

HONORING PEGULA SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT FOR RECEIVING THE BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARD FROM THE AMHERST CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 24, 2016*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Pegula Sports and Entertainment for receiving the Business of the Year Award from the Amherst Chamber of Commerce. Created in 2014, Pegula Sports and Entertainment is a management company streamlining the Pegula family's business endeavors across sports and entertainment, including the Buffalo Bills, Buffalo Sabres, Buffalo Bandits, Rochester Americans, HARBORCENTER, and Black River Entertainment.

On February 22, 2011, a new era in Buffalo sports history began when Terry and Kim Pegula purchased the Buffalo Sabres and Buffalo Bandits. That summer, the Pegulas acquired the Rochester Americans, and resuming the team's long time relationship with the Sabres as their American Hockey League affiliate.

In 2012, the Pegulas purchased the 1.7 acre Webster Block across from First Niagara Center, which became the HARBORCENTER complex. HARBORCENTER features two NHL-size rinks, the Academy of Hockey, (716) Food and Sport, IMPACT Sports Performance, a destination Tim Hortons Cafe & Bake Shop, 750-space parking ramp, and full-service Marriott Hotel.

The Pegulas' dedication extends beyond reinvigorating the Sabres and their arena. On Friday, October 10, 2014, Terry and Kim became owners of the Buffalo Bills, after the passing of Ralph Wilson, Jr. The Pegulas are only the second owners of the beloved 55-year old National Football League organization.

To show their commitment to our region, on Sunday, October 12th, 2014, coinciding with the Pegula's first game as owners of the Bills, Pegula Sports and Entertainment officially launched the "One Buffalo" campaign. The "One Buffalo" campaign provides an association and link between the Bills, Sabres, the Pegulas, and the City of Buffalo. The campaign is a celebration of the future of sport in Western New York and the family who has invested so much into the city, and seeks to bring the community together as a representation of teamwork and a deeper connection between Buffalo sports teams and their fans.

I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Terry and Kim Pegula as they receive the Business of the Year Award. I am deeply grateful for their incredible investment and belief in Western New York, and I wish them all the best in their future endeavors, and many championships for the Bills and Sabres under their leadership.

TRIBUTE TO MR. LEWIS "LEW" BELCHER

**HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 24, 2016*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation:

Whereas, our lives have been touched by the leadership and service of Mr. Lewis "Lew" Belcher, Jr.; and

Whereas, Mr. Lewis "Lew" Belcher served our nation with honor and valor in the United States Air Force. He demonstrated unquestionable leadership and courage as an Airman devoted in protecting our nation; and

Whereas, Mr. Belcher served and led our district in Rockdale County as a steadfast pillar of our community by being ever so watchful of issues that would hinder constituents. He was a community advocate on the front line of fighting for equality and justice. He was the voice for the voiceless and the pulse of the grassroots machine in Rockdale County; and

Whereas, Mr. Belcher advised many elected and appointed officials on issues concerning the public, he also promoted supporting local small businesses; and

Whereas, he never asked for fame or fortune, nor found a job too small or too big; he gave of himself, his time, his talent and his life to uplift those in need by demonstrating unwavering commitment to protecting and serving the citizens of Rockdale County; and

Whereas, he was a husband, a father, a grandfather, a great grandfather and a friend; he was also a man of great integrity who remained true to the uplifting and service of my district; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia recognizes Mr. Lewis "Lew" Belcher, Jr., as a citizen of great worth and so noted distinction; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR. do hereby attest to the 114th Congress that Mr. Lewis "Lew" Belcher, Jr., is deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional Honor" by declaring Mr. Lewis "Lew" Belcher, Jr. U.S. Citizen of Distinction in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 18th day of January, 2016.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF PEDRO PALOMO ADA, JR.

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 24, 2016*

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of the late Pedro Palomo Ada, Jr. Pedro was a son of Guam, icon in our business community, and philanthropist. He was born on July 7, 1930 and passed away on February 12, 2016 at the age of 85. Pedro was the Chairman of Ada's Trust & Investment, Inc., a real estate and investment holdings company.

Pedro followed in the footsteps of his parents Maria Palomo Ada and Pedro Martinez Ada who were also successful business people and generous philanthropists in the local community. Pedro began his business career at a young age while attending school at Saint

Thomas Military Academy in Saint Paul, Minnesota. He would find shoes and other items at great bargains and send them home to Guam to be sold at his parents' retail business. He graduated from St. Thomas College in Saint Paul, Minnesota in 1953 with a degree in Business Administration.

After finishing college, Pedro served as one of the first Chamorro commissioned officers in the United States Air Force. He later returned to Guam to help with the family business. He was able to improve and expand Ada's Market into a household name and then into a real estate holding company, and soon became a real estate visionary who was responsible for many changes and improvements in Guam's capitol city of Hagåtña. Pedro created opportunities in the private sector and expanded the potential for residential and commercial real estate developments during times of emerging economic markets in the island. Pedro was inducted into the Guam Chamber of Commerce's Guam Business Hall of Fame in 2003.

Pedro led a long life with both business and community involvement. He served as a member and board chairman of the University of Guam Board of Regents in the 1970s and 1980s. He was also instrumental in establishing the University of Guam's Reserve Officer's Training Corps (ROTC). Pedro was an active member of the Air Force's Civilian Advisory Council, and supported groups such as the Guam Boy Scouts and KGTF Public Television. Additionally, he served on numerous boards including the Guam Blue Ribbon Education Committee, the Guam Memorial Hospital, the Guam Retirement Fund and the Guam Visitors Bureau.

Pedro dedicated his life to improving our island and community. He was an active member and supporter of the Saint Anthony-Saint Victor Parish of Tamuning, Guam and a dedicated family man. I am deeply saddened by the passing of Pedro and I join the people of Guam in celebrating his life and remembering his contributions to our island community. My thoughts and prayers are with his family, loved ones and friends. I extend my condolences to his wife of 57 years, Fe; his children Maria A. Bonnie, Pedro "Sonny" and Jennifer Ada, Dr. Frances A. and Jaime Purviance, Patricia P. Ada, Therese and David John, and Carla P. Ada; and his eleven grandchildren. He will be missed, and his memory will live on in the hearts of the people of Guam.

HONORING AMHERST YOUTH HOCKEY FOR RECEIVING THE COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD FROM THE AMHERST CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 24, 2016*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Amherst Youth Hockey for receiving the Community Service Award from Amherst Chamber of Commerce.

The Amherst Youth Hockey Association was established in 1964, when the Audubon rink was first built. The cost to participate when established was \$5.00 to register and 25 cents every time one went on the ice.

Those who worked to first develop the program were William E. Russell, Barney March,

Bob Westphal, Bud Aschbacher, Frank Sykes, Gary Mitchell, Don Satchell, Harvey Rogers, H. Jarvis (Jerry) Turner, Bob Sacha, Jim Wurzer, Danny Guynn, Skip Harrington, John Brownschidle, Thomas Burke, Charles Kramer, Richard Johnston, Drury Williford, Ray Cotter, H. Hamilton, W. Leahy, Leo Lynett, Phil Boudreau, Frank Mathewson, R. Weisenborn, Robert Carver and many more.

During its second year of existence, the organization had the opportunity to host the New York State Pee wee Championship during March of 1965. Familiar players in that tournament include Kevin McGuire, Chuck Sykes, Terry Brownschidle, Terry Sykes, Bill Bush, Mark Aschbacher, Pete Hunt, Sean McCrossan, Ed McGuire, Keith Metzger, Brian Cavanaugh, Gary Hill, Ray Weil, Bill Graf, Mike Hanretty, David Smith, Mike Caruana and Jay Hill.

Presently, the Amherst Youth Hockey now operates out of the Northtown Recreation Center. It is a youth hockey organization for boys and girls ages 4 through 18, offering house programs, travel programs, and a spring session.

The Amherst Youth Hockey Association is committed to giving back to the community and providing a tremendous experience for all members. Dedicated to enriching the community's youth through sport, the association provides children with the opportunity to learn the fundamentals of hockey, find enjoyment in the sport, and become young athletes.

I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Amherst Youth Hockey on receiving the Community Service Award and recognizing their continuous dedication and contributions to Western New York.

IN HONOR OF REVEREND  
MICHELLE THOMAS AND HER  
WORK ON THE LOUDOUN FREE-  
DOM CENTER

### HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 24, 2016*

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, today, February 24, 2016, a very special ceremony took place at which the brave Foot Soldiers who participated in the civil rights marches from Selma to Montgomery half a century ago were honored with the Congressional Gold Medal. Among the witnesses to this ceremony were a group of my constituents from the Lansdowne community of Loudoun County who are taking affirmative steps to build a new church and multi-purpose community center on 4.4 acres of land that includes an unmarked cemetery in which more than 40 slaves who lived and worked on the former Belmont Plantation are buried.

To honor those slaves, Reverend Michelle Thomas, senior pastor at Holy and Whole Life Changing Ministries International, has joined with other Loudoun County residents to form The Loudoun Freedom Center, a non-profit that will use science and technology to explore the cultural history of Loudoun, including African-American slaves who helped build plantations in the area.

Among the projects planned for The Loudoun Freedom Center are: A visitors' center that will tell the story of the African-Amer-

ican communities of Loudoun County; Belmont and Coton (Lansdowne) African burial grounds that will preserve, protect and restore the sacred burial grounds on the former Belmont and Coton plantations; a Loudoun-specific genome project; a virtual DNA extraction laboratory; a research library and genealogy hub; and the Loudoun Freedom Chapel, a place to reflect and meditate.

Just as it was divine inspiration that caused so many faithful Americans of different races and backgrounds to join together in unity and in hope at the Edmund Pettus Bridge last year, so too, it is divine inspiration for this diverse group of citizens in Loudoun County to join together in unity and in hope on the site of an unmarked slave cemetery on Belmont Ridge Road.

Reverend Thomas has said of the ambitious project that it is a crusade to reclaim the property under a banner of unity. "No matter what your race, your color, your creed . . . we all want the same things. We all want to be honored. We all want to have hope for the future."

I pray that they will be successful in their endeavors and that they will inspire the residents of Loudoun County and my Congressional District for years to come.

H.R. 3442 AND H.R. 2017

### HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 24, 2016*

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be in Washington, D.C. on the afternoon on February 11th and on February 12th because I was attending a memorial service and I missed votes in the House. If I had been present, I would have opposed final passage of H.R. 3442, the Debt Management and Fiscal Responsibility Act, and H.R. 2017, the Common Sense Nutrition Disclosure Act.

The Debt Management and Fiscal Responsibility Act may sound like a common-sense bill, but it is a misguided effort that creates duplicative burdens and reporting requirements on the executive branch. The bill would require the Secretary of the Treasury to appear before Congress when the country nears the statutory debt limit and provide a written report on the Treasury's debt-reduction proposals. The Administration, however, already provides Congress with an outline of its debt-reduction proposals in the President's annual budget. The President presented his final budget—which includes numerous debt-reduction proposals—to Congress just two days ago, but House leaders denied the opportunity for the director of the Office of Management and Budget to testify about these proposals. Instead, we are considering a bill that would create more requirements for the Administration by making them duplicate efforts they already undertake. For those reasons, I would have voted against H.R. 3442.

I would have also opposed H.R. 2017, the Common Sense Nutrition Disclosure Act. This bill would have allowed certain restaurants and food retailers to limit the nutritional information they provide to consumers. The nutrition disclosure requirements this bill seeks to roll back became law as part of the Affordable Care Act. Preparing to comply with those requirements has been a substantial undertaking

for many retailers, but Congress has already delayed implementation of this rule as part of the FY2016 omnibus and given retailers an additional year before the rule would go into effect. Making nutrition information available empowers consumers to make healthy and nutritious choices, and this bill would have further undermined that effort. For that reason, I would have voted against H.R. 2017.

HONORING 360 PSG, INC. FOR RECEIVING THE TECHNOLOGY AWARD FROM THE AMHERST CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

### HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 24, 2016*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize and honor 360 PSG, Inc. for receiving the Technology Award from the Amherst Chamber of Commerce.

Founded in 2005 by 360 PSG partners Joel Colombo, Matthew Whelan, and Ben Shepard after their previous employer closed its doors. With no capital and grueling 20 hour work days, by the end of the first year they had built three websites to start the company.

360 PSG hired its first employees in 2006. Over the next two years, the company continued to hire, launched over 150 new websites, and developed automated tools and platforms to help small business owners take full advantage of internet marketing. In the following two years another 300 websites. By 2011 the staff had grown to almost 20 full-time members.

The company focuses its business on two flagship products that have been programmed and developed in-house, Fission CMS and 360 CMS. With over \$2.5 million dollars of operating capital invested, these innovative products provide website management tools with modern design elements to support the small business community across the country.

Having come a long way from their humble beginnings, 360 PSG, Inc. serves over 1,000 customers from nearly every state and Canada. Their solid core values and a dedication to treating clients like partners allows them to develop strong, lasting relationships with high retention, remain profitable every year in business, and continue regional employment growth. 360 PSG's internal divisions now include all aspects of digital and internet marketing.

Employing 30 full time team members specialized in their respective fields of web design, software engineering, social media advertising, search optimization and marketing, and service/support departments, 360 PSG continues to evolve as a single-stop hub of services supporting our region by bringing in national revenue, creating full-time technology jobs.

I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating 360 PSG, Inc. on receiving the Technology Award from the Amherst Chamber of Commerce, and wish them the best as they continue to provide innovative services to small businesses and contribute to Western New York's revitalization.