

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF KINGSOLVER
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL RECEIV-
ING THE NATIONAL BLUE RIB-
BON AWARD

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 2014

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Kingsolver Elementary School. Located in Fort Knox, KY, Kingsolver Elementary was presented with the National Blue Ribbon Award earlier this year.

I would like to commend Kingsolver Elementary School's educators and administrators on their many hours of hard work and service to Kentucky's students. Your commitment and devotion to the education of future leaders is commendable and I hope you are very proud of this achievement.

I join with all of Kentucky's Second District in congratulating everyone at Kingsolver Elementary School on this honor.

SUPPORTING VERA HOUSE'S
WHITE RIBBON CAMPAIGN

HON. DANIEL B. MAFFEI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 2014

Mr. MAFFEI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Vera House's 20th Annual White Ribbon Campaign.

For more than 35 years, Vera House has played a key role in combating domestic and sexual violence in Central New York.

Vera House provides a safe shelter and counseling services for victims of rape and sexual abuse and helps survivors rebuild their lives.

This organization also provides life-saving prevention and education services to people across my district.

Vera House serves over approximately 1,000 victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and other crimes in a year.

They also provide nearly 20,000 people in our local community with prevention and education services annually.

It is critically important that we continue to support Vera House's ongoing mission to end domestic abuse and sexual violence, to empower victims, and to promote equality and respect in relationships.

The White Ribbon Campaign is led by men and encourages all members of the community—men and women, young and old—to join these efforts.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to stand in support of Vera House's White Ribbon campaign to raise awareness of domestic and sexual violence.

MR. ROBERT SILBERNAGEL
TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 2014

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Robert Silbernagel, Editorial Page Editor for the Grand Junction Daily Sentinel in Grand Junction, Colorado since 1995. After 18-plus years and through four publishers, Mr. Silbernagel retired from the Sentinel in March, 2014.

Mr. Silbernagel moved to Colorado in 1973 after receiving his degree in journalism from the University of Wisconsin and after meeting his wife, Judy. In the same year, he began his career writing news for the Vail Villager Weekly and the Glenwood Post. In 1980, he moved to the Grand Junction Sentinel to write for the political, environmental, and business beats, where he also became the city editor and bureau reporter. He served for 15 years in this role and in 1995 became the editor of the Editorial page, where he recently finished his distinguished career.

In addition to writing news, Mr. Silbernagel has published three books, contributed to countless magazine articles, and even developed his own website. In addition to his robust career, he has received many awards, most recently for winning first place in editorial writing from the Colorado Associated Press Editors and Reporters Association in 2012.

When not writing, Mr. Silbernagel has been very active in his community, serving as Chairman of the Citizens Advisory Committee for the Bureau of Land Management's McInnis Canyons National Conservation area, Chairman of Palisade High School's Accountability Committee, and as a member of the United Way of Mesa County distribution committee. Mr. Silbernagel's dedication to the community is unquestionable and I have no doubt he will continue to have an impact there for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Mr. Robert Silbernagel for his contributions through his writing with the Grand Junction Sentinel and his civic service to the Grand Junction community, and the State of Colorado. I wish him the very best in his retirement.

COAST GUARD AND MARITIME
TRANSPORTATION ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2014

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, the Coast Guard is facing difficult challenges related to maintenance and costs of its aging ships and aircrafts. In these difficult financial

times, the Coast Guard should examine the potential cost savings resulting from the use of laser peening technology, which may help to strengthen parts and extend the life of the Coast Guard's assets.

Developed as a result of work at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and in conjunction with Curtiss-Wright Metal Improvement Company, laser peening uses laser beam impacts to strengthen metal four times deeper than conventional shot peening, resulting in increased resistance to fatigue and erosion driven failures.

In ships, such as those used by the Coast Guard, erosion and cracking can occur in metals due to environmental and repeated stresses. These problems can cause damage to key metal components of ships such as propellers, rudders, ship hulls near propellers, control valves, pumps, and impellers. Without replacing or strengthening these important ship components, this damage can potentially lead to the part's unexpected failure. With a Coast Guard fleet stretched well beyond its estimated lifetime, the Coast Guard should examine the benefits of laser peening as a way to reduce costs and enhance the life of its ships.

Laser peening has been proven in both commercial and military settings. For example, in the commercial sector, laser peening has been used by Rolls-Royce to repair and strengthen cracked engine blades for airplanes. From its success with Rolls-Royce, in 2003 Curtiss-Wright became the first specialized laser peening repair station for commercial aviation to be approved by Federal Aviation Administration. Within the military, laser peening has been used by both the U.S. Navy and U.S. Air Force to increase lifetime of aircraft components and save money on maintenance. These successful commercial and military applications have helped reduce costs by strengthening and extending the life of critical components.

In past years, the House has gone on record in support of laser peening as a means for saving money on future repairs. For example, the Armed Services Committee report accompanying H.R. 1960, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 stated that: "laser peening has achieved considerable success in commercial aerospace and power-generation applications, reducing costs by enabling improvements in the metal structure and mitigating high-cycle fatigue failures of a system, thus extending the system's lifetime." The Armed Services Committee further encouraged the Department of Defense "to examine the potential cost savings that may be derived from adopting this technology broadly across the military services, but was concerned that some military departments have not fully explored the use of such technologies to reduce costs associated with problems of fatigue failure, stress corrosion cracking, and component shape corrections. The committee further encourages the Department to explore such technologies for use in aircraft engines to slow the rate of replacement of highly stressed components and parts."

• 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.

I suggest that the Coast Guard examine the potential cost savings that may be derived from adopting laser peening, which can be utilized to greatly reduce cracking and erosion. It could have wide benefits to Coast Guard vessels, fixed wing aircraft, and rotorcraft. The cost savings resulting from the use of laser peening could reduce the need for major structure rework, slow the rate of replacement of highly stressed components and parts, and provide a longer lifetime for Coast Guard assets.

CONGRATULATIONS WAYZATA
BOY'S SWIMMING AND DIVING
TEAM

HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 2014

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Wayzata High School's Boy's Swimming and Diving team who recently won the Minnesota Class 2A state title. The Trojans were able to secure the school's first championship with a balanced effort in the finals. Led by a first place performance from Greg Arnold in the 100 freestyle, Wayzata was able to secure the title before the last race even began.

Coach Dave Plummer, in his first season as head coach, pointed to the full team effort necessary to qualify in the preliminary races. Six top-four finishes in the finals also helped put the Trojans over the top.

The dedication it takes to excel in swimming and diving is to be commended. It means that these athletes push themselves every day to shave hundredths of a second off their personal best or repeat dive after dive until it's perfect. When adding in schoolwork, family obligations, and other time commitments, it is remarkable these student-athletes accomplish all that they do.

Once again, congratulations to the Wayzata High School Boy's Swimming and Diving Team on a job well done.

HONORING CHERYL DIEHM

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Cheryl Diehm upon her retirement as the District Representative in my Congressional office. Cheryl has been an integral member of my staff, both in the California State Senate and in Congress for the past twenty-six years. The unwavering dedication, loyalty and compassion she has displayed throughout these twenty-six years is both admirable and deserving of recognition.

Cheryl came to work on my staff after my first campaign and has been the best person to work with, both in the State Senate and in Congress. In twenty-six years, there is no part of our district that Cheryl has not touched. From our offices in Vallejo to Napa to Santa Rosa, wherever I needed her to go, she went. No matter what office she was in, and no matter what her role in the office was, she made the office better and she made the community those offices served better.

Cheryl is loyal, compassionate and committed to our office, our district and the institution of representative government. She knows that government has a responsibility to make sure things are fair and she's always working for what is best for the American people. When constituents called with problems, she solved them. She has helped countless constituents navigate everything from Medicare benefits to mortgage problems, and VA payments. She spearheaded our office's Military Service Academy nominations. She organized interviews, sorted through applications, and worked with liaison officers to help make sure that young people who wanted to serve our country had the opportunity to do so.

Cheryl has an unrivaled political antenna, and she always took time to nurture and mentor young staff. She shared her skills and traits with the other people in our office and because of that, her service to our county and country will endure long past her retirement from our office.

Cheryl is an asset to our district, a role model to our younger staff, and a best friend to me. Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we honor and thank Cheryl for her invaluable service and wish her a most enjoyable retirement.

CONGRATULATING REVEREND
MARK A. DENNIS, JR.

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 2014

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Rev. Mark A. Dennis, Jr., Senior Pastor of the Second Baptist Church in Evanston, Illinois.

Ten years ago, this visionary leader took his place as the eleventh Senior Pastor of the historic Second Baptist Church, Evanston's first black Baptist Church, organized in 1882. He was called to provide greater leadership in spiritual formation, strategic visioning, community development, and pastoral care.

Reverend Dennis came with outstanding academic and professional credentials. He holds several degrees including a Master of Divinity, cum laude, from Howard University School of Divinity; a Master of Music from Bowling Green University; and a Bachelor of Arts from Morehouse College. Many honors have been bestowed on him, including admission to the prestigious Preacher's Hall of Fame at Morehouse College.

Second Baptist is a highly-respected Church in the Evanston community with a dedicated congregation whose vision is to be "A beacon of light: A Christ-centered Church celebrating faith, freedom, stewardship and the social responsibility of caring for souls."

Reverend Dennis has more than lived up to that mission, reaching well beyond the walls of Second Baptist to become an inspiring and energetic leader in all aspects of the religious and civic life of our community.

Under Reverend Dennis's leadership, Second Baptist partners with my synagogue, Beth Emet, on meaningful youth programs including a joint Civil Rights Pilgrimage to the Southern United States to visit civil rights landmarks. Along with Temple Beth Israel in Skokie, Second Baptist hosts a weekly soup kitchen. Rev-

erend Dennis has spearheaded programs at Second Baptist that lift our entire community, such as "Cradle to Career," which helps young people to take full and equal advantage of the opportunities before them and Pioneering Healthier Communities, a partnership with the City of Evanston, the YMCA, and health providers, which is improving individual lives and community well-being. Reverend Dennis serves as a leader in Interfaith organizations and efforts in our region.

Reverend Dennis has been a treasured friend and mentor to countless people inside and out of his congregation, including me. I congratulate him on his tenth anniversary as Senior Pastor at Second Baptist Church and wish him many more years in the pulpit and the community.

TO RECOGNIZE RALPH
DIGUISEPPE, JR.

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bristol Borough Council President, Ralph DiGuiseppe, Jr.

Strong values and close family ties are the hallmark of the DiGuiseppe family. Ralph's grandparents journeyed here from Italy, passing through Ellis Island just as many of our own ancestors had, and then settled in the Delaware Valley. Ralph's parents met at a dance in Bristol Borough. They eventually married and made Bristol Borough their home.

Ralph is a proud, lifelong resident of Bristol Borough—a true "Bristolian." He is proud to serve as President of the Bristol Borough Council and has passed on the value of service to the next generation of DiGuisepes as his son, Ralph DiGuiseppe III, serves on the Bristol Borough School Board.

Ralph has volunteered countless hours at St. Ann's Parish as a project manager and a laborer, and strengthened the parish's finances by reinstating the annual carnival, an iconic Bristol event. Kind and generous, Ralph donates to ensure traditional Thanksgiving feasts can be enjoyed by local families who would otherwise go without.

Ralph has been described as an "idealist, a dreamer, always thinking in long term." He believes the American Dream is a dream come true for the DiGuiseppe family. From his first day on council, his goal has been simply to improve the quality of life for the residents of Bristol Borough.

"Welcome Friend" has been Bristol's motto since a wooden sign greeted the Marquis de Lafayette on his "Farewell Tour of America" in 1824. The original sign still hangs within the Borough Hall, where it continues to greet locals and newcomers. Ralph views every individual he meets as important. He truly embodies this simple gesture, "Welcome Friend," and graciously welcomes all into the Bristol Borough family.

I commend Ralph DiGuiseppe Jr. for his selfless dedication to his community and his never ending pursuit of the American Dream for his family and fellow Bristolians.