

HAPPY DOUBLE TEN DAY
(TAIWAN)

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, October 10, or Double Ten Day, is the national day of Taiwan. Given the warm ties between the United States and Taiwan, I would like to take this opportunity to wish the people of Taiwan a very Happy Double Ten Day.

The United States and Taiwan, despite our lack of an official diplomatic relationship, are important economic and security partners. From a security standpoint, as pledged in the Taiwan Relations Act, we continue to support democracy in Taiwan through our arms sales. I would also like to call to attention the recent Taiwan related provisions, enacted into law in August of this year, in conjunction with the National Defense Authorization Act for the fiscal year 2019. This newly enacted law reiterates that the TRA and the Six Assurances are the cornerstones of our relations with Taiwan. In addition, it calls for the strengthening of defense cooperation with Taiwan to ensure Taiwan can maintain sufficient self-defense capability; for supporting Taiwan's acquisition of defensive weapons; and for more predictability with respect to U.S. arms sales to Taiwan.

Where trade and economic prosperity are concerned, our two countries have made great strides. In 2017, Taiwan was ranked as the 11th largest trading partner of the United States, the 11th largest U.S. export market overall and the 7th largest market for U.S. agricultural products. Taiwan imported \$3.57 billion of food and agricultural products from the U.S., representing more than 28 percent of total imports of those products. Taiwan regularly sponsors trade missions to the United States in pursuit of agricultural products. Last year those missions culminated in the signing of letters of intent to purchase approximately \$2.8 billion in U.S.-produced grains between 2018 and 2019. Just in late September, another trade mission from Taiwan visited the United States in pursuit of \$300 million of soybeans purchases. Our two countries should and will continue to seek avenues where we can work together, and I hope my colleagues will join me in promoting this cooperation wherever possible.

I ask my House colleagues to join me in wishing the people of Taiwan all the best as they celebrate Double Ten Day.

TRIBUTE TO FRANCES AND
ROBERT NELSON

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Frances and Robert Nelson of Atlantic, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 65th wedding anniversary. They were married on August 23, 1953 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Atlantic.

Frances and Robert's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 65th anni-

versary, I hope it is filled with happy memories. 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 65th 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.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD L. BARR

HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege to rise and pay tribute to fellow Hoosier and American patriot Richard L. Barr. For ten years, Rick has tirelessly worked to engage, educate, and empower fellow citizens to take part in the American political process. He is the definition of an American Citizen-Statesman.

A lifelong Hoosier and Hendricks County resident, Rick is a man of deep civic conviction rooted in his love for American history and family. He is a dedicated husband, a loving father of 3, and a devoted grandfather of 4. It is Rick's love and concern for his children's and grandchildren's futures that drives him to volunteer so much of his time for the American cause.

As a founding member and current leader of the Indy Defenders of Liberty-West, Rick has utilized his leadership role to educate the public so that his fellow citizens are informed citizens. He spends hours researching issues and the historical context of those issues to invite knowledgeable speakers to the organization's monthly meetings. In addition, under Rick's direction, IDOL-West has also served the community by hosting several non-partisan candidate forums and many public meetings focused on local, state, or federal issues. I can personally attest that the relationships Rick cultivated, locally and statewide, have been successful in activating citizens. Oftentimes, my office has received calls or visits from constituents at Rick's suggestion.

Rick Barr is a good man and a good citizen. He is faithful in his belief that America is worth his time promoting limited government based on the United States Constitution.

Today, I am honored to acknowledge Rick Barr for his leadership, generosity, and dedication to our community, state, and country. I am proud to call him my friend.

IN ITS 50TH YEAR, ANNUAL MAINE
BALD EAGLE TRIP HIGHLIGHTS
COMEBACK OF AMERICAN ICON

HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th running of an important annual event in my state that highlights the comeback of an American icon.

In 1969, Dick Anderson led his first trip for Maine Audubon to try to spot bald eagles in

Maine's Merrymeeting Bay. At the time, it was the last accessible place in the entire state to see a nesting pair—a result of the terrible toll the pesticide DDT had taken on the nation's bald eagle population, which had dwindled to just over 400 pairs in the continental U.S. in the 1960s.

Anderson continued to bring people to Merrymeeting Bay annually. In the early years, they were lucky to see one or two eagles. But as a national ban on DDT, the Endangered Species Act, and other environmental laws did their work, these trips yielded more birds every year. As Maine Audubon continues the annual tradition—holding its 50th cruise this month—participants can now expect to see at least 50 bald eagles.

What a sight it is to see these great birds soar high in the air, dive to snatch a fish from the water, or perch upon their massive nests. It's astonishing to think how close we came to losing this living symbol of our nation. This species' recovery from the brink of extinction is an amazing success story for federal environmental protections.

But this story is not yet over. I'm afraid a new chapter is now being written as efforts are underway, both in Congress and under the current Administration, to weaken the Endangered Species Act and other protections. Now is not the time to undo the progress we have made. In fact, with climate change and other environmental threats before us, we need these laws more than ever—not just for bald eagles, but also for the hundreds of wildlife species that remain on the threatened and endangered lists.

Again, I congratulate Maine Audubon on its 50th eagle trip and commend Dick Anderson and other conservation leaders for protecting the incredible natural resources in my state. I hope these trips continue to see more and more bald eagles every year—because that would mean we are still doing our job in Washington to responsibly steward the lands, waters, and wildlife that are in our trust.

SHERIFF RICK DUNLAP TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sheriff Rick Dunlap for his service to his community and nation.

Originally from Tennessee, Rick grew up in an impoverished family. A large part of his childhood was spent working in his family's tobacco fields, using those earnings to help support his family. It wasn't long before he realized there was so much to see and experience in the world, so he joined the United States Army at 17 to serve his country. Upon completing basic and advanced training, Sheriff Dunlap was sent to Vietnam. While overseas, he was attached to the 101st Airborne Division as a member of a helicopter platoon and later served in the Asha Valley for Operation Lam Son 719.

As the result of his heroic service during Operation Lam Son, Rick and his fellow crew members were awarded the Bronze Star and the Medal of Valor. Throughout his military career, Rick served in many roles including field artilleryman, helicopter door gunner, aviation

maintenance, recruiter, instructor at Fort Sill Oklahoma and training officer for a local National Guard unit. Later in his career, Rick was reassigned to an aviation unit in Fort Carson, Colorado. It was there where he met his wife of 42 years, Karen Starbuck Dunlap and together they have three sons and eight grandchildren.

Having proudly served his country in the military for 21 years, and retiring young enough to continue a life of service, Rick embarked on a career in law enforcement. His law enforcement career began as a Deputy Sheriff at the Montrose County Sheriff's Office under long-time Sheriff Tom Gilmore. His hard work paid off and eventually he was chosen as Sheriff of Montrose County, a job he has thrived in ever since.

Sheriff Dunlap's service to his community has gained him tremendous respect not just in Montrose, but across the entire state of Colorado. He has brought the Sheriff's Office forward progressively during his tenure, with the implementation of the Professional Standards Office in the Sheriff's Office, the K-9 program, and the creation of the School Resource position. Additionally, he instituted crime mapping and updated policies and procedures in the Sheriff's Office.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Third Congressional District of Colorado, I would like thank Sheriff Rick Dunlap for his commitment to the Montrose community and the nation. We are proud to call him a Western Coloradan, and his integrity, intelligence and loyalty will be greatly missed. I wish him luck as he enjoys a well-earned retirement.

HONORING BETSY HODGES

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Betsy Hodges' honorable service to the City of Minneapolis.

During her time as Mayor of Minneapolis, Betsy Hodges advanced environmental justice, transforming policing and safety, and closing racial and economic disparities, including among our youngest children. Through her inspiring vision of "One Minneapolis," she reoriented the work of the City of Minneapolis and changed the citywide conversation to put racial equity at the core of both.

Mayor Hodges pushed Minneapolis to be one of the greenest cities in America, extending organics recycling to every neighborhood, developing a Zero Waste Minneapolis plan, winning incentives to keep pollutants out of our air and water, and pursuing environmental justice. Under Mayor Hodges' leadership, Minneapolis was named a Climate Champion city by the White House and won a coveted 100 Resilient Cities designation from the Rockefeller Foundation. Pope Francis recognized Mayor Hodges' and Minneapolis' leadership in fighting climate change when he invited her to the Vatican for a convening of world mayors that he hosted.

Because of Mayor Hodges' leadership, the City passed historic measures to help working people, including a \$15 municipal minimum wage with no tip penalty, and earned sick and safe time for everyone who works in Min-

neapolis, both of which were firsts in the state of Minnesota. Mayor Hodges laid a strong foundation for transforming the city's policing, including implementing the use of body cameras, reforming the municipal criminal-justice system, and appointing Minneapolis' first African American chief of police. She also assembled a groundbreaking Cradle to K Cabinet that developed a plan to prevent racial disparities for our youngest children.

Minneapolis continued to grow under Mayor Hodges' tenure: in each of her four years as Mayor, the City experienced more than \$1 billion in private growth, without public subsidy. The long-planned renovation of Nicollet Mall was completed on time and on budget, the City-owned Target Center was renovated at one quarter of the cost of building a new arena, and Minneapolis won both Super Bowl LII and the NCAA Final Four. Mayor Hodges fully funded a first-ever, 20-year tourism master plan for Minneapolis to build on these successes into the future.

Mayor Hodges also made significant investments in Minneapolis' infrastructure: a historic and fiscally responsible 20-year, \$800 million investment in the City's parks and streets, along with full funding for Orange Line Bus Rapid Transit and a network of protected bike lanes that contribute to Minneapolis' continuing to be the best bike city in America. She also made significant investments in affordable housing, including for families facing homelessness.

Mayor Hodges' nation-leading work was also recognized with a coveted Promise Zone designation for North Minneapolis, several significant federal grants to support Minneapolis' 21st-century policing efforts, a highly competitive Mayor's Innovation Grant from Bloomberg Philanthropies to support racial-equity work, and with Minneapolis' participation in the National Initiative for Building Community Trust and Justice.

Under Mayor Hodges' leadership, Minneapolis remained a well-run city. Mayor Hodges passed and presented four structurally balanced budgets that continued the foundation of fiscal responsibility that she laid while a Council Member and reoriented the work of the City around racial equity. Mayor Hodges' commitment to equity extended to hiring in her own office, where she hired half women and half people of color, including the first Somali-American and the first openly transgender person ever to work in the Mayor's office.

As an openly sober person and an open survivor of childhood sexual assault, Mayor Hodges has consistently given of her time to help more people than we will ever know find their own path to healing and has actively supported them in the process.

Before serving as Mayor, Betsy Hodges had an outstanding career in public service. As the Ward 13 City Council Member for eight years, she chaired the Ways & Means/Budget Committee and worked successfully for years to reform the City's closed-pension system that was unfair to taxpayers and pensioners alike. Mayor Hodges worked as an organizer in the non-profit sector for TakeAction MN and for the Minnesota Justice Foundation, and helped found the Women's Health Project in New Mexico to assist HIV-positive women. She also worked as an aide for Hennepin County Commissioner Gail Dorfman.

Mayor Hodges is also known for her sense of humor, as well as for her love of Wonder

Woman, the movie "Die Hard," giraffes, and Oxford commas.

Mayor Betsy Hodges' years of leadership and activism have shaped Minneapolis and Minnesota for the better. She has made a positive impact on the lives of so many, one that will be felt for decades to come. I would like to commend and thank her for her many contributions.

TRIBUTE TO GLORIA AND DENNIS MASCHER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Gloria and Dennis Mascher of Farragut, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on August 24, 2018.

Gloria and Dennis' lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, I hope it is filled with happy memories. 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 50th 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.

IN HONOR OF KEN ROOS, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE LOCAL SERVICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the life of Ken Roos. A passionate activist, humanitarian, and volunteer, Ken was known to love a good protest and dedicated himself to social and economic justice through countless amounts of service to help hard working Granite State men and women. Ken, affectionately known as Uncle Kenny, also served with distinction in the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, and as the Vice President of the local Service Employees International Union.

Through his career in public service, Ken promoted the health, safety, and well-being of the citizens of New Hampshire. His volunteer work with the Red Cross ameliorated families' lives after difficult times such as 9/11, New Hampshire home fires, and Hurricane Katrina. Ken literally gave a part of himself to those whose lives he touched, including donating hundreds of pints of blood throughout his life. Ken advocated for many whose voices didn't always have a seat at the table.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's Second Congressional District, I express my profound gratitude for Ken and his many years of devoted service to the Granite