

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF FISK JOHNSON'S APPOINTMENT TO THE PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL OF ADVISORS ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

HON. BRYAN STEIL

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 28, 2019

Mr. STEIL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fisk Johnson, Chairman and CEO of SC Johnson & Son, Inc. For 133 years, SC Johnson has been a cornerstone of Racine, Wisconsin. President Trump was wise to select Fisk to serve on his Council of Advisors on Science and Technology. Fisk is a visionary. Fisk, now the fifth generation Johnson family leader of SC Johnson, has continued the family-owned company's tradition of adding good into the world.

Fisk's passion to support his employees, to create great products, and to make the world a better place is evident in his work. SC Johnson has partnered with multiple organizations to tackle issues facing Racine. From working with Gateway Technical College to give workers the education and technical skills they need to obtain a good paying job, to ensuring homeless veterans in Racine have a safe place to go, Fisk continues to find ways to make our community stronger.

Fisk's commitment to environmental sustainability has been nationally and internationally recognized. I recently met with Fisk to hear about the company's ocean conservation efforts. Through Fisk's leadership, SC Johnson partnered with Plastic Bank to give people in countries like Thailand, Vietnam, and Indonesia the opportunity to run recycling centers to prevent plastic waste from entering the ocean. This not only addresses an important environmental issue, but allows residents of these countries to earn a living, move out of poverty, and support their families.

These are just a few examples of Fisk's work in Racine and across the globe.

On behalf of Wisconsin's First Congressional District, I thank Fisk Johnson for his continued work in our community and throughout the world. Congratulations on this appointment to the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology. Fisk's leadership and expertise will serve this nation well.

RECOGNIZING TECHNICAL SERGEANT PAT MINER, RECIPIENT OF TEXAS' THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 2019 CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 28, 2019

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today, it is my privilege to honor twelve distinguished mili-

tary veterans from Texas' Third Congressional District who answered the call to serve their Nation honorably, both in uniform and following their return to civilian life. The recipients of the 2019 Congressional Veteran Commendation exemplify the time-honored qualities of patriotism, service before self, and bold leadership. Following their time in service, their efforts in our community have earned these fine individuals recognition as the recipients of this prestigious commendation. Their stories of sacrifice will encourage future generations to pursue a life dedicated to the very values we cherish as Americans: faith, freedom, and democracy. One such hero is Technical Sergeant Pat Miner of Plano, Texas.

Technical Sergeant Patrick Miner had a twenty-year career as an United States Air Force Non-Commissioned Officer, beginning his service in 1976 at Lockland Air Force Base in Texas. During his time in the military, he deployed to Japan with the 3rd Marine Division as well as the Fleet Marine Force—Pacific. During Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, he served as a broadcast manager at U.S. Central Command, supervising communications and broadcasts to foreign countries. As an Air Force Broadcast Journalist and Public Affairs Newscaster, his coverage, including the 1982 release of American hostages from Iran, would earn him two Thomas Jefferson Awards, the Department of Defense's highest honor recognizing journalists for outstanding achievements in furthering their Internal Information Program.

As a decorated military veteran, Mr. Miner received the Air Force Commendation Medal three times, the Longevity Service Award three times, the NCO Professional Military Education Ribbon twice, the Organizational Excellence Award twice, and the Good Conduct Medal five times.

Following his distinguished military career, Pat worked as a television producer for the Social Security Administration for twenty-three years. Following his move to Plano in 1996, Mr. Miner developed deep roots within the community, holding roles on the Plano Independent School District Council of PTAs, as the President of the Plano Homeowners Council, and on the Plano Transition and the Revitalization Commission. Giving back to the community is of paramount importance to Mr. Miner, and he was twice elected to the Plano City Council, holding positions as the Mayor Pro Tem and the Deputy Mayor Pro Tem. Civic involvement is also an important component of Pat's life, as evidenced by his role as Past-President of the North Texas Pioneers Rotary Club for which he was recognized with the Paul Harris Fellowship Award. Today, Pat is currently working to recognize our first responders who have given all through his efforts on the Plano Police and Firefighters Memorial Fund. Sergeant Patrick Miner is a hometown hero who has served both his country and community in meaningful ways and we are honored to recognize him with this award.

Today, a grateful Nation thanks Technical Sergeant Miner for his exceptional service and

congratulates him on this recognition. May his steadfast example of leadership inspire others to live a life of service to a cause greater than themselves. It is my extreme honor to award him the 2019 Congressional Veteran Commendation for the Third District of Texas.

HONORING THE 1ST ANNUAL MERCED COUNTY NUT FESTIVAL

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 28, 2019

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the first annual Merced County Nut Festival, an event celebrating the agricultural past, present, and future of Merced County and furthermore, the nut industry's impact on our Valley's local economy.

California's San Joaquin Valley is one of the world's top producers in almonds, walnuts, and pistachios, contributing to California's ranking as the sixth largest economy in the world. Together, the growers, hullers, and all involved in the tree to table process in California contribute to producing 80 percent of the world's almonds, which is also the state's top agricultural export.

The Merced County Nut Festival is the vision of Necola Adams, who saw the need to celebrate those involved in our Valley's nut industry while at the same time educating the public about these crops that are present in all parts of Merced County. After discussing this idea for three years, Mrs. Adams put together a committee of community leaders from various backgrounds to help make this vision a reality.

The planning committee consisting of Mrs. Adams, Gwen Hagaman, Cynthia Adams, Kim McMillion, and Vicki Underwood collaborated to ensure the success of this festival. They contacted local businesses and community organizations, marketed the festival to local stakeholders, and overcame any challenge that arose.

The vision of the Merced County Nut Festival being an event to educate about the tree-to-table process and one that brings together members of the community to celebrate an industry uniting the county has been achieved by the committee. This festival will feature demonstrations from industry professionals, food cooked by Merced chefs, and live music from local bands. Any of the additional funds raised will benefit local youth organizations in Merced, signifying the vision that the festival can bridge the local community to those involved in the nut industry.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Merced County Nut Festival during their inaugural year. It is both fitting and appropriate that we honor them and recognize the significant impact they will have on the greater Merced community and nut industry this year and in future years.

• 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.