored by all those he inspired over his decades of service. Gary has left behind his wife, Patsy, five children, seven grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. God Bless his family and loved ones during this difficult time of loss. Suzanne and I will continue to pray as our community mourns.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBU-
TIONS OF JUDY SCHNEIDER ON
THE OCCASION OF HER RETIRE-
MENT

HON. JAMIE RASKIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a distinguished and enormously popular constituent, Judy Schneider, who is well-known and beloved to the Members of this body. After nearly 43 years of devoted service to the American people, she is retiring her post as a Specialist on the Congress at the Congressional Research Service (CRS).

Ms. Schneider began her career as a Congressional Staffer on the Temporary Select Committee to Study the Senate Committee System, the House Commission on Administrative Review, and the Senate Ethics Committee. Shortly thereafter she joined CRS as a Congressional Procedures Analyst and then became Specialist on the Congress. An admired and respected senior-level expert on the history, procedures, rules and culture of Congress, she employed her sharp intellect, prodigious curiosity and seasoned experience to the benefit of us all.

Over the course of her career, Ms. Schneider dedicated herself to the always urgent mission of congressional reform. She contributed to the Joint Committee on the Organization of Congress in 1991, navigated the creation of the Department of Homeland Security after 9/11, and provided logistical support to Members and staff during five separate changes of party control in the House.

Never content keeping her vast procedural knowledge to herself, Ms. Schneider developed new orientation programs for incoming Senate Chairs, co-authored the Congressional Deskbook guide to Congress, and advised Members through hearings, markups, and committee assignment bids. She also co-founded a program to train thousands of congressional staffers and conducted professional

• 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.

trainings at the Brookings Institution. Her mentorship and scholarship have informed a generation of congressional employees and I feel reassured knowing that her institutional influence will continue long past the date of her retirement.

Unsurprisingly given the scope and depth of her achievements, Ms. Schneider has been decorated with many recognitions. She received a Meritorious Service Award and a Congressional Staff Leadership Award from the Stennis Center, as well as several awards from the Congressional Management Foundation and the Women in Government Relations (WGR) society. WGR even created a fellowship in her name to honor her service to “the thousands of women she has mentored, developed, and trained.”

After spending her career shaping Congress into a more effective, procedurally efficient place, Ms. Schneider now heads to Sea Isle City, New Jersey, for an extremely well-deserved retirement. I thank her for her career and service, and I have been immensely proud to call her my friend and constituent and will always consider her so. She has our best wishes.

HONORING CHANDLER PARK CONSERVANCY'S MARSHLAND PROJECT

HON. RASHIDA TLAI

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Ms. TLAI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chandler Park Conservancy as they break ground on a marshland conservation project in Detroit, Michigan.

Michigan is well known for its beautiful lakes and rivers that are home to diverse wildlife. But these areas are at risk of being lost as more areas become developed, especially in cities like Detroit. Chandler Park Conservancy is taking steps to preserve those areas and make spaces habitable for wild plants and animals to flourish again.

Beyond restoring natural beauty to the area, the project will provide the added benefit of diverting storm water from the city's already overburdened sewer system; it will create sustainable rain gardens and house an outdoor classroom where students can learn more about conserving and protecting our natural resources.

Please join me in tribute to the Chandler Park Conservancy in honor of its marshland conservation project.

HONORING COLONEL TODD W. LYONS

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Colonel Todd W. Lyons for his thirty years of honorable service to our country and congratulate him on his retirement from the United States Marine Corps.

Col. Lyons was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps

in 1989. He graduated with honors from the Field Artillery Basic and Advanced Courses, and in 1994 he returned to serve as a Fire Support Instructor. After his subsequent assignment, he was selected to attend the Naval Postgraduate School where he earned a master's degree in National Security Affairs. Col. Lyons was selected for duty as a Marine Attaché in 2000, studying Arabic at the Foreign Service Institute in Washington, DC. Col. Lyons then served as an Attaché in Qatar, Israel, and Oman, where he led strategic planning teams to further national security objectives.

After his promotion to Lieutenant Colonel in 2005, Col. Lyons was selected to attend the Israeli National Defense College where he graduated with honors. In 2008, Col. Lyons deployed to Iraq as an Engagements Officer where he was a key figure in coordinating allies to secure the transfer of Anbar Province back to Iraqi control. In 2014 he returned to the Defense Attaché Service and served as the Chief of Operations until 2016, where he directed operations in crisis regions throughout the world.

Col. Lyons is currently the Senior Marine Representative at the Naval Postgraduate School, where he teaches Innovation Leadership and is widely respected as a professor and mentor of our next generation of military leaders. In his role as the Associate Dean of Research, Col. Lyons employs an interdisciplinary approach by connecting academic researchers with military practitioners.

Col. Lyons' personal decorations emphasize his efforts and unwavering dedication to serving our country. They include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Navy and Marine Corps Meritorious Service Medal with gold star, and the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with gold stars. Col. Lyons has received two Department of State Superior Honor Awards for his esteemed work as an Attaché, one for his work in Israel during the Israeli withdrawal from Gaza in 2005 and another for his work in Oman between 2011 and 2014.

Col. Lyons' distinguished career of military service is nothing short of an inspiration, and his legacy of teaching and leadership will undoubtedly live on through our future generations of service members. He embodies dedication and service, and the central coast of California has benefitted greatly from his presence. I wholeheartedly wish Col. Lyons, his wife Kristiana and their three daughters, Grace, Eleanor and Jordan the best during his retirement. Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House join me in thanking Colonel Todd W. Lyons for his honorable service to our nation and congratulating him on his well-deserved retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF DR. KELLY SCOTT SEGARS, SR.

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Dr. Kelly Scott Segars, Sr., who passed away on Tuesday, July 23rd at the age of 89.

Dr. Segars, a resident of Iuka, Mississippi, served his community, state, and nation as a

physician, banker, pilot, farmer, entrepreneur and humanitarian. He was born on March 11, 1930, in Red Bay, Alabama to Dock and Ora S. Segars. He was an honor graduate of Red Bay High School and the Auburn University School of Pharmacy. Upon completion of his studies at Auburn, he married his high school sweetheart, Martha Ann Thompson. He joined the U.S. Army as a Second Lieutenant and was promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant while serving in Korea from 1953 to 1955. He received many recognitions for his service including the American Defense Medal, Korean Service Medal, United Nations Medal and Army Commendation Medal.

Following his military service, he pursued his interest in medicine and graduated from the University of Mississippi School of Medicine in 1959. In 1982, he established The Segars Clinic, and it quickly became known as the State's most innovative and technically advanced medical facilities in North Mississippi. In 1962, Dr. Segars chartered the First National Bank of Iuka. Today, First American National Bank operates nine branches in six counties.

Left to cherish his memory is his wife of almost 67 years, Martha Thompson Segars; his sons—Scott Segars and Mark Segars of Iuka, MS; and his daughter Leigh Ann Segars of Pensacola, Florida as well as five grandchildren.

Dr. Segars' life was one of service, love for his family, and community. He will be greatly missed by all whom he encountered.

HONORING AVIATION MACHINIST'S MATE 1ST CLASS GORDON KINNEY ON HIS 105TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Aviation Machinist's Mate 1st Class Gordon Kinney of Chicago, Illinois, who is celebrating his 105th birthday today. Mr. Kinney is a veteran who bravely served our nation in the United States Navy during World War II.

Mr. Kinney was deployed to Japan during his three-year tour of duty in World War II, where he served as a Navy Aircraft Crew Chief aboard a PBM Mariner aircraft nicknamed *ABLE*. PBM Mariner flight crews played a vital role throughout the war, acting as patrol bombers as well as performing high priority search and rescue missions for downed pilots and aircrews. The crew complement consisted of three pilots, two navigators, and four crew. Mr. Kinney was drawn to aviation at a young age and knew he wanted to fly from the time he was only five years old.

Mr. Kinney and each of his three brothers answered the call of duty and fought to defend our country during World War II. He and his brothers were inspired by their family's long tradition of service to our country, dating back to their father and grandfather.

For Mr. Kinney's heroism and extraordinary achievement during his military service, he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross as well as the Air Medal. These decorations exemplify Mr. Kinney's dedication to the Navy's core values of honor, courage, and commitment, as well as his country.