

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL CARL M. SKINNER

#### HON. MAC THORNBERRY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 2, 2013*

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Major General Carl M. Skinner on the occasion of his retirement from the Air Force after 33 years of dedicated service to our Nation. Major General Skinner began his career after graduation from the Air Force Academy in 1980. His service is marked with distinguished performance as an Instructor Pilot in the T-38 Talon, Chief, Standardization and Evaluation in the FB-111 Aardvark, and Mobilization Assistant to the Air Force Chief Information Officer, the Director of the Defense Information Systems Agency and the Commander of the Air Force's Air Education and Training Command. Major General Skinner's career followed his father's example during World War II and continues through his son, an Air Force physician stationed at Incirlik Air Base in Turkey. My colleagues join me in sincerely thanking Mike, his wife, Pam, and their children, Tom and Kelley Ann, for their service to the United States of America and a job well done.

### HONORING JOHN PARSONS

#### HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 2, 2013*

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of John Parsons, a man who gave so much of himself to the community. He had served as a City Councilmember in Redondo Beach and most recently as the Planning Commissioner. John has been a pillar in the South Bay community and will be remembered for his dedicated service to the City of Redondo Beach.

I have had the great honor of working with John since I began representing the 33rd Congressional District. He helped me get to know the South Bay, its businesses and local Chambers of Commerce.

John had a long history of public service in the beach communities and beyond. He served as chairman of the City's Harbor Commission and Chamber of Commerce Board and was president of the Redondo Beach Rotary. Most recently, he worked as the business services and economic development manager for the South Bay Workforce Investment Board.

One of John's most important contributions to the community was as a founding member and original chairman of the Los Angeles Air Force Regional Alliance, which successfully protected the Los Angeles Air Force Base from the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure list. John's tireless work helped the Air Force

Base remain in El Segundo and remain a central part of the defense community. It continues to support tens of thousands of local jobs and supports our national security around the globe.

John is survived by his wife, Mary Ann and two daughters, Nikki and Danielle; a sister, Lorraine Doolin of Virginia; and two brothers, Mike Parsons and Pat Parsons of Los Angeles. My thoughts and deepest sympathies go out to John's family and friends during this difficult time.

John will truly be remembered as a civic leader who always had the best interest of his community in mind. I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the remarkable life and tremendous contributions of John Parsons. Our community owes John a debt of gratitude for his service and he will not be forgotten.

### ON THE OCCASION OF MONA AND CANTOR SAMUEL L. GREEN- BAUM'S FORTIETH ANNIVER- SARY OF SERVICE TO CONGREGATION BETH SHALOM AND THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF GREATER DETROIT

#### HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 2, 2013*

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Cantor Samuel Greenbaum and his wife, Mona, on the occasion of their fortieth year of service to the members of Congregation Beth Shalom.

As a leader at Congregation Beth Shalom and in Greater Detroit's Jewish community, Cantor Greenbaum has been present for thousands of Jewish Michiganders at every stage in their lives. Throughout his decades of service, Cantor Greenbaum has been involved in every facet of Beth Shalom's community. From his mastery of the liturgy at religious services to his lessons as a teacher of Jewish education for members at all periods in their lives, Cantor Greenbaum has approached his work with a thoughtful balance of compassion, levity and pastoral care that have enabled him to effectively guide members of his congregation on their lifelong journey in establishing a deep and meaningful connection with their faith. One of his most important responsibilities is the commitment he makes to Jewish boys and girls as a Bar/Bat Mitzvah tutor—serving as a key advisor to the youth as they take on increased responsibilities in the Jewish community.

Furthermore, it is not surprising that Cantor Greenbaum's profound enthusiasm for his faith has led him to work that goes beyond the congregation of Beth Shalom and affects the broader Jewish community in Southeast Michigan. As one of just a few certified mohels in the Greater Detroit region, Cantor Greenbaum has been instrumental to thousands of newborn boys as they enter the covenant of Juda-

ism and has taken part in the naming ceremony for thousands of newborn girls. He has been with families at moments of great joy, officiating countless weddings, and been of comfort to families while mourning the loss of loved ones. In recognition of his service to the Jewish community, Cantor Greenbaum was honored with an honorary Doctorate of Music degree from the Jewish Theological Seminary.

As is often the case for spiritual leaders, Cantor Greenbaum is joined in life by his dedicated partner Mona, who mirrors his compassion and commitment for the well-being others. Mona has supported Beth Shalom through her work as a teacher in Jewish Day School and in the public school system.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Mona and Cantor Samuel Greenbaum on this tremendous milestone in their service to Congregation Beth Shalom and the Jewish community of Greater Detroit. For forty years, the Greenbaums have practiced compassion and dedication to their congregation and community—a shining example of service above self for all of us that seek to make a difference in the lives of others.

### BISHOP D. RAYFORD BELL

#### HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 2, 2013*

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, born Dennis Raphael Bell, in Leflore County, Mississippi, on July 9, 1923; to sharecropper parents. Dennis was raised by his grandparents.

In spite of the absence of a dream of better conditions; something within him, at a very early age, rebelled against the status quo. He discovered in the South, if Black people refused to sink in despair and accept things as they were, then they had better have a ray of light from above. Bishop Bell is convinced it was that ray of light that brought him from the backwoods of Mississippi to the glorious heights of Pentecost; from a Mississippi plowboy to a Prince of the Church of God.

In 1938, after living briefly in Morley, Missouri; a fifteen-year-old Dennis returned to Mississippi to find a new girl had moved into the area; Darlene Griffin. On July 20th, 1942, Darlene and Dennis were married. To this union were born two sons, Harvey and Curtis, and nine grandchildren. Shortly after Harvey was born, Dennis was drafted into the U.S. Army. After training, he was sent to Europe, where he saw action in the campaign of Northern France, Ardennes, Rhineland, and Central Europe. He was honorably discharged December 9th, 1945.

Bishop Bell received the Holy Ghost on April 1, 1949. Since that day, God has continually perfected that which concerned Bishop Bell. It has not always been easy, but the ray of light has never gone out.

Bishop Bell has constantly sought to improve himself. After finishing his high school

• 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.

education at LaSalle University in Chicago, one of his teachers told him "if the elevator to success is not running, take the stairs." Bishop Bell was conferred his Bachelors degree with honors from Southwestern College in Oklahoma City, OK. As a straight "A" student at American Bible College, he was conferred a Masters of Theology. He continued onward and was conferred a Doctoral degree in Theology and Philosophy by Toledo Bible College and Seminary. Bishop Bell was the first person in that school's history to earn two doctorate degrees in one year.

In August of 1990, after 48 years of marriage and a lengthy illness, a grieving Bishop Bell buried his beloved Darlene. In God's timing, the Lord saw fit to send a ray of sunshine into Bishop Bell's life, in the form of Jacqueline Collins of Cincinnati, Ohio. They were married in April of 1991.

An Apostolic preacher for over 55 years, Bishop Bell has spent a great part of his life serving the people of God in many ways. In addition to serving his church, he also serves the community as a Chaplain for the Chicago Police Department. Bishop Bell came up through the ranks of Christ Temple Church, serving in such positions as Sunday School teacher, Assistant and then Superintendent; Vice and Chairman of the Youth Department; Trustee; Assistant Pastor; Pastor in 1958 and now Senior Pastor. He is the founder of the Christ Temple Apostolic Church in Joliet, as well as, the founder and President of Midwest Apostolic Bible College in Chicago. He also founded Samuel Barnes Christian Academy, a K-8th grade school named in memory of his pastor and he created the Mother Darlene Bell Scholarship Fund to assist the educational dreams of deserving students.

Dr. Bell served as the Assistant Presiding Bishop of the Pentecostal Churches of the Apostolic Faith, for 19 years, along side his best friend, the late Bishop Elzie W. Young. Thereafter, his tenure as the Presiding Prelate was from January 1990 to July 2000. He now holds the title of Senior Bishop.

Bishop Bell has preached the Gospel from the street corners of Chicago to 49 states in America, over 50 countries, on all five inhabited continents, and to the isles of the sea. His chief joy continues to be the opportunity to share the life of Jesus Christ with someone. The sentiments of his heart play almost like the lyrics of a song which says, "if I can help somebody as I travel along, if I can cheer somebody with a word or song, if I can tell somebody that he is traveling wrong, then my living shall not be in vain."

It has been my great pleasure to be associated with Bishop Bell and his family since the 1960's when I was his nephew Fred Davis' Social Studies teacher.

Bishop, we all love and revere you for having been a great leader of your people and a blessing to all.

HONORING MARK E. LOPES

**HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 2, 2013*

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Mark E. Lopes for his nomination to the posi-

tion of United States Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank. If confirmed, he will be one of 14 members on the board of executive directors and will represent the United States in all aspects of overseeing the conduct of the bank.

Mr. Lopes, an Arizona native, has a distinguished and varied career in public service that makes him eminently qualified to carry out this role. He served as a Peace Corp volunteer in Paraguay and then worked for the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) as a Presidential Management Fellow. He spent the next portion of his career as a staffer on the House Appropriations State and Foreign Operations Subcommittee, and as the Senior Policy Advisor on the Senate Foreign Relations Development and Foreign Assistance Subcommittee. He later returned to USAID, and has risen to the position of Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Latin American and Caribbean Bureau.

These accomplishments clearly demonstrate Mr. Lopes' passion, sacrifice, and dedication. He is the epitome of expertise in International Development and it is my privilege to represent him in Congress. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mark E. Lopes on this momentous career achievement.

PAY OUR MILITARY ACT

**HON. RENEE L. ELLMERS**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 2, 2013*

Mrs. ELLMERS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit the following:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
*Washington, DC, October 1, 2013.*

Hon. CHUCK HAGEL,  
*Secretary of Defense, Pentagon,  
Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. SECRETARY: I share the concerns you've expressed about the seriousness of the lapse in appropriations and the additional negative impacts on military readiness associated with a significant furlough of defense civilian workforce. In an effort to mitigate these harmful effects, the Congress reached unanimous agreement that the members of our Armed Forces, as well as the civilians and contractors who provide support to the Armed Forces, should continue to receive pay and allowances. As you know, this legislation, H.R. 3210, the Pay Our Military Act, sponsored by Representative Mike Coffman (R-CO), was signed into law last night. With the enactment of this law, active duty uniformed personnel can continue to be paid for their service and most civilian defense workers should remain on the job.

I was heartened to read your statement indicating that it is a priority for your General Counsel to review the legislation, "to see if there's any margin here, or widening in the interpretation of the law of exempt versus non-exempt civilians." I believe the legislation provides you broad latitude and I encourage you to use it. The text does not limit the provision of pay to civilians who were previously categorized by the Administration as "excepted" or "essential" for the purposes of Department of Defense operations in the event of a government shutdown. Therefore, I strongly encourage you to use the authority Congress has given you to keep national security running, rather than keeping defense civilians at home when they

are authorized to work. Likewise, as your General Counsel reviews the legislation, I request additional information regarding the provision of pay and allowances to members of the military Reserves and National Guard.

I look forward to an update on the Administration's interpretation of H.R. 3210 later today. I know you would agree with me that this is no time to use national security or our national security workforce as a political pawn.

Sincerely,

HOWARD P. "BUCK" MCKEON,  
*Chairman.*

IN HONOR OF SPC JON NAHOLNIK

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 2, 2013*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor SPC Jon Michael Naholnik who died suddenly on Wednesday, September 25 of a "Wounded Heart" at the age of 32. Those who were lucky enough to have Jon in their life knew that he was a loving father, brother, son and friend.

Jon was an Afghanistan veteran who proudly served his country in the Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 102nd Infantry Regiment. He attended Waterford High school and began work at Millstone Power Station as an armed guard after he graduated. In 2007, he decided to join the Army National Guard as his father Nik and his grandfather Charlie did before him.

In 2011, after returning home to Montville, Jon survived a freak lightning strike outside his home. Although he knew that he was lucky to survive, Jon maintained a great sense of humor about the incident. He told a reporter that he enjoyed watching storms but would probably stay indoors in the future.

I ask my colleagues to join with me to honor SPC Jon Michael Naholnik and his patriotic service to our Nation. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family in this difficult time.

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

**HON. JOHN D. DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 2, 2013*

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, here we are again wasting the people's time. But I want each and every one of my colleagues to know that we're wasting their money, too. Seventeen years ago, Republicans shut down the government for 27 days. In today's dollars, that cost American taxpayers \$2 billion. For all the high-handed talk by my Republican friends about reducing deficits, they seem to have no problem with trying to score political points at the expense of hard-working American families.

This afternoon, we're going to take up the same cut-and-bite bills that the House rejected last night. We find ourselves hoping for a different outcome by doing the same thing over and over again. I'd like to remind my friends that this is the definition of insanity. On top of that, Republicans are using the World War II Memorial closure and veterans to try to shame us into going along with their charade. I'm one of two World War II vets left in this place, and