

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2016

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on 2/3/2016. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

NO on Roll Call Number 58;

NO on Roll Call Number 59.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
KATHLEEN P. DEVINE**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2016

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise to honor the life of a great journalist and public servant from the state of Connecticut, and life-long friend, Kathleen P. Devine, who passed away in Groton, Connecticut after a brief illness last week. Kathleen was known to all who had the privilege of meeting her as a deeply principled, hardworking, and positive public servant with a distinguished career in both finance and journalism.

Kathleen served as the Treasurer of the City of Hartford, Connecticut from 1998 to 2011, during which time she advocated fiercely for the city's employees and pensioners. Her tireless work ethic and grasp of financial markets translated into positive results for the City and its workforce. When she left office she left behind a distinguished career in public service which began with her role as Deputy Treasurer to Denise Nappier and staff member for State Treasurer Frank Borges.

Before her many years in office, Kathleen was a well-respected journalist and member of the Editorial Board of the Hartford Courant. There, she spoke up for underrepresented voices, particularly women and minorities, to ensure that their stories were told. She was a trailblazing woman in a field that at the time was mostly dominated by men. Her poise, determination, and grit left a decades-long impact on her colleagues. One Courant colleague, Susan Campbell, recently recalled Kathleen's role as a mentor during her first months as a journalist, noting her humor and down-to-earth personality. Kathleen always made a point to recognize people for the good work that they did, even when most in the newsroom would keep their head down in self-interest.

Kathleen was an incredible mentor, public servant, writer, advocate and friend. Her tenacity and sense of justice will certainly be missed in Connecticut and in the lives of her many friends and family. As I said, Kathleen was a lifelong friend as a result of the closeness of my family and the Palm family that went back to the 1950s. She never failed to remind me, and anyone else I was with at social and political gatherings, that she babysat for me, and as a result I better shape up as a state legislator and Congressman or she would embarrass me with stories of early years. I never doubted for a moment that she would and did my best to live up to her high standards.

Kathleen's passing is a real loss to the world—she was a bright spirit who could light up a room and make you laugh and think at the same time. What a rare gift it was to have known her. I ask all my colleagues to please join me in sending my sincere condolences to those who will feel this loss most deeply: her daughter, step-son, sister, brother, sister-in-law, nieces and nephews, and grandchildren.

HONORING RAUL R. RENDON

HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2016

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Raul R. Rendon, a San Antonio resident who passed away on January 28 and whose life was marked by service to his nation. Born on September 14, 1928, Mr. Rendon served in the United States Marine Corps in the Korean War. On September 27, 1950, he was injured at Yudam-ni during the Chosin Reservoir Campaign. Mr. Rendon and his comrades in that battle were awarded the Presidential Unit Citation, a decoration given to a unit that displays gallantry, determination, and *esprit de corps* in accomplishing its mission under extremely difficult and hazardous conditions as to set it apart from other units participating in the same campaign. He was also a Purple Heart recipient.

Mr. Rendon was preceded in death by his beloved wife Elvia, parents Romana and Trinidad, and sisters Alma Vergara and Freya Mirta Rendon Garcia. He is survived by his brother Trinidad, and his legacy lives on through his children—Raul Jr., Robert, and Rosanna—and his grandchildren—Mark, Elyse, Justin, and Gianna.

It is brave Americans like Mr. Rendon whose patriotism and selflessness make our nation great and keep us safe. While the San Antonio community mourns this loss, we draw strength from our memories of Mr. Rendon's courage and kind spirit.

INTRODUCTION OF THE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE TRUST FUND ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2016

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, water infrastructure is a local issue—from a giant sinkhole in Gresham, OR, to poisoned water in Flint, MI. For too long, we've let critical water systems simply fall apart. The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) gave our nation's wastewater and drinking water infrastructure a grade of "D" in their most recent report card. While our clean water needs are estimated to be nearly \$15 billion a year, appropriations for clean water infrastructure have averaged less than over \$2 billion a year since 2000. Drinking water infrastructure is in no better shape. The EPA estimates that we need to invest over \$19 billion annually to ensure the provision of safe tap water, while Congress appropriates less than \$1 billion.

As seen by the recent lead water crisis in Flint, MI, the costs of inaction are not just

numbers in a needs assessment. Our failure to adequately invest in aging infrastructure is having detrimental effects on our health and economy. Last year alone, Americans across the country suffered from more than 240,000 water main breaks and saw overflowing combined sewer systems—causing contamination, property damage, disruptions in the water supply, and massive traffic jams.

In order to address this, the Water Infrastructure Trust Fund Act will provide needed revenue for states and local governments to make overdue investments in wastewater and drinking water infrastructure and will also take a hard look at the systemic challenges affecting access to safe water in low-income populations.

The Water Infrastructure Trust Fund Act allows businesses to choose to place a small label on their products indicating their commitment to protecting America's clean water, contributing \$0.03 to the Water Infrastructure Trust Fund for each unit bearing the label. The Trust Fund revenue will be distributed to the states as grants and loans through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) to help public water systems finance wastewater and drinking water infrastructure projects. The legislation also commissions an EPA study of the water affordability gap facing low-income populations and an analysis of solutions to systemic barriers affecting access to safe water systems.

Congress must do more, not only to meet the huge need for water infrastructure investments, but also to understand why failing infrastructure hits the most vulnerable communities the hardest.

RECOGNIZING AND CONGRATULATING GARY FAULKNER, JR. FOR WINNING THE 2015 ROLLTECH PROFESSIONAL BOWLERS ASSOCIATION WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2016

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Gary Faulkner, Jr. of Memphis, Tennessee for winning the 2015 Rolltech Professional Bowlers Association World Championship at the National Bowling Stadium in Reno, Nevada. In his first professional television appearance, Gary Faulkner beat top qualifier EJ Tackett to become the second African American ever to win a PBA Tour title in the PBA's 57-year history after George Branham III won the Brunswick Memorial World Open in 1986.

Gary learned the game of bowling at the early age of two when he bowled with his father, Pastor Gary Faulkner, Sr. of Cummings Street Baptist Church. As a sophomore at Germantown High School, Gary won the Division I Bowling Championship title in the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association individual bowling tournament. At that time, his best series bowling score was 833. While enrolled at Webber International University, Gary helped lead his team to the 2012 Intercollegiate Team Championship.

Gary Faulkner maintained his focus and determination to win the Rolltech Championship.

On his way to victory, Gary threw 10 strikes on his first 11 shots to ultimately defeat Scott Norton of Mission Viejo, California 262–218. He also defeated Ryan Ciminelli of Cheektowaga, New York, 247–237, who was seeking to win his third title, back-to-back, to become the first player to win three consecutive PBA titles on American soil since 1971. Gary opened this match with a spare and four strikes. In his final three-game match, Gary impressively rolled six strikes on his first eight attempts and threw only two bad shots. Gary's opponent, EJ Tackett of Huntington, Indiana, on the other hand, left three splits in his first five frames, setting up a 49 pin deficit from which he could not rebound against Faulkner. Gary Faulkner won the title 216–178.

After winning, Gary said, "The first shot I was nervous, but after that I didn't think about anything. My mind was free. I didn't watch the other guys. I don't show a lot of emotions. My goal is always to win; I didn't come here to lose." With a goal set in mind to win, Gary Faulkner has represented his family and the city of Memphis well, and I look forward to reading about his future accomplishments. Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating Gary Faulkner, Jr. on winning the 2015 Rolitech Professional Bowlers Association World Championship.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF DR. CARTER G. WOODSON

HON. EVAN H. JENKINS

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2016

Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of Dr. Carter G. Woodson. I am proud to celebrate his achievements with my friends at Marshall University and the city of Huntington as they commemorate Dr. Carter G. Woodson Day.

Dr. Woodson, a former Huntington, West Virginia, resident, is known as the "Father of African-American History." He believed in the importance of education, and early in his career served as principal of Douglass High School, his alma mater. Dr. Woodson then became one of the first African Americans to earn a doctorate in history from Harvard University. Dr. Woodson also pioneered the observation of Black History Month each February and devoted his life to documenting the important contributions African Americans have made to our nation's history.

I would also like to congratulate Marshall University's Carter G. Woodson Professor of Journalism and Mass Communications, Burnis Morris. He was recently honored as a 2016 History Hero at West Virginia History Day in Charleston, West Virginia. Mr. Morris' extensive research on Dr. Woodson has helped preserve Dr. Woodson's legacy and ensures that future generations have the opportunity to learn about the legacy of this remarkable historical icon.

I extended my wishes for a successful event celebrating the life of Dr. Woodson and all that he has achieved—he is one of Huntington's greatest icons and contributed greatly to ensuring that the stories of African Americans continue to be honored by all Americans.

RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF AMERICAN PEN WOMEN, INC. (NLAPW)

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2016

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing a treasured historical landmark in our midst, The National League of American Pen Women, Inc. (NLAPW). The League's headquarters is located in the heart of the nation's capital between Dupont Circle and Scott Circle, just blocks away from the White House. With affiliates all across the United States, the League is a key nonprofit neighbor, whose headquarters building is a magnificent architectural gem.

The League is dedicated to the recognition and advancement of women in the arts and letters in the District of Columbia and nationwide. Its mission is to represent and foster women's outstanding cultural and educational contributions to the nation. The League's membership, comprising some 82 branches throughout the country, encompasses a cross section of American women—all ages, races, religions, and cultures. For generations, the League has highlighted the great contributions and careers of creative American Women. Since its founding in 1897, luminaries such as Nobel Laureate Pearl Buck, Margaret Mitchell and Eudora Welty were illustrious members, among many others. Eleanor Roosevelt was a very active Pen Woman, as was Vinnie Ream, who sculpted the Lincoln statue that stands in the Capitol's Rotunda, as well as the statue of Admiral Farragut at Farragut Square.

It should also be noted that the League's beautiful, mansion-class headquarters at 1300 17th Street NW is steeped in history. Its interior has been lovingly maintained. To walk through it, as so many did during the recent Dupont Circle House Tour sponsored by the Dupont Circle Citizens Association, is to experience the elegance and inspiration of a by-gone era. It is also to realize that the Pen Arts Building was once the home of Robert Todd Lincoln, Abraham Lincoln's oldest son. That is an especially noteworthy historical perspective in this 150th anniversary year of the death of Abraham Lincoln.

Regrettably, the League has become financially stressed, a situation hindering the preservation efforts of many nonprofits today. Losing the League, which has been in the District for 64 years, would be a terrible blow to the city, to the Dupont Circle neighborhood, to preservation, and to history itself. I also ask the House to recognize the League's unfortunate current financial plight, and the efforts of TENAC, the D.C. Tenants' Advocacy Coalition, to help preserve this beautiful landmark. Under the leadership of its chairman, Jim McGrath, TENAC has long been the District's unrivaled champion of tenants' rights, helping the homeless, and historic preservation.

Helping the League remain in the District and maintain its magnificent headquarters building here is a very worthy cause, enthusiastically supported by a broad variety of others in the city, including D.C. Councilmember Jack Evans, the Dupont Circle Citizens Association, and the historic Tabard Inn, among many others. I ask the House to recognize

these efforts, and join in supporting this cause. At a time when women seem to be under attack in this country and all over the globe, assisting the National League of American Pen Women would be a worthy step in trying to redress that balance.

For all of these reasons, I ask the House to join me in expressing support for the League and its successful mission, and to recognize the importance of saving it. I know the League would be profoundly grateful for that support.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2016

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I was detained and unable to cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted No on Roll Call Vote 55.

TRIBUTE TO DR. HAROLD MCFARLANE

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2016

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my thanks to a dedicated public servant. After forty-three years of service, achievement and recognition, Dr. Harold McFarlane is retiring from the Idaho National Laboratory. Speaking at a colleague's retirement ceremony years ago, Harold noted that his colleague "came to work every day and made a difference." The same can be said of Dr. McFarlane, he came to work every day and he made a difference.

If you are going to try to pay tribute to Harold McFarlane, you are going to need lots of time and lots of paper. Harold's accomplishments and contributions as a scientist, an administrator, and a leader are as impactful as they are extensive.

After graduating from high school in Texas, Harold earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Texas. Harold then went to the California Institute of Technology to earn his PhD in engineering science. After a short stint teaching nuclear engineering at New York University, in 1973 Harold moved his young family to Idaho to join Argonne-West National Laboratory to start up the Zero Power Plutonium Reactor, or ZPPR as it is known in Idaho. Thus began Harold's forty-three year career at Argonne-West and the Idaho National Laboratory. At the labs, Harold became involved in almost every major Department of Energy advanced reactor, nuclear fuel cycle, international collaboration, and space power project.

While working at Argonne-West, Harold took up another challenge and earned his Master's in Business Administration from the University of Chicago. As recognition of his skills and leadership became better known, in 2006 Harold was elected President of the American Nuclear Society.

In 2011, Harold served special assignment in Washington, DC supporting the Office of Nuclear Energy, and in the wake of the