

As if all that weren't enough, Jim spent 16 years as Program Director and General Counsel at the Children's Defense Fund, where he helped safeguard and expand essential programs promoting youth health and well-being. Jim played a leading role in the fight to expand Medicaid and made major contributions to the enactment of several programs to promote youth health like the Children's Health Insurance Program. His leadership on children's rights helped spur child support enforcement reforms as well as the expansion of federal fair housing laws to include families with children.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress and all the people in whose lives Jim has made a positive difference, it is my great privilege and honor to thank and recognize Jim Weill for his tireless efforts to create a more just and equitable world. I'm truly grateful to call him a friend.

HONORING THE SIOUX FALLS VETERANS AFFAIRS (VA) HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

HON. DUSTY JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2020

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the Sioux Falls Veterans Affairs (VA) Health Care System for achieving a Pathway Designation from the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

The Pathway Designation is a global credential awarded to health care organizations that demonstrate an outstanding commitment to a healthy work environment that empowers and engages nurses. Investing in a positive, state-of-the-art workplace for nurses can lead to a greater culture of excellence for the entire health care facility. This has been clearly demonstrated and recognized in Sioux Falls. Therefore, this designation is a win not only for the Sioux Falls VA, but also for the greater veteran community they serve.

This award is a significant honor for the Sioux Falls VA Health Care System, validating their commitment to sustained excellence, professionalism, and dedication from the nursing staff and their patients. I commend the nurses of this organization for their outstanding record of service, care, and hard work. I extend my deepest congratulations to the Sioux Falls Veterans Affairs Health Care System for this designation.

HONORING MAYOR JOE WELLMAN

HON. LARRY BUCSHON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2020

Mr. BUCSHON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Mayor Joe Wellman upon his retirement. In 1983, Mayor Wellman began his career at People's National Bank in Washington, Indiana. He later became the CEO at Peoples National Bank and served on the bank's board of directors. Once Peoples National Bank merged with German American Bank, Joe continued his

work there before retiring in 2008. After his retirement, Joe spent time as a consultant and served one year with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation before being elected as Mayor of Washington in 2011.

Mayor Wellman has been affiliated with many community development organizations, including the Daviess County Community Foundation, Daviess County Economic Development Corporation, Community Foundation Alliance, Accelerating Indiana Municipalities, Indiana Bankers Association, Radius Indiana, and Rotary, among many others.

It has been a pleasure to work with Mayor Wellman while he led Washington through the development of I-69 and many other projects that have increased economic development in the community. I wish Mayor Wellman and his wife, Elaine, the best in retirement as they get to spend more time with their three daughters—Brenda, Angie and Lindsay—and their 7 grandchildren.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF MRS. DORCAS R. HARDY

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2020

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the service of Mrs. Dorcas R. Hardy who passed away Thursday, November 28, 2019. She selflessly served her community through her dedicated work in health services and passionately advocated the need for more financial security education for the public. Moreover, she served her country as the first woman commissioner of the Social Security Administration in 1986. Her life was an example of dedication, toughness, love, and service from which all of us would be wise to learn.

Dorcas was born in Newark, New Jersey on July 18, 1946. In 1968, she completed her bachelor's degree at Connecticut College and subsequently obtained her Master of Business Administration degree in 1976 from Pepperdine University. As a natural-born leader, she headed the Health Services Industry Committee, Cost of Living Council from 1971 to 1973 and eventually was appointed to commissioner of the Social Security Administration in 1986 by then-president Ronald Reagan. Later, she continued to help the community by running a consulting firm and becoming a passionate advocate.

In 1996, she married Dr. Samuel Spagnolo and is survived by him and her three stepsons, along with their four grandchildren. Dorcas was a model for all of us not only in her work, but in her personal life.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring Mrs. Hardy and in thanking Dorcas Hardy's family for their incredible sacrifices, devotion, and service to our nation; words cannot express our gratitude. On behalf of America's First District, we say thank you.

HONORING THE LIFE OF KENNETH KAZUTO TAKEUCHI

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2020

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Mr. Ken Takeuchi, who passed away on December 8, 2019. Ken was the beloved voice of the Central Valley's auto racing circuit for over 60 years.

Kenneth Kazuto Takeuchi was born on January 27, 1927 in Fresno, California. During World War II, Ken and his family were ordered into internment camps in Jerome, Arkansas. Shortly after, Ken and his five brothers were drafted into the military and served their country during the war. Eventually, the family returned to Fresno and their farm. After his military service, Ken worked for the Fresno County Parks Department, before taking a different course in life.

Ken was best known as a speedway announcer and organizer of races throughout the Central Valley. He got his start in the 1950s at the Selma Speedway. His voice graced auto races throughout the state for more than 60 years. Ken was so well known, he was inducted into numerous halls of fame, including in 1995 the San Jose's Speedway Hall of Fame, the West Coast Stock Car Hall of Fame in 2017, and the Clovis Hall of Fame in 2019.

Ken was also a competitive runner. His passion for running flourished in different avenues. He was the founder of the Valley Runner of the Year series and the Pro Race Group in Fresno. His goal was always for people to come together through running and walking for good causes. In the 1980s, he began directing races. Ken also helped found the Shinzen Run, which supported the Shinzen Japanese Friendship Garden in Fresno, a cause that was deeply important to Ken and the community. In his later years, he worked with Special Olympics and appreciated his friendships with athletes of all ages.

He is survived by his daughter, Cindy Campbell and her husband Duane; brother Leo Takeuchi; sister Erma Aoki; three grandchildren, Lindsay, Chelsea, and Ashley Campbell, and his great grandchild, Melody Haussmann.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Mr. Ken Takeuchi. His commitment and dedication to the Central Valley sporting community left an impact on many. We join his family and friends in honoring his great life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2020

Mr. LEWIS. Madam Speaker, I was unable to cast roll call votes from January 7 to 9, 2020. Had I been present, I would have cast the following votes: on roll call 1, I would have voted Present; on roll call 2, I would have voted Aye; on roll call 3, I would have voted Aye; on roll call 4, I would have voted Aye; on roll call 5, I would have voted Aye; and on roll call 6, I would have voted Aye.