

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY  
OF MRS. GEORGIA M. GAINES

**HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 10, 2018*

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Mrs. Georgia M. Gaines, a native of Litcher, Louisiana and retired school teacher. Mrs. Gaines passed away Thursday, November 29, 2018 at the age of 96.

Mrs. Gaines was born in 1922. Her parents were the late Mr. George Chriswell, an entrepreneur and insurance agent, and Mrs. Alma Berry Chriswell, an elementary school principal and education pioneer. She attended McDonald #35 High School in New Orleans, Louisiana because there were no local high schools in St. James Parish for African-Americans.

In 1944, Mrs. Gaines earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Home Economics from Southern University and A&M College in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. While a student at Southern University, she was a proud member of the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated and a student assistant to the wife of Southern University President Dr. Felton G. Clark.

Upon graduation, Mrs. Gaines taught in the Lake Charles public schools. She later returned to St. James Parish and began teaching locally. In 1949, she married Mr. Leroy Gaines, a Texas transplant to the Litcher area.

After thirty years of teaching at St. James High School, Mrs. Gaines retired from the St. James Parish School System. She also worked for the State of Louisiana as an Assistant Director of the Litcher Day Care Center.

Mrs. Gaines was an individual of vision, integrity, pride in family and an endearing asset to her community. Her legacy will forever be a part of the city and her dedication to community embodies the spirit of Louisiana. We cannot match the sacrifices made by Mrs. Gaines, but surely, we can try to match her sense of service. We cannot match her courage, but we can strive to match her devotion.

Mrs. Gaines's survivors include daughters: Debora Gaines, Karen Gaines and Wanda (Danny) Manuel. Sons: Randal Gaines, Darrel (Tilda) Gaines and Daren (Vanessa) Gaines. Ten grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, including Edna Berry Anderson, and other relatives and friends, including Martha Ray Branch. She was preceded in death by her parents, George Chriswell and Alma Berry Chriswell, her husband, Leroy Gaines, and her granddaughter, Tene' Lemar.

Mr. Speaker, I celebrate the life and legacy of Mrs. Georgia M. Gaines.

HONORING BRIAN AND CHRISTINE  
BRAMMER

**HON. LUKE MESSER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 10, 2018*

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the entire 6th Congressional District

of Indiana, to recognize Brian and Christine Brammer for their contribution to our state.

We first met over a decade ago, as the Brammers were our friends and neighbors who lived two houses down from our home in Shelbyville. Brian is a CPA and a partner at Brammer & Yeend Professional Corporation, which provides accounting services to small businesses and individuals. Like me, Brian overachieved in marriage. His wife, Christine, is very involved in the local community and worked with my wife Jennifer at the local non-profit, Girls Inc. of Shelbyville. Brian also serves on the Board at Girls Inc. Brian and Christine are the proud parents of two great kids—Jack and Katie.

The Brammers were among my earliest supporters in my political journey in Congress. I want to thank them for their friendship and loyalty to me over all these years. The Messer family cherishes the time we get to spend with them and wish Brian, Christine, Jack and Katie all the best in whatever God has planned for their family.

HONORING BROOKS CONSTRUCTION  
COMPANY

**HON. JIM BANKS**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 10, 2018*

Mr. BANKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Brooks Construction Company of Fort Wayne, Indiana. Brooks Construction recently received the HIRE Vets Medallion Program award. The HIRE Vets program, administered by the Department of Labor, recognizes businesses for their commitment to recruiting, employing and retaining veterans. Brooks Construction was recently awarded a gold medal in the medium employer category.

Brooks Construction Company was founded in 1909 by John Foster Brooks and has served our community well for over a century. Today, Brooks Construction is a leader in road construction and repair in northeast Indiana. In addition to its commitment to our veterans, Brooks Construction has supported many local charities and organizations in the greater Fort Wayne area.

I applaud Brooks Construction Company for its commitment to our veterans. As a member of the House Veterans Affairs committee and a veteran myself, I am pleased to see northeast Indiana embracing the unique skills that our veterans bring to the workforce. I applaud the efforts of companies like Brooks Construction to hire the men and women that have given so much to serve our nation. Congratulations to Brooks Construction Company and I thank them for their commitment to our veterans and our community.

MAY'S BREXIT DEAL IS BAD FOR  
BRITAIN AND AMERICA

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 10, 2018*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, our British allies are making a bad deal. The current Brexit deal that Theresa May's government

has made with the European Union could position the United Kingdom as a de facto colony, where it is subject to EU rules but without any vote. Essentially this would be worse than Britain staying in the EU. Moreover, it could damage the strong economic ties we hold with our closest allies, meaning Americans could end feeling the sting of a bad Brexit deal.

When the British people made the choice to depart from the European Union in 2016, I applauded their decision. Great Britain—which has always stood apart from the continent in its traditions, politics, values, and character—has reasserted its sovereignty with the historic Brexit referendum. Membership in the EU had come at too large of a cost to Britain, and the British people have decided to determine they want to chart their own course into the future—not have it determine for them by Brussels. Therefore, as a steadfast ally and friend of the United Kingdom, America should support their decision.

The current proposal, however, could come at a cost to our economic relationship with Britain. Under Prime Minister May's deal, there will be a two-year transition period before the UK can fully separate from the EU which beholds Britain to EU regulations without a vote. During that time Britain will be able to negotiate new trade deals but cannot implement them until 2021. This means even if the U.S. and UK sign a new free trade pact—which we absolutely should—that it will collect dust while Britain is left at the EU's mercy. There is a chance that if the UK and EU do not agree to a new trade deal that the transition period then extends thus further delaying implementation of a new trade pact with the U.S. Meanwhile, Britain's economy suffers.

America needs a strong Britain. The British people have stood by us on our most trying days and are often the first to pledge their support when we act to confront the world's most complex challenges. There is no nation on Earth that is as indispensable to our security and prosperity as the United Kingdom. Any arrangement that potentially weakens Britain's sovereignty or economic well-being is counter to America's interests. For the sake of our alliance, this current Brexit bad deal should not go through.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING KAAREN ANN STASKO

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 10, 2018*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Kaaren Ann Stasko on her retirement after twenty years of service as an Office Technician for the Fire Marshal's Office of CalFire.

Ms. Stasko was born in Oakland, California on March 21, 1942. As a child, she attended schools in Crockett, California. Ms. Stasko was the first in her family to graduate from college. She took classes part-time while working full-time to earn an Associate's Degree at the age of fifty-seven.

Ms. Stasko has been a dedicated volunteer in our community since she was a child. In her youth, she was an active Camp Fire Girl, as well as a Counselor in Training Camp Gold Hollow. When her children were in high

school, she supported the Napa High School Band and Choir as a bingo runner and a shuttle driver at Sonoma Raceway, and continues to do so.

Ms. Stasko is deeply involved with CalFire and its community. In addition to working as an Office Technician for the past twenty years, she has volunteered with CalFire in many capacities. She is the Chair of the Napa County Firefighter's Dinner, a member of the Administrative Fire Services Section of CalChiefs, and a Napa County CalFire Volunteer in Prevention. Ms. Stasko was also a frequent volunteer at the California State Fair at Camp Smokey, worked the fireworks on the Fourth of July and volunteered at the CalFire Crab Feed.

Among her friends, family and coworkers, Ms. Stasko is known for going the extra mile. She is dedicated and hardworking and always willing to help those in need. When two members of the fire department were diagnosed with cancer, Ms. Stasko frequently took them to lunch and supported and encouraged them and their families through the difficult time.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Stasko is an admirable member of our community and spends much of her time volunteering to help those around her. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor Ms. Kaaren Ann Stasko here today.

#### CELEBRATING THE RELOCATION OF FOX FACTORY HOLDING HEADQUARTERS

#### HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 10, 2018*

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a company that has acknowledged the value that Northeast Georgians bring to the table and is relocating its headquarters from California to Hall County, Georgia later this year.

Fox Factory Holding Corp., is widely known as a leader in developing shocks on mountain bikes and on vehicles like the Ford F-150 Raptor. The company also designs and manufactures performance-defining ride dynamics products for on-and off-road vehicles, all-terrain vehicles, snowmobiles, specialty vehicles, and motorcycles. Fox currently has offices in Braselton and sponsored two off-road courses at Road Atlanta last year.

Fox will soon relocate its corporate headquarters to its Braselton office. In early 2020, the company expects to have completely transitioned into a new 23-acre site at Gainesville Industrial Park West. Fox plans to invest up to \$50 million in the facility, which will be focused on manufacturing, warehousing, and distribution.

The move is expected to create up to 800 jobs and boost the local economy. From dining establishments to engineering and construction, local businesses will be positively impacted by the move.

I welcome Fox Factory Holding Corp. to Northeast Georgia, and I look forward to our shared success ahead.

CONGRATULATING DR. DONNA STRICKLAND AND DR. GERARD MOUROU ON THEIR NOBEL PRIZE IN PHYSICS

#### HON. JOSEPH D. MORELLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 10, 2018*

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituents, Ms. Donna Strickland and Mr. Gérard Mourou, who were recently awarded the 2018 Nobel Prize in Physics for their inventions of "tools made of light." Their incredible research on laser physics was done at the University of Rochester's Laboratory for Laser Energetics, a world-class scientific institution in my district, and was made possible thanks to federal support by the Department of Energy.

Dr. Strickland is only the third woman to receive the prize in physics, joining Marie Curie, in 1903, and Maria Goeppert-Mayer, in 1963, and is the first woman laureate in Rochester's history. Additionally, Drs. Strickland and Mourou are now two of twelve University of Rochester students or faculty who have been recognized with a Nobel Prize.

Drs. Strickland and Mourou have received this momentous award for their ground-breaking work into the design of high-power lasers. Their discovery of "chirped-pulse amplification" enabled a stunning advance in laser power and paved the way for the creation of very short, intense laser pulses lasting only a fraction of a second, making it possible to build more compact and precise laser systems. The "chirped-pulse amplification" technique, first realized in their table-top terawatt, or "T-cubed", laser, has since been used in a variety of applications, from Lasik eye surgery to the manufacturing of materials used in smartphones.

Their discovery enabled significant increases in the peak power of lasers by overcoming the existing limitations due to laser pulses damaging the material used to amplify them by first stretching the light pulse, amplifying the longer lower-power pulse, and then re-compressing the light into a short high-power pulse. Although their research was performed in the 1980's, to this day, "chirped-pulse amplification" remains the state-of-the-art technique for generating the highest-power lasers in the world and has opened the door to new fields of inquiry, such as femtochemistry, and enabled new medical, scientific, and commercial applications.

The Laboratory of Laser Energetics is the largest university-based research center funded by the Department of Energy and is currently home to 350 scientists, engineers, and staff. In addition, it is the only National Nuclear Security Agency facility with a specific mission to train graduate students in inertial confinement fusion, high-power lasers, and high energy density physics research. In addition to being a significant source of scientific education and leadership, the Laboratory of Laser Energetics is a vital contributor to our national security and an engine of innovation and growth for the laser, optics, imaging and photonics sector which have been so important to the Rochester and Finger Lakes region.

It gives me great pleasure to represent an institution and a district with such a proud and storied history of innovation. I am proud to

recognize Drs. Donna Strickland and Gérard Mourou for their outstanding research accomplishments and contributions to the scientific community which have rightly earned them a Nobel Prize. I wish them all the best in their future endeavors and look forward to the continued success they will achieve.

IN RECOGNITION OF CAMERON  
JOHNSON

#### HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 10, 2018*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Cameron Johnson, a departing member of the San Carlos City Council. Cameron Johnson has served four years and made an indelible impact during his service as Mayor, Councilman and presently as Vice Mayor.

He will be remembered in part for his advocacy on behalf of local merchants on Laurel Street, and against chain stores populating this treasured shopping district. Thanks to Vice Mayor Johnson, there will be space for local residents to establish their own businesses, to offer unusual items and services, and to keep the charm of small town San Carlos alive.

Vice Mayor Johnson successfully advocated for a community foundation to be established from the proceeds of a legal penalty paid by PG&E. The foundation will allow the city to reliably fund community events and projects, through good times and bad, for decades to come.

During his time in service, the council adopted a downtown parking plan, saw the beginning of the long-planned Wheeler Plaza project and the construction of the transit village around the Caltrain station. Like his colleagues, he contributed greatly by serving on the important boards and commissions that make crucial recommendations to the council or regional bodies about the quality of life in San Carlos. These include the San Mateo County Transportation Authority, the ABAG General Assembly, Peninsula Clean Energy, and council sub-committees such as the shuttle sub-committee, the bond sub-committee, the economic development sub-committee, and the 2+2 City/school district sub-committee.

He is a strong advocate for affordable housing and of ensuring that homeowners can use their property to meet the growing needs of their family. He recognizes that keeping the character of San Carlos involves more than preserving any given structure, but instead entails keeping opportunity alive in San Carlos for all generations that make this small town their home.

During his tenure, San Carlos was hit by a wave of burglaries. Cameron Johnson's explanations of police activities and his support of the public during council study sessions maintained public trust in the efforts of the sheriff's office to end the burglaries.

While he was part of a team effort to maintain the public's trust during this trying time, Cameron Johnson went out of his way to explain police activities while also holding the police accountable to resolve the problem.

As a councilmember, Cameron excelled in his communications to residents. His charts