

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING AND CELEBRATING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF SIG SANCHEZ

**HON. ZOE LOFGREN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 4, 2013*

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge and honor Sig Sanchez.

Sig was born to Spanish immigrant parents, as the second of eleven children. His mother worked in a cigarette factory in San Francisco and his father was an agricultural laborer. In 1942, Sig moved to Gilroy because of his involvement in agriculture. For 20 years, Sig owned a melon-packing operation with two of his brothers and a 600-acre farm to the south of Los Banos.

Sig entered public service over 55 years ago when one of his tractors broke down. He went to repair his tractor and the owner of the shop was on the Gilroy City Council. The councilmember proceeded to encourage Sig to join him on the council. Sig served for five years as a councilman and another five years as the mayor. He then served 16 years on the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors. As a county supervisor, Sig advocated for the merger of the Santa Clara County Flood Control and Water District with the Santa Clara Valley Water Conservation District to better address floor management and water importation. In all his years of public service, he tried to never leave his office without returning every phone call.

In 1980, Sig was appointed as an at-large director to the water district board. He was a key player in the 1987 merger of the Gavilan Water District in South County with the Santa Clara Valley Water District, which allowed for full integration of all the county's reservoirs and groundwater facilities. Sig was a charter board member in the 1992 development of the San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority, a joint organization of 32 water and irrigation agencies that contract with the US Bureau of Reclamation for water from the Central Valley Project. He was also instrumental in water importation into Santa Clara County with the county Board of Supervisors, South Bay Aqueduct, water district board, and the San Felipe project. As the longest serving member of the water district's board of directors, Sig guided the agency on pressing water quality problems, steered the valley through both floods in the 1980s, and helped it survive the 1987–1992 drought.

Sig has served as a board member of HOPE Rehabilitation, Wheeler Hospital Foundation, and the Gilroy Elks Club. As a passionate advocate for water and flood control issues, he has been an active member of national, state, and local water resource organizations, including the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee, Central valley Project Authority, Pajaro River Watershed Flood Prevention Authority, San Luis & Delta Mendota Water Authority Board and Finance Committee,

Uvas/Llagas Flood Control and Watershed Advisory Committee, Santa Clara Valley Water Commission, Santa Clara Valley Water District Board Ad Hoc Audit Committee, and the South County Regional Wastewater Authority.

In recognition of his service and contributions, Sig was inducted into the Gilroy Hall of Fame in 1991. A building in San Martin is named after Sig. He also has a 10-mile portion of state Highway Route 101, the Sig Sanchez Freeway, named in honor of his 12-year effort to lobby various government agencies to build the highway.

Sig is being honored as the Gilroy Chamber of Commerce's 2013 Man of the Year on February 9. I join in honoring his decades of contribution and service to the betterment of our society. The community is very fortunate to have benefited from his dedication, commitment, and advocacy. He has left his mark in the community and I know he will continue to play a positive role in the years to come.

GREAT LAKES EXPLORATION GROUP

**HON. DAN BENISHEK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 4, 2013*

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Great Lakes Exploration Group on the occasion of the work they do to discover and preserve the maritime history of the State of Michigan and the Great Lakes. The group has not only worked to identify and save historic artifacts, but do so in a way that preserves the cultural heritage of the Great Lakes.

In particular, I wish to commend the Great Lakes Exploration Group on discovering the possible location of *Le Griffon*, a ship that went missing in 1697. If *Le Griffon* is found, not only will a centuries-long mystery be solved, but, more importantly, the Great Lakes Group will add to the historical treasure trove of our Nation's earliest days of settlement.

Through community-based, non-invasive underwater archaeology and research that leaves the bottomlands intact, the Great Lakes Exploration Group was formed to be a worldwide leader in identifying, protecting, and preserving rare pieces of North American history found in Michigan's waters.

I wish the Great Lakes Exploration Group all the best in locating and preserving the wreck of *Le Griffon* and learning what secrets it may hold.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF BAKER AND O'BRIEN, INC.

**HON. PETE SESSIONS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 4, 2013*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Baker and O'Brien, Inc. as they celebrate twenty years of outstanding business.

Founded in 1993, Baker and O'Brien, Inc. started with merely six employees. With their commitment and vision, the company has since flourished to three offices and forty dedicated staffers that have served over 700 different clients. They uphold themselves to the highest standards of professionalism and integrity, which is reflected in the quality of their services and outstanding reputation. I commend Baker and O'Brien, Inc. for holding steadfast to their guiding principles of service, commitment, integrity, and confidentiality in their approach to business. Their success story exemplifies the American Dream; that in this land of great opportunity, hard work and dedication can turn a dream into reality.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in expressing our heartiest congratulations to Baker and O'Brien, Inc. as they celebrate twenty years of success.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF FORMER MAYOR VICENTE IGNACIO AGUON

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 4, 2013*

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Vicente Ignacio Aguon, the former Mayor of the village of Chalan Pago-Ordot, Guam. Vicente was born on July 6, 1939, to the late Jose Manglona Aguon and Emperatriz Cruz Ignacio Aguon. He married Pacita Baza Aguon and had seven children. Vicente passed away on January 21, 2013, at the age of 73.

Vicente attended Chalan Pago Elementary and graduated from George Washington Senior High School. He then went on to graduate from the National Technical School in Inglewood, California and the Harcourt Learning Direct in Hotel Management. Additionally Vicente studied Electrical Engineering at Guam Community College and he completed seminars from Chicago Technical College in Building Construction.

Vicente was a dedicated public servant. From 1965–1985 he worked for the Guam Department of Public Works as an Electrical and Refrigeration Technician, Construction Inspector, Construction Inspector supervisor, construction Project Manager, and Acting Engineer. In 1986, he moved to the Guam Legislature and was a Legislative Consultant for the

• 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.

18th and 19th Guam Legislature under the Rules Committee. He also served as the manager of the Tumon Village Complex from 1991–1995.

In 2000, Vicente was elected Mayor of Chalan Pago-Ordot. He paid particular attention to the wellbeing of the people of Chalan Pago-Ordot by voicing their concerns. When Vicente was not serving the people of Chalan Pago-Ordot he volunteered his free time as a Parish Council Member of Our Lady of Peace and Safe Journey Catholic Church. He also volunteered as Assistant State Commissioner for Guam Babe Ruth Baseball, and he was a Municipal Planning Council Member at the Chalan Pago-Ordot Community.

Vicente will be missed by all who knew and loved him. I extend my condolences to his wife Pacita Baza Aguon, his family and loved ones, including his children, Peter, Frances, Vicente, Raymond, Anthony, Josephine, and Beatrice.

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HONORING THE LIFE OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL JACK REED, USAF

**HON. DAVID SCOTT**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 4, 2013*

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I stand before you today to honor Lt. Col. Jack G. Reed, USAF (Ret.), who passed away at the age of 82 in December of 2012 in Granbury, TX. Lieutenant Colonel Reed was an honorable man who dedicated his life to his country.

Lieutenant Colonel Jack Reed was born near Rio Vista, Texas, on August 25, 1930. After attending Texas Tech, Mr. Reed joined the United States Air Force in January 1951 as an enlisted Soldier during the Korean War. In 1953, his abilities soon won him entrance to the Aviation Cadet program and a commission as a Second Lieutenant.

In 1954, Lieutenant Colonel Reed was selected for assignment to the B-47 program, and transferred to Mather AFB, Sacramento, CA. From 1954 to 1960, Mr. Reed was assigned to the 22nd Bombardment Wing, March AFB, and Riverside, CA. From 1960 to 1965, Mr. Reed was assigned to B-58s with the 63rd Bomb Squadron, 43rd Bombardment Wing, Carswell AFB, and Fort Worth, TX, where he participated in military preparedness for action against Cuba during the missile crisis of 1962.

Lieutenant Colonel Reed performed exceedingly above all that was asked of him as an Airman. In August 1965, Lieutenant Colonel Reed was one of two Air Force officers selected for assignment to the CIA/USAF programs OXCART/TAGBOARD/SENIOR BOWL at Groom Lake, NV, and later Beale AFB, CA.

Lieutenant Colonel Reed was a well rounded individual who consistently went above and beyond for his country. In 1971, Lieutenant Colonel Reed began working for the Pentagon where he worked on leading edge technology for air and space-based reconnaissance assets, including the U-2R. Mr. Reed promoted the development of many of the first unmanned aircraft flown by the United States military.

Lieutenant Colonel Reed's developmental work in the Air Force, Boeing and at Sperry/

Unisys on unmanned air vehicles and remotely piloted aircraft led to the use of these systems today by various military departments and government agencies.

Though committed to service, Jack was not consumed by work. Despite numerous and lengthy absences from home to serve his country, Mr. Reed loved and mentored his children, participated in their activities, was a deacon in church congregations, and found time to travel and enjoy the outdoors, particularly the challenge of fishing. Everybody was drawn to Mr. Reed's charisma, because he genuinely enjoyed helping children, family, and even strangers; learn more about the wonders of this world, how it worked and what made things grow.

I commend Lieutenant Colonel Reed's contributions and his record of service to our Nation, his community and his family. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending heartfelt condolences to his wife of more than 59 years, Norma, his sons Jack W. Reed and Stephen E. Reed and their families.

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CONGRATULATING BOB BENNETT

**HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 4, 2013*

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bob Bennett for being inducted into the Dubuque Area Labor Hall of Fame. Bob has dedicated his life to improving the relationship between labor and management through his service as a Commissioner of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS).

Bob spent the early part of his career working at the Clinton Corn Processing Company where he joined the American Federation of Grain Millers union. He was appointed as a FMCS Commissioner in 1973. As Commissioner, Bob mediated over one thousand contracts in the private, public and healthcare sectors. Many of these cases were in the Dubuque area. Bob was also instrumental in providing a start up grant to establish a Labor Management Council in Dubuque.

Bob has the honor of being the namesake for an award given at an annual dinner. The Bob Bennett Good Faith Award is given to a representative from labor or management who lives up to the definition of "good faith". I congratulate Bob on his induction into the Dubuque Area Labor Hall of Fame and wish him all of the best in his future endeavors.

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HONORING THE LIFE OF TRACY A. SUGARMAN

**HON. JAMES A. HIMES**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 4, 2013*

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, January 20, we lost a cherished and dearly loved member of our community. Tracy Sugarman lit up the town of Westport, Connecticut, for 60 years with his ceaseless generosity, well-known sense of humor, and passion for social justice.

Mr. Sugarman served as a naval officer in World War II, leading troops up Normandy

during the historic D-Day assault. His courage and fortitude in battle are emblematic of the heroism of the "Greatest Generation."

As an acclaimed illustrator and chronicler of the Civil Rights Movement, Mr. Sugarman bore witness to the many struggles faced by African Americans living in the Deep South. Mr. Sugarman's drawings helped bring to national attention the horrors of 1960's Mississippi, where black Americans faced threats of violence and death for registering to vote or attending a desegregated school.

Mr. Sugarman's sketches of major news events appeared in hundreds of magazines, books, and other media across the country. He brought his skilled and emotional work to the Saturday Evening Post, Forbes Magazine, Louis Armstrong record covers, and hundreds of children's books.

Mr. Sugarman's artwork is, by all counts, his greatest legacy: his drawings of the Civil Rights Movement are permanent archives in Mississippi and New York City. His painting, "The Heroes of Nine-Eleven," is on permanent display in Washington, DC. His painting of the Space Shuttle Columbia is part of NASA's archives at Cape Kennedy. And his collection of art from World War II is in use by the Library of Congress' Veterans History Project.

Mr. Sugarman also wrote a number of books, many relating to his experiences in the South. "Stranger at the Gate—A Summer in Mississippi" details the Freedom Summer of 1964, during which more than 1,000 volunteers flooded rural Mississippi to register voters; "We Had Sneakers, They Had Guns: the Kids Who Fought for Civil Rights in Mississippi" recounts the civil rights work of white college students, many of whom were arrested and beaten.

Whether it was in writing or on canvas, Mr. Sugarman brought to his work artful introspection, keen awareness, and brutal honesty. His strong dedication to his fellow man—and particularly to his community here in Connecticut—will be sorely missed.

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IN HONOR OF MR. GORDON PROUT

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 4, 2013*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Mr. Gordon Prout. Mr. Prout, a resident of Tinton Falls, New Jersey, passed away on December 17, 2012 after decades of public service as a civil engineer for the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

Prior to his 34 years of public service, Mr. Prout served his country honorably in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. He was a navigator on a B-17 Flying Fortress for nine missions over Europe before being shot down and captured. Consequently, he spent 16 months as a prisoner in Stalag Luft I in Germany. Mr. Prout successfully returned home on the Queen Mary after being liberated by the Soviets in May, 1945.

Mr. Prout is survived by his devoted wife of 67 years, Anne Bruno Prout; a daughter and son-in-law, Judith and Mickey McCabe of Monmouth Beach and Bayonne; a son and daughter-in-law, Donald and Deborah Prout of VA; four grandchildren, Allison McCabe Matto