

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING MR. PATRICK CERMAK FOR RECEIVING THE LEWIS UNIVERSITY SIGNUM FIDEI AWARD

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Patrick Cermak, President and Chief Operating Officer of Wight and Company, for receiving the Lewis University Signum Fidei Award. The Signum Fidei Award, meaning “sign of faith,” honors a distinguished member of the community that embodies the Lasallian mission of faith and service to the community.

Throughout his career, Pat has taken on many roles to help others succeed. Since joining Wight and Company in 2001, he has led the company's daily operations and overseen its financial management. Under his leadership, Wight and Company has experienced steady growth and instituted numerous initiatives including the Wight Sustainability Forum. The broad base of support for Pat's leadership demonstrates his credentials as an effective leader and his ability to work collaboratively to build long-term partnerships.

Pat Cermak has always strived to serve others unconditionally. He has been deeply involved with the Metropolitan Planning Council and Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce. His tireless work has helped ensure that Chicagoland remains vibrant and sustainable. In another role, Pat serves as an Executive Board Member of the Design Futures Council. His work through this organization continues to shape the future of the architecture, engineering, and construction industry to benefit the people that it serves.

But in talking about all that Pat Cermak has done and achieved, it is essential to mention that what is most important to him is his faith and his family, and all who know him know what a kind and caring man he is.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Patrick Cermak on this tremendous honor. He is a man who lives out the values of faith and service to the community in all that he does. I thank him for his service and wish him and his family the best.

RECOGNITION OF EL PASO COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. WILL HURD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

Mr. HURD of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 50-year anniversary of the El Paso Community College in El Paso, Texas. Since opening in 1969, El Paso Community College has provided students with quality and affordable education.

With 28 students graduating in 1971, the ELCC has since graduated over 80,000. It boasts 5 campuses in the El Paso area, including its first campus at Fort Bliss Army Base. The college's more than 130 distinct programs give their average of 29,000 enrollees per semester a diverse array of career options to choose from.

Under President William Serrata, I know El Paso Community College will continue to thrive and benefit the members of the El Paso community for years to come, living true to their motto as the “Best Place to Start—and Finish.” I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating their 50th anniversary.

HONORING DR. ERIC HOLMES FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO YORK CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT AND PUBLIC EDUCATION

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

Mr. SMUCKER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor former York City School District Superintendent Eric Holmes, who retired earlier this year after over thirty years of exceptional service with the district.

Beginning as a high school social studies teacher, Dr. Holmes served in a number of leadership capacities for the York City School District, before being named the district's 14th superintendent on July 1, 2013.

Dr. Holmes led the district to success during challenging times, including seeing the district through a state-mandated financial recovery plan. The district added a STEAM-science, technology, engineering, arts and math-academy through 10th grade and improved its benchmarks for student achievement.

Following the announcement of his retirement, Dr. Holmes said during an interview that: “It's a team effort, and that's the only way we would be able to accomplish our goals.”

We know that good teams have great leaders and that is true of Dr. Holmes and his leadership with the York City School District. I thank him for his many years of service improving the lives of countless students in York County.

HONORING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHARIS BIBLE COLLEGE

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to honor the 25th Anniversary of Charis Bible College. It is nothing short of miraculous to observe the growth that has taken

place within the past quarter-century. Charis was founded as Colorado Bible College in 1994 and was originally located in Colorado Springs.

Charis has grown from its first graduating class of 33 people in 1996, to include 26 campuses in the United States and 22 international locations. Charis's main campus has moved from the Springs to Woodland Park and is located on a beautiful piece of property overlooking Pikes Peak.

In my district, the Charis campus provides multiple programs of Bible-based education including a practical government degree. It also hosts faith-based events throughout the year with discussions on Christian art, culture, and politics.

Charis Bible College was created by Andrew Wommack, who has been a pioneer in Christian education and ministry. His vision to have men and women steeped in scripture has changed countless lives in my district and around the world.

It was not Andrew's original plan to create a college, but he was inspired by 2 Timothy 2:2 which says “And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.” 25 years after receiving an answer to his prayer, Andrew is continuing to innovate and inspire new students.

Charis students and graduates have invested themselves in our nation through prison ministry, care for the homeless, church planting, healing of the sick, relief from addiction, service in our schools, establishment of Christian businesses, and practicing grace-touched citizenship that transforms culture, in the tradition of William Wilberforce.

It is my hope and prayer that as Charis continues to grow, it will continue its mission in Woodland Park for many years to come.

RECOGNIZING JUDY PRESTON OF RONAN

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Judy Preston of Ronan, for serving her community and her leadership of the Bread Basket in Ronan.

An experienced project manager, Judy understands the importance of building effective business logistics. She serves as the organizational leader for Skill Builders, a company aimed at helping businesses improve overall performance. She is also a graduate of the Leadership Montana program which helps enhance participants' leadership skills.

Judy recently concluded her two-year term as board chair of the Ronan Bread Basket, a nonprofit organization that has provided food to neighbors in need for more than 30 years. Under her leadership, the emergency food pantry grew to triple its original size, increasing its capacity to serve others. The group's board expanded to 11 members.

● 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.

Before her departure, The Montana Food Bank Network presented Judy with the Glacier Award: For Moving Mountains to End Hunger for reducing hunger in Montana and promoting food security through her work with the Ronan Bread Basket.

As chair of the board, Judy also implemented the BackPack Program in the Ronan school district. The program provides students with nutritious foods before weekends and holidays so they can have proper nutrition when school is out of session. During her term as chair, Judy led the fundraising efforts that enabled over 4,500 meals to be distributed to students in Ronan.

Madam Speaker, for her leadership of the Ronan Food Basket and her dedication to making sure no family or student in Ronan went hungry, I recognize Judy Preston for her spirit of Montana.

HONORING IAN PATRICK SCHWARBER, A TRUE SON OF AKRON, OH

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend, Ian Patrick Schwarber, who passed away on September 17, 2019. Ian was a loving husband, son, brother, uncle, and friend who devoted his life to creating a vibrant and prosperous community for the next generation.

Ian was born on October 31, 1980, in Akron, Ohio to Donald and Patricia Schwarber. Ian attended St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Primary School and graduated from Archbishop Hoban High School. During his time at Hoban, Ian was a multi-sport athlete, lettering in both football and baseball. Ian was involved in a severe accident that damaged his leg and left him bedridden for nearly a year. Ian's strong faith and his perseverance—two of his most defining characteristics—brought him through this time and would ultimately guide the course of his life.

Upon graduation from Hoban, Ian left Akron to attend the University of Charleston where his passion for music and songwriting manifested itself into his band Blue Flashing Light. Along with his brother, Joshua, and his bandmates, Ian shared his talent and gifts with the world. Ian would later return to his hometown to finish college and earn his master's degree in Applied Politics from the University of Akron. Anyone who knew Ian recognized his brilliant light and his unwavering commitment to serving others. Whether it was his involvement with community nonprofit organizations like Project Learn Summit County and the Autism Society of Greater Akron, or to broader issues like expanding STEM opportunities to underserved youth and entrepreneurship, Ian gave one thousand percent of his time, energy, and talent.

Ian is most known for his entrepreneurial and innovative spirit that drove him into his next venture as the co-founder of the University of Akron's EXL Center, an initiative designed to help students emerge as civically-engaged, adaptable leaders, ready to join in the enterprise of building strong and sustainable communities. After launching the EXL

center, Ian transitioned into the IT landscape, becoming the Chief Strategy Officer and a co-owner of DriveIT, a Tech-centric adult training center. Ian would later become Executive Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer at Akron-based IT services company CenterLink Technologies. Aside from his professional contributions, Ian was most proud of the family he created with his wife, Mackenzie Justice. Their children, Mary Justice and Jack, were the most precious gifts in his life.

Madam Speaker, Ian Schwarber was a true son of Akron. He was relentless in the promotion of any effort to amplify Akron and was a wellspring of ideas to move the community forward. Ian was willing to work with anyone to see a dream grow wings and take flight. May we all redouble our own efforts to love and serve others the way Ian so generously did during his life.

SIMPLE FAFSA ACT

HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLÁN

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

Mr. SABLÁN. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the Simple FAFSA Act.

Because today FAFSA, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, is anything but simple.

In fact, the 108-question application can be so daunting that as many as 40 percent of students and parents simply cannot complete it.

And that means they cannot get the help they need to make college more affordable, even though we have money available for them.

In fact, \$2.6 billion went unclaimed for the 2018–2019 academic year.

So, let us do something to help these students and their families.

The Simple FAFSA Act reduces the number of supporting documents and many of the questions on the current FAFSA.

Verifying income will be much easier as parents will be able to retrieve and use the previous year's income data when applying under the bill.

Low-income students and families—like many in the Marianas—just need to file the FAFSA once, as opposed to annually, to automatically qualify for a full Pell Grant and attend Northern Marianas College debt-free.

The process is even faster for families receiving a means-tested benefit, like Medicaid, who will be able to skip all financial questions on the form.

And the legislation opens FAFSA to DREAMers and students with prior drug offenses so our country can fully benefit from their potential.

By simplifying the FAFSA, we help more students and their families receive the aid they need to succeed in their education and future careers.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation to make college more accessible and affordable for all Americans.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF JANE DIFLEY FROM THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF NH FORESTS

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jane Difley on the event of her retirement as President of the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests.

A licensed forester, Jane's esteemed career included time at the American Forest Foundation and the Vermont Natural Resources Council before joining the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests in 1996. In addition, Jane was the first woman elected to serve as the President of the Society of American Foresters. During her 23 years with the Forest Society, Jane has been a tireless advocate for land conservation in the Granite State.

At the helm of the Forest Society, Jane successfully heightened the pace of land conservation efforts in the face of increasing development. Under her direction, the Forest Society more than doubled the size of its conserved Forest Reservations to 56,000 acres and played a role in the conservation of over 290,000 acres overall. She advocated for the important role of Granite State forests in community recreation, wildlife habitat, and environmental health.

The important work accomplished during Jane's tenure at the Forest Society will serve as an enduring testament to her commitment to New Hampshire's forests. On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's Second Congressional District, I thank Jane for her service and wish her the best of luck in her new chapter.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF FORMER PRESIDENT OF BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY DR. SAMUEL L. MYERS, SR.

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I rise to express my heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Samuel L. Myers, Sr. on reaching his milestone centennial birthday this past April 18, which is being celebrated on September 27 at a gathering of friends, family, and community and national leaders at National Harbor in Maryland. From speaking out against segregation in the military as an Army captain during the Second World War to becoming one of the first African Americans to earn a doctorate in economics from Harvard University, from his efforts as part of the Civil Rights Movement to expand access to higher education to his championing of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) for more than half a century, Dr. Myers' life has been one of blazing trails and breaking down barriers.

In 1967, Dr. Myers assumed the position of President of Bowie State University, the oldest HBCU in Maryland and one of the oldest in the country. Under his administration, enrollment increased 200 percent and tensions between the student body and officials were