

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LIFE OF JEF "RUSTY" RUSSELL III

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 6, 2017

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Jef Chaison Russell III or "Rusty" as I knew him, who went to be with the Lord on December 31, 2016.

Rusty was a former Beaumont Convention and Visitors Bureau director who devoted himself to promoting tourism in the Beaumont region. He was known in many different convention and tourism circles having served as director of the Bureaus of Beaumont, Texas, Forth Worth, Texas and Eureka Springs, Arkansas. Rusty loved people and in turn people loved him.

Rusty and I have been friends since 1953 during our kindergarten days at Longfellow Elementary School in Texas. There was no finer man than Rusty. Among the many memories we share together there is one I will cherish forever; two years ago, he traveled to D.C. to take part in my being sworn into the 114th Congress. I am saddened by his passing, but I am so thankful for the years of friendship I had with my dear friend. We do not know the day, hour or minute that the good Lord will call us home; Rusty knew this and spent his days serving others and touching every life he could.

I will cherish the memories of our friendship. Rusty's family will continue to be in our prayers.

HONORING STEVE PENLEY

HON. TOM GRAVES

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 6, 2017

Mr. GRAVES of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, in 1964 Steve Penley was born into a family of musicians in Chattanooga, Tennessee. The family soon moved to Athens, Georgia and then Macon, Georgia where Penley attended First Presbyterian Day School. Following high school, he studied at The School of Visual Arts in New York and at The University of Georgia.

After college, Penley was working odd jobs while painting when his talent was recognized by an attorney and art enthusiast, Robert Steed. Penley quickly gained recognition for his bold brush strokes, vivid colors and historical icon paintings.

Penley is now one of America's most celebrated artists with works exhibited across the globe. He has created multiple projects for Fox News, major companies such as Coca-Cola, AirTran/Southwest, Kaiser Permanente, as well as several U.S. Presidents and foreign heads of state. His work can even be found in the U.S. Capitol, where it's displayed on loan for visitors from across the country to enjoy.

Penley's paintings represent the very best of America and serve as a reminder of the leaders and institutions that make our country great.

In addition to his paintings, Penley has authored and illustrated several books, including books written by legendary University of Georgia football Coach Vince Dooley. He has also donated countless paintings to charities and organizations in his community and state, as well as across the nation. He is particularly honored to be involved with numerous organizations that benefit our active-duty servicemembers and our veterans.

Despite all of his professional accomplishments, Penley is proudest of his role as a father of three very talented artists and musicians: Lyall, Abbey and Parker.

Steve Penley is a legendary artist and a great American.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BETO O'ROURKE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 6, 2017

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, during the roll call votes on Thursday, January 5, 2017, I missed a vote on an amendment to the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act.

Had I been present, on roll call number 13, I would have voted "Aye."

TRIBUTE TO JOE GALLEGOS

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 6, 2017

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Joe Gallegos, who served the County of Costilla, Colorado as a Commissioner for over ten years. Joe passed away on December 11, 2016, and will be greatly missed in the San Luis Valley.

Joe was a fifth generation farmer in San Luis, and his love for the land in the surrounding area inspired him to volunteer with non-profit community organizations to preserve water quality and find solutions to zoning issues. He was instrumental in the restoration of the old Costilla County Courthouse and the implementation of the Costilla County biodiesel pilot project.

Joe's fellow county commissioner, Lawrence Pacheco, said that Joe was the only true cowboy he knew, and at his last conference of commissioners, he remained focused on his mission to promote sustainability, protect watersheds, and make sure the most vulnerable people in the community had a voice and seat at the table.

The magnitude of Joe's impact on the San Luis Valley is immense and it is a privilege to

recognize his legacy of public service and hard work.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JESSE WILLIAM "J.W." RAY

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 6, 2017

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Jesse William "J.W." Ray, who died on January 2, 2017.

J.W. lived an impressive life. He served as a Seabee 24th NCB in the United States Navy in the Pacific Theatre during World War II and was among the soldiers who fought in the Philippines and Okinawa before being honorably discharged on April 20, 1946.

After leaving the U.S. Navy, J.W. married and was blessed with four children. He spent thirteen years working with Texaco refinery as a pipefitter and two years working for the Southern Pacific Railroad. As a family man, J.W. decided to leave the railroad because it took him away from his loved ones for days at a time. He entered the insurance industry and founded his own insurance company in Woodville, Texas, which he ran for forty years.

When his first wife Cecil passed away in 2004, J.W. began Cecil's Pantry at the United Methodist Church in Warren, Texas. It still continues to help others today.

J.W. Ray was a kind man and I feel honored and privileged to have known him. He will be missed, and his family will continue to be in our prayers.

HONORING COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS MARTIN AND MARTHA JOHNSON

HON. MIKE KELLY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 6, 2017

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two of my constituents from Western Pennsylvania, Martin and Martha Johnson. The Johnson's are the founders and directors of Downtown Ministries INC. as well as several other groups serving under its umbrella including Fresh Grounds Coffeehouse, Sans MOCO Gallery, His Work—His Way, Keystone Bibles and Community Health Ministry.

Created in 1994, Downtown Ministries is a charitable organization that serves as an avenue for Christians to connect, socialize and minister. Downtown Ministries strives to provide opportunity and vision to meet the physical and spiritual needs of our community.

In April 2010, Downtown Ministries established the Fresh Grounds Coffeehouse to connect with even more people in our community and positively impact our community. Fresh

• 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.

Grounds Coffeehouse is the face of Downtown Ministries and has been designated as Greenville, Pennsylvania's latest landmark. Fresh Grounds Coffeehouse is not just a meeting place but, more importantly, it is a ministry. The main objective of Fresh Grounds Coffeehouse is to honor and glorify God and create a special place where God's presence is felt and embraced. While it's not a traditional church ministry, Fresh Grounds Coffeehouse creates countless opportunities for Christian growth and allows customers to engage one another in nurturing relationships, which Martin and Martha Johnson have strived for over the years.

Martin Johnson had a vision, which ultimately became a reality, with the help of countless friends, volunteers, local businesses and churches. The unwavering dedication exhibited by Martin and Martha Johnson, as well as all volunteers involved, is heartwarming and speaks volumes about the giving spirit of the Greenville community.

As a unique ministry, the main focus of Downtown Ministries, and all groups that fall under its organizational umbrella, is to bring individuals to come to believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. In serving God, the community, and all those in need of God's Grace, Martin and Martha Johnson are inspirations to us all. Their compassion and generosity have clearly influenced the lives of so many and will continue to do so for years to come. Therefore, on behalf of the Third Congressional District of Pennsylvania, I want to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation of Martin and Martha Johnson, they are true Community Champions.

HONORING PAMELA DUNLAP
PATTERSON

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 6, 2017

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Pamela Patterson, as she retires from her career as the Chief Executive Officer of West Company and the Director of the Mendocino Small Business Development Center.

Born and raised in Virginia, Pamela Dunlap Patterson later obtained an Associate Degree at Massey Junior College in Atlanta and began a career in the retail industry. Pamela headed west to California in 1979 to become the Retail Merchandising Teacher for the Fort Bragg High School Regional Occupation Program. She then went on to serve as the literacy coordinator for the Mendocino County Library in Fort Bragg, and eventually, the coordinator for the "Read Right" program through Georgia Pacific where she helped improve literacy for workers in the timber industry.

In 1998, Pamela Patterson began her long career with West Company, a pilot Women's Business Center funded by the Small Business Administration. In 2004, she took the helm of the organization which at the time was struggling financially. Under Pamela's leadership, West Company stabilized funding sources, and secured a contract as the Small Business Development Center in 2007. Over her term as the Chief Executive Officer she has secured millions of dollars in funding to

help micro-entrepreneurs and small businesses to start and grow as means of improving the local economy.

Pamela Patterson's legacy is one of dedicated service to entrepreneurship and an educated workforce. Please join me in congratulating Pamela on her retirement and expressing our deep appreciation for her long and exceptional career, and her outstanding contributions to Mendocino County's workforce and economy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 6, 2017

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on roll call vote 6, I was not present because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "NAY."

HONORING WILLIAM HUDNUT, III

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 6, 2017

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a beloved and iconic member of the Hoosier community, William Hudnut III. Bill, who served as Mayor of Indianapolis from 1976 to 1992, passed away on December 17th, 2016 at the age of 84. Bill was a vibrant, enthusiastic, and passionate individual. His larger than life persona and animated approach to being Mayor will not soon be forgotten. He was a mentor to many and will be sorely missed by our community, but we will remember him forever through the spectacular legacy he left behind. Bill entered political life with his election to Congress in 1972. After which he served 16 years as Mayor of Indianapolis, making him the longest serving Mayor of Indianapolis. Through his time as Mayor he transformed Indianapolis into a dynamic metropolitan city and the amateur sports capital of the world. The people of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District are forever grateful for Bill's contributions to our Hoosier community, and it is my privilege to honor him today.

Bill was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1932. He attended the Darrow School in New York for high school, and graduated from Princeton University as an undergraduate, where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. In 1957, he graduated with a Master's Degree in Theology from the Union Theological Seminary in New York, and, like his father and grandfather before him, Bill became an ordained clergyman. At the age of 30, Bill first became a Hoosier when he moved to Indianapolis and began work as the senior pastor of Second Presbyterian Church in Indianapolis. He served as Senior Pastor from 1964 to 1972, during which time he became interested in politics.

In the 1972 Republican primary for Indiana's 11th Congressional District, Bill defeated future Congressman Dan Burton and went on to win the general election against four-term Congressman Andrew Jacobs, Jr. During his term in the 93rd Congress, he was an original sponsor of seventeen bills and a cosponsor of

179 bills, five of which became law. He was a true statesman focused on good governance with dedication toward bipartisan solutions. After his time in Congress he came home to Indianapolis to run for, and serve in, the office of Mayor. Bill's interest in politics came from his passion for helping his community and his belief that politics was where he could make the greatest change for his community.

As Mayor he aimed to generate job growth, improve infrastructure, and develop projects to attract businesses to downtown Indianapolis. He aimed to not only draw businesses back downtown, but to bring back many citizens who had previously fled to the suburbs. Through his dedicated efforts to revitalize the city, he made Indianapolis a more attractive place to live and to do business. Over his tenure from 1976 to 1992, he oversaw more than 30 building projects, including renovations and expansions to Monument Circle, Indianapolis Union Station, the Indiana University School of Medicine, and the Indiana Convention Center. Many office buildings were constructed, and companies such as Eli Lilly and Company and American United Life committed to stay in Indianapolis.

In addition to spurring on local business, he also made unequalled contributions to Indiana's sports culture. He retained the NBA's Pacers, which were on the brink of failing if not for the efforts of Bill and others. He built the Hoosier Dome, hopeful that the infrastructure and investment would bring Indianapolis a national football team. Ultimately, he was able to bring home the Indianapolis Colts. He was also able to draw the Pan American Games to Indiana, bringing the world's eyes to Indiana and shining the international spotlight on Indianapolis. The Pan American Games had 38 nations represented by over 4,000 competing athletes. Bill was also instrumental in founding the Indiana Sports Corp, a nonprofit organization that has brought Indianapolis numerous sporting events that include the 1982 National Sports Festival, the 1991 World Gymnastics Championships, 19 Big Ten Women's Basketball Tournaments, 10 Big Ten Men's Basketball Tournaments, recently the 2012 Superbowl, and many other events. The Indiana Sports Corp has cemented Bill's legacy and continued to realize his vision of Indianapolis as a sporting destination. Bill helped put Indianapolis on the world map and paved the way for the city to be the sporting and convention destination that it is today.

Bill's work was not only greatly appreciated by Hoosiers but also recognized and awarded by his peers. He was the president of the National League of Cities and a member of their board for over twenty years. In 1988, Bill was named City & State magazine's Nation's Most Valuable Public Official. In 1985, he earned the Distinguished Public Service Award from the Indiana Association of Cities and Towns and in 1986, a Woodrow Wilson Award for Public Service.

Bill leaves behind a larger than life legacy that is fitting for someone with his larger than life personality. In his time as Mayor, he revitalized downtown Indianapolis, transforming it into a world class city by changing it from what he called "India-NO-place" to "India-SHOW-place." Many can fondly remember his booming voice, his uncommon approach to being Mayor, his fun antics like dressing up as a Leprechaun for a St. Patrick's Day parade, and his vivacious personality. He dedicated