

in the Plattsburgh Air Unit, where his duties included patrolling the northern border from above and supporting officers on the ground. He has participated in countless successful missions, including the manhunt for the Dannemora prison escapees in 2015. In addition to his patrol duties, Agent Perry gave back to his unit by serving as an instructor pilot, passing on his skills and expertise to the next generation of pilots. A true public servant, Agent Perry served in the U.S. Marine Corps for four years before his career with U.S. Customs and Border Protection. He has given so much to this country, and his lifelong service is truly admirable.

On behalf of New York's 21st district, I would like to thank Agent Perry for his years of hard work. He has shown true dedication to his community and country, and I wish him all the best in the years ahead.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN HALL ON THE
OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT
FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOP-
MENT

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2018

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend, beloved and iconic member of the Hoosier community, John Hall, who is retiring as the Indianapolis Field Office Director for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in Indiana (HUD). During his time at HUD, John worked tirelessly to improve the living conditions, neighborhoods, and quality of life for residents across the State of Indiana. The people of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District are forever grateful for John's contributions to our Hoosier community, and it is my privilege to honor him today.

A native Hoosier, John was raised in Indianapolis where he attended Shortridge High School and later graduated from Ball State University with a Bachelor's of Social Science. After earning his undergraduate degree, John pursued graduate studies at both Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) and DePauw University. He then began his career teaching history and government at Arsenal Technical High School. Passionate about community youth, John coached freshman track and was the trainer for the Arsenal Tech sports program. Dedicated to making a difference through education, John directed the Minority Engineering Advancement Program (MEAP) and later became an administrator at the Purdue University School of Engineering and Technology at IUPUI.

In addition to his career in education, John served as a senior aide to Senator Richard Lugar for 15 years. Under Senator Lugar, he managed a vast portfolio of issues, including education, economic development, small business, and special projects. As Assistant State Director, John worked with key Indiana staff members on domestic and international issues, specifically focusing on African affairs. He later served as Deputy Mayor of Indianapolis for three years under Mayor Stephen

Goldsmith. Under his leadership, John helped facilitate the Mayor's education forums, the Front Porch Alliance, faith-based initiative, welfare-to-work initiative, small and minority business development, affordable housing, and inner city retail and race relations issues. During my time as Deputy Mayor of Indianapolis, I had the unique opportunity to work side by side with John to help lead our city. A true public servant, John then became the Director of Neighborhood Relations for the Health and Hospital Corporation of Marion County in 2000.

In 2002 John became the first African-American Indianapolis Field Office Director in the history of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. As Field Office Director, John met with various mayors, housing authority executives, and community development professionals throughout the State of Indiana. His communication skills and deep experience were instrumental in gaining a better understanding of the strengths and challenges presented in communities across the state of Indiana. Personal knowledge of neighborhood issues allowed him to understand the importance of a safe, stable living environment, with available opportunities for home ownership. Responsible for leading the Indianapolis field office and offices in Gary, Indiana, John oversaw over 87 HUD employees. Under his leadership, the Indianapolis office encouraged homeownership, refinanced FHA mortgages for affordable housing, and doubled its homeownership outreach, especially among minorities. This led to administering more than 460 million in grant dollars across Indiana communities.

John's impact on his community goes far beyond his work at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, as evidenced by his service on the boards of the Fund for Hoosier Excellence, the Greater Indianapolis Progress Committee, and the Greater Indianapolis Health Foundation. He also served as a chairman for the Greater Indy Neighborhoods Initiative, Co-Chair of the Civic Engagement segment of the Community Revitalization Summit, Trustee of the Indianapolis Building Authority, and member of the Marion County Sheriff's Merit Board and Indianapolis Human Rights Commission. A man of faith, John currently serves as the Staff Parish Team Leader at Barnes United Methodist Church in Indianapolis.

In the public and private sector, John has been honored with numerous awards. He notably received the 2007 Outstanding Black Alumnus from Ball State University, the 2006 Award for Public Service from the Indiana Black Expo, the 2005 President's Award from Ball State University's Black Alumni Constituent Society, and the award for Excellence in Public Health from Indiana's State Health Commissioner in 2004. He was also honored with the Ball State Benny Award in 2004, Drum Major Award in Community Service by the Circle City Frontiers of Indianapolis in 2000, and the Achievement in Public Service Award by the Center for Leadership Development in 1997.

John has made a remarkable impression on his community and the lives of his friends, family, and colleagues. He has truly left a legacy of service at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and beyond

that will be built upon for years to come. On behalf of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District, I would like to congratulate John Hall on his extraordinary career and extend my gratitude for all the wonderful contributions he has made to our Hoosier community. While I know John will be missed at HUD, I wish the very best to him, his two sons and the rest of his family as he enjoys a well-deserved retirement.

TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF DR. ROBERT BROWNING'S RETIREMENT

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2018

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend and trusted spiritual advisor, Dr. Robert "Bob" Browning, Pastor of First Baptist Church in Frankfort, Kentucky, upon his retirement after dedicating his life to nearly 50 years of faithful ministry.

My bride, Cynthia, and I were honored to have Dr. Browning officiate our wedding in 1999. He blessed the beginning of our marriage with an eloquent ceremony about the unmatched value of love, devotion and thanksgiving. We have held his words close to our hearts each day and uphold Dr. Browning with the highest esteem.

He was also my beloved Pastor at the Somerset First Baptist Church, where he served our community for 16 years. Dr. Browning shared the Word of God with great boldness, discipling young Christians and shepherding his flock with enduring wisdom. I have always been inspired by his passion to serve and share the Gospel of Jesus. Just as the Bible instructs us to do, Dr. Browning has cared for the widows and the poor, visited the sick, mourned with the broken-hearted, and rejoiced with those in times of celebration.

Dr. Browning was licensed and ordained to the Gospel Ministry by the First Baptist Church of Greenville after diligently studying at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. While most of his ministry was dedicated in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, he also ministered in Atlanta, Georgia for 13 years. From 1994 to 1995, he served as President of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

As noted in his biography, "Dr. Browning is proud of his Baptist heritage and works with other Baptists through the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship to spread the Gospel, build bridges of goodwill and understanding among all people, promote the cause of justice and meet the needs of those who are struggling."

He and his wife, Jackie, have been a tremendous blessing to families and individuals across Kentucky, and I extend my deepest gratitude for their friendship and counsel over the years. As they enter into retirement, Cynthia and I pray the years ahead are filled with exceeding peace and joy along with their three children and five grandchildren.

RECOGNIZING JUDGE THOMAS A. RAPPA, JR. FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE NEW HAMPSHIRE JUDICIAL BRANCH

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2018

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of the Honorable Judge Thomas A. Rappa, Jr. and to thank him for his dedicated services to the New Hampshire Judicial Branch and the people of New Hampshire for the past 30 years.

After graduating from Franklin Pierce Law Center in 1986, Judge Rappa began a long career in the New Hampshire judicial system. He first worked for the Honorable Karl T. Bruckner in Woodsville, New Hampshire before taking on his own practice. As a lawyer, Judge Rappa served the people of New Hampshire in his work on the interdisciplinary coordinating council for domestic violence, in teaching legal and paralegal classes at Plymouth State College and in the College for Life Long Learning, and in instituting a Teen Court in his Plymouth, New Hampshire court. He also served for six years on the Pro Bono Advisory Board, where he received the L. Jonathan Ross Award in 1989, and on the Board of Governors from 1991 to 1993.

Throughout his impressive tenure, Judge Rappa has truly been a leader in his community and the Granite State as a whole, demonstrating the compassion, wisdom, and fairness that is the hallmark of a great judge. I am proud to rise today in acknowledgement of his achievements and wish him the best upon his retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2018

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, due to a conflict, I unavoidably missed the following votes on June 28. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

1. On roll call No. 306, I would have voted "nay."
2. On roll call No. 307, I would have voted "nay."
3. On roll call No. 308, I would have voted "nay."
4. On roll call No. 309, I would have voted "aye."
5. On roll call No. 310, I would have voted "aye."
6. On roll call No. 311, I would have voted "nay."
7. On roll call No. 312, I would have voted "aye."
8. On roll call No. 313, I would have voted "nay," because the bill commits funding for three Littoral Combat Ships, which, as the Heritage Foundation wrote, has "disturbingly limited capabilities against a near-peer adversary." Purchasing two more LCSs than the Navy has even asked for is a classic Congressional boondoggle.

CONGRATULATING BRADFORD CHAMBERS ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2018

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Agent Brad Chambers on his retirement after 20 years of service in U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

Agent Chambers began his career by serving his country as a Helicopter Instructor Pilot in the U.S. Army. After serving in the military, he continued his passion for protecting Americans by working tirelessly for U.S. Customs and Border Protection, occupying positions of instructor training pilot, Air-Marine Operator, and Air Interdiction Pilot. Agent Chambers also was the Founder and one of the Chief Advisers for Law Enforcement Explorers Post 2100, a group that mentors high school and college students considering a career in law enforcement or the military, which highlights Agent Chambers' lifelong commitment to educating and protecting Americans.

On behalf of New York's 21st district, I would like to thank Agent Brad Chambers for his years of hard work and service to the public, and wish him all the best in the years ahead.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2018

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, June 14, and Friday, June 15, 2018, I was not present for recorded votes because I needed to travel home to attend my daughter's high school graduation. I would have voted:

- "YES" on roll call vote No. 265 (on passage of H.R. 5788),
- "NO" on roll call vote No. 266 (on passage of H.R. 5735),
- "NO" on roll call vote No. 267 (on agreeing to the Thornberry Amendment to H.R. 2851), and
- "NO" on roll call vote No. 268 (on passage of H.R. 2851).

REMEMBERING MR. JUAN JOSÉ PEÑA

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2018

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Juan José Peña, who passed away this month at the age of 72. Mr. Peña was a dedicated community leader who committed much of his life to fighting for the civil rights of veterans and Hispanics.

Mr. Peña spent most of his childhood in the town of Las Vegas. He went on to receive Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from New

Mexico Highlands University in Las Vegas, where he studied a range of topics including Spanish Language, Literature, and Political Science.

Mr. Peña was drafted into the Army in 1969 and went on to receive a multitude of decorations including a Bronze Star Medal for Valor. He was the most decorated member of the Fourth Infantry Division when it returned to the United States.

After serving our nation, Mr. Peña became a Spanish Professor at New Mexico Highlands University in Las Vegas. He went on to work as a supervisory interpreter at the United States District Court in Albuquerque for more than two decades. Mr. Peña continued to work as a freelance interpreter after he retired.

Mr. Peña was an active member of our community whose reach extended to a number of influential organizations. He was a leader in Partido Raza Unida, Commander of the Albuquerque and New Mexico branches of the American GI Forum, Chairman of the Hispano Round Table, and founding member of Dads Against Discrimination. Mr. Peña's tireless fight against discrimination earned him numerous honors including the City of Albuquerque Human Rights Award.

Mr. Speaker, I want to extend my heartfelt condolences to Mr. Peña's partner of 23 years Ann Tran, his brother Fernando, his daughter Margarita, his grandchildren Shar and Mariana, as well as the rest of his loved ones. I hope they are comforted by cherished memories of Mr. Peña, and by the fact that so many in our community mourn his loss and celebrate his life with them.

HONORING LENORE KARLIN

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2018

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lenore Karlin, a resident of NewBridge on the Charles, located in Dedham, Massachusetts, who recently celebrated her 100th birthday on April 25, 2018. As the Representative of the 8th Congressional District of Massachusetts, I am honored to represent such an extraordinary woman in the United States Congress.

Recently, Lenore was celebrated by numerous family and friends in a tribute to "A Life Well Lived." Lenore's story and life experiences serve as an example of a person who has made a profound difference in so many lives and continues today to bring joy to those that love and admire her. I include that story in the RECORD.

Mr. Speaker, during the celebration, surrounded by family and friends, Lenore's daughter told the story of this remarkable woman and spoke of Lenore's efforts to help others from an early age. A lifetime of volunteer work, Lenore has done it all, from traveling on the "Plant Mobile" to Boston's inner-city schools teaching students to how to grow plants to translating books into German in Braille.

Mr. Speaker, Lenore shows her love and support to family and friends by never missing an opportunity to make someone's day brighter. It is fitting today that I ask all my colleagues to wish Lenore Karlin a very Happy