

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO DANIEL PULINSKI
AND STEPHANIE URBANCZYK ON
THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVER-
SARY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 9, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Daniel B. Pulinski and Mrs. Stephanie M. Urbanczyk, lifelong residents of Lackawanna, on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary.

The couple was wed on August 10, 1963 in a ceremony at St. Michael's Church, now Queen of Angels, in Lackawanna, New York.

Daniel attended St. Barbara's elementary school and St. Francis High School, after which he nobly enlisted in the United States Army. After his service, he worked in the Bethlehem Steel plant, rising through the ranks to become a foreman. A dedicated family man, Daniel worked several more jobs to support his wife and children after the plant closed. He retired after working as a custodian in the auto tech division of Erie Community College.

Stephanie attended St. Michael's elementary school and Lackawanna High School. After completing her education, she became a secretary for a Buffalo insurance company. While starting a family, she became a stay-at-home mother for a few years, returning to work at Hills Department Store. The store became Ames, where she rose to the position of Manager. Stephanie continues to work to this day, currently at Dollar General.

Daniel and Stephanie raised four children together, Anita, Ronald, Denise, and Daniel. They are grandparents to eight beautiful grandchildren: Stephanie, Alanna, James, Rebecca, Danielle, Brandon, Nicholas, and Matthew.

The couple enjoys spending family time with their grandchildren and traveling across the globe with their many friends. They continue to reside in Lackawanna, and are still active in Queen of Angels Church and the Buffalo Polish community.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor for me to offer my sincerest congratulations to Daniel, Stephanie, and their family on this most joyous occasion. I ask my colleagues to join me to acknowledge their commitment to each other as they celebrate their Golden Anniversary, and offer our best wishes for continued happiness.

TRIBUTE ON THE 50TH WEDDING
ANNIVERSARY OF MR. AND MRS.
ANDREW SEWELL

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 9, 2013

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute on the

occasion of the 50th wedding anniversary of Andrew and Nancy Sewell, my beloved parents who celebrated this special event on July 2, 2013. This phenomenal couple celebrates love, marriage and family on this momentous occasion that began on June 15, 1963. They instilled family values to so many others as well to me. This golden wedding anniversary is a special day and it marks a half of a century of commitment and love for one another. We honor this milestone of marriage and a life well lived together.

Their love story begins with the attraction of an outstanding football player in college who was Captain of the team to his beautiful classmate Nancy. My father says lovingly that my mother met him on the steps of the library and that she barely gave him the time of day. He remembers being drawn to her outer beauty as well as inner beauty noting her friendly spirit. He also said that she was studious. My mother recalls that my father was "the jock of the campus" and especially remembers that he was athletic and gregarious.

After graduating college, their romance blossomed in the summer of 1961 when Andrew was recruited as the Head Coach for Council Training School in Huntsville, Alabama. His future bride was already employed at the school as the Head Librarian. When Andrew saw Nancy in the Library on the school tour before he signed the contract he immediately knew that he wanted to work there telling the principal yes, he would take the job!

The romance led to a Valentine's Day marriage proposal in 1962 as Andrew asked for Nancy's hand in marriage at the Old American Legion Club in Huntsville, Alabama. Prior to the proposal as was custom, my father asked permission for my mother's hand in marriage from my grandfather, Reverend Tom Gardner, Jr. of Lowndes County, Alabama. This tradition of respect for elders in our family continues today. The Gardner family is a family of Christian religious leaders and this value of spirituality permeates our family life as my father is Catholic and my mother is Methodist.

For 50 years, this exceptional couple has built a life of love together. They were married on June 15, 1956 and have served as a pillar to the communities where they have lived. Their first home was in Huntsville, Alabama and my mother was the Head Librarian and my father was the Head Coach for Council Training School. Their leadership, values, commitment to community, work, and family are demonstrable through their actions and accomplishments.

As first born child of my parents, I am pleased to say that while Coach Sewell wanted a future football player, he was thrilled with the addition of his "cheerleader" on New Year's Day in 1965. During this time my father was recruited to return to his beloved R. B. Hudson High School as Head Basketball Coach and Assistance Football, Track and Baseball Coach. Nancy became the Assistant Librarian and history teacher at R. B. Hudson High School.

Life continued to blossom as my parents became the parents of twins on July 21, 1967.

My parents encouraged and supported their children to maximize their potential, to achieve excellence, to have a strong work ethic and to be a blessing to others. My parents have often said that to those who are blessed it is their obligation to be a blessing to others. Through their inspiration, motivation, prayers, and strength my brothers are college level athletic coaches and I am serving my 2nd term in Congress as a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives. They cherish three beautiful grandchildren: Neshambia, Taylor and Carter. Neshambia is a sophomore at the University of Alabama, Taylor will be in 6th grade and Carter will be in 3rd grade this year.

Andrew and Nancy Sewell continue to be excellent role models that lead by example. They reach out to family, friends and community teaching their children and now grandchildren the importance of doing the same. This becomes part of the fabric of our lives, interwoven into who the children are and what they will become. Families work together to solve problems, and they believe in the importance of passing their values and skills on to the next generation.

Andrew's successful and productive career as a Coach continued for 33 years in Huntsville and Selma, Alabama. Nancy, in addition to being Head Librarian in the school system, she was the first African-American woman elected to the Selma City Council, serving 12 years; the Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA) South Eastern Regional Director for 4 years; and AKA International Secretary for 4 years.

Marriage is a bond that lasts a lifetime. For my parents it is based on a foundation of love, spiritual belief, common goals and family values. Their love story nourishes one in understanding that this sacred union brought together their hearts, minds and souls. The laughter, love and joy continue today as we acknowledge with a grateful heart the 50th Wedding Anniversary of my parents, Andrew and Nancy Sewell.

On behalf of the State of Alabama, and this nation, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the Golden Anniversary of my parents who are extraordinary Americans and Alabama treasures!

HONORING CHIEF TODD HOUE'S
RETIREMENT

HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 9, 2013

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Cherry Valley Police Chief Todd M. Houe, and to recognize his service to the Cherry Valley community.

Chief Houe began his career in law enforcement as a deputy sheriff with the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office in 1981 after graduating from Memphis State University with a degree in criminal justice. He became a full-

• 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.

time police officer with the Cherry Valley Police Department in August 1986.

Throughout his years with the department, he has protected the Cherry Valley Community through his work on multiple task forces. From 1987 to 1990, Chief Houde was assigned to the State Line Area Narcotics Task Force and in 1995 he was assigned to the Northern Illinois Auto Theft Task Force.

On June 28, Police Chief Todd M. Houde retired from the Cherry Valley Police Department after thirty-two years of service.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 16th District of Illinois, I wish to express our deepest thanks to Chief Houde for devoting his life's work to protecting and serving his community.

HONORING LT. COL. ADAM J.
KIMMICH, U.S. ARMY

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 9, 2013

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the promotion of Major Adam J. Kimmich, to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

This Thursday, July 11, 2013, it will be my great honor to preside over his promotion ceremony and celebrate his exceptional accomplishment of service and dedication to this great nation.

Though he currently works as an Operations Officer at US Special Operations Command, Kimmich has served in many capacities throughout the world. In 1997, he began his career in the Army as an Infantry Officer at Schofield Barracks in Hawaii, and has since been promoted to positions including Rifle Platoon Leader, Assistant Battalion Operations Officer, Commander, Operations Officer in Special Operations Command, and Battalion Operations Officer in the Philippines, South Asia, and Southeast Asia. Kimmich also served in Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation Enduring Freedom.

His awards and decorations include the Combat Infantryman's Badge, Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, multiple Army Commendation Medals and Army Achievement Medals, as well as the Iraq Campaign Medal, GWOT Campaign and GWOT Expeditionary Medals, and 5 Overseas Service Ribbons. He has earned the Special Forces Tab, Ranger Tab, Parachutists Badge, Air Assault Badge, and Expert Infantryman's Badge.

Adam's parents, John and Barbara Kimmich of Kennesaw, Georgia, should be proud to know that their guidance has led their son to stand for the principles this country cherishes most, and the freedom of its people. His path has not been easy, but Adam's valor and sense of duty have led him to overcome obstacles that most of us could never imagine.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 11th District of Georgia, I extend my deepest gratitude to Lieutenant Colonel Kimmich for devoting his life to upholding the Constitution of the United States and making the world a safer place. Again, I congratulate him on this well-deserved promotion.

HONORING RICHARD MICHALSKI

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 9, 2013

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary career of my friend Richard Michalski. Rich is retiring after over 40 years of service with the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM).

I had the pleasure of first meeting Rich when I was elected to Congress nearly 20 years ago. I have always appreciated his honesty, straightforward approach, and wise counsel.

Rich was first initiated into IAM Local Lodge 1916 and worked as a welder at General Electric in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1968. He held several positions in his local lodge, including steward, chairman of the bargaining committee, and president.

Rich has always been involved at the grass roots level, volunteering many hours promoting the rights and representation of all workers.

Rich became the Director of the Legislative and Political Action Department at IAM in 1992. In this capacity, he was involved on a daily basis with legislation that affects working men and women.

Rich joined the ranks of the IAM's Executive Board as the General Vice President in charge of IAM Headquarters in 2006.

I want to thank Rich for his lifelong commitment to supporting labor rights, promoting fair trade and boosting U.S. exports. I congratulate Rich and wish him the best in his much deserved retirement.

IN HONOR OF ALAN BALDRIDGE

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 9, 2013

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 80th birthday of Alan Baldrige, a leading environmental conservationist, naturalist, educator and dedicated community activist in my Central California Coast district.

Alan Baldrige and his wife Sheila immigrated to the United States from England in 1962 so that Alan could work as a history and literature reference librarian in Portland Oregon's public library. Four years later, the couple moved to Pacific Grove, CA to allow Alan to take over the library at Stanford University's Hopkins Marine Station. Through his tireless work as a librarian, Alan has been able to use his expansive scientific expertise to inspire and assist countless marine biologists and researchers. An expert on ecology, biology and conservation Alan wrote *The Bird Year* published in 1980; co-authored the definitive book on Monterey Bay birds, and co-authored *Gray Whales* in 1991 and 2006.

Alan's careful observation of seabirds and marine mammals made him not only an educator and librarian, but also a naturalist and local authority on the incredible array of animals that fly, swim and wash up on the shores of Monterey Bay. He has served as a naturalist on a number of Stanford alumni trips to

the Sea of Cortez, Alaska and ice sheets off eastern Canada. Alan has readily shared his vast knowledge with countless members of the community, including scientists, students, government officials and reporters. Throughout his time in Monterey, Alan served as a liaison to the fishing community, and many records of rare seabirds first came to the attention of researchers and birders alike through Alan's efforts to acquire and pass on information. Alan's other work as a Regional Editor for Audubon Field Notes/American Birds for Northern California, seabird editor for the Middle Pacific Coast Region for 12 seasons and member of the editorial board for the first three volumes of *California Birds*, made Alan an integral contributor to the birding community.

A long-time leading environmental activist, Alan has utilized his expertise in order to support conservation movements in the area. A leading advocate for establishing the Elkhorn Slough National Marine Estuarine Reserve, the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District, the Monarch Grove Sanctuary and an instrumental asset in raising funds for the construction of the Harold A. Miller Library of Marine Biology, Alan's dedication to protecting the marine environment of his community has been unrivaled.

After 23 years as librarian at Hopkins Marine Station, Alan retired in 1994. He and his wife Sheila continue to promote educational efforts to create an understanding of the marine environment of their community.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for the whole House in wishing Alan Baldrige well and to thank him for his invaluable and tireless work on behalf of his community.

CELEBRATING BILL GRAY

SPEECH OF

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, we were all shocked and saddened to hear of the sudden and untimely passing of former Congressman William "Bill" Gray, a former member of the Congressional Black Caucus who represented Philadelphia in the House of Representatives for many years in stellar fashion.

William Gray was a trailblazer for African Americans and other minorities in Congress, an inspirational pastor, a persuasive advocate for education of minorities and the poor and for causes where often others feared to tread. He was a steadfast friend to countless of us and the epitome of a servant-leader.

My first recollection of meeting him personally was poolside at the then St. John Virgin Grande Hotel with his and my long time friends Orville and Julie Kean. He had a home in St. John at the time.

We talked late into the night and he often referred to me as a St. Croix Nationalist many times after that. I was also always proud of his calling me his Congresswoman, even after he sold the St. John home. And it was just days before he was suddenly taken from us that in the Members Dining room he remarked that he would be visiting our Islands in the near future. Sadly that will not happen.