

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING TONKA
SWIMMING AND DIVING TEAM

HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 9, 2018

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Minnetonka High School boys swimming and diving team on its state championship. It's the second consecutive championship for the Skippers, who won their first state championship in 1978 and have taken home the state title nine times since. After winning two individual events and one relay, Minnetonka put up an impressive 217.5 points—beating out Shakopee who was able to tally just 181 points. It's their first back-to-back title since 1997.

I want to recognize Senior Jack Dahlgren for winning first place and setting new state records in both the 200 Free and 100 backstroke. I also want to commend John Shelstad for winning the 200 IM and Erik Gessner for his victory in the 100 butterfly. A special congratulations goes out to the 200 meter free-style relay team of Erik Gessner, Michael Shelstad, Isaac Alberts and John Shelstad for taking first place home for the Skippers.

Mr. Speaker, swimming and diving is a sport that takes endurance, extensive training and poise. It's also important to recognize that these student athletes work hard in the classroom as well. Congratulations to Head Coach Dan Berne, the coaching staff, the parents, the fans and the entire swim and dive team on being state champs.

IN RECOGNITION OF FRANCIS
WHITTY

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 9, 2018

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Francis Whitty as he completes his term as Department Commander of the Massachusetts Disabled American Veterans (DAV).

Frank was born in Roslindale, Massachusetts. After graduating high school in 1962 Frank went on to have a successful banking career, working at State Street Bank in Boston as well as at the Federal Reserve. He later moved to Brockton to settle down and raise a family with his wife Mary.

Shortly after President Kennedy was assassinated, Frank enlisted in the Navy and proudly served in the Submarine Service on board the USS *Piper* (SS409) until 1967. Frank was an early member of the United States Submarine Veterans and rose to the office of National Commander. This was just the start of his service to our country and our veterans.

Inspired by his uncle Eddie, a WWII veteran in the 10th Mountain Division, Frank used the

help of the DAV and went on to become a member of their Brockton Chapter 76 where he was elected Chapter Commander. He served two terms in this position at a time when the public was far less supportive of veterans. Frank spearheaded initiatives to gather support to release prisoners of war in Vietnam and to account for soldiers Missing in Action. He led his chapter of the DAV to become a staple in the Brockton community, very much like Frank himself.

This past year, Frank served as Department Commander of the Massachusetts DAV and will now be completing his term. According to Frank, one of his biggest accomplishments during his years of service has been expanding the DAV's outreach to include services to incarcerated veterans and better serve the community at large in Massachusetts.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Frank Whitty for his service and dedication to his community and country. I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking him for his work and in wishing him the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING EDWARD McLAUGHLIN

HON. DWIGHT EVANS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 9, 2018

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Edward McLaughlin, military historian, for his dedicated voluntary service to our veteran community.

Edward McLaughlin has dedicated the last four years researching and cataloging the internment of over 1,000 Civil War Soldiers and Sailors of African American descent, who are buried at Philadelphia National Cemetery, within the Second Congressional District of Pennsylvania. They were soldiers of the United States Colored Troops, a fierce force of nearly 180,000 men that made up one-tenth of the Union Army during the Civil War.

As a volunteer historian, Edward McLaughlin spent a year downloading approx. 25,000 records, mostly from the National Archives as well as other sources. He then copied, sorted, and compartmentalized these records, and then had the information transferred into a book form. Edward McLaughlin's research contains a 2 to 5-line history of all the African American Civil War soldiers and sailors at the cemetery, photographs of each headstone, as well as a name to plot number. What makes this achievement all the more remarkable is the fact that this history had never been uncovered, until now.

After a study of the information for the first year, Edward McLaughlin realized that a storyboard needed to be erected to tell this story and went on a local speaking tour at libraries, historical societies and veteran's groups requesting letters of support for a storyboard, of which I lent my support. Because of his efforts, the National Cemetery Administra-

tion has constructed and installed a storyboard dedicated to the memory of the United States Colored Troops interned at Philadelphia National Cemetery. The storyboard is installed in Section C, which along with the bottom half of Section G, contains the burial plots of the United States Colored Troops interned at Philadelphia National Cemetery.

This storyboard joins three others that were installed three years ago at the Philadelphia National Cemetery. One chronicles the 155-year history of the cemetery, founded to receive the bodies of Civil War veterans already interred in nearby graveyards. The other two are dedicated to soldiers buried there: Valley Forge native Galusha Pennypacker, at 20, the youngest-ever brigadier general, and 184 Confederate soldiers wounded at the Battle of Gettysburg who died at nearby hospitals. Without Edward McLaughlin's expertise and tireless efforts, this proud chapter in American History would surely have been lost.

The 2nd Congressional District of Pennsylvania extends gratitude to Edward McLaughlin for his dedicated support and service to the Second Congressional District of Pennsylvania.

OATH OF CITIZENSHIP ON APRIL
13, 2018

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 9, 2018

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and sincerity that I take this time to congratulate thirty individuals who will take their oaths of citizenship on April 13, 2018. This memorable occasion will be held at the United States Courthouse and Federal Building in Hammond, Indiana.

America is a country founded by immigrants. From its beginning, settlers have come from countries around the world to the United States in search of better lives for their families. Oath ceremonies are a shining example of what is so great about the United States of America—that people from all over the world can come together and unite as members of a free, democratic nation. These individuals realize that nowhere else in the world offers a better opportunity for success than here in America.

On April 13, 2018, the following people, representing many nations throughout the world, will take their oaths of citizenship in Hammond, Indiana: Maria Reboloso, Pablo Serrano, Armando Martinez, Cristina Olivia Vasquez, Ricardo Rivera, Alejandra Sandoval, Yang-Yi Avia Lin Shemesh, Juliana Isabel Mercado Velazquez, Leticia Luna Swinson, Benjamin Tovar Lopez, Angelica Magallon de Amezcua, Mercedes Lorenzo de Diaz, Haroldas Vysniauskas, Octavia Guijosa Granados, Manoel Jacques Etienne Couder, Alejandrina Perez de Davila, Mohammad Yousef Mustafa Hijaz, Ma del Carmen

• 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.

Barajas, Aida Batisse Tamba, Mamoon Arif Raza, Irene Patrick, Cordelia Eruga, Zilha Basic, Bore Trajkovski, Milan Sorgic, Ann-Marie Thomas, Muhammad Rizwan Ashraf, Isabel Cristina Padilla, Georges El Howayek, and Zubair Ul Haq.

Although each individual has sought to become a citizen of the United States for his or her own reasons, be it for education, occupation, or to offer their loved ones better lives, each is inspired by the fact that the United States of America is, as Abraham Lincoln described it, a country “. . . of the people, by the people, and for the people.” They realize that the United States is truly a free nation. By seeking American citizenship, they have made the decision that they want to live in a place where, as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution, they can practice religion as they choose, speak their minds without fear of punishment, and assemble in peaceful protest should they choose to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating these individuals who will become citizens of the United States of America on April 13, 2018. They, too, are American citizens, guaranteed the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We, as a free and democratic nation, congratulate them and welcome them.

IN RECOGNITION OF BRADFORD
HOLMES

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 9, 2018

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Bradford Holmes as he receives a Prisoner-Of-War medal for his service and sacrifice during World War II.

Bradford was born on September 29, 1925 and now resides in Onset, MA. Growing up he worked for a cranberry company. At the age of eighteen, Bradford was drafted into the United States Army, following the footsteps of his older brother.

Bradford started at Fort Devens in Massachusetts and then trained at several bases across the country, eventually ending up in Camp Atterbury in Indiana, where he joined the 106th division. He was later shipped overseas to England to receive more training. Bradford then headed through Belgium to the front lines as a part of the 423rd Regiment.

Moving through wood lines and digging fox holes through the frozen ground, they made their way to the front, but they were surrounded and Bradford was captured during the Battle of the Bulge on December 17, 1944. They walked for several days through snow, sleeping by the side of the road at night. They spent the holidays locked in train cars and his train was attacked by the Allies, not realizing that POWs were on board.

Bradford was taken to the German POW Camp, Stalag IV-B, where he volunteered to go on a work detail to escape the horrible conditions of the camp. Bradford was sent to start working in a furniture factory. Here he looked forward to air raids because they caused factory workers to flee and gave him an opportunity to run and find food. Later he and other POWs were forced to cut down and haul out

trees in the mountains. Even with three men on each side of the tree, this was incredibly difficult and dangerous. They lost many men as a result. As air raids increased, they were forced to walk fifteen miles to the border of Czechoslovakia. Finally, they were abandoned by their captors as the Red Army advanced and the POWs followed German civilians to allied territory.

After returning to the United States, Bradford got married and started a family of his own.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Bradford Holmes for his service and dedication to his country. I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking him for his work and in wishing him the best in his future endeavors.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, April 10, 2018 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

APRIL 11

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Department of Defense
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2019 for the Missile Defense Agency.

SD-192

Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities
To hold hearings to examine Special Operations Command's efforts to transform the force for future security challenges; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217, following the open session.

SR-232A

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Patrick Fuchs, of Wisconsin, and Michelle A. Schultz, of Pennsylvania, both to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board, Department of Transportation.

SR-253

Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Kirsten Dawn Madison, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary (International Narcotics and Law En-

forcement Affairs), and Thomas J. Hushek, of Wisconsin, to be Ambassador to the Republic of South Sudan, both of the Department of State.

SD-419

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine an original bill entitled, "The Opioid Crisis Response Act of 2018".

SD-430

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the Federal Emergency Management Agency, focusing on prioritizing a culture of preparedness.

SD-342

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Mark Jeremy Bennett, of Hawaii, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Nancy E. Brasel, and Eric C. Tostrud, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of Minnesota, Robert R. Summerhays, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Louisiana, and Wendy Vitter, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana.

SD-226

10:15 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine S. 2602, to support carbon dioxide utilization and direct air capture research, to facilitate the permitting and development of carbon capture, utilization, and sequestration projects and carbon dioxide pipelines.

SD-406

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2019 for the Department of Agriculture.

SD-138

Committee on the Budget

To hold hearings to examine the Congressional Budget Office's budget and economic outlook, focusing on fiscal years 2018-2028.

SD-608

2 p.m.

Joint Economic Committee
To hold hearings to examine unleashing America's economic potential.

SH-216

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2019 for the Department of Energy, including the National Nuclear Security Administration.

SD-138

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2019 for the Department of Transportation.

SD-192