

his future is very, very bright. I am grateful to Jack for his friendship and his hard work in our office. I wish Jack continued success in all that God has planned for him and his family.

HONORING THE CAREER OF  
SHERIFF REUEL TODD

**HON. JOHN KATKO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 30, 2018*

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Reuel A. Todd, Sheriff of Oswego County and an influential leader in Central New York. Dedicating himself to a lifetime of service in law enforcement, Sheriff Todd went to work every day with the intention to protect and defend his community. Throughout his 44 year career, Sheriff Todd retained his steadfast commitment to the security and safety of his county.

Born and raised in Central New York, Sheriff Todd was passionate about law enforcement at an early age, attending the Police Training Academy after graduating from Oswego High School. In hopes of furthering his education, he also attended the New York State Sheriffs' Association Civil School, Law Enforcement Management School, and the FBI National Academy. Sheriff Todd's vast law enforcement experience allowed him to become a recognized Drug Enforcement Specialist upon entering the workforce.

Sheriff Todd began his career as a Road Deputy with OCSD in 1974. He was quickly promoted to Sergeant and then to Criminal Investigator in 1977 before being appointed Undersheriff in 1984. Throughout his 15 year tenure as Undersheriff, Sheriff Todd helped Oswego become one of the first counties in New York State to receive accreditation by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services.

Mr. Todd was first elected as Sheriff of Oswego County in 1998. During his two decades as sheriff, Mr. Todd mobilized his department to provide 24-hour security coverage at three local nuclear power plants and secured funding for additional water safety at Port Ontario. Outside of his duties as Sheriff, Todd has also served as Chairman of Zone 7 on behalf of The Office of Public Security Counter-Terrorism Network and President of the New York State Sheriffs' Association.

Sheriff Todd's service to the Oswego community goes beyond his law enforcement contributions. He also worked to provide food to senior citizens through Meals on Wheels, coached Little League Baseball, participated in Boy Scouts and the Oswego Rotary Club, and is an active member of the Elks Club.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House join me in honoring the distinguished career of Reuel A. Todd. His many contributions to Oswego County and the greater Central New York region will not be forgotten. Sheriff Todd's lifelong dedication to the safety and security of his community should serve as an example for current and future law enforcement officers across the nation.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY  
OF LELAND EMERSON BOREN OF  
UPLAND, INDIANA

**HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 30, 2018*

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Leland Emerson Boren, an Upland businessman, farmer, and philanthropist who devoted his life to serving and helping others. Leland was known for his drive and hard work which he displayed throughout his tremendous career. The people of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District are forever grateful for Leland's significant contributions to the Town of Upland, the Grant County community, and the state of Indiana.

A life-long Hoosier, Leland was born in Owensville, Indiana, in 1923. He attended Anderson High School where he graduated in 1941. While attending Anderson High School, he began working as a heat treat specialist with the Nicholson File Company. Leland continued his work there after graduation until 1945, when he accepted a position at Upland's Pierce Governor Company Incorporated as a material control clerk. Dedicated to the company's success, he quickly worked his way up the ranks. Leland was named general manager in 1956 and became president of the company just two years later in 1958. Shortly thereafter in 1969, Leland became president and director of Avis Industrial Corporation, a global manufacturing company, only a few years prior to the eventual merger of the two companies in 1971. Following the merger, Leland was elected chairman, president, and chief executive officer of Avis Industrial Corporation in 1983, eventually moving the company headquarters to its current location in Upland, Indiana. Known as a "ceaseless hard worker and a professional of integrity," Leland was a self-made man responsible for the tremendous growth of his business, which over the years has employed thousands of people. Avis is now a holding company with more than a dozen manufacturing facilities in the United States, Mexico, and Canada. A tenacious leader, Leland was appointed president of PHD, Inc. in 2010. Leland, who earned the reputation as an extraordinary boss, was dedicated to prioritizing the well-being of his employees till the very end.

Leland's commitment to business was equaled by his support for various local charities and educational institutions. During his lifetime, Leland made numerous contributions to support students, faculty, and administration efforts at Huntington University and Taylor University, often requesting to remain anonymous.

A true testament to his outstanding career and selfless contributions, Leland was honored with numerous awards and accolades. He received honorary doctorate degrees from Taylor University, Anderson University, Indiana Wesleyan University, and Ball State University, as well as an honorary degree from Ivy Tech Community College. Notably, he was the recipient of four Sagamores of the Wabash, the highest honor the governor of Indiana can bestow upon a citizen, from Governors Evan Bayh, Frank O'Bannon, Joe E. Kernan and Eric Holcomb. His business endeavors also

led him to sit on as many as 20 company boards.

In his personal life, Leland was known as a generous, loving, and faithful man. He loved most in this world his dear wife, LaRita. In fact, those who knew him best would say he thought his biggest and proudest accomplishment was marrying LaRita. The two met in Wichita, Kansas, where she was working as a stewardess for Trans World Airlines. They married soon after and she was his partner in everything. While driving through the Town of Upland, you may recognize Leland's property by the numerous bright pink barns on the property. LaRita missed seeing the beautiful sunsets in Oklahoma where the sunrises would reflect red hues from the dirt and project a beautiful bright pink glow onto their barns. Knowing of LaRita's love for Oklahoma sunsets, Leland had their barns and other building exteriors painted pink as a constant reminder of her home state.

Leland will be forever missed by his family, friends, colleagues, and the entire Upland community. On behalf of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District, I extend my deepest condolences to Leland's sons, Lael and Landrew Boren, daughter, Lori Meyers, their families, sister, Lucille Ashby, and his many grandchildren, nephews, extended family and friends who mourn his loss.

HONORING KIM BENNETT

**HON. LUKE MESSER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 30, 2018*

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a former member of my staff, Kim Bennett, for her work in my office and her service to our state.

Kim worked in our Muncie office for two years during my first term in Congress, serving as our Constituent Services Director. Kim has had a long career serving the people of Indiana's 6th Congressional District, as she previously worked for my predecessor and our current Vice President, Mike Pence and for former Congressman David McIntosh. Kim has helped thousands of individuals navigate the complex federal bureaucracy and receive the help they need and she managed our Muncie job fair.

On a personal note, I have known Kim for more than two decades. I want to thank Kim for her friendship and her hard work in our office. I wish her continued success in all that God has planned for her and her family.

REMEMBERING THE EXPELLED  
JEWS OF ARAB COUNTRIES AND  
IRAN

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 30, 2018*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today memorializes the more than 850,000 Jews who were expelled from Arab countries and Iran. Jewish communities throughout the Middle East, which had thrived for millennia, have long been a persecuted minority. When the

State of Israel was founded, many Jews were victims of brutal violence by their Arab and Iranian neighbors and had to flee their homes. We mark this occasion to remember the horrific trauma those Jews experienced so that it is never repeated.

Today, very few of the ancient Jewish communities that dotted the Middle East survive. For centuries they lived largely at peace with their Muslim and Christian neighbors. Baghdad, Iraq was once the home to one of the region's largest Jewish communities. When the British entered Baghdad during the First World War, a third of the city was Jewish. Today, there is supposedly only five Jewish individuals remaining. This is shameful.

It is astonishing that in a region so rampant with anti-Semitism has so little interaction with the people they hate so much. Many Arabs and Iranians living today have never met a member of the Jewish community; therefore their hatred is based not on their own experiences, but what extremists and hatemongers have taught them. They forget that Jews were a vital part of their history, when Middle East was an incredibly diverse place. Today, it is a region of conflict and radicals, where historic Christian communities are also now endangered.

The story of the expulsion of entire Jewish communities from Arab lands is an important part of modern history that tragically affected the Jewish nation as a whole as well as the demographic composition of the Middle East and North Africa. This is a story must be told.

And that's just the way it is.

#### NEW FUNDS FOR FAMILY UNIFICATION PROGRAM

### HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 30, 2018*

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority for receiving a nearly \$500,000 federal grant for housing vouchers under HUD's Family Unification Program.

These funds will help young people from Central Ohio who are at-risk of homelessness obtain affordable housing.

Last year, I was proud to spearhead the bipartisan effort calling on my colleagues to include \$20 million for the Family Unification Program in the transportation and housing appropriations bill, which was ultimately included in the government funding bill Congress passed earlier this year.

Throughout my time in Congress, I have fought for the housing needs of our Nation's most vulnerable populations, especially those transitioning from foster-care into adulthood and I am pleased to see federal funds designated to end youth homelessness being put to use in the Third Congressional District of Ohio.

#### HONORING PETER HOFFMAN

### HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 30, 2018*

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a dedicated member of my staff, Peter Hoffman, for his work in my office and his service to our state.

Peter has worked for our team for a year and a half, first as a Press Assistant and Legislative Aide, then as Press Secretary, and finally as Communications Director in our Washington, D.C. office. He was responsible for all my official communications and media relations, which included writing press releases, speeches, opinion editorials and more. Peter also booked appearances for me on national and local media outlets and worked with me to implement a successful communications strategy.

On a personal note, Peter and I share a love of sports and that a belief God does an amazing job of keeping good people in our lives. I first met a far shorter Peter when he interviewed me as a Ball State freshman for the school newspaper. Since that time it has been fun to watch Peter grow physically, spiritually, and professionally. I have no doubt God has big things in store for his future.

I want to thank Peter for his friendship and his hard work in our office. I wish him continued success in all that God has planned for him and his family.

#### HONORING THE CAREER OF NEW YORK ASSEMBLYMAN BOB OAKS

### HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 30, 2018*

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the illustrious career of New York Assemblyman Bob Oaks. Since 1992, Assemblyman Oaks has diligently represented the interests of Wayne, Oswego, and Cayuga Counties in Albany. Serving the 130th Assembly District, Assemblyman Oaks has always fought for his constituency's values in the State Legislature.

Assemblyman Oaks was born in North Rose, New York and grew up on a farm owned by his family for nearly five generations. He graduated from North Rose-Wolcott Central School in 1970, earned a political science degree from Colgate University in 1974, and then proceeded to complete his Recreation Administration master's degree from University of Montana in 1976. Upon completing his education, Assemblyman Oaks began his career as Assistant Director of the Continuing Education Program for the Greece Central School District.

After a five year stint as the Director of the Wayne County Youth Bureau, Assemblyman Oaks first reached public office in 1982 by winning the election for Wayne County Clerk. He held the office until 1992, when he won the 130th Assembly District seat and headed to Albany for the first time. Upon arriving in the State Legislature, Assemblyman Oaks prioritized strengthening the state economy and improving the competitiveness of New York agriculture.

Throughout his career in Albany, Assemblyman Oaks fought for the conservative values of decreased taxes and smaller government. Assemblyman Oaks' dedication to these causes resulted in his appointment to the Ranking Minority Member position on the Ways and Means Committee in September 2011. This role designated Assemblyman Oaks as the top Republican on tax issues in the State Legislature, allowing him to lead debate proposed tax legislation and any impacts such legislation may have on New York's budget.

Assemblyman Oaks was a part of the Republican leadership in the State Assembly in addition to his work on the Ways and Means committee. He served as the Deputy Minority Leader and was appointed by Minority Leader Brian Kolb to the Legislative Task Force on Redistricting in 2012. In each of these roles, Assemblyman Oaks shaped the Republican agenda in the State Legislature and ensured Assembly, Senate and Congressional district lines were fairly drawn across the state.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in celebrating the successful career of Bob Oaks in the New York State Assembly. Assemblyman Oaks always legislated with the best interests of his constituents in mind. Most importantly, his offices in Albany and the 130th District were always committed to ensuring his constituency had access to the services of the state government. I express my strong gratitude to Assemblyman Oaks for standing up for the values of Central New Yorkers throughout his career in Albany.

#### IN HONOR OF THE CENTRALINA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS' 50TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 30, 2018*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Centralina Council of Governments (CCOG) on their 50th anniversary.

Originally established in 1968, the Centralina Council of Governments is one of 16 such councils in the State of North Carolina, and one of several hundred regional planning organizations across the country. Formally named Central Piedmont Regional Council of Local Governments, Centralina was created by and for local governments to allow members to partner on projects impacting our entire region.

Today, Centralina Council of Governments serves local communities covering nine counties and 74 municipalities, representing nearly two million people in the greater Charlotte region, which includes Cabarrus, Rowan and Stanly Counties in my district. They are experts at balancing the needs of smaller rural towns, growing suburban areas and Charlotte itself—quite a feat when you consider the different challenges each type of community faces.

CCOG assists local governments in coordinating sound regional development plans and provides a forum to address issues best handled through regional cooperation, planning and action. CCOG also provides a variety of services for our region including the administration of state and federal grants in the areas