

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING DR. NANCY KOTOWSKI

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2018

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Dr. Nancy Kotowski, who is retiring after serving three terms as the Monterey County Superintendent of Schools. Dr. Kotowski dedicated forty-six years to a career in education. Throughout this time, she made invaluable contributions to educational opportunities offered to students on the central coast of California.

Dr. Kotowski earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Dayton, a Master's degree from Northwestern University, and a Ph.D. from the University of Southern California. During this time, Dr. Kotowski also served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Cameroon where she was recognized as a "Volunteer of the Year" for her development work in education. This experience provided the basis for a lifelong dedication to improving education systems, especially in economically disadvantaged communities.

Dr. Kotowski's career on the Central Coast began at the Monterey County Office of Education (MCOE) in 1992. She quickly advanced to Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, where she served with distinction for ten years, followed by another three years as Associate Superintendent of Educational Services. Her dedication and distinct talent in these positions led to her election as Monterey County Superintendent of Schools, where she began in January of 2007. She was reelected twice as voters continued to recognize her true devotion to students and unique ability to ensure that our education system serves student bodies that are diverse in culture, language, and socio-economic status.

As Monterey County Superintendent, Dr. Kotowski streamlined MCOE operations, secured numerous grants to expand MCOE programs, and implemented a new accounting system and solar power project. She worked closely with Monterey County's twenty-four school districts, local higher education institutions, and directly with community members to improve the quality of education delivered to Monterey County students. Dr. Kotowski's commitment to public service has been recognized by many organizations. She was honored with the Champion of Education for Students of California by the California County Superintendents Association in 2010, Public Official of the Year Award by the Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce in 2013, Talcott Bates Award by the Child Abuse Prevention Council of Monterey County in 2015, and the Summer Matters Bridge Builder Award by California Department of Education in 2016.

Dr. Nancy Kotowski's legacy of public service is impressive and has made an immeasurably positive impact on the lives of students on the Central Coast. I am honored to recog-

nize this legacy, and ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Dr. Kotowski all the best on her well-earned retirement.

TRIBUTE TO HOLLYWOOD UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2018

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Hollywood United Methodist Church in Hollywood, a unique neighborhood of Los Angeles, California, upon the twenty-fifth anniversary of its Red Ribbons of Hope.

Hollywood United Methodist Church (HUMC) was founded in 1909, when the first congregants began organizing. As the congregation grew, a decision was made to build a new home for the church. Designed by renowned architect Thomas P. Barber and based partially on the English Gothic style of London's Westminster Hall, construction began in 1927 and in 1930, the stately church was unveiled, lauding its illustrious reign as a Hollywood landmark. In 1981, the church was declared as a Historic-Cultural Monument by the City of Los Angeles, and in 2015, a second campus, the Toluca Lake Campus of Hollywood United Methodist Church was opened.

Since its inception, HUMC has provided spiritual guidance and tangible support to the Hollywood area community—working to fulfill its mission to be an inclusive, vibrant, diverse congregation that welcomes all people. This ideology is apparent in the church's many programs and ministries that include Homeless Ministry, Youth Programs and participation in mission efforts assisting those in need by rebuilding lives and homes in the U.S. and abroad.

Perhaps the church's most recognized ministry however, is its compassionate hospitality to people living with HIV/AIDS. For many years, the church has offered pastoral counseling and supportive services referrals to persons and their families living with HIV/AIDS. HUMC supports outreach efforts for Project Angel Food, The NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt, The Wall/Las Memorias and the Pediatric AIDS Foundation, and congregants participate in the annual AIDS Walk Los Angeles. In 1993, HUMC installed its Red Ribbons of Hope—red ribbons being the universal symbol of support and awareness for those living with HIV/AIDS—on both campuses to proclaim the church as "a sanctuary of hope and love."

I am proud to recognize Hollywood United Methodist Church's on the twenty-fifth anniversary of its Red Ribbons of Hope, and I invite all Members to join me in honoring this momentous occasion.

CELEBRATING THE 25TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY IN WESTERN NEW YORK OF REV. DR. T. ANTHONY BRONNER AND THE 19TH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY OF ELIM CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2018

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise to acknowledge Bishop Bronner, Senior Pastor of Elim Christian Fellowship on his 25th Pastoral Anniversary in Western New York and the 19th Church Anniversary of Elim Christian Fellowship. In keeping with the theme of this celebration, "And the Journey Continues" we are all confident that Bishop Bronner will continue his visionary leadership in faith, his powerful sermons and his traditional and progressive ministerial approaches to producing spiritual growth and development. Just as Bishop Bronner did early on when he began his pastoral experience in 1992, his crusade to reach souls in regional prayer meetings and grow the church and its ministries continues.

Bishop Bronner purposefully builds churches. As an Undergraduate at Temple University, Bronner founded Bridge the Gap Christian Campus Ministry. Fresh out of the Colgate-Rochester Divinity School, Bishop Bronner was called to Calvary Baptist Church in Buffalo and the Church grew exponentially under his leadership. From there, Bishop Bronner founded Elim Christian Fellowship in 1999 and a second church in Rochester bearing the same name in 2002. Bishop Bronner ensures these churches maintain vision and purpose by creating a ministry network called, Turning the World Upside Down Covenant Fellowship, Inc. This all-encompassing ministry offers seminars, workshops, revival meetings and teaching materials that are spiritually relevant.

Elim, "known as a place of refreshing" offers ministries that speak to the human condition in ways that are sensitive to the needs of all individuals. It's no wonder that Elim Christian Fellowship and Bishop Bronner in particular, attract such a following. Bishop Bronner has made it his mission to embrace all people without regard for differences or stations in life. This evening, we see Bishop Bronner's vision come to life. Elim is a diverse community strongly supporting racial, gender, cultural and denominational reconciliation.

Mr. Speaker, I am humbled and honored to join the members of Elim Christian Fellowship as they commemorate their Church Anniversary and the 25th Pastoral Anniversary of Rev. Dr. T. Anthony Bronner. May the church and its leadership continue its quest for renewal and growth in God's love and care.

• 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.

HONORING CAMERON SILVEUS

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2018

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, on behalf of the entire 6th Congressional District of Indiana, to recognize Cameron Silveus for his contribution to our state.

During my entire tenure in Congress, Cameron has been a loyal friend and wise adviser. Cameron is also a leader in Indiana's agriculture industry, serving as an executive at Silveus Insurance Group. Our state is better off today because of his extraordinary leadership and service.

On a personal note, Cameron is a brother in Christ. I have appreciated his prayers and encouragement over the years. I want to thank him for his friendship and support of my work in Congress. I wish him continued success in all that God has planned for his family.

IN MEMORY OF MRS. EUNICE L. MIXON

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2018

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to a distinguished educator, political activist, and dear friend of longstanding, Mrs. Eunice L. Mixon. Sadly, Eunice departed to her eternal reward on Thursday, November 22, 2018. On Sunday, December 2, 2018, friends and family will gather to celebrate the wonderful life of this exceptional woman at a homegoing service held at First Baptist Church in Tifton, Georgia.

Eunice Lastinger Mixon was born in Tifton, Georgia on November 1, 1931, to the union of the late Robert and Carrie Lastinger. A product of the Tift County School System, she went on to attend classes at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, Norman Park Junior College, Valdosta State College, and the University of Georgia where she earned both Master's and Specialist Degrees in Science Education.

Winston Churchill said, "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." Through every stage of her life, Eunice always gave herself to others. She served as an educator for 30 years within the Tift County School System and at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College before redirecting her passion to politics. Her first official post in politics came in 1974 when she became the Tift County campaign chair for former Governor George Busbee. She also served as a delegate to the 1988 and 1992 National Democratic Conventions, and as a member of the Georgia Democratic Executive Committee. Over the years, she has helped campaign and fundraise for several political figures including former Georgia Lieutenant Governors Zell Miller, and Pierre Howard, former Georgia Governors Roy Barnes, Joe Frank Harris, and Sonny Perdue, former Georgia Commissioner of Agriculture Tommy Irvin, former Georgia Secretary of State Max Cleland, U.S. Representative Charles Hatcher, former U.S. Sen-

ator Sam Nunn, former U.S. Presidents Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton as well as yours truly.

Eunice's distinguished civic service was mirrored by her extensive involvement in her community. In conjunction with her professional accomplishments in politics, she served on several boards, including the Georgia Student Finance Commission; Vocational Education Task Force; Advisory Council on Consolidation of Education Programs; Georgia Civil War Commission; Joint Board Liaison Committee; and the Georgia State Bar Disciplinary Board. She has served as the doorkeeper to the Georgia State Senate, and has served on the State Bar of Georgia's Investigative Panel; the Tifton/Tift County Library Board; the Coastal Plain Regional Library Board; the Heritage Trust Commission Board; and the State Election Board.

Eunice received several awards for her extensive achievement, service, and public distinction. These include induction into the Tift County Chamber of Commerce's Wall of Fame in 2014; the Liberty Bell Award by the Tifton Judicial Circuit Bar Association in 2016; the Eunice Mixon Award from the State Bar of Georgia in 2010; the Distinguished Older Georgian by the Georgia Council on Aging in 2018; and a listing as one of the 40 Most Influential South Georgians.

Eunice is survived by her loving sons, Johnny and Jimmy; and a host of other family members and friends.

On a personal note, I was blessed to know Eunice and her husband, Albert, for many years and I can say without reservation that she was one of the most passionate and warm-hearted individuals I have ever met. I am proud to have considered Eunice and the Mixon family as friends of longstanding.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife Vivian and me, along with the more than 730,000 people of the Second Congressional District, and all across the state of Georgia, in paying tribute to Mrs. Eunice Lastinger Mixon, for her legacy of service to state of Georgia, and extending our deepest condolences to Eunice's family, friends, and loved ones. We pray that we will all be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks, and months ahead.

IN APPRECIATION OF THE SERVICE OF JOAN O'DONNELL CONDON

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2018

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my appreciation for Joan O'Donnell Condon, a Senior Professional Staff Member who has served on the Committee on Foreign Affairs for more than 18 years.

I first came to know Joan while I was chairing the Africa Subcommittee, during which time she helped me advance key initiatives to promote security, rule of law, and economic opportunity across the continent. She worked tirelessly to bring attention to the atrocities of the Lord's Resistance Army, genocide in Darfur, and the rise of al Qaeda-aligned terrorist organizations in East Africa and the Maghreb. In recognition for her efforts to support the peace processes in Liberia, Si-

erra Leone, and Cote d'Ivoire, she was invited to attend the opening arguments against Liberian warlords Charles Taylor before the Special Court for Sierra Leone, and then joined me in celebrating as he was sentenced to life in prison for war crimes and crimes against humanity.

As Chairman of the Committee, I knew I wanted Joan on my team. When I asked her where she would travel if she could go anywhere in the world—and she responded with a list of disaster zones—I knew I had made the right choice. She now serves as one of my trusted senior staff, covering the U.S. foreign assistance portfolio. Her diligence, commitment, and integrity have earned her the respect of her colleagues. She has helped bring nearly two dozen Public Laws across the finish line, including four bills to authorize and extend the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and the first bill to authorize International Disaster Assistance in 30 years. I look forward to seeing what she does next as I depart the chairmanship. I know she will continue her excellent work.

HONORING RICHIE MOORE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a tenacious young man, Mr. Richie Moore. Mr. Moore has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication and the desire to serve his community honorably.

Richie Moore, a resident of the Benton Community was named General Manager of the Public Service Commission of Yazoo City. He came to the job with several years of experience. He has worked for Yazoo Valley Electric Power Association and Entergy where he served in different positions ranging from groundman to journeyman lineman, and also held leadership roles in engineering and design, distribution operations, and utility performance.

While working fulltime, Moore obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting and a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Mississippi College.

Richie is married to Amy and they have two children, Julian and Emily. Moore is the son of Verstine Moore and Frizell Casey.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Richie Moore for his dedication and tenacity to serving his community and desire to be an example for all.

GUN VIOLENCE

HON. ROBIN L. KELLY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2018

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because Americans are still being taken from us by gun violence.

The Republican majority's strong ties with the NRA—an organization that has blocked commonsense, lifesaving legislation and told America's doctors, our public health experts,