

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 2018 CONGRESS-BUNDESTAG/BUNDESRAT EXCHANGE

HON. PAUL D. RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, since 1983, the U.S. Congress and the German Bundestag and Bundesrat have conducted an annual exchange program for staff members from both countries. The program gives professional staff the opportunity to observe and learn about each other's political institutions and interact on issues of mutual interest.

A staff delegation from the U.S. Congress will be selected to visit Germany for nine days from Saturday, June 30–Sunday, July 8, 2018. During this nine-day exchange, the delegation will attend meetings with Bundestag/Bundesrat Members, Bundestag and Bundesrat party staff members, and representatives of numerous political, business, academic, and media agencies.

A comparable delegation of German staff members will visit the United States for nine days from Saturday, September 29–Sunday, October 7, 2018. They will attend similar meetings here in Washington.

The Congress-Bundestag/Bundesrat Exchange is highly regarded in Germany and the United States, and is one of several exchange programs sponsored by public and private institutions in the United States and Germany to foster better understanding of the politics and policies of both countries. This exchange is funded by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

The U.S. delegation should consist of experienced and accomplished Hill staff who can contribute to the success of the exchange on both sides of the Atlantic. The Bundestag reciprocates by sending senior staff professionals to the United States.

Applicants should have a demonstrable interest in events in Europe. Applicants need not be working in the field of foreign affairs, although such a background can be helpful. The composite U.S. delegation should exhibit a range of expertise in issues of mutual concern to the United States and Germany such as, but not limited to, trade, security, the environment, economic development, health care, and other social policy issues. This year's delegation should be familiar with transatlantic relations within the context of recent world events.

Please note that the U.S. participants are expected to plan and implement the meetings and program for the Bundestag/Bundesrat staff members when they visit the United States.

Participants are selected by a committee composed of personnel from the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the Department of State and past participants of the exchange.

Members of the House and Senate who would like a member of their staff to apply for

participation in this year's program should direct them to submit a resume and cover letter in which they state their qualifications, the contributions they can make to a successful program and some assurances of their ability to participate during the time stated.

Applications should be sent to the Office of Interparliamentary Affairs, HC-4, the Capitol, by 5 p.m. on Thursday, March 22, 2018.

FOOTHILLS INTEGRATED HEALTH

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Foothills Integrated Health for receiving the 2017 West Chamber of Commerce Woman-Owned Business of the Year Award.

Raised by entrepreneurial parents, Dr. Darcy Koehn has always had a strong entrepreneurial spirit and drive to succeed. Working in the healthcare industry for the last 15 years has afforded her the opportunity to collaborate with many different people and a variety of organizations with diverse practices and philosophies. Dr. Darcy started Foothills Integrated Health as a chiropractor 11 years ago with a focus on a holistic approach to pain management and whole-body wellness.

After recognizing a need to diversify her practice, Dr. Darcy became a Family Nurse Practitioner with a focus on functional and regenerative medicine to provide the best care for patients. She currently holds a Doctorate in Chiropractic, Master of Science in Nursing, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Science, Bachelor of Science in Anatomy and a Bachelor of Science in Health and Wellness. Dr. Darcy's training and education has allowed her practice to flourish and provide care to those in need.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Foothills Integrated Health for this well-deserved recognition by the West Chamber of Commerce.

IN RECOGNITION OF WILLIAM COLE DOTSON, CAPTAIN, USN (RET.)

HON. MARK WALKER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember William Cole Dotson, 92, Captain, USN (Ret.). Bill Dotson peacefully passed away on February 2, 2018, at his home in Pittsboro, North Carolina. Bill was born and raised in Hodgenville, Kentucky, the oldest of three siblings. Growing up during the Great Depression, he worked hard to help his

family make ends meet, and never lost his affection for Hodgenville, his grandparents' farm, and the people who always knew him as "Billy Cole." The values of thrift, work and self-reliance he developed there defined him throughout his life.

Capt. Dotson had a long, distinguished naval career, holding command positions both at-sea and ashore. He enlisted during World War II, served in 1944 and 1945 and then was selected to attend the U.S. Naval Academy where he graduated in 1949.

Bill served on the USS *Fred T. Berry* (DDE-858) from 1949 to 1951 where he was deployed to Korea. From 1951 to 1952 he was assigned to the USS *Ingersol* (DD-652). In 1952 he completed submarine training and from 1953 to 1955 was aboard the USS *Tirante* (SS-420).

From 1955 to 1957, he taught NROTC at the University of Louisville in Louisville, Kentucky, while concurrently earning a Masters Degree in Business Administration. He met his wife Katherine there in 1955. They were married the following year and became lifelong companions, having four sons and traveling the world with the Navy.

From 1957 to 1958, he was an Engineering Officer on the USS *Trumpetfish* (SS-425) and from 1958 to 1960 he was the Executive Officer of the USS *Sennet* (SS-408). In 1962 he completed the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California, and then began service as Commanding Officer of the submarine USS *Medregal* (SS-480). From 1964 to 1967 he was the Head of the Plans and Programs Section of the Fleet Ballistic Missile Project Office in Washington, D.C. From 1967 to 1969, he was the Readiness Officer for COMSUBFLOTSIX.

From 1969 to 1971, he was the Commanding Officer of the USS *Observation Island* (AG-154) which successfully conducted operational testing of the Poseidon missile. For his outstanding performance and inspiring devotion to duty as Commanding Officer, he was awarded the Meritorious Service Award.

From 1971 to 1973, he was the Torpedo Systems Division Head at the Naval Ordnance Systems Command.

From 1974 to 1976, he was the Chief of Staff at COMNAV Marianas in Guam. In this position he supervised the urgent Vietnamese refugee program, involving the processing, care, and onward routing of some 110,000 refugees after the fall of Saigon in 1975. He was awarded the Legion of Merit for his exceptional performance and leadership of the program. He was also awarded the Joint Service Commendation Medal for his meritorious work in planning, directing and coordinating all aspects of the island's preparation for Typhoon Pamela and the ensuing recovery operations. That storm disabled Guam's power, water, and telephone systems and badly damaged thousands of homes.

In 1976 he and his family returned to the mainland and he served as Commanding Officer at NAVSEACENLANT in Norfolk, Virginia earning the Meritorious Service Medal. He served in this position until he retired in 1979.

• 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.

After his Navy retirement, Captain Dotson continued to support the Navy's mission in the private sector, applying his expertise to a variety of logistical and training projects. In his leisure time, he was an active Rotary Club member and bridge player and helped Katherine with her participation in weekend art festivals. Committed to the value of higher education, Bill took deep satisfaction in supporting the educational goals of his family and helped many earn undergraduate and graduate degrees.

In 2011, Bill and Katherine relocated to North Carolina to be near their family. Bill delighted in the company of his children and six grandchildren.

In addition to his wife, Katherine, he is survived by his sons, Mike, Jeff, Doug and Greg, their loving spouses, Patti, Maura, and Janine, and his grandchildren, Marli, Reed, Dahlia, Skyler, Julian and Bryce.

HONORING KELLI MAHER

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the selfless action of my constituent, Kelli Maher, of LaFayette. Kelli is an extraordinary woman, who donated her kidney to child in need.

After learning she was unable to donate a kidney to a friend in need, Kelli Maher decided to volunteer her kidney for someone else. For 8-year-old Cecilia Brown from Ilion, Kelli Maher's transplant was the ultimate Christmas present. For her parents, it was a Christmas miracle. Kelli's compassion saved Cecilia's life.

Research shows that while most New Yorkers support organ donation, only 28 percent of New York's eligible population is enrolled as an organ donor.

I'm proud to honor Kelli today. Her act of kindness made a real difference, and changed a young girl and her family's lives forever.

CONGRATULATING DEBBIE WILSON FOR 28 GREAT YEARS AT THE ALVIN SUN

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Debbie Wilson on her contribution of 28 years of freelance photography for the Alvin Sun and congratulate her on her retirement.

Debbie is retiring after almost three decades of photographing sports for the Alvin Sun. During her tenure, Debbie traveled around the state to cover Alvin Yellowjacket teams and Manvel Mavericks state title appearances. Her last assignment was the Mavericks' state football championship game in December. Her photos have earned awards from the Texas Community Newspaper and Texas Press Associations, and have played a role in helping the newspaper win numerous awards for their sports coverage. She is a fantastic photog-

rapher and her talent will be missed by both her coworkers and by the teams that she photographed.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second District of Texas, thank you again to Debbie Wilson for 28 years of outstanding work at the Alvin Sun. I wish her good luck in her retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE AIR FORCE ENLISTED VILLAGE, CELEBRATING THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MATT GAETZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize an organization of true American heroes and patriots.

Over fifty years ago, a survey by military organizations found that over 50,000 widows of retired military members were living in poverty. U.S. Air Force members found this news to be a travesty and decided to do something about it. On January 17, 1968, the Airmen's Widows and Dependents Home Foundation (now Air Force Enlisted Village) was incorporated with the mission to provide senior housing to widows of retired enlisted U.S. Air Force members.

The Air Force Enlisted Village (AFEV) is a nonprofit organization whose core mission is to provide a safe, secure home for surviving spouses of retired enlisted U.S. Airmen. The Air Force Enlisted Village is situated along the beautiful Emerald Coast of northwest Florida in Shalimar near Eglin Air Force Base and Hurlburt Field.

Air Force surviving spouses live at Bob Hope Village or Hawthorn House among peers, where they are able to share memories of military life. All residents of AFEV are treated with the highest level of love and respect.

The Air Force Enlisted Village is one of four official charities of the U.S. Air Force and is an affiliate of the Air Force Assistance Fund campaign that takes place February through May each year at all U.S. Air Force installations. The Air Force Enlisted Village is also one of seven worthy charities of the Air Force Sergeants Association.

Any service member will testify that the support of their spouse was one of the most important contributions during their years of service. Most military spouses are known for their ability to adapt and find happiness wherever their spouses' career took them and their families. The journeys were not always easy or short, but these spouses made a home wherever the military needed and sent them.

The United States Military family is stronger because of these spouses and their dedication and support. It is only fitting that when the time comes, they are provided a loving and worry-free place to call home. For the past fifty years, the Air Force Enlisted Village has been committed to making sure that the widows of service members always have that home.

The mission of The Air Force Enlisted Village is highly revered by our community, which is full of partners who strive to fulfill that mission daily. There is no greater gift than providing basic essentials that may be taken for granted as one ages; a safe home, security, dignity, independence, and camaraderie. The AFEV community gives residents the feeling of being cherished and not forgotten.

I extend my gratitude to all who have served in any capacity with the Air Force Enlisted Village and its honorable mission.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize and celebrate the Air Force Enlisted Village on their 50th Anniversary.

JEFFERSON CENTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud the Jefferson Center for Mental Health for receiving the 2017 West Chamber of Commerce Nonprofit Business of the Year Award.

The Jefferson Center for Mental Health is a mental health and substance use organization committed to making mental health care accessible to all. Each year, the Jefferson Center helps bring hope for a brighter future to thousands of community members who struggle with mental health and substance abuse disorders, individuals whose daily lives have been disrupted and whose mental health problems contribute to difficulties at work or school, hospitalization, homelessness, or even involvement with the juvenile or criminal justice system.

The Jefferson Center's programs and services serve people of all ages and foster the recovery and resiliency of clients throughout their treatment. Their services include outpatient counseling, 24-hour emergency services, wellness classes, recovery-focused support groups, vocational services, homeless prevention assistance and school-based counseling.

The Jefferson Center provides services at 20 clinic locations and various places in the community such as schools, healthcare offices, nursing homes, community centers and foster homes. Because the Jefferson Center offices are throughout our neighborhoods, the Center staff members are intertwined in the community and provide personal care to the people they treat.

I extend my deepest congratulations to the Jefferson Center for Mental Health for this well-deserved recognition by the West Chamber of Commerce.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DIANE BLACK

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call No. 69 for final passage of H.R. 1892, the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018, which took place Friday, February 9, 2018, I am not recorded because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted NO on this bill.