

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF WILLIAM "BILL" SMETHERS

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life of William "Bill" Smethers, who passed away on March 31, 2017. Bill was a wonderful friend and beloved member of our community whose passing is deeply felt. Having known and worked with Bill, I know that he will be greatly missed. He touched many lives throughout his decades of service to our community.

As a former Santa Clara County Fair Manager, Bill fought to protect the County Fair from being eliminated and continued to advocate for improving the Fair well after leaving his post as manager. His steadfast dedication became an inspiration for others to follow, encouraging them to preserve and continue these Fairs, festivals, and other cultural institutions not only in Santa Clara County but across California.

Most importantly, Bill founded Youth Focus Inc. almost 50 years ago to empower and motivate youth, providing learning opportunities for youth to excel and become future leaders in our community. Through various cultural and educational enrichment programs, Bill and his team at Youth Focus Inc. made a tremendous impact on countless young people by helping them develop skills they needed to become productive and contributing members of our society. His work has left a lasting impression on those who participated in Youth Focus Inc. programs and will continue to be felt by future generations.

Mr. Speaker, our San Jose community mourns the passing of Bill Smethers as we honor his life today. We thank him for his lasting contributions to our community and join his loved ones in celebrating his incredible life.

REINA BAUTISTA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Reina Bautista for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Reina Bautista is a 10th grader at Eagle Ridge Academy and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Reina Bautista is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Reina Bautista for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE CHUCK BERRY, THE FATHER OF ROCK N' ROLL

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a legendary American musical genius;

An inaugural member of the Rock n' Roll Hall of Fame;

And a former neighbor and friend of the Clay family for six decades . . .

The father of Rock n' Roll; the immortal Chuck Berry.

Mr. Berry, a legendary singer, songwriter and guitarist who created the original American art form that would come to be known as Rock n' Roll, died on March 18 at the age of 90.

He began singing in the Antioch Baptist Church choir in St. Louis when he was just six years old.

In 1952, when jazz pianist Johnnie Johnson lost his saxophonist, Alvin Bennett, to a stroke on Christmas Eve, he called on Mr. Berry to join the Sir John Trio.

The group played at the famed Cosmopolitan Club in East St. Louis. Although he was a new guitarist, Mr. Berry added vocals and showmanship to the group and was soon its leader.

During a 1955 visit to Chicago, legendary Blues man Muddy Waters suggested that Berry should reach out to Leonard Chess at Chess Records.

Mr. Berry sent him four demos; one was his iconic single . . . Maybellene. He got the contract.

The high-octane Maybellene became his first hit single.

As the civil rights movement was awakening the nation to the struggle for justice and equality for African Americans, Chuck Berry's music smashed the color barrier. He was one of the first Black artists to become as popular with white audiences as he was with Black audiences.

In 1958, he did an ode to teenage-hood: Sweet Little Sixteen. It grabbed the No. 1 spot on the R&B chart and No. 2 on the pop chart.

Then came Johnny B. Goode, his anthem that was part autobiography, part tribute to his piano player, Johnny Johnson. It's about a poor country boy with a gift for playing the guitar and dreams of someday seeing his name up in lights "saying Johnny B. Goode tonight."

In 1987, his self-titled autobiography was published and the enduring documentary film about his life, Hail! Hail! Rock n' Roll, was released.

Mr. Berry appeared as himself in the 1978 film, American Hot Wax, and performed at the Carter White House in 1979.

A career that transcended hate and racism, and outlasted hardship, began winning long-overdue recognition in the '80s.

In 1985, he received the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award and was inducted into the Blues Foundation's Blues Hall of Fame.

In 1986, after more than 40 years in show business, Chuck Berry was inducted into the Rock n' Roll Hall of Fame as a member of its inaugural class.

Two years later, Chuck Berry received his star on St. Louis' Walk of Fame.

In 2011 . . . a larger than life statue of Mr. Berry was installed near his star, across the street from the world-famous Blueberry Hill on Delmar Boulevard in the heart of my Congressional District.

The Beatles, The Rolling Stones and many other world-class groups owe their success to the innovative genius of Chuck Berry.

Mr. Berry's most recent award, the Polar Music Prize, aptly stated: "Every riff and solo played by rock guitarists over the last 60 years contains DNA that can be traced right back to Chuck Berry."

Charles Edward Anderson Berry was born Oct. 18, 1926 in St. Louis' historic Ville neighborhood. He was the fourth of Martha Bell Banks Berry and Henry William Berry Sr.'s six children.

Mr. Berry is survived by his wife, Themetta, and his four children, Ingrid Berry, Melody Eskridge, Aloha Isa Leigh Berry and Charles Berry Jr.

On behalf of the Clay family, I want to express our deepest condolences to our old friends . . . the Berry family.

And on behalf of music fans everywhere, I want to give thanks for the life of this legendary artist . . . whose legacy and unique sound will live on for generations to come.

A true St. Louis legend and an American treasure . . . Chuck Berry.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, on April 3, 2017, and April 4, 2017, I was absent from the House and missed Roll Call Votes 209 through 216.

Had I been present for Roll Call Vote 209, on passage of H. Res. 92, I would have voted Yes.

Had I been present for Roll Call Vote 210, on passage of H.R. 479, I would have voted Yes.

Had I been present for Roll Call Vote 211, on ordering the previous question, I would have voted No.

Had I been present for Roll Call Vote 212, on agreeing to H. Res. 241, I would have voted No.

• 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.

Had I been present for Roll Call Vote 213, on ordering the previous question, I would have voted No.

Had I been present for Roll Call Vote 214, on agreeing to H. Res. 240, I would have voted No.

Had I been present for Roll Call Vote 215, on the motion to recommit H.R. 1343, I would have voted Yes.

Had I been present for Roll Call Vote 216, on passage of H.R. 1343, I would have voted No.

RECOGNIZING AND CELEBRATING THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA VET- ERANS ASSOCIATION'S 2ND ANNI- VERSARY CELEBRATION

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and celebrate the Northern Virginia Veterans Association's 2nd Anniversary Celebration. NOVA Veterans operates with the mission of supporting local veterans and families through coordination of services and case management until all needs are met. After coordinating resources for the veterans and their families, NOVA Veterans then completes the case by supplying information on local fitness, arts programs, and recreation resources.

NOVA Veterans began supporting veterans and their families in July 2015 and have since supported more than 50 clients and have completed more than 600 hours of case management. The organization has grown to include 42 partners, affiliates, sponsors, and donors. NOVA Veterans has more than 60 individuals who support their mission on an individual level through volunteering and donations and these numbers continue to grow.

NOVA Veterans' comprehensive network of proven local resources creates rapid, efficient, and effective results while also serving as a rally point where former and current military members and military support organizations can team up and serve their community. The multifaceted, inclusive, and collaborative support and care NOVA Veterans gives to our nation's veterans and their families empowers them to become involved in their communities and to improve the health and quality of their lives. Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in celebrating NOVA Veterans' second anniversary and to wish them continued success in the future.

TRUMP DIRTY ENERGY EXECUTIVE ORDER

HON. NANETTE DIAZ BARRAGÁN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Mr. Speaker, after the hottest recorded year in history, Donald Trump and his Environmental Destruction Agency under Administrator Scott Pruitt will undo more than a decade's worth of progress fighting climate change and protecting public health by seeking to eliminate the Clean Power Plan as we know it.

The Clean Power Plan which seeks to reduce carbon pollution from fossil-fueled power plants by more than 30 percent, was the biggest action the United States had ever taken to reduce carbon pollution, the main source driving climate change. It was also the lynchpin of the Paris Climate Agreement which brought countries from all over the world together for the first time to combat climate change.

By weakening the Clean Power Plan and re-treating as the world's leader in combating climate change, the Trump Administration is giving away the ever-growing clean energy economy to China.

Contrary to President Trump's assertions, these actions will not bring back coal-mining jobs in Appalachia as natural gas continues to be more economically competitive than coal, the main reason for coal's demise.

The climate gap, the sometimes hidden and often-unequal impact of climate change on people of color and the poor, is real and only getting worse. Climate change disproportionately impacts minority and low-income communities like those in my district, especially with respect to heat waves, air quality and extreme weather events.

Low-income and minority communities in the inner city are more susceptible to the "heat island" effect where temperatures are magnified by concrete and asphalt. Reports have shown that African Americans living in Los Angeles are twice as likely to die as other Angelenos during a heat wave.

One of my top priorities is the issue of environmental justice—people should not breathe dirtier air simply because of their income or what they look like. As a United States Congresswoman for California's 44th congressional district, I will do everything I can to ensure clean air, water and lands for vulnerable populations.

TRIBUTE TO GARY BOSWELL

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Gary Boswell. Gary was honored by the Adams Community Chamber of Commerce with the Agriculturalist of the Year Award at their annual banquet on January 26, 2017.

Gary is currently a member and board member of the Adams County Farm Bureau, and is secretary for the Southwest Iowa Egg Cooperative Board. He was selected as Southwest Iowa Region 8 Conservation Farmer of the Year and is currently a member of the Iowa Cattleman Association, Iowa Soybean Association and the American Soybean Association.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Gary for receiving this outstanding award and for his continued commitment to the agriculture community. I am proud to represent him, and Iowans like him, in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Gary and in wishing him nothing but continued success.

ZAIRA GARCIA DE LA CUEVA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Zaira Garcia De La Cueva for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Zaira Garcia De La Cueva is an 11th grader at Northglenn High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Zaira Garcia De La Cueva is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Zaira Garcia De La Cueva for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

CONGRATULATING ALBERT "AL" YANGER ON RECEIVING THE U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRA- TION'S 2017 VETERAN SMALL BUSINESS CHAMPION OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR GUAM

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Albert "Al" Yanger on receiving the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2017 Veteran Small Business Champion of the Year Award for Guam. This award honors an individual on Guam who has fulfilled a commitment to advancing small business opportunities for Veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Al is the Co-Founder and President of Galaide Professional Services, Inc. (GPSI). Galaide Professional Services, Inc. is a Disabled Veteran Owned and SBA HUBZone certified small business providing professional, technical management, administrative and general contracting services for the Federal Government, Government of Guam and clients in the Western Pacific Region.

Al faithfully served in the U.S. Army for 22 years and retired as the Division Chief of Intelligence at the Pentagon. He then joined the private sector and worked for the Native American Industrial Distributors, Inc. Al recognized there was a need for the services he was providing with NAID in his home island of Guam and returned to the island in 2010. Together with his partner and fellow veteran Frankie Dumanal, Al launched Galaide Professional Services Inc. in December 2010. The company specializes in program/project management consulting with core competencies in the information technology sector. GPSI Guam works diligently with the Department of Defense Small Business representatives on Guam and has helped build the confidence of