

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LYNDEN GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. SUZAN K. DELBENE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2014

Ms. DELBENE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 2014 Lynden Christian High School girls basketball team. On March 8, the Lynden Lyncs won the 1A state championship, culminating their impressive season with a record of 25–2. I congratulate them on this impressive achievement.

This title is Lynden's 10th and their first since 2008. The Lyncs had one focus all year, "Team is greater than I." Their motto was evident in the championship game as the Lyncs built an early lead that they never relinquished. In the final quarter, King's High School made a late push to bring the game within 4 points, 44–40. But the Lyncs stepped up, determined not to lose this one.

After consecutive scoring drives and solid defense, the Lyncs secured their spot as state champions by a score of 55–40.

I would like to give special recognition to Kara Bajema, the tournament MVP. Senior guard Courtney Hollander also played a pivotal role in the final game, finishing with 11 points and 13 rebounds. The Lyncs' impressive record this season is a testament to their incredible work ethic and the impressive coaching of Curt De Haan. Coach De Haan provided the girls with the training and encouragement necessary to achieve this notable feat.

Again, I congratulate the Lynden Christian High School girls basketball team on all of their success. Their victory was hard-earned and well-deserved.

RECOGNIZING DR. EDWARD LEE FOR 40 YEARS OF LEADERSHIP SERVICE WITH SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH IN McDONOUGH, GEORGIA

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2014

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Reverend Dr. Edward W. Lee for his 40 years of servant leadership at Shiloh Baptist Church located in McDonough, Georgia. Over 148 years ago Shiloh Baptist Church opened its doors as the Colored Baptist Church of McDonough as one of the first churches in the area founded by former slaves. Since Shiloh's opening, the church continues to steadfastly serve the spiritual needs of the surrounding community.

On April 5, 2014, Shiloh will honor an essential leader in their community, Reverend Dr. Edward W. Lee, as he marks 40 years of service and leadership with their congregation.

Since the start of his tenure in 1974, Reverend Lee has shepherded in monumental growth. Under his guidance, the church moved into a new 30,000 square foot space, drastically increasing the number of available seats from 350 to 1100. Further, he has been instrumental in the fundraising and construction of a new Family Life Center which will house the Shiloh Youth Academy. Even after 40 years of tireless service, Reverend Lee remains steadfast in his commitment to growing and strengthening the Shiloh community.

In addition to serving Shiloh, Reverend Lee is an active member of the Henry County community, regularly volunteering his time to several organizations. Notably, he serves as the chaplain of the Henry County Police Department, chairman of the Henry County United Way Advisory Board, president of the Henry County Ministerial Alliance, board member of the McDonough Housing Authority, and moderator of the Shoal Creek Baptist Association. Further, he previously served as director of the New Era State Congress of Christian Education, board chair of the New Era Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia, and as a member of the Board of Directors for Henry County Residential Housing. As a result of his admirable efforts and status as a pillar of the McDonough community, Mayor Richard Craig marked Sunday April 3, 2005, as a day of honor for Reverend Lee.

Reverend Lee has been happily married for 45 years to his dynamic wife Betty. Together, they are the proud parents of two sons and five grandchildren. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today to thank Reverend Lee for his tireless engagement with Shiloh Baptist Church and the surrounding community of McDonough, Georgia. I ask my colleagues to do the same.

CONDEMNING KESSAB ATTACKS

HON. DAVID N. CICILLINE

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2014

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in Congress in condemning attacks on the Syrian Armenian population in Kessab by extremist fighters connected to al-Qaeda. On March 21, al-Qaeda affiliated terrorists out of Turkey attacked the peaceful Christian-Armenian community in a town that has served as a place of refuge for those trying desperately to escape the bloodshed of the past three years. This brutal assault is yet another consequence of the increasingly dangerous violence in Syria that leaves innocent civilians with no choice but to again flee as they have already done from their homes in Aleppo.

This war and the escalating brutality in the past months have put far too many innocent civilians at risk and I am deeply troubled that recent events including mass exoduses and violent strikes upon the peaceful Armenian communities hark back to the early days of the Armenian Genocide under Ottoman rule

nearly 100 years ago. No innocent civilian in any part of the world should be targeted because of their ancestry, ethnicity or religion, and I want to work with my colleagues to find a way to bring an end to such brutal attacks and the increasingly violent civil war ravaging the region that has left over 100,000 dead and forced over 2 million to flee their homes and communities. I will work with my colleagues on the House Foreign Affairs Committee to help find a diplomatic solution to this crisis and ensure that Armenians of Kessab and Aleppo can return to their peaceful lives.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2014

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, on April 1, 2014, I was unavoidably absent and missed the following rollcall votes: No. 149, to Concur in the Senate Amendment to provide for the costs of loan guarantees for Ukraine; No. 150 to provide for the costs of loan guarantees for Ukraine; and No. 151 on approval of the Journal. Had I voted, I would have voted "aye" all three votes.

THE WOMEN OFFICIALS NETWORK FOUNDATION WONDER WOMAN AWARDS

HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2014

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, the Women Officials Network Foundation will be honoring five extraordinary women at the WONder Woman Awards banquet April 30 at the San Marino Club in Troy. The award honors women who have improved the quality of life in Southeast Michigan through their civic, philanthropic and professional accomplishments. This year marks the 30th celebration of WONder Women and many past honorees will attend. The 2014 WONder Women are: Debra Ehrmann, Lisa Gorceyca, Mattie McKinney Hatchett, Ruth Holmes, and Cynthia Walker.

The Honorable Debra Ehrmann has held elected and appointed office including service on the State Commission on Spanish Speaking Affairs and the Oakland County Employment Diversity Council. Debra has been Vice President of Centro Multicultural since 2007 and previously worked as the Health Care Coordinator of Clinica Santa Teresa. She is well known and respected for developing networks of stakeholders and volunteers. She is recognized for her dedication to vulnerable populations and for providing interpretation, relationship-building and vital connections for their connection with community services. Debra currently serves on the Genisys Credit Union Board of Directors-VP Supervisory Committee.

• 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.

The Honorable Lisa Gorcyca is Presiding Judge of the Family Division of the Oakland County Circuit Court. Before her election to the bench in 2008, she spent fifteen years working at the Oakland County Prosecutor's Office as Chief of the Domestic Violence and Elder Abuse Unit. She chairs the Oakland County Coordinating Council Against Domestic Violence and is founder and member of the Oakland County Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team. She was recently recognized as a Top Circuit Court Judge for 2014.

The Honorable Mattie McKinney Hatchett was first elected to the Oakland County Board of Commissioners in 2002 and made history in 2011, when she became the first African-American woman to serve as President of the Michigan Association of Counties. Known as "The Mother of Pontiac," Mattie served as Deputy Mayor and has spent more than fifty years advocating for her community. Since 1963, she has been actively involved with the Pontiac School District as an employee and volunteer. Presently, she is a Trustee on the Pontiac Board of Education.

Ruth Elliott Holmes is President of the International Women's Forum—Michigan which brings together a global membership of women to exchange ideas, to learn, to inspire and to promote better leadership for a changing world. In eleven years overseas, she worked for the African-American Institute in Abidjan in the Ivory Coast and was active in the international community in Brussels, Belgium. She serves on many professional boards and is a Trustee for the National Association of Document Examiners. A handwriting examiner and personnel consultant, Ruth owns her own business and was named 2010 Innovator of the Year, one of Michigan's Top 10 Women Business Owners and, in 2002, Corp! magazine listed her among Michigan's 95 Most Powerful Women.

The Honorable Cynthia Thomas Walker currently serves as Chief Judge of the 50th District Court in Pontiac and has been a district judge since 2003. Before taking the bench, she worked as Court Administrator of that court, as Pontiac City Attorney, and as a staff attorney for UAW Legal Services and for Legal Services of Eastern Michigan. She serves on the board of the Oakland County Bar Association and is active in judicial, professional and civic organizations. She supports the Teen Court program at her court and volunteers her time at local schools, churches, and non-profit organizations.

All WONder Women demonstrate achievement in each of the following areas: contribute to the community beyond that which is required in their employment; demonstrate character, commitment and leadership; and assist women/girls in reaching full leadership potential through civic engagement, personal and professional contacts, or resources.

The WON Foundation advances the vision and mission of the Women Officials Network: empowering leaders of today and mentoring women leaders of tomorrow. The Women Officials Network envisions more women in Leadership positions at all levels of government.

TALLGRASS ENERGY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Tallgrass Energy for being honored with the Business Recognition Award given by the Jefferson County Economic Development Corporation.

The Business Recognition Award is given to a Jefferson County company which shows growth in employment, sales and capital investment in the last year.

Tallgrass Energy provides natural gas transportation and storage services for customers in the Rocky Mountain region through its pipelines and natural gas processing assets. Tallgrass Energy is committed to public safety, monitoring their pipeline operation 24 hours a day every day. The company recently added 58 high paying jobs in 2013.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Tallgrass Energy for receiving the Business Recognition Award from the Jefferson County Economic Development Corporation. I thank you for your commitment to innovation high standards and delivering quality products.

RECOGNITION OF SHEN YUN PERFORMANCE AT PROCTORS THEATRE IN SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2014

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the upcoming Shen Yun Performing Arts presentation at Proctors Theatre in Schenectady, New York on April 27, 2014.

Shen Yun Performing Arts troupe performances incorporate Chinese dance, ethnic folk dance, and story-based dance, accompanied by an orchestra mixing modern and traditional Chinese instruments. These performances incorporate large groups of dancers presenting traditional vignettes spanning several millennia of Chinese history. Dancers wear ornate costumes and make use of a variety of props, while performing in front of a projected backdrop.

As the largest Chinese music and dance ensemble in the world, Shen Yun offers an opportunity for cultural and artistic enrichment this month at historic Proctors Theatre in Schenectady, New York.

COMMENDING THE ALL INDIA SHRI SHIVAJI MEMORIAL SOCIETY (AISSMS)

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVEAGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVEAGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the All India Shri Shivaji Memorial Society (AISSMS) established in 1917 by the late His Highness Shrimant Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj of Kolhapur and

His Highness Alija Bahadur Madhavrao Scindia Maharaj of Gwalior, with the foundation stone laid by the Prince of Wales on November 19, 1921 in Pune, India.

AISSMS was established for the purpose of "throwing open to all alike the doors of knowledge through liberal education." It was established to memorialize the great Shivaji, a statesman and warrior, a bold reformer who not only founded an Empire, but created a Nation, based on a vision of ideals and dreams which AISSMS is realizing.

From a renowned military school to Day schools to Junior Colleges to a foray into higher and technical education, AISSMS now runs world class institutions in various disciplines. AISSMS institutions have obtained accreditation from the National Board of Accreditation and have signed MOU's with Universities from the UK, the USA and Germany to run joint programs of global standards.

I am proud of AISSMS and recognize the importance of its history and impact on past, present and future generations. I especially commend its Office Bearers—H.H. Shrimant Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj who serves as President; Vice President Shrimant Yuvraj Sambhajiraje Chhatrapati; Honorary Secretary Shri Malojiraje Chhatrapati; Treasurer Shri Ajay Uttamrao Patil; Chairman of the Governing Council Shri Vishwas Bajirao Patil; Honorary Joint Secretary Shri Ratnakar K. Jitkar Shri Ajay Uttamrao; Chairman of the Managing Committee Shri Sahebrao R. Jadhav, the Governing Council, the Managing Committee and other notables.

I also pay tribute to Captain Shivaji Mahadkar, Managing Trustee of the Takshashila Education Trust, who visited my office in Washington, DC and personally extended an invite for me to speak to members of the esteemed All India Shri Shivaji Memorial Society and to a gathering of faculty, staff and students. In my absence, I have entered this Statement in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for historical purposes as a matter of appreciation for the invitation which was extended to me but moreover to recognize and commend AISSMS for the critical role it has played in shaping and defining India, and for bringing hope to all who are, have been, or will be associated with its noble cause.

As the former Chairman and current Ranking Member of the U.S. House of Representatives' Foreign Affairs' Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, which has broad jurisdiction for U.S. policy affecting the region, including India, I am proud to be associated with AISSMS. The U.S. and India are on a path to expanding higher education partnerships with a focus to build more purposeful connections. In doing so, it is my sincere hope that AISSMS and my alma mater, Brigham Young University, and other institutions of learning, will connect in ways that bring new hope and new ideas to both countries.

I thank Mr. Sanjay Puri, founder and Chairman of the Alliance for U.S.-India Business (AUSIB) for introducing me to AISSMS, and for the good work he continues to do for and on behalf of India and Indian Americans. In 2011 and 2013, AUSIB hosted two of the largest U.S.-India education conclaves and, on March 13, 2013, Mr. Puri testified as an expert witness before the House Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, calling for enhanced education collaboration as a means to strengthen U.S.-India relations.