

HONORING MR. JOHN HEENAN

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor John Heenan of Ivyland, Bucks County. Shortly after graduating from high school John enlisted in the Marine Corps, where he trained as an infantry assault man. From 1969 to 1972, John served in Cuba and North Carolina. He would later serve in the Marine Corps Reserve until 1975. John went on to receive a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from Drexel and his Master in Business Administration from the Wharton School of Business. For over thirty years, John gained a wide-range of business experience as he managed acquisitions, transitions, and divestitures of companies, often for small or family owned businesses.

But John Heenan never forgot the military. He serves on the Board of Directors for the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation. Founded in 1962, The Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation is the nation's oldest and largest provider of need-based scholarships to military children. For 54 years, they've been providing access to affordable education for the children of Marine and Navy Corpsmen attending post-high school, under-graduate and career technical education programs. In that time, they have provided more than 37,000 scholarships worth nearly \$110 million.

In a world where Marines have sacrificed so much, it is my honor to commend John Heenan for his efforts in providing children with more affordable access to critical education. When John is not helping the children of his fellow Marines, he can be found at Washington Crossing National Cemetery in Newtown, where he serves as a rifleman in the honor guard. John, thank you for your service and your enduring commitment to the families of our veterans.

LAUREN CHAPPELL

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Miss Lauren Chappell of Charleston, Illinois, for winning her third IHSA Class 1A individual golf title. The three individual titles is a record for girls' high school golf, and I am very proud of her achievement. Hers was a hard-fought match, and what was most impressive was the way she had to battle back from some early difficulties to win the day. How Lauren responded after encountering trouble on the first and fourth hole was the defining moment of the match. Her mental toughness shone through as she weathered that storm, and then birdied the ninth hole. She then closed the door on her competition with a birdie on seventeen, which was sandwiched between two pars.

I know she is pleased with her victory, but I also know she is equally pleased that her high school team, the Charleston Trojans, won the team state golf championship as well.

Lauren leaves behind a legacy of excellence and good sportsmanship. I would like to ex-

tend my best wishes to her, both in the classroom and on the links, as next year she begins her studies at Southern Methodist University.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN JIM KOLBE FOR HIS SERVICE AND INDUCTION INTO THE ARIZONA VETERANS HALL OF FAME

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the contributions of a great Arizonan and a former member of this House: Congressman Jim Kolbe.

On October 28th, 2016, Congressman Kolbe will be inducted into the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame. This is a well-deserved and appropriate honor for a man who has done so much for our state and country.

Jim Kolbe joined the United States Navy in 1967 and was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal for his service in Vietnam. He retired from service in 1977 as a Lieutenant Commander in the Naval Reserves.

For 22 years, Jim Kolbe served the 8th district of Arizona in the House of Representatives. First elected to Congress in 1985, he consistently put the needs of his constituents first, ahead of party or partisanship.

During his time in Congress, Congressman Kolbe worked on the federal budget and was responsible for deciding the budget that funds most U.S. foreign aid programs and counterterrorism activities. Members of Congress have long admired Congressman Kolbe's determination to work across the aisle to create solutions and promote Arizona issues.

I am thankful that Jim has been a friend to me during my time in public service. I appreciate his determination and his willingness to work with me and many others to make Arizona a place of opportunity for all its citizens.

Please join me in recognizing the years of exemplary service of Congressman Jim Kolbe.

RECOGNIZING POLA BERLIN
DICKSTEIN, DORA BERLIN
PODZIBA, AND LUBA BERLIN
MARCUS

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Pola Berlin Dickstein, Dora Berlin Podziba, and Luba Berlin Marcus, three sisters who are celebrating their 85th birthdays on October 8th. I would like to take this opportunity to extend to them an extraordinary happy birthday and congratulations on this very special milestone.

Born in Cuba to a Jewish Soviet refugee mother, their family was forced to leave as anti-Jewish sentiment spread. They arrived at Ellis Island on September 21, 1940 and settled in New York City. All three sisters eventually married veterans, and Pola settled in Boca Raton, where they are celebrating this special occasion.

With their unique background and heritage, these sisters have never forgotten their roots. I wish all three of them a joyous and healthy year ahead surrounded by their loved ones. On behalf of my entire district and the United States Congress, mazel tov and happy birthday.

HONORING MAUDE FORD LEE ON
HER 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Maude Ford Lee on her 80th birthday. After a grassroots groundswell of support for her fearless leadership at the helm of Palm Beach County's Community Action Agency, Maude Ford Lee answered the call and made history in 1990 as the first African American elected to the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners. However, that is not the only reason why she is a trailblazer.

During her time on the Commission, from 1990 to 2000, she demanded to review everything within the County's jurisdiction, its programs and services, hiring and contracting, and all matters pertaining to the health, safety, and welfare of the people. Commissioner Lee's undaunted advocacy for inclusionary policies and programs often drew criticism, as it was disruptive to the systems put in place over the previous 80 years. However, her persistence yielded tremendous results and achievement against the odds.

As Commissioner, she organized a coalition of local and national black business advocacy organizations, even walking out of a log jammed Commission meeting until securing the adoption of the Minority and Women's Business Enterprise Ordinance, which established policy and best practices of goals and timetables to ensure racial equity and diversity in procurement. She also created the County's Economic Development Office, providing programs and funding to create jobs for people who live in lagging regions. Her work provided access to capital and disbursement of millions in funding for loans and grants for small business and community development projects, particularly African American, Latino, and women-owned enterprises not served by traditional banks.

She successfully implemented the equitable allocation of funding to build recreational and park facilities such as pools and community centers in overlooked urban areas, including West Palm Beach, Riviera Beach, Boynton Beach, Delray Beach and Lake Worth. Through her housing initiatives, hundreds of families, most notably working poor families, became homeowners and thousands of children and families in need were connected with community-based organizations providing valuable services through her fiscal sponsorship.

After retiring, Commissioner Lee continued serving the community as President of the West Palm Beach Branch of the NAACP from 2002–2008. She is an active and devoted member of Trinity United Methodist Church, Florida A&M Alumni Association, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, and a Life Member of NAACP. Maude Ford Lee is a trailblazer and living legend for her daughters Debra and Vanessa,

her grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and all of Palm Beach County because she stepped up to history and honored it with an unyielding commitment to service with strong and positive results.

Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pride to honor Maude Ford Lee on her 80th birthday. She is not only an outstanding role model for our community and this nation, but somebody that I am extremely proud to call a good friend. I wish her many more years of success and happiness.

STRONG OPPOSITION TO WALBERG BILL

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to the Walberg bill. We must allow the Department of Labor to implement and enforce the Overtime Rule, giving employees a fair day's pay for a fair day's work.

The American people have waited long enough. In 1975, approximately 62 percent of salaried workers were covered by overtime protections—but according to the White House, that is just 7 percent today.

This bill would deny the 4.2 million American workers affected by this rule \$600 million dollars. For working families making under the overtime rule's threshold, six months of lost overtime pay means less food on the table, less gas in the car, less money in the college fund.

We cannot play politics with the incomes of hardworking Americans. The biggest issue facing our country today is that families are not making enough to live on.

The overtime rule is a step to lessen the burden on hardworking but struggling families—it is commonsense and overdue.

According to the Economic Policy Institute, workers who will benefit the most from the new rule include women, African Americans, Latinos, and workers under 35.

The Department of Labor spent more than a year meeting with 200 stakeholders to collect input for the new rule—and collected more than 270,000 public comments, which they took seriously to make significant changes to the rule, making it work for businesses and working families.

I would also add that in 2004, the last time we raised the overtime rule threshold, the Bush Administration used a 120-day implementation period. We are providing even more time, for a rule that is much less complex.

This delay is unnecessary and harmful—and we cannot let it pass. This proposal throws up another unnecessary and shameful hurdle in the way of the overtime rule. We have an obligation to do right by our working families.

IN HONOR OF THOMAS P. TRAYLOR'S THIRTY-EIGHT YEARS WITH BOSTON MEDICAL CENTER AND HIS COMMITMENT TO PROVIDING QUALITY HEALTHCARE TO RESIDENTS OF BOSTON AND MASSACHUSETTS

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Thomas P. Traylor, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the healthcare community in the City of Boston and across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and to commend him for thirty-eight years of service to Boston Medical Center.

Throughout Tom Traylor's career, in his roles as Vice President at Boston Medical Center, Vice President of Boston Medical Center's HealthNet Plan, Commissioner of Boston's Department of Health and Hospitals, and Chief Financial Officer of Boston's Department of Health and Hospitals, he was the ever-present, creative force driving health coverage and access for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, dedicating 38 years of service to this mission.

During that time, Tom inspired Massachusetts to participate in its critical first Medicaid 1115 Waiver to expand health coverage to the neediest populations in the Commonwealth. He was engaged in the design of each of the six succeeding waivers, directly impacting Massachusetts Medicaid for over twenty years. Tom was instrumental in creating funding models and mechanisms to support coverage expansion and the ability of Boston Medical Center and other safety net hospitals to continue to provide quality care to low income populations. And Tom's deep commitment to provide healthcare and coverage to our most vulnerable residents inspired him to create the BMC HealthNet plan, now one of the highest rated Medicaid plans in the country serving people in Massachusetts and in New Hampshire.

Tom's successful collaboration with the multiple state administrations, Massachusetts legislature, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), and the Congressional delegation helped bring billions of dollars in funding to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for access and coverage for low income populations. For all of his efforts, Tom was recognized nationally as a leader in his field and served as Chair of the National Association of Public Hospitals, and its successor organization America's Essential Hospitals.

Tom's deep understanding of the potential of the Medicaid Waiver, as well as the politics and policy surrounding it, were the keys to success that enabled Boston Medical Center, and other safety net hospitals in Massachusetts, to grow and expand, leveraging federal support for access and coverage for residents of Boston and around the Commonwealth.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to take the floor of the House today to thank Tom Traylor for his remarkable commitment to Boston Medical Center and the people of Boston and Massachusetts. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Thomas P. Traylor's efforts and dedicated service to others.

CONGRATULATING GEIST ELEMENTARY, A BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate an outstanding school in my district that is being honored as a 2016 National Blue Ribbon School. It is a pleasure to congratulate Geist Elementary in Fishers, Indiana in celebration of this special occasion.

The National Blue Ribbon designation, given by the United States Department of Education, is awarded to both public and private schools across our great nation. Started by President Reagan and given annually since 1982, the award celebrates great American schools that achieve very high learning standards or are making significant improvements in the academic achievements of their students. In my district and across the country, the award recognizes the great educators, students, and parents who have worked so hard to ensure Indiana's children reach their full potential and achieve academic success.

For all of these reasons and many more, I am so proud that Geist Elementary is receiving this prestigious designation. It is a wonderful acknowledgement of the school's commitment to providing young Hoosiers an exceptional education. While hundreds of schools nationwide were nominated, only 329 schools were designated as 2016 National Blue Ribbon Schools, making this recognition all the more impressive.

To be chosen for the Blue Ribbon designation, schools must rank in the top 15 percent of all schools on ISTEP assessments in both reading and mathematics. Teachers work to meet kids at their needs and find what students need to be successful. Geist Elementary provides students with a nurturing learning environment that allows them to build meaningful relationships and academic self-confidence that they can carry on throughout the rest of their lives. Students are encouraged to engage with their school and the real world, through the support of teachers and staff for many student generated projects. Through the dedicated efforts of teachers and hard work of their students, Geist Elementary has truly earned this recognition. Geist Elementary equips students with valuable relationships, support, and never-ending opportunities to learn.

As an advocate for education and youth, I also want to acknowledge how important it is to our nation's future to encourage and raise a new generation of Americans who have the skills and knowledge to succeed both in and out of the classroom. Students like those at Geist Elementary give me hope that we will accomplish this vital mission. Their outstanding work is an inspiration to students, educators, and parents across the nation. Once again, congratulations to Geist Elementary. I am very proud of you.