

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING ATHLETIC  
DIRECTOR GERALD BRENCE

**HON. VAN TAYLOR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Gerald Brence, the Athletic Director for Plano ISD, for thirty-nine years of dedicated service to student athletes in Plano, Texas.

Before earning the title of Athletic Director in 2007, Gerald Brence served as the Head Coach of the Plano Senior High School Football team from 1992 to 2007. During his tenure, the Plano Senior Wildcats secured a state championship title in 1994 and made five trips to the state quarterfinals. One of the most-winning coaches in Plano Senior High's history, Coach Brence has earned the respect and admiration of those around him.

Under his steadfast leadership as Athletic Director, Plano ISD earned state championships in seven different sports including: golf, tennis, baseball, boys basketball, boys soccer, girls soccer, and girls basketball.

Our community is proud of Director Brence's leadership within Plano ISD, and we are grateful for the countless lives he has inspired throughout his career.

Now upon his retirement, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me thanking Director Gerald Brence for his dedication to Plano ISD.

HONORING RYAN OTTO BENNETT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ryan Otto Bennett. Ryan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 495, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Ryan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Ryan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Ryan has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Ryan Otto Bennett for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE ONE HUNDRETH  
SEASON OF ST. BONAVENTURE  
UNIVERSITY MEN'S BASKETBALL

**HON. TOM REED**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the one hundredth season of St. Bonaventure University Men's Basketball.

St. Bonaventure University's basketball program is celebrating their one hundredth season this year, marking the beginning of this legendary legacy that started so long ago. The first game took place on December 11, 1919 in Butler Gym.

The once simple team rose to national prominence in the 1950s and 1960s, thanks to All-Americans Tom Stith, Sam Stith and Fred Crawford.

The centennial celebration also marks the fiftieth anniversary of the 1969–70 Final Four Squad. This legendary team finished with a 25–3 record which they are still remembered for today. In 1970, Bob "Big Cat" Lanier led St. Bonaventure to the Final Four of the NCAA Tournament. Lanier scored 2,067 points during his basketball career. The entire 1970s team will be recognized on December 7 for their accomplishments.

The Bonnies, throughout their tenure, have brought joy to many fans, gave many students a variety of opportunities on the team and have brought the community together over the fascinating game of basketball. This anniversary is one to be remembered—a great milestone in the history of both the team and the university.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to recognize St. Bonaventure University on their one hundredth season of basketball. Go Bonnies.

HONORING CHUCK SURACK, 2019 INDIANA BUSINESS LEADER OF THE YEAR

**HON. JIM BANKS**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mr. BANKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Chuck Surack, a distinguished entrepreneur and servant of Indiana. Last month, the Indiana Chamber of Commerce named Mr. Surack as the 2019 Business Leader of the Year.

Mr. Surack is the owner and president of the famous musical instrument and technology online retailer, Sweetwater Sound, Inc. This multimillion-dollar corporation was originally started with a recording studio in the back of

Mr. Surack's VW bus. Sweetwater Sound, Inc. is now one of the largest instrument distributors in the United States.

Committed to his community, Mr. Surack serves on the boards of Easter Seals Arc of Northeast Indiana, the Fort Wayne Philharmonic, the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo, and Greater Fort Wayne Inc.

Madam Speaker, I offer my congratulations to Chuck Surack on this great achievement. His story is a true testament to the vitality of the American Dream and what a determined entrepreneur can accomplish. My best wishes to Mr. Chuck Surack for continued success in the years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. GWEN MOORE**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Ms. MOORE. Madam Speaker, on December 3rd, I missed Roll Call vote Nos. 643 and 644. I would have voted YEA on Roll Call 643 on H. Res. 546 disapproving of the Russian Federation's inclusion in future Group of Seven summits until it respects the territorial integrity of its neighbors and adheres to the standards of democratic societies.

I would have voted YEA on Roll 644 related to final passage of the Uighur Intervention and Global Humanitarian Unified Response Act.

HONORING WILLIAM EARL CODAY

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize William Earl Coday. William is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 495, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

William has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years William has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, William has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending William Earl Coday for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

• 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.

CELEBRATING GEORGE HYAK'S  
100TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. MICHAEL CLOUD**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mr. CLOUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to wish Mr. George Hyak, of Victoria, Texas, a heartfelt happy 100th birthday and thank him for his service to our country.

George is an example of a life well-lived. He and his precious bride Sarah met at church as young teens. They kept in touch with handwritten notes while he was deployed a few short years later. Their love has lasted for decades—February marked 71 years of marriage and brought them two children, six grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandson. George also co-founded Dicks Food Stores in 1938, which his family still operates to this day in my hometown of Victoria. His family recalls that from a young age as one of six children, he worked to help provide for his family. Throughout his life, George has worked with diligence and integrity and in service to others.

George was drafted in 1942 into the Army VIII Corps under General Troy Middleton. Two years into his service, June 6, 1944, became a day that not only shaped George's life but the course of our entire nation and indeed the world. George joined more than 160,000 troops on D-Day as the Allies launched the largest seaborne invasion in history. In the words of Winston Churchill, the operation was "undoubtedly the most complicated and difficult that has ever occurred." Starting as an infantryman, George landed on the beaches of Normandy with the second wave of troops and took on enemy fire. Mr. Hyak risked his life to help turn the tide of the war in Europe, which ultimately led to its liberation.

What's more, he also bravely fought at the Battle of the Bulge and was one of the first in the group to invade Ohrdruf, a German concentration camp. As the war in Europe was coming to a close, George was in Frankfurt, Germany, awaiting orders to deploy for the invasion of Japan. I can imagine the emotions they must have felt when they heard the war was finally over—and instead they'd be headed home.

When George returned home, he continued to operate Dick's Food Stores. The longevity of the establishment earned it the Texas Historical Commission's Texas Treasure Business Award. It's an honor bestowed on businesses for providing employment opportunities and boosting the state's economy for at least 50 years.

George continues to bless the lives of those who've come to know him, whether a fellow soldier or friend. As we look to celebrate Thanksgiving, we as a nation have a lot to be thankful for. George is one of them. May Mr. Hyak's life serve as a reminder of the price that he and others like him paid for our freedom.

God has always had a plan for Mr. Hyak, and for us today George Hyak's life paints a picture of sacrifice and duty that we can all learn from. I join his friends and family in celebrating 100 years and thanking him for his service to our nation. Happy 100th Birthday, George.

TERRE HAUTE SAVINGS BANK  
150TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. LARRY BUCSHON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mr. BUCSHON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Terre Haute Savings Bank for 150 years of service to the people of the Wabash Valley.

Since first welcoming customers in downtown Terre Haute on December 1, 1869, the bank has expanded to eight locations in Vigo and Clay Counties. Terre Haute Savings Bank has put a focus on supporting local communities and local nonprofit organizations.

I would like to congratulate Mr. Bart Colwell, CEO of Terre Haute Savings Bank, and all employees on a successful 150 years of business. As Terre Haute Savings Bank continues to "Believe in the Valley," I wish them the best in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. A. DONALD McEACHIN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mr. McEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on November 15, 2019 during roll call no. 617, On Agreeing to the Amendment, H.R. 4863, Torres of California Amendment No. 2. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 618, On Agreeing to the Amendment, H.R. 4863, Flores of Texas Amendment No. 3. Had I been present, I would have voted "no." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 619, On Agreeing to the Amendment, H.R. 4863, McAdams of Utah Amendment No. 4. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 620, On Agreeing to the Amendment, H.R. 4863, Davidson of Ohio Amendment No. 5. Had I been present, I would have voted "no." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 621, On Agreeing to the Amendment, H.R. 4863, Stevens of Michigan Amendment No. 18. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 622, On Agreeing to the Amendment, H.R. 4863, Torres Small of New Mexico Amendment No. 21. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 623, On Motion to Recommit with Instructions, H.R. 4863, United States Export Finance Agency Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "no." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 624, On Passage, H.R. 4863, United States Export Finance Agency Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING ISAAC DANIEL CONNER

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Isaac Daniel Conner. Isaac is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 495, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Isaac has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Isaac has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Isaac has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Isaac Daniel Conner for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN RECOGNITION OF MAYOR KYLE  
STACK'S LIFE AND LEGACY

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mayor Kyle Stack for her lifetime of service. Mayor Stack passed away on November 29, 2019 which greatly saddened our community. Her work as Mayor of the City of Trenton is worthy of commendation.

Mayor Stack served for 26 years as the city clerk, before being elected as mayor in 2011. During this time, she was the only Master Municipal Clerk in Wayne County for several years. As mayor, she was instrumental in addressing the very real issue of trains blocking crossings for too long, bringing together the Michigan Department of Transportation, Community and State Leaders to resolve this problem. Mayor Stack also worked diligently on the redevelopment of the McLouth Steel plant. She served on the Trenton Rotary Scholarship Committee, Trenton High School Hockey Team's John McKay Scholarship Selection Committee, and was the first woman president of the Trenton Rotary Club.

Mayor Stack's life stands as a role model of selfless service and demonstrates a tremendous love for her community. Beloved for her generosity and tenacity, Mayor Stack's reputation is a testament to the significant impact she had on Trenton and its residents. Her dedicated work has been critical in building and expanding the thriving community of Trenton. Mayor Stack was a champion for the residents of Trenton, a mentor to her colleagues, and her visionary leadership continues to inspire the community.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mayor Kyle Stack for a lifetime of service to her community. We are grateful for her dedicated work and her compassion and leadership will be greatly missed.

IN SUPPORT OF HISTORICALLY  
BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

SPEECH OF

**HON. MARCIA L. FUDGE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 3, 2019*

Ms. FUDGE. Madam Speaker, more than one quarter of all undergraduate students in the United States attend Historically Black Colleges and Universities and other Minority Serving Institutions. These schools play a critical role in unlocking higher education opportunities for millions of degree-seekers, including students of color and low-income students, of which many are the first in their family to attend college.

To protect these essential institutions from the threat of closure and financial despair, we must continue to provide them with the resources they need to prepare students for the modern economy.

Title III, Part F of the Higher Education Act authorizes important, mandatory funding for Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribal Colleges and Universities, and Minority Serving Institutions to educate and prepare students for professions in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math, or STEM, fields.

Unfortunately, this critical source of funding expired on September 30, 2019. This lapse jeopardizes the viability of these institutions, as well as the STEM readiness of the students they serve.

At a time when diverse representation is low in the STEM economy, Congress must immediately restore mandatory funding to prevent permanent and irreversible damage to STEM programs at these historic institutions that give students from underserved communities an opportunity to rise above their circumstances.

On September 17, 2019, the House passed the FUTURE Act, an extension of the \$255 million in essential mandatory funding for HBCUs and MSIs. Despite receiving unanimous support in the House, the bill has yet to be considered by the Senate and was not included in the continuing resolution that passed in November.

As Congress considers spending bills for next year, we must restore this vital source of funding that expands opportunities for underrepresented students. It is past time to uphold our promise to support these historic institutions and the students they serve.

STRONG OPPOSITION TO THE  
TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S PROPOSAL TO INCREASE HUNGER  
AND FOOD INSECURITY

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I am alarmed and outraged by the Trump Administration's decision to increase hunger and food insecurity for millions of Americans. Governments should strengthen

their people, assist the vulnerable, and improve well-being. Instead, the Trump Administration has advanced a rule change to cut millions of low-income children, families, veterans, people with disabilities, and seniors off their food stamp benefits, or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The Trump Administration estimates that at least 3.1 million families would lose their SNAP benefits, including stopping free and reduced school meals for nearly one million children.

In 2017, almost 40 million people, including more than 12.5 million children, experienced food insecurity. In my home state of Illinois, more than 63 percent of SNAP participants are in families with children and almost 30 percent are in families with members who are elderly or disabled. This rule targets the most vulnerable people in my state and across the nation. Even the U.S. Department of Agriculture admits that this Trump policy would exacerbate food insecurity for millions of Americans.

This is unacceptable. Millions of low-income Americans rely on SNAP as the first line of defense against hunger and food insecurity. By imposing this harmful rule, the Trump Administration actually increases hunger and hardship by erecting additional barriers for families and individuals who are trying to meet one of the most basic needs for survival.

I stand in strong opposition to this unnecessary and spiteful rule. The Trump Administration is attempting to impose a policy that Congress has rejected twice in the last two versions of the Farm Bill via bipartisan votes. The policies of this Administration have advantaged the most secure and left working families and our most vulnerable populations behind. As the Trump Administration prioritizes giving trillions of dollars to the most privileged corporations and billionaires, it literally takes food from hungry children. I reject this disgraceful rule and will continue to fight for the people of Chicago and the nation to ensure they receive the food they need. I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing this proposed rule and demanding that the Trump Administration rescind the rule immediately.

HONORING NATHAN FLETCHER

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Nathan Fletcher. Nathan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 412, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Nathan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Nathan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Nathan has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Nathan Fletcher for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

MASTER SERGEANT JAMES  
CHAMBERLAIN TRIBUTE

**HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mr. TIPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Master Sgt. James Chamberlain of La Veta, Colorado who is retiring from the U.S. Air Force after nearly 30 years of service.

Master Sgt. Chamberlain began his active duty service in 1992 shortly after graduating from Northeast Community College in Norfolk, Nebraska with an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice with an emphasis in Law Enforcement. Upon completion of his initial training, he went on to serve in numerous duty positions spanning from news broadcasting to military police security. The Air Force sent him to cities around the world such as Los Angeles, California, Azores, Portugal, and Keflavik, Iceland. His courage and service were exemplified during multiple voluntary deployments to the Middle East. During these deployments Master Sgt. Chamberlain earned dozens of awards and recognitions including the Iraq Campaign Medal with a Bronze Star, the Air Force Commendation Medal, and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal.

Master Sgt. Chamberlain's military career was simultaneously complemented by his time as a police officer. He left active duty service in September 1996 and returned to his family ranch near Walsenburg, Colorado. It was there that he put his GI bill to use and graduated near the top of his class at the Southern Colorado Law Enforcement Training Academy in Trinidad, Colorado. He was hired as a police officer for the city of La Junta, Colorado in August 1997. He continued his service in the Air Force Reserve as part of the 310th Security Forces Squadron at the newly renamed Schriever Air Force Base outside of Colorado Springs, Colorado, an opportunity he was eager to pursue.

In Walsenburg, the community he has most recently been serving, Master Sgt. Chamberlain was named Distinguished Officer of the Year for the Colorado Police Protective Association and received the Distinguished Service Award by the city. Additionally, he earned the Police Medal of Honor and the Rescuer Award for Valor by Southern Colorado Regional EMS and Trauma Advisory Council. This past year, he was even recognized by La Veta Schools on Veterans Day for his service as an Air Force veteran, a testament to what his sacrifices mean to his fellow community members.

Madam Speaker, Master Sgt. Chamberlain's service to his country and enduring work-ethic will continue to have a positive impact on the community for years to come. It is my privilege to recognize him today, and express heartfelt gratitude for the important work he has done throughout his life. I wish him a happy retirement from military service and sincerely hope that he knows how proud his community, the state of Colorado, and the entire country is of his sacrifice and service both as an Airman and a police officer.

HONORING VERA JUENGER

**HON. MIKE BOST**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Vera Juenger of Millstadt, Illinois on her upcoming 102nd birthday. Known for her outgoing and active lifestyle, Vera is also recognized for her popular pecans, which she sells to loyal customers who come back year after year.

Born on December 31, 1917, Vera still lives in the home that she and her husband, Albert, built on a large farm in 1962. You can find Vera tending to her pecan trees or driving herself to Ott's fish stand, where she enjoys dinner and a beer with her family every Friday. Her impact on the community was exemplified by the turnout of over 200 people who attended her 100th birthday celebration. This year on her birthday, she plans to go to her favorite sports bar to celebrate with her friends and family.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Vera Juenger on a life that continues to be well-lived. On behalf of Southern Illinois, happy birthday.

HONORING BRIAN JOSEPH KELLER

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Brian Joseph Keller. Brian is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 495, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Brian has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Brian has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Brian has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Brian Joseph Keller for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN MEMORY OF GARY MAZZONE

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to observe and mourn the passing of retired Police Captain Gary Mazzone of East Windsor, Connecticut. Sadly, Gary's death was the result of a tragic plane accident that occurred on October 2, 2019 at Bradley International Airport in Windsor Locks, Connecticut.

Gary's full and productive life touched thousands of his fellow citizens. First, as a police

officer in the town of Vernon, Connecticut where I reside, later as an inspector in the office of Chief State's Attorney, the highest office in the Connecticut criminal justice system, and eventually as the lead Inspector in the office of the Litchfield State's Attorney. Altogether his service in the police and court systems of Connecticut totaled 42 years of diligent, competent, ethical professionalism. As a lawyer in practice in Vernon before entering Congress, I personally witnessed Gary's relentless work ethic, as well as his commitment to upholding the laws and Constitution of the state of Connecticut and the United States. His exemplary service and friendliness made him a natural role model to young officers who served under him as he rose to the rank of Captain. Despite his high rank and the extensive powers that go with it, Gary never "put on airs" and always kept a very grounded perspective on life. He had a great sense of humor and was always willing to listen to an opposing view point with respect and consideration. He was the quintessential American police officer—tough but fair, fearless but human.

As the many accolades and reminiscences poured forth in statewide media and in North Central Connecticut in response to the heart-breaking news, stories abounded not only of his work in public safety, but also of his volunteerism in the town of East Windsor, his support of the special Olympics, and his devotion to honoring our country's veterans.

Madam Speaker, perhaps most powerfully, his family shared with the people of Connecticut stories of his abiding love for his wife Joan, their children Daniel, Brian, Maureen, Kim, and Stacey, and his father Pasquale. He took an active and enthusiastic interest in all their pursuits and successes. In particular, the Hartford Courant sports page published a wonderful story describing his passionate love of high school football, particularly the Stafford/Somers/East Windsor Bulldog high school team that his son Brian coaches. He attended all their games and was always there to positively help his son and the players succeed. Three days after the crash, Brian summoned his father's memory to find the strength to coach the Bulldogs to an emotional victory against rival Valley Regional/Old Lyme. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD, the Courant's story by Mr. Shawn McFarland dated October 6, 2019 which captures so well the essence of Gary's lively spirit, family devotion, and deep impact he made on all who knew him.

Madam Speaker, I ask that the House join me in expressing our profound admiration for Gary Mazzone's lifetime of public service and deepest condolences to his family for their loss.

[From the Hartford Courant, Oct. 6, 2019]

THREE DAYS AFTER HIS FATHER DIED IN THE B-17 CRASH AT BRADLEY AIRPORT, BRIAN MAZZONE IS BACK ON THE SIDELINE COACHING

After each Stafford/Somers/East Windsor football game, Gary Mazzone would be the first to greet his son, Brian, the team's head coach, with a hug. Those close to the team say that Gary never missed a game.

Gary Mazzone, 66, a retired police inspector in the Litchfield State's Attorney's office, was one of seven killed in Wednesday's B-17 crash at Bradley International Airport. Boarding the World War II era bomber was described as a "bucket list" type event for Gary Mazzone, who had a passion for history.

Saturday was Brian Mazzone's first game coaching without his father; the first game in which he wouldn't receive the traditional hug and "post game report," as Stafford assistant Bob Grant described.

As the final seconds ticked off in the Bulldogs' 21-7 win over Valley Regional/Old Lyme, one by one, Stafford players surrounded Brian Mazzone until the entire team had formed one giant hug around their coach. The final whistle blew, and Mazzone—who had remained composed for the entire game—broke into tears.

"I never used to cry, ever," Mazzone said. "My mom died 10 years ago. Once my mom died, you say 'hi' to me and I start crying now. When someone grabs you and hugs you . . . there's a lot of emotion in that."

Mazzone was a walking tribute to his father during the game. He wore Gary's Stafford football hoodie, which Brian picked up early Saturday morning at his father's home in Vernon. He wore a camouflage Bulldog hat, an homage to his father's love for hunting. Mazzone said he had gotten the hat for his father as a Christmas gift years back, and ironically enough, Gary Mazzone had requested a normal Bulldog cap instead. Brian Mazzone then went and got a camouflage hat for himself.

"He went to every game," Grant said. "Big Gar was something special. We'd go down and sit in the coach's room, and he'd sit with us. He was one of a kind."

Prior to kickoff, a "moment of celebration" was held in lieu of a standard moment of silence. All in attendance applauded Gary Mazzone's life, as Brian broke down in tears and was consoled by Grant. Brian Mazzone said his dad would have loved it.

"We've been crying a lot, and we've been watching the news," Mazzone said. "[Gary Mazzone] would be patting his chest, going, 'See me on the news? I was on CBS nightly news. You see that? I'm on the front page of the paper.' Every time, even back when he was working, he'd be, 'I'm in the news today. I'm in the news today.' He would eat up the attention. I'm very similar to him."

Mazzone described his dad as "funny as hell" and as a man who was full of life and loved having fun. He was known for his famous prank calls, where he would call a business and apply for an internship, and then never show up. In the days since Gary's passing, Brian has had many reach out to pass along their condolences. Almost all of them have had a new Gary Mazzone prank story to share, too.

Like Gary, Brian is lively. When his team forced a fumble early in the first quarter, Mazzone sprinted onto the field, pumping a fist and pounding his chest. When senior Tyler Ouellete connected with junior Trent Kology on an 84-yard touchdown pass in the second quarter, Mazzone sprinted the length of the field celebrating, nearly stride-for-stride with Kology.

"They always make fun of me when we watch the film and I'm jumping around and running," Mazzone said with a laugh. "If you notice, I run like an idiot. I've got my chest out like this. I don't know who taught me to run."

There was never a doubt for Mazzone that he would coach Saturday's game, though he said it had less to do with his father and more so to do with the fact that he didn't want to rearrange the schedule. The Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference granted the team permission to move Saturday's game to a later date, though Mazzone didn't want to force his players to sit through back-to-back bye weeks.

That was to be expected of Mazzone, as his assistants, current and former players will tell you. In the face of an unbearable tragedy, his motives were for his team.

"We knew that we had to pick him up, because he's supported us all this time," said Ouellette, who threw two touchdown passes in the win. "We knew that we had to come through and support him. It was great to see him here. We all came together, and we all played hard for him."

Each Bulldog helmet had a "GM" decal in memory of Gary Mazzone. Valley Regional/Old Lyme also wore the decals on their helmets.

Tim King, head coach of the Warriors who opposed the Bulldogs on Saturday, is a long-time friend of Brian Mazzone, and understands what he was going through Saturday. In 2015, King coached two days after his father, George Sr., passed away at age 92.

"It's a football family," King said. "For 48 minutes, you battle on the field. But reality is this type of stuff. When I heard about it, it's the first thing I told our kids. You can worry about grades, you can worry about whatever, but when something happens as horrible as what happened to Brian's dad, that's reality. The game of football means absolutely nothing. All respect in the world, I know exactly what he was going through."

A handful of former Stafford players were in attendance, standing behind the Bulldogs' sideline, many wearing team gear. Mazzone greeted each with a hug following the end of the first quarter.

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#### HONORING AUSTIN MCCOY

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Austin McCoy. Austin is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 393, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Austin has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Austin has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Austin has earned the rank of Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say and become a Brotherhood member in the Order of the Arrow. Austin has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Austin worked with the Platte Land Trust to build a sign for their new Charlotte Sawyers Nature Area located in Parkville, Missouri.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Austin McCoy for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

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#### HONORING LEGAL SERVICES FOR SENIORS

### HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask that my colleagues in the House join me in congratulating Legal Services for Seniors on the occasion of their 35th Anniversary. Beginning in 1985, Legal Services for Seniors

has been dedicated to facilitating attorneys and legal advocates for senior residents of the 20th Congressional District of California. More specifically, Legal Services for Seniors has a history of providing no-cost legal representation to elderly low-income individuals residing in Monterey County who would otherwise not have access to the resources necessary for protecting their legal rights.

Legal Services for Seniors has made it their goal to address and correct legal harm done to Monterey County seniors. They have offices and outreach locations in Seaside, Carmel, Carmel Valley, Pacific Grove, King City, Greenfield, Soledad, Gonzales, Castroville and Monterey. Legal Services for Seniors' attorneys and advocates provide free legal advice and complete legal representation to local seniors in order to address legal problems including physical, financial, and emotional abuse. More than 90,000 seniors have benefited from no-cost legal support over the past 35 years. Many of the issues are very dramatic or life-threatening, and include abuse, Medicare, landlord-tenant conflicts, medical and private insurance issues, Social Security problems, consumer fraud, scams, identity theft, probate guardianships, wills and advance health care directives. Thankfully, approximately 3,000 citizens are assisted with these issues each year by Legal Services for Seniors. In 2018 alone, Legal Services for Seniors restored one million dollars in property fraudulently appropriated by the individuals which prey upon our seniors on the central coast of California.

In addition to direct client representation, Legal Services for Seniors provides community-wide presentations to approximately 2,000 seniors and their family members annually. These presentations provide information regarding issues which are vital to seniors' wellbeing, including recognizing and preventing elder abuse, scams, and consumer fraud as well as providing resources for affordable housing and end of life healthcare and decision-making. These services are crucial to informing citizens of their rights and resources. Additionally, the agency presents information on challenges faced by local seniors through public service announcements, newspaper articles, resource fairs, workshops, and other public venues.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the dedication and commitment to compassion and justice that Legal Services for Seniors provides to the 20th Congressional District. We are fortunate to have this non-profit establishment call the Central Coast home as the only nonprofit agency in Monterey County providing no-cost legal services to our elderly residents. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 35th Anniversary of Legal Services for Seniors.

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#### HONORING MR. CEDRIC FLOUNORY

### HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Mr. Cedric Flounory for his many years of federal service to the Internal Revenue Service, on the occasion of his retirement.

During his forty years of public service, Mr. Cedric Flounory has worked tirelessly within both the United States Air Force and the Internal Revenue Service. Mr. Flounory rose through the ranks ultimately becoming an Air Force Major. Throughout his military service, Mr. Flounory garnered awards for his steadfast dedication, earning the Air Force Good Conduct Award, the Marksmanship Award, and the Meritorious Service Medal with an Oak Leaf Cluster. After eight years in the Air Force, Mr. Flounory continued serving the public with a career that has stretched more than thirty years at the Internal Revenue Service. A caring professional, Mr. Flounory has been praised for his work at the IRS, receiving awards like Employee of the Month and a Performance Award. His service both on the ground through military service and in the office through the Internal Revenue Service, portrays his dedication to the nation.

In short, Mr. Cedric Flounory has honorably served our country and the people of the 13th Congressional District. Please join me in honoring him for his forty years of federal service as we wish him well on his retirement.

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#### RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF BALLET WEST'S THE NUTCRACKER

### HON. BEN McADAMS

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mr. McADAMS. Madam Speaker, this December, Utahns and visitors to my state are breathlessly waiting for the curtain to go up on the 75th anniversary of a beloved holiday tradition—Ballet West's performance of "The Nutcracker". This season's \$3 million production restores the original choreography by Ballet West's founder Willam Christensen—or Mr. C—as he was fondly known to dancers and audience members alike. He passed away in 2001 at the age of 99.

Willam Christensen was known as a champion of American ballet, who headed important companies in Portland, San Francisco and Salt Lake City. He was born in 1902, in Brigham City, Utah. In San Francisco, in 1944, Christensen staged the first complete American production of "The Nutcracker." In 1951, Mr. C. moved with his ailing wife to Salt Lake, seeking a better climate for her health. He began teaching ballet at the University of Utah and founded what would become Ballet West in 1968. His production of "The Nutcracker" soon became a Utah holiday sensation. Many an aspiring young Utah male or female dancer traces the start of a career from being on stage in "The Nutcracker" party scene, where the story unfolds of young Clara's dream journey into the magical land of the Sugar Plum Fairy. Thousands of Utah children and their parents and grandparents have been transported from their seats in a darkened theatre to a place with waltzing snowflakes and a marvelous dancing bear.

When Ballet West performed "The Nutcracker" at the Kennedy Center in December of 2018, the Washington Post's dance critic wrote: "This is not only a beautifully danced and gorgeously designed production. It's also historic. The result is a fine balance of textural spectacle and elegant dancing."

The dancers, musicians, stage crew and artistic directors of this marvelous company have provided many Utah audiences with priceless holiday memories. It is my honor to congratulate them on this 75th anniversary, together with a wish for 75 more years of successful performances.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. WILLIAM R. TIMMONS, IV**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mr. TIMMONS. Madam Speaker, I missed votes the week of November 18, 2019, due to full-time military duties with the South Carolina Air National Guard. Had I been present, I would have voted: Yea on Roll Call No. 625; Yea on Roll Call No. 626; Nay on Roll Call No. 627; Nay on Roll Call No. 628; Nay on Roll Call No. 629; Nay on Roll Call No. 630; Nay on Roll Call No. 631; Nay on Roll Call No. 632; Nay on Roll Call No. 633; Yea on Roll Call No. 634; Yea on Roll Call No. 635; Yea on Roll Call No. 636; Yea on Roll Call No. 637; Yea on Roll Call No. 638; Yea on Roll Call No. 639; Nay on Roll Call No. 640; Nay on Roll Call No. 641; and Nay on Roll Call No. 642.

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HONORING THE LIFE OF GEORGE VANECEK

**HON. RO KHANNA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mr. KHANNA. Madam Speaker, today I honor the life of George Vanecek, a key leader in the development of the internet and Silicon Valley. He passed away this September at the age of 61.

Born in Prague, Czech Republic, George escaped his home country as a boy with his family during the Prague Spring of 1968 after refusing to join the Czech Communist Party. They settled in the Oregon mountains. He was proud of his adoptive home and believed deeply in its promise of opportunity.

It was this appreciation that drove George's career, but it was his brilliant mind that steered it. George was not only an award-winning programmer at a young age; he was also a talented painter. He applied this artistry to the field of computing. After completing his PhD in computer science, George helped pioneer the first http servers at the National Institute of Science and Technology (NIST) before bringing the world wide web to Purdue University, where he was a professor of computer science and won the Excellence in Teaching Award early in his academic tenure. Then, at AT&T Labs Internet Platforms Division in San Jose, he oversaw the development of a vast platform for internet commerce. George co-founded several companies, working in areas like telecommunications and the early internet of things (IoT). George did this work with pride in the opportunity he had been given when he came to America. He cared deeply about giving back by developing systems in which computers enhanced human capacity. With an eye to the future, George's creativity and vision allowed him to become a leader in his field.

In his final position as Vice President and Chief Architect of Technical Architecture at FICO, he worked on solutions to today's big problems, like fraud detection and algorithmic bias, designing and overseeing the construction of a data streaming platform that could derive intelligent decisions from large amounts of data in real time. Perhaps more strikingly, George was known among his peers for showing up in the office wearing full leather, having just parked the Aprilia Tuono motorcycle he rode between lanes of traffic into the Santa Clara office each morning, not far from my district office.

George was not only a scientist but was also a friend and mentor to many throughout his career and life. He volunteered his time helping small business owners get started in his community. He was a scuba diver, a glider pilot, and a world traveler. He and his family foraged for mushrooms along California's many hiking trails and explored its wineries and local breweries. Madam Speaker, George was a Bay Area man through and through, and I'm proud to recognize him today for his contributions to our community.

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HONORING THE HOLLISTER SCHOOL DISTRICT'S ACCELERATED ACHIEVEMENT ACADEMY

**HON. JIMMY PANETTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the work of the students, teachers, and staff at the Accelerated Achievement Academy (AAA) in the Hollister School District. AAA has been recognized in 2019 as a National Blue Ribbon School for fostering an innovative, multi-dimensional learning environment for students across the central coast of California.

The Accelerated Achievement Academy is one of the highest achieving schools in California, using evidence-based professional development and instructional practices in the classroom to engage students in transformative, real-world learning. AAA works with a Project-Based Learning (PBL) model that pushes students to develop deep content knowledge along with critical thinking, creativity, and communication skills. Through the PBL model, students interact with businesses, organizations, and their community. These interactions instill in them a sense of agency and purpose and a complex understanding of the world around them and their place in it.

The teachers and staff at Accelerated Achievement Academy are deeply committed to developing bright and high-achieving students into kind and compassionate individuals. Each classroom creates a social contract, an agreement of behavior that builds peer-instructor relational skills to raise the social and emotional capacity of each individual student. Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the achievement and hard work of AAA.

IN RECOGNITION OF NICK GUILLETTE BECOMING THE CERTIFIED CROP ADVISER CONSERVATIONIST OF THE YEAR

**HON. MIKE GALLAGHER**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Nick Guilette of Casco, Wisconsin for receiving the Certified Crop Adviser Conservationist of the Year award from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). His leadership in agriculture conservation practices contributes greatly to Wisconsin's agricultural industry and set an excellent example of stewardship to the community and the environment.

Nick has a lifelong commitment to agriculture, growing up on his family's farm where they tended over 300 acres of land. He has dedicated his professional career to conservation efforts, excelling in positions such as Advanced Nutrient Management and GPS Technician, Certified Crop Adviser and Agronomist, and Demonstration Farm Project Manager. Utilizing his background in resource management and soil health, Nick provides guidance to local farms as well as the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) within the USDA.

Nick partners with NRCS through his role as Demonstration Farm Project Manager. He works with producers through the Door-Kewaunee Watershed Demonstration Farm Network striving to protect the Great Lakes from excess nutrients and sediment leaving the rural landscape. Nick participates as an educator at field days, farm tours, workshops, and demonstration events on crop and nutrient management practices that build soil health and reduce erosion.

In addition to his partnership with the USDA, Nick is vital in furthering soil and water conservation efforts throughout Wisconsin's Eighth Congressional district. He actively participates in my Save the Bay initiative by lending his expertise at Door/Kewaunee Watershed workgroup meetings. He also played a key role in planning and leading a Save the Bay Field Day, showcasing new techniques in conservation farming to more than 125 producers and members of the agricultural community.

Madam Speaker, I urge all members of this body to join me in thanking Nick for his commitment to land conservation and dedication to Wisconsin's agricultural industry. Northeast Wisconsin is fortunate to have citizens like Nick engaged in promoting sustainable agricultural practices.

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RECOGNIZING KIM HERMAN ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE WASHINGTON STATE HOUSING FINANCE COMMISSION

**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor and congratulate Kim Herman, Executive Director of the Washington State

Housing Finance Commission, on his retirement.

Kim Herman has served as Executive Director of the Commission since its beginning in 1984, guiding the organization through changing economic conditions and championing affordable housing in Washington State and across the country. Under Mr. Herman's leadership, the Commission has helped over 73,000 families become homeowners and assisted the development of 128,000 affordable multifamily housing units statewide. The Commission utilizes the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program, the private market, and community partnerships to help families build a solid foundation with accessible and affordable housing. Last year, Mr. Herman was inducted into the national Affordable Housing Hall of Fame, a well-deserved recognition of his decades of work helping Washington State's most disadvantaged citizens, including seniors, farmworkers, and people experiencing homelessness, as well as moderate-income families.

Mr. Herman has built and supported the capacity of housing organizations throughout Washington. He helped to create the Washington Low Income Housing Alliance and has served on the boards of countless organizations and policy groups, including the Governor's Affordable Housing Advisory Board and Impact Capital.

Mr. Herman's work in housing has expanded not only the Commission's expertise, but the capacity of housing organizations throughout the state and the country by dedicating his time to multiple leadership positions at the National Council of State Housing Agencies and the National Rural Housing Coalition.

Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I recognize Kim Herman's dedication to expanding access to affordable homes and congratulate him on his retirement from his longtime service to the communities of Washington State.

#### CONGRATULATING THE EAST ST. LOUIS FLYERS

### HON. MIKE BOST

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the East St. Louis Flyers for winning the Football 6A State Championship. After breezing past their opponents by a score of 43–21 in the finals, the team secured a perfect 14–0 record and their third state championship title under coach Darren Sunkett.

After the tragic and untimely loss of two players, Jermaine Falconer and Jaylon McKenzie, earlier this year, the Flyers found the inspiration to carry on and honor the memory of their fallen teammates. Despite incredibly difficult circumstances, the Flyers excelled on the field, outscoring their opponents by an average of over 36 points per game. These young men put their hearts into every game, and their hard work paid off with an accomplishment that they can be proud of for the rest of their lives.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the players, coaches, and families of the East St. Louis Senior High School football

team for their incredible season. Southern Illinois is proud of them.

#### CELEBRATING TEN YEARS OF THE LOWER EASTSIDE ACTION PLAN

### HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Detroit's lower eastside communities for their ten years of engagement in the Lower Eastside Action Plan.

The Lower Eastside Action Plan, known commonly as LEAP, started through community group engagement in order to address disinvestment and structure demolition in Detroit's east side neighborhoods. The program has successfully engaged more than five thousand residents to strengthen neighborhood ties and repurpose vacant land. Residents working hand in hand have been able to reduce blight, prevent tax foreclosure, enhance public green spaces, and so much more.

Please join me in salute to the countless Detroit residents who have made the Lower Eastside Action Plan a successful community venture for the past ten years.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. CONOR LAMB

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mr. LAMB. Madam Speaker, due to unforeseen travel delays I missed two votes on December 3, 2019.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 643, and YEA on Roll Call No. 644.

#### CONGRATULATING JUSTIN LOPEZ-CARDOZE

### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Justin Lopez-Cardoze, a seventh-grade life science teacher at Capital City Public Charter School, for being named the 2020 District of Columbia Teacher of the Year.

The DC Teacher of the Year award is granted each year to a public or public charter school teacher who is dedicated to student growth, and creating connections with families and communities, and who provides high-quality instruction.

Lopez-Cardoze, whose father was born in El Salvador, is the first Latino recipient of the DC Teacher of the Year award. He follows in the footsteps of the 2019 DC Teacher of the Year, Kelly Harper, who was the first DC teacher to become a finalist in the national competition for teacher of the year since 2005.

Lopez-Cardoze is a devoted teacher. He views his work as a way to pay back the

scholarship he won as a student, which made it possible for him to attend the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill and become a teacher. The award comes with \$7,500 and makes Lopez-Cardoze eligible for the National Teacher of the Year award. Lopez-Cardoze is still paying off his student loans but he has pledged to use \$5,000 of his award, and to double that amount through fundraising, to create a scholarship fund to allow a student at Capital City Public Charter school to go to college.

His concern for his students is unfailing. When a student with sickle cell anemia approached him about proposed cuts to the National Institutes of Health, he led his students in developing an organization to educate the public about diseases often found among people of color.

In his three years at Capital City Public Charter School, in Northwest DC, Lopez-Cardoze has made himself an integral part of the community. He serves as the school's Science Department chair, seventh-grade team lead and middle school representative on the school's Equity Core Committee. As a member of the Equity Core Committee, he co-creates diversity, equity and inclusion sessions for staff and works to create a more culturally competent learning environment for his students.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Justin Lopez-Cardoze for being named the 2020 District of Columbia Teacher of the Year and for his commitment and dedication to DC students.

#### HONORING SISTER PAULETTE LOMONACO

### HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Sister Paulette LoMonaco, a cherished public servant and respected New York leader. Sister Paulette has dedicated her life to helping the vulnerable children, youth and families of New York City, most recently as the executive director of Good Shepherd Services. As she retires this year, I wanted to pay homage to the work she has accomplished on behalf of so many New Yorkers.

Sister Paulette was Good Shepherd Services' longest serving executive director, holding the position for 37 years and serving the agency for a total of 50 years. Under Paulette's leadership, Good Shepherd Services transformed from a small provider of out-of-home care for vulnerable girls into one of the largest youth social services agencies in New York City. Today, the agency works with 30,000 children, youth and families annually as well as informs policy debates and innovative models concerning youth outcomes within New York City and beyond.

Notably, Sister Paulette's unwavering commitment to the welfare of children and families has led to prominence and respect with city and state leadership. In fact, Sister Paulette fearlessly engaged with mayors and the archdiocese, fighting for accountability on social issues and, ultimately, modernizing New York City's conception of a nun in the 21st century.

For her efforts to expand opportunities for nontraditional education and support disconnected families, Sister Paulette has been honored by countless organizations. Not only was she selected by City & State as one of New York's 50 Over 50 and Power 100, but also as a recipient for the Lewis Hine Award and Robin Hood Hero Award. During her tenure at Good Shepherd Services, the agency received The New York Times' Company Excellence Award in 2007 and Crain's Best Place to Work in 2014 Award. Sister Paulette also pioneered the city's first ever transfer school in partnership with the New York City Department of Education and helped reshape the city's foster care system.

Madam Speaker, the people of New York owe a debt of gratitude to Sister Paulette for her years of service. I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting her as she moves on to her next phase of life. I wish her and her family all the best and thank her for all she has done for New York's youth.

HONORING MR. FELIPE 'TRES'  
BARRERA

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Felipe 'Tres' Barrera, a member of the Washington Nationals 2019 World Series Champions and a Rio Grande Valley Native.

Tres Barrera is an incredibly talented professional baseball catcher for the Washington Nationals. He was born in Eagle Pass, Texas, and moved to the Rio Grande Valley when he was 10 years old. Tres played on the baseball team for Hidalgo High School his freshman year, winning the District 32-3A Most Valuable Player award, before transferring to Sharyland High School. At Sharyland High School, Tres played football and baseball, and quickly became a standout athlete and student. He was selected to two all-state teams, and won the 30-5A Most Valuable Player and the All-Valley Player of the Year as a senior. His batting average was an astonishing .452, hitting 22 home runs during his time at Sharyland High School.

Tres' incredible work ethic, determination, and sheer talent earned him a spot on the renowned baseball team for the University of Texas at Austin. As a freshman, Tres was the team's starting catcher, won the 2014 College Home Run Derby, and led Texas to the College World Series. His achievements continued on.

During his sophomore year, Tres was a vital part of the University of Texas' Big 12 championship team, while adding his name to the All-Big 12 second team. In his junior year campaign, Tres earned the 2016 Academic All-Big 12 baseball honors and was named an All-Big 12 honorable mention. He left Texas after his junior year to join the minor leagues, but only after walking away with 20 home runs and 106 runs batted in (RBIs) for the University of Texas at Austin.

Tres Barrera's hard work and dedication continued for the next three years as he played for a number of minor league teams before being called up to the Major League

Baseball, MLB, on September 8, 2019, for the Washington Nationals. Being a member of the Nationals, Tres participated in one of the most unlikely runs in the history of professional baseball.

The Nationals' record through 50 games was a poor 19 wins and 31 losses before they won 74 of their next 122 games. This secured the Nationals a wild-card spot in the postseason. The Nationals continued their unlikely playoff run until the very end, where they beat the Houston Astros in seven games, winning the World Series on October 10, 2019. On that day, Tres earned himself the coveted World Series ring.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Tres Barrera worked tirelessly to prove that with determination, will power, and commitment, we can accomplish anything we set ourselves to do in life. Tres made history, gave young people across our country the hope to achieve anything they set their mind to and for that I stand here today to recognize him. He is a proud son of South Texas and the Rio Grande Valley, and we appreciate him for his work and dedication to the Washington Nationals.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF VICTORIA J. POLLYEA

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and contributions of a tireless leader of the Tampa community, Victoria "Vicki" J. Pollyea.

Vicki was born and raised in Tampa, Florida. At an early age, Vicki learned how to take on challenges after being diagnosed with Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease (CMT). Vicki used her hard earned ability to "fight through" for herself and others her entire life. For example, having to undergo strenuous physical therapy in her youth, inspired her to pursue Occupational Therapy so she could be a source of strength and healing for others.

After graduating Summa Cum Laude from the University of Florida, Vicki worked as a pediatric occupational therapist until CMT forced her to retire. Again, even though she retired early from formal work, she kept her skills honed and never ceased using them to help others. And, being unable to continue practicing as an occupational therapist, she used her strength and energy to plunge into advocacy for CMT. She served as the web page moderator for Charcot-Marie-Tooth Association (CMTA); realized the impact that CMT had on her neighbors in Tampa and helped found the CMTA Tampa branch. Vicki then became a branch leader and a Support Group Leader for CMTA. She was always there for the newly diagnosed as a shining real-life example of perseverance.

Vicki's involvement and commitment to the Tampa community grew when she co-founded the Bayshore Gardens Neighborhood Association. She served as president for more than two decades. In addition to her position, she hosted annual holiday gatherings for neighbors, including many who didn't have anywhere else to go. Vicki also served on the Mayor's Neighborhood Task Force and helped

draft the City of Tampa's tree-protection code and her efforts to improve Bayshore Boulevard are evident every day.

Vicki used her voice to advocate for her South Tampa neighborhood and indeed the entire city. She helped manage the urban forest and ensured all neighborhoods had their voices heard. Shortly before her death, the Tampa City Council honored her with a commendation for her community service and a CMT walk-n-roll event has been named in her honor.

Vicki is survived by her husband, Archie Giannella; sister and brother-in-law, Lisa and Gordon; niece, Claire; stepson, Brock Heinz; godson, John Helmiere, Randi, John, and many beloved cousins. She also leaves behind a community of children, from babies to adults with babies of their own, who cherish her as a beloved "aunt".

Madam Speaker, on behalf of a grateful and saddened Tampa community, I am proud to honor Victoria J. Pollyea's life. Vicki was admired by her neighbors for her advocacy and her will to never let any challenge dim her passion to help others. Her devotion to her neighbors and Tampa inspires us still and will live on always in our hearts.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mr. LEWIS. Madam Speaker, I was unable to cast roll call votes on November 20th and November 21st. Had I been present, I would have cast the following votes: on roll call 632, I would have voted Aye; on roll call 633, I would have voted Aye; on roll call 634, I would have voted Aye; on roll call 635, I would have voted Aye; on roll call 636, I would have voted Aye; on roll call 637, I would have voted No; on roll call 638, I would have voted Aye; on roll call 639, I would have voted Aye; on roll call 640, I would have voted Aye; on roll call 641, I would have voted Aye; and on roll call 642, I would have voted Aye.

RECOGNIZING MAYOR EUGENE PARKISON FOR HIS 40 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE LEXINGTON COMMUNITY

HON. TROY BALDERSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mr. BALDERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mayor Eugene Parkison, for the forty years he has dedicated to Lexington, Ohio and the surrounding area.

Mayor Parkison's career, now spanning more than four decades, exemplifies a selfless commitment to public service. After being appointed to a Lexington City Council seat in 1978, Gene was sworn in as Mayor in 1983. Today, with more than 35 years in this role, he is now the longest-tenured mayor in Richland County history.

As a holder of public office, Mayor Parkison has continually gone above and beyond his call of duty. His dedication has manifested



itself in countless ways over the years, including in his recent effort to collect and donate several boxes of clothing, shoes, and blankets to victims of Hurricane Harvey in 2017. For his remarkable service, Gene has been honored with several awards, including the proclamation of Eugene R. Parkison Day—which has been celebrated in Lexington on July 1st of every year since 2013.

Admired and respected by all, many current and former Lexington City councilman have cited Gene as an important mentor in their lives—both professionally and personally. However, beyond his work in local government, Gene has served the Lexington community in a number of other capacities as well, including as a member of the Catholic Charities Board.

As family, friends, and Lexington gather to recognize Gene's outstanding career, I salute him for his ongoing commitment to service above self. Mayor Parkison can take great pride in all he has accomplished and in the positive impact that his work has—and will continue to—have.

I thank Gene for his devotion to bettering Lexington, Ohio and in turn, I honor him for his incredible record of achievement.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. SETH MOULTON

OF MASSACHUSETTS  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Wednesday, December 4, 2019*

Mr. MOULTON. Madam Speaker, due to personal reasons, I was not able to vote on Thursday, November 21, 2019. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 637; YEA on Roll Call No. 638; YEA on Roll Call No. 639; YEA on Roll Call No. 640; YEA on Roll Call No. 641; YEA on Roll Call No. 642; YEA on Roll Call No. 643; and YEA on Roll Call No. 644.

#### IN SUPPORT OF HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

SPEECH OF

### HON. KAREN BASS

OF CALIFORNIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, December 3, 2019*

Ms. BASS. Madam Speaker, the Congressional Black Caucus is leading a Special Order Hour discussing support for Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and Minority-Serving Institutions. Congress must provide mandatory funding for these institutions.

Fighting for historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) is one of the Congressional Black Caucus's highest priorities because HBCUs are critical contributors to the strength of the Black community and our country.

Many Members in our caucus have attended great HBCUs such as American Baptist College, Central State University, Clark Atlanta University, Fisk University, Florida A&M, Howard University, Jackson State University, Morehouse College, North Carolina A&T State University, North Carolina Central University, Prairie View A&M University, South Carolina State University, Texas Southern University, Tougaloo College, Tuskegee University, Virginia State University, Virginia Union University, and Wiley College among others.

In the 115th Congress, the CBC launched a tour of HBCUs called #CBCOnTheYard. The goal of the tour was to listen, involve, and mobilize students to effect change in their communities and to get their thoughts on the direction of the country and issues that affect their lives. The CBC hosted events at Morehouse College, Xavier University, Bowie State University, and Howard University.

According to the Thurgood Marshall College Fund, HBCUs account for 22 percent of current bachelor's degrees granted to African Americans. Moreover, among African Americans, 13 percent of CEOs, 40 percent of engineers, 40 percent of health care professionals, 50 percent of teachers, 50 percent of non-HBCU professors, 50 percent of lawyers, 80 percent of judges, and 90 percent with bachelor's degrees in STEM subjects graduated from an HBCU.

The economic impact of HBCUs is equally impressive. A report by the UNCF called HBCUs Make America Strong: The Positive Economic Impact of Historically Black Colleges and Universities shows that HBCUs generate \$14.8 billion in economic impact annually.

HBCUs are vital to the students who attend them and the entire country, which makes use of the valuable skills these graduates bring to the private and public sectors.

Our nation must continue to invest in HBCUs and Minority-Serving Institutions.

#### SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, December 5, 2019 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

#### MEETINGS SCHEDULED

##### DECEMBER 10

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Securities and Exchange Commission.

SD-538

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the upcoming implementation of the International Maritime Organization's new global sulfur standard for marine fuels, which is set to take effect on January 1, 2020.

SD-366

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine encryption and lawful access, focusing on evaluating benefits and risks to public safety and privacy.

SD-226

##### DECEMBER 11

10 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider S. 2641, to promote United States national security and prevent the resurgence of ISIS, and other pending calendar business.

S-116

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the Inspector General's report on alleged abuses of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act.

SH-216

2 p.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Intellectual Property

To hold an oversight hearing to examine modernization of the United States Copyright Office.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold closed hearings to examine an update on the situation and United States strategy in Afghanistan.

SVC-217

Committee on Indian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Michael D. Weahkee, of New Mexico, to be Director of the Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services.

SD-628

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Jovita Carranza, of Illinois, to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

SR-428A