

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING LUKE BROWN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Luke Brown. Luke 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 314, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Luke has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Luke 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, Luke has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

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

REMEMBERING DR. ROOSEVELT J. STALLINGS

HON. RICK W. ALLEN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Dr. Roosevelt J. Stallings. Ron was a remarkable man who served his country for 15 years as a Lt. Colonel in the U.S. Army. He continued to serve his fellow Americans as a successful physician for three decades.

Ron was a trailblazer in the medical field, reaching many great milestones and being the recipient of many distinguished awards. He was the first African American to graduate from the University of South Carolina School of Pharmacy as well as being one of the first African American surgical oncologists in the world.

While he will be deeply missed, especially by his beloved family, his legacy will live on through the lives he touched as a mentor to the youth in the community and as a leader in his church.

Ron's passion for service has made our community a better place and should serve as an inspiration to us all.

HONORING THE LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. STEVE SCALISE

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Louisiana State University

football team for winning the 2020 College Football Playoff National Championship. On January 13, 2020, the undefeated LSU Tigers took to the field as the No. 1 ranked team in all of college football and defeated the defending National Champions and No. 3 ranked Clemson Tigers by 42–25 in the Louisiana Superdome. The LSU Tigers displayed determination and explosiveness throughout this entire historic season, never taking their foot off of the gas and beating an unprecedented seven Top-10 teams during their ascent to a perfect 15–0 record.

The Fighting Tigers, led by Louisiana-native, Coach Ed Orgeron, amassed impressive individual, team, school, and conference records on their march to the championship. LSU is the first team in Southeastern Conference history to go 15–0. The Tigers are also the first team to ever beat each of the top four teams in the AP preseason poll. Their high-flying, No. 1 offense was led by Quarterback Joe Burrow, the 2019 Heisman Trophy Winner, who also set the record for the most total touchdowns by a player in a single season. Wide Receiver Ja'Marr Chase, winner of the 2019 Biletnikoff award and graduate of my alma mater Rummel High School, set the record for the most receiving yards in a BCS/CFP national championship game with 221 yards and two touchdowns. Coach Orgeron, winner of the Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year award and famously known as "Coach Oeaux," fearlessly led his men throughout this magical season with the motto "One team, one heartbeat."

This national championship is LSU's fourth in school history, and it is perfectly fitting that the championship game was held only an hour away from campus in the great City of New Orleans. The 2019 LSU Tigers have staked their claim as one of the all-time best teams in the history of college football. And Heisman-winner Joe Burrow just finished one of the greatest seasons played by a college quarterback.

As Coach O said, this is a team for the ages and they have made the entire State of Louisiana very proud. Geaux Tigers.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, on Thursday January 9, 2020 I missed votes in the House of Representatives to attend funeral services for my brother Former Congressman Michael G. Fitzpatrick. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 05; NAY on Roll Call No. 06; NAY on Roll Call No. 07; and YEA on Roll Call No. 08.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JENNIFFER GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico. Madam Speaker, due to a visit with Senator RICK SCOTT after the earthquakes in Puerto Rico, I was unable to vote.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 09; YEA on Roll Call No. 10; and NAY on Roll Call No. 11.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, due to a medical procedure, I was unable to vote on the following 5 roll call Amendments/Bills on January 10, 2020. Had I been present, I would have voted: NAY on Roll Call No. 9 (Burgess Amendment); NAY on Roll Call No. 10 (Balderson Amendment); YEA on Roll Call No. 11 (Pappas Amendment); NAY on Roll Call No. 12 (Republican Motion to Recommit on H.R. 535); and YEA on Roll Call No. 13 (Final Passage of H.R. 535—PFAS Action Act (Rep. DINGELL—Energy and Commerce)).

HONORING BRAEDEN BUTTRON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Braeden Buttron. Braeden 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 314, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Braeden has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Braeden 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, Braeden has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Braeden Buttron 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.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
DEPUTY WARDEN ROBERT F. BO-
LOGNA

HON. LEE M. ZELDIN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Mr. ZELDIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Deputy Warden of the Suffolk County Sheriff's Office's Corrections Division, Robert F. Bologna, as he culminates 28 years serving our community with the Suffolk County Sheriff's Office.

Beginning his civil service career with the Sheriff's Office in January of 1992 as a Correction Officer, Officer Bologna went above and beyond the call of duty, quickly rising through the ranks thanks to his unparalleled skill set and leadership.

Promoted to Deputy Warden in 2016, he commanded correctional facilities in Yaphank and Riverhead, responsible for several hundred law enforcement officers, the safety of thousands of individuals in the custody of the Sheriff and the safety and security of communities across Long Island.

From his time as a United States Navy Operations Specialist in the Persian Gulf to his time serving in the Suffolk County Sheriff's Office, Deputy Warden has never hesitated to put the safety of his fellow Long Islanders above his own.

On behalf of our entire community and nation, I thank Deputy Warden Bologna for his service and wish him the best in his well-earned retirement.

HONORING STEPHEN THOMAS
COVINGTON

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Mr. RUIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor my constituent, Stephen Thomas Covington, who passed away on December 21, 2019. Steve was an incredible activist who sought to better our community from the ground up. With his creativity, innovation, and entrepreneurship, Steve worked to fulfill his vision to positively impact the community of Hemet.

As the owner of the Downtown Deli & Coffee Company, Steve sought to rebuild Hemet's historic Downtown District. Since the Downtown Deli opened its doors in 2014, it quickly became a local favorite and neighborhood landmark, as well as one of my favorite lunch spots. With Steve's passion for his community and his excellence in his craft, he fostered a warm and welcoming atmosphere that celebrated Hemet's history and culture.

Steve's presence in the community transcended the Downtown Deli. As a board member of the City of Hemet's Traffic Commission, Steve served as a local leader committed to uplifting Hemet. He constantly gave of himself to better the lives of his neighbors as he worked with numerous local community initiatives, such as the Ramona Bowl and Tinsel Triathlon and the restoration of Hemet's Historic Theater.

A devoted family man, Steve was known for his passion, honesty, and loyalty to friends

and loved ones. As the Hemet community grieves his loss, my heart is with wife Karen, his mother Diana, and grandparents Tom and Sally. Steve's legacy will be felt for years to come, and his memory will live on in the hearts of the lives he touched.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, regrettably, I was unable to attend the votes series for January 13, 2020. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on H.R. 4335—8-K Trading Gap Act of 2019, and YEA on H.R. 2398—Veteran HOUSE Act of 2020.

IN RECOGNITION OF TALLADEGA
COUNTY DEPUTY CHRIS ROGERS
AND THREE BRAVE CITIZENS:
MICHAEL OAKES, RONNIE
RAGLAND AND PAUL WRIGHT

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Talladega County Deputy Chris Rogers and three other brave individuals, Michael Oakes, Ronnie Ragland and Paul Wright, who helped save Sylacauga Police Officer Blake McGhee's life.

On November 14, 2019, McGhee had an automobile accident with a log truck and was pinned in his duty SUV which had caught on fire. Chris Rogers and three passersby—all strangers to McGhee—worked bravely to remove McGhee despite ammunition discharging in the back of the vehicle due to the flames. McGhee suffered internal injuries and broken bones.

Because of the work of these four individuals, McGhee's life was saved.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Chris Rogers, Michael Oakes, Ronnie Ragland and Paul Wright for their selfless and brave acts to save the life of Blake McGhee.

HONORING AIDEN CARRIZZO

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Aiden Carrizzo. Aiden 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 314, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Aiden has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Aiden 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, Aiden has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

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

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOE CUNNINGHAM

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Madam Speaker, on January 13, 2020, I was absent from the House chamber. Accordingly, I was unable to vote on two legislative measures on the floor.

Had I been present and voting, I would have voted as follows: Aye on Roll Call No. 14: H.R. 4335, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, 8-K Trading Gap Act of 2019, and Aye on Roll Call No. 15: H.R. 2398, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, Veteran HOUSE Act of 2020.

CONGRATULATING CONGRES-
SIONAL AWARD RECIPIENT
ANNELIESE MABIE

HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Ms. SPANBERGER. Madam Speaker, Central Virginia is home to some of the most community-centered and service-minded students in the country, and today I am fortunate to recognize one of these students as a recipient of the Congressional Award.

Anneliese Mabie, a constituent of mine from Locust Grove, earned this national recognition for her work in community service, personal development, physical fitness, and exploration of the world around her.

Anneliese's community service centered on volunteering for Four County Players, a community theater in my district. She ensured the productions ran smoothly by serving as a spotlight operator, sound board operator, assistant stage manager, and stage manager. Anneliese has demonstrated an ability to set goals, make a strategy, and see it through to the end.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Anneliese on her accomplishments. I look forward to seeing how she will continue contributing to our Seventh District communities in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, on Friday January 10, 2020 I missed votes in the House of Representatives to attend funeral services for my brother Former Congressman Michael G. Fitzpatrick. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 09; NAY on Roll Call No. 10; YEA on Roll Call No. 11; YEA on Roll Call No. 12; and YEA on Roll Call No. 13.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PROMOTING NATIONAL SERVICE AND REDUCING UNEMPLOYMENT ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Promoting National Service and Reducing Unemployment Act to address one of the greatest workforce tragedies resulting from today's economy—our unemployed young people—and to spur economic growth and to alleviate strain on state and local governments. This tragedy is not only harming our young people, but it is also costing our government billions of dollars each year in lost productivity, lost tax revenue and other costs. Although total unemployment has reached a relative low (3.5 percent), the unemployment rate for young people is eight percent. These young people have not had a fair chance to use the high school or college education we strongly urged them to obtain.

What is particularly disappointing, particularly in today's low unemployment economy, is the high unemployment rate for young people who heeded our advice to graduate from high school and college. The total unemployment rate is currently eight percent for people 16 to 24 years old, 4.5 points higher than the overall employment rate, and hundreds of thousands of them now compete for unpaid internships wherever they can find them. By significantly expanding AmeriCorps, my bill would need no new administrative structure or bureaucracy but would allow unemployed young people to earn a stipend, obtain work experience and develop a good work history to help secure future employment. The net cost of the expansion would be low because these young people would be providing urgently needed local services that are being eliminated or curtailed because of state and local budget cuts, such as after-school programs, tutoring and assistance for the elderly.

The bill would significantly expand job opportunities for young people who have done what they could to enter into the job market, but, despite their best efforts, remain unemployed in this economy. AmeriCorps participants receive a living allowance and are also eligible for an education award equal to the value of a Pell grant, school-loan forbearance, health care benefits and child care assistance. By expanding AmeriCorps, we would reduce the number of unemployed young people, provide them with work skills and experience and help cash-strapped state and local governments provide services that they would otherwise have to cut or eliminate altogether.

For some time, it has been clear that policies to address the most stubborn forms of unemployment need to be targeted in order to be effective. Without significant targeting, many young graduates will continue to face their first years as adults without jobs and with no way to acquire necessary work experience. They deserve a better start in life as adults. I ask my colleagues to support this urgently needed, targeted assistance for young, unemployed Americans.

IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF LILIJA GRUMULAITIS

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the remarkable life of Lilija Grumulaitis and recognize her unwavering dedication to her community and causes closest to her heart.

Although a devoted American, Lilija was not born in the United States. Born on February 15, 1938 in Marijampole, Lithuania, Lilija migrated to Germany and Australia before calling America home. Her journey began during World War II when Russian forces attacked Lithuanian cities—making it impossible to live peacefully under communist rule. In 1944, her family sought refuge in Berlin, Germany for four weeks. At the young age of six, Lilija vividly recalls uttering her first words in English to an America soldier at a refugee camp in Wiesbaden, Germany, “Thank you for my freedom.” Lilija's family dreamed of moving to America—where she could practice faith and support candidates freely—but at the time, her family had the option to safely relocate to Australia through the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRAA).

Many years later, Lilija was able to fulfill her dream to come to America when she married Leonas Grumulaitis. In 1958, the couple arrived at Ellis Island in New York. The pair would go on to live in New Jersey, Illinois and Florida before making their permanent home in Conroe, Texas in 1979. It was in Texas where Lilija would establish a lifelong legacy of service. Seeing a need for representation, Lilija helped establish several civic organizations and was an honorary member of Rotary Club Lake Conroe. With a strong sense of civic duty, she went on to be a strong supporter of both President Reagan and President George H.W. Bush. She was entrusted to gather diverse crowds and encourage others to use their freedom to vote.

One of Lilija's proudest moments was on July 26, 1972—the day she became a U.S. citizen. For decades after obtaining her citizenship, the joy of liberty never left her, once stating how inexpressible it was to see the Statue of Liberty years later. Anyone who knows her, knows she never failed to take advantage of the opportunity to thank veterans for her freedom as she had done as a six-year-old in Germany. For years, she expressed her gratitude through Christmas cards to over 200 veterans each year and was a guardian on two of the Lone Star Honors Flights. Lilija is a remarkable patriot and example of how we can best serve our community.

While we mourn with Lilija's family, we also celebrate the life, service, and legacy that will live throughout our community. I am proud to join her family, friends, and the Eighth District of Texas in honoring her life and steadfast devotion to the United States of America.

HONORING AVERY DOGGETT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Avery Doggett. Avery 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 314, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Avery has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Avery 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, Avery has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

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

COMMEMORATING THE 2020 NATIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, today, I recognize Catholic schools and parishes in our nation as we celebrate National Catholic Schools Week. As we approach this celebration, I am excited to announce that this year's theme is “Catholic School: Learn, Serve, Lead, Succeed” which resonates with my District which is home to thirty-five Catholic schools. Parochial education strives to instill faith, community involvement, and commitment in the classroom to shape each generation of students into well-educated, compassionate members of our communities. For forty-six years, Catholic schools have taken part in this tradition, which provides a time to reflect on and commemorate their contributions to education.

Due to the National Catholic Educational Association's (NCEA) leadership, 99.2 percent of all students at Catholic schools graduate high school and 86.2 percent go on to four-year college. The NCEA's legacy of success is a testament to the quality education and guidance through faith that each student receives through their time in Catholic schools.

As a proud graduate of St. Anne Grade School in East Moline, Illinois and Spalding Catholic High School in Peoria, Illinois, I am honored to co-sponsor legislation supporting National Catholic Schools Week. The religious values and foundation of faith instilled through Catholic schools guides my daily life and continues to strengthen my relationship with God. My wife and I are thankful that our three sons have the opportunity to attend Catholic schools, allowing them to be immersed in the Catholic faith, endure a quality education, and participate in community service.

During National Catholic Schools Week, I extend my sincere blessings to Catholic

schools across the nation and I am honored to promote their successes. This week is a time to reflect and celebrate on all the contributions that the National Catholic Education Association and the impact their schools provide to our communities. I look forward to continuing to support Catholic schools and carrying out God's mission of faith, service, and knowledge.

TRIBUTE TO TOM WILSON PAGE,
JR.

HON. DENVER RIGGLEMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Mr. RIGGLEMAN. Madam Speaker, today I wish to observe and mourn the passing of Tom Wilson Page, Jr. who was called home unexpectedly this past week. A devoted husband, father, grandfather, and friend, Tom was a pillar of our Nelson County community and his loss will be felt throughout our district.

A small business owner, Tom was always ready to lend a helping hand to anyone who needed it. His passion and love of community were evident in where he spent his time; at his church and on the baseball field. Tom was an instrumental part of the Nelson County Youth Baseball Association, where he mentored young players and taught them the fundamentals of the pastime he loved.

He leaves behind his beloved wife of 43 years, Esther W. Page; his sons, Prennis "Lamonte" Page and Brandon S. Page; and two grandchildren. I join all of Nelson County in mourning his loss, and extend my thoughts, prayers, and deepest sympathies to the Page family.

CONGRATULATING CHIEF DANIEL
STEERE ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Mr. HUIZENGA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exemplary career of Daniel Steere, Chief of Police at the Grandville City Police Department. I would like to express my appreciation to Chief Steere for over 37 years of dedicated services to West Michigan and our nation.

Chief Steere's career in law enforcement began in 1982 when he entered the Tampa Police Department Recruit Academy. After graduation, he quickly rose to become a Field Training Officer. Wanting to be closer to family, he moved back to Michigan in 1985, and soon after, found his professional home in the Grandville Police Department. In 1989, Chief Steere became the department's first vice detective and later would serve as the department's first officer assigned to a collaborative drug team.

In 1993, Dan was promoted to Sergeant and was tasked with overseeing the training program for new officers. Beginning in 1996, he became the department's Detective Sergeant and served in that position until his elevation to Deputy Chief in 2008. He served with distinction as Deputy Chief until being promoted to Chief in 2012.

Under Chief Steere's leadership, the department expanded to 26 sworn officers and added a second School Resource Officer position. Additionally, Chief Steere oversaw a department-wide rebrand, including new uniforms and patches for all officers. Exemplifying his successes, Chief Steere spent countless hours each year with the City Parks and Recreation Board to ensure the well-known July 4th celebrations occurred safely and successfully year after year.

Throughout his distinguished career, Chief Steere served with impeccable integrity even when it proved difficult. Aside from dedicating his life to public service, Chief Steere has proudly served as an active participant in our West Michigan community. He gives back by volunteering his time with Rotary International, the YMCA, the Grand Rapids Community College Police Academy Advisory Board, and the Kent Country Corrections Board. None of the above would be possible without the support of his wife Julie, and now adult children Elizabeth, Adam and Emily.

It is because of the leadership and dedication of community members such as Chief Daniel Steere that I am especially proud to serve Michigan's 2nd Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Chief Steere on his well-deserved retirement and thank him for his service to West Michigan and our nation.

HONORING SUSAN RITTER FOR 37
YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE
HOME BUILDING INDUSTRY

HON. SCOTT DesJARLAIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Mr. DESJARLAIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of Mrs. Susan Ritter, who is retiring from her position as Executive Vice President of the Home Builders Association of Tennessee (HBAT) after 37 years of service to the home building industry.

Susan has been a tireless advocate for the home building industry—one of the key primary drivers of the American economy. Home ownership has long been one of the linchpins of the American dream, and the home building industry in Tennessee has long been in tune with the housing needs of local communities. I can personally speak of Susan's effectiveness in working on behalf of these goals.

Susan has served as the executive vice president of the Home Builders Association of Tennessee since August 2000, serving as the point person for navigating the complex policy and regulatory world that members of the industry deal with as part of their day to day operations. It is not coincidental that a good number of these business leaders happen to be cornerstones of the communities they serve. All of these individuals that I have had the privilege of meeting and ask difficult questions say the same thing: "Susan Ritter is the person to who you need to talk."

There have been many accolades for Susan's service over the years, and her service was appropriately honored by the National Association of Home Builders when they named her the State Executive Officer of the Year. She was also a recipient of HBAT Past Presi-

dents' Special Award for her "dedication and loyalty to the home building industry" in 2005. As the chief officer in charge of Tennessee's association, she ran the daily operations of an association that includes 2,500 members while also monitoring the political and regulatory environments for the industry both in Nashville and Washington.

In addition to being an effective voice for the industry—whether through communicating with Members of Congress or state legislators or with members of the media, Susan also guided their charitable endeavors. She also served as chairman of the Executive Officers Council in 2009, co-chair of the NAHB National Membership Committee in 2000, and was a member of the NAHB Executive Committee in 2000 and in 2009, also serving as a founding member of the EO 20 Club.

Susan has been a successful and professional leader for many years, and while I know the industry will continue to be successful for many years to come, I also know that the home builders of Tennessee will miss her guidance. I would ask all of the Members of Congress to join me in congratulating Susan Ritter for her excellent work and sending best wishes to her and her family in their future endeavors.

HONORING BRONSON FRIELING

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Bronson Frieling. Bronson 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 60, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Bronson has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Bronson 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, Bronson has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Bronson fundraised, designed, and organized community volunteers to install an 8 foot by 10 foot road sign for the Andrew County Museum in Savannah, Missouri.

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

HONORING HEXAGON

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Hexagon, a District of Columbia based original, political, satirical and musical comedy revue, on the occasion of its 65th anniversary. The show often makes fun of Congress here in the belly of the beast.

Over the past six and a half decades, Hexagon has brought laughter and music to the District. This non-profit, volunteer-based company was founded in 1965 by several members of the Princeton all-male Triangle Club, who changed the group's name to Hexagon, representing the group's growth and inclusion of women.

Each year, Hexagon puts on a show and donates proceeds, sometimes as large as \$30,000, to charities, many located in D.C. Last year, the company donated to Dancing Classrooms of Washington, D.C., a local arts education program focused on teaching social-emotional skills to fifth graders through dance. The proceeds of this year's 65th anniversary show, entitled "One State Two State Red State Blue State," will go to SMYL, a non-profit organization serving LGBTQ youth in D.C.

Although all the performers are volunteers, Hexagon is a show of professional quality that sells out to packed-houses of residents from D.C. and the region. I have had the honor of performing with the company, along with several other Members of Congress, over the years, including Senator CHRIS VAN HOLLEN and Congresswoman DONNA SHALALA.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Hexagon for working to improve the lives of D.C. and regional residents through laughter and charity. As we honor the company's 65 years in District of Columbia, we can only wish for many more.

RECOGNIZING MR. RAY WALKER
FOR AN OUTSTANDING COACHING CAREER

HON. MO BROOKS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Mr. BROOKS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Ray Walker for his induction into the Alabama Baseball Coaching Association Hall of Fame.

Ray was born in 1946 in Anniston, Alabama. At two years old, his family moved to Huntsville. Ray was a part of the first graduating class at Lee High School, in 1964. At Lee, Ray played baseball, basketball, and football. Upon graduation, Ray attended William Carey College before transferring to Florence State (UNA), where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in 1968. In 1970, Ray received a master's degree in Physical Education (PE) and Administration from Athens State College.

In 1968, Ray began teaching Biology and PE at Chapman Junior High School, where he coached baseball, basketball, and football. In 1975, Ray transferred to Grissom High School to become a driving instructor. At Grissom, Ray took on two head coaching positions: baseball and freshman football. Ray remained in these two positions until his retirement in 2000.

As the head Freshman Football Coach, Ray's teams won 102 games and eight city championships. Ray served as Grissom's Head Baseball Coach for 25 years, where he led his team to 389 wins. Sixty-eight of the players from his program went on to play in college and three went into the minor leagues. In total, Ray's teams won nine city champion-

ship titles and advanced to the final four during the state baseball playoffs in 1982 and 1991. Ray's Grissom High Baseball team won the 6A State Baseball Championship in 1989. Ray was chosen several times as Huntsville City Coach of the Year in baseball. In 1989, Ray was chosen as Coach of the Year for the State of Alabama. During the last 20 years of his baseball coaching career at Grissom High School, his team made the state playoffs 18 times. In 2004, Ray was inducted into the Huntsville Madison County Sports Hall of Fame for his many achievements.

Ray served in the Army Reserve from 1970 to 1998 and retired as a Master Sergeant. He recalls that as a young man many people had significant influences in his life but none greater than his uncle, Oba Belcher. Ray followed his uncle's career at Athens College with intense interest as he coached many outstanding basketball teams. Ray observed that his uncle always set his standards high, out-worked other teams, and projected a positive attitude through his coaching. Oba was a wonderful role model and mentor, especially when Ray began his coaching career.

After teaching and coaching for 46 years in the Huntsville City Schools, Ray retired, or so one thought. Ray's retirement from the school system led to what was the beginning of his new career as the owner and operator of Coach Walker's Driving School. Ray jokes that because the word "retirement" is not in the Bible, you need to keep on working. Truth be told, he loves what he has felt he was lead to do, and is continuing to fulfill his life's work by teaching and coaching today's young people.

HONORING MR. JUAN LINO
RAMIREZ

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to wish Mr. Juan Lino Ramirez, a beloved public servant and successful businessman from South Texas, a very special 85th birthday.

Mr. Ramirez was born on January 20, 1935, and dedicated his life to serving others while successfully creating multiple businesses. Juan Lino's contributions to Jim Hogg County and South Texas have been significant, and I am honored to be able to stand here today and share those achievements with my colleagues and the citizens of the United States of America.

Juan Lino started his career like many other Americans, with a small business. When Juan Lino was in his mid-twenties, he opened up his first business, a small car repair shop called T&R Auto Repair Shop. He ran and worked at the shop until he was able to move onto more lucrative business opportunities. In 1967, Juan Lino decided to obtain a Used Car Business Dealer License, which he later used to become one of the best salesmen in South Texas, winning the "Dealer of the Month" award from the San Antonio Auto Auction. Juan Lino acknowledged his business acumen but humbly decided to take a different career path and serve the people of South Texas.

In his twenties, Juan Lino took an interest in Jim Hogg County's public education system

and served on the Independent School District Board. There, he expanded educational opportunities for all students in the district, facilitated a vision for the future of the Jim Hogg Independent School District, and served as a role model to all that knew him in the community.

After serving on the Jim Hogg County Independent School District Board, Juan Lino decided to serve his community in a new capacity by taking on the highest law enforcement post in Jim Hogg County: Sheriff. Juan Lino served as the Jim Hogg County Sheriff twice, first from 1970 to 1973 and then again from 1976 to 1980. During his time as Sheriff, he hired the first female Sheriff Deputy in Jim Hogg County's history, Vila Martinez, acquired the first computer for the Sheriff's Department, and introduced standardized Sheriff Deputy uniforms. These accomplishments helped transform the Jim Hogg Sheriff's Department into the modern and professional unit it is today. Juan Lino also successfully created one-way streets in school zones to ensure the safety of students on their commutes to and from school as the Sheriff of Jim Hogg.

Juan Lino continued to give back to Jim Hogg County in the 21st Century, serving as the County Commissioner for Precinct 4 for two terms. The first term was from 2002 to 2006, and the second term was from 2011 to 2015. During his time as County Commissioner for Precinct 4, Juan Lino worked to better the lives of people on a daily basis through infrastructure, economic development, and housing projects. I cannot imagine Jim Hogg County without Mr. Ramirez. He helped shepherd the Sheriff's Department into a new era, expanded women's opportunities, enhanced student safety, successfully grew his businesses, and accomplished many more milestones.

Madam Speaker, on January 20, 2020, Mr. Juan Lino Ramirez turns 85. I stand here today to acknowledge the decades of service Mr. Ramirez has given to Jim Hogg County. Mr. Juan Lino Ramirez serves as a leader in our community, and I wish him a very happy birthday.

CONGRATULATING CONGRES-
SIONAL AWARD RECIPIENT NICO-
LAS MABIE

HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Ms. SPANBERGER. Madam Speaker, Central Virginia is home to some of the most community-centered and service-minded students in the country, and today I am fortunate to recognize one of these students as a recipient of the Congressional Award.

Nicolas Mabie, a constituent of mine from Moseley, earned this national recognition for his work in community service, personal development, physical fitness, and exploration of the world around him.

Nicolas's community service centered on volunteering for his community swim team. Through this activity, he helped kids learn a life-long and life-saving skill. He has demonstrated an ability to set goals, make a strategy, and see it through to the end.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Nicolas on his accomplishments. I look forward to seeing

how he will continue contributing to our Seventh District communities in the future.

HONORING OWEN MUSTAIN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Owen Mustain. Owen 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 314, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Owen has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Owen 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, Owen has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

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

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, January 16, 2020 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JANUARY 22

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the 5G workforce and obstacles to broadband deployment.

SH-216

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Economic Development Administration.

SD-406

Select Committee on Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.

SH-219