

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO JEANETTE AND JOE LEINEN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 2, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Jeanette and Joe Leinen of Council Bluffs, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on November 28, 2017.

Jeanette and Joe's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 60th anniversary may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 60th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

RECOGNIZING THERESA CHIMEL FOR RAISING AWARENESS FOR PROPER PALLIATIVE CARE OPTIONS IN NORTHWEST FLORIDA

HON. MATT GAETZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 2, 2018

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the continuous efforts of Theresa Chimel, Executive Director of Escambia County Healthy Start Coalition, where she advocates for infants born exposed to drug use. Additionally, having lost a child of her own, she has dedicated her life to bring proper attention to the scarce availability of palliative care available in Northwest Florida.

On August 18, 2013, Theresa's son Asher died at the age of 12 having lived a life riddled with medical complexities. Asher, full of life, brought happiness to every person privileged to meet him. Due to limited palliative care options, the Chimel family had to make the best experience from a limited amount of resources. Mrs. Chimel has since made it her mission to assist other children that suffer from such conditions, by providing resources and opportunities for their families. Her efforts have been noticed world-wide, and has taken her, along with her family, to London, England to speak at the Transforming End of Life Care for Children and Young People event where on this day she will be addressing members of Parliament.

After her firsthand experience, Theresa proposes with high optimism that the care a child receives at the end of their life must be vastly improved. Families should not be burdened by such responsibility, but rather be allowed to

build these precious moments in happiness and peace.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am profoundly grateful and privileged to congratulate Theresa Chimel on her efforts to better the experience of life for children from the beginning to the conclusion of their time here on Earth.

RECOGNIZING OSWEGO HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS VOLLEYBALL TEAM

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 2, 2018

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Oswego Buccaneers Girls Volleyball Team on their well-deserved Section III Class A Championship.

On November 4 at Fayetteville-Manlius High School, the Oswego Girls Volleyball Team fought hard to build a solid lead and then pull away from Jamesville-Dewitt High School. In the fifth set, the Buccaneers won the Class A Sectional title 3 to 2, maintaining a narrow four point lead during the remainder of the match. This is their fifth title in six years, an amazing accomplishment.

The Buccaneers finished their season with a 10-0 in League Record, and a 14-2 Overall Record, due to the hard work of seniors Laurin Furlong, Samantha Gardner, Brianna Guentner, Kennedy Shurtleff, and Adeline Benjamin; and juniors Michaela Bradshaw, Maddie Armet, Willow-Su Knapp, Reagan Thompson, Lauren DeViny, McKinley Thompson, Sarah Casaletta, Sofia Proano, Alexa Quesnell, and Lisa Klunker. The team was coached by Ronald Ahart, an exceptional leader with an accomplished volleyball resume.

The Buccaneers played with heart and dedication throughout the entire season. I commend the hard work, commitment, and teamwork displayed by these young women. Excellence on the field translates to excellence off the field and the practice of sacrificing for the common goal builds character in our children. I could not be more proud to congratulate these young women on their tremendous season.

PROCLAMATION OF LIBERTY AND VIRTUE ON BEHALF OF HOME-MAKERS FOR AMERICA

HON. DIANE BLACK

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 2, 2018

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to include the following into the RECORD.

DECLARATION OF MOTHERS: A PROCLAMATION AND A PLEDGE FOR THE PRESERVATION OF LIBERTY & VIRTUE

As the mothers and primary Makers of the Homes of America—the molders the future of

our nation—we declare that the liberty and freedom of all people begin in the home and that a nation is but a magnified home. The values and virtues taught within the family will determine the values and virtues of the nation as a whole.

We recognize the sacred role of mother as the heart of the home and home as the heart of society. The liberty of each individual begins in the home and parents are, first and foremost the primary teachers and protectors of their children in a free society. Properly constructed social, religious, and governmental institutions are designed to support and strengthen the family unit not replace it or regulate it. No association or government organization can replace the family no matter how well-intentioned or well-designed it may be.

The privilege of living as a free people in a free society is dependent on being a people of faith, virtue and patriotism—the three pillars of liberty—and these attributes are best developed and nurtured in the home. Each generation has a responsibility to instill a love of liberty and virtue in the heads of the next generation.

We affirm that “All men and women are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights and to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, [receiving] their just powers from the consent of the governed.”

To secure the blessings of liberty, the Founding Fathers of the United States of America created a written constitution under the inspiration of Almighty God. The preservation of this sacred document and trust is dependent upon each generation, who bears the stewardship of safeguarding the constitution and teaching their children the rights and responsibilities associated with the noble cause of liberty and keeping the Republic.

Every individual is born with intrinsic dignity that is inherent to each member of the human race. All men and women have the right to liberty, self-determination and self-governance. The individual's responsibility of work, education, and industry are crucial elements of self-governance in society and the preservation of human dignity.

The rights of a free people are protected and preserved through honorable, virtuous, leadership which invokes the nobility inherent in all men and women. Successful leaders in the home and family govern by correct principles, teach by example and stand for self-evident truths and liberty sustaining principles.

As the lessons of history clearly demonstrate, we recognize that freedom is fragile. It is a rare and prized possession and requires constant care and vigilance for its preservation. Living as a free people does not come instinctively; principles of freedom must be studied and applied. Home and families with mothers who nurture and teach these principles produce leaders who honor and hold sacred the intrinsic dignity of the individual and inalienable rights endowed to all people.

To safeguard the liberty and enhance the future of our children and grandchildren, we affirm our commitment to “stand fast in that liberty wherewith God has made us free” that “government of the people, by the people, and for the people shall not perish from the earth.”

• 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.

Declaration of Independence.
Galatians 5:1.
Gettysburg Address.

TRIBUTE TO NICHOLAS MITCHELL

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 2, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Nicholas Mitchell, of Clive, Iowa and a member of Boy Scout Troop 182 for attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.

To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout is obligated to demonstrate how they live out the Scout Spirit in their life, to serve as a leader in their troop, earn a total of 21 merit badges, and, finally, to complete an Eagle Scout Project to benefit the community. For his project, Nicholas raised the necessary funds and materials needed to build a storage shed for the Waukee post of the VFW. The work ethic Cole has shown in his Eagle Scout Project and throughout his scouting career speaks volumes about his commitment to serving a cause greater than himself and bettering his community.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young man and his supportive family and community demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication, and perseverance. I am honored to represent Nicholas and his family in the United States Congress. I ask that all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating him on obtaining the Eagle Scout ranking and in wishing him nothing but continued success in his future education and career.

2018 BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 2, 2018

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I take this time to recognize Black History Month and its 2018 theme, African Americans in Times of War. This year's theme reflects on the crucial role of African Americans in the military. Throughout our history, millions of African American men and women have bravely served our country, and their contributions to the betterment of our nation are to be revered. We applaud those who continue to work so diligently to improve and expand upon military opportunities for African American men and women, but we must always acknowledge that there is more progress to be made.

We take this time to honor and reflect on the struggles and triumphs of African American people throughout America's history. African Americans have played a major role in every war, from the Revolutionary War to the Civil War. However, for a large majority of those wars, these brave individuals failed to receive ample recognition for their achievements. Let us take the time this month to recount and praise the African American men and women who served our country during wartime, and to commend those who serve in the military today.

The First Congressional District of Indiana, which I proudly serve, has a rich history steeped in military service. The late Quentin Smith, of Gary, Indiana, serves as a perfect example of what this year's theme means to the community of Northwest Indiana and the entire country. Quentin Smith was a member of the Tuskegee Airmen, the renowned African American World War II air corps. This group escorted and protected bombers as they flew missions over Europe, and they seldom lost a plane. For his bravery, courage, and heroism, Quentin Smith, along with his fellow Airmen, was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal. Following his military career, Mr. Smith continued to serve his community, especially the youth, through teaching and serving as the first principal of Gary West Side High School. A committed public servant, Mr. Smith was also involved in local government as a member of the Gary City Council, among many other exemplary accomplishments. Mr. Smith passed away in 2013 at the age of 94, but his legacy will live on for generations to come. For his truly honorable military career and his dedication to his community, Quentin Smith is held in our highest esteem.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other colleagues join me in celebrating Black History Month and honoring the African American men and women who served in the past while commending those who serve today. We are forever indebted for their contributions to protecting our great nation, and we thank them for their perseverance, sacrifice, and struggle.

A THREAT TO LABOR UNIONS

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 29, 2018

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman SCOTT for yielding and for anchoring this very important Special Order on the value of the labor unions, and the pending case of Janus v. AFSCME, Council 31, No. 16-1466, which is scheduled to be heard and decided by the Supreme Court this term.

Mr. Speaker, it is my strong hope and expectation that the Supreme Court will uphold the position advanced by Respondent AFSCME, Council 31.

All workers should chip in their fair share to cover the cost of representing them.

That is because unions work because all employees benefit from the terms and conditions of employment negotiated by unions.

Fair share fees provide public service workers with the power in numbers they need to negotiate better wages, benefits and protections that improve work conditions and set standards for everyone.

The corporate special interests supporting this attack on labor unions want to weaken the ability of unions to build strength in numbers.

That is why they want the Supreme Court to rule that workers can receive all the benefits of a union contract without contributing anything in return.

I know it is fashionable today to disparage, downplay, or minimize the importance of organized labor to our country.

That is easy to do but it would be wrong.

Those who would destroy or further limit the rights of organized labor—those who would

cripple collective bargaining or prevent organization of the unorganized—do a disservice to the cause of democracy.

Fifty years or so ago the American Labor Movement was little more than a group of dreamers, and look at it now.

From coast to coast, in factories, stores, warehouse and business establishments of all kinds, industrial democracy is at work.

Employees, represented by free and democratic trade unions of their own choosing, participate actively in determining their wages, hours and working conditions.

Their living standards are the highest in the world.

Their job rights are protected by collective bargaining agreements, and they enjoy benefits that were unheard of less than a generation ago.

Our labor unions are not narrow, self-seeking groups.

They have raised wages, shortened hours and provided supplemental benefits.

Through collective bargaining and grievance procedures, they have brought justice and democracy to the shop floor.

But their work goes beyond their own jobs, and even beyond our borders.

Our unions have fought for aid to education, for better housing, for development of our national resources, and for saving the family-sized farms.

They have spoken, not for narrow self-interest, but for the public interest and for the people.

Unions are as important as they ever were—because corporations are just as dedicated to their bottom line, regardless of the consequences for workers.

Employers are trying to shed responsibilities—for providing health insurance, good pension coverage, reasonable work hours and job safety protections.

The simple truth is that no one is forced to join a union and no one is forced to pay any fees that go to politics or political candidates.

Rather, each public service worker chooses whether or not to join a union, but the union is still required by law to represent and negotiate on behalf of all public service workers—members and non-members alike.

All employees receive the wage increases, benefits and workplace rights negotiated through the union.

All workers should chip in their fair share to cover the cost of representing them.

When working people have the freedom and opportunity to speak up together through unions, we make progress together that benefits everyone.

Working people need a voice at work to keep employers from making our jobs look like they did 100 years ago, with sweatshop conditions, unlivable wages and 70-hour workweeks.

And lest we forget, it was the men and women of organized labor who rushed into the burning World Trade Center Towers when others were rushing out.

The men and women of organized labor put their lives on the line for their fellow Americans everyday.

They do not ask for much. All they ask is to be treated with respect and dignity.

They want what we all want: to do their jobs and to make a better life for their families.

The least we in the Congress can do is to go on record in support of our working men