

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF ALL THINGS
ARTISTIC MINISTRIES' COMMIT-
MENT TO ARTS EDUCATION

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize All Things Artistic Ministries for their annual History Alive program. Their efforts enrich the lives of Michigan students through their programming.

Established in 2009 by Dr. Debby Mitchell, All Things Artistic Ministries was founded in the hopes of creating a community of artistic Michigan residents who would like to cultivate a love for the arts and humanities in the next generation. Four years after it was created, Dr. Mitchell designated Ypsilanti, Michigan as its main outreach area for arts education and student programming. The organization puts on a variety of youth programming including an eight-week "Art in the Park" summer program, formation groups for artists and creative writing workshops. All Things Artistic Ministries engages a diverse student body and helps grow their love for the arts and creative studies.

This year marks the 5th annual History Alive: Standing on the Shoulders of Giants Program put on by All Things Artistic Ministries in conjunction with Washtenaw County schools. The program runs for 14-weeks and allows 5th to 12th grade students to write, stage, and put on a play based on the lives of two distinguished Washtenaw County residents. The students first interview the "giants" and then write a play based on their lives and accomplishments. Approximately 50 students are involved in the final stage production and participate in singing, dancing, acting, photography, sound technology and stage crafting. This year's honorees are Reverend Garther Roberson and Greg Harden, two Washtenaw County community members who represent the best of southeast Michigan. We are grateful for All Things Artistic Ministries' service to our state's youth and look forward to their continued programming in the years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring All Things Artistic Ministries for their creative programming for Michigan youth. Their educational initiatives inspire our next generation of leaders to dream big and think outside the box.

SAFE WALK HOME NORTHSIDE

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the skies of Houston, Texas were filled with ominous clouds on May 17, 2016. The school bell rang, dismissing students from John Marshall Middle

School. Josue Flores usually would have headed home, but instead he stayed after hours, participating in a science club celebration. After all, Josue wanted to be a doctor, science was his passion. As the celebration wound down, Josue headed home, making the trek along the streets on the North side of Houston. Little did he know that it would be the last time he ever walked home. A criminal approached the young boy, stopping him in his tracks. The evil murderer proceeded to stab him over and over and over again—twenty times in all. Josue's senseless and brutal death shocked the entire community. The clouds pressed down heavier, the death of an innocent child weighing on everyone's mind. No child should be in danger by simply walking home from school.

In the weeks following Josue's death, his community took action—the senseless violence must end. Soon, the "Safe Walk Home Northside" program was organized by Stella Mireles-Walters. A group of 100 volunteers stepped forward, determined to keep our children safe. A Safe Walk Home Northside aims for every resident or person in the area to keep an eye out for the children as they walk to and from school. It is because of their dedication and effort, that parents, local store employees, and many others have started to assist in guarding the streets during school hours. As a former judge in Houston, I have always been impressed the way neighbors take care of neighbors in Houston. The Safe Walk Home program has already begun making an impact and changes are evident in the community. Recently, Houstonian Cecilia Ruiz, helped law enforcement stop a kidnapper, intent on kidnapping a young teenage girl. Ruiz witnessed the young girl being forced into a vehicle as she walked down the sidewalk to school. A mother herself, Ruiz's instincts kicked in. She sprang into action: Ruiz and her daughter didn't just call 911, they stopped the perpetrator, bringing the young girl safe into their arms.

Mr. Speaker, any good southerner knows that one of the biggest mistakes you can make is to underestimate a Texas woman. But apparently, the dastardly criminal hadn't quite learned his lesson yet. As the villain fled the scene of the crime, the mother-daughter duo made chase, tracking the vehicle through a high-speed pursuit and recording the license plates. It wasn't until the vehicle fell into a ditch and the police arrived, that she felt her good Samaritan duties were fulfilled. I repeat Mr. Speaker, never underestimate a Texas woman.

Today, there is one less missing person's face haunting the dreams of Houston Police Department's finest, all because Cecilia Ruiz took action; one more perpetrator behind bars. Programs like a Safe Walk Home Northside are building our communities and ensuring that stories like Josue Flores never happen again.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED
SERVICE OF COLONEL DAVID J.
PINTER, SR.

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished service of Colonel David J. Pinter, Sr. whose tenure as Garrison Commander at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin, concludes May 19, 2018. Colonel Pinter assumed duties as Garrison Commander at Fort McCoy on March 11, 2016.

Colonel Pinter's 29 years of dedicated service in the U.S. Army is noteworthy in every respect. He earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa; a master's degree in Business and Policy Studies from Empire State College, Saratoga Springs, N.Y.; and a master's degree in National Security Strategy from the National War College, Washington, D.C. His military education includes the Combined Arms and Service Staff School, the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and the National War College.

Colonel Pinter received his Army commission in 1989 from the University of Iowa Reserve Officer Training Corps program. He entered active duty and attended the Army Aviation School for flight training and then was assigned as a Platoon Leader with the 1st Battalion, 501st Aviation Regiment in Korea. He next served with the 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, N.Y., as a Platoon Leader and Battalion Flight Operations Officer. He then was assigned as Aviation Company Commander and 12th Aviation Brigade Operations Planner with support to V Corps in Germany. Pinter returned to the 10th Mountain Division and began training for certification in the Army Acquisition Corps. He deployed to Kosovo in support of the Joint Contracting Cell and continued his Acquisition career as an Aviation Material Development Branch Chief with the Aviation Combat Development Directorate. His follow-on assignment was as the Project Manager and Operations Officer to the Soldier, Biological, Chemical Command, and he then worked with the Office of the Surgeon General to field Chem-bio Protective Systems to Combat Support Hospitals and Forward Surgical Teams in the Iraq theater prior to and during the onset of the war.

Colonel Pinter entered the Active Guard Reserve program in 2003 with duty at the University of Iowa as the Senior Assistant Military Professor. He then served as the Logistics Officer with the newly formed 11th Aviation Command leading efforts to establish logistical support for the Army Reserve Aviation Operations of 17 units in 14 states, followed by Aviation Battalion Command in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. Then, he served as a force management staff member in the Office of the Chief of the Army Reserve, as well as in the Office of the Assistants to the Chairman of the

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Joint Chiefs of Staff for National Guard and Reserve Matters. Immediately prior to his assignment at Fort McCoy, he served as Division Chief for the Homeland Defense Division of the Joint Staff J3 Operations Directorate, Washington, D.C.

Colonel Pinter's deployments include Somalia, Haiti, Bosnia, Kosovo, and Iraq. Colonel Pinter has committed his life to serving our country and has received many deserving awards and decorations, including the Defense Superior Service Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with seven Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal with six Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Achievement Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with three Bronze Service Stars, Humanitarian Service Medal with two Bronze Service Stars, NATO medal with two Bronze Service Stars, United Nations Medal with two Bronze Service Stars, Joint Staff Identification Badge, Army Staff Identification Badge, Airborne Badge, Air Assault Badge, Combat Patch, Senior Aviator Badge, Ranger Tab, and Combat Action Badge.

Under Colonel Pinter's effective leadership, which has fostered the success of "Team McCoy," Fort McCoy has received heightened awareness by senior leaders that have led to an increase in the transit training population, mobilization, medical and mission readiness of the U.S. military. Fort McCoy is one of six major Army Reserve garrisons, within the seventy-five Army installation command garrisons, and under Colonel Pinter's guidance, it is the only one to receive the Army Community of Excellence Award two years in a row. Additionally, during his tenure, Colonel Pinter transitioned Fort McCoy's business model into a four-seasons, cold-weather focused training model. Thanks to Colonel Pinter, Fort McCoy is well positioned for the future.

It has been an honor for me to serve as U.S. Representative for Wisconsin's Third Congressional District during Colonel Pinter's tenure at Fort McCoy. I know Colonel Pinter's leadership will be greatly missed at the base and surrounding communities, but I am thankful for his leadership and contributions to ensuring that Fort McCoy remains a shining star in the nation's military training infrastructure.

On behalf of my constituents in Wisconsin and a grateful nation, I would like to thank and commend Colonel David J. Pinter, Sr. for his years of dedicated service in the U.S. Army and in particular as Garrison Commander at Fort McCoy. I wish him, his wife, and children the very best as they turn the page on the next chapter of their lives.

HONORING LARRY SILLANPA:
LABOR ADVOCATE AND LIFE-
LONG DULUTHIAN

HON. RICHARD M. NOLAN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Mr. NOLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Larry Sillanpa, of Duluth, Minnesota who will be retiring from the Labor World Newspaper after 29 years as Editor and Manager. Over the years Larry has proven himself to be a tireless advocate for working people and an incredibly dedicated and successful

Editor, never missing a deadline in 668 issues printed. His dedicated service to The Labor World, the oldest Labor paper in Minnesota and one of the oldest in the country, helped guide the publication through uncertain times for print media and grow to reach even more readers across the Northland.

Larry's career as a newspaper man began at the age of seven with his first job delivering newspapers for the Duluth Herald and News Tribune at the rate of a quarter for a day's work. He worked many paper routes in his younger years throughout West Duluth and the Central Hillside neighborhood.

Over the next few decades, Larry worked for many of the pillars of Duluth's economy and community such as, the Duluth School District, the Norshor Theatre, the State of Minnesota, the U.S. Steel Plant in Morgan Park, and sailed on the Great Lakes for Republic Steel. He also attended the University of Minnesota Duluth (UMD), and wrote for the UMD Statesman.

Today, after 29 years as Editor of the Labor World, he has become one of those pillars of the Duluth community. Also, a proud lifelong Duluthian, Larry has lived on the same plot of land in northern Minnesota for 44 years. He and his wife Jennifer built their home on the same land after their marriage in 1994.

Throughout his career Larry has been an incredible advocate for workers and the Labor Movement. He has doggedly taken politicians and corporations to task for neglecting their obligations to the people who make our economy work, and highlighted all the efforts by working people to build a better life for the working class. Under his leadership he brought the paper from the age of type setting to the age of computers and carefully oversaw the reach of the Labor World grow as it increased in circulation by 65 percent.

I ask my colleagues in Congress to join me in recognizing Larry Sillanpa for his years of service to the Labor Movement and northern Minnesota. I thank Larry for keeping the Labor World newspaper alive and leaving it in a position to thrive into the future. Although he's finally giving up his paper route, his printed word will live on forever.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber for Roll Call votes 169, 170, 171, and 172 on Tuesday, May 8, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted Nay.

RECOGNIZING KERN CARPENTER
ON INDUCTION TO DADE COUNTY
FARM BUREAU HALL OF HONOR

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Director Kern Carpenter of the Miami-Dade County Farm Bureau, on his induction to the Farm Bureau Hall of Honor.

A third generation farmer with a rich history in tomato production; Mr. Carpenter and his family have dedicated their lives to preserving the beauty and prestige of Florida's agriculture.

At a young age, Kern lost his father to cancer and not long after, the farm he loved. However, Kern never lost sight of his family's heritage and worked hard to one day run his very own farm.

In 1983, Kern successfully renewed his family's farming legacy and opened Kern Carpenter Farms.

Today, that passion and drive Kern possessed at such a young age, continues to impact so many farmers and serves as an inspiration throughout our South Florida community.

Mr. Speaker, it is individuals like Kern that encompass the American spirit we all hold so dear. I wish him the very best in his future endeavors, and congratulate him on this much deserved honor. Congratulations my friend (Felicidades amigo).

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on the day of April 27, I was unavoidably detained. As a result, I was absent for Roll Call votes 163 through 166. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: for Roll Call vote 163, on agreeing to the amendment on of H.R. 4, I would have voted no; for Roll Call vote 164, on motion to recommit with instructions of H.R. 4, I would have voted yes; for vote 165, on passage of H.R. 4, I would have voted yes; and for Roll Call vote 166, on motion to table H. Res. 856, I would have voted no.

HONORING THE WORLD WAR II
AND KOREAN WAR VETERANS
OF ILLINOIS

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the World War II and Korean War veterans who traveled to Washington, D.C. on May 9, 2018 with Honor Flight Chicago, a program that provides World War II and Korean War veterans the opportunity to visit their memorials on The National Mall in Washington, D.C. These memorials were built to honor their courage and service to their country.

The American Veteran is one of our greatest treasures. The Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen who traveled here on May 9th answered our nation's call to service during one of its greatest times of need. From the European Campaign to the Pacific Asian Theatre to the African Theater, these brave Americans risked life and limb, gave service and sacrificed much, all while embodying what it is to be a hero. We owe them more gratitude than can ever be expressed.