

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PATRICIA MADSON, JOURNAL
CLERK

HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 25, 2011

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, the service of those who sit on the dais here in the well of the House typically attracts little public notice.

But, as Members, we feel their presence each time we enter this Chamber and observe the work of these dedicated men and women. Day in and day out they serve us tirelessly, without regard to party but with full devotion to public service. Without their assistance, the House of Representatives simply could not conduct its essential legislative business on behalf of the American people. We do not thank them often enough for their professionalism, their patience, their good cheer, and the many personal sacrifices they make in service to the House.

In that spirit then, I rise to thank and pay tribute to the House's Journal Clerk, Patricia Madson, who will retire this week. Trish has spent her entire professional life in service to the federal government, nearly all of it here on Capitol Hill. Her work here in the House alone spans four decades and includes service to seven Members as well as the Office of the Clerk.

For the past 21 years, Trish has worked for the Office of the Clerk on the House Floor. In her current role as Journal Clerk, she directs three Assistant Journal Clerks who maintain the official record of House proceedings. Whenever the House is in session, no matter the time, no matter the day, no matter the circumstances, Trish and her colleagues are at their stations at the rostrum.

In her tenure as a Journal Clerk, Trish has had a front-row seat to history, and her work in documenting that history from the House Floor has preserved for all time the essential record of this hallowed institution.

Trish began her congressional career in 1969 as a staff assistant for Representative Paul Findley of Illinois, and over the next dozen years she advanced to more senior-level administrative positions for other Members. She worked in senior assistant roles at the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Transportation before returning to the Hill in 1985 to consult on legislation for Representative PAT ROBERTS of Kansas. In 1987, she was appointed Assistant Tally Clerk to Minority Leader Robert Michel.

It is my privilege to commemorate Trish's long and distinguished service to the House. Trish, your dedication to your profession and your family are unmatched, and I wish you the very best in your retirement.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS
MONTH

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 25, 2011

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize October as domestic violence awareness month. Domestic violence affects individuals from all parts of the country throughout communities in every state, regardless of age, economic status, race, religion, nationality, or educational background.

According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, as many as one in every four women will experience domestic violence in their lifetime. Whether in the form of physical or verbal aggression, this harrowing statistic highlights the largely obscured threat of domestic abuse that is tearing entire families apart.

This form of violence commonly occurs within the personal confines of the home, hidden from the watchful eye of the public and is consequently difficult to track. Some victims may often even feel too embarrassed to speak out against their partner, while others may simply be too afraid out of fear of further violence. This is simply unacceptable in any society.

We must work diligently to expose these crimes by speaking up for those who cannot. We must make resources available to help the millions of victims today who may continue to experience abuse tomorrow. Sadly, we must also mourn the losses of those who could not find help in time before the violence turned fatal.

While the people of this nation have taken great strides to address domestic violence, there is still much work to be done. Despite the tremendous successes we've seen in Congress and throughout the private sector to provide legal and financial support in the defense of these victims, our efforts must not cease until domestic violence is eliminated.

Mr. Speaker, it saddens me to hear that there are still so many victims of domestic violence among us. Yet a bigger injustice would be to ignore this harsh reality. That is why domestic violence awareness month is imperative so that we may shed further light on an issue that continues to erode the social fabric of our great society.

Until we can sufficiently reduce or eliminate domestic violence, it is pivotal that we continue to openly denounce these crimes and seek out those who look to harm innocent people and spoil the lives of future generations.

RECOGNITION FOR THE NEW
HAMPSHIRE COALITION AGAINST
DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIO-
LENCE

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 25, 2011

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I recognize October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month and take pause to thank the New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence for all that you do on behalf of victims of domestic and sexual abuse here in New Hampshire. The line of work you all have chosen is by no means an easy one and without your organization, the victims you work with would have nowhere to turn.

Since the Coalition was founded in 1977, it has worked to provide services to those suffering from abuse, to spread awareness about violence, while also working to prevent it. During the month of October, I wanted to take the time to recognize all those who work to end violence, as well as those who suffer from it. I commend you for all your hard work and dedication. Far too many people have suffered needlessly at the hands of another, and the Coalition's work to stop and prevent this type of violence is admirable.

I appreciate all you do on behalf of the women and families that are coping with the hardships of abuse. I wish you all the best for continued success in the future.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

HON. LOUISE MCINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 25, 2011

Ms. SLAUGHTER. I rise today to commemorate October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month. This year, we have good reason to celebrate. Thanks to important changes to the law in the last 5 years, it has never been easier to receive the valuable preventative care that is vital to preventing and treating breast cancer.

Thanks to the passage of the Affordable Care Act, a mammogram is now one of the free annual preventive services covered by Medicare. Already 4 million women have taken advantage of that benefit this year.

For Medicare beneficiaries, a free Annual Wellness Visit means that you can discuss your personal risk for breast cancer with your doctor, and receive free preventative screening based upon the decision you and your doctor make together.

In addition, more and more insurance plans are providing free screening services of their own.

Finally, genetic testing for risk of breast cancer is available, with the legal guarantee that

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

such testing will not result in discrimination against a woman. I fought for 13 years to pass the Genetic Information Non-Discrimination Act (GINA) so that anyone could choose to find out their genetic disposition for illness, without fear of discrimination. Since GINA became law, no health insurer can raise an individual's rates and no employer can make hiring or firing decisions based on genetic information.

Unfortunately, even though a woman is diagnosed with breast cancer every two minutes in the United States, screening rates for this dangerous disease are declining. A recent study found that out of 1.5 million women over the age of 40 with health insurance, less than half had received the recommended annual screening.

As we celebrate Breast Cancer Awareness Month, it's important that all women know that affordable screening options are available.

Screening tests can find breast cancer early, when it is most treatable. They are the best way to lower the risk of dying from breast cancer. The 5-year survival rate for breast cancer caught early is 98 percent, compared to 23 percent when it is not.

I encourage women to take care of themselves in every possible way, and to make a renewed commitment to following the recommended screening guidelines for breast cancer. Together, we can take the important steps necessary to win the fight against breast cancer.

REMEMBERING DAN WHELTON

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 25, 2011

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, October 16, race fans everywhere mourned the tragic loss of Dan Wheldon from injuries suffered at the Las Vegas Indy 300.

Though he was only 33 years old, Wheldon was highly-accomplished within the Indy Racing League.

In 2003, Wheldon received the Indy Racing League's prestigious Rookie of the Year Award, which he followed up by winning the Indianapolis 500 in 2005 and 2011.

Dan Wheldon was an incredible ambassador for the sport and the Indianapolis 500, the largest sporting event in the world, which is located in my District at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. His loss will be felt on and off the track.

My deepest sympathies go to his wife, Susie, his two sons, Sebastian and Oliver, his family, his friends, and to the legion of fans around the world who are mourning his passing. Dan Wheldon's memory will remain in the hearts of race fans everywhere, and his achievements will never be forgotten at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

HONORING SCCOG FOR 50 YEARS
OF ADVOCATING FOR SOUTH-
EASTERN CONNECTICUT

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 25, 2011

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SCCOG) for providing 50 years of intergovernmental service to the people of Southeastern Connecticut.

SCCOG's origins date back to 1961, with the founding of Southeastern Connecticut Regional Planning Agency (SCRPA) as one of the one of the first regional planning agencies in Connecticut at the time. The agency transitioned to SCCOG in 1993, and today serves 20 member municipalities and counts as non-voting affiliate members two federally recognized Native American Tribes, and has liaisons from the United States Naval Submarine Base and the United States Coast Guard Academy.

Under the leadership of James Butler, the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments ensures the various governments participating in the group have a platform for co-operation and organization on a diverse array of issues. They act as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the region, budgeting for and implementing essential and transformative transportation projects. SCCOG has played a vital role in many of the region's top infrastructure priorities and support for Naval Submarine Base New London.

By providing services to over 240,000 people, the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments has established itself as the second largest regional planning organization in Connecticut. For 50 years, the group has been influential in the planning of countless housing, technical, economic development, and emergency management projects in the SE CT region.

Having worked with SCCOG closely on a number of regional priorities, I know firsthand the tremendous value it provides to decision makers, local communities and the vitality of this unique part of our state. With the challenges before our state and the region, coordination through groups like the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments serves as the backbone of strong communities across the nation. By combining strong planning foresight with a commitment to inclusion, SCCOG has contributed to building Southeastern Connecticut into a unified, burgeoning region.

I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring SCCOG for 50 years of service to southeastern Connecticut.

HONORING MR. THOMAS C. GAGEN

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 25, 2011

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Thomas C. Gagen for his work and contributions towards improving the accessibility and affordability of health care to those living in the Sacramento region. For over a decade, Tom has served as the Chief Execu-

tive Officer of the Sutter Medical Center in Sacramento (SMCS) and during that time he has been an outstanding civic leader. As Tom retires, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking him for his service and leadership in our community.

After graduating from Purdue University, Tom went to Cleveland State University to receive his Masters in Business Administration. Before coming to Sacramento in 2000, Tom was a leader at a number of health care facilities, including the Carondelet Health Network in Tucson and then Scripps Health in San Diego, where he served as Senior Vice President. Throughout Tom's decade long tenure, he helped Sutter General Hospital and Sutter Memorial Hospital grow into one of Sacramento's largest not-for-profit organizations. During Tom's career leading SMCS, it was twice named as one of the top 100 hospitals in the nation and it received the Sutter Health's President's Award for patient satisfaction. Tom played a key role in improving care at SMCS and across the Sutter Health system as a key member of Sutter's Blue Ribbon Team on Quality.

Under Tom's vision SMCS has shown incredible support of the community, donating over \$20 million to dozens of local non-profit organizations. Tom served as the first chairman of Sacramento's 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness and has always worked to bring social services to the neediest. For his work with the homeless, Tom was the recipient of Cottage Housing's 2011 Beacon of Hope Award. Tom was also named the Sacramento Chamber of Commerce's 2008 Businessman of the Year, in part for his involvement with the Sutter's "Triage, Transport and Treatment" program, which addresses the needs of frequent emergency room visits by the uninsured.

Since being elected to Congress, I have come to know Tom as an incredibly intelligent and forward thinking leader. He cares deeply about improving the quality and access to health care in the Sacramento region and he cares just as much about our community. As he retires, Tom leaves a true legacy of accomplishments that will be felt in Sacramento for generations.

Mr. Speaker, as Tom, his wife Pat and their friends gather to celebrate his retirement, I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking and recognizing him for his many years of service. Tom has contributed an immense amount to making Sacramento a better place to live, work and raise a family.

IN RECOGNITION OF GINA
BARTLOW ON BEING NAMED
ANCOR'S 2011 DIRECT SUPPORT
PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 25, 2011

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate Gina Bartlow on being named ANCOR's 2011 Direct Support Professional of the Year. It is truly a prestigious honor to be considered as the best in your field and this recognition demonstrates Gina's compassion and commitment, as well as all the hard work she does for those with disabilities.