

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF MRS.  
RICHIE JEAN SHERROD JACKSON

**HON. TERRI A. SEWELL**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 13, 2013*

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Richie Jean Sherrod Jackson, a phenomenal woman and beloved teacher, author, and civil rights activist who departed this life on Sunday November 10, 2013. For her dedicated service to the City of Selma and the State of Alabama, I pay tribute today to the life work of Mrs. Richie Jean Sherrod Jackson.

Mrs. Jackson was born August 30, 1932 the only child of the late John W. and Juanita Richardson Sherrod. Her early years were spent in York and Selma, Alabama.

Mrs. Jackson graduated from Cardoza High School in Washington, D.C. and completed her Bachelor's degree in Education from Alabama State University and Master's degree in Education from the University of Montevallo.

Mrs. Jackson was married to Dr. Sullivan Jackson and together made Selma, Alabama their home. To this union was born one child; Jawana Virginia Jackson to whom they were devoted.

In addition to her strong commitment to family, Mrs. Jackson in 1961 began a 30 year teaching career with Selma Public Schools serving as both a teacher to countless numbers of children and as an administrator with the school system.

Because of her family's dedication and allegiance to civic and social justice, the Jackson home on Lapsley Street became a focal point for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and other leaders as they planned the Selma to Montgomery Civil Rights March.

In 2011, Mrs. Jackson's book, *The House by the Side of the Road: The Civil Rights Movement* was published by The University of Alabama Press. The book detailed her personal memoirs reflecting on how her home in Selma served as the informal headquarters for Dr. King during the Civil Rights Movement. She and her husband Dr. Jackson were influential and prominent supporters of the movement. Dr. King and other national leaders, including Ralph David Abernathy and John Lewis, held strategy sessions at the Jackson house and also met with Assistant Attorney General John Doar to negotiate plans for the Selma to Montgomery march.

This firsthand account showed the heart of Dr. and Mrs. Richie Jean Jackson, and the pivotal role they played to carefully create a safe haven for civil rights leaders. They also courageously dealt with the challenges of living through events that would forever change America through the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Mrs. Jackson demonstrated an exemplary commitment to community and enjoyed membership in the Historic Brown Chapel AME Church; the Alabama State Dental Wives Aux-

iliary; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and numerous civic and community endeavors in Selma, Alabama.

On a personal note, I will always remember Mrs. Jackson as my sixth grade teacher at Cedar Park Elementary School in Selma, Alabama. Mrs. Jackson was a gifted teacher and strict disciplinarian. She expected the best from her students and settled for nothing less. I am grateful to have her as a guiding influence in my life and I will cherish the memories of being in her class. Mrs. Jackson was also a longtime member of my home church, Btown Chapel where she would faithfully sit in same pew each Sunday. I was always aware of the special role she and her home played in the civil rights movement but I believe one of her greatest gift is embodied in the hearts and minds of the many students she taught and mentored in her 30 year teaching career.

On behalf of the 7th Congressional District, the State of Alabama and this nation, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering the life and legacy of Mrs. Richie Jean Sherrod Jackson. May we strive to emulate her servant heart and pay tribute to her distinguished humanitarian efforts and contributions to the betterment of society.

### IN RECOGNITION OF FLAHERTY DRIVE

**HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 13, 2013*

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the completion of the Flaherty Drive Project in New Bedford.

Greater New Bedford is a working city, constantly progressing and growing. The New Bedford Business Park allows local businesses to set up shop and participate in our community's—and nation's—economy. Of course, with emerging businesses, space is limited. When two million dollars were allocated to extend the park by 45 acres, an opportunity was given to new businesses, and existing businesses were given the opportunity to expand. The Flaherty Drive Extension has been completed by the Bourne Financial Development Corporation, and currently offers water, sewer, gas, electric, and telecommunication services to the New Bedford businesses looking to operate in the new section of the Business Park.

This project would not be possible without Bill Flaherty, the longtime Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Greater New Bedford Industrial Foundation's Executive Committee. He served on the Committee from 1987 until 2002. Mr. Flaherty passed away in 2003 at the age of 57 after a courageous battle with cancer. He is survived by his wife, Joan, and his daughters, Megan and Mary. At the Celebration of the Flaherty Drive Project, a memento of dedication to Mr. Flaherty will be presented to his family. It's essential to highlight the pro-

gression of local businesses, especially in the current economy. It is the hard work and dedication, as exhibited by Bill Flaherty, that allows for our country to advance and thrive economically.

Mr. Speaker, it brings me great pride to recognize the completion of the Flaherty Drive Project in New Bedford. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the importance of this newly expanded business park, the insurmountable role it will play in the lives of local business owners, and the devotion of Bill Flaherty in his work to better the City of New Bedford.

### TRIBUTE TO LINDA BISIGNANO

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 13, 2013*

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of Linda Bisignano of Des Moines, Iowa who passed away on November 11th at age 64 following a long struggle with breast cancer.

Linda and her family have been a foundation of the Des Moines' culinary scene for more than half a century. In 1956, the Bisignano family opened the now renowned Chuck's Restaurant in Highland Park. Specializing in traditional, homemade Italian recipes, Chuck's has been an area favorite for its great service, atmosphere, food and live music.

Linda will fondly be remembered for her invaluable contributions not only to her cherished family business, but also to the community as a whole. Each year, "Dinner at Chuck's" provides a free Thanksgiving dinner to the area's homeless, seniors, families and shut-ins. Last year, nearly 3,500 meals were provided with 2,600 meals delivered to homes across the area.

Mr. Speaker, anyone who had the pleasure of witnessing Linda's hospitality firsthand can tell you she was a one-of-a-kind spirit who truly embodied the sense of community and strong work ethic that Iowans are known for. In her passing, we are reminded of her compassion and her dedication to excellence in doing what she loved. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in offering the Bisignano family my prayers and deepest sympathies during this difficult time.

### KRISTEN MOLINARO, HAZLETON LIONS CLUB

**HON. LOU BARLETTA**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 13, 2013*

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Past President Kristen Irene Molinaro of the Hazleton, Pennsylvania Lions Club.

Ms. Molinaro served as president of the Hazleton Lions Club from 2011 to 2013. Since its

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founding, the Hazleton Lions Club has been extremely active within the community, completing numerous projects and making donations in support of many other organizations. In her time as president, the club donated \$1,000 for a security camera in Hazleton and \$5,000 to Lions International for Campaign Sight First. Other donations were made to a local Boy Scout troop, the Lions Beacon Lodge, Rails to Trails tree planting and the All American Girl Softball League. For her hard work Ms. Molarino was awarded the District 14W Lion of the Year 2012/2013.

Mr. Speaker, for her devotion to the Hazleton Lions Club and the improvement of our community, I commend Past President Kristen Irene Molinaro.

RECOGNIZING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF EAST PIKELAND TOWNSHIP, CHESTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

**HON. JIM GERLACH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday November 13, 2013*

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate East Pikeland Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania on the occasion of its 175th anniversary.

In 1705, William Penn granted 10,000 acres of Pennsylvania land to his friend and fellow Quaker, Joseph Pike of Kilcreagh farm, County Cork, Ireland. "Pike's Land" was the first name given to this acreage. By the end of the 18th century, the character of various portions of Pike's Land had become divergent from each other and so a division into the Townships of East Pikeland and West Pikeland was agreed upon to reflect these differences.

East Pikeland Township's rich history includes playing a key role in the Revolutionary War. During the "Philadelphia Campaign", East Pikeland's farms, mills and cottage industries were important sources of food and supplies for the Continental Army. The Continental Powder Mill at Rapps Dam on French Creek proved a key element in munitions supply as well.

Today, East Pikeland Township and its citizens continue to make invaluable contributions to the quality of the economic and social life of Chester County while, at the same time, preserving the rich and storied heritage of their past.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of its 175th anniversary, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing East Pikeland Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania, and its long and storied history.

IN HONOR OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF ZION MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

**HON. PAUL C. BROWN**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 13, 2013*

Mr. BROWN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the rich heritage of Zion Missionary Baptist Church whose members are celebrating its 150th anniversary. In 1863,

shortly after President Abraham Lincoln gave the Emancipation Proclamation, thirty-six freedmen founded a church at the Pepperton Community in Jackson, Georgia. Since then, Zion Missionary Baptist Church has become a thriving fellowship, dedicated to ministry and service in the African-American community.

It is worth noting that before there were African-American mayors, governors, or even a president, Black churches, like Zion, thrived with leadership from African-American Sunday school teachers, deacons, and pastors. As with many churches, over the years the members of Zion were seen as community leaders, who helped mentor, educate, and counsel many in the Black community. Today, Zion serves not only as a place of worship, but as a people with a mission to serve as a source of encouragement, inspiration, and pride for members of the community for more than a century.

The 150 year history of Zion Missionary Baptist Church includes many pastors, challenges, and changes, but its unwavering commitment to being a place where the community gathers to help and support one another is to be commended. No matter the cause, event, or activity, God has used Zion to influence its community. Therefore, I close by asking you to support and pray for what God is doing at Zion Missionary Baptist Church. May it continue as a pillar of strength for the residents of Butts County for generations to come.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF  
THOMAS S. WILMETH

**HON. RALPH M. HALL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 13, 2013*

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Thomas S. Wilmeth whose work ethic, entrepreneurship, philanthropy, and commitment to education are a tribute to what makes this country great. Mr. Wilmeth, who celebrated his 100th birthday this year, lives in Daingerfield, Texas and describes himself as "someone who always wanted to do something." He most certainly has.

Thomas Wilmeth was born October 2nd, 1913 in Indianapolis. While his father served in World War I in the U.S. Army, his grandmother and mother—both math teachers—began teaching him at an early age. Mr. Wilmeth attributes this early education to much of his success—it was through their tutelage that he was able to skip ahead three grades and graduate from Broad Ripple High School at age 15. At age 16, Mr. Wilmeth enrolled at Purdue University. While there, he was a member of Alpha Chi Rho, Tau Beta Pi, and Eta Kappa Nu. In 1935, at age 21, Mr. Wilmeth graduated magna cum laude with a degree in electrical engineering. In May of 2013, Purdue University awarded Mr. Wilmeth with an honorary doctorate for engineering information literacy.

In addition to a keen mathematical and analytical mind, from an early age Mr. Wilmeth also demonstrated particular business savvy. At age 10, he sold hot-roasted peanuts; at age 12, he sold strawberries; and at 15, he opened his own radio repair business. During his senior year at Purdue University, Mr. Wilmeth worked as business manager of the

Purdue Yearbook, Debris, earning \$1,100 in profit.

In 1949, Mr. Wilmeth combined his education and entrepreneurial ambitions and started Scot Industries, Inc. with his brother, Harvey. After exploring a number of different businesses and products, Scot Industries established itself as a metal honing business focused on increased efficiency, productivity, and affordability. Nearly 45 years later, their business has 10 locations nationwide, and Mr. Wilmeth continues to assist with the management and operation of Scot Industries.

Mr. Wilmeth has stated that his philosophy is "to develop the ability to train and teach oneself to learn." His philosophy is lived out daily through his work ethic, and it is extended through charitable giving. He continues to donate to his alma mater, Purdue University, as well as the Boy Scouts of America. Mr. Wilmeth was himself a Boy Scout who earned the rank of Eagle at the age of 15.

The hard work, dedication, and generosity Mr. Wilmeth lives by are an inspiration and should encourage all Americans. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Wilmeth a Happy 100th Birthday. I thank him for his entrepreneurial spirit that helps make our country great, and wish him continued health and happiness.

IN HONOR OF JOHN AND MARTHA  
MANILLA

**HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 13, 2013*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John and Martha Manilla. John and Martha have been married for 57 years. John served in World War II in the 8th Army Air Force in the European Theater. He flew 33 missions over France and Germany before returning home and beginning work with a construction company. He married Martha, a school teacher, in 1956 and started a family. John soon began his own construction company, with constant aid and support from Martha. Together they raised a family of four in Skaneateles, New York, a town John has called home for his lifetime. Martha taught in the Skaneateles Central Schools for 23 years, influencing the lives of hundreds of students. They are loving grandparents to 11 grandchildren, friends of many and a warm presence in the town they love. At 90 years old, John still participates in the Memorial Day parade and is an active veteran. They represent the best in America; pride in their nation, purposeful civic duty and a love for family and friends. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the remainder of my time.