

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### HONORING THE LIFE OF ANTHONY "TONY" ROSSI

#### HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 8, 2015*

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a great American: Anthony "Tony" Rossi.

Tony was born in Italy and his family immigrated to the United States when he was young. He grew up in Hoboken, New Jersey and graduated from Demarest High School. Throughout his life he answered the call to serve; beginning in World War II, he joined the Army Air Corps and served as a bombardier. During the war, he was captured and held as a Prisoner of War in Germany for 18 months. His family says those experiences were transformational. When Tony returned home to Hoboken, his approach was: Keep your problems in perspective; accept each day as a blessing; and treasure your family and friends.

During the Korean War, Tony again answered the call to serve and, following the conflict, continued a career in the Air Force in Japan, England, and throughout the United States. After retirement from the Air Force, Tony worked for General Electric for 16 years and later retired to Florida in 1987.

He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Eileen Rossi; son, Michael (Marsha) Rossi; daughter Renee (Robert) Faiks; and son, Charles Rossi; 6 grandchildren: Chris (Laura) Rossi, Karen (Rich) Rossi Pickup, Preston (Kristi) Faiks, Grant (Kim) Faiks, Gillian and William Rossi; and 6 great grandchildren: Audrey and Lillian Faiks, Jason and Sarah Faiks, Daniela Rossi, Jack Pickup.

Mr. Speaker, today marks the 70th Anniversary of Victory in Europe Day and it is a great honor to recognize and celebrate Tony's honorable service to our country and reflect on his life. In June, our country will honor his service with a funeral at Arlington National Cemetery.

God bless Tony Rossi, his family, and the United States of America.

### RECOGNIZING CHASE EWOLDT FOR HIS COURAGE AND SERVICE

#### HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 8, 2015*

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today to recognize Chase Ewoldt, a brave, strong, and exceptional young man from the Sixth District of Illinois. Chase was recently named one of the five ambassadors nationwide for the St. Baldrick's foundation.

In July 2012, at the age of two, Chase was diagnosed with a rare, aggressive brain and spinal cancer. Experts believe this specific type of cancer is found in just 100 to 200 new patients every year in the United States and

Chase was only given a 20% chance of survival. Over the next 14 months, his family and friends watched him undergo punishing cancer therapy every two to three weeks. Most of his time was spent in and out of hospitals. Nevertheless, Chase beat the odds and survived. In August of 2013 there was no longer any sign of the disease in his body.

Chase is not completely out of the woods, and will most likely struggle with aspects of the disease for the rest of his life, but for now the family is celebrating his health and trying to raise awareness about pediatric cancer, a testament not only to Chase's strength and resilience, but also the entire family's compassion and determination to help others. Chase is an inspiration to all with cancer and I am sure he will continue to be a light for those in darkness. As Chase told his mother, "I am a survivor". Let us celebrate the life of this survivor.

Mr. Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in honoring and celebrating Chase Ewoldt's nomination as a nationwide ambassador for the St. Baldrick's foundation.

### RECOGNIZING THE DODGE CITY COOPERATIVE FOR 100 YEARS OF SERVICE

#### HON. TIM HUELSKAMP

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 8, 2015*

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the Dodge City Cooperative. The cooperative, now doing business as Pride Ag Resources, is completing 100 years serving Dodge City and the southwest Kansas area.

As a fifth-generation farmer and one of just a handful of farmers currently serving in Congress, I understand the important role cooperatives play in our agricultural economy. Rural America has long depended on this unique business structure to move our products to the marketplace.

With the founding of one elevator in Dodge City in 1915, the hope, vision and needs of farmers for the past 100 years brought into existence fourteen additional elevators, four fertilizer locations, two feed mills, six car care centers, four Ace Hardware stores, plus another store soon. Dodge City Cooperative currently employs 200 employees with an annual payroll of over \$9.2 million dollars. The hard work and services offered have filled a critical need in supplying area farmers, ranchers and the people of our communities with grain, feed, supplies and goods.

Thank you to Dodge City Cooperative and to all of the farmer-owned cooperatives in the "Big First" district who help strengthen our rural communities and make Kansas one of the top agricultural-producing states in the entire country.

### WILLIAM C. PHELON, JR.

#### HON. LEE M. ZELDIN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 8, 2015*

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Technical Sergeant William C. Phelon, Jr. and his distinguished contributions to the United States Army Air Force. Mr. Phelon enlisted in the US Army Air Force immediately after graduating from Mineola High School in June of 1943 and entered active service August 16th 1943, the height of American involvement in World War Two. Mr. Phelon served valiantly for three years until March of 1946. Technical Sergeant Phelon flew as part of the illustrious 96th Bombardment Group as the Radio Operator Mechanic and Waist Gunner of a B-17 Flying Fortress. In this capacity he was responsible for all radio equipment aboard the B-17 while in flight. Technical Sergeant Phelon received many medals and awards as a result of his meritorious service to his country, including the prestigious U.S. Army Air Forces Air Medal.

In his position as airman, Technical Sergeant Phelon participated in Operation Chowhound; a humanitarian mission that helped deliver over 11,000 tons of food to Nazi occupied Holland during the Dutch Famine. This mission was so appreciated by the Dutch people that commemorative ceremonies have been held every five years in Holland to remember the service men that helped feed their starving people. The Third Air Division of the 8th Air Force was responsible for delivering 4,103 tons of food of which the 96th Bombardment Group dropped 366 tons. For his efforts Technical Sergeant Phelon was awarded the Conspicuous Service Cross by Governor Thomas Dewey on behalf of the people of New York.

Sadly, Mr. Phelon passed away in December, 2014. I rise today in memory of a brave man who was an exemplary member of the Armed Forces and the community at large, and to posthumously thank him for his years of dedication and service. I hope we all remember the courage and dedication shown by Mr. Phelon in all he did.

### RECOGNITION OF CONSTANTINE (GUS) SARKOS

#### HON. FRANK A. LoBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 8, 2015*

Mr. LoBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today to honor Mr. Constantine (Gus) Sarkos. When it comes to fire safety aboard commercial aircraft, Gus Sarkos is the primary expert and a national treasure.

As head of the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Fire Safety Branch, Sarkos and his team have played an essential and critical

• 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.

role improving cabin and cargo safety in ways that have decreased the risk of injuries to airline passengers and saved lives.

According to Dennis Filler, Director of the FAA's William J. Hughes Technical Center, "Gus Sarkos does the science that becomes the fire safety standards adopted by the whole world."

His work testing materials and measuring the effectiveness of fire detection and suppression systems has led to more than a dozen significant changes to U.S. and foreign aircraft during the past three decades to stop fires and curtail the spread of blazes occurring in-flight or during crash landings, increasing the chances of passenger survival.

Most recently, Mr. Sarkos and his team have been examining and reporting on fire threats posed by lighter and potentially flammable materials now being used in airplanes, and by the combustibility of large quantities of lithium batteries that have been carried in cargo holds.

As a result of his team's work, the Department of Transportation (DOT) no longer allows non-rechargeable metal lithium batteries to be shipped in the cargo holds of passenger jets. In addition, a number of U.S. airlines this year unilaterally announced they will no longer accept rechargeable ion lithium batteries because of tests done by Mr. Sarkos and his team showing that a buildup of gases inside bulk containers can lead to explosions and violent fires. The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the U.S. DOT currently are considering proposals to ban bulk shipments of these rechargeable batteries or to require safer packaging rules for air transport.

Katherine Rooney, chief of ICAO's cargo safety section, said the work by Mr. Sarkos' group on the batteries and many other issues has been "absolutely invaluable." She added that passengers are "in a safer situation thanks to the research they have provided."

During his long tenure, Mr. Sarkos has participated in and overseen the development of such post-crash aircraft fire safety improvements as new fire blocking seat cushions, heat resistant evacuation slides, burn-through resistant fuselage insulation, and interior panels that release less heat and smoke.

"The FAA's goal", Mr. Sarkos said, "is to minimize the likelihood of an aircraft fire in-flight or improve survivability during a post-crash fire. If a fire occurs in-flight, the objective is to reliably detect, extinguish or suppress it until the aircraft can be safely landed. In the case of a post-crash fire," Sarkos said, "the goal is to have materials that burn and spread fire more slowly, and releases less heat, so passengers have more time to escape."

Director Filler noted how the work of Mr. Sarkos and his team came into play in 2013 when Asiana Airlines Flight 214 crashed and caught fire while landing in San Francisco. Three people died of injuries unrelated to the fire, while 304 survived the crash. He said the fire was slow in developing in large part because of the fire resistant material in the aircraft, and as a result, people had the time to evacuate.

Director Filler also cited a 2008 accident when a Continental 737 veered off the runway in Denver, skidded into a ravine, lost its landing gear and left engine, and caught fire. All 110 passengers and five crew members had

time to evacuate. In 2005, an Air France A340 landed in Toronto during a severe thunderstorm, skidded off the runway and erupted into flames. While the fire eventually gutted the aircraft, all 297 passengers and 12 crew members survived.

"These are examples of three aircraft that caught fire and 728 people survived largely because of the work that Gus and his team have been able to promote throughout the industry," said Filler. "His efforts have provided added time for passengers to evacuate. In the old days, materials would have burned faster or caused passengers to inhale toxic fumes, and they would have died in the aircraft."

Mr. Sarkos said his work is challenging, but a source of pride because it has resulted in increased safety.

"The worst thing I ever had to do was meet with relatives of accident victims," said Mr. Sarkos. "I am glad that in recent years that conditions have improved because of the work we have done and continue to do."

I want to publicly commend Gus for being named a finalist to receive the Service to America Medal a.k.a. "Sammies". Gus' vision, leadership, and dedication to saving lives is a testament to his invaluable public service.

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CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. CON.  
RES. 11 CONCURRENT RESOLUTION  
ON THE BUDGET, FISCAL  
YEAR 2016

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 30, 2015*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I want to take a moment to thank the Democratic staff of the House Budget Committee for their hard work over the past three months on the budget resolution. Since early February when the President sent Congress his budget, our staff has worked many late nights and long weekends to prepare material and provide analysis for our members. Their service to our Committee's work is indispensable and it's hard to imagine how the Congress could do its job without their contributions. They toil behind the scenes and without public recognition. For that reason, I want to salute them for their service to the Congress and our nation.

House Budget Committee Democratic staff: Sarah Abernathy, Erika Appel, Ellen Balis, Kathleen Capstick, Ken Cummings, Bridgett Frey, Jonathan Goldman, Jocelyn Griffin, Jose Guillen, Tom Kahn, Najy Kamal, Sheila McDowell, Diana Meredith, Kimberly Overbeek, Karen Robb, Scott Russell, Beth Stephenson, Cody Willming, Ted Zegers.

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RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF BARRINGTON, ILLINOIS

**HON. PETER J. ROSKAM**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 8, 2015*

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the incorporation of Barrington, Illinois.

From its early origins, Barrington has been a model for other cities and towns to follow,

through its continued dedication to building a friendly and welcoming community for residents and visitors alike. It is no surprise that the village motto is, "A great place to live, work and play".

In the years since its first mayor, Homer Wilmarth, and its incorporation in 1865, Barrington has become a center of culture and commerce, serving as a home to families, businesses, professionals, churches and organizations that have made this a vibrant and thriving community. What once started as a small railroad community now boasts a population of over 10,000 people. Over the years, Barrington has developed a well-deserved reputation as a village with hometown charm and small-town heritage.

On the occasion of this 150th Anniversary, we join together to celebrate Barrington's legacy of growth and prosperity and to look ahead to the opportunities facing this great city and our nation. Today both marks 150 years of working together to build a brighter future, and reminds us that our work continues.

Mr. Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in recognizing the 150th anniversary of the incorporation of Barrington, Illinois and wishing her residents a very successful year ahead.

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JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE  
MONTH

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 8, 2015*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Jewish American Heritage Month. Nearly 360 years have passed since the establishment of the first Jewish community in North America. Since that time, Jewish Americans have contributed to the cultural richness and diversity of our nation in every field of community life, including business, government, medicine, law, the natural and social sciences, the arts and humanities, academia, religion, and the military.

There are approximately 5 million Jewish Americans and more than 100,000 of them live in Texas, nearly half of those, about 45,000, live in the Houston metropolitan area. Although their numbers may be small in a state with a general population over 20 million, the impact of Jewish Americans in Texas and in Houston has been great indeed.

Jewish Americans were there during the fight for Texas' independence from Spain and Mexico. Adolphus Sterne, an East Texas merchant, became a principal source of financial backing for the Texas Revolution and a close friend of Sam Houston. Albert Moses Levy was surgeon-in-chief in the revolutionary army. The De Cordova family helped develop the city of Waco and Henri Castro settled immigrants in several Texas towns. In 1859 the first synagogue in Texas was established in Houston.

Business and trade, especially the merchandising of food, clothing, jewelry with style, elegance, and distinction are the arenas in which many Jewish-Texan families made their most visual marks on the state of Texas. There is hardly a city in the Lone Star State whose history is without landmark stores founded and