

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 11, 2009

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I was unable to have my vote recorded on the House floor on Thursday, May 7, 2009, due to a family commitment. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of H.R. 1728, the Mortgage Reform and Anti-Predatory Lending Act (Roll No. 242).

JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. MICHAEL A. ARCURI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 11, 2009

Mr. ARCURI. Madam Speaker, I am proud to rise today in recognition of Jewish American Heritage Month. This month provides an important opportunity to reflect on the diverse ways in which Jewish Americans have contributed to the vitality of our nation and the preservation of our values.

The history of the Jewish American community begins in 1654, the year that 23 Jewish refugees from Recife, Brazil, fleeing persecution by the Portuguese Inquisition, arrived in the harbor of New Amsterdam, now known as New York. Although not the first Jews to come ashore in North America, they were the first to attain rights afforded to other settlers, including the right to own property, to erect a house of worship and to engage fully in the political process.

Free to worship and participate in civic life, the Jewish community in the United States has since thrived. Over the past 355 years, the achievements of Jewish Americans in areas such as science, law, literature, entertainment and public service have enriched our country and helped to propel our nation into the 21st century. Their deep devotion to faith and family has strengthened the fabric of our nation and set an example for all.

Madam Speaker, I call on all Americans to join this month in celebrating the history, culture and contributions of the Jewish American community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 11, 2009

Mr. HINOJOSA. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, May 7, 2009, I was unavoidably detained from voting on several amendments to, and final passage of, H.R. 1728, the Mortgage Reform and Anti-Predatory Lending Act.

Had I been present for those votes on the floor of the House of Representatives, I would have voted the following way: on Rollcall No. 238, I would have voted "aye"; on Rollcall No. 239, I would have voted "nay"; on Rollcall No. 240, I would have voted "nay"; on Rollcall No. 241, I would have voted "nay"; and on Rollcall No. 242, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING THE HILL HEALTH CENTER ON THEIR 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 11, 2009

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join all of those gathered in celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the Hill Health Center—a private, non-profit community health center—the first of its kind in the State of Connecticut—which provides some of our most vulnerable citizens with the medical, dental, and behavioral health services. This is a very special milestone for this outstanding institution.

Too often, those children, families, and individuals most in need do not have access to critical healthcare programs and services. Now operating in eighteen locations and serving eight cities and towns, the Hill Health Center has become an irreplaceable asset to our community. Affiliated with both Yale-New Haven Hospital and the Hospital of Saint Raphael, the Center's staff includes internists, pediatricians, OB/GYNs, psychiatrists, psychologists, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, nurse midwives, registered nurses, LPNs, certified medical technologists, certified phlebotomists, social workers, nutritionists, registered dietitians, dentists and dental hygienists. The Center also operates six school-based health and dental centers. The Hill Health Center provides comprehensive, affordable care to hundreds of children and families—helping to ensure that every resident, regardless of age, income, or insurance coverage, has access to quality health care.

As we gather to celebrate this remarkable milestone, we also take a moment to reflect on the history of the Center and pay tribute to a man who was the driving force behind its success for more than thirty years; my dear friend and one of New Haven's most respected community leaders, the late Cornell Scott. His tireless efforts literally changed the face of healthcare in our community and across the nation. I had the privilege of working with Scotty over the years and I was in constant awe of his endless energy. Though he is no longer with us, Scotty continues to be an inspiration to so many and his vision, through the good work at the Hill Health Center—continues to make a real difference in the lives of others.

The Hill Health Center has and continues to be an invaluable resource to our community.

Providing programs ranging from outreach to the homeless to Birth-to-Three services for developmentally disabled children and from school-based health centers to a child and family guidance clinic, the Center's many services significantly increase the quality of life for countless individuals and families. As the first of its kind in Connecticut and one of the first in the country, the Hill Health Center has provided a model for care that has been successfully replicated and built upon across Connecticut and the nation.

The Center and its remarkable staff have made all the difference in our community and I have no doubt that they will continue in their good work for many years to come. I could not be more proud to rise today to extend my sincere congratulations to the Hill Health Center and all of its staff and supporters—both past and present—as they celebrate their 40th Anniversary.

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED PRIESTLY AND SACRAMENTAL SERVICE OF REVEREND MONSIGNOR EDWIN JAMES PETERSEN

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 11, 2009

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the distinguished priestly and sacramental service of Reverend Monsignor Edwin James Petersen. After 50 years, Reverend Monsignor Petersen is retiring as Monsignor with the Diocese of Fresno, California.

Edwin James Petersen was born on November 8, 1933 in Los Angeles, California to Edwin Clarence Petersen and Maryellen A. Underwood. As a young man, Rev. Msgr. Petersen attended Randsburg Elementary School in Randsburg, California. His high school and college education was obtained at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Worthington, Ohio. Between 1961 and 1963, he attended Fresno State College in Fresno, California where he obtained his Masters of Art degree. In 1970, Edwin James Petersen was invited to study at the prestigious American College in Louvain, Belgium where he received his Masters of Art in Theology.

Rev. Msgr. Petersen has been appointed to serve many of our Valley churches beginning as early as June 1959 at St. Mary's in Cutler, California as an administrator. Shortly thereafter, he was appointed as an assistant at the Shrine of St. Therese's in Fresno where he spent several years working with the parishioners. Over the course of the next decade, Rev. Msgr. Petersen spent time as an administrator at Our Lady of Sorrows in Parlier, and then became a part of the parish families of St. Patrick's, Our Lady of Mercy, and Sacred Heart, all located in the community of Merced. Between 1974 and 2000 he was a valued and revered Pastor at Our Lady of Mercy, St. Anthony's of Padua and the Shrine of St. Therese.

• 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.

Always an advocate on behalf of those in need, Rev. Msgr. Petersen was appointed by all of the California Bishops to work as a Public Policy Advocate with the California Catholic Conference in our great State's capital of Sacramento. This work allowed him to effectively provide a strong compassionate voice for the traditionally underserved on a wide variety of issues.

Throughout his lifetime of service, Reverend Monsignor James Petersen has become a highly respected leader who has always demonstrated sincere commitment to the Diocese of Fresno. As he prepares to retire and embark upon new endeavors of interest to him, we thank him for his unselfish service and wish him the best of luck for the future.

TRIBUTE TO DR. HELEN GRAVES

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 11, 2009

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Dr. Helen Graves, an extraordinary woman who passed away April 21, 2009 at the age of 84. She was a noted and celebrated innovator in the field of experiential education and a devoted, civic-minded citizen of humanity.

Born February 21, 1925 in Pittsburgh, IL, Dr. Graves grew up in Southern Illinois, later deciding to study social science at Southern Illinois University. Upon receipt of a bachelor's degree, she acquired a masters degree from the University of Minnesota and later a Ph.D. from Wayne State University, at age 50.

During her career, Dr. Graves was instrumental in the development of young minds, preparing them for future civic duty and awareness. She established the first comparative political internship program in the Canadian House of Commons in 1984 and established the Washington Internship program, which she oversaw for 20 years. At the University of Michigan Dearborn, where she served as a professor from 1975–2006, she helped found the Women's Commission, which celebrated its thirtieth anniversary in 2006. She also earned the university's 1980 Distinguished Junior Faculty Award, 1989 Sara G. Power Award, and 1993 Outstanding Service Award. Dr. Graves established a number of new courses in the curriculum, including Women's Politics and the Law and Canadian Politics. From 1992–1995, she sat on the Screening Committee of the Fulbright Program for Canadian Awards.

Dr. Graves was recognized by the Canadian House of Commons in 1993, elected delegate to the Democratic Convention 1998, and appointed in 1984 and reappointed in 1986 by Governor James Blanchard to the Michigan Women's Commission. She was the first woman president of the Michigan Conference of Political Scientists 2004 and the Washington Center for Civic Education 2003. Dr. Graves' Michigan Internship Program was recognized by the Michigan House and Senate, and she nominated to the Michigan's Women Hall of Fame 2003.

The legacy that Dr. Graves leaves is an eternal reminder of the great work one is capable of accomplishing when answering the call of service to the fellow man. Her endless

commitment will be remembered, and her legacy lives on.

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THREE BROTHERS BAKERY

HON. JOHN ABNEY CULBERSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 11, 2009

Mr. CULBERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor a Houston institution, Three Brothers Bakery, on the occasion of its 60th anniversary. On this day in 1949, brothers Sigmund, Sol, and Max Jucker opened Three Brothers Bakery on Holman Street in Houston, Texas. They started with nothing but their hands to mix the dough—a literal interpretation of the term “handmade.” Eventually word spread around Houston about their delicious baked goods, and their hard work and determination paid off when they moved the bakery to its current location on South Braeswood in May of 1960.

The story of Sigmund, Sol, and Max Jucker is a tribute to the qualities that make America great. In 1941, the brothers and their family were sent to Nazi concentration camps. The three brothers and older sister survived the Nazi atrocities and on their liberation day, May 8th, 1945, the three brothers were actually all together in the same camp due to the ingenuity of their older sister, Jennie. Later they all immigrated to America, where their entrepreneurial spirit took hold and they continued the family tradition of baking which began around 1825. The three brothers were the fourth generation of bakers in the Jucker family. Using the family recipes to make rye, pumpernickel, challa, strudels and other Eastern European style baked goods, the brothers were soon rewarded with the a large and loyal customer base at Three Brothers Bakery.

Three Brothers Bakery continued to serve the Houston area until it was forced to close temporarily after Hurricane Ike, the third most costly storm in American history. The family—Sigmund, Sol's widow Estelle, and the fifth generation of Juckers, Robert and his wife Janice—could have taken the insurance money and closed the bakery permanently, but their deep commitment to the community and the family's baking history compelled them to rebuild and continue using the recipes passed down by their family for nearly 200 years, in addition to all the other pastries and beautiful, delicious cakes created for Americans.

Congratulations to Three Brothers Bakery for the last 60 years, and best wishes for the years to come.

HONORING JACK KEMP

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 11, 2009

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great friend, Jack Kemp.

I had the honor and privilege of meeting Jack Kemp when he was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives in the mid-80s during the Iran-Contra Affair. I was deeply

saddened to hear of his passing on Sunday, May 2, 2009.

He and I traveled with U.S. Rep. JACK MURTHA, then-U.S. Rep. Jim Wright, then-U.S. Rep. Bill Richardson and Alberto Bustamante to Central America during the Contra War.

I can say that Jack was a very decent man, who was committed and dedicated to representing not only the people in his district of New York, but all the people in this country.

In the late-80s, when Jack was named Secretary of Housing and Urban Development under President George H.W. Bush's administration, I had an opportunity to visit with him as we discussed policy and the development of housing in this nation, including South Texas. He was very receptive to what I had to say and took the time from his very busy schedule to hear me out, which made him one of a kind.

I clearly recall a very special moment in my life, when I, along with my staff, was flying on a commercial flight from Houston to Corpus Christi, Texas. We met Jack at the Houston airport and he noticed we were flying on a commercial plane. I remember him telling me, “You don't have to fly commercial—I have a chartered jet—come with me.”

Jack was on his way to speak at a Republican Convention in Corpus Christi, and when we arrived there, other members of the Republican Party saw he was accompanied by a member of the Democratic Party and joked, “What are you doing with this guy?”

That was the type of person he was—a considerate individual. And although we were from opposite parties, he was very respectful of my views of the governmental system as I was respectful of his.

Long before Jack was ever elected to public office, I knew of him from Robert “Bobby” Smith, a former football player of the Buffalo Bills who was born in Corpus Christi. Jack, who also played for the Buffalo Bills, and Bobby were good friends.

I want to offer my sincere condolences to Jack's wife, Joanne, and his children, Jeff Jennifer, Judith, and Jimmy. You remain in my prayers as your husband and father goes on to be with the Lord.

Jack's passing leaves us all in mourning; however, I, as well as those who loved him, know he will forever remain in our hearts and spirit.

I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering Jack.

A BLANK CHECK FOR MUBARAK

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 11, 2009

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues an editorial that appeared in The Washington Post last week. The United States should not continue to give unconditional foreign military financing to the Egyptian government, as long as the regime continues to disregard the fundamental principles of human dignity. This undermines not only our values as a nation, but our credibility as a global leader on issues such as human rights and democracy.

[From the Washington Post, May 7, 2009]

NO QUESTIONS ASKED

Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates earned modest headlines in the United States this