

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

THE FOUNDER'S DAY OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 17, 2020

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority for its extraordinary legacy and work it does all throughout the nation.

On January 15, 1908, nine college students on the campus of Howard University in Washington, D.C. founded Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.

These nine courageous women founded this sorority right before WWI and only a few years after Reconstruction.

From the core group of nine at Howard, AKA has grown into a force of more than 290,000 collegiate members and alumnae, constituting 1,007 chapters in 42 states, the District of Columbia, the US Virgin Islands, the Bahamas, Germany, Liberia, South Korea, Japan, Canada, South Africa and the Middle East.

I take great pride in my sorority's tradition of service and the many programs that it has established to serve our communities.

One of the founders, Ethel Hedgeman Lyle, dreamed of creating a support network for like-minded women coming together for mutual uplift, and coalescing their talents and strengths for the benefit of others.

What began as a small band of sisters in 1908, transformed over the ensuing 112 years into a globally-impactful organization of nearly 300,000 college-trained members, bound by the bonds of sisterhood and empowered by a commitment to servant-leadership that is both domestic and international in scope.

As Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority has grown, it has maintained its focus in two key arenas: the lifelong personal and professional development of each of its members; and galvanizing its membership into an organization of formidable power and influence, consistently at the forefront of effective advocacy and social change that results in equality and equity for all citizens of the world.

I want to salute Dr. Glenda Baskin Glover, the 30th International President of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority who is currently leading the mission to cultivate and encourage high scholastic and ethical standards, to promote unity and friendship among college women, to study and help alleviate problems concerning girls and women in order to improve their social stature, to maintain a progressive interest in college life, and to be of "Service to all mankind."

One of our native Houstonians who led our beloved sorority was Mattelia Grays. As National President, Grays' focus included chapter programs designed for specific community that the chapter served, educational grants, Job Corps and leadership training.

I would also like to acknowledge Faye Bryant, the 21st International President of Alpha

Kappa Alpha Fraternity. Another native Houstonian, under her leadership the theme of the AKA Sorority became P.O.W.E.R. During her tenure, Bryant also created the Alpha Kappa Alpha Connection, completed construction on the Sorority's national headquarters and initiated the African Village Development Program in collaboration with Africare.

For over a Century Alpha Kappa Alpha has been the foundation of the Sisterhood that helps to focus the energies and talents of African American women on some of the most daunting social, cultural and economic problems our communities face.

The AKA Sisterhood has empowered women to face the challenges that are particular to girls and women of color to create something that is greater than any individual member.

We each recognize that we are but one small part of a larger whole, but when that whole acts as one we are impossible to defeat.

AKA has enriched minds and encouraged life-long learning; provided aid for the poor, the sick, and underserved; initiated social action to advance human and civil rights; worked collaboratively with other groups to maximize outreach on progressive endeavors; and continually produced leaders to continue its credo of service.

RECOGNIZING THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOCA RATON'S OPAL AWARD HONOREES LAURA REISS

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 17, 2020

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I am honored to rise today in recognition of the important work done by the Rotary Club of Boca Raton and to congratulate a recipient of their Outstanding People and Leaders (OPAL) awards, Laura Reiss.

Laura has always believed in a world where people celebrate and support each other. In 2008, she harnessed this belief and started a free after-school Kindness program at Sunrise Park Elementary in Boca Raton, FL where her children were going to school. This kindness movement that began as a single club became The Kindness Matters 365 Foundation, a not-for-profit organization that educates children about the importance of being kind to themselves and to others, and contributing to society so they can make a positive impact in their communities and the world.

The Foundation has spread to nine states, with more than 500 ambassadors and 4,000 members in 90 chapters. As part of their service-learning based and community service projects, these clubs have collected and distributed over \$1,347,300 in goods, supported 45,900 individuals, raised \$2.5 million in disaster relief, and reported over 613,213 community service hours.

Through her philanthropy, service, and selfless sacrifices, Laura Reiss has touched countless lives and made a lasting impact on our South Florida community. The work she does and the time she has put in is truly deserving of this award.

I extend my most sincere congratulations to Laura and to all of tonight's honorees. As we begin this new year, I am confident that the Rotary Club of Boca Raton will continue to be a cherished institution in South Florida that better our community. I greatly appreciate the Club's work and am pleased to honor their OPAL and Lifetime Legacy Award honorees.

HONORING MAUREEN TAYLOR—LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCATE AND COMMUNITY CHAMPION

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 17, 2020

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an exemplary Detroit community activist and human rights champion, Maureen Taylor.

As Chair for the Michigan Welfare Rights Organization, Maureen Taylor has worked tirelessly to fight and advocate for families in need for nearly three decades. Maureen graduated from Marygrove College in 1983 with a Bachelor's in Social and Wayne State University in 1994 with a Master's in Social Work. Shortly after graduating, Maureen began her fight for social and economic justice for families experiencing economic hardship across the State of Michigan. Whether fighting water-shutoffs or working toward food security, Maureen has never shied away from standing up to corporations, elected officials, or others to ensure that our families have access to their basic needs. She has been instrumental in facilitating workshops and trainings with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to ensure that residents have access to public services and benefits, as well as protections against harmful policies.

Maureen is a dedicated and courageous advocate and organizer whose passion and work is truly commendable and greatly appreciated. She has been recognized and honored as the first recipient of the Angelo B. Henderson Community Commitment Award, as well as countless of other awards for championing the rights of economically disadvantaged families. Maureen Taylor embodies the meaning of social change and lives it through her daily work.

Please join me in recognizing Maureen Taylor's outstanding contributions to the great state of Michigan and the 13th Congressional District.

• 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.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM MCCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 17, 2020

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, due to a family medical emergency, I was unable to be in Washington for the week of January 13. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 19, YEA on Roll Call No. 20, NAY on Roll Call No. 21 and NAY on Roll Call No. 22.

TRIBUTE TO HAMILTON COUNTY
COMMISSIONER STEVEN
DILLINGER

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 17, 2020

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career and achievements of Hamilton County Commissioner Steven Dillinger. A longtime dedicated public servant, Steve has had a significant impact on the City of Noblesville and entirety of Hamilton County, and Central Indiana. Having served as a Hamilton County Commissioner for over 30 years, he has amassed a record of service to his county that will have a positive impact for decades to come.

A graduate of Noblesville High School, where he was a star athlete in football, basketball, baseball, and track for the Millers, Steve has continued to promote the lessons of teamwork, planning, and preparation that athletics helped instill in him at a young age. In his roles as the President of the Executive Board of the Noblesville Elementary Football League since 1990, and former longtime Coach of the Noblesville Grinders football team, Steve helped shape many generations of Hamilton County youth through participation in football.

Steve has been tuned in to the needs of his fellow citizens for many decades. His first elected office was a seat on the Noblesville City Council from 1980 to 1984. He subsequently served on the Noblesville Plan Commission in 1981. Steve is also an exemplary leader in the Hamilton County Republican Party, serving as a Precinct Committeeman from 1986 to the present.

In 1985, Steve was elected to the Hamilton County Council, serving as the governing body's President in 1988. After his time on the Hamilton County Council, Steve was elected to a seat as one of three Hamilton County Commissioners in 1989, representing the cities of Fishers and Noblesville as well as both Delaware and Noblesville Townships. Having found a true passion and adeptness for serving the constituents of Hamilton County, Steve has been continually victorious in both primary and general elections for one of the Hamilton County Commissioner seats for over thirty years. During nine of his thirty years, he has served as the President of the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners.

Throughout his time as a Commissioner, Hamilton County has undergone vast changes. The population has exploded over 400 percent, from 82,000 citizens in the

1980's to a population of over 300,000 citizens in 2020. Steve has been an integral part of the planning of the county, having been involved in county-wide zoning updates that paved the way for massive growth within Hamilton County. Along with fellow Hamilton County leaders, Steve was a vital part of county initiatives that helped to foster increased development on 146th Street and 236th Street, transforming them into the major thoroughfares they are today. Steve was also deeply involved in the development and funding for the State Road 37 Thoroughfare Plan, and the effort to pave over 800 miles of roads in Hamilton County.

During his time of service, the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners has overseen the construction of many new buildings for various county services including the Hamilton County Judicial & Government Center, the Hamilton County Highway Department, the Hamilton County Corrections Facility, the Hamilton County Health Department, and the new Humane Society facility. Steve was also involved in the major additions that have been made to the county-owned Riverview Health Hospital, including the new campus in Westfield.

Throughout his tenure, Steve has also been involved in many of the county's quality of life initiatives including the effort to locate an Ivy Tech Community College Campus in Noblesville, as well as adding 1,000 acres of land to the Hamilton County Parks. Steve's service to the county includes service on the Hamilton County Plan Commission, the Hamilton County Drainage Board, the Hamilton County Board of Finance, and the Hamilton County Solid Waste Board. Noting his many years of service to community, Steve was chosen in 2000 to be the Hamilton County appointee to the Indianapolis Airport Authority Board. During his time on the board, a new national award-winning Indianapolis International Airport was built, and has been voted the Best Airport in North America year after year.

With a public service career that has stretched over four decades, during a time of great progress for Hamilton County, it's no surprise that Steve was honored by the Indiana Association of County Commissioners as the Outstanding County Commissioner of 2019. In addition to this honor Steve has on five occasions been honored by the Indiana Association of Counties with their Outstanding County Achievement Award. Three times he received the organization's Government Cooperation Achievement Award. As the longest current serving County Commissioner in the State of Indiana his track record of unparalleled service to the citizens of Hamilton County speaks for itself.

During my time in Congress, I have had the pleasure of working with many capable and dedicated community leaders, however very few community leaders have given more of their time and talent to their communities than my friend Steve. His decades of leadership are a testament to his desire to create a better community for his fellow citizens. It is with great honor that I commend my friend on his amazing career and all the important work he has done and will continue to do on behalf of the citizens of Hamilton County.

RECOGNIZING THE ROTARY CLUB
OF BOCA RATON'S OPAL AWARD
HONOREES JERRY KRAMER

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 17, 2020

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I am honored to rise today in recognition of the important work done by the Rotary Club of Boca Raton and to congratulate a recipient of their Outstanding People and Leaders (OPAL) awards, Jerry Kramer.

Jerry has lived a life of service to his country and community. He served in the army in Okinawa and Korea, where he was awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart for bravery in combat. After returning home, Jerry built successful home-building companies, building 200 homes per year, from scratch on Long Island. This experience in construction allowed him to build and donate a 20,000 square foot facility for the Association for Children with Learning Disabilities. Currently, Jerry makes substantial donations to local and national non-profit organizations each year.

Through his philanthropy and service, Jerry Kramer has touched countless lives and made a lasting impact on our South Florida community. The work he does and the time he has put in is truly deserving of this award.

I extend my most sincere congratulations to Jerry and all of tonight's honorees. As we begin this new year, I am confident that the Rotary Club of Boca Raton will continue to be a cherished institution in South Florida that betters our community. I greatly appreciate the Club's work and am pleased to honor their OPAL and Lifetime Legacy Award honorees.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF
SGT. DARON WYATT

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 17, 2020

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the robust career and retirement of Sergeant Daron Wyatt. Sgt. Wyatt served over 33 years in law enforcement, the last 11½ with the Anaheim PD.

In 1986, Sgt. Wyatt began his public service career with the Tustin PD. After a successful tenure with the Tustin PD, Sgt. Wyatt continued his career working for the Santa Ana Unified School District PD, Imperial PD, Placentia PD, and later Anaheim PD.

While working for the Placentia PD in 1997, Sgt. Wyatt was assigned the Cathy Torrez Homicide Cold Case in 1994. Sgt. Wyatt worked the case for 10 years before convincing the DA's Office to prosecute. The case had been rejected by three different prosecutors and a memo from the Orange County Sheriffs Office opined the case would never be solved. The suspects were convicted in 2015.

In 2011, Sgt. Wyatt was assigned as the lead detective on the Orange County Homeless Homicides Investigative Task Force. He obtained confessions from Itzcoatl Ocampo to the commission of six murders in Anaheim, Placentia, and Yorba Linda between October

2011 and January 2012. Ocampo was the first serial killer known to operate in Orange County in more than 25 years.

Sgt. Wyatt's homicide cases have been profiled on Dateline, True Crime with Aphrodite Jones, America's Most Wanted, Fatal Attraction, Criminal Confessions, Snapped, Blood Relatives, Murder by Numbers, Family Secrets, In Ice Cold Blood, and the premiere episode of Price of Duty.

From 2015 to 2019, Sgt. Wyatt served as the Public Information Officer for the Anaheim PD and Anaheim Fire & Rescue, he represented the departments in local, national, and international news stories for such incidents as the KKK stabbings, the Donald Trump presidential campaign visit, multiple officer involved shootings, and the Canyon Fires.

Sgt. Wyatt was also deployed as a PIO on Type 1 Incident Management Teams to the Mendocino Complex (largest wildfire in CA history) and the Camp Fire (most destructive wildfire in CA history). He is one of 70 FEMA credentialed Master Public Information Officers in the nation and the only public safety PIO in California to receive this credential.

Sgt. Wyatt will remain to be known for his unwavering devotion to victims' families.

Please join me in honoring the storied career of Sergeant Daron Wyatt, who has significantly impacted our community and made it a safer place for all.

HONORING RORY GAMBLE—FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN PRESIDENT OF UNITED AUTO WORKERS UNION

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 17, 2020

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments and leadership of Rory Gamble, the first African American president of the United Auto Workers Union.

Mr. Gamble's journey to president of one of the largest labor unions in North America is the embodiment of the American success story. Rory Gamble started his career as a welder fixture repairman for the Ford Motor Company in 1974. He immediately became an active member of the United Auto Workers Local 600 union. Over the years he took on assignments and increasing responsibility, holding several different positions in the union. His assignments have included local union health and safety coordinator, employee support services program, education director, civil rights coordinator, fitness center coordinator, family services and learning center coordinator, director of Local 600 Ford units, and retiree benefits liaison. More importantly he has advocated for union workers' pay and benefits, having served on two previous negotiating teams in 1998 and 2003. There is no doubt his hard work has led to his being appointed to the vital role of president of the UAW in 2019.

Beyond his work for better wages and working conditions for laborers, Mr. Gamble gives his time as a volunteer with a number of community and charitable organizations. He serves as a board member of Bridging Com-

munities, a grassroots organization dedicated to improving life for elders in Southwest Detroit. He is also co-chair of the Michigan Labor History Society, treasurer of the Rouge Employees Credit Union and a lifetime supporter of Southwest Detroit Little League. Mr. Gamble's efforts have been recognized numerous times, including by the City of Detroit.

Please join me in recognizing Rory Gamble's outstanding contributions.

CELEBRATING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF COMMERCE

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 17, 2020

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 60th anniversary of the City of Commerce, which I have the honor of representing as part of my 40th Congressional District.

The City of Commerce was incorporated on January 28, 1960, because area residents were finding it difficult to obtain basic government services such as garbage pickup, recreation facilities, and infrastructure development. By the start of 1962, a Los Angeles Times article about Commerce reported that "In little more than two years, the city has made remarkable strides." Over the years, Commerce has continued to evolve into a local economic leader, a popular destination for shoppers, businesses, and prospective residents, and a community known throughout America as the "Model City."

Even before its official incorporation, the area that eventually became the City of Commerce housed various manufacturing businesses. As the city grew, the need to create and maintain its infrastructure became crucial. In 1962, the Commerce City Council approved \$1.5 million to construct streets, which increased connectivity to neighboring cities and the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach.

With Commerce's location by two of Los Angeles County's major transit corridors—the I-710 and I-5 freeways—products from around the world are transported through the city every day, and building and maintaining city roads remains one of Commerce's main priorities.

Commerce's rich transportation legacy extends to other matters as well. In 1963, Commerce became the first city in the United States to offer regularly scheduled, free bus service to its residents. Commerce buses were also the first in California to be equipped with two-way radios.

Today, Commerce's bus system remains free to residents and connects to other municipal bus lines, MetroLink (the region's community rail service), and the emerging network of light and heavy rail lines of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority. Currently, Commerce buses operate on 100% Clean Natural Gas. Eventually, like other systems in California, they will be 100% electric and/or hybrid.

The Model City also prides itself on its other services, including four libraries, scholarships for college-bound residents, a Community Job Fair, lunches for children during the summer, and an annual book festival and comic book convention.

Early in its history, the city also built four neighborhood parks that have included baseball fields, basketball courts, and the Aquatorium, which has been the home of world-class Olympic swimmers and water polo players, including Olympic gold medalist Brenda Villa.

Commerce is home to commercial icons including the Citadel Outlets, whose historic facade is modeled after an Assyrian castle. Every year, the Citadel brings in millions of visitors from around the world to shop and dine.

The city also boasts the Commerce Casino and Hotel. The casino is the world's largest card club, and has donated \$50,000 in scholarship money each year for the past thirty years to help students pursue their college educations.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to please join me in celebrating Commerce's 60th anniversary, and wishing the city residents and leaders many more years of success in the Model City.

RECOGNIZING THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOCA RATON'S OPAL AWARD HONOREES SUE AND YAACOV HELLER

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 17, 2020

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I am honored to rise today in recognition of the important work done by the Rotary Club of Boca Raton and to congratulate two recipients of their Outstanding People and Leaders (OPAL) awards, Sue and Yaacov Heller.

For the Hellers, life individually and as a couple has involved giving back and creating awareness through the arts and education. Yaacov has been rated among the world's most accomplished sculptors and top silver-smiths. His work has been used to convey messages of hope, tolerance, acceptance, remembrance and peace through interpretation of the human form and spirit while holding to his personal unwavering commitment to artistic quality.

Sue Heller is a retired art educator with more than 30 years of experience. Her emphasis has always been "speaking through the arts." She feels that students with special needs and adults in crisis who might not otherwise be able to learn or express themselves can find a way to "converse" through the creative process. This belief has always been motivation for professional and volunteer work.

Through their philanthropy and service, the Hellers have touched countless lives and made a lasting impact on our South Florida community. The work they do and the time they have put in is truly deserving of this award.

I extend my most sincere congratulations to the Hellers and to all of tonight's honorees. As we begin this new year, I am confident that the Rotary Club of Boca Raton will continue to be a cherished institution in South Florida that betters our community. I greatly appreciate the Club's work and am pleased to honor their OPAL and Lifetime Legacy Award honorees.

JAKE AND ANGIE MOORE, ANGELS
IN ADOPTION

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 17, 2020

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Madam Speaker, Jake and Angie Moore of Yakima have always had a passion for children, especially those with special needs and those who are trauma affected.

Angie is a speech paraprofessional for 5th and 6th graders, and Jake is a paraprofessional in a high school special ed classroom.

On their first wedding anniversary, they were told that it would be a miracle if they ever became pregnant. IVF wasn't an option for them due to the cost, and after giving it a lot of prayer and thought, they decided to move forward with foster care. They felt this was God's timing.

They have since opened their hearts and their home to become the loving parents of multiple children from the Yakima Valley. Though they have faced many struggles with the hardship of the foster care system, they continue to move forward and stay positive, finalizing the adoption of their daughter and welcoming a 2-year-old foster son at the end of 2019.

They are excited to continue to take in more children as the years go on, so they can be the voice and advocate that many of them do not have.

They have two household rules with all of the children they take in: 1. They will all be there to stay unless somebody else says otherwise. 2. Each child will be loved and cherished as their own, no matter how long they are in the Moore's home.

Jake and Angie are an inspiration to parents across the country and in Central Washington. They are truly Angels in Adoption.

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE RAY OLIVARRI

HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 17, 2020

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I rise in honor of Judge Ray Olivarri who passed away on January 15, 2020 at the age of 64. A community leader and lifelong public servant, Judge Olivarri hails from my hometown of San Antonio, Texas. He is survived by his wife, Brenda Olivarri; two children, Lauren and Jeffrey Olivarri; and grandson Jeffrey Olivarri, Jr. He will be greatly missed.

Judge Ray Olivarri was born and raised in San Antonio, Texas. Upon graduating from Luther Burbank High School, he went on to become a probation officer with Bexar County and served on the City of San Antonio Zoning Commission. Later, he went on to pursue a law degree from Texas Southern University in Houston.

After practicing as a criminal defense lawyer, Olivarri was elected to serve in 2006 as judge for Bexar County Court at Law No. 6. In 2012, he was elected to serve on the 399th State District Court for four years. Eventually, his journey led him to serve as state judge for

the 144th District Court upon his election win in 2018. Judge Olivarri served on the 144th before illness compelled him to step down.

Olivarri was a person of high caliber whose kindness was only matched by his dedication to his family and career. Olivarri was a compassionate justice, sensitive to the vulnerabilities of those who came before him.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to have known such a remarkable individual who defined what it means to live in the service of others. The entire San Antonio community mourns this tremendous loss. I know his legacy and memory will live on in every single life he changed. Judge, thank you for your many years of public service and commitment to our community.

COMMEMORATING "BLACK JANUARY"

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 17, 2020

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the "Black January" killings which is one of the most tragic events in Azerbaijan's history.

On the night of January 20, 1990, approximately 26,000 Soviet troops stormed Azerbaijan's capital city of Baku in tanks and armored vehicles. That night, the Soviet military bulldozed innocent Azerbaijanis and opened fire indiscriminately on peaceful demonstrators, including women and children. As a result of these merciless acts 147 people were killed, around 800 were injured, 841 were arrested, and 5 went missing.

The Human Rights Watch report "Black January in Azerbaijan" states that "among the most heinous violations of human rights during the Baku incursion were the numerous attacks on medical personnel, ambulances, and even hospitals." The report concludes that the violence used by the Soviet Army constituted an exercise in collective punishment and that the punishment inflicted on Baku by Soviet soldiers may have been intended as a warning to nationalists, not only in Azerbaijan, but in other Republics of the Soviet Union. I offer my thoughts and prayers to the families of those who gave their lives for the independence of Azerbaijan.

The United States was one of the first countries to recognize independence and fully established diplomatic relations on February 28, 1992 and the relationship between our two countries endures to this day. The United States and Azerbaijan are strategic allies and share common interests in the region and globally.

As the co-chairman of the Congressional Azerbaijan Caucus, I urge my colleagues to recognize the sacrifices of the Azerbaijani people in their steps toward a free market economy and encourage a recommitment to the democratic values for which many Azerbaijanis sacrificed their lives.

RECOGNIZING THE ROTARY CLUB
OF BOCA RATON'S OPAL AWARD
HONOREES DORIS AND NEIL
GILLMAN

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 17, 2020

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I am honored to rise today in recognition of the important work done by the Rotary Club of Boca Raton and to congratulate two recipients of their Outstanding People and Leaders (OPAL) awards, Doris and Neil Gillman.

When it comes to strengthening their communities, the Gillmans strongly believe that enduring support begins with not with a check, but with a relationship. The couple has partnered with dozens of charities in Boca Raton and Pittsburgh and have built their volunteerism and philanthropy around being deeply engaged in the organizations to which they commit.

The impact of the Gillmans' connections to causes, particularly those that serve children, veterans, and animals, can be found throughout the city. They've worked closely with Florence Fuller Child Development Centers to construct much-needed new facilities, with the Caridad Center to outfit a new pediatric dental surgery room, with Boca Raton Regional Hospital to provide support for new parents in need, and with Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League to accomplish the vision of their new campus. The couple has also served on local charitable boards; Doris with Boca Helping Hands, and Neil with the Boca West Children's Foundation. In fact, it was BWCF that led them to many of the organizations they have supported, including their most recent focus—Sweet Dream Makers.

Through their philanthropy and service, the Gillmans have touched countless lives and made a lasting impact on our South Florida community. The work they do and the time they have put in is truly deserving of these awards.

I extend my most sincere congratulations to the Gillmans and to all of tonight's honorees. As we begin this new year, I am confident that the Rotary Club of Boca Raton will continue to be a cherished institution in South Florida that betters our community. I greatly appreciate the Club's work and am pleased to honor their OPAL and Lifetime Legacy Award honorees.

CONGRATULATING INDIANA SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE BRIAN BOSMA ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 17, 2020

Mrs. WALORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Indiana Speaker of the House Brian Bosma on his retirement and to thank him for his many years of dedicated service to Hoosiers.

He was first elected to the Indiana Statehouse in 1986 and served as speaker from 2004 to 2006 and again from 2010 to 2020, making him the longest-serving speaker in Indiana State history. Speaker Bosma has clearly dedicated his life to moving Indiana forward.

His commitment to Hoosier common sense and his tireless efforts to advance opportunities for future generations have made our state a better place to live and work.

I am grateful to have served alongside him in the Statehouse and to have worked together to improve the lives of our fellow Hoosiers. Speaker Bosma's strong conservative values and outstanding leadership have helped bring Indiana's economy and infrastructure into the 21st century. Thanks to Speaker Bosma, Indiana is one of the only states in the nation to pass a 20-year, fully-funded roads plan to improve state-maintained and local roads. Throughout his time as speaker, he never stopped fighting for Indiana businesses and workers. Speaker Bosma helped secure the strong economic climate in which Hoosiers are able to start and grow businesses, including maintaining a AAA credit rating, large budget reserves, and a low unemployment rate. He is also a fierce defender of the unborn and has worked to ensure that every human life in our state is treated with dignity and respect.

In addition to the positive impact of his legislative accomplishments, Brian Bosma's passion for helping others goes unmatched. His family's impressive work through Bosma Industries for the Blind is a testament to the power of one person determined to make a difference. Speaker Bosma brought those same values with him to the Statehouse each and every day. His dedication and passion exemplify the progress our society can make toward greater opportunities and brighter futures through innovative thinking and perseverance. I have no doubt his legacy will last far into the future.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Indiana Speaker of the House Brian Bosma for his lifelong commitment to serving Indiana communities. On behalf of 2nd District Hoosiers, I wish him the best as he embarks on this next chapter in life.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF JONATHAN WOLMAN

HON. RASHIDA TLAI

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 17, 2020

Ms. TLAI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the memory of Mr. Jonathan

Wolman, a man who spent forty-six years of his life tirelessly dedicated to pursuing the truth and reporting on the stories that have shaped modern-day America.

Following in his father's footsteps, Mr. Jonathan Wolman began his career in journalism as a newperson for the Associated Press's (AP) Wisconsin bureau in 1973. His talent for reading the political currents coursing through the hallways of Congress and the state capitals was readily evident to his coworkers and readers from the very beginning. Later that same year the AP sent him to Detroit for the first time, where he would cover the election of Coleman Young, the first African American mayor in a majority minority city.

Mr. Wolman also reported about Fannie Lou Hamer's voting rights campaign. Hamer's effort led to thousands of African Americans gaining the right to vote. His career soon brought him to Washington D.C., where he would cover events that shook the nation like the Three Mile Island nuclear disaster and the No Gun Ri massacre, the latter of which would go on to earn the AP the Pulitzer Prize for Investigative Reporting in 2000. After a two-year stint as senior vice president of the AP, Mr. Wolman moved back west in 2004, working for the Denver Post for three years until his return to the Motor City as the editor and publisher of the Detroit News in 2007. There he would spend the rest of his life reporting on some of our great city's most uncertain years, asking the tough questions and holding our leaders to account until his passing on April 15, 2019.

We owe a debt of gratitude for the hard work and dedication of Mr. Jonathan Wolman. His objectivity and journalistic integrity will be forever remembered. It is with great honor that I ask you to join me in honor of his memory and upon his recognition at Rainbow Push's Let Freedom Ring Awards.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM MCCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 17, 2020

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, due to a family medical emergency, I was unable to be in Washington for the week of January 13.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 14, NAY on Roll Call No. 15, NAY on Roll Call No. 16, NAY on Roll Call No. 17 and NAY on Roll Call No. 18.

RECOGNIZING THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOCA RATON'S OPAL AWARD HONOREES TOBY AND LEON COOPERMAN

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 17, 2020

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I am honored to rise today in recognition of the important work done by the Rotary Club of Boca Raton and to congratulate two recipients of their Outstanding People and Leaders (OPAL) awards, Toby and Leon Cooperman.

The Coopermans' story exemplifies the American Dream. As a first generation American and son of a plumber, Leon worked hard to receive a quality public education before earning his MBA from Columbia University. His hard work continued as he entered the professional world, leading to a remarkably successful career.

Due to the success achieved through their hard work, Toby and Leon feel a moral imperative to give others the opportunity to pursue the American Dream that they have enjoyed. This led them to take The Giving Pledge, a commitment to give the majority of their wealth to address societies most pressing needs.

Through their philanthropy and service, the Coopermans have touched countless lives and made a lasting impact on our South Florida community. The work they do and the time they have put in is truly deserving of these awards.

I extend my most sincere congratulations to the Coopermans and to all of tonight's honorees. As we begin this new year, I am confident that the Rotary Club of Boca Raton will continue to be a cherished institution in South Florida that betters our community. I greatly appreciate the Club's work and am pleased to honor their OPAL and Lifetime Legacy Award honorees.