

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### HONORING THE SERVICE OF MARIO RODRIGUEZ

#### HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 30, 2019*

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and recognize Mario Rodriguez, Executive Director for the award-winning Indianapolis Airport Authority. The Indianapolis International Airport is in the congressional district that I represent, and I have wholeheartedly supported its innovation and growth under Mario's leadership.

Mario Rodriguez has long been a dedicated aviation expert and community advocate, and has used his knowledge to serve not only the city of Indianapolis, but also the nation at large. For 30 years, he has held leadership positions in airports around the country, and, under his leadership, the Indianapolis International Airport has continued to receive recognition for its world class service. Mario has also championed a diverse workforce and to date, more than 50 percent of senior leadership and 35 percent of professional staff at the Indianapolis Airport Authority are women and racial minorities. Mario's aviation expertise also led to his appointment in 2016 to the National Department of Transportation Committee for Aviation Consumer Protection by President Barack Obama.

Mario is also well-known for his commitment to civic engagement. He is board member for many nonprofits in our community, including Immigrant Welcome Center, Indiana Latino Institute, Indy and Indiana Chambers, The Indiana Sports Corps, The Economic Club of Indiana, Visit Indy, and the 500 Festival. For this good work, he has received numerous awards acknowledging his efforts to strengthen Central Indiana and improve the lives of its residents.

Mario Rodriguez is a leader and a trailblazer. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating his contributions to our community, state and country.

### COMMEMORATION OF THE 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF DO- LORES AND WILL GRESHAM

#### HON. MARK E. GREEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 30, 2019*

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Dolores and Will Gresham of Somerville, Tennessee on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary.

Dolores and Will were married on August 2, 1969. Together, their lives have been marked by service to their community, and both retired from the United States Marine Corps with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Dolores has also

served in the Tennessee State Senate since 2008.

In addition to their service, their marriage of fifty faithful years embodies the values of Tennessee which have and will keep our state and our nation strong. There's no doubt that they have lived an All-American life with their family; raising Hereford cattle on their farm, investing in their neighbors, and holding fast to their strong values and shared faith, giving us all an ideal to which we can aspire. May their commitment grow even stronger as they love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Madam Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year of marriage. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

### HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF H.D. BROOME

#### HON. MICHAEL GUEST

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 30, 2019*

Mr. GUEST. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Mr. H.D. Broome of Bassfield, Mississippi. Mr. Broome was an American patriot who served the U.S. Army during World War II and the perilous Ardennes, Rhineland, and Central Europe Campaigns.

Private First Class H.D. Broome was inducted into the U.S. Army on August 11, 1944, at the age of 18. Assigned to C Company of the 8th Infantry, Mr. Broome participated in the American march across Europe and the famed "Battle of the Bulge." For his service, Mr. Broome was awarded the Bronze Star, a Purple Heart, and the Combat Infantryman Badge.

Mr. Broome was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Army in August 1946 and returned to Mississippi. After returning to Bassfield, Mr. Broome married Gracie Williams; served as deacon, Sunday school teacher, and church treasurer at Bethel Baptist Church; and enjoyed a 30-year career with the Mississippi Department of Transportation. Mr. Broome passed away May 11, 2019, and is buried at Lowland Cemetery in Bassfield, Mississippi.

Today, I join Mr. Broome's family in remembering his service and celebrating his life. I am grateful for all he has done in service to his country, his state, and his community.

### RECOGNIZING ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC PARISH

#### HON. TIM WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 30, 2019*

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize St. Joseph Catholic Parish

of Erie, Michigan as it celebrates its 200th anniversary.

St. Joseph Catholic Parish, the second oldest Catholic church in Monroe County, and the third oldest Catholic church in the Archdiocese of Detroit, has a rich history of service to the community.

The parish began in 1819 as a log building in a community called Bay Creek, where worshippers were primarily hunters and trappers. In its early days, the church depended upon traveling Jesuit priests who ministered to the congregants, followed by occasional visits by Father Gabriel Richard. In 1826, a new wood-frame building was constructed to replace the earlier log structure, and in 1833, Father John DeBruyn became its first resident pastor.

Around 1850, the Bay Creek settlement area was renamed Vienna, and today is known as Erie. As the parish continued to grow in number, it became necessary to build a new facility. The present building was completed under the leadership of Father Peter Warlop and consecrated in 1852 by Bishop Peter Paul LeFever. The magnificent structure, still used today as St. Joseph's place of worship, is a testimony to many years of faithful ministry.

Over the years, the church provided an elementary school for parishioners and added a new activities center to better serve the church body. Today, St. Joseph Parish continues to enrich hundreds of individuals and families in Erie as a place of connection, worship, and service.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in congratulating St. Joseph Catholic Parish on its bicentennial anniversary. May God continue to bless the congregation as it shines a bright light in Monroe County and beyond.

### IN HONOR OF THE FIRST PRES- BYTERIAN CHURCH IN FLEMINGSBURG

#### HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 30, 2019*

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the First Presbyterian Church in Flemingsburg, Kentucky on their 200th anniversary.

In 1795, Dr. John Poage Campbell came to Fleming County and erected a log church at Flemingsburg. According to historical records, other pioneer preachers were associated with the early church including Joseph P. Howe, James Kemper, William W. Martin, and John T. Edgar.

The present church building was erected in 1819. It remains as the major known work of architect-builders Samuel Stockwell and John Eckles. It is a fine example of Kentucky Federal architecture. In 1977, the church was named to the National Registry of Historic Places.

• 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.

As the congregation gathers to celebrate the 200th anniversary, I appreciate the historical significance of their building, but more importantly recognize the impact that this congregation has made on the Flemingsburg community over the years.

I congratulate Reverend Rick Hurst and all the members of First Presbyterian Church in Flemingsburg on their 200th anniversary and wish them many more years of successful ministry, serving God and reaching out to the community.

REMEMBRANCE OF HOPE  
"JACKIE" MURPHY WHITTAKER

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 30, 2019*

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Hope "Jackie" Murphy Whittaker, who passed away on 20 August 2019.

She was born 20 January 1935, the only child of Frank Marvin Murphy of Ayrfield and Hope Alice Dadmun of Petersburg and Norfolk. Jackie lived a long and varied life, raising her children, managing the farm, Ayrfield, where her family has lived since 1769, working on the Virginia Tech Extension Farm at Liberty Hall in Mount Holly, and spending 18 years as a customer service representative at Dominion Power before retiring in 1997.

Jackie was a Red Cross water safety instructor in her youth, and was an avid hunter and fisherman, inviting others into the outdoors with her enthusiasm. She inherited her mother's love of music and singing; she particularly enjoyed classical music and opera. She directed the choir at Yeocomico Church for several years. Jackie participated in various other nearby choral groups over the years as well, such as the Essex Community Chorus, and concerts at Andrew Chapel and St. James in Montross. When her children approached school age, she added her forceful support to the other local parents who sought to establish a small private school to provide their children the best possible education. Their efforts resulted in the creation of Woodland Academy in Neenah, VA, a place of quality primary education for nearly 50 years. She was as active in the Boy Scouts as her son, serving on the District Committee and participating in many district Camporees and training events. She was a patriot who held an undying belief in the greatness and wonder of this country. Jackie graduated from St. Margaret's School in Tappahannock and then went to Westhampton College in Richmond for a year before attending and graduating from Women's College of Greensboro in 1957.

She was predeceased in 1997 by her husband of 35 years, Arthur Davis Whittaker. She is survived by a son, Cmdr. A. Davis Whittaker, Jr. (Lynn); a daughter, Sarah Leigh Whittaker Montuori (David); a grandson, Anthony Francis Arthur Montuori; a step-daughter, Anne Marie Whittaker, and a lot of extended family and dear friends in the Northern Neck she loved so much.

HONORING THE VANNIE E. COOK,  
JR. CHILDREN'S CANCER AND  
HEMATOLOGY CLINIC

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 30, 2019*

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Vannie E. Cook, Jr. Children's Cancer and Hematology Clinic by recognizing the month of September 2019 as National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.

Childhood Cancer remains the number one cause of non-accidental death in children. Every year, approximately 1,700 Texas families will hear the words, "Your child has cancer" and about 105 of those brave children are from the Rio Grande Valley.

For the last 18 years, the Vannie E. Cook, Jr. Children's Cancer and Hematology Clinic, the first comprehensive pediatric cancer and hematology clinic in the Rio Grande Valley, has provided quality care and treatment to over 10,000 South Texas children battling cancer and blood disorders, regardless of their family's financial capacity.

On September 5, 2019, the Vannie Cook Children's Cancer Clinic and community members committed to fighting pediatric cancer will join together to host the Celebration of Life Carnival in McAllen, Texas. This community event will raise awareness of pediatric cancer, remember the young children we have lost, and honor the survivors as well as the courageous children and families fighting this disease every single day. It will be a day dedicated to children fighting cancer and I find it fitting to enter this important date in history into the record of the U.S. House of Representatives. I also plan to continue to do all I can, through my work in the Congress, to end all forms of cancer that afflict people all over the world.

Madam Speaker, I commend all associated with the Vannie E. Cook, Jr. Children's Cancer and Hematology Clinic on the occasion of National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. It is an honor to represent these courageous young people currently fighting cancer as well as those at the clinic for their invaluable work on behalf of children and families from the Rio Grande Valley.

HONORING MS. VIRGINIA "PIXIE"  
FLYNN BELL

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 30, 2019*

Mr. BEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the exemplary life of Ms. Virginia "Pixie" Flynn Bell. Ms. Bell passed away on August 2, 2019 at the age of 85 and is survived by ten of her thirteen children and three granddaughters.

Ms. Bell was born in 1934 in Boston, Massachusetts and grew up in Maine, where she graduated from Edward Little High School in 1952. Ms. Bell valued education, and in December 1997 at the age of 63 she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from Marymount University in Arlington, Virginia.

Ms. Bell spent her life in dedicated service to her country and local community. She served in the Air Force and worked as a senior advisor to elected officials in Virginia, including governors, U.S. Senators, U.S. Congressmen, state Senators, state Delegates, and Fairfax County Supervisors and Chairmen. As a longtime member of the Virginia Democratic Party, Ms. Bell was passionate about political organizing. She was a hard worker and strategic thinker, committed to bringing greater diversity to the Democratic party. Her colleagues and friends remember her for her welcoming spirit and mentorship.

Madam Speaker, for these reasons, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in remembering the life of Ms. Virginia "Pixie" Flynn Bell.

INDIGENOUS STEM PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT ACT

HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO  
SABLAN

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 30, 2019*

Mr. SABLAN. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the Indigenous STEM Professional Development Act, which would expand opportunities for Native American students to earn degrees in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) through partnerships between schools from the elementary to postsecondary level and the private sector.

Native Americans, including American Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians and the indigenous peoples of the Pacific U.S. territories, are among the most underrepresented groups in the STEM professions. Efforts to increase Native students entering the STEM workforce have seen success with programs like the University of Alaska's Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP). Based on a model incorporating indigenous language and culture in STEM instruction, intensive academic support and hands-on learning from middle school through graduate school, ANSEP has produced over 800 STEM graduates whose job placement rates exceed the national average. According to a 2015 Urban Institute evaluation, ANSEP participants have a 95 percent course completion rate with 84 percent reported being employed within one year of graduation. The evaluation also found the majority of ANSEP students earn a median annual salary over \$60,000 with 17 percent earning over \$100,000.

In 2008, Congress recognized the benefits of the ANSEP model in authorizing grants under the Higher Education Act to support similar programs focused on Native Hawaiians as well as Alaska Natives. However, we must do more to encourage all indigenous students to enter STEM careers, including Chamorro, Refaluwasch, and American Indians. The Indigenous STEM Professional Development Act reauthorizes and expands the grant program to include all indigenous peoples of the United States. Under the bill, schools can continue to use the grant to develop programs to help Native students succeed in completing STEM coursework, transitioning into college, gaining practical experience through internships, and working in their career fields after graduation.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation to help strengthen our nation's STEM