

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING ENSIGN JOSHUA KALEB WATSON

HON. MARTHA ROBY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 19, 2019

Mrs. ROBY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and sacrifices of Ensign Joshua Kaleb Watson, who was tragically killed on December 6, 2019, at Pensacola Naval Air Station in Florida.

Born and raised in Enterprise, Alabama, Kaleb was a natural leader and devoted servant to his community from an early age. Inspired by his uncle's service in the Gulf War, Kaleb knew at a very early age since childhood that he wanted to serve his country in the military.

Kaleb continued to demonstrate his leadership skills at Enterprise High School, where he participated in JROTC, National Honor Society, French Honor Society, and captain of the rifle team. It was through his experience on the rifle team that he learned of the opportunities at the United States Naval Academy. Kaleb was accepted to attend the prestigious Naval Academy upon graduating from high school in 2014. Kaleb continued to serve his hometown community after graduation by volunteering his time to the rifle team during school breaks.

At the Naval Academy, Kaleb set his sights on becoming a Navy pilot, and he excelled. A dedicated student, Kaleb majored in mechanical engineering and was named to the Dean's list and Commandant's Honors list. Outside of the classroom, he was a member of the Academy's rifle team, served as a wrestling coach, and was a small-arms instructor. Under his leadership as captain of the rifle team, the Naval Academy won its first victory over West Point in a decade.

After commissioning, Kaleb served a temporary assignment at the Naval Academy's Physical Education department until last month, when he reported to Pensacola to begin flight training. On December 6, Kaleb made the ultimate sacrifice for his country when an active shooter opened fire at the Naval Air Station. Without hesitation, Kaleb sprang into action. After being wounded himself, Kaleb was able to locate first responders to identify the shooter, undoubtedly preventing many more casualties that day.

Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to join the people of Alabama's Second Congressional District, the Enterprise community, and the Watson family to honor Kaleb today. He is remembered by his peers and many others as a kind friend, encouraging teammate, and generous volunteer. Kaleb died a hero, and his courageous actions and service to this nation will not soon be forgotten as we continue to share his story of selflessness and valor. May God bless his family and community as we mourn the loss of Joshua Kaleb Watson, and may God bless all of our military members who continue to defend and protect the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING DYLAN M. GOETSCH AND CHRISTOPHER W. SCHMOKER

HON. DUSTY JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 19, 2019

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Dylan M. Goetsch and Christopher W. Schmoker for their tremendous courage last year while saving a citizen from a house fire in Sturgis, South Dakota.

After arriving at the scene of a burning home in May 2018, police Officer Dylan Goetsch and Sgt. Christopher Schmoker rushed into the house without hesitation, knowing Jason McKee was trapped inside. They journeyed to the upper level of the home not once, not twice, but three times in search of the trapped man. The smoke was so dense, Officer Goetsch was unable to see more than a few feet in front of him, but they did not retreat until they were able to drag Mr. McKee to safety.

I was pleased to hear Officer Goetsch and Sgt. Schmoker are being awarded the Carnegie Medal by the Carnegie Hero Fund in honor of their bravery. This award is reserved for individuals who risk their lives to an extraordinary degree in the attempt to save the lives of others. I can think of no citizens more deserving of this award than Officer Goetsch and Sgt. Schmoker.

I thank both these South Dakotans for their selfless courage. Our state and country are better because of citizens like them. I commend them for their outstanding heroism and congratulate them on the receipt of the esteemed Carnegie Medal.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF BENNETTSVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA

HON. TOM RICE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 19, 2019

Mr. RICE of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Bennettsville, South Carolina and its 200th Anniversary.

The City of Bennettsville was founded on December 14, 1819 in Marlborough District on the Great Pee Dee River. Named after Thomas Bennett Jr., the 48th Governor of South Carolina, the city was formally chartered on December 20, 1866 and incorporated on March 4, 1976.

Since its founding, agriculture has been the number one revenue source in and around Bennettsville. Agricultural products of Bennettsville include grain, indigo, cotton, tobacco, corn, peanuts, timber, fruits and vegetables, as well as the raising of cattle, poultry,

and swine. Agritourism and agritainment have evolved from the stable agriculture industry.

Upon its founding, the South Carolina General Assembly authorized the construction of a new courthouse, designed by South Carolina architect Robert Mills. The Mills courthouse was replaced in 1852. The following courthouse was headquarters of the 17th Army Corps of the Army of the United States and one of the few county seats holding records dating back to 1785. The current courthouse was built in 1884.

Madam Speaker, I honor all that have worked to make the City of Bennettsville a symbol of American grace and charm and recognize its 200th Anniversary.

CONGRATULATING DUBLIN HIGH SCHOOL ON WINNING THE FOOTBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. RICK W. ALLEN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 19, 2019

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Dublin High School Fighting Irish on winning the Georgia High School Association 2A Football State Championship.

These young men have worked hard all season, and this weekend's big win is a result of all their work. While at halftime the Fighting Irish were down, they quickly came back in the second half to ultimately defeat Brooks County 42 to 32—demonstrating the true meaning of perseverance.

This was a unique win, as not one pass was attempted during the game. But the team won after rushing 437 yards, bringing Dublin its first state title since 2006.

I have no doubt this program will continue to be successful in the years to come, and I look forward to seeing all these young men will accomplish, both on and off the field.

Congratulations to Coach Roger Holmes, the team, and the entire Fighting Irish community.

HONORING THE EXEMPLARY LIFE AND SERVICE OF MAYOR RICHARD GORDON HATCHER

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 19, 2019

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with deep sadness and the greatest respect that I take this time to remember one of Indiana's most distinguished citizens, the Honorable Richard Gordon Hatcher, who served the City of Gary with the utmost distinction. On Friday, December 13, 2019, Mayor Hatcher passed away at the age of 86. Mayor Hatcher's selfless and lifelong commitment to serving the people of Gary, and his dedication to the

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