

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