

Police Department. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of our community, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

TRIBUTE TO MAXINE BRUNSMANN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Ms. Maxine Brunsmann on the occasion of her 103rd birthday.

Our world has changed a great deal during Maxine's life. Since her birth, we have revolutionized air travel and walked on the moon. We have invented the television, cellular phones and the internet. We have fought in wars overseas, seen the rise and fall of Soviet communism and witnessed the birth of new democracies. Maxine has lived through eighteen United States Presidents and twenty-two Governors of Iowa. In her lifetime, the population of the United States has more than tripled.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent Ms. Brunsmann in the United States Congress and it is my pleasure to wish her a very happy 103rd birthday. I invite my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Maxine Brunsmann on reaching this incredible milestone, and wishing her even more health and happiness in the years to come.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MS.
BESSIE ALEXANDER RUSSELL

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2018

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Ms. Bessie Alexander Russell who passed at the age of 86 on December 7, 2017. Bessie was born in Chicago on March 4, 1931 and raised in Chicago's "Old Town" neighborhood. She was a graduate of William H. Wells Community Academy High School, commonly known as Well's High School and began a life in administration, civics and organizing. I had the pleasure of knowing Bessie during several of my campaigns for the County Board and Alderman, block club meetings, community organizing activities and political rallies.

Bessie had a long and distinguished career in administration and is a dedicated servant of the community. Bessie served as secretary for Chicago City Colleges for 30 years before becoming a Bursar at Crane College (currently known as Malcolm X College). During her tenure with the City College's system, she served as the first African American president of the Local 1708 labor union. In addition, Bessie was also Chicago's first Human Relations Commissioner on Race, Gender and Sexuality, where she was appointed by Mayor Harold Washington and retained by Mayor Richard Daley.

Bessie was the wife of the late Paul H. Russell and devoted mother of Paula M. Russell

and three late infant sons, all named Paul. Her sons all developed a similar fatal lung condition—Bessie donated their bodies to research. Because of this noteworthy and selfless act, this research was instrumental in a curable treatment in the utero for this lung condition.

A man once said, "Death leaves a headache that no one can heal; Love leaves a memory that no one can steal." So, Mr. Speaker, I ask the Congress, the family and friends to continue to honor Ms. Bessie Russell's memory for love for the Chicagoland community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2018

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, my voting card didn't register. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call No. 274.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROD BLUM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2018

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, due to flight complications, I was unable to arrive in Washington in time to cast my vote on June 20, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 275; YEA on Roll Call No. 276; NAY on Roll Call No. 277; and YEA on Roll Call No. 278.

TRIBUTE TO BROOKLYN SAMMONS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Brooklyn Sammons of Orient-Macksburg High School. Brooklyn was recently honored for outstanding academic achievement at the Sixteenth Annual Governor's Scholar Recognition on April 29, 2018.

This statewide program is sponsored by the Iowa Governor's Office, the Iowa High School Athletic Association and the Iowa Farm Bureau. Each Iowa High School was invited to select a senior with the highest academic ranking. Not only are they academically gifted, but the selected students are often the youth who are successful in extra-curricular activities and community endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Brooklyn Sammons in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to reach her goals. I invite my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Brooklyn on receiving this esteemed designation, and wishing her the best of luck in all her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING ANDREW M. SHERMAN AND CONGRATULATING HIM ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM FEDERAL CIVIL SERVICE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2018

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate my constituent and friend, Andrew (Andy) M. Sherman who is retiring from his position as Acting Deputy Director of the U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO) following 38 years of dedicated federal service.

Andy began his career at the GPO in 1980 as a budget analyst. In 1985 he began working as a staff assistant reporting to the Office of the Director (formerly the Office of the Public Printer), gaining extensive experience with the agency's budget, appropriations, legislation, strategic planning, and congressional and public affairs operations. The skills learned in this position would serve him well during his career and advancement at the GPO.

He was named Director of Congressional and Public Affairs in 1997, a position he held for 14 years. In 2011, he was promoted to Chief Communications Officer and in 2013 was again promoted to Chief of Staff. Following the retirement of Deputy Director Jim Bradley in March 2018, Andy became Acting Deputy Director and the head of the agency.

During his 38-year career, Andy was directly involved in GPO's transformation from a print-centric to a digital-centric agency. His efforts were instrumental in reshaping GPO's operations and staff to reduce costs and expand digital operations.

For over 30 years he authored GPO's Annual Reports to Congress and for more than 2 decades, Andy was the GPO's principal liaison to the congressional Joint Committee on Printing, which oversees GPO. In this role, he ensured the approval of the GPO's annual spending plans and the wage agreements signed by GPO's management and GPO union employees. In addition, Andy served for 25 years as GPO's representative to the National Government Publishing Association, holding the offices of Eastern regional director, treasurer, and president.

With GPO Historian George Barnum, Andy contributed to the writing of an official history of the GPO, *Keeping America Informed*, published in 2011 and revised in 2016, as well as *Picturing the Big Shop*, a book of more than 200 of GPO's historical photographs, which was released in 2016. He also participated in the revision and issuance of three editions of GPO's popular *Style Manual*, for 2000, 2008, and 2016.

In recognition of his service and expertise, Andy has received two Distinguished Service Awards, 2 Meritorious Service Awards, and one Public Printer award.

Andy holds a B.A. and an M.A. in Government from The University of Virginia. Prior to joining the GPO he was a graduate teaching assistant in American history at Old Dominion University. Andy and his wife, Deborah, are the parents of three grown children, Benjamin, Sarah, and David, and for more than 30 years have resided in North Springfield, VA.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Mr. Andrew M. Sherman for

his service to our nation and in congratulating him on the occasion of his retirement. I believe that public service is among the highest of callings and Andy is the epitome of a dedicated civil servant. I thank him for his contributions, and extend to him my very best wishes for continued success in his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION**HON. BETO O'ROURKE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2018

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from the Chamber on Friday,

June 15, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on Roll Call votes 267 and 268.