

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO ADAM HACKFORT

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 5, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Adam Hackfort, a member of the 2016 Iowa Boys 2A State Golf Tournament Championship Team.

Adam, and his teammates at Panorama High School, persevered through a tough season. With steady and consistent play at the state tournament, these students showed the state of Iowa that they were worthy of a state championship two years in a row.

Mr. Speaker, Adam's determination, hard work, commitment and team work is what contributed to the stellar success of his team. His willingness to give it his best effort is what will be valuable later in life and I am honored to represent Adam in the United States Congress. I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Adam Hackfort and his team for competing and winning this rigorous competition. We all share in wishing him nothing but continued success.

RETIREMENT OF COLONEL SAMUEL D. GRABLE

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 5, 2016

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Director of the Air Force Office of Budget and Appropriation Liaison, Colonel Samuel Grable.

Colonel Grable is retiring after a long and impressive career in the Air Force. Here in Congress, we are especially grateful for his work in communicating the Air Force message in a clear and concise manner.

He played a critical role during the budget roll-out process in 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016, setting the highest standards for clarity and honesty. His personal approach and respect for others helped rebuild credibility between the Air Force and the Congress.

Colonel Grable is a native of Seattle, Washington, and earned a Bachelor's degree in Accounting from Pepperdine University in Malibu, California, and a Master of Arts degree in Organizational Management from George Washington University in Washington, DC.

During his career he has served in a variety of operational, command and staff assignments in the United States and overseas. He deployed as the Chief of Plans to Multi-National Corps in Baghdad and as Mission Support Group Commander at Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan in support of Operations Iraqi, and Enduring, Freedom.

Colonel Grable became the director of the Air Force Office of Budget and Appropriation

Liaison in July 2012. He became the principal strategist and advisor to both the Secretary, and Chief of Staff, of the Air Force and a critical conduit between their offices and Congress. Under Colonel Grable's leadership, his office was able to shape programs critical to the future of our national defense such as the KC-46 Tanker and F-35 Joint Strike Fighter.

The Congressional Appropriations Committees and our country owe Colonel Grable a debt of gratitude for his tireless work.

HONORING GARY BERBLINGER

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 5, 2016

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Gary Berblinger as he retires after 46 years in publishing. Gary began his career in Belleville, Illinois in 1973 and continued to work in journalism in St. Louis and in Bradenton, Florida. Since 2006, he has worked in Park Hills, Missouri, first as business manager and since 2008, as publisher of the Daily Journal, Farmington Press, and Democrat News.

Gary has distinguished himself in the communities he serves as a member of the St. Francois County Rotary Club, Greater Farmington Regional Chamber of Commerce, and the St. Francois County Community Partnership. He and his wife Mary have been members of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Farmington.

Mary says of her husband's retirement, "I'm looking forward to having him home. He's worked 50 years of his life. He has always loved his job. His work has been his hobby, too. Now is our time to travel and go see the kids and grandkids."

In celebration of his dedication to publishing, his community involvement, and his citizenship, it is my pleasure to recognize Mr. Gary Berblinger of Farmington, Missouri before the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF JOSEPH E. RYAN

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 5, 2016

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the life of Joseph E. Ryan, a man who served his country, city and community in times of need. A leader on the field of battle so many times and in so many ways, Joe Ryan lived a life full of triumph and tragedy that is testament to his indomitable spirit and determination to make a difference in this world.

The first born in a family of ten, Joe Ryan graduated from St. Joseph's Collegiate Insti-

tute in 1961, where he was class president and an all-Catholic and all-Western New York football player. He went on to earn his degree in industrial and labor relations from Cornell University, while also capturing all-Ivy League honors as a center and linebacker on the football team.

Mr. Ryan served in the Navy from 1965 to 1969, in which he spent 17 months in Vietnam as a diving team commander. He earned the Bronze Star for his actions and rose to the rank of lieutenant before returning home from service.

Upon his return, Mr. Ryan's involvement and influence in the community began and grew for more than forty years. An engineering consultant in 1971, the late Mayor Frank Sedita tapped this rebel with a cause to serve as the executive director of the Citizens Advisory Committee, where he energetically directed the Community Development Block Grant program and fostered the growth of local nonprofit neighborhood groups.

In 1982, he helped found the local Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program and served as its first president. A horrific bicycle accident in 1985 would leave Mr. Ryan paralyzed but his efforts to assist others in need could never be contained as even from his hospital bed he finalized arrangements for his self-created Best of the Turtles race to raise scholarship money for the children of local Vietnam veterans.

In 1998, City of Buffalo Mayor Anthony Masiello appointed him as Community Development Commissioner. Mr. Ryan remained in that position for more than four years leading the creation of the Department of Strategic Planning and a focused effort to engage residents in planning initiatives to revitalize neighborhoods.

With staunch determination to be an advocate for others, Joe Ryan volunteered countless hours to the community and those in need. He served on the national board of directors of the Eastern Paralyzed Veterans, which advocated for veterans on health care issues. He took part in the Paralyzed Veterans America Wheelchair Games in 1987, helping raise money for the Erie County Medical Center spinal cord injury unit.

He served as a chairman of the Board of Managers for Erie County Medical Center in the 1990's and was President of the Friends of the Night People. Mr. Ryan had also been on the board of directors of St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute, and a board member of the National Spinal Cord Injury Association, the Buffalo Area Council of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse, the United Cerebral Palsy Foundation, and the Cornell University Presidential Council.

Mr. Ryan was justifiably recognized many times for his life's work in public service. He received the D'Youville College Community Service Award, and was named Buffalo News Citizen of the Year in 1986. He was given the Clarkson Center's Courage to Come Back Award for devoting his talents to providing customized housing that allow people with disabilities to live independently.

• 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.

And while he lived an independent and purposeful life, little would have been possible without the unconditional, unyielding love and loyalty of his devoted wife of 44 years, Eileen and their greatest shared accomplishment, son Sean, a former NFL player.

Mr. Speaker, I honor the life of Mr. Joseph E. Ryan. I ask that my colleagues join me in expressing our deepest condolences to all of the Ryan family, including his daughter-in-law, Mary Elizabeth, his grandchildren, Emmie, Sienna and Colin, his brothers, sisters and many friends and colleagues as they join together at a celebration of his life on Saturday, June 25 at St. Joseph's University Church.

The extraordinary story of his life will continue to be told by all those who will always remember: here was a man who could not stand himself, yet made it his life's work to always stand up for others.

OLNEY/RICHLAND CO. 175TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 5, 2016

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the Dodransbicentennial, or 175th Anniversary of Richland County. Richland County was created in 1841 by combining sections of western Lawrence County and eastern Clay County. Olney was named the seat of Richland County due to its centrality and desirable proximity to the Fox River.

Over the years, many students have benefitted from being able to receive a quality and affordable education at Olney Central College. In addition to its support of education, Olney has a marvelously rich history of being a center of transportation, medicine, culture, and agriculture for Southeastern Illinois.

A large colony of albino squirrels first found sanctuary in Olney in the early 1900s. Because of this, inquiring visitors from near and far are attracted to the "Home of the White Squirrels." Olney and Richland County are the home to many churches and volunteer organizations, as well.

I look forward to the continued prosperity of Olney and Richland County largely due to its citizens who respect their history and have a vision for their future; I also offer my congratulations on the occasion of the 175th anniversary celebration which will take place from July 22–24, 2016.

HONORING THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INCORPORATION OF GEORGETOWN, MAINE

HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 5, 2016

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 300th birthday of a town in my District. On June 13, 1716, Georgetown was incorporated as the 10th town in the Province of Maine.

Located on an island between the mouths of the Kennebec and Sheepscot Rivers, Georgetown has a rich history that goes back far

longer than 300 years. For generations, the Abenakis knew the island as a place for good spear fishing. John Parker—to whom many current residents can still trace their lineage—built its first permanent homestead on land he purchased for a hogshead of rum and a few pumpkins in 1649. And its location on the border between what was then New France and New England brought several conflicts during the French and Indian Wars of the 1700s.

Thankfully, though, peace did eventually come to Georgetown. Since then, generations of Mainers have made their living there in boatbuilding, fishing, and other trades. And countless visitors have gone there searching for the best of what the Maine coast has to offer. Indeed, with the town's picturesque scenes, wicked good lobster, and hard-working people, that's exactly what they've found.

Mr. Speaker, it makes me very proud to represent a community with such a rich history and uniquely Maine character. My congratulations to Georgetown and all its residents on this wonderful occasion—and my best wishes for many more birthdays in the future.

TRIBUTE TO AL PIZZANO

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 5, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mr. Al Pizzano, Chief of Police of Pleasant Hill, Iowa and retired Captain of the New York City Police Department's elite Emergency Service Unit. Chief Pizzano assumed his post as Chief of Police of Pleasant Hill in September 2015. He was recently honored in New York by the city's mayor and police chief during its annual Medal Day ceremony which pays tribute to the exemplary public servants whose selfless acts have made the ultimate sacrifice while protecting the lives and safety of all Americans. He was one of 53 recipients for the awards.

Chief Al Pizzano received the Police Combat Cross, the Department's second highest award, granted to members who have successfully and intelligently performed an act of extreme heroism while engaged in combat with an armed adversary. On April 8, 2012, Chief Pizzano and five members of the elite Emergency Service Unit were called to negotiate with an armed suspect, were injured in the ensuing gunfire, but avoided civilian casualties during the apprehension.

Chief Al Pizzano began his law enforcement career in 1987 with the New York Police Department, training and supervising 200 officers and 30 civilian employees while commanding the K-9 Resources throughout New York City. He left the Department to join Homefront Protective Group where he analyzed police agencies and administered police-related training courses before coming to Iowa as Police Chief of Pleasant Hill.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Chief Al Pizzano for this award and for sharing his servant leadership with an entire community. I am proud to represent him in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Chief Al Pizzano and wishing him nothing but continued success.

CONGRATULATING THE WEST
VIEW MASONIC LODGE NUMBER 103

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 5, 2016

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the West View Masonic Lodge No. 103 for its 150th anniversary. Chartered on June 2, 1866, the West View Lodge has served the Millersville, MO area and has stood as a symbol for brotherly love, relief, and truth for one hundred and fifty years.

As a branch of the world's oldest fraternal organization, the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Missouri has over 36,000 members who work hard to serve and improve their communities. The millions of freemasons worldwide comprise various bodies, including the Shriners, Order of the Eastern Star, Tall Cedars of Lebanon, and nearly 30 others. These philanthropic groups donate over sixty million dollars to their communities each month.

As a result of its efforts and passion for service to the Millersville community, the West View Masonic Lodge No. 103 has helped countless citizens throughout the years. I'm proud of their achievements thus far, and I look forward to seeing the ongoing fruits of their mission. For the special place it holds in the hearts and lives of many in the community, it is my pleasure to recognize the 150th anniversary of the West View Masonic Lodge No. 103 before the House of Representatives.

TRIBUTE TO RONALD
NABAKOWSKI

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 5, 2016

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a true public servant and fellow Ohio politician, Ronald Nabakowski. Ron passed away Friday, June 10th after a long struggle with ALS, and will be dearly missed by his family and friends.

At the time of his passing Ron was retired, fully enjoying his time with family and actively promoting the redevelopment of downtown Lorain. He had been a public servant in government for forty-two years.

Prior to his retirement Ron served as Clerk of Court of Common Pleas in Lorain County for fourteen years, after a long career as State Senator, Lorain County Commissioner, and Director of the Ohio Lottery on Governor Dick Celeste's cabinet.

Throughout his long career Ron remained dedicated to making government work better for the people. A Democrat, Ron did not hesitate to reach across the aisle to create comprehensive legislation that could pass the State legislature, and to ensure the community he represented flourished.

One of his proudest moments in public service came while serving as Director of the Ohio Lottery. During his tenure, 17 cents of each state dollar went towards primary and secondary education in Ohio—a record that would remain unrivaled by subsequent Lottery administrations.