

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 2017

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, Congresswoman MARCY KAPTUR of Ohio, for anchoring this Special Order and rise to remember and mourn the millions of souls lost in the Holocaust, the worst instance of man's inhumanity to man in human history.

Nearly 72 years have passed since the end of World War II but for those who survived, and the descendants and relatives of those who perished, the Holocaust is not ancient history but a reminder of the evil that can be unleashed when humans give into their worst instincts and appetites.

The Holocaust's magnitude of destruction numbered more than 12 million deaths, including 6 million Jews and 1.5 million children (more than 2/3 of European Jewry), and the ramifications of prejudice, racism and stereotyping on a society.

A haunting quote in the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum refers to the story of Cain and Abel:

The Lord said, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground (Genesis 4:11).

The Holocaust forces us to confront uncomfortable questions such as the responsibilities of citizenship and the consequences of indifference and inaction, and the importance of education and awareness.

The Holocaust is a testament to the fragility of democracy.

We must resolve to resist prejudice and intolerance in any form.

It fills me with grief to know that the leaders of nations can destroy their own, as did the Nazi regime. Yet I hope that we can continue to strengthen the means by which we can pursue justice.

And I am saddened, outraged, and embarrassed that the current President of the United States could think it appropriate to issue a statement on Holocaust Remembrance Day that fails to make any mention of the defining crime of the 20th Century, the murder of 6 million persons for no reason other than they were Jews.

But the vast majority of Americans remember and are united in this prayer and promise: Never Again.

Thank you, Congresswoman KAPTUR, for holding this important special order.

I include in the RECORD the following statement from the President regarding International Holocaust Remembrance Day:

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

[For Immediate Release—January 27, 2017]

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT ON
INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

It is with a heavy heart and somber mind that we remember and honor the victims,

survivors, heroes of the Holocaust. It is impossible to fully fathom the depravity and horror inflicted on innocent people by Nazi terror.

Yet, we know that in the darkest hours of humanity, light shines the brightest. As we remember those who died, we are deeply grateful to those who risked their lives to save the innocent.

In the name of the perished, I pledge to do everything in my power throughout my Presidency, and my life, to ensure that the forces of evil never again defeat the powers of good. Together, we will make love and tolerance prevalent throughout the world.

RECOGNIZING THE PASSING OF MRS. NANNETTE "NAN" ANTONELLI CRAVEN OF RICHMOND, VA

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the passing of Mrs. Nannette "Nan" Antonelli Craven of Richmond, VA on February 5, 2017. She is survived by her children, Tony Craven (Angela), Debbie Craven Bragg (Sidney), David Craven (Kay), and Chris Craven (Heather); twelve grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. Nan was known as a welcoming person to all who met her and a fiercely loving figure to all her friends and family.

She was an active member of her community, volunteering at Benedictine High School and serving as coordinator for the Night Out Against Crime at Regency Woods. She was also a longtime member of St. Paul's and St. Benedict's Church and was a current member of St. Mary's Parish. Nan's friendship, love, and sweet presence blessed all those who knew and loved her. She will be dearly missed by her family and friends.

CELEBRATING MASON DIXON HOMESCHOOLERS ASSOCIATION'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Mason Dixon Homeschoolers Association (MDHSA) on its 30th year of service to families in Pennsylvania and Maryland.

The Mason Dixon Homeschoolers Association was founded in 1986 by two families in Franklin County, Pennsylvania who wanted to homeschool their children. Martin and Mary Hudzinski, along with Barbara and Michael Sniders, were surprised to find out that families all over Pennsylvania were being denied the right to home-educate their children. They began organizing with other families who

wanted to see the law changed as opposed to leaving the state to educate their children elsewhere, as some families had done. Soon, the MDHSA had seven families, and its members along with other homeschoilers in Pennsylvania worked for the passage of Act 169, signed by the governor in 1988, which allowed parents and guardians the choice of homeschooling their children.

Today, the MDHSA's membership has grown to support nearly 200 families. In 1997 they were authorized by the PA Department of Education to issue high school diplomas, and their first graduate was in 1998. Today, the MDHSA issues around 200 diplomas each year. In addition to providing their member families learning materials, they also provide their students with monthly assemblies for guest speakers to attend, classes taught by other homeschooling parents or outside experts in a particular field, field trips for its members, and even a yearly high school prom. Their graduates have become physicians, public school teachers, human rights workers, welders, and much, much more.

Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to congratulate the MDHSA on three decades of history and service to the Central Pennsylvania community, and to thank all who have helped this organization continue its success.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF TAUXEMONT COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Tauxemont Cooperative Preschool celebrating its 75th Anniversary on March 18, 2017 at its Diamond Jubilee. Tauxemont, a NAEYC accredited preschool located in the Fort Hunt corridor of Alexandria, Virginia, has been teaching preschool and kindergarten children a love of learning since 1942. The Tauxemont learning experience encourages parents to participate with their children during this major step away from home. At Tauxemont, the faculty is involved with their children both during school and at special events. Family involvement is what makes a child's experience at Tauxemont unique.

Tauxemont's primary purpose is to provide an environment for a child to grow emotionally, developmentally, physically, socially, and intellectually.

Tauxemont, therefore, allows them to: discover that school is a happy place, that learning is fun and rewarding and that teachers are understanding and stimulating human beings; learn how to work and play successfully with other children; learn to develop their own skills, talents, and interests, and to expand each of these to the fullest extent; develop a sense of personal worth and an understanding of the needs and rights of others; and to develop a sense of excitement and interest in

● 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.

the world in which we live and an eagerness to learn more.

Tauxmont prepares children for formal schooling and ready to learn anything.

The secret behind Tauxmont's success for over 60 years is parent involvement. Parents participate in all aspects of the school, contributing to the success of children.

HONORING RETIRING WESTERN SPRINGS CHIEF OF POLICE PAMELA CHURCH

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Western Springs Chief of Police Pamela Church, who is retiring after 33 years of service in law enforcement.

Chief Church started out as physical education teacher in the Decatur School District. After seven years in education, she decided to switch careers and become a police officer in 1983. She started as a patrol officer for the Downers Grove Police Department where she developed an award-winning community oriented policing program. Chief Church spent more than 20 years serving and protecting the Downers Grove community and rose through the ranks to Deputy Chief.

In November 2005, Chief Church was hired as Chief of Police for the Western Springs Police Department. Upon becoming Chief, she became one of seven female police chiefs in the State of Illinois. Chief Church honorably protected the Western Springs community for over a decade.

In addition, Chief Church has been recognized by a variety of organizations for her exemplary efforts as Police Chief. In 2010, Church became the 50th president and first female president of the West Suburban Chiefs of Police Association, an honorable testament to her work outside of Western Springs and her dedication to law enforcement. She was also given the Illinois State Bar Association Law Enforcement Award in 2009, among countless other awards honoring her commitment to her community. Thanks to her work as Chief, she has made Western Springs a better and safer community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Chief of Police Pamela Church for all she has done in her years of service to her community and to congratulate her on her retirement. Her contributions have made an important impact in Western Springs and she will surely be missed.

HONORING SARA O'DONNELL

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Sara O'Donnell, founder and Executive Director of the Cancer Resource Center of Mendocino County, who is retiring after 21 years of service.

Sara O'Donnell grew up in rural central California, where she worked in the agricultural fields as a teenager and suffered the effects of exposure to pesticides. In 1990, after surviving a personal battle with breast cancer, Ms. O'Donnell set about establishing a resource to help individuals diagnosed with cancer. Five years later, in 1995, she and the founding board of directors opened the Cancer Resource Center of Mendocino County.

Over the following twenty years, the Cancer Resource Center has grown to serve more than 360 people annually. And, under Ms. O'Donnell's leadership, the Center has received grants and funding from the California Endowment, Avon Foundation, and hundreds of local community members.

Ms. O'Donnell's work has not only positively impacted the lives of countless individuals across Mendocino County, but she has shared her research and publications to provide assistance to underserved rural patients across the nation. Her volunteer service extends beyond the Cancer Resource Center. She is an advisory board member for Mendocino County Public Health and Mendocino County Health Insurance for All; she is on the board of directors for the Mendocino Coast Clinics; and she is an associate member of the Alliance for Rural Community Health.

Sara O'Donnell's legacy is one of dedicated service to rural health care and cancer prevention, and it is appropriate to express to her our deep appreciation for her long and exceptional career and her outstanding volunteer service, and to wish her well on her retirement.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT OF MR. GREG FARMER

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Mr. Greg Farmer, President and CEO of Colonial Farm Credit of Mechanicsville, Virginia.

Greg Farmer has been involved in agriculture for almost his entire life. From his education at the University of Maryland School of Agriculture to his first job in the poultry industry to his career at financial cooperative Farm Credit, he has worked tirelessly on behalf of farmers and their rural communities.

Mr. Farmer's lasting legacy and greatest impact has been his work at Colonial Farm Credit. He began his career as a loan officer in Farmville, Virginia working with poultry, tobacco, dairy, and cattle farmers during agriculture's difficult times in the 1980s. His efforts kept a lot of farmers in the field and working. These early experiences shaped his determination that the best way for Farm Credit to serve the community was to maintain strong credit standards in order to have the ability to be a steady resource for farmers in both good and bad times.

As Chief Credit Officer, he laid the groundwork to mold Colonial Farm Credit into the cooperative it is today. Respected and admired for his ability to understand credit policy and

apply it correctly, he set the standard by which loan officers make and underwrite loans today.

This straightforward approach served him well when he was chosen by the board of directors to be President and CEO in 2000. Since that time, the cooperative has grown in loan volume, become a standard in the industry for its excellent performance, and has become the lender of choice for farmers and foresters in eastern Virginia and southern Maryland.

In addition to leading a \$665 million lending institution employing 76 people, Greg has also found time to be an integral part of the community. He serves on both the board of Agriculture in the Classroom and as a consultant to the Colonial Agricultural Educational Foundation. He is a participant in many agricultural events and has been an active voice on Capitol Hill meeting Members of Congress as an advocate for the interests of the rural and agricultural communities.

Mr. Farmer is widely known as a man of great integrity, intelligence, and common sense and can be relied on to analyze problems and give a reasoned and researched response. He is also a great representative not only for Farm Credit, but for cooperatives and agriculture in general. He loves telling the cooperative story and also bragging about hard working farmers and their vital role in America.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize and congratulate Mr. Farmer on his distinguished career and I wish him all the best in this next chapter of life.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ARIZONA

HON. ANDY BIGGS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, this week, my home state of Arizona turned 105 years old. The Grand Canyon State is an incredible state in which to raise a family and earn a living.

There is so much to love about Arizona. We have over 300 days of sunshine; we enjoy the cool pines of Flagstaff and the rustic and historic towns of Prescott, Show Low, and Tombstone, which give perspective into Arizona's first days as a state; and we greatly benefit from the agriculture city Yuma.

Arizona's lakes, mountains, and skies provide countless activities throughout the year for natives and visitors alike. Arizona also enthusiastically hosts 15 Major League Baseball teams for Spring Training, Super Bowls, College Football playoff games, and the Waste Management Open, which many call the Greatest Show on Grass.

Most of all, I love the people of Arizona. Arizonans are diverse, patriotic, and fiercely independent. They bring so much talent and potential to our communities. I am deeply honored to serve my constituents in Chandler, Gilbert, Mesa, Sun Lakes, and Queen Creek.

After a long week in Washington, I cannot wait to step off the plane into the fresh, free air of Arizona. It is the greatest state in the union, and I will always be proud to call Arizona my home.

Happy Birthday, State 48.