

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LIFE OF TRISHA MARTINEZ

HON. NORMA J. TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 17, 2019

Mrs. TORRES of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Trisha Martinez of the City of Montclair, and her tireless dedication to serving the Inland Empire community.

A resident of Montclair since 1992, Trisha was elected to the Montclair City Council in 2014 and re-elected in 2018. Throughout her tenure, Trisha was a fierce advocate for the City she dearly loved. As a Council member, she fought for Montclair's award-winning Montclair to College Program which provides free tuition and books to graduating Montclair High School students who attend Chaffey College for up to two years.

Trisha also remained committed to Montclair's seniors, working to ensure the elderly community continues to receive free or reduced-cost services, including micro-transit and discounted refuse services. Trisha also continued to volunteer with the Senior Nutrition Program at the Montclair Senior Center for over 10 years.

In April 2019, Trisha was diagnosed with cervical cancer. Despite spending most of these past months in hospitals, Trisha still dedicated herself to attending City Council meetings and other local and regional board meetings. This rare kind of commitment and devotion to the people of Montclair is worthy of admiration.

For her exemplary life of service, Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Montclair City Council Member Trisha Martinez on the House floor. Her decades of commitment and contributions to the city she loved are exemplary, and her memory will live on through the countless lives she impacted. May she rest in peace.

TRIBUTE HONORING LATHRAN J. WOODARD

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 17, 2019

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding South Carolinian and a proven health care champion for the people of South Carolina and the nation. Lathran Johnson Woodard has devoted her career to promoting the health and well-being of South Carolinians, especially those who struggle to access quality health care.

A Columbia, South Carolina native, Ms. Woodard received her primary and secondary education in Richland County public schools, graduating from C.A. Johnson High School in Columbia. She received her Bachelor of

Science Degree in Business Administration from Southern Wesleyan University and began her career at the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC). Over the course of her fourteen-year tenure, she was promoted to various positions at the agency. Her hard work and dedication earned her the position of Deputy Director for the Division of Maternal Health. While at DHEC, Ms. Woodard helped write and initiate the state's Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program and led initiatives to ensure access and improve the quality of services provided to mothers and children in South Carolina.

Ms. Woodard has achieved over 30 years of service in the health care field. In 1987, she became the Assistant Director for the South Carolina Primary Health Care Association (SCPHCA), where she now serves as the Chief Executive Officer. As CEO of SCPHCA, Ms. Woodard has worked relentlessly to ensure the strength and capacity of the state's primary care safety net, focusing primarily on assistance to those health care centers that provide vital services to medically underserved communities. Her primary interests are community systems design, the development of integrated systems of healthcare, and youth self-enhancement.

Beyond her work in South Carolina, Ms. Woodard has promoted health care on a national level as well. She is currently the Chair-Elect of the National Association of Community Health Centers. She holds membership in the National Association of Female Executives, the National Rural Health Association, the American Society of Association Executives, and the South Carolina Public Health Association. She has earned several awards and honors. Most recently, Ms. Woodard was a recipient of the Order of Palmetto, the highest honor a civilian can receive in the State of South Carolina.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in offering congratulations and sincere gratitude to Ms. Lathran J. Woodard for her unwavering service to the people of South Carolina and the nation. Her many contributions have improved the quality of life for so many South Carolinians and helped advance healthy communities throughout the country. I am pleased to honor her for exemplifying what it means to be a true public servant.

CONGRATULATING SENATOR MAGGIE HASSAN ON RECEIVING THE 2019 NEW ENGLANDER OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 17, 2019

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend and colleague, Senator MAGGIE HASSAN, for receiving the 2019 New Englander of the Year award from the

New England Council. This award recognizes New Englanders who make our region such a wonderful place to live, learn, and grow.

Senator HASSAN epitomizes all that we should strive for as public servants. Her call to public service is deeply rooted in her belief that everyone, no matter their ability or background, should be able to fully participate in their communities. Senator HASSAN knows that when we lift up and empower all members of our community, we can collectively rise higher.

First as a New Hampshire State Senator, then as Governor, and now as a United States Senator, Senator HASSAN has been a committed public servant and champion in making our communities stronger. During her tenure as governor, I was honored to work under her leadership to expand access to health care and deliver additional resources for treatment and recovery. Now in Washington, I am proud to work with her to address the opioid crisis, foster a more inclusive future, and build a New Hampshire economy that works for everyone.

Senator HASSAN's steadfast advocacy for our state and region may only be surpassed by one other thing—her passion for our great New England sports team.

I could not think of a better recipient of such an award than my colleague, Senator MAGGIE HASSAN. On behalf of our constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I want to congratulate Senator HASSAN on this well-deserved honor.

PHARMACEUTICAL INDEPENDENCE LONG-TERM READINESS REFORM ACT OF 2019

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 17, 2019

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today I introduce the "Pharmaceutical Independence Long-Term Readiness Reform Act." I want to thank Congresswoman HARTZLER for her support as an original cosponsor.

Our legislation would require the Department of Defense to acquire and purchase only American-made raw materials, medicines, and vaccines for our military. It would also require the Department of Defense to identify the national security vulnerabilities caused by our country's current dependence on Chinese pharmaceuticals.

As a result of the Chinese government's chokehold on the generic pharmaceutical market, our military servicemembers have been left vulnerable. China is a principal creator of generic prescriptions, which account for approximately 90 percent of the global pharmaceutical market.

The reality is that if the Chinese wanted to cripple the United States they could sabotage or cut off our supply of generic medications and antibiotics used by our military. This simply is a vulnerability that we cannot let continue to exist. We need to reinvigorate the

• 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.

United States' industrial base to produce generic medicines and antibiotics domestically, ensuring the readiness of our military forces.

Madam Speaker, I urge all Members to join us in cosponsoring the "Pharmaceutical Independence Long-Term Readiness Reform Act."

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE YEMENI AMERICAN BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 17, 2019

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Yemeni American Benevolent Association, an outstanding service organization in Wayne County, Michigan, for its fifty years of service.

The Yemeni American Benevolent Association was founded in 1969 to promote empowerment of people, environmental protection, and respect for cultural diversity. They have worked to cultivate community leadership, as well as providing education and other services to the surrounding community. Aside from language classes, translation services, and tutoring, the Yemeni American Benevolent Association has grown its annual scholarship program to help young people achieve their dreams of pursuing higher education. The scholarship program is an amazing achievement that has provided a pathway to a better future and encourages young people to give back to their community.

I ask you to please join me in tribute to the Yemeni American Benevolent Association as they celebrate this milestone.

RECOGNIZING THIRTEEN PLANO ISD PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 17, 2019

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate thirteen Plano ISD schools on receiving the National PTA School of Excellence designation.

This recognition program, created by the National Parent Teacher Association, works to support and celebrate partnerships between PTAs and schools across the nation.

Plano ISD is setting an incredible example, with a current Parent Teacher Association membership of more than 16,000 parents. With the help of their PTA's, Plano ISD is cultivating crucial relationships between teachers, parents, and the surrounding community.

Their dedication to improving the learning environment for students in and outside of the classroom serves as a crucial reminder of volunteerism and its role in shaping a community.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating these thirteen Plano PTAs on their success of putting students first and championing a quality education.

PLANO ISD NATIONAL PTA SCHOOLS OF EXCELLENCE AWARD RECIPIENTS

Barksdale Elementary PTA, Boggess Elementary School, Bettye Haun Elementary School, Gullledge Elementary School, Harrington Elementary PTA, Hickey Elementary School, Huffman Elementary School, Hughston Elementary School, Mathews Elementary, Mitchell Elementary School, Pearson Early Childhood School, Robinson Middle School, Wyatt Elementary School.

RECOGNIZING THE WASHINGTON BLADE

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 17, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing The Washington Blade on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

On October 5, 1969, Richard M. Nixon was President, John W. McCormick was Speaker of the House, Richard Russell, Jr. was Senate President pro tempore, Americans were listening to "Sugar Sugar" by The Archies, and the 91st Congress was in weekend recess. However, a few LGBTQ Washingtonians read the first edition of The Gay Blade, created by Nancy Tucker and Lilli Vincenz.

The Gay Blade survived controversy, epidemic and bankruptcy to thrive as America's LGBTQ newspaper of record, The Washington Blade. On October 18, 2019, The Blade celebrates its 50th anniversary with a gala at the Wharf.

Since its inception, The Blade continued as a monthly one-sheet newsletter until it expanded to four pages in June 1972. By April 1974, it grew to eight legal-sized sheets, and in July of the following year, The Gay Blade moved to newsprint.

During the 1970s, The Gay Blade changed its name to The Blade. Don Michaels became the editor. Michaels took The Blade out of the closet by prohibiting pen names, and he increased its frequency to biweekly. By the decade's end, the newspaper added "Washington" to its masthead.

The Washington Blade entered the 1980s with headline, "Rare, Fatal Pneumonia Hits Gay Men," one of the earliest newspaper articles on the disease that became AIDS. The Blade promoted Don Michaels to publisher, a position he held for two decades. By the decade's end, the newspaper adopted computer layout that led to its online edition in 1995.

Window Media, LLC purchased The Blade in 2001. The paper's staff unionized, and in 2008, The Blade published the first interview ever given by a Republican presidential candidate to an LGBTQ newspaper. The Blade grew steadily until November 16, 2009.

That Monday, Window Media filed Chapter 7 bankruptcy. The Blade's staff found its offices locked. Former staff volunteered to produce a new publication, DC Agenda, by the following Friday.

Publisher Lynne Brown, editor Kevin Naff, sales executive Brian Pitts and other former Blade staff members pooled their resources to

form Brown Naff Pitts Omnimedia. This company published DC Agenda weekly until April 2010, when it acquired The Blade's assets from the bankruptcy court. Like a phoenix, The Washington Blade rose from the ashes on April 30, 2010.

The Blade remains, for many in our nation's capital, including me, a weekly must-read. It continues, according to The New York Times, to be "one of the most influential publications written for a gay audience."

In closing, I remind the House of Representatives that the 700,000 residents of the District of Columbia have yet to read, and The Blade, despite its many scoops and breaking news stories, has yet to publish the banner "Washington, D.C. the 51st State."

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating The Washington Blade on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

HONOR THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MR. DON WAFUL

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 17, 2019

Mr. KATKO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mr. Don Waful, who passed away at the age of 103 on September 12, 2019. Mr. Waful was known in Central New York as a decorated World War II veteran, prominent Syracuse University sports fan, and for his tenure as the President of the Syracuse Sky Chiefs baseball team.

After graduating from Syracuse University with a bachelor's degree in 1937 and master's degree in 1939, Mr. Waful went on to enlist in the U.S. Army at the onset of World War II. In the war, Mr. Waful served with the 1st Armored Division, receiving several commendations for his service including, the POW Medal, American Defense Service Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal, and the Honorable Service Lapel Button. Notably, while in Tunisia, Mr. Waful and his unit encountered a German tank company, which subsequently took him and his unit prisoner. Mr. Waful survived as a POW in camps in Italy, Poland, and Germany before finally returning home.

Following World War II, Mr. Waful returned home to Central New York to pursue a career in insurance and to serve as the President of the Syracuse Sky Chiefs baseball team. In his role with the Sky Chiefs, Mr. Waful contributed to the design and construction of NBT Bank stadium, which opened in 1997. Along with his contributions to the Sky Chiefs, Mr. Waful was known for his unwavering support of Syracuse University sports. As a lifelong Syracuse University Football fan, Mr. Waful was a mainstay at home games, missing only three contests since 1945.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House join me in honoring the life and legacy of Mr. Don Waful. As a celebrated member of our Central New York community and prominent Syracuse sports supporter, Mr. Waful will be dearly missed. I ask my colleagues to keep him and his family in mind as we remember his life.