

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING REIMAN'S HARLEY-DAVIDSON IN KEWANEE, ILLINOIS FOR THEIR SERVICE TO OUR SERVICE MEMBERS

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Reiman's Harley-Davidson in Kewanee, Illinois, for going above and beyond to serve the men and women who so bravely serve our country.

These business owners have a policy to waive storage fees for the motorcycles of deployed service members.

In their own words, they say 'It is our honor to keep your bike safe and secure while you provide us with our freedoms. We hope you return to us safe and sound. Until that time, we will store your bike at no charge to you. This is our way of saying 'Thank You' for your service to our country.'

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to represent such a remarkable company, and I want to once again thank them for their continued efforts to honor the men and women of the United States Armed Forces.

HONORING THE CAREER OF BILL CRAVER

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career and accomplishments of a distinguished member of the Western New York community, Bill Craver on the occasion of his retirement after a remarkable career.

Mr. Craver has served our community working for the Buffalo Sewer Authority for over 31 years. Mr. Craver began working for the Buffalo Sewer Authority on June 6th, 1983 as a Millwright. Less than a year later he was promoted to Machinist. Prior to serving the City of Buffalo, Mr. Craver had worked at Van Nott Machinery, Buffalo Color and the Ford Stamping Plant, where he is held in high regard by his co-workers.

At the age of 92, Mr. Craver holds the title of the oldest active employee in the New York State Retirement System and oldest employee in the Buffalo Sewer System, a record that will undoubtedly be difficult to top.

Mr. Craver is a veteran of the United States and an honored recipient of the Bronze Star for his service in the Second World War. During World War II, he served in Okinawa and the Philippines, where his most gloried accomplishment was shooting down two enemy aircrafts off shore of Okinawa on April 15, 1945.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to honor the amazing accomplishments of Bill Craver during his career and for his

service as a decorated Veteran of WWII. I am pleased to join his family members, colleagues and friends in congratulating him on his retirement. Mr. Craver has earned a great deal of respect from his colleagues and friends and has certainly earned my sincere respect and admiration for his integrity, commitment, and impressive work ethic. I wish Mr. Craver continued happiness and contentment in the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. GRANT GREIDER ON HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize my constituent, Mr. Grant Greider, in celebration of his 100th birthday.

Born in Middle Paxton Township, Pennsylvania, Mr. Greider was the fifth of ten children born to Grant and Elizabeth Greider. Some of Grant's earliest memories include traveling to Broad Street Market in Harrisburg, where he and his mother sold butter, cup cheese, and baked bean sandwiches. After graduating from Halifax High School in 1935, he married Ruth Deibler, and they had six children together. Ruth and Grant were married for 76 years until Ruth's passing in 2011. In 1945, Mr. Greider moved his family to a farm in Jackson Township. To this day, Mr. Greider still helps his son, Randy, operate the farm. Mr. Greider was an employee of the Pennsylvania Railroad for 39 years, where he worked alongside his father and three older brothers. He recalls first earning an hourly wage of 45 cents as a laborer. After many years of hard work, he was proud to see his salary increase to \$7.50 an hour, right before his retirement in 1979. To this day, he still collects his hard-earned railroad pension. Additionally, Mr. Greider has held several elected offices in Jackson Township, including Township Supervisor and Judge of Elections. As an avid participant in the democratic process, he has proudly voted in every election since turning 21 in 1936.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize Mr. Greider on this important milestone, and to thank him for his time spent serving our local community. His commitment to family, hard work, Pennsylvania, and our nation is exemplary, and I wish him a happy and healthy 100th birthday celebration in the company of his family and friends.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, last week I regret that I was unable to cast my vote

against H.R. 351, the Natural Gas Pipeline Permitting Reform Act. Had I voted, I would have voted NO on H.R. 351, in order to protect the environment and our natural resources.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF CODIE PETERS

HON. ROBERT HURT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Mr. HURT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I submit these remarks to commemorate the life of Codie Carter Peters who passed away January 25, 2015.

Mrs. Peters was a pillar in the Charlottesville community. She was a successful actress and small business owner and a loving mother and grandmother. Active and passionate about politics, she served for six years in the Albe-marle-Charlottesville Republican Women's League, two of them as its president.

Codie Peters lived her life with an intense dedication to the persons and causes she loved. Whether she was asserting her opinion on an issue of national importance or speaking of her beautiful family, the twinkle in her eyes was always present. Codie relished sharing with all what she had in abundance: a love of family, a love of life, and a love of country. Her delight in her commitment to her husband, Steve, was infectious; they were partners in everything, from tending to their family to their public service in politics.

Codie Peters will long be remembered for her dedication and her passion. She was predeceased by her parents and is survived and fondly remembered by her husband, Steven L. Peters; her daughter, Katherine J. Peters; her son-in-law, William A. Finn; and her two grandchildren, Bennett Grace and William Patrick Finn.

My thoughts remain with the Peters family, and I am grateful for the opportunity to have known Codie Peters and to remember the wonderful life she led.

HONORING THE TOWN OF YOUNTVILLE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Town of Yountville, California on the 50th anniversary of its incorporation. The Town of Yountville has developed a reputation for culinary excellence, distinguished lodging, fine wines and renowned retail businesses, which is especially impressive considering that the town has less than 3,000 residents.

Yountville's rich history dates back to 1831, when George Yount settled in Napa Valley. In

• 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.

1836 Mr. Yount obtained the first land grant from the Mexican government awarded to a United States citizen in Northern California. By 1855, a surveyor had laid out the town's borders and Mr. Yount decided to call this town Sebastopol. Given that there was another town by the name of Sebastopol nearby, the town was renamed Yountville two years after Mr. Yount's death in 1867 in honor of its founder and his invaluable contributions to the town's beginning, which included planting the first grape vines in Napa Valley.

On February 4, 1965, the City of Yountville was officially incorporated and in 1982 changed its name to Town of Yountville. Over the past 50 years the town has grown to almost 3,000 residents. Today the town is home to many award-winning restaurants, such as The French Laundry which boasts a Three-Star Michelin rating, and which contributes to the town's reputation as the "Culinary Capital of the Napa Valley". In addition to the town's rich culinary history, Yountville's wine, retail, and lodging industries attract tourists from around the world to this small town known as the "Heart of Napa Valley"™.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to recognize the Town of Yountville, California on the 50th anniversary of its incorporation. Yountville is a treasured part of our Napa Valley and I look forward to seeing the town continue to prosper over the next 50 years.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,099,042,237,253.89. We've added \$7,472,165,188,340.81 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.4 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

CELEBRATING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MORRIS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Morris County Historical Society, located in Morristown, Morris County, New Jersey, as it celebrates its 70th Anniversary.

The Morris County Historical Society, also known as the MCHS, seeks to preserve, exhibit, and actively enhance its collections of historical items relating to Morris County, predominantly during the Victorian period of American history. The MCHS believes in providing Morris County with a place in which its residents may learn about the County's interesting history. Through various exhibits, ranging from Victorian Architecture & Design Dis-

play to the Women's Suffrage Movement in NJ Display, the MCHS offers interactive programs that are both engaging and insightful.

The MCHS is housed in Acorn Hall, named after the two-centuries-old red oak formerly located on the property. Built in 1853, Acorn Hall continues to retain its original interior design characteristics and furnishings. In the Hall, the carpeting, wall covering, and decorative paint techniques mirror the original decorative selections implemented by the Hall's longest tenured owners, Augustus and Mary Crane. These aesthetical aspects of the Hall help visitors understand what exactly life was like during the mid-19th century.

Among the multiple programs and activities that the MCHS offers, its internship and volunteer program offers those individuals interested in maintaining some of Morris County's most prized artifacts is rewarding for a diverse group of people. Ranging from college students to senior citizens, the MCHS welcomes all individuals who care about Morris County's historical significance. The internship opportunity is especially valuable for college students as it often offers college credit to interns for semester-long projects. The MCHS values these volunteers and interns by offering them free admittance to the Acorn Hall and invitations to members-only events.

For members of the public, the MCHS offers guided tours of Acorn Hall. During these tours, MCHS tour guides help depict life during the Victorian era, and offer insightful explanations about the various artifacts housed in Acorn Hall. Though these tours generally last an hour, the experience leaves a long lasting impression. Also, after touring Acorn Hall, viewers can swing by the Oakleaf Gift Shop and browse through various historical books describing the role Morris County played in the Revolutionary War or the development of the Morristown Green.

I commend the members of the MCHS, its officers, and its Board of Directors, especially Director Amy Curry, for their dedication to promoting Morris County's rich history. Our society has consistently demonstrated a dedication and commitment to preserving priceless artifacts for Morris County residents to enjoy for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Morris County Historical Society, as it celebrates its 70th Anniversary.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF EU-LESS POLICE OFFICER TONY BURNETT

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize retiring Senior Corporal Tony Burnett for his 25 years of public service as a Euless Police Officer.

Tony Burnett began his career in public safety as a North Hills Mall security officer. In 1990, Tony's aspiration to join law enforcement was achieved when Euless Police Department hired him as Public Service Officer in the role as a jailer. Tony worked in that capacity for over three years until he was promoted to Police Officer. Throughout Tony's career,

he continued to strive towards excellence which was acknowledged through the department with a promotion to Corporal in 1996 and Senior Corporal in 2008. In his leadership roles, Tony has supervised Patrol, Criminal Investigations and the Neighborhood Patrol Officers Unit.

Tony Burnett's commitment to public safety encouraged him to undergo extensive training as a patrol officer, criminal investigator, and department police trainer. His training earned him the following certifications: Basic Police Certification in 1993, Intermediate Police Certification in 1997, Advanced Police Certification in 1999, and Master Police Certification in 2004. In 1995, Tony received his Police Officer Instructor License and his DARE Officer Certification. In total, Tony received over 1,700 hours of in-service training. Tony has also taught over 1,200 hours of police training in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, and he is highly recognized by the region's law enforcement community as an outstanding instructor.

Aside from his police training, Tony Burnett has also earned a Bachelor's Degree from Columbia College and a Master's Degree in Criminology from the University of Texas at Arlington.

Tony Burnett has led a distinguished career in the Euless Police Department where he received over 80 police commendations for professionalism and service to the community. He has also been nominated for numerous department awards which include Rookie of the Year Award in 1993, Civic Achievement Award in 1998, Distinguished Service Award in 2005, and Police Officer of the Year in 2006.

Tony Burnett and his wife Melissa of 20 years have two children, Jacob and Andrew. Tony graduated from Richland High School in North Richland Hills, Texas, in 1989.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in thanking Tony Burnett for his years of public service as a Euless Police Officer.

PROTECTING WITH INTEGRITY

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Victor Peschke of the Sugar Land Fire Department for being selected by the department and the Sugar Land Citizen's Fire Academy Alumni Association for the Firefighter of the Year Award. This award recognizes his exemplary character and actions in protecting our communities.

Peschke's firefighting career now spans six years. Since he joined the service of the Sugar Land Fire Department in 2011, he has honorably safeguarded the community and strengthened our public safety system. Peschke is not just a leader whose hard work and attitude others admire; he is a leader who inspires those who serve with him. Our communities are safer because of folks like Victor.

I commend Victor Peschke for his exemplary service to his community. On behalf of the residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Victor for being honored with Sugar Land's Firefighter of the Year Award.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Paperwork Reduction Act, to eliminate the wasteful congressional review process for legislation passed by the District of Columbia Council and to align longtime congressional practice and the law. The congressional review process for D.C. bills is ignored by Congress providing it no benefit, but imposes substantial costs (in time and money) on the District. Congress has almost always used the appropriations process rather than the disapproval process and entirely abandoned the congressional review process as its mechanism for overturning D.C. legislation twenty-three years ago, and only used it three times before that, preferring riders on D.C. appropriation bills instead. Yet Congress still requires the D.C. Council to use Kafkaesque make-work procedures to comply with the abandoned congressional review process established by the Home Rule Act of 1973.

Our bill would eliminate the congressional review process for legislation passed by the D.C. Council. However, Congress would lose no authority it currently exercises because, even upon enactment of this bill, Congress would retain its authority under clause 17 of section 8 of article I of the U.S. Constitution to amend or overturn any D.C. legislation at any time.

The congressional review process (30 days for civil bills and 60 days for criminal bills) includes those days when either house of Congress is in session, delaying D.C. bills from becoming law, often for many months. The delay forces the D.C. Council to pass most bills several times, using a cumbersome and complicated process to ensure that the operations of this large and rapidly changing city continue uninterrupted, avoiding a lapse of the bill before it becomes final. The review period, based on legislative, not calendar, days means, for example, that a 30-day period usually lasts three calendar months and often much longer because of congressional recesses. The congressional review period for a bill that changed the word "handicap" to "disability" lasted nine months. The Council estimates that 50–65 percent of the bills the Council passes could be eliminated if the review period did not exist. To ensure that a bill becomes law, the Council often must pass the same legislation in three forms—emergency (in effect for 90 days), temporary (in effect for 225 days) and permanent. Moreover, the Council has to carefully track the days the House and Senate are in session for each D.C. bill it passes to avoid gaps and to determine when the bills have taken effect. The Council estimates that it could save 5,000 employee-hours and 160,000 sheets of paper per two-year legislative Council period if the review period were eliminated. House Majority Leader KEVIN MCCARTHY addressed the issue of saving such resources by eliminating the amount of paperwork sent to Congress when he proposed a cut in the number of reports that federal agencies are required to submit to

Congress. Our bill is a perfect candidate because it eliminates a paperwork process that repeats itself without interruption.

My bill would do no more than align the Home Rule Act with congressional practice over the last twenty-three years. Of the more than 5,000 legislative acts transmitted to Congress since the Home Rule Act, only three resolutions disapproving D.C. legislation have been enacted—in 1979, 1981, and 1991—and two of those mistakenly involved federal interests in the Height Act and the location of chanceries. Placing a congressional hold on 5,000 D.C. bills has not only proven unnecessary, but has imposed fruitless costs on the D.C. government, residents and businesses. District residents and businesses are also placed on hold because they have no certainty when D.C. bills, from taxes to regulations, will take effect, making it difficult to plan. Instead of using the congressional review process to overturn D.C. legislation, Congress has preferred to use appropriation riders. Therefore, it is particularly unfair to require the D.C. Council to engage in a labor-intensive and costly process that Congress has itself long abandoned. My bill would only eliminate the automatic hold placed on D.C. legislation and the need for the D.C. Council to use a process initially passed for the convenience of Congress, but that Congress has since eliminated in all but law. This bill would promote efficiency and cost savings for Congress, the District, its residents, and businesses without reducing congressional oversight, and would carry out a policy stressed by Congress of eliminating needless paperwork and make-work redundancy.

I urge my colleagues to support this good-government measure.

HONORING DOMINICAN HERITAGE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the rich culture and heritage of Dominicans, during the month of Carnival, the most important period of religious celebration in the Dominican Republic. Dominicans are dedicated members of our communities and have contributed so much to our country. This month, we take the opportunity to acknowledge and applaud their service to our nation and their many great achievements.

Dominicans in our nation have been motivated by the value of hard work and the bonds of family—the same pillars that have formed the foundation of our society for over 230 years. From Secretary of Labor Thomas Perez, the first Dominican-American to serve in the Cabinet, to Pedro Martinez, a former pitcher for the New York Mets who was recently elected to the Hall of Fame, Dominicans are trailblazers who strengthen America's diverse cultural heritage.

Dominicans are one of the fastest growing Hispanic groups in America. 1.5 million people of Dominican descent currently live in the United States. With over 700,000 people, Dominicans are the largest Hispanic group in New York City. I am honored to serve a congressional district with a significant Dominican population. They bring vibrant and rich cultural

and economic contributions to every neighborhood in my district, from Washington Heights to Inwood.

I am fortunate to have many excellent organizations, in my district, that promote Dominican culture and empower Dominicans living in Manhattan and the Bronx. The Dominican Women's Development Center, New York Dominican Officers' Organization, Dominican Medical Association, National Dominican Women's Caucus, Community Association of Progressive Dominicans, Alianza Dominicana, Dominican Bar Association, Association of Dominican Classical Artists, Dominican Cultural Civic Center, Mirabal Sisters Cultural and Community Center all help strengthen their communities and improve the lives of Dominicans in New York.

Like so many generations of immigrants, Dominicans have fought tirelessly to achieve the American Dream. They come to this great nation seeking a home, a place to raise their families, and a community that will nurture their dreams. From the initial wave of Dominican migration in the 1960s to the most recent arrivals of today, Dominicans have graced our nation with their culture and traditions. Their contributions are integral to the success of our great nation and to strengthening the American fabric.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON

OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 51; 52; 53 H.R. 361, the Medical Preparedness Allowable Use Act; H.R. 623, the Social Media Working Group Act; H.R. 615, the Department of Homeland Security Interoperable Communications Act.

Due to inclement weather, I was not present for the vote series on Monday, February 2, 2015.

Had I been present, I would have voted AYE.

RENEWABLE FUEL STANDARD
(RFS) REFORM ACT

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues Representatives PETER WELCH, STEVE WOMACK and JIM COSTA as we introduce the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) Reform Act, a common sense solution to ensure that renewable fuels compete fairly in the marketplace and avoid causing unintended and negative consequences for American consumers.

The federal government's creation of an artificial market for the ethanol industry has quite frankly triggered a domino effect that is hurting our nation's consumers, energy users, livestock producers, food manufacturers, retailers, and natural resources. Renewable fuels play an important role in our all-of-the-above energy policy, but should compete fairly in the marketplace and not be the beneficiary of an anti-competitive government mandate.

American families and businesses should not have to shoulder the high cost of an unworkable federal ethanol mandate through the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS). According to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), the heightened 2017 RFS requirements would increase the amount of total U.S. food expenditures by \$3.5 billion. At the same time, the Department of Energy shows a decrease in fuel mileage—triggering increasing energy costs and lasting impacts on the environment.

The RFS mandates that 36 billion gallons of renewable fuels be part of our nation's fuel supply by 2022. However, in 2014 nearly 40 percent of the U.S. corn crop was used for ethanol production. This is more than the amount of corn used to feed livestock and poultry in the United States.

This is a kitchen table issue—this unworkable policy impacts every American family trying to make financial decisions. From food costs to wear and tear on the family car and other equipment many families use, the RFS means added costs and less money for other purchases.

The RFS debate is no longer just a debate about fuel or food. It is also a debate about jobs, small business, economic growth, and freedom.

The RFS is also hurting—not helping—to preserve our natural resources. The EPA has provided evidence that shows ethanol produced 33 percent more emissions in 2012 than gasoline. The RFS is impacting the quality of life for all Americans. The nation has hit the “blend wall” or the point at which we can no longer blend ethanol into gasoline at levels safe for all engines.

This Congress is the time for RFS reform. The momentum around this issue continues to grow. Last year, we found that more than 218 Members of Congress were on record—either by cosponsoring legislation or signing letters—expressing concerns about the current policy.

The support from various stakeholders also continues to expand as the RFS Reform Act is endorsed by a broad spectrum of groups representing livestock, small engines, taxpayers, restaurants, boats, food manufacturing, environmental issues, and food aid. I urge my colleagues to join me in support of the Renewable Fuel Standard Reform Act to address the increasing costs of this broken federal policy impacting our nation's citizens.

RECOGNIZING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES (NYSAC)

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 90th Anniversary of the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC).

NYSAC was established by a group of committed local leaders in 1925 for the purposes of training county officials and advocating for the needs of local governments. Since that time, the organization has become the only statewide association representing the interests of New York's 62 counties, including the five boroughs of New York City.

NYSAC advocates for the interests of taxpayers and county officials at the state and

federal levels of government. In addition, the association provides its members with training, educational resources, and information relating to public policy.

Despite the tremendous diversity found in New York, NYSAC has consistently and effectively promoted the best interests of all its members, from the urban areas downstate to the rural and suburban areas of my congressional district. I commend NYSAC on its ability to combine such different perspectives into a single unified mission that serves the interests of each county.

Mr. Speaker, it is my sincere pleasure to congratulate NYSAC on 90 years of excellent service to the counties, citizens, and officials of the State of New York. The professionalism and commitment displayed by the association's staff have ensured the effective management and delivery of county services. I salute NYSAC for a job well done, and extend my best wishes for continued success in the future.

CELEBRATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF PLAID HOUSE, INC.

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Plaid House, Inc. located in Morristown, New Jersey as it celebrates its 40th Anniversary.

Over the last forty years, Plaid House has stayed true to its mission of providing residential and counseling services to adolescents in northern New Jersey. Since its foundation, the members of Plaid House, Inc. have worked tirelessly to improve the lives of so many young adults, as evidenced by the impact its programs have had on the community.

In December of 1970, Katherine Merck was asked by the Morris County Probation Office if she would be willing to take a seventeen year old girl into her home for the holidays. The local residential treatment center would be closed due to the holidays, and the judge had decreed that the girl, despite lacking a criminal history, would be placed in Clinton State Prison for Women if an alternative could not be found. Upon taking the young woman into her home, Kate learned from the young woman about the numerous girls from the community that were often left without a place to live. So, she decided to start a group home for girls in Morris County, and within a few years, the Plaid House group home opened its doors.

The goal of the Plaid House group home is to provide a complete living experience and therapeutic environment for troubled adolescent girls. The residents of the Plaid House group home are placed there by the Department of Children and Families. The girls can range in age from fourteen to eighteen years old and are accepted from anywhere in New Jersey. Girls are enrolled in local school and encouraged to involve themselves in the community through afterschool programs, working, and volunteering. The group home staff provides a varied schedule throughout the week including recreational and educational activities. All girls regularly participate in individual and group counseling, provided both on site by the Program Manager and off site by therapists in community agencies.

When it opened its doors in 1975, Plaid House group home began with a capacity for five girls and was staffed by two houseparents. Since then, the number of girls at the home has expanded to ten, with supervision increasing to a team of full-time staff working twenty-four hours a day to serve these girls. The group home even underwent an expansion construction project in 2003 to provide much needed additional space and improve the quality of living for its residents.

Plaid House, Inc. also offers Thenen House, which opened in 1989, to provide a supervised transitional living program to young women who have outgrown group homes, but have been assessed as being unable to return home. The residents are young women of ages from sixteen to twenty, who are under the supervision of Child Protection and Permanency and need assistance in preparing for independence. Here the residents are required to participate in a full-time educational and employment program, helping them to develop practical skills, establish emotional independence, and learn budgeting techniques; the budgeting program demands that the women save fifty percent of their wages, which will be returned to them when they leave the program.

Plaid House's Aftercare Program provides counseling to adolescent males and females who have been discharged by Child Protection and Permanency from residential placements or foster care. The goal of the program is to help these young adults transition successfully from out of home placement into the community, whether they are returning to their homes or moving out to live on their own. In addition, Their Aging Out Program serves male and female clients of ages fifteen to twenty who are under the supervision of Child Protection and Permanency and currently in out of home placement. The young adults participate in life skills training, presented in weekly workshops, which follow a curriculum including employment skills, money management, career planning, further education, communication, and problem solving. Each participant completes a skills assessment at the beginning and end of the program to measure the progress made from training.

Since the opening of their group home forty years ago, Plaid House has moved hundreds of young adults through their programs. Though the organization has undergone various changes and improvements since its inception, their commitment to providing these adolescents with opportunities for success has remained constant.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating Plaid House, Inc. its dedicated staff and Board of Directors as it celebrates its 40th Anniversary.

“HONOR, COURAGE, COMMITMENT”

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Brice Kolle for being named the December 2014 Cadet of the Month by the Marine Military Academy. Kolle, a freshman at the Marine Military Academy, hails from my hometown of Sugar Land in TX-22. This esteemed award recognizes his exemplary character, leadership, academic achievement, and

esprit de corps while serving in the preparatory school's band.

Kolle's superb attitude and dedication to his studies will continue to serve him well at the Marine Military Academy and beyond. Receiving this honor, speaks to Kolle's dedication to uphold academy's mission and values.

I commend Brice Kolle for his outstanding leadership and development of character thus far in his academic career. On behalf of the residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Kolle for being named the Marine Military Academy's Cadet of the Month for the Leath-erneck Band for December 2014.

RECOGNIZING THE LEGACY OF
RICHARD NAMEY

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life and legacy of Richard "Rick" Ellis Namey, who died of a heart attack on February 26 at the age of 66. Rick wasn't a man defined by one title, one line of work, or one talent. He was many things: successful concert promoter, advertising genius, pitchman, standup comic, author, screenwriter, and political activist. Friends and family say one thing is certain; he didn't do anything halfway. With every endeavor, he went all out.

Rick was born in Baltimore on February 12, 1949. The oldest son of Albert and Salam Namey, his father met his mother while traveling abroad in Beirut, Lebanon. An aerospace engineer, Albert took a job with Martin Marietta and the family moved to Orlando when Rick was 10.

Rick began pursuing his ambitions while attending Winter Park High School and Sanford Naval Academy. At age 16, he won a teen disc jockey competition on WLOF-AM and began managing local bands like Mr. Banana and the Bunch and Marshmallow Steamshovel. He was also a performer.

Rick's first business venture was a coffee shop called The Hobbit in Daytona Beach, which catered to the hippie crowd, followed by The Purple Door in Bithlo. His success booking national acts like Bob Seger and the Silver Bullet Band for events at the Tangerine Bowl and the Daytona International Speedway led him to start Cosmic Productions. Rick was part of the promotional team for Woodstock and appears in a documentary about the 1969 music festival.

Rick took ideas and turned them into reality, even if they failed. During the Summer of Love, he started a business selling love beads. He had an importer, stringer, and packager and he was going to make thousands—until it was revealed the ink on his product was poisonous. Despite some setbacks, Rick's many successes were featured in an Orlando Sentinel article when he was just 23.

An active participant in the civil rights movement, Rick attended rallies and worked on presidential campaigns including McGovern/Eagleton and Carter/Mondale. Though Central Florida was always his home and he worked hard to promote it, he often rubbed elbows

with the rich and famous. Old photos show Rick and the Carter family at home watching the Kentucky Derby in the 1970s.

The list of Rick's accomplishments is long. Rick and his brother, Charles, started two of Orlando's first black pop radio stations—WORJ and WORL—and Kissimmee's first tourist channel. Rick had a nationally syndicated radio show with Hugh Rodham, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's brother. He also served as interim manager for the Backstreet Boys and cut an album of Vietnam War protest songs.

Through his company, Stuyvesant Corporation, Rick wrote hundreds of TV and radio ads including "Mr. Stereo and Video," "Mad Max," "Cheese Wars" and "Sounds Unlimited." Many of his ads garnered him national Addy Awards for creative excellence.

Rick was most proud of his screenwriting, which included Lake Wobegone Boys with Garrison Keiler, and Matt Merlin, a story about a kid wizard. Universal Studios optioned Matt Merlin well before Harry Potter took the world by storm.

He was also the author of several published non-fiction books including Fodor's Disney Like A Pro, Orlando Like A Pro, and Buy This Book and Make Me Rich, a political satire. His most recent book, Casey's Ghost, chronicled his brief stint as the ghost writer for Casey Anthony, who was acquitted of the 2008 murder of her daughter Caylee in a trial televised worldwide.

Mr. Namey was a longtime member of Mensa. In recent years, he spent his time volunteering for local Democratic candidates and rallying for liberal causes. His ideas never stopped, his opinions grew stronger with age, and his love for his family was unparalleled.

I am humbled to honor the memory, life, and outstanding achievements of Richard Namey.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for roll call votes 54–58 due to a family emergency.

Had I been present, I would have voted no on #54, no on #55, no on #56, yes on #57, and no on #58.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Rotary Club of Jefferson Township, New Jersey, as it celebrates its 50th anniversary.

The Rotary Club of Jefferson Township dedicates itself to bettering the township through the completion of communal projects.

This organization seeks to improve the local community with the goal of ensuring that the Jefferson Township region is a wonderful place in which to live, work and raise a family. The greater Jefferson Township area benefits immensely from this organization's dedication to its neighbors and friends.

Since 1965, the Rotary Club of Jefferson Township has devoted its time and energy to facilitating projects for the benefit of the community. From distributing dictionaries to third graders to financing the construction of four vocational schools in Romania, this organization's members continuously find ways to help those people in need of assistance. Whenever an opportunity arises to help others, like participating in End Polio Now, Rotary Club members always seem to be the first volunteers to respond.

Recently, this organization began several new projects in order to support members of the Jefferson Township community. On December 6th and 7th, the Rotary Club participated in the Sparta Christmas Bazaar by selling desserts and candies to help fund its operations. The Rotary Club also sold Gertrude Hawk chocolate bars to fund its third grader dictionary distribution project. This organization is also participating in "Walkfest 2015," a Sunday morning event where participants walk in Waterloo Village, located in Byram, New Jersey. During this fundraising event, participants may donate money to various organizations, including the Rotary Club, and have the opportunity to receive prizes.

The Rotary Club of Jefferson also believes in a rich cultural experience for students. To ensure that students from Jefferson Township expand their education outside of the classroom, the Rotary Club funds a Japanese Summer Exchange Program. In this program, American students spend three weeks on the island of Shikoku, while Japanese students spend three weeks in Northern New Jersey. Those students in Shikoku live with Japanese families and encounter Japanese culture, cuisine and customs. Those students visiting New Jersey live with families affiliated with the Rotary Club, and attend excursions to New York City. This program is yet another instance of the Rotary Club's commitment to students' educational experience.

To celebrate 50 successful years of offering assistance to those in need, the Rotary Club of Jefferson Township is holding an anniversary dinner on Tuesday, February 24th at the Casa Bianca Restaurant in Oak Ridge, New Jersey. At this celebration, the Rotary Club will host buffet-style culinary offerings, as well as a cash bar. In honor of its dedication to 50 years of service, the Rotary Club will present its 2015 Citizen Year Award to Alice and Bela Szigethy.

I commend the members of the Rotary Club of Jefferson Township, especially Alice and Bela Szigethy, for their dedication to improving the Jefferson Township area. The club has consistently demonstrated a dedication and commitment to improving the community and successfully completing numerous communal projects.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Rotary Club of Jefferson, its members and Board of Directors as it celebrates its 50th anniversary.

HONORING THE CHEERLEADING
TEAM FROM THOMAS W. KELLY
HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the cheerleading team from Thomas W. Kelly High School in Benton, Missouri. At the National Cheerleaders Association Championship this year they took home the first place trophy, earning their first National Championship. They earned this by working hard and setting their eyes on the prize early on. During their practices they focused on quality, not quantity and the team would come together and give it their all to perfect their routines.

Last October, the cheerleading team proudly took home the title of Class 2A Large State Champion, but they did not stop there. They traveled to St. Charles for the National Championship to compete with schools from all over the country.

During the competition, the Kelly High School cheerleading team competed against schools more than ten times the size of their own. This may have seemed daunting to some, but the team came prepared and represented Scott County admirably.

This is the first National Championship trophy for the cheerleaders of Thomas W. Kelly High School, but I do not see it being their last. It is my privilege to recognize their achievements and hard work before the House of Representatives.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF SAINT JOHN THE
BAPTIST RUSSIAN ORTHODOX
GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the parish of Saint John the Baptist Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Church, located in Little Falls, New Jersey as it celebrates its 100th Anniversary.

The parish of Saint John the Baptist Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Church has been an active part of the Little Falls community since its founding in 1915. Through its weekly masses, education center, and cultural celebrations, the church greatly reflects and celebrates its culture which has been rooted in the church by its founders, while still taking on new members in the present day.

Saint John's was the product of two migrations: one from Europe prior to 1915 and one from Pennsylvania about a decade later. The original church was built in 1915 as a place for the Orthodox faithful to embrace their history, culture, and religion. In 1917, the church es-

tablished a Russian School Program for the youth. Over the years, the Orthodox population in the area grew, as did the church itself. In 1952, the architectural firm S.E. Greydanus & Son was hired to construct the new building. The project began on June 24, 1952. During the construction period, services were held at the Signac Public School and the Signac Fire House. Less than one year later, the project was completed and the first service was held in the new building on April 2, 1953. From 1957 through 1970, the church continued to purchase new land and build additions. Its final project, an education-recreation center, was completed on April 17, 1970.

The Parish of Saint John's has been helping the Orthodox community celebrate and practice their religion and beliefs. The church has also done much more; with the construction of its education center it has been able to offer programs such as a youth recreation center Sunday school, and much more to help educate the youth of the Orthodox community. The Sunday school teaches the youth about their religion and what it means to be an Orthodox Christian. Additionally, Saint John the Baptist Church invites all of those who wish to practice and understand their Orthodox beliefs to join them.

For Saint John the Baptist's Centennial Celebration, I commend all of the pastors and committees of the Parish. Since its founding, Saint John's has been supported by the people of Little Falls; this is one of the main reasons why the parish is still a big part of the community. After 100 years of outstanding service to the Township of Little Falls, I commend and congratulate Saint John the Baptist Church for all of its hard work and dedication.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Parish of Saint John the Baptist Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Church, as it celebrates its 100th Anniversary.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MEDICARE
DEMONSTRATION OF COVERAGE
FOR LOW VISION DEVICES ACT
OF 2015

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, it is estimated that more than 60 million Americans are at risk of serious vision loss—a number expected to increase as the baby boomer generation ages. Along with my colleague Rep. GUS BILIRAKIS, I am proud to reintroduce legislation to support Americans with limited or impaired vision. For someone with a visual impairment, reading a book or crossing the street could be blurred or distorted even with the help of glasses or contact lenses. In many cases a physician can prescribe magnifiers or special optical devices to help an individual remain independent. While there are a wide variety of options to help people with low vision, currently, there is an

exclusion from Medicare coverage for devices that include a lens to aid vision or provide magnification of images for impaired vision. Ultimately, not having these assistance devices could shift more individuals from independent living to care facilities or nursing homes.

To understand the impact of covering these devices for America's seniors, we are introducing the Medicare Demonstration of Coverage for Low Vision Devices Act of 2015. This legislation would create a five-year national demonstration project administered by the Department of Health and Human Services to evaluate the economic impact of allowing reimbursement for certain low vision devices under the Social Security Act. Coverage of such devices could help Medicare beneficiaries with low vision lead healthy, safe, and independent lives.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for roll call votes 51–53 due to a family emergency. Had I been present, I would have voted yes on #51, yes on #52, and yes on #53.

CONGRATULATING DOROTHY
KREUTER ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a dedicated public servant in my Congressional District, Officer Dorothy Kreuter of the Doylestown Township Police Department. Last month, Officer Kreuter celebrated her retirement after serving 26 years with the department—an accomplishment for which we are all grateful.

Officer Kreuter was the first female officer in the Doylestown Township Police Department. Since joining the force, she faithfully devoted her life to protecting the health, safety and well-being of the constituents in the Central Bucks community. No matter the call, Officer Kreuter carried out her many responsibilities with a sense of skill and professionalism that was critical to the department's success over several decades. The integrity she displayed for her job, and sense of duty is unmatched.

Officer Kreuter is a trusted friend to many on the Police Department, and many in our community. I along with the residents of the 8th Congressional District wish her the best of luck in her retirement, and appreciate her many years of service and unwavering commitment to duty.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, February 5, 2015 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

FEBRUARY 10

- 9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine global challenges and the United States national security strategy. SH-216
- 10 a.m.
Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold hearings to examine regulatory relief for community banks and credit unions. SD-538

- Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety, and Security
To hold hearings to examine keeping goods moving. SR-253
- Committee on Finance
To hold hearings to examine tax reform, focusing on lessons Congress can learn from the Tax Reform Act of 1986. SD-215
- Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine the reemergence of vaccine-preventable diseases, focusing on exploring the public health successes and challenges. SD-106

FEBRUARY 11

- 9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the situation in Afghanistan. SH-216
- Committee on Environment and Public Works
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) proposed carbon dioxide emissions rules from new, modified, and existing power plants. SD-406
- Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine the National Labor Relations Board's (NLRB) new election rule, focusing on employers and employees. SD-430
- 10 a.m.
Committee on the Budget
To hold hearings to examine Social Security disability trust fund insolvency. SD-608

- Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine the Internet. SR-253
- Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the Government Accountability Office's (GAO) 2015 list of high risk government programs. SD-342
- 2:15 p.m.
Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine ending modern day slavery, focusing on the role of United States leadership. SD-419

FEBRUARY 12

- 10 a.m.
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2016 for the Department of Energy. SD-366

FEBRUARY 24

- 10 a.m.
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2016 for the Department of the Interior. SD-366

FEBRUARY 26

- 10 a.m.
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2016 for the Forest Service. SD-366