

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF JOHN McCUALEY  
UPON BEING AWARDED THE 2020  
REALTOR CUP

**HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 26, 2020*

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate John McCauley for receiving the prestigious 2020 Realtor Cup award from the Greater Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce.

A native of Fayetteville, John founded Highland Paving Co. in 2002 and has since transformed it into a regional firm with over 200 employees. He is also the Founding Director of what is now Select Bank and Trust, which serves twelve cities and holds assets of over \$1 billion.

John is known throughout our community for his natural talent and innovation. An efficacious leader, he has stimulated unprecedented civic growth for both Fayetteville and surrounding communities. John served four years on the Southeastern Economic Development Commission, is a member of the North Carolina State Bar Ethics Committee, and serves on the Board of Directors for the Greater Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce.

A former Assistant District Attorney, John founded and serves as President of Vision 2026 to promote economic development throughout our community. Dedicated not only to professional excellence, he twice served as Deacon at First Presbyterian Church and raised over \$2 million through stewardship campaigns.

Fayetteville is a better place today because of John and today I join our community in offering my most heartfelt appreciation. He is deserving of this honor and I wish him continued success as he continues to serve Cumberland County and beyond.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in congratulating John McCauley for being awarded the 2020 Realtor Cup.

THANKING KRISTEN AND TRAVIS COWAN FOR RAISING ORGAN DONATION AWARENESS

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 26, 2020*

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kristen and Travis Cowan of Katy, TX for their work turning a family tragedy into life-giving acts: promoting organ donation.

Two years ago, the Cowans lived every parent's nightmare when their 13-month-old son Rylen passed away from bacterial meningitis. Kristen and Travis lost a son and their six-year-old son Corbyn lost his brother. In the face of this devastating loss, the Cowans chose to save lives by donating Rylen's organs.

This decision could not have been an easy one but doing so saved the lives of five others. The Cowans then began the Smilin' Rylen Foundation in honor of their son, a charity that helps raise funds for organ donation-centered charities and increases awareness of lives that are saved through organ donation.

Recently, the Cowans were flown out to California for the Rose Bowl Parade by the nonprofit LifeGift, one of their charity's beneficiaries and the organization that procured Rylen's life-saving organs. Travis and Kristen walked with LifeGift's float in the parade, which was themed "A Light in the Dark" and bore Rylen's picture.

Organ donation is a selfless act that, in death, gives others the gift of a longer life. On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, I thank Kristen and Travis for their work to raise awareness of the selfless act of organ donation. My deepest appreciation to Rylen for his inspiration and the gift of life he gave others that ensures his memory lives on.

HONORING TERRY DECARLO FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE CENTRAL FLORIDA LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY

**HON. DARREN SOTO**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 26, 2020*

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of Terry DeCarlo. Born on March 19, 1962 in Bethpage, N.Y. to Mario and Anne (Puglisi) Nunziato, Mr. DeCarlo served in the Air Force from 1980 to 1983. Even before moving to Florida in 1996, Mr. DeCarlo was an early advocate for persons with H.I.V. From 2006 to 2014, he was the development director for the Broward House, a nonprofit social services organization for people living with HIV and other chronic health issues.

In 2014, Mr. DeCarlo joined the staff as executive director of the Center, a non-profit community service organization empowering the LGBTQ+ community in Central Florida. As executive director on June 12, 2016, he became a constant source of comfort and strength for the survivors, families of victims, and the entire Central Florida community following the Pulse Nightclub tragedy. The Center was open and prepared with grief counselors within hours of the attack. Even after his health began to deteriorate due to stress, Terry continued to serve as executive director of the Center until July 2017.

In addition to his husband, Bill Huelson, Terry is survived by his mother, Anne Fabrikant; his sisters, Mary Detto and Deborah Waters; and his brother, John Nunziato. His work in the aftermath of the Pulse Nightclub tragedy will never be forgotten. He was a pillar of the Central Florida community and dedicated champion of LGBTQ+ rights.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DERRICK LAMAR RICHARDSON

**HON. TERRI A. SEWELL**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 26, 2020*

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Derrick Lamar Richardson, an intelligent, kind, hard-working man of faith and determination, who passed away on February 14, 2020. Derrick joined our staff as district press secretary for Alabama's 7th Congressional District in January of 2016 and served his home district with distinction until August of 2017.

Born on October 31, 1972 to Lovenia Richardson in Birmingham, Alabama, Derrick professed his love for Christ at an early age. For many years, Derrick attended Maple Grove Church of God with his grandmother, Ada Ford, and it was there that he was granted his deep and abiding faith. Throughout his life, Derrick's faith served as a foundational pillar of strength, guidance and wisdom, giving Derrick the courage to face whatever challenges crossed his path.

Derrick received his education in the Birmingham City School System, attending Hillman Elementary School and matriculating from Parker High School in 1991. As a high school student, Derrick was an active participant in the Marching Thundering Herd Band, where he played the tuba.

During his junior year at Parker High School, Derrick's devotion to his country compelled him to enlist in the Army National Guard and Reserves. Before his senior year of high school, Derrick attended boot camp at Fort McClellan in Anniston, Alabama, and upon graduation, went on to attend the Army Communications School at Fort Gordon in Augusta, Georgia. During his military service, Derrick served as a Legal Support Specialist in the 167th COSCOM (Headquarters Co.): JAG Corp. in Ft. Clayton, Panama, the 81st Regional Support Command: JAG Corp. in Homewood, Alabama and the 131st Signal Battalion (Headquarters Co.): Signal Corp. in Birmingham, Alabama. Derrick received two Meritorious Service Citations for Outstanding Performance and an honorable discharge.

After his military service in 1995, Derrick enrolled at Jacksonville State University, where he soon became involved in the Student Government Association and the National Pan-Hellenic Council. At Jacksonville State University, Derrick became a member of his beloved fraternity, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., a brotherhood and network that would serve him as an invaluable support system for many years to come. At Jacksonville State University, Derrick also had an opportunity to pursue his passion for politics. In 1999, he graduated with a bachelor's degree in political science; and after graduation went on to attend Long Island University, where he graduated Cum Laude with a master's degree in Urban Policy.

● 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.

Professionally, Derrick continued to pursue his passion for politics, working up and down the east coast, from Alabama to Maryland to New York to Washington, D.C. He worked across the political spectrum, for campaigns, as a lobbyist and in this Congressional office. Derrick's impressive resume includes: co-founding the lobbying firm Epps, Richardson and Associates; serving as the first African American Director of Public Policy for the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce; serving as the Senior Director for State and Regional affairs for the Center for American Progress in Washington, D.C.; serving as the Legislative Budget Director for the New York City Council; serving as the Director of Domestic Policy for the Lutheran Church in America; and serving as the Manager of Government Relations for Van Scoyoc Associates in Washington, D.C.

Derrick joined our office in 2016 and served as District Press Secretary, devoting his considerable talents to addressing the challenges faced by Alabama's 7th Congressional District of Alabama, including unemployment, career and college readiness, economic viability and civil rights.

Derrick then became the inaugural Executive Director of the Alabama Alliance of the Boys and Girls Club. There, he brought his same fierce commitment to justice and equal opportunity, lending his ample professional experience to expanding and uplifting the work of the Boys and Girls Club.

Over the years, Derrick's many accomplishments have been recognized with numerous awards, including: The Veteran of Influence Award from the Birmingham Business Journal; the Maryland Gubernatorial Proclamation for Outstanding Public Service; and the Alabama Legislative Black Caucus Award for Trailblazer and Successful Lobbyist.

Derrick leaves behind his mother, Lovenia Hart, his wife, State Representative Merika Coleman; his children, Jonathan, Dara Elisa, Elexia and Xaviar; his brothers, Everett Howard and Gerald (Grace) Richardson; a very devoted cousin/little brother, Tionne Birdsong; three nieces; two nephews; one very devoted sister/cousin, Barbara Birdsong; and a host of cousins, friends, frat brothers and church family. On a personal note, Derrick was a beloved member of our congressional staff. I was honored that Derrick joined us on our journey to move Alabama's 7th District forward. He was an outstanding press secretary who used his talents and strong work ethic to passionately advocate for the people of his home district. I am forever grateful that Derrick played such a special role in our journey. We will certainly miss his kindness, his gentle spirit, his sharp wit and his compassionate heart; but we know that Derrick's legacy will live on through the many lives he has impacted. May we honor Derrick's life by recommitting ourselves to the causes he cared about and the community he loved so much. Rest in peace, Derrick. Always Team Sewell.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of Alabama's 7th Congressional District, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the exemplary life of Derrick Lamar Richardson, a true servant leader who led by example.

IN HONOR OF GEORGE WASHINGTON PERRY'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 26, 2020*

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. George Washington Perry and wish him a very happy 100th birthday.

The advent of World War II was a time that not only shaped the course of our country but the lives of many Americans, including Mr. Perry. He was one of the many patriots who felt compelled to serve our great country and enlisted in the Army Air Corps in 1939 before joining the Air National Guard and later the U.S. Air Force.

For over a quarter century, Mr. Perry assisted in various campaigns throughout the continental United States, Germany, France, Italy, and even Antarctica. He showed endless bravery and courage in his pursuit of peace across the globe.

After completing active duty, he returned to his wife Dorothy and son Richard and began a successful career in engineering with Cannon Mills. Mr. Perry remained an active community leader and has been involved in the Masonic Brotherhood, St. John's Reformed Church, and Boy Scouts of America.

Mr. Perry was born on February 22, 1920 and represents the best our nation has to offer. I am proud to join our community today in honoring all that he has accomplished over the last 100 years.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in thanking Mr. George Washington Perry for his service and wishing him a happy 100th birthday.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF FIONA HECKSCHER

**HON. RICHARD E. NEAL**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 26, 2020*

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my condolences to the family and friends of Fiona Heckscher, a valued member of the Office of House Legislative Counsel, who we lost over the February recess. At just 33 years of age, Fiona was one of only four members of the prestigious tax drafting team; her skilled draftsmanship can be seen throughout the tax code. From her work on the TCJA, to her work on important initiatives in the 116th Congress such as the Economic Mobility Act, the Lower Drug Costs Now Act, and the Protecting American Lungs Act, the knowledge and creativity that Fiona brought to the tax drafting process has left a lasting impact on our nation's laws.

A graduate of Brown University and the Yale School of Law, Fiona began with the Office of House Legislative Counsel in 2014. Since that time, Members and staff alike had come to rely on Fiona's wisdom beyond her years, the depth of her knowledge of the tax code, and the patience and warmth she exuded day in and day out, no matter how stressful the job got.

Fiona was an institutionalist and deeply believed in the worth of the non-partisan work

done by the Office of the Legislative Counsel: for the members, their staff and most of all for the American people. She often said that she felt lucky to be doing work that could further bipartisan collaboration. Fiona will be remembered for her dedication to the Congress, for the passion she showed for her work, and for the kindness with which she treated others.

Fiona and her fiancé Neal Desai had scheduled their marriage to take place when Congress would be in recess for the 2020 election. Her parents, Lavinia Hall and Charles Heckscher, her brothers Alexander and Dylan, and her fiancé Neal mourn the loss of her light in their lives.

I send my deepest sympathies out to them, and to all of Fiona's close friends and colleagues, and I ask my colleagues to do the same. Please know that Fiona's good work has left a meaningful and lasting mark on the Congress, and on the country.

REMEMBERING THE KHOJALY TRAGEDY

**HON. VIRGINIA FOXX**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 26, 2020*

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of the 613 Azerbaijani men, women, and children killed in Khojaly on February 25 and 26, 1992. We must never forget this tragedy and must work to prevent such atrocities from occurring again.

Since the early 1990s, Azerbaijan has been involved in a conflict with its neighbor to the West, Armenia. The Khojaly tragedy was the single worst day in this conflict, resulting in hundreds of lives lost, families devastated, and the town destroyed. A cease-fire to the conflict was negotiated in 1994, but the conflict remains unresolved.

The U.S. and Azerbaijan established diplomatic relations in 1992, the same year as the Khojaly tragedy. Since then, Azerbaijan has been a key partner in the War on Terror, and the two nations share a Trade Relations Agreement and a Bilateral Investment Treaty. Given our deepening ties with Azerbaijan, it is important for the United States to support a peaceful settlement to the Azerbaijani-Armenian conflict.

The anniversary of this tragedy is an appropriate time to honor the victims of these atrocities and reflect on the need for all parties to work together to bring a swift end to this conflict. I urge my colleagues to join me in standing with Azerbaijanis as they commemorate this tragedy.

HONORING OUR NATION'S HEROES ON THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN FLAG RAISING AT IWO JIMA

**HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 26, 2020*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th Anniversary of the American flag raising at Iwo Jima and to express my gratitude to the courageous service

members who fought and won this key battle, many laying down their lives in service to our nation. The Battle of Iwo Jima marked a decisive American victory and signaled the beginning of the end of the war in the Pacific.

On February 19, 1945, the United States Marines Corps began the invasion of the heavily fortified island of Iwo Jima. The ensuing battle for the strategic island would be one of the fiercest conflicts of the Second World War. Before the Battle of Iwo Jima ended, almost 7,000 American service members were killed, including three of the Marines that raised the American flag at Iwo Jima.

One day into the Battle for Iwo Jima, four Marine squads began their assault on Mount Suribachi, the 550-foot-high peak overlooking the island. After a three-day onslaught, our troops reached the top and defeated the last remaining Japanese defenders. At 10:20 a.m. on February 23, 1945, the 3rd Platoon, E Company, 2nd Battalion, 28th Regiment, 5th Marine Division were the first group of Americans during World War II to raise the American flag on Japanese soil. This was a defining moment of the Second World War.

Four hours after the first flag was raised, Corporal Harlon Block, Sergeant Michael Strank, Corporal Harold "Pie" Keller, Corporal Ira Hayes, Private First-Class Franklin Runyon Sosley, and Private First-Class Harold Schultz defiantly raised a second, larger American flag atop the mountain. Corporal Block guided the base of the pole into the volcanic ash while the others raised the flag upward. The iconic photograph of the Marines raising our flag at Iwo Jima is a testament to American strength and sacrifice.

I encourage my colleagues and all Americans to take a moment today to remember those who have sacrificed to protect our country and our way of life. We are all forever indebted to these brave service members, and on this day, we must reiterate our promise that we will never forget our nation's heroes.

**RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF COLONEL WALTER P. BETLEY**

**HON. STEVE STIVERS**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 2020

Mr. STIVERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the people of Ohio's 15th Congressional District to recognize the life and legacy of Colonel Walter P. Betley, a true American hero.

Colonel Betley made a mark in our community in many ways, most notably, by committing twenty-eight years of service with the United States Army Corps of Engineers. Through tours of duty in World War II, the Korean and Vietnam Wars, Colonel Betley earned not one, but two, of our nation's highest honors: Bronze Stars, for his achievements.

Following his time in the Armed Forces, Colonel Betley continued his career of service, empowering the next generation by teaching vocational skills at the Eastland Career Center in Groveport, Ohio, where he worked for over two decades.

A man of many talents, Colonel Betley went on to found the Woodworkers of Central Ohio

and the Central Ohio Woodturners, and self-published his autobiography, *From Cold Water Flat to Colonel*.

But most importantly, Colonel Betley is known to many for going above and beyond his call of duty. His granddaughter remembers Colonel Betley as "truly one of the good guys." Let there be no doubt about his unwavering devotion to our nation and the positive impact he had on all whose lives he touched. Like a pebble dropped in a pond, the ripples created by Colonel Betley's life are far-reaching, but his legacy will live on in the memories of those who knew him and loved him.

Central Ohio is undeniably a better place because of Colonel Walter Betley and the tremendous life of service he lived, and I am honored to celebrate his legacy.

**CONGRATULATING ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY DIRECTOR PAUL K. KEARNS ON BEING NAMED THE 2020 DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR BY THE FEDERAL LABORATORY CONSORTIUM**

**HON. BILL FOSTER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 2020

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Argonne National Laboratory's Paul K. Kearns on being named the 2020 Director of the Year by the Federal Laboratory Consortium. The Federal Laboratory Consortium Awards are prestigious honors awarded by a panel of experts from laboratories, industry, government, and academia.

Since becoming Argonne's lab director in November of 2017, Paul Kearns has maintained the laboratory's core values. Among the many accomplishments made during his tenure, the nickel-manganese-cobalt cathode has seen extraordinary success and is now used in many of today's electric vehicles. Argonne has also increased its partnerships with the entrepreneurial community and is aggressively expanding its collaboration initiatives. Throughout his tenure, Paul's passion for community outreach and building the next generation of STEM professionals has been clear.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Paul Kearns for his outstanding contributions to the science and technology industry and inspire the future generation of STEM professionals.

**REMEMBERING THE KHOJALY MASSACRE**

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 2020

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the tragic deaths of over 600 Azerbaijani civilians that took place in Khojaly on February 26, 1992. On that heinous day, Armenian and Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) forces massacred 613 civilians. Innocent women, children and elderly men were brutally killed over the course of 22 hours.

Azerbaijan has been healing over the 28 years since this horrendous event, working hard to become a successful nation with a booming economy. They are a reliable friend and trade partner to the United States and our ally Israel in a geopolitical region rocked by turmoil and turbulence.

We must stand by our allies and friends in condemning attacks like this—past, present and future. Atrocities such as this have no place in our world. I urge my colleagues to join me and all of our Azerbaijani friends in remembering the lives lost during the Khojaly massacre.

**ANNIVERSARIES OF THE SUMGAIT POGROM AND KHOJALY MASACRE**

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 2020

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise to mark two painful anniversaries this week in the decades-long conflict over the territory of Nagorno Karabakh. Although separated by four years and 200 miles, the Sumgait Pogrom in 1988 and Khojaly Massacre in 1992 both demonstrated the heinous potential of interethnic hatreds to tear apart communities and trample human dignity. The commemoration of these horrific events is an opportunity to reflect on the innocent lives lost in this ongoing conflict as well as a chance to affirm the need for urgent steps to heal these wounds and find peace for all those afflicted once and for all.

The Sumgait Pogrom occurred in the early days of the conflict between ethnic Armenians and Azeris over the semi-autonomous Soviet oblast of Nagorno Karabakh. At the time, the Armenian-majority region was self-governing but ensconced in the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic. In 1988, a mass Armenian political movement sought to capitalize on administrative reforms in the Soviet Union to unite the territory with the Armenian state. This self-determination campaign quickly unmasked mutual suspicions and interethnic resentments that degenerated into violence.

Azeri counter-protests emerged in Baku in early February 1988 as ethnic tensions in Nagorno Karabakh intensified. Later that month, the reported murder of ethnic Azeris in Nagorno Karabakh lit a tinderbox of tensions that had built up in the town of Sumgait, 20 miles northwest of Baku. Gangs broke off from an Azeri rally in town and began looting, beating, raping, and murdering ethnic Armenians. Ethnic Azeris killed approximately 26 Armenians and injured hundreds more in the violence. The trauma of the pogrom sparked fears of escalating violence and led to the first major wave of relocations that eventually resulted in the near complete displacement of ethnic Armenians out of Azerbaijan and Azeris from Armenia.

Reciprocal atrocities coinciding with the collapse of the Soviet Union caused the outbreak of all-out war in the early 1990s. The Khojaly Massacre on February 26, 1992 is the single greatest loss of life in the history of the conflict, which continues to this day under a shaky ceasefire agreed in 1994. In the early morning hours, advancing Armenian fighters opened fire on a stream of mostly civilian Azeris fleeing the town of Khojaly in the Nagorno Karabakh region.

Although estimates vary, Armenian militiamen killed several hundred Azeri civilians in the snow-covered woods of Nagorno Karabakh that morning. All told, the Nagorno Karabakh War claimed approximately 20,000 lives and displaced more than a million people in both directions.

Madam Speaker, as Chairman of the U.S. Helsinki Commission, I am deeply familiar with the efforts that the United States, in partnership with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, has made over the past quarter-century to resolve this conflict. The United States is a co-chair alongside France and Russia in the trilateral Minsk Group process the OSCE established in the late 1990s to facilitate de-escalation and peace talks between the sides. This process has largely succeeded in keeping all-out war at bay for more than 20 years, but the Armenian and Azerbaijani sides bear responsibility for advancing the cause of peace, including by preparing their populations for a lasting resolution.

I am encouraged by the significant decrease in ceasefire violations over the past couple of years as well as the steady pace of high-level encounters between Armenian and Azerbaijani leaders during this period. Yet no meaningful progress has been made in these talks. Moreover, the Armenian Prime Minister and Azerbaijani President punctuate their private discussions with inflammatory public statements that often distort the historical record and damage the cause of peace.

Madam Speaker, I strongly encourage the political leadership in Yerevan and Baku to use these solemn commemorations of Sumgait and Khojaly this week to turn a new page in this terrible conflict. The most fitting way to honor the lives of those lost would be through words of reconciliation and steps toward peace. Together, the peoples of Armenia and Azerbaijan can ensure such atrocities are never repeated and that future generations will know a life of secure and prosperous coexistence.

**HONORING THE LEMONT POLISH CLUB AND ST. JOHN PAUL II POLISH SCHOOL ON THEIR 40TH ANNIVERSARY AND THE POLANIE DANCE GROUP ON THEIR 20TH ANNIVERSARY**

**HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 2020

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Lemont Polish Club, St. John Paul II Polish School and the Polanie Dance Group from Lemont, Illinois. This year the Lemont Polish Club and Polish School will celebrate their 40th Anniversary, while the Polanie dance group will celebrate its 20th anniversary.

Founded in 1980 by Father Edward Witusik, the Lemont Polish Club has upheld the traditions, customs, and language of our Polish heritage, and united the Polish community through our Catholic roots. Shortly after its creation, the Lemont Polish Club founded the St. John Paul II Polish School. The St. John Paul II Polish School serves the people of Polish heritage of Lemont by offering kindergarten

through high school students the opportunity to connect with and explore their Polish heritage. For forty years the school has excelled in teaching its students Polish language, history, and culture. Thousands of children have learned about Polish cultural heritage as well as the role Poles play in the United States and the world now and into the future. With its emphasis on civic responsibility, the school produces students dedicated to supporting and improving Chicago's communities, and I am proud to have it in my district.

The school has seen tremendous growth since its founding. Starting with just 41 students in 1980, enrollment in the Polish school has increased to over 800 students. As St. John Paul II Polish School has grown, they have been able offer more opportunities for their students to learn about and enjoy Polish culture. In 2000, the Polish School created the Polish Dance Group Polanie. The student dancers dress in traditional Polish costumes and perform traditional Polish dances at competitions and festivals across the United States and Europe.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Lemont Polish Club, St. John Paul II Polish School and the Polanie Dance Group on their anniversaries and congratulating them on their many accomplishments. May the Lemont Polish Club and Polish School continue their great work in the community, and I wish them the best as they continue to preserve their traditions for generations to come.

**HONORING THE SERVICE OF DEPUTY KEN MIZE**

**HON. DOUG COLLINS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 2020

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Deputy Roger Kenneth "Ken" Mize for his over five decades of service to the people of northeast Georgia.

Deputy Mize of the Banks County Sheriff's Office retired on January 30, 2020, after serving in law enforcement for 52 years. Mr. Mize, who is best known for his integrity, his "servant heart" and the smile on his face, dedicated his career to protecting our communities and educating our students.

For over 26 years, Mr. Mize served as a role model and mentor for students in the Banks County School System. By working with the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) and Choosing Healthy Activities and Methods Promoting Safety (C.H.A.M.P.S.) programs, Mr. Mize furthered safety awareness in over 30,000 fifth-grade students across Banks and Jackson counties.

Throughout the community, Mr. Mize was known as a role model who always had a calming effect as he walked the school halls, attended board of education meetings, and participated in other school events. His service inspired members of his community to become involved and work to change the lives of students.

From his work as a first responder to his dedication to students, Deputy Mize has committed his career to transforming lives and protecting our communities. I join the people of northeast Georgia in thanking him for his over

five decades of service, and I wish him and his beloved wife, Kathy, all the best in his next chapter of life.

**IN HONOR OF MRS. IRENE MORGAN**

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 2020

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Irene Morgan who was among the first warriors on the frontline of the Civil Rights Movement. Although her valiant story is unknown to many, I applaud the Virginia Department of Historical Resources for issuing a new state historical marker for her in Gloucester County in my district.

Irene's incredible story highlights the social hardships that African Americans faced in the U.S. In 1944, while returning home to Baltimore on a bus after visiting her mother in Gloucester, the bus driver ordered her to relinquish her seat to a white passenger. She refused. Consequently, Middlesex County sheriffs arrested her, and the State convicted her. It was from this point that Irene took immediate action. With the help of the NAACP, her case was heard by the Supreme Court. Then, in 1946, defended by Thurgood Marshall and Spottswood W. Robinson, III; Irene won her Supreme Court case, *Morgan v. Virginia*. Her case made it unconstitutional to enforce segregation laws on interstate carriers. This landmark case set the stage for years of civil action against draconian laws that discriminated against our own citizens.

On behalf of Virginia's First District, it is my pleasure to honor Irene. All Virginians and those of Virginia's First District, should take the opportunity to learn about Irene and her act of courage.

Therefore, Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in honoring Irene and her family for their contribution to our nation's history and the African American Community. I also want to thank the Virginia Department of Historical Resources for issuing a new marker for her, memorializing her story. On behalf of Virginia's First District we say thank you.

**RECOGNIZING THE 28TH ANNIVERSARY OF KHOJALY TRAGEDY**

**HON. PAUL A. GOSAR**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 2020

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, today I rise to bring our attention to the 28th Anniversary of what is known as the Khojaly Tragedy. Years ago, as the Soviet Union fell under the weight of socialism, and the despair and malaise created by socialism finally became too much to bear, many of the former Soviet satellite regions went through regrowth and rebirth. Azerbaijan was one such country.

Azerbaijan, located in the Caucus region, is an area of unlimited potential. The Azerbaijanis have carved out a remarkable society, a rich culture, and today have a stable government that has led the Azeri people into

relative prosperity. Its petroleum resources are world renown, as is its hard-working citizens.

The re-birth of this nation was not without its struggle. As the existing Soviet political regime broke down in 1991, ethnic and historical rivalries surfaced. Problems with neighboring Armenia resulted in conflict and death, and the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict erupted.

Out of that conflict, one notable tragic incident occurred 26 years ago, where the Azeris were subjected to reported indiscriminate shelling and targeting of the people of Khojaly at the hands of Karabakh Armenian and Armenian forces. It has been reported that up to 613 civilians died on February 26, 1992 as a result of the attack.

We cannot change what happened, but we can remember the victims and remind the world that the targeting of civilians is never acceptable.

The United States is proud to serve as a co-chair of the OSCE Minsk Group and we will continue to push for a peaceful resolution to this conflict, one that will honor the memory of the Khojaly people so that their families and countrymen may never suffer the same fate, nor anyone else in the world.

We in the United States cherish our strong bilateral relationship with Azerbaijan. I am very optimistic about what our countries can achieve not just for the Azeris and my fellow countrymen, but for the development of the Caucasus as a whole, allowing the world to understand its potential alongside its rich culture and history.

I am honored to recognize the Khojaly victims, and we will continue to keep them in our hearts and minds as we foster a strong working relationship between our two countries and promote a peaceful and fair resolution to this conflict. For Azerbaijan, and for Armenia, peaceful and neighborly relations will result in better prosperity for all of us.

#### HONORING KERRY THOMAS

##### HON. LUCY McBATH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 2020

**Mrs. McBATH.** Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Kerry Thomas, Chief of Police for the city of Chamblee. A self-described “forward thinker,” Chief Thomas has served as Chief of Police now for a little over three months. This weekend, citizens in Chamblee will honor Chief Thomas for his service as the city’s first African American police chief.

Chief Thomas joined the Chamblee Police Department last November after over 30 years of service to the Savannah Police Department. During his career in Savannah, his work experience spanned from a Patrol Officer, Forensic Examiner, Captain, and Assistant Chief of Police. His appointment as Chief was recommended by Chamblee City Manager Jon Walker and confirmed by Mayor Eric Clarkson and the Chamblee City Council. He was selected out of an application pool of 48 candidates from across Georgia and beyond. According to Mr. Walker, Chief Thomas “expressed a great depth of knowledge and offered a methodical and results oriented approach to policing.”

Prior to his service in the police force, Chief Thomas proudly served in the United States

Army as an Armor Crewman Specialist from 1984 until 1987. During his time in the Army, Chief Thomas deployed to Germany. Upon his honorable discharge, he transitioned into the Georgia Army National Guard, where he served another three years.

It is my honor to recognize Chief Thomas for his service, his sacrifice, and his dedication to keeping the city of Chamblee safe. As we approach the end of Black History Month, may we be reminded of the enormous contributions that black men and women make to the United States every day. On behalf of myself, the Sixth Congressional District of Georgia, and the United States House of Representatives, I am proud to join the city of Chamblee in honoring Chief Kerry Thomas.

#### KLINK FAMILY CONTINUES TO ADVOCATE FOR WOMEN CANCER PATIENTS

##### HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 2020

**Mr. OLSON.** Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize sisters Sasha and Francesca Klink and their mother Irma Klink, for their tremendous effort to help women going through cancer treatment feel their best.

Cancer is a disease that affects people of all walks of life, regardless of race or economic status. Sasha and her mother Irma are both breast cancer survivors. The Klinks opened their Sugar Land, TX beauty boutique, Cure & Co., and spa Pop & Pigment in 2013 to bring positive distractions to other women going through cancer treatment.

By providing beauty products, wigs, head coverings and spa treatments to cancer patients, the Klinks have helped many women feel beautiful and confident during their journeys to wellness.

Sasha, Francesca and Irma all understand the toll that cancer affects patients and their families, as well as the fear, uncertainty and frustration it brings. Their valuable work eases the pain of patients, helps heal the hurt of their families and inspires others to assist those in need.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, I thank Francesca, Sasha and Irma for their dedication to helping the women of TX-22 on their journey to beat breast cancer.

#### REMEMBERING MEMPHIS LAWYER JAMES S. GILLILAND

##### HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 2020

**Mr. COHEN.** Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Memphis lawyer, public citizen and community leader James S. Gilliland, who passed away Monday at 86. Jim was one of the great lawyers of Memphis with a sterling national reputation, having received every award for his phenomenal professionalism and active role in community affairs throughout his career. That included the 2018 “Pillars of Excellence” Award from the Univer-

sity of Memphis School of Law. Well respected in his hometown, Jim’s service in Washington, as general counsel to the Department of Agriculture during the Clinton Administration, added to his prestige.

Jim was born in Memphis and graduated from my alma mater, Vanderbilt University, and its law school, being named the Most Outstanding of the Law Class of 1957. After passing the bar, he served as a full-time prosecutor in the U.S. Navy in the Pacific and Far East, after which he returned home to join the then seven-lawyer firm now known as Glankler Brown PLLC. He became a partner and remained with the firm for 30 years. By 1964, he had met and married Lucia Flowers and the couple had three fine children—Katherine, Elizabeth and James Jr.—who continue to reflect their parents’ spirit of community involvement.

Jim’s civic commitment was seen in his service chairing the Liberty Bowl, the Memphis Cotton Carnival, the Memphis Arts Council and LeMoyne-Owen College boards of directors. Jim also oversaw the Memphis Mayoral Transition Team for our city’s first African American Mayor, Willie Herenton. He received the Memphis Bar’s Sam A. Myar, Jr. Award as the most outstanding young lawyer in 1972. In 1995, baseball champion Hank Aaron presented him with the United Negro College Fund’s “Beacon of Hope” Award for his work supporting minority education. He was a close friend and counsel to Al Gore throughout his political career.

In 1993, President Clinton nominated Jim for the general counsel post at the Department of Agriculture and he was confirmed by the Senate. There he managed a legal staff of 200 lawyers in 23 regional offices around the country, dealing with the legal issues involved in agricultural production, international trade, food policy, the interests of the forestry industry and rural small towns.

Returning to Memphis after his federal service, Jim became involved in local and national boards, including serving as chair of the American Battlefield Trust, the private partner of the National Park Service focused on preserving American battlefields. Jim was always supportive of me and other public servants and he and Lucia helped make Memphis a more tolerant and inclusive community.

I extend my heartfelt condolences to Lucia, his wife of 55 years, and his children, his grandchildren, his colleagues and his many friends. His was a life well-lived.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

##### HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 2020

**Mr. REED.** Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the one hundredth anniversary of the national American Legion Auxiliary and the special one hundredth anniversary celebration being held by the Corning American Legion Auxiliary Unit No. 746.

The Auxiliary was founded shortly after the American Legion was chartered after World War I. It was decided that a new women’s organization should be founded that was closely

ties to the Legion. Since the Auxiliary was founded, their goal has been to serve veterans and their families—a goal at which they have succeeded at time and time again. Even one hundred years later, the women of the Auxiliary continue on in their quest to help as many veterans as possible—and for that, we are deeply thankful.

The one hundredth anniversary held by the Corning American Legion Auxiliary Unit No. 746 will include remarks from several local and national officials. The Corning unit has been in operation since May 13, 1929 and will soon be celebrating ninety-one years of helping veterans.

Currently, the national American Legion Auxiliary has more than six hundred thousand members across the country who volunteer countless hours of their time and effort to perform various services. The Auxiliary has also stood with the American Legion to advocate for various issues such as veterans' rights, enhancing United States Department of Veterans Affairs benefits and ending homelessness among veterans.

This organization has always and will continue to serve our nation's veterans. I thank them for their service, unwavering commitment, and dedication to their mission.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body join me to recognize the one hundredth Anniversary of the American Legion Auxiliary.

**TRIBUTE TO THE 2019 ELLIS ISLAND MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS**

**HON. DARIN LAHOOD**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 2020

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2019 recipients of the prestigious Ellis Island Medal of Honor.

Presented annually, the Ellis Island Medals of Honor pay tribute to our Nation's immigrant heritage, as well as individual achievement. The Medals are awarded to U.S. citizens from diverse ethnic backgrounds who exemplify outstanding qualities in both their personal and professional lives, while continuing to preserve the richness of their particular heritage and culture. We honor these outstanding individuals because the important work they do today, creates a better world for all of us tomorrow. This momentous occasion was celebrated with a patriotic ceremony on Ellis Island and a re-commitment by the leaders of the organization to their mission of honoring diversity, fostering tolerance and promoting religious and racial unity across America.

Since the Medals' founding, more than 2,500 American citizens have received the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, including seven American Presidents, numerous United States Senators and Congressmen, two Nobel Laureates, and many athletes, artists, clergy, and military leaders. This Medal is not about material success, nor is it about the politics of immigration; it is about the people who have committed themselves to this nation, embraced the opportunities America offers, and

most importantly, who have used those opportunities to not only better their own lives but make a difference in our county and in the lives of its people.

Citizens of the United States hail from every nation known to man. The iconic metaphor of this nation as a veritable melting pot of cultures continues to ring true, and it is this diversity that adds to the unique richness of American life. It is the key to why America is the most innovative, progressive and forward-thinking country in the world. The Ellis Island Medals of Honor not only celebrate select individuals but also the pluralism and democracy that enabled our forbearers to celebrate their cultural identities while still embracing the American way of life. This award serves to remind us all that with hard work and perseverance anyone can still achieve the American dream. In addition, by honoring these remarkable Americans, we honor all who share their origins and we acknowledge the contributions they have made to America. I commend NECO and its Board of Directors headed by my good friend, Nasser J. Kazeminy, for honoring these truly outstanding individuals for their tireless efforts to foster dialogue and build bridges between different ethnic groups, as well as to promote unity and a sense of common purpose in our nation.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the good works of NECO and in congratulating all of the 2019 recipients of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor. I also include in the RECORD the names of the recipients:

**2019 ELLIS ISLAND MEDAL OF HONOR  
RECIPIENTS**

Paula Abdul, Michael Ainslie, Dr. Nina Ansary, Duraid Antone, Anthony Asher, Richard Ashooh, Ajay Banga, Monir Barakat, David Beasley, Chief Carmen Best, Dr. Joel Bloom, Peter Boyer, A'Lelia Bundles, Marilyn Carlson Nelson, Elizabeth Cascio, Major General Michael Churn, Sr.—USA, Ali Cinar, Michael Cohen, MD, Trammell Crow, Reza Dana, MD, Tan Dun, Brigadier General Troy E. Dunn—USAF, Richard Edelman, Claudia Edelman, Nader Engheta, PhD, David Fanning, Wendy Federman, Henry Fernandez, Sergio Fernandez de Cordova, Michael Franti, Douglas Freeman, Beth Friedman, Joshua Friedman, Howard Gillman, Sanjay Gupta, MD, James Harpel, Honorable Jane Hartley, Matthew Higgins, Herve Humler, Paul Hutchinson, Vice Admiral Mary Jackson—USN, Sinan Kanatsiz, Dr. Mehran Kardar, Muhtar Kent, Barry Kibrick, Justin Kim, Steven Klinsky, Maureen Sheny Klinsky, Gene Lee, Hyeongno Lee, Alison Levine, Brigadier General Lorna Mahlock—USMC, Karol Mason, Honorable Juan Mattos, Jr., Patricia McDonald, Dr. Roxana Mehran, Enrico Mirabelli, Esq., Dr. Simin Mozayeni, Dr. Lawrence Najarian, Gregory Olsen, Chief Kathleen O'Reilly, Carl Panattoni, Jane Panattoni, Jonghwan Patrick Park, Sergio Pecori, William Popp, Teri Popp, Esq., Honorable Anthony Portantino, Professor Yahya Rahmat-Samii, Jason Rezaian, Ginni Rometty, Avishai Sadan, DMD, MBA, Honorable Adam Schiff, Eric Schmidt, Chief Dermot Shea, Howard Sheeter, Esq., Donna Soloway, Richard Soloway, Bret Stephens, Ken Sunshine, Michael Tadross, Will Tanous, Captain Jason Tama—USCG, Dr. Prakasam Tata, Tony Thomas, Josie Thomas, Frances Townsend, Clara Wu Tsai, Delia Viader, PhD, Samuel

Waxman, MD, Dr. Torsten Wiesel, Montel Williams.

**OBSERVING THE 27TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KHOJALY MASSACRE**

**HON. STEVE CHABOT**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 2020

Mr. CHABOT. Madam Speaker, I rise to remember the victims of the Khojaly Massacre, and mark the 28th Anniversary of this attack. Azerbaijanis remember this tragedy as the darkest chapter in the Azerbaijan-Armenian conflict.

In the fall of 1991, Armenian and Soviet forces surrounded the town of Khojaly in the region of Nagorno-Karabakh. After bombarding the city, these forces attacked on the night of February 25 and on the 26, killing 600 innocent Azerbaijanis, including women, children, and elderly people. Hundreds more were left severely disabled from the attacks. In a 1992 report, Human Rights Watch stated that the attacks on fleeing civilians "deliberately disregarded . . . customary law restraint".

The victims of Khojaly remind us of the value of peace. Unfortunately, the dispute over Nagorno-Karabakh is still ongoing, despite the efforts of the United States and international community to foster a negotiated settlement. I call on all parties involved to productively engage with the Minsk Process to find a peaceful resolution to this decades old conflict.

The horrific events in Khojaly almost three decades ago lead us to mourn the innocent civilians who lost their lives that day. I encourage my colleagues to join with me and the Azerbaijani people as they remember this tragedy.

**REMEMBERING THE BAKU AND SUMGAIT POGROMS**

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 26, 2020

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the atrocities committed against Armenian civilians during the pogroms in Sumgait and Baku, Azerbaijan that took the lives of many innocent people.

From February 26 to March 1 of 1988, the Armenian population in Sumgait was the target of a horrendous massacre. Innocent Armenian civilians in this seaside town were beaten, raped and murdered in the streets and even in their own homes, simply because of their ethnicity.

A similar atrocity occurred in Baku, Azerbaijan just two years later. A seven-day massacre of Armenian civilians saw them attacked, beaten and killed as perpetrators roamed the streets, committing arson and robberies. Many Armenians were expelled from the city, targeted, as before, for their ethnicity.

Madam Speaker, in order to combat atrocities such as these, we must first look to the past and ensure the victims of hate are never forgotten. We must educate ourselves and our

neighbors on these events and all events like them to prevent further massacres in the future.

We have a solemn duty to remember the devastation the Armenian people suffered—

and demand a world where freedom can be found for all people, and where events like the Baku and Sumgait Pogroms are relegated to a dark and distant past.