

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING DEBBIE FARRELL ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 13, 2016

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Debbie Farrell who is retiring from her position as principal of Forest Hills Elementary School after more than 35 years dedicated to education.

Mrs. Farrell began her teaching career at Coweta County School System in Newnan, Georgia in 1979. She showed her commitment to serving students with special needs by teaching Special Education in Des Moines, Iowa from 1980 to 1982 and serving as a learning disabilities clinician from 1984 to 1989. From 1992 to 1999 she worked as a special education teacher then as an Associate Principal in District 101 in Western Springs, Illinois. In 2001–2002 she served as Principal at South Elementary School in Westmont, Illinois. Since 2002 Mrs. Farrell has been the Principal at Forest Hills Elementary School in Western Springs District 101. Under her leadership, the school has been rated a Top 25 school in the State of Illinois four times, including one year in which Forest Hills was the second-highest performing in the State.

Mrs. Farrell received a Bachelor's Degree from Western Illinois University and Master's Degrees from both St. Xavier University and Iowa State University. She resides in Palos Park, with her husband Kevin, her sons Jim and John, and her daughter Katie.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Mrs. Debbie Farrell for all she has done in her 35 plus years as an educator and to congratulate her on her retirement. Thousands of students have greatly benefitted from her dedicated service.

RECOGNIZING APRAXIA AWARENESS

HON. KEITH J. ROTHFUS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 13, 2016

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to Childhood Apraxia of Speech, a speech and communication disorder that causes extreme difficulty in learning to speak, which can affect literacy and school performance. Often times, children with Childhood Apraxia of Speech require frequent and aggressive speech therapy to improve their ability to communicate. Sadly, the cause of the disorder is unknown. More progress must be

made to understand and develop better treatment for this complex condition.

Fortunately, the Childhood Apraxia of Speech Association located in Pittsburgh, PA continues to work tirelessly to raise awareness about Childhood Apraxia of Speech and to provide support to families of affected children. Thanks to their hard work, great strides have been made toward educating the public, and local, state, and federal officials. Increased awareness of this disorder will serve as an impetus toward more effective treatment, as well as to create a more supportive environment for families struggling with this rare condition.

Children with apraxia and their families confront tremendous obstacles with determination and persistence. To all the families and children living with apraxia, I offer my heartfelt encouragement as you deal with the unique challenges you face. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing these individuals on Apraxia Awareness Day this May and in thanking the Childhood Apraxia of Speech Association for increasing awareness in our communities about this challenging disorder.

DARWIN ANDERSON: INNOVATOR, FIREFIGHTER, AND FRIEND

HON. RICHARD M. NOLAN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 13, 2016

Mr. NOLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Darwin Anderson of Brainerd, Minnesota. Last Saturday the tanker base at the Brainerd Airport was named after Darwin, who passed away February 6th 2015, to commemorate his 43 years of service and exceptional work as a Department of Natural Resources (DNR) firefighter.

Darwin was one of the first to see the potential for using aircraft and a network of tanker bases throughout the state to fight wildfires. He was also a pioneer in utilizing a helicopter with a bucket as a tool for fighting wildfires. In addition to Darwin's innovations, his compassion and charisma have earned him the respect of his coworkers. His colleagues speak very highly of Darwin's supervisory skills and the guidance he has given them throughout their careers. Many of his peers attribute their own success to Darwin's mentoring.

Leaders such as Darwin make a positive impact on others' lives and in their communities—so much so one of his colleagues said, "With Darwin, forestry equaled family." His family, wife Janet, sons Jeffery, Ryan, Erik, and daughter Yvette gave him the support he needed to do such a difficult job.

It is an honor to recognize Darwin's many accomplishments, and I know my colleagues will join me in thanking Darwin for his leader-

ship, innovation, and many years of dedicated service to our state.

IN HONOR OF CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER TWO NICOLE SPROESSER

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 13, 2016

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Warrant Officer Two Nicole Sproesser for her achievements, contributions, and service in both the U.S. Army and the New Jersey National Guard.

Chief Sproesser joined the Army in 2001. She deployed to Kuwait and Iraq as a Quartermaster, supporting Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom from February 2003 to October 2003. She was responsible for transporting all food, water, and supplies to units across Iraq. For her logistical support of 2,496 soldiers during Operation Iraqi Freedom, she was awarded the Army Commendation Medal. Promoted to sergeant after just two and a half years in the Army, she was awarded the Soldier of the Year for the 49th Quartermaster Group.

After fulfilling her service obligation with the Army in August of 2004, Chief Sproesser joined the New Jersey National Guard in December of that same year. In 2008, she was selected to become a Warrant Officer and now works as the Property Book Officer for the 57th Troop Command, where she manages and maintains 18 units with property totaling 189 million dollars.

While in the National Guard, Chief Sproesser served in numerous major homeland security operations, including Hurricane Sandy, as a Battle Captain, and Hurricane Irene, as an Officer in Charge. She has displayed both tactical and technical leadership abilities numerous times and has been inducted into the International Society of Logistics in 2015.

Chief Sproesser comes from a family committed to public service; her mother also served in the Army and her father is currently serving as President of the New Jersey Fraternal Order of Police. She and her husband, Eric—an Army Purple Heart recipient, also have three children, Christian, Aiden, and Cora Grace with whom they take frequent trips to tour Civil War battlegrounds.

Mr. Speaker, Chief Warrant Officer Two Nicole Sproesser is a great American whose dedication to serving her country in the U.S. Army and New Jersey National Guard is an inspiration to her community. I join with her family, friends, and all of New Jersey in honoring the selfless service of this exceptional woman.

● 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.

IN RECOGNITION OF RUTGERS
UNIVERSITY'S 250TH ANNIVER-
SARY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 13, 2016

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the 250th anniversary of one of the greatest academic institutions in New Jersey, the United States and the world.

Since 1766, Rutgers University has forged young minds and prepared our nation's workforce. Students at Rutgers get exposure to the full range of academic disciplines and the kind of trailblazing research that can only be found at the world's top research institutions. Reflecting the assets of the great state of New Jersey, the Rutgers student body is also one of the most diverse in the nation.

Throughout the years, I've enjoyed the privilege of representing the Rutgers community. During my time in Congress, whatever issue comes across my plate, I've always had the nation's experts in every field within arm's reach.

That's especially true in recent years, following the merger with University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey and the designation of the Cancer Institute of New Jersey as a National Cancer Institute.

It is Rutgers' tremendous history of academic achievement and national leadership that led President Obama to accept the University's invitation to speak at its 250th commencement this coming Sunday. I was proud to lead two Congressional letters urging the President to accept Rutgers' invitation.

I commend Rutgers for its 250 years of contributions to our country, and I'm excited about Rutgers' future and its accomplishments yet to come.

FOSHAY LEARNING CENTER FIRST
ROBOTICS TEAM 597 ENDS A
YEAR AS WORLD CHAMPION

HON. KAREN BASS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 13, 2016

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I am very proud to welcome home the Foshay Learning Center FIRST Robotics Team 597, the Wolverines, who have closed out their year as reigning champions at the competition that ended on April 30, 2016.

One year ago, Team 597, coming from an inner-city Los Angeles school in my district, beat out 18,000 students with 900 robots from 40 countries to win the Chairman's Award, the highest honor given at the 2015 FRC World Championships in St. Louis, Missouri. The award recognizes the team that best represents a model for other teams to emulate, and best embodies the purpose and goals of FIRST, including the promotion of not just STEM skills but teamwork, entrepreneurship, volunteerism and resourcefulness.

Under strict rules, limited resources, and the guidance of volunteer mentors including teachers, engineers, business professionals, parents, alumni and more, the Wolverines team had just six weeks to build and program their

robot to perform challenging tasks against a field of competitors. They also had to raise funds, design a team "brand," hone teamwork skills, and perform community outreach. In addition to learning valuable STEM and life skills, participants are eligible to apply for millions in college scholarships.

Under the leadership of their advisor, Foshay math teacher, Darryl Newhouse, Team 597 not only built a great robot, competed in local and regional events, raised funds to support their work and the trip to St. Louis, but they also excelled in seeding teams at local elementary schools and giving back to their community in multiple ways.

Just last month, Team 597 had the honor of sending two representatives to the 2016 White House Science Fair, initiated by President Barack Obama six years ago to honor the student winners of a broad range of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) competitions across the country. And last week they returned to St. Louis as reigning champions.

I salute the Wolverines and the parents, teachers, parents, family, friends, organizations, and professionals who support them.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN A.
MARKEY

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 13, 2016

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of John A. Markey for his service to the City of New Bedford and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as Mayor of New Bedford. I am also proud to commemorate the apt naming of the city-owned plaza on Front Street in the city he served with such dedication.

Jack Markey, as he is known to most, was first elected to serve the citizens of New Bedford as its mayor in 1971. At that time, there was a great need for strong leadership to preserve and restore the rich tapestry of this historic city. Under his eleven-year tenure over six terms, Mayor Markey ushered in essential investment and restoration projects into the Downtown New Bedford Historic District—serving as a critical turning point for New Bedford and for the perception and image of this tourist destination.

Under Mayor Markey's leadership, the City made several forward-thinking investments in community development, including burying utility lines, resurfacing streets with cobblestone, enhancing landscaping and restoring several historic landmarks. Before leaving office to become the Presiding Judge of the New Bedford District Court in 1982, Markey strongly advocated for the establishment of the New Bedford Whaling National Historic Park. It is for these reasons that he is deservedly recognized by having this plaza named after him.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the lifelong service and commitment of John A. "Jack" Markey to the City of New Bedford.

HONORING SCOTT CETOUTE FOR
ACHIEVING PERFECT ATTEND-
ANCE WHILE ENROLLED IN THE
BROWARD COUNTY SCHOOL SYS-
TEM FROM KINDERGARTEN
THROUGH HIS SENIOR YEAR

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 13, 2016

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today to recognize Mr. Scott Cetoute, a student-athlete and soon to be graduate of Plantation High School. Scott was recently honored at the Broward County Public Schools fifth annual Best-in-Class and Perfect Attendance Awards ceremony on Thursday, May 12, 2016, and will be honored again on Tuesday, May 17, 2016 at the Broward County School Board Meeting.

The Best-in-Class Award is an accolade presented to students who have been continuously enrolled in Broward County Public Schools from kindergarten through 12th grade, who have perfect attendance. This is a remarkable achievement and it is an immense honor of mine to recognize Scott for his unwavering devotion to education.

Having never missed a single day of school for a total of 2,340 days is no small feat. Furthermore, in a show of appreciation, various community and business partners have joined together to provide Scott and fellow honorees with an assortment of gifts and supplies that will assist them as they continue their journey towards higher education.

Mr. Speaker, I once again want to commend Mr. Scott Cetoute for his dedication and commitment to education. He is a shining example of student success. I wish him all the very best as he begins studying at Broward Community College this summer to earn his Associate Degree, then upon completion he will continue his education further at Florida International University (FIU). Scott has strong aspirations to become a Pharmacist once he completes his education. I know that he will make his community and the state of Florida proud.

RECOGNIZING MAJOR RITA
CATALINA ROSALES GONZALEZ

HON. BETO O'ROURKE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 13, 2016

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Army Major Rita Catalina Rosales Gonzalez for her extraordinary dedication to duty and service to our nation. Major Rosales has distinguished herself through her service while serving as a Legislative Liaison in the Army's House Liaison Division from June 2015 to April 2016.

A native of Monterrey, México, Major Rosales immigrated to the United States when she was just ten years old. Feeling a call to service, she joined the Army in 2005 and served the first seven years of her career at Fort Bliss in my district of El Paso, Texas. While at Fort Bliss, Major Rosales served as a Patriot Launcher Platoon Leader; a Patriot Fire Control Platoon Leader and Battery Trainer; a Battalion Fire Direction Section Officer-in-