

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MS. LORENZA “LORI”
GUERRERO

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Lorenza “Lori” Guerrero, a beloved nurse from McAllen, Texas, who passed away due to COVID-19 on July 7, 2020 at the age of 72. Lori was a hero; always putting others before herself.

As our nation navigates an unprecedented global pandemic, healthcare providers like Lori Guerrero are working day in and day out to care for our constituents. Lori began her career as a licensed vocational nurse in 1971, and after 49 incredible years serving her community as a nurse, she passed away from COVID-19.

Lori will not only be remembered for her courageous efforts to serve her community, the Rio Grande Valley, fight COVID-19, but also for her decades of work helping victims of sexual assault as a sexual assault nurse examiner. At one point in her career, she met with as many as seven victims a day. Furthermore, she worked with local law enforcement to provide training and develop programs so those victims could be better served.

These are just two examples that showcase Ms. Guerrero’s selflessness and devotion to her community. The daughter of migrant workers, Lori never complained and was always ready to work. Her work ethic and compassion led her to be who she is today; an icon in the Rio Grande Valley.

Madam Speaker, Ms. Lorenza “Lori” Guerrero could have retired when she heard that a global pandemic was looming, but she chose to help the sick in her community. I stand here today to recognize Ms. Guerrero for going above and beyond the call of duty. Lori paid the ultimate sacrifice, one that we will not forget. Her legacy will undoubtedly inspire future generations to follow in her footsteps.

IN HONOR OF CHRIS PEIRCE

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chris Peirce, who is being honored for his work as the Veterans of Foreign War (VFW) New Hampshire State Commander. VFW works to ensure that all veterans are recognized for their service and sacrifice on behalf of our nation. During his time as State Commander, Commander Peirce helped organize the delivery of meals to veterans around New Hampshire, conducted in person and virtual “buddy-checks” on fellow members, and worked tirelessly to ensure that no veteran feels isolated during this stressful time.

Chris Peirce was born in Newbury, Massachusetts and has been serving our country in one form or another ever since. Commander Peirce entered the Marine Corps in July of 1980 and as an artillery section chief, he participated in Operation Urgent Fury, the invasion of Grenada. In 2004, he was deployed as First Sergeant of the 172nd New Hampshire National Guard as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom II. He retired as a First Sergeant from the NH Army National Guard in 2006 after a combined 26 years of service.

Commander Peirce joined VFW at Post 1088 Kingston NH and maintains his Life membership there. He has held all positions at the Post level including Post Commander and All State Post Commander. At VFW he has been the Chairman of OTI, the Special Olympics, and the Patriot’s Pen. He has also been a member of the Finance Committee and the All State Judging Committee. Finally, Commander Peirce has represented the state of New Hampshire on the national Iraq/Afghanistan Committee for three years.

Outside of VFW, Commander Peirce worked as an Engineering Project Manager for 21 years with Mersen before retiring. His legacy of service continues with his son who is on active duty with the Air Force.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire’s First Congressional District, I want to thank Commander Peirce for his service to our country and his dedication to his fellow veterans. I congratulate him on his successful term as State Commander, and I thank him for all he does to make sure that veterans in our state are remembered and valued.

IN MEMORY OF PASTOR DAVID
ROQUEMORE

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of David Roquemore, esteemed pastor of Greater New Light Missionary Baptist Church in Detroit, Michigan.

Pastor Roquemore knew at a young age that he was destined for a career in the clergy. He was deeply moved by the power of prayer and gospel music. Pastor Roquemore began his pastoral profession at Church of Our Faith Prayer Tabernacle, where he served as a faithful member of the renowned Voices of Prayer Tabernacle choir. Pastor Roquemore found his passion for prayer through song in Detroit’s burgeoning gospel music scene. He performed with the era’s powerhouse principal vocalists Hulah Gene Dunkin-Hurley, Louise McCord Williams, and his brother Richard Roquemore. The choir recorded, “The Love of God,” which became an instant hit. Affectionally known as “Rock”, he remained a faithful member of the church.

On August 7, 1982 a group of individuals assembled to deliberate the possibility of orga-

nizing a church. The meeting participants included Reverend D. W. Roquemore, Sister Madeline Roquemore, other individuals who elected Reverend Roquemore as pastor of the newly formed Greater New Light Missionary Baptist Church, inaugurating a thirty-seven-year commitment.

Pastor Roquemore committed to religious scholarship, earning degrees from William Tyndale College, Tennessee School of Religion, and Union Baptist Seminary. He also served in leadership roles for a number of organizations, including Executive Secretary of Council of Baptist Pastors and Detroit Vicinity, Secretary of Westside Ministers Alliance, Chairman of Health and Human Services Detroit Water & Sewerage Department, and professor of Tennessee School of Religion. Pastor Roquemore’s commitment to serving the needs of others earned him great esteem and respect.

Please join me in tribute to the memory of Pastor David Roquemore, a spiritual leader, who will be missed by his family, friends, and flock.

NATIONAL HEROES DAY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor heroes from the theater shooting in Aurora, Colorado on July 20, 2012. Twelve lives were taken, seventy were injured, and hundreds suffered emotional trauma. Yet even in this tragedy, we saw incredible heroism that night—those who sacrificed themselves to save others, those who helped others while badly wounded themselves, and lives that were saved by the tireless efforts of first responders and medical teams.

These men inspired me to act on a National Heroes Day Resolution:

John Larimer, age 27, was a Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class and cryptologic technician who was stationed at Buckley Air Force Base in Aurora for about a year. He was murdered protecting his girlfriend and his friend inside the theater, jumping into action to protect them once the shooting began. John was the youngest of five siblings from Crystal Lake, Illinois.

Jonathan Blunk, age 26, served his country in three tours in the Middle East. His desire was to become a Navy Seal. He was at the theater with a girlfriend when the shooting started and immediately pushed her under the seats, saving her life. Jonathan was shot multiple times and suffered a fatal gunshot wound to his heart. He left behind a widow and two small children in Reno, Nevada.

Matt McQuinn, age 27, was in love with his girlfriend and wanted to marry her and start a family. When the shooting began, he leaned over his girlfriend to get her out of harm’s way. She was shot but survived. He was shot nine

● 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.

times; the most of anyone in the theater. He was survived by his parents, brothers, and girlfriend in Ohio.

Alex Teves, age 24, was born and spent his early years in New Jersey before moving to Arizona and then onto Colorado where he earned a master's in psychology the month before he was killed. He counseled kids with unique learning and emotional challenges at Humanex Academy. He was murdered after pulling his girlfriend down to safety, leaving himself exposed; a bullet hit him in the forehead as he whispered comforting words of love. He was the oldest of three siblings.

After his death, Alex's parents, Caren and Tom, began the "No Notoriety" movement asking that the media stop concentrating its coverage on the shooters for the sake of public safety. This movement is widely endorsed by law enforcement and on both sides of the aisle.

These individuals inspired me to introduce a resolution with my colleagues from the Colorado Congressional Delegation to designate July 20th as "National Heroes Day" to honor their memory and all those who save lives and improve their communities.

Those whose loved ones have been taken by horrific acts of violence, have honored their memories with action and now ask us to do the same. I will always remember the exceptional acts of courage displayed by those in Aurora and will continue working with my colleagues to enact meaningful reforms to prevent these horrific acts of violence.

INTRODUCTION OF THE JUVENILE INCARCERATION REDUCTION ACT

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Mr. LEWIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Juvenile Incarceration Reduction Act of 2020.

Our Constitution guarantees a fair process in all hearings and equal treatment under the law. Even as we make technological advances, we must ensure that the principals of the Constitution are not bypassed for convenience. Most importantly, we cannot delegate the duty and responsibility of justice to technology.

The use of risk and needs assessment tools in the juvenile justice system is widespread. According to the National Center for Juvenile Justice, 42 states have a statute or probation agency policy supporting or requiring the implementation of a risk and needs assessment instrument for youth who are justice system involved. These technology tools collect data about youth offenders and use this data in complex algorithms used to determine how likely a young person may become a repeat offender.

Madam Speaker, let me be clear. This data—not the young person's actual actions—far too often determine critical decisions such as, whether a youth offender will be in custody prior to trial, the conditions of a youth offender's adjudication (conviction), and whether a youth offender will be placed in a secure youth facility (detention).

Unfortunately, research shows that these "risk and needs assessment tools"

disproportionally misclassify youth of color as high risk. For example, in my home state of Georgia, where the use of risk and needs assessment tools are required by state statute, Black youth comprised 69 percent of juveniles sentenced to youth prisons and made up 80 percent of those juveniles who were convicted in adult court.

My legislation, the Juvenile Incarceration Reduction Act proposes simple changes that will significantly improve the prospects of young people in the juvenile justice system. This bill will prohibit or limit the use of risk and needs assessment tools in federal juvenile proceedings in four scenarios: (1) when determining whether or not a youth offender should be charged as an adult; (2) in determining a youth offender's risk of recidivism; (3) deciding whether a youth offender should be incarcerated prior to adjudication; and (4) as a sole factor in determining a youth offender's eligibility for recidivism reduction programs or likelihood of benefitting from these programs.

In addition, this legislation would prohibit the admission of determinations made by risk and needs assessment tools as evidence in trials against a justice involved youth. These risk and assessment tools clearly exacerbate existing bias and disparities in our criminal justice system. My bill helps introduce parity, equity, hope, and opportunity for all—especially minority—youth offenders.

Breaking the school to prison pipeline means advancing simple policies like the Juvenile Incarceration Reduction Act. If Congress can come together to reduce recidivism and create opportunities for adults in the criminal justice system, we have a moral obligation to do the same for our young people.

It is critical that justice-involved youth are given a fair opportunity to rehabilitate no matter their racial or ethnic background. Congress must do all we can to correct these systematic wrongs, and I urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting this common-sense legislation.

TRIBUTE TO RIGDON FRANCIS CURRIE ON HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Rigdon Francis Currie, a former long-time resident of Palo Alto who is celebrating his 90th birthday on July 17, 2020. He was born in Atlanta, Georgia, to Constance Berry Currie and Charles James Currie and he had one sibling, Charles James Currie, Jr.

Georgia born and bred, Rigdon retains the elegant accent and perfect manners he learned growing up in the South. A Georgia Tech and Harvard Business School graduate, Rigdon served our country in the Air Force for two years, and went on to lead a productive and adventure-filled life. His great career at Xerox was followed by a productive tenure as a venture capitalist, creating hundreds of well-paying jobs. Exceedingly generous with his time, resources and talent, he mentored countless career-seekers, leading them to positions that ideally suit them. His generosity extended to many non-profit organizations, including the Pacific Theological School in

Berkeley where he served on the Board for many years. His efforts in Mann County resulted in many miles of roads in Point Reyes being free of trash.

Rigdon is an ardent birder. He has seen and identified more than 5,000 species during his birdwatching avocation, and travelled to 90 countries in pursuit of them. He loves sharing his love of birds with others, and often carries a tripod and telescope to make sure others are able to see and appreciate his finds.

Rigdon is the adoring father of two sons, Steven and David, their partners and his grandchildren. He is the proud stepfather of Chris and Alexis, their spouses and children. There is nothing any of them can ask of him that he would refuse. The center of his family is his wife of 40 years, Trish Johnson. Together they have welcomed hundreds into their Palo Alto and Point Reyes homes, creating havens for those in need. They also created parties, hikes, apple pressing and good times for friends in need.

A brilliant business man, an extraordinary birder, a most generous philanthropist, a friend to so many and a devoted family man, Rigdon Currie sets an example for all of us to emulate. His ninety years have been filled with adventure and giving to others, and we are a better and stronger country because of him and his work.

Madam Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in honoring Rigdon Francis Currie as he celebrates his 90th birthday, and in wishing him many more years of living life to the fullest.

HONORING MAJOR GENERAL JAMES J. MINGUS ON HIS 35 YEARS OF MILITARY SERVICE

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Major General James J. Mingus on his 35 years of exemplary military service. For the last two years, Major General Mingus has served as Commander of the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Part of the XVIII Airborne Corps, the 82nd Airborne Division is the Nation's Global Response Force and has participated in nearly every major United States conflict around the world since its inception. As Commander, Major General Mingus answered historic calls to duty on behalf of our great nation.

Major General Mingus began his career in 1981 with the Iowa Army National Guard and today fulfills his duty as Commander of the 82nd Airborne Division. Throughout his storied career, he has held every rank and commanded more than 18,000 paratroopers spread across six brigades.

A decorated public servant, Major General Mingus holds the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit with 2 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters, Bronze Star Medal with 4 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters, and a Purple Heart. He represents the best our nation has to offer, and future generations will look up to his leadership for years to come.

As Fort Bragg's Congressman, I know I speak for our entire community when I say we are truly grateful for his tireless service and

cannot thank him enough. I extend my most heartfelt appreciation to Major General Mingus; his wife, Amy; and children, Nathan, Zoe, and Luke as they embark upon this exciting new chapter.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring Major General James J. Mingus on his 35 years of extraordinary military service.

HONORING MR. LEONEL GARZA

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Leonel Garza of Freer, Texas, who celebrated his birthday along with the United States of America this past 4th of July. Mr. Garza has a special place in Texas' history for his creation of the Muy Grande, the first deer hunting contest in the state.

Leonel Garza is one of 13 children born to Lazard and Olivia Garza. Lazard and Olivia were migrant workers that traveled across Texas and the Midwest to support their large family. Leonel married his wife, Elda Garcia, in 1961 and settled down in Freer, Texas. At that time, Leonel made a living selling gas, tires, and servicing autos at a small gas station he managed named Center Circle Gas Station. Here, began the formation of the Muy Grande, an unlikely success story.

Let me preface that Leonel Garza is one of the hardest working individuals in South Texas and pays extra special attention to the personal relationships he makes throughout life, so it is no surprise that success followed. One day in 1965, while Leonel was working at Center Circle Gas Station, a man whose car had gotten stuck walked in and asked for help. Without hesitation, Leonel dropped everything and drove forty miles to help tow the car. After successfully transporting the car, Leonel refused to accept anything in return and told the man "Just tell you buddies that I'm the hunter's friend."

This man happened to be Fred Strong: an Outdoors' Sportswriter. In just a few weeks, Leonel's life would change forever, as Fred Strong wrote an article about the "Hunter's Friend" in Freer, Texas. Fred's story was picked up by newspapers all across Texas. The small town of Freer became known for its whitetail deer and Leonel Garza. All of a sudden, the Center Circle Gas Station had a line of cars filled with hunters down the street.

With the overnight fame, Leonel wanted to boost his gas sales by creating a deer hunting contest, the first of its kind in the state of Texas. After realizing that he did not have a prize for the first contest, he gave the winner the watch off of his own wrist. As this contest continued to grow, Leonel named it Muy Grande after the size of South Texas deer. Now Muy Grande and Leonel Garza are known world-wide and the contest has its own hall of fame and continues to attract thousands of visitors each year.

Leonel's work ethic never ceased, as he earned his Real Estate License in 1976 to be able to visit all the South Texas farms he grew up visiting with his father. In the 1980s, he wrote a book called "The Legend of the Muy Grande," and produced three videos called

"The Legend of the Muy Grande," Part I, II and III. Leonel Grande continues to be an active member of Freer, Texas, serving on multiple community organizations and still runs the Muy Grande Hunting Village, the largest gas station in Freer, Texas.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Leonel Garza is a Texas legend whose creation of the first deer hunting contest changed the sport of hunting. His relentless work ethic, kindness to all, and ability to turn overnight fame into something long-lasting is well-worthy of recognition. I stand here today thanking Mr. Garza for his contributions to the world, and I wish him a happy belated 80th birthday.

CELEBRATING NELL LONG'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. MO BROOKS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Mr. BROOKS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Nell Long on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

Nell Long was born in Alabama's Oak Grove community on July 12, 1920. Her family settled in Alabama long before that. Nell grew up during the Great Depression, so she possesses a toughness and tenacity that only true hardship can produce. Nell worked hard to help her family as a girl. She harvested cotton with her father and preserved food with her mother. Nell went on to finish high school, most notably, in the light of an oil lamp—electricity did not come to Oak Grove until 1935.

At nineteen, Nell married James Long and started a family. They had three beautiful children. As an active mother, Nell volunteered as a substitute teacher, a 4-H Club leader, in the PTA, and on local campaigns. She worked in her children's school lunchroom. She did all this in addition to helping James on their farm. Nell and James were committed to conservation in Madison County and the fruits of their labor can still be seen in our community today. In 1986, Nell was named Madison County Woman of the Year for dedicated service in the community and church.

After James' passing, Nell has remained active in the community. She is a member of the local Homemaker's Club, Hunt Springs Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), and of Owens Cross Roads Church of Christ. She has inspired scores with her dedication to improving the lives of others.

Madam Speaker, the Tennessee Valley is fortunate to have such an exemplary citizen for 100 years. Nell Long's unwavering hard work, strong family values, and unshakable faith embody the best of our community.

I wish Nell and her entire family the very best as they celebrate Nell's centennial birthday.

HONORING THE LIFE OF REVEREND DR. GEORGE W.C. RICHARDSON, JR.

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of

Reverend Dr. George Washington Carver Richardson, Jr., a learned and devoted man of faith whose bravery in and commitment to the Civil Rights Movement helped guide the moral trajectory of Alabama, our nation and the world.

Born in Geiger, Alabama in Sumter County to George and Louise Richardson, Reverend Richardson moved as a child to Gordo, Alabama where he matriculated through the Pickens County School System. A lifelong man of God, Reverend Richardson began preaching at the tender age of four and was officially licensed to spread God's word by the age of twelve. By sixteen, Reverend Richardson was pastoring several small churches throughout the Alabama countryside.

Understanding the unparalleled value of a good education, Reverend Richardson attended and received degrees from a number of schools including his BA from Selma University; an ETA from Southeastern Bible College; Bachelor of Theology from Sunshine Bible College, Master of Divinity from Interdenominational Theological Institute; Master in Religious Education from Sunshine Bible College, Doctor of Divinity from New Era Seminary; Doctor of Humane Letters from Faith Grant College, Existential Degree from Southeastern Bible College; and a LCU Degree from Insurance Underwriters. He also studied at the following schools: Temple University, Sanford University, Southern Christian Bible College, Alabama Christian College, University Bible Institute and Interdenominational Theological Institute.

Reverend Richardson spread his God-given gifts far and wide, preaching throughout the United States and spreading the Gospel. He conducted workshops, seminars, revivals and special preaching engagements through which he met kings, princes, presidents and dignitaries from across the globe. He served as Pastor at Maggie Branch Baptist, Union Baptist, Shiloh Baptist and Mt Hebron Baptist. In 1979 he became Pastor of Hutchinson Missionary Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama where he remained for forty-one years until his passing.

In addition to his work in the church, Reverend Richardson dedicated himself to many community organizations including the NAACP, SCLC, the Montgomery Improvement Association and the Future Leaders of Montgomery County. He also served on the board of Star Management, Inc.; as President and CEO of SCOM's Ministry; as Chairman of the Board of the Survivor's Prison Ministry; on the Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail Advisory Council, and on the board of the Covenant Family Ministries, Inc.

Reverend Richardson played an important role in the Civil Rights Movement, belonging to an organization known as "Friendly Brethren's", headed by Dr. F.D. Reese of Selma, Alabama. The five members comprising this organization were at the forefront of initiating the Selma Movement and were later supported by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the SCLC, who were sent in as support and who then came to lead the Selma Movement. Reverend Richardson participated in the many mass meetings, marches and demonstrations comprising the movement, most notable the events of Bloody Sunday which would later lead to the passage of the pivotal Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Reverend Richardson was also instrumental in the integration of the University of

Montevallo. In 1967 he moved to Bessemer, Alabama where he ran for Mayor, making him the first African American to run for a major Alabama political office, opening the door for many future generations of African Americans in Alabama to run for office. As a result of his run, he was taken and beaten by members of the KKK and left for dead, yet he managed to survive and to thrive through the grace of God, continuing to fight for truth and justice.

Reverend Richardson was blessed in marriage to Robbye Johnson Richardson, to whom he was joyfully wed for fifty-six years. Together, they shared three loving children, Pastor E. Steven Richardson (Melanie), Georgina Richardson-Alexander (George) and Robert Richardson; six grandchildren, Erica, Steven, Iven, Iven, Tiara and Harmony; two extended grandchildren, Summer and Joshua; and twelve greatgrandchildren.

On a personal note, I am very grateful for the guidance, prayers and wise counsel that Reverend Richardson has provided me over the years. Reverend Richardson was a steady anchor in the Montgomery community. As pastor of Hutchinson Missionary Baptist Church, he provided strong leadership to his congregation and made a big difference during his over fifty years of ministerial and public service. Reverend Richardson was a man of faith who lead by example. May we find comfort in knowing that his legacy will live on in the many lives that he impacted.

On behalf of Alabama's Seventh Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the exemplary life and accomplishments of Reverend Dr. George W.C. Richardson, Jr.

HONORING JIM PHILLIPS FOR HIS LIFETIME OF SERVICE TO THE NORTH COUNTRY AND THE NATION

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jim Phillips, President and CEO of the Canadian/American Border Trade Alliance, for his lifetime of service to the North Country and the Nation.

Jim Phillips, a longtime business leader with experience in cross border commerce, founded the Canadian/American Border Trade Alliance (Can/Am BTA) in 1992. He recognized the need for a bi-national coalition of private and public stakeholders to advocate for the needs of the users of the U.S.-Canadian border including trade, transportation, border management and tourism. Jim Phillips has served as its President and CEO since its founding, creating an effective transcontinental and bi-national organization with engagement from twenty-seven states and all the provinces of Canada. The organization he built and leads involves a combined network of over 60,000 companies and organizations including producers, shippers, brokers, chambers of commerce, universities, bridge and tunnel operators, business and trade corridor organizations as well as economic development and government agencies.

Under his many years of leadership at the Can/Am BTA, Jim Phillips became one of the

most respected voices in all matters related to the U.S.-Canadian border in both countries, consistently earning the trust and partnership of Canadian and U.S. officials at all levels and over many administrations. Throughout the years, Jim Phillips has directly contributed to many border related advances including multiple infrastructure investments, the Shared Border Accord and enormous progress toward U.S.-Canadian customs and regulatory harmonization, among many others.

In the 21st Congressional District, Jim Phillips was pivotal in working with the North Country Chamber of Commerce to develop the original concept of the Quebec-New York Corridor as a vehicle for bi-national collaboration, and in helping to secure more than \$107 million for the new U.S. border facilities at Champlain in 2005. Jim Phillips also played a leading role in the original organization of the Northern Border Caucus in the U.S. House of Representatives, an important bi-partisan platform for northern border advocacy.

Jim Phillips has made an indelible impact on the North Country and our relationship with Canada through his decades of experience and leadership. On behalf of New York's 21st District, I would like to thank Mr. Phillips for his lifetime of service to New York and the United States.

CELEBRATING THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF PROFESSOR JEROME A. COHEN

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Professor Jerome Alan Cohen, the Founder and Faculty Director Emeritus of the U.S.-Asia Law Institute of the New York University School of Law. Professor Jerry Cohen is a true champion of human rights and the rule of law in China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and South Korea. This month, he is celebrating his 90th birthday with his family and friends.

Professor Cohen—or “Jerry,” as he prefers to be called by friends, colleagues, and students alike—is one of the foremost experts in Chinese law and government in the United States and internationally. He has provided sage advice and wise counsel to international leaders, U.S. government officials, and Members of Congress throughout his illustrious career, including in testimony to the Congressional-Executive Commission on China of which I currently serve as Chair. Not long out of Yale Law School, Jerry was a law clerk to Chief Justice Earl Warren and to Justice Felix Frankfurter, of the U.S. Supreme Court. Jerry also was an Assistant U.S. Attorney here in Washington, D.C.

Jerry's extraordinary career on China began in the 1960s while he was teaching at Boalt School of Law at University of California Berkeley. A grant to UC Berkeley from the Rockefeller Foundation allowed him to begin his study of Mandarin Chinese. Later, he created the East Asia Legal Studies Association at Harvard School of Law, where he would go on to teach for 17 years.

In 2018, Harvard Law alumni established the Jerome A. and Joan L. Cohen Professor-

ship of Law at Harvard Law School to honor his pioneering work. His students over the years include prominent legal scholars, lawyers, law professors, journalists, and diplomats, such as former Taiwanese president, Ma Ying-jeou and former U.S. Ambassador to China Clark Randt, Jr.

Jerry and a group of colleagues were also early advocates in encouraging the United States to engage with the People's Republic of China. During his first trip to China in 1972, Jerry met with Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai, and, years later accompanied Senator Ted Kennedy to Beijing to meet with Deng Xiaoping.

Jerry has been an energetic advocate for human rights in China and critic of the Chinese government. At the US-Asia Law Institute, he has developed programs on criminal justice reform in China with Chinese counterparts. Jerry also has led the way in supporting the release of political prisoners in China, including John T. Downey, a former Yale College classmate and CIA agent who was released in 1973 after more than 20 years' imprisonment in China. He played a crucial role in the release of Annette Lu, who would go to be Taiwanese vice president under Chen Shui-bian. Jerry also has advocated for and helped secure the release of many Chinese political prisoners, including Song Yongyi and Chen Guangcheng.

Professor Jerry Cohen has not only participated in the history of U.S.-China relations, he has shaped it. All those who advocate for human rights and the rule of law in China owe him a great debt of gratitude. I thank Professor Cohen for his exemplary service for humanity.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE-SAVING ACTIONS OF 7-YEAR-OLD LILLIE DAVIS

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Lillie Davis of Willow Springs, Missouri for her heroic actions that helped save the life of her father, Seth Davis.

Lillie's father has suffered from epilepsy since he was a child. Because of this, Lillie was trained for emergency situations at a young age. When her father went into an epileptic seizure one spring morning, 7-year-old Lillie knew just what to do to help him. She acted with poise and bravery and went through the proper motions to save her dad. She calmly called her mother, who called 9-1-1, and then helped talk Lillie through the motions. Lillie made sure her dad was still breathing, then turned his head to make sure he wasn't holding his breath. She even opened the back door so the first responders could quickly enter upon arrival.

First responders stated that they have never seen a young child know just what to do in an emergency like this. I commend Lillie for her acts of bravery that helped save her father's life. She is a true hero!

For her heroic actions, it is my great pleasure to celebrate Miss Lillie Davis today before the U.S. House of Representatives.

SHERRY ELLEBRACHT

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sherry Ellebracht, who after 22 years working for the Regional Transportation District (RTD), is retiring. Sherry's dedication to transportation for the State of Colorado has made a significant impact which will last for years to come.

In 1998, Sherry joined RTD's government relations department working to engage with local, state and federal leaders on issues related to transit and transportation in Colorado.

In her role, Sherry managed all state and federal activities and monitored proposed legislation in the Colorado state legislature and in the U.S. House and Senate. At the federal level, one of her primary responsibilities involves coordinating the agency's annual appropriations requests and authorizations in the transportation funding bills. In addition, she monitored all municipal activities and worked with the RTD local government liaison to stay abreast of local issues, including representing RTD on the Colorado Association of Transit Agencies (CASTA) Board of Directors and even serving as President of the organization. She has been a part of RTD for the passage of two significant public votes, 4A for the SE corridor and FasTracks, as well as FFGAs for the Southeast (\$525 million), West (\$308 million) and Eagle P3 lines (\$1.03 billion) and over \$257 million in federal funding for Union Station—a total of close \$2 billion in federal funding.

Outside of her work at RTD, Sherry is a member of the Alpha Delta Pi sorority alumnae and has held various positions in that organization. In 2008, she was nominated for the Denver Area Panhellenic Alumnae Achievement Award. Through her work with RTD and other groups, Sherry has created numerous partnerships and helped improve outcomes in the transit community and for the quality of life of the residents of Colorado. I congratulate Sherry on a lifetime of service and wish her all the best in retirement.

HONORING THE LEADERSHIP AND
LEGACY OF CHAIRWOMAN NITA
M. LOWEY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize the remarkable leadership of Chairwoman NITA M. LOWEY. NITA has made the nation, and the world, a far better place because of her commitment to the Appropriations Committee, and her outstanding achievements will forever be honored and celebrated here in the Congress.

I cherish the 25 years we have spent together fighting for expanded access to women's health, the inclusion of women in NIH clinical trials, increased investment in early childhood education, adequate worker protections, and so much more. Beyond her professionalism, dedication, and leadership, NITA is

genuine and compassionate. As she has for many of our other colleagues, she has been there for me in times of need. I will miss seeing her in the halls of Congress and on the Appropriations Committee, but our friendship endures.

In honor of her outstanding legacy, I include in the RECORD the Chairwoman's farewell remarks to the House Appropriations Committee on July 15, 2020, the final day of markups for the 116th Congress:

Good morning, everyone. As we begin our final day of consideration of the FY21 spending bills, I'd like to thank you all for your kind words and well wishes and ask you to indulge me in just a few more reflections.

I came to Congress in 1989, one of just 31 women in the House and Senate, and to this Committee in 1993 alongside only six other women on the 64-member panel.

This body is better for the 100 women serving in the 116th Congress and for the many women in this room today. It's my honor to address the full Committee for my final time as the first woman Chair.

You know, it's ironic that back in 1993, I had to choose between serving on Appropriations or Ways and Means. And today we mark up my final Appropriations bills in the Ways and Means Committee room.

I chose Appropriations because I believed it was the best place to give more people a better chance at a better life. After nearly 30 years on Committee, I still believe that.

In fact, nowhere else in Congress could I have advanced such a diverse range of priorities. In the days of congressionally directed spending—something I hope you all restore—I brought home hundreds of millions to help my constituents directly, from transportation hubs and commuter services, bridge and road safety, early learning and health centers, to economic development and job training, school safety, senior centers, flooding relief, and more.

Of course, without those projects, I have created new programs, including one that protects vulnerable nonprofits at a time of rising anti-Semitism and hate, like those in my district surrounding the community that experienced a tragic attack at a Hanukkah party last year.

Nationally, we advanced the .08 blood alcohol content standard for drunk driving that has saved countless lives. Following September 11th, we funded the new Department of Homeland Security, and I have fought hard for New York's fair share of its investments in our preparedness and response capabilities.

I am so proud of tremendous accomplishments for women's health—from protecting and expanding access to family planning here and abroad, to gains in research equity and breast cancer research and securing contraceptive coverage for federal employees that led to dramatically expanded coverage for women today. And, let me just say, we will never go back to the days when NIH excluded women from clinical trials—when even the lab rats were all male.

Among many education achievements, we established the first federal afterschool programs that have grown to a billion dollar investment today and served millions of children and families. And, it was certainly fun to bring Bert and Ernie to a hearing to help save PBS's federal funding.

Despite my passion for these priorities, I bucked conventional wisdom to become Ranking Member on the State and Foreign Operations subcommittee rather than the Labor-HHS-Education subcommittee. I cannot overstate my commitment to our responsible investments through our foreign aid bill that make the world better, safer, and

healthier while improving the security of generations here at home.

At the heart of that work is providing a basic education to the world's children so that they may thrive and prosper, be healthier and resilient to dangerous influences, and create a more stable world. So what a moving and rewarding honor it was to have my dear friends Ranking Member Granger and Ranking Member Rogers recognize my work on international basic education by naming that program for me last week in the State and foreign operations markup.

While my time as the Chairwoman of this Committee has been short, our achievements together will have a lasting impact.

Despite our differences and disagreements, or perhaps because of them, we ultimately recognize that the power of the purse—one of the most important entrusted to us by the Constitution—requires us to build consensus and put the interests of the American people first.

I took the Appropriations gavel in January 2019, in the middle of the longest partial government shutdown in U.S. history.

Not only did we reach bipartisan agreement to reopen government, we cleared all 12 fiscal year 2020 appropriations bills through committee and 10 off the House floor before the Senate introduced a single bill, and we enacted all 12 before the end of the calendar year.

As appropriators, we lead by example, with common sense and deliberation.

Our ability to transcend party differences and make hard choices within the constraints of limited funding makes us worthy of the privilege to hash out the biggest battles of the day.

Through virtual and remote work and in masks and gloves today, this Committee is confronting twin crises—one most of us never expected, the other only the willfully indifferent could not have anticipated.

In recent months, we have led the way to invest trillions to stem the spread of a global pandemic and mitigate the worst of its devastating economic impacts.

The fiscal year 2021 appropriations bills continue those efforts even as we address systemic racism, a crisis that has reached a boiling point in recent weeks.

We have acted on the urgent need for meaningful police reform and economic development in disadvantaged communities that is fundamental to a more just and equitable society that lives up to our highest values and aspirations.

We are living through a time of heightened cynicism and polarization, of suffering and pain, and great uncertainty, with too little compassion and leadership from some at the highest levels of power.

The old adage you might have heard me say a time or two—that in Washington there are Republicans, Democrats, and appropriators—is perhaps more important now than ever.

My parting request to you is this: do not succumb to the pervasive partisanship that permeates what can feel like all aspects of our professional—and even sometimes our personal—lives.

Beyond keeping government's doors open and lights on, conduct robust oversight and demand accountability and transparency on the use of taxpayer dollars, defend our constitutional prerogatives against Executive Overreach regardless of who occupies the White House or the Speaker's office. Always strive to use the power of the purse to unlock the full potential of this nation.

Over the next weeks and months, I will continue that hard work with all of you, who are at the heart of what makes this the best Committee in Congress. If you're looking for

a goodbye gift, I would love to get all our bills done by the end of the year.

To the other members leaving Congress at the end of this term—my fellow New Yorker and dear friend Jose Serrano, Pete Visclosky, Tom Graves, Martha Roby, and Will Hurd—thank you for your service, and I wish you all the very best.

To my subcommittee chairs—Marcy, Pete, José, Rosa, David, Lucille, Sanford, Betty, Tim, Debbie, and Mike—you have made your mark not just on your bills and on this Committee. Thank you for your steady, effective leadership and friendship.

Kay, I could not ask for a better Ranking Member. We took turns as Chair and Ranking Member on State and Foreign Operations and have shown time and again that women get things done. I will deeply miss our partnership and you personally.

I would be remiss not to mention former Committee Chairs Natcher, Livingston, Young, Lewis, Obey, Rogers, and Frelinghuysen who showed me what it takes to do this job well.

None of us could fulfill our mandate without the support of excellent staff. All of the successes I've recounted today and more are also the achievements of many others.

To the staff in both the Committee and my Congressional office: For a year and a half as Chairwoman, six years as Ranking Member—and for some, a whole lot longer—I have benefited immeasurably from your wisdom, counsel, tireless commitment, and, on more than a few occasions, from your technological prowess.

One of the benefits of being chair is having the largest and most experienced staff on the Hill. From all of our subcommittee staff led by clerks Martha Foley, Bob Bonner, Becky Leggieri, Jaime Shimek, Matt Smith, Darek Newby, Rita Culp, Stephen Steigleder, Robin Juliano, Matt Washington, Lisa Molyneux, Steve Marchese, and Joe Carlile to Adam Berg, Jason Gray, Adam Wilson, Tom Tucker, Anna Hansen, Mike Burns, Gloria Nlewedim, and Malachi White in the front office, I am grateful for everything you do to make this the best committee in Congress.

My Congressional office staff in Washington, including Fae Rabin, Wendy Coursen, Liz Gauthier, Jane Richter, Matt Pastore, Steve Brenner, and Justin Barnes, have been invaluable during my final appropriations markups, as always.

I especially note my gratitude for the extraordinary work of several staffers with whom I work most closely: Staff Director and Clerk Shalanda Young, Deputy Staff Director Chris Bigelow—an alum of my personal office, Communications Director Evan Hollander, Legislative Director Dana Acton, Deputy Chief of Staff Kelly Healton, and my Chief of Staff for the last 15 years, Elizabeth Stanley.

I appreciate the great contributions of former staff, including chiefs of staff—Scott Fleming, Howard Wolfson, Matthew Traub and Clare Coleman—and legislative teams led by Jim Townsend, Mark Isaac, Jenny Luray, Heather Howard, Beth Tritter, and Jean Doyle. At the committee, I valued the expertise of former Staff Director David Pomerantz, Deputy Staff Director Lesley Turner, and Communications Director Matt Dennis who also served in my personal office.

I have enjoyed seeing so many current and former staffers grow in your careers, get married, have children, and even some of you retire before me. You will always be a part of the Lowey family.

It has been the honor of my life to serve as Chairwoman of this committee. While I'll be sad to hand over the gavel, I know that all of us—members and staff—will live by the underlying principle that has guided our work together: do the best we can to make life better for the most people we can.

Thank you.

HONORING JUDGE OLA M. LEWIS

HON. DAVID ROUZER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Mr. ROUZER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the memory and life of a trailblazing judge from Brunswick County, North Carolina, who was passionate and fearless in her commitment to justice and the law while also showing great compassion for those who needed help to get their lives back on track. Sadly, Judge Ola M. Lewis passed away late last year. This past Saturday, July 11th, would have been her 55th birthday.

The daughter of a paratrooper of the 82nd Airborne Division and two public school principals, Judge Lewis learned early in life the value of education, hard work, and service to one's community. She grew up in Spring Lake, North Carolina, and soon moved with her family to Brunswick County. Like her father, she graduated from Fayetteville State University and then in 1990 earned a law degree from North Carolina Central Law School. After a stint in private practice she returned home to Brunswick County to serve in the District Attorney's Office.

Just two years later, in 1993, Judge Lewis was appointed district court judge becoming the youngest serving district court judge in North Carolina. She spent seven years as a district court judge before being appointed to serve as a "special Superior Court judge", traveling around 21 North Carolina counties. Her motto: "have gavel, will travel".

She made history as both the first woman and the first African-American judge in North Carolina's Fourteenth Judicial District. She is the longest serving female judge in the history of North Carolina.

Judge Lewis has left a real impact in our community that will continue to be felt. She fostered the creation of specialized drug treatment and mental health courts, which have helped countless those that need it the help necessary to put themselves back on the right track. Her drug court program became a national template that has been replicated to help others struggling with addiction and mental health challenges nationwide.

She was one of the first to see and respond to the scourge of the opioid addiction that has ravaged the nation, co-founding in 2017 the Brunswick County Opioid Addiction Task Force. She encouraged Governor Roy Cooper to declare the growing opioid addiction crisis a statewide public health emergency.

In recognition of her contributions and dedication to our local communities and to our state, she was awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine by Governor Cooper, the Old North State Award by Governor Beverly Purdue, and the Dogwood Award by Attorney General Josh Stein.

Madam Speaker, Judge Ola Lewis leaves a legacy for which her wonderful family, colleagues and friends can be proud. Hers was a great life of service to the benefit of every citizen, our communities, and our state.

HONORING THE RIO GRANDE VALLEY MEMORIAL POST 8788 VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Rio Grande Valley Memorial Post 8788 Veterans of Foreign Wars for their incredible 50-year record of serving our veterans and the community of McAllen, Texas.

The Rio Grande Valley Memorial Post 8788 Veterans of Foreign Wars celebrated their 50th anniversary in March of this year, but I am here to recognize Post 8788's Honor Guard, which was established in the late 1970's.

Honor Guards volunteer to give proper ceremonial funerals to veterans who die. The term "Honor guard" is used because the veterans feel it is a great honor to provide their fellow veterans with military funeral services and pay their final respects. They feel they have been blessed to survive the horrors of war and this is their way of giving back to their fellow brothers and sisters.

Although I do not have the records for all of the services conducted since the post's inception, Post 8788 has conducted 367 services since 2018. Altogether, these services are the compilation of 7,418 volunteer hours and 6,035 miles traveled to perform the military funerals. You can imagine these numbers are much larger given the fact that this represents only 2.5 years out of a 40-year history.

Madam Speaker, I stand here today to acknowledge the decades' long achievements of the Rio Grande Valley Memorial Post 8788 Veterans of Foreign Wars. Each member of the Rio Grande Valley Memorial Post 8788 Veterans of Foreign Wars is an incredible leader in our community, and their legacy will no doubt inspire public service and volunteerism of future generations.

SUPPORTING THE DBE PROGRAM

HON. ANTHONY G. BROWN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Mr. BROWN of Maryland. Madam Speaker, I rise to say a few words in support of the DBE program. This program helps firms owned by women and minorities are included as partners in helping build and maintain our nation's transportation infrastructure. The chairman and many of my colleagues have presented the devastating statistics that demonstrate how far we must go before we abolish business discrimination based on race and gender. I would like to highlight some of the voices behind those statistics. In a recent study in my home state of Maryland, the authors conducted in depth interviews with business owners from across the state on this very issue. When asked about the persistence of discrimination, one business owner said: "My business card had my picture on it, and so someone said to me, 'Oh, whatever you do, don't put your picture on your card.' And I said, 'Why?' . . . They said, 'Because you'll

never get hired because you're Black.'" Likewise, a woman business owner explained: I have gone on interviews where I am in . . . the running, three people, final cut. And I have spoken to this person about the job and they were questioning me about my skill, my everything, why I bid the job. I'm looking at this person as, 'What do you mean why, I bid this job? . . . I'm in the business of making money' . . . and he said to me, 'Well, you know, women just simply shouldn't be here.'" Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Disparity Study, Volumes 1–3, Prepared for the State of Maryland, NERA Economic Consulting, June 25, 2018, at 276–277. This is what women and minority entrepreneurs are up against. We must do better. We can do better. And the DBE program is one of the most important tools in our arsenal.

INTRODUCTION OF THE LEAD
ABATEMENT FOR FAMILIES ACT

HON. JESÚS G. "CHUY" GARCÍA

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Lead Abatement for Families Act along with my colleague, AYANNA PRESSLEY.

It is a national scandal that more than ten million homes in the United States still get their water from lead pipes. I am introducing this bill to direct the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to identify lead pipes in our country's public and federally subsidized housing and provide grants to replace them.

A 2015 study determined that by the third grade, children in Chicago with even small amounts of lead in their blood were more than 32% more likely to fail standardized tests. One fifth of U.S. children with lead poisoning are participants in the Housing Choice Voucher Program, so HUD's role in removing lead pipes are crucially important. It is vitally important that Congress address this injustice by giving HUD the mandate and the funds to quickly eliminate this public health hazard.

Let us be clear—this is a racial justice issue. Black and brown communities like mine are disproportionately affected by lead pipes, and our neighborhoods suffer the consequences.

I urge this body to advance this legislation that helps ensure safe drinking water for all by getting lead pipes out of public and federally assisted housing.

IN MEMORY OF REVEREND
GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER
RICHARDSON, JR.

HON. MARTHA ROBY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Mrs. ROBY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of a beloved Alabamian, Reverend George Washington Carver Richardson, Jr. Dr. Richardson passed away on Thursday, July 9, 2020. Dr. Richardson was deeply devoted to the Lord, a loving husband and father, and a strong voice for the community. He will be dearly missed by all.

Dr. Richardson was born in Geiger, Alabama, to George and Louise Richardson. At the early age of four years old, Dr. Richardson began preaching. He spent his early years preparing to enter Ministry, and he went on to earn his BA Degree, Bachelor of Theology, Masters of Divinity, Masters in Religious Education, Doctor of Divinity, Doctor of Humane Letters, Existential Degree, and L.C.U. Degree all from various institutes.

Dr. Richardson's faithfulness to spreading the Gospel never wavered as he traveled across the United States, preaching to crowds, conducting workshops, and leading seminars. He served as Pastor to several churches, but he led the Hutchinson Missionary Baptist Church for almost forty years.

Not only was Dr. Richardson devoted to the Church, but also to the community. He worked towards the betterment of mankind his entire life through his involvement with the Civil Rights Movement. Dr. Richardson served on several Civic Boards and Committees, such as the SCLC, NAACP, and Montgomery Improvement Association. He also helped spearhead the Selma Movement from beginning to end, participating in marches and demonstrations in the area, including Bloody Sunday.

In 1967, Dr. Richardson moved to Bessemer, Alabama and became the first African American to campaign for a major political office, running for the Office of Mayor. His campaign paved the way for future African American leaders to take leadership positions in the city of Bessemer.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Reverend George Washington Carver Richardson, Jr. He will be greatly missed by all whom he encountered, and his remarkable legacy will be remembered for years to come.

HONORING TAMMY SHEPHERD'S
RETIREMENT

HON. JODY B. HICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Tammy Shepherd, who is retiring from the Columbia County Chamber of Commerce, a thriving organization serving a notable community in the Tenth Congressional District, which I have the honor of representing.

Twelve years ago, Tammy Shepherd joined the organization as the Director of Programs and soon after received a promotion to Vice President of Business Development. In 2010, she earned the position of President and CEO, and over the past decade, she has established the Chamber as a leading business organization representing companies of all sizes throughout the region. Under her faithful watch, the Chamber has grown to nearly 1,000 members, has twice earned the highest distinction of 5-Star Accreditation through the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, has formed the Columbia County Chamber Foundation, as well as a holding company and a Political Action Committee, and most recently, has opened a second location in the heart of Columbia County's growth.

Madam Speaker, in addition to all this, Tammy has served on the Board of Directors

for the SRS Community Reuse Organization, Georgia Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives, Alliance for Fort Gordon, and Georgia Southern Athletic Foundation. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Tammy Shepherd for her outstanding leadership in a community that continues to experience tremendous growth and to wish her and her husband, Stan, joy and continued success in the years to come.

JULY VETERAN OF THE MONTH

HON. KEVIN HERN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the First District of Oklahoma's July Veteran of the Month, Major Ralph Wilson.

A pilot in the United States Air Force, Major Ralph Wilson honorably served our nation for twenty years. Upon returning home from service, Ralph continued to serve at the Tinker Air Force Base for twenty years.

Major Ralph Wilson served in both World War II and the Korean War. He flew sixty-nine missions in World War II and fifty in the Korean War. Major Wilson flew unarmed reconnaissance missions in Korea. He is the recipient of numerous awards and is a decorated airman. When asked about his service by the Tulsa World, he explained, "I never considered myself a hero, I just did my part." Major Ralph Wilson served his country selflessly, and he now carries himself with dignity and humility in his community. He is certainly part of the "Greatest Generation."

In addition to working at the Tinker Air Force Base in Oklahoma, Wilson developed a hobby of woodworking and volunteered with local schools helping children build projects. He answered the call to defend freedom across the globe and sacrificed whatever was necessary in the name of that noble cause. It is my honor to recognize Major Ralph Wilson as the 1st Congressional District of Oklahoma's July Veteran of the Month.

INTRODUCTION OF HOUSE
RESOLUTION 1045

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, this past Saturday marked the 25th anniversary of the genocide that took place at Srebrenica. In 1992, following Bosnia and Herzegovina's declaration of independence from Yugoslavia, Bosnian Serb forces, also called the Army of Republika Srpska, attacked Eastern Bosnia in order to unify and secure Serb territory. During this struggle for control, those Bosnian Serb forces committed crimes of ethnic cleansing and the systematic murder of the non-Serb population. Over 8,000 Bosnian men and boys were systematically executed at Srebrenica in July 1995.

The House of Representatives rightfully classified the atrocities that happened in Srebrenica and other policies of aggression

and ethnic cleansing by Serb forces during the Bosnian War as genocide in 2005, and again in 2015. Yet the denial and diminishing of what happened persists in some populations.

During my time in Congress, I have had the opportunity to meet the mothers of the boys and men killed during the war and have heard their stories of grief and sorrow.

As a co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Bosnia, I have also seen how the country of Bosnia and Herzegovina has overcome many obstacles and developed since declaring independence. Though significant progress has been achieved, there is more work left to be done. Peace is fragile in this region and the International community must continue its efforts to ensure that Bosnia and Herzegovina remains a peaceful and inclusive country.

Earlier this week, I introduced a Resolution honoring those who lost their lives during the worst atrocity on European soil since World War II. The Resolution is also a testament of support for the Bosnian people's aspiration for greater Euro-Atlantic integration.

Madam Speaker, the genocide at Srebrenica serves as a reminder of the consequences that occur when the international community fails to react to actions of military force. I stand with the victims and survivors of the Srebrenica genocide and believe this tragedy should never be forgotten.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF INDIANA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the centennial year of a tremendous university in my district, Indiana Wesleyan University (IWU). IWU is a private university that was founded in 1920 on three basic pillars: academic excellence, Christ-centered education and global worldview.

It is a testament to the academic excellence of a school to achieve the success that IWU has for one hundred years. Indiana Wesleyan University is a Christian comprehensive university of The Wesleyan Church. The University was founded in 1920 as Marion College before changing its name to Indiana Wesleyan University in 1988. IWU committed to liberal arts and professional education. Nearly 3,000 students are enrolled in traditional programs on the University's 350-acre residential campus in Marion. Most buildings on the Marion campus have been built in the past 25 years, so students live and learn in a visually striking environment with well-appointed residence halls and academic facilities, all on a campus that is only an hour away from both Fort Wayne and Indianapolis.

IWU offers more than 80 undergraduate degrees, 38 graduate degrees and 5 doctorate degrees and students represent more than 80 Christian denominations and 10 foreign countries. Indiana Wesleyan has received national attention for its innovative adult education program, which began in 1985. Over 10,000 adult learners attend classes at education centers in Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio, and online.

In its first one hundred years, IWU has produced over 80,000 degreed alumni. IWU has

a 78 percent retention rate for those starting as college freshmen. The Indiana Wesleyan Wildcats have won 5 national championship titles in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA), including 2 NAIA national championships from the record-setting 2006 to 2007 women's basketball team that went 38–0 and the 2012–2013 women's basketball team. IWU has won an additional 3 NAIA national championships in 2014, 2016 and 2018 in men's basketball.

Congratulations to Indiana Wesleyan University for a century of success thanks to the hard working and dedicated faculty, staff, administration, board members, students and alumni. Hoosiers of the Fifth District and beyond are grateful and look forward to another century of extraordinary leadership and educational opportunities.

IN HONOR OF STEPHANIE BARON

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Stephanie A. Baron, who is being honored for her work as the Veterans of Foreign War (VFW) New Hampshire State President over the past year. VFW works to ensure that all veterans are recognized for their service and sacrifice on behalf of our nation. President Baron served during an unprecedented year. Faced with the COVID–19 pandemic, she helped VFW continue fulfilling its mission by facilitating the organization's transition to online programming and even helped conduct their first Virtual Convention.

A resident of Merrimack, President Baron is a devoted mother and grandmother who is deeply committed to supporting veterans in her community. When she is not busy improving the lives of veterans in our state, President Baron works for herself as a nail technician.

Her grandfather, Adam P. Plynkofsky, served in the United States Army in World War II from 1941 to 1944, receiving the three Bronze Stars and the Purple Heart. His sacrifices shaped President Baron's passion for giving back to veterans and their families.

Since joining the VFW Auxiliary, President Baron has diligently served the organization in many capacities. She has held roles as Senior Vice President, Department Scholarship Chairman, Youth Activities chair, and Auxiliary Chaplain. She is a Life member of the VFW National Home for Children and a member of the American Legion.

On behalf of all of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I want to thank Stephanie Baron for her long-standing devotion to our state and our Veterans. I congratulate her on a successful term as State President and thank her for all that she has done, and will continue to do, to support Granite State veterans.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF DEANDREE WATSON

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of the late DeAndree Watson, a young public servant and community advocate for the city of Detroit.

DeAndree was born and raised in Detroit, and product of Detroit Public Schools, graduating from Cass Technical High School in 2008. DeAndree went on to attend the University of Michigan, serving as Class President for the 2012 graduating class, graduating with the highest honors. DeAndree began his commitment to service and the city of Detroit as an intern for former councilman Charles Pugh before rising through the ranks to serve as Policy Analyst for Detroit City Council and District One Councilman James Tate for six years. Through this role, DeAndree helped lead critical legislation for the 13th Congressional District in Northwest Detroit and across the city.

DeAndree dedicated his life to serving residents, a priority that was reflected in his daily work. His commitment to serving residents went beyond policy, and included supporting numerous associations, block clubs, and organizations with critical services whenever he could. DeAndree held several roles in his young professional career, not only serving as a Policy Analyst, but also serving as the President and leader of the New Leaders Council, a young progressive coalition of talented rising leaders across Detroit. His planned journey back to the University of Michigan to pursue his Law Degree would have undoubtedly set him on a path to further his ongoing work to serve the city of Detroit and our district. DeAndree's hard work and dedication to working on behalf of the people of Detroit was unmatched. He was known for his professionalism, attention to details, and the love he held for the City of Detroit. DeAndree was a bright and affable rising star with limitless potential ahead of him. We are stunned and saddened by his sudden and tragic death.

DeAndree Watson embodied the spirit of community, leadership and Detroit. His presence will truly be missed. Please join me in honoring his memory and this great loss to our community.

DR. MARK JOHNSON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Mark Johnson, Executive Director of the Jefferson County Public Health Department for receiving the American College of Preventive Medicine's Distinguished Service Award, recognizing his more than 30 years of service in the public health sector. Additionally, in September 2019, Dr. Johnson also received the Lifetime Achievement Award from Public Health in the Rockies. Both awards recognize Dr. Johnson's significant contributions and leadership in public health.

During his tenure at Jeffco Public Health, Dr. Johnson has been instrumental in improving the quality of life and health outcomes for local residents and communities. Among his notable accomplishments is his work to help write and pass the Colorado Public Health Act in 2008, which requires use of assessments to determine population health and systemwide capacity issues; develops a five-year state and local public health improvement plan based on assessment results; and engages communities to increase and improve the availability and quality of public health services. The goal of the bill is to ensure that core public health services are available to every person in Colorado.

Under Johnson's leadership, Jeffco has been one of the healthiest areas in the state with lower teen birth rates, lower sexually-transmitted infections, access to parks and recreation, safe food and access to healthcare. Jeffco is doing better in some areas than Colorado and the country.

Dr. Johnson also worked to establish the Colorado School of Public Health, comprised of the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Colorado State University and the University of Northern Colorado. It is the

first accredited and only collaborative school of public health in the region.

Dr. Johnson planned to retire in June 2020 but in an effort to maintain continuity for the public health workforce on the frontlines of the pandemic and a population facing a health crisis, announced he would delay his retirement to help see JCPH and Jefferson County residents through this unprecedented time. In retirement, Johnson was looking forward to spending time with grandchildren, and remaining active in his church. We appreciate his sacrifice and ongoing service to our community during this crisis and congratulate Dr. Mark Johnson on a lifetime of service to public health and to our community.

HONORING THE SERGEANT BENITO
ALANIZ POST 7473 VETERANS OF
FOREIGN WARS

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Honor Guard at Sergeant Benito Alaniz Post 7473 Veterans of

Foreign Wars, located in Elsa, Texas. The Honor Guard was established in the early 2000s.

Honor Guards volunteer to give proper ceremonial funerals to veterans who die. The term "Honor guard" is used because the veterans feel it is a great honor to provide their fellow veterans with military funeral services and pay their final respects. They feel they have been blessed to survive the horrors of war and give back to their fellow brothers and sisters.

Since its inception, Post 7473's Honor Guard has performed over 1,800 services. The majority of volunteers are Vietnam War era veterans, and they provide this service in any weather condition to give fellow veterans the final honors they earned. On average this post will have 8–15 members volunteer for a service.

Madam Speaker, I stand today to acknowledge the decades' long achievement of the Sergeant Benito Alaniz Post 7473 Veterans of Foreign Wars in volunteering to honor fallen veterans in Texas with a proper send-off. Each member of the Sergeant Benito Alaniz Post 7473 Veterans of Foreign Wars is an incredible leader in our community, and their legacy will no doubt inspire public service and volunteerism in future generations.