

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

OKAWVILLE 175TH JUBILEE

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2013

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor The Village of Okawville on its 175th Anniversary. The village will celebrate this special jubilee on June 28 and 29, 2013, with a variety of community events, including a soapbox derby, children's parade, live music, and fireworks with the theme, "Celebrate Okawville."

The Village of Okawville was founded in 1838 as the Village of Bridgeport and was renamed Okawville in 1870 by a wave of German immigrants. The village became popular for its mineral springs, where many visitors would come to relieve their ailments in the therapeutic waters.

The village is now home to 1,400 residents and still boasts a strong German heritage. Besides the Original Springs Hotel, which offers spa services, the village also is home to the Heritage House Museum sites, which draw tourists to the area today.

I extend my congratulations to The Village of Okawville upon this special occasion. It is my prayer that the Lord blesses them with many more years of extending hospitality.

RECOGNIZING JACK VANDER MEULEN AND HIS 40 YEARS AT VANDER MEULEN BUILDERS

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2013

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding accomplishment of Jack Vander Meulen on his 40th anniversary working at Vander Meulen Builders.

Jack Vander Meulen is a resident of Holland, Michigan and a 1973 graduate of Holland Christian High School. Immediately following graduation, Jack joined Vander Meulen Builders as a carpenter and was able to work with his father Jay and uncle Earl. Exhibiting hard work and dedication to his craft Jack became a project manager in 1986. Jack was named President of Vander Meulen Builders ten years later in 1996.

Vander Meulen Builders was founded in 1924 by Rhine Vander Meulen and traces its roots back seven generations in the Netherlands. They developed a niche building custom residences and summer cottages in the harbor towns of Lake Michigan. Their high-quality work was readily recognized by the West Michigan community and in 1967 Vander Meulen Builders became a charter member of the Home Builders Association of Holland. Their reputation landed them the opportunity to work on several historic West Michigan

projects such as, renovating Marigold Lodge, the Holland Museum, several churches in the area, and many other downtown Holland landmarks.

Jack and the Vander Meulen family have built more than a successful business—They are leaders in the Holland community. Vander Meulen Builders is known for working on unique custom projects throughout the community and have developed superior problem solving skills through their many years of experiences on a variety of projects. Their company has a great reputation for astounding customer service working with people who truly care about the homes they own. Vander Meulen Builders know that they do more than just build homes, they develop lasting relationships with the families they have worked with throughout the community. Jack and his wife Brenda have two sons, one who is also working for Vander Meulen Builders, the fourth generation in the family business.

Jack and his leadership in Vander Meulen Builders is a great example of the area's hard work ethic, high-skill level in their professions and great family values that are always prevalent throughout the second district of Michigan and make it the great community that it is today. Citizens like Jack and Vander Meulen Builder's family embody the spirit of Holland and the West Michigan community.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Jack Vander Meulen and Vander Meulen Builders for their great service in West Michigan through the many decades.

CONGRATULATING DEERFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY ON ITS GRAND REOPENING

HON. BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2013

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Deerfield Public Library, my hometown library, on the occasion of its grand reopening, and for its outstanding service to the community.

Over its almost 80 years, the Deerfield Library has grown from a few-hundred-book operation to a thriving, diversified community institution. With thousands of books, movies, e-books, magazines and games, the library has enriched the lives of so many in the area, including my family.

I treasure the memories of bringing my sons to the Deerfield Library and sharing my personal love of reading, and I am overjoyed that the next generation will also be able to cultivate that passion in this engaging new space.

In today's hyper-connected world, libraries have become far more than places to simply check out books. The Deerfield Library has, with this renovation, embraced that new paradigm and raised the bar for excellence in service to its patrons.

The reinvented library now offers a place to meet, a place to learn and a place to relax. Myriad programs, from early literacy to e-book assistance and recreational programs for the entire family exemplify the commitment that Deerfield Library has made to offering the finest services possible.

The dedicated men and women who make the library so special are a remarkable group who routinely amaze. Kids excite their wonder and adults explore at ease at the library, and this is a credit to the fantastic staff.

Mr. Speaker, as libraries' roles in our communities continue to evolve, Deerfield Public Library is at the cutting edge and has taken bold strides to maintain its leadership in the field.

IN CELEBRATION OF HO-CHUNK NATION'S 50 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF SOVEREIGNTY

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2013

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Ho-Chunk Nation's sovereignty. The people of the Ho-Chunk Nation trace their origins to a time before the arrival of Columbus to lands throughout Wisconsin and surrounding states. In these lands, the Ho-Chunk people provided for themselves through hunting, gathering, and farming. Their rich cultural heritage is defined by a reverence for the land along with a pride and strength that has persevered through tremendous hardships.

In 1634, the French explorer Jean Nicolet became the first European to make contact with the Ho-Chunk people. Welcoming Nicolet, the Ho-Chunk began trade with the French who referred to them as the Winnebago, a name that became their official title in the United States until 1993. Though the United States government initially recognized the Ho-Chunk as a sovereign nation holding title to several million acres of farmland, this position was reversed in the midst of westward expansion in the early 19th century. As lead miners began taking over the choice land of southern Wisconsin, the Ho-Chunk were forced to sell their remaining territory for a fraction of its worth.

Beginning in 1836, the Ho-Chunk were subjected to a series of forced relocations pushing them westward onto small desolate plots of land. In spite of the continuing, often violent, efforts by authorities to expel the Ho-Chunk from their native land, many continued to return to Wisconsin. Through persistence and perseverance, the Wisconsin Ho-Chunk prevailed and was eventually given 40 acre homestead plots to farm.

In 1962, the first Wisconsin Winnebago Tribal Constitution was drafted and redrafted. On March 19, 1963, the Constitution and Bylaws of the Wisconsin Winnebago Tribe was approved by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior marking the beginning of the sovereign

• 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.

government known today as the Ho-Chunk Nation.

Known as "People of the Big Voice," or "People of the Sacred Language," the Ho-Chunk Nation are a people rich with culture and a resolute spirit. It is with great pride that I rise today to recognize them for 50 years of self-governance and thank them for their contributions to communities in Wisconsin and beyond.

JACK "YOGI" BACHTELL,
MILLERSBURG FIRE COMPANY
NO. 1

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2013

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Jack "Yogi" Bachtell of Millersburg Fire Company No. 1 in Millersburg, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Bachtell has been a dedicated member of the Millersburg Fire Company since 1972. In addition to his role as a firefighter and driver, he held the positions of Assistant Chief and Head Trustee, a post in which he was responsible for all fire company property. Throughout his time with the organization, he has played a crucial role in protecting the community from the devastation of fire and other disastrous events.

Mr. Bachtell's service and dedication to the safety of others extends beyond his time working for Millersburg Fire Company No. 1. He served in the Army from 1966 to 1972, deploying for two tours in Vietnam. His first tour was extended by twelve months and his second was extended by six months. Although he was prepared to return to Vietnam to serve our country for a third tour, Mr. Bachtell was discharged in 1972 due to the Army force reduction after the war. His unwavering devotion and bravery to defend our freedom is truly admirable.

Mr. Speaker, for his service and commitment to protect both the people of Millersburg and the citizens of the United States, I commend Jack "Yogi" Bachtell.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF JUSTICE FRANK A. SEDITA, JR.

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the remarkable life and legacy of retired New York State Supreme Court Justice Frank A. Sedita, Jr., who passed away on June 16, 2013, at the age of 78.

Judge Sedita was a key member of a long-respected local political family in my hometown of Buffalo, New York. He was the son of the late three-term Buffalo Mayor Frank A. Sedita and was the father of Erie County's current District Attorney, Frank A. Sedita III.

He started off as an impressive student, graduating summa cum laude from Canisius College, and subsequently earned his law degree from the University at Buffalo, gaining admission to the bar in 1961.

Judge Sedita's dedication and work ethic led to great professional success, as he start-

ed in private practice, working in trial and family law until 1968, when he achieved a 99 on a civil service test and was named an assistant city corporation counsel. From 1970–76, he served as senior deputy corporation counsel.

While in the midst of a stint as an Erie County Family Court judge, Mr. Sedita ran unopposed for the position of Buffalo Chief City Court judge. Unafraid to tackle a tough job, Judge Sedita named himself a Housing Court judge in 1992, when no one else wanted to take the position, and received praise for his no-nonsense tack with slumlords, cracking down with a record number of fines and jailing many. He quickly became known as "Maximum Frank." Following his service as the city's top jurist, he was elected to serve as a Justice of the New York State Supreme Court.

On several occasions, the Western New York community recognized the great work of Judge Sedita as he was named the recipient of many awards for his successes in Housing Court, including the Buffalo News Outstanding Citizen award in 1992, the Buffalo Urban League Stewardship Award in 1993, and the West Side Business Association's Citizen of the Year Award, in 1994.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me and with Members of the House to express our deepest condolences to the family of the late Judge Frank A. Sedita, Jr., and join with me in recognizing the many good works he performed during his long and full career and life.

TRIBUTE TO ABRAHAM LINCOLN
DIBACCO

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2013

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished military career of United States Navy World War II Veteran Sergeant Abraham Lincoln DiBacco along with his two brothers Albert and Vincent DiBacco who are also WWII U.S. Army Veterans. Sergeant DiBacco's service was one of respect and dedication; to which the people of West Virginia and the United States of America owe a tremendous debt of gratitude.

Abraham DiBacco began serving his country in 1941 when he enlisted in the United States Navy. He honorably served on the USS George Clymer, the first United States Navy Attack Transport to participate in World War II, and embarked on his tour of service. He was stationed in the both the Europe–Africa–Middle East Campaign and the Asiatic–Pacific Campaign. He proudly sailed alongside the USS Missouri when General Douglas MacArthur arrived in Tokyo Bay to sign the Formal Surrender of Japan in September 1945. Another instance of merit was his participation in preparations to land in Japan to backup the Enola Gay as it dropped its pay load on Hiroshima. From the ship they witnessed and felt the intense heat of the atomic bomb.

Sergeant DiBacco has received a host of awards and decorations throughout his to our nation, including the European–African–Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with Bronze Star, The Asiatic–Pacific Campaign Medal with Silver and Bronze Stars, a Navy Presidential Unit Citation * American Campaign Medal, the Phil-

ippine Liberation Ribbon with Bronze Star, and a Philippine Presidential Unit Citation.

Sergeant DiBacco lives in Martinsburg, WV with his wife, Ellen. Together they have been married for 65 years and have adopted two children. Today he continues to honor his fellow Veterans by creating floral baskets, with his fellow Veteran and friend Fran Erwin, and distributing them to Veterans across West Virginia, Ohio, and Virginia. Abraham DiBacco's life-long dedication to serving his country and his community is an example we should all follow.

ACKNOWLEDGING THE ADVOCACY
OF THE PANCREATIC CANCER
ACTION NETWORK

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2013

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to take this opportunity to recognize and thank Central Floridians Amy Di Bella, Taylor Kennedy, Thuy Phan, and Rose Quinlan from the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network for taking the time to meet with me this week to share their families' struggles with pancreatic cancer. The Pancreatic Cancer Action Network is a nationwide network of people dedicated to working together to advance research, advocate for a cure, support patients, and create hope for those affected by pancreatic cancer.

Pancreatic cancer is one of the most deadly forms of cancer, with only a six percent five-year survival rate. As the fourth leading cause of death from cancer for both men and women in the United States, pancreatic cancer is also the tenth most commonly diagnosed cancer in men and the ninth most commonly diagnosed cancer in women. While the overall cancer incidence and death rates are declining, the number of Americans who are diagnosed with pancreatic cancer is increasing. Sadly, there are currently no curative treatments for pancreatic cancer.

Investing in groundbreaking cancer research is about improving the lives of loved ones afflicted with the disease, and about fostering a healthier future for our sons and daughters. On behalf of the citizens of Central Florida, it is an honor to stand alongside the medical community in the fight against cancer. The continuous support of medical research initiatives are imperative to both advancing new treatments that improve the lives of patients afflicted with cancer and bringing our nation closer to finding a cure. I thank the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network for their tireless advocacy to end pancreatic cancer.

HONORING CARLENE MAKAWSKI

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Carlene Makawski of Saint Joseph, Missouri. Carlene is active in the community and has been chosen to receive the YWCA Women of Excellence Lifetime Achievement Award.