

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING DANIEL FLYNN FOR THE 2019 MONTANA CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2019

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Daniel Flynn of Belgrade, a recipient of the 2019 Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and leadership in his community.

Mr. Flynn has served in the United States Army for over 15 years. In that time, he has earned a total of 12 medals and awards including the Bronze Star and Joint Service Commendation Medal, attaining the rank of Chief Warrant Officer III.

In his service to both his country and the state of Montana Mr. Flynn has completed three tours of duty in the Middle East for Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Freedom's Sentinel. During his tours, he travelled thousands of miles where he routinely put himself in danger to protect others. Today, we honor and thank Mr. Flynn for his bravery.

In the community Mr. Flynn has even helped the police apprehend a shoplifter. He is a father of two and his family is proud of his commitment and sacrifice to our great country.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Daniel Flynn for his dedication and service.

HONORING REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS IN COLORADO

HON. JASON CROW

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2019

Mr. CROW. Madam Speaker, in honor of National Apprenticeship Week, I rise today to recognize the importance of Registered Apprenticeship Programs.

Since 1937, the Department of Labor's Registered Apprenticeship Program has been a model for recruiting and developing well-trained workers in highly-skilled occupations. Registered Apprenticeship Programs play a vital role in setting robust training, pay, and safety standards that are nationally recognized and credentialed.

Programs that are given the registered apprenticeship designation are subject to stringent requirements that mandate progressive wage increases, quality assurance assessments by the government, comprehensive safety training, and workplace rights protections. These standards and protections also include important equal opportunity measures and equity outcomes such as requiring targeted outreach to previously underserved pop-

ulations for recruitment into apprenticeship programs, diversifying the workforce and providing rewarding career opportunities for women, veterans, and people of color.

Furthermore, I'd like to take a moment to highlight the Colorado Building and Construction Trades Council, comprised of 24 craft local unions who belong to 14 national and international unions. These local unions make represent 30,000 skilled working men and women in the Colorado. The Building Trades Union has, and continues to, exemplify the gold standard of the Registered Apprenticeship system. Building Trades Registered Apprenticeship programs represent over two thirds of all the registered apprenticeships in the U.S. and, together with its contractor partners, invest over \$1.5 billion annually in a nationwide network of over 1,600 training centers.

The Building Trades' Apprenticeship Programs are proven alternatives to a four-year college degree and provide apprentices with opportunities to learn portable skills and receive a debt-free education while earning livable wages. I congratulate the Colorado Building and Construction Trades Council on their success and implore my colleagues to join me in protecting and expanding upon the DOL's Registered Apprenticeship Program.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2019

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Madam Speaker, on November 12, 2019, I missed roll call votes 610 and 611.

Had I been present for roll call 610, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 4162, the GI Bill Planning Act of 2019, I would have voted "Yes."

Had I been present for roll call 611, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 3224, the Deborah Sampson Act, I would have voted "Yes."

IN SUPPORT OF H. RES. 660, IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY RESOLUTION

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2019

Ms. BONAMICI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 660, a resolution establishing procedures for the House of Representatives Committees investigating President Donald John Trump to continue their ongoing impeachment inquiry.

No one is above the law, and the President must be held accountable for his actions. I first called for an impeachment inquiry in May, and

witnesses have revealed even more evidence of wrongdoing. The President withheld Congressionally appropriated foreign aid money while asking a foreign government to investigate a political rival, former Vice President Joe Biden and his family. Congressional committees, including the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, the Oversight and Reform Committee, and the Judiciary Committee, have been leading investigations into the President's actions, and the Administration has obstructed those investigations at every turn. My colleagues on the committees of jurisdiction have been diligently working to bring the truth to light. It is clear from the evidence already uncovered, along with the President's own remarks, that he has betrayed his oath to the Constitution and threatened our national security. The investigation must continue.

The resolution on the floor today outlines the procedures for the next phase of the impeachment investigation. The next phase of the inquiry will allow Oregonians and people across the country to witness the process designed by our Founding Fathers to uphold our values and maintain the checks and balances that are essential to a functioning democracy. Although we do not know the breadth of the evidence that the inquiry will uncover, it is clear that this is a grave time for our democracy. We must use all the tools at our disposal, including this impeachment inquiry, to uncover the full scope and significance of the President's actions.

RECOGNIZING PAULA CONTRERAS FOR BEING NAMED A THCA CERTIFIED NURSE AIDE OF THE YEAR

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2019

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Paula Contreras, a certified nurse aide from Richmond, Texas whose incredible work earned her the title of the Texas Health Care Association's (THCA) Certified Nurse Aide of the Year for Region 7.

Paula has been serving her community at Cambridge Health and Rehabilitation for two years, where she has worked diligently in her role as a certified nurse aide as well as a therapy technician.

She also helps train new certified nurse aides while sitting on the fall and safety committee and serves on the Cambridge Health and Rehabilitation's Quality Assurance Performance Improvement committee.

Paula's commitment to her role as a certified nurse aide garnered the admiration of her coworkers, who nominated her for the award.

Congratulations to Paula, on this immense achievement. She has made the 22nd Congressional District of Texas proud.

• 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.

RECOGNIZING JAMES GEIGER FOR THE 2019 MONTANA CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2019

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize James Geiger of Conrad, a recipient of the 2019 Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and leadership in his community.

Mr. Geiger was a member of the United States Army Air Corps during World War II. He served from 1942 to 1948 in the 303rd Bomb Group and 360th Squadron and earned the Air Medal with six oak leaf clusters along with Service Medals in the European, Asiatic and American theaters. Mr. Geiger attained the rank of First Lieutenant.

Mr. Geiger was a B-17 pilot during World War II. During one of his crew's missions, the navigator and turret gunner were wounded. During the chaos, Geiger turned the controls over to his co-pilot and went to give first aid to his crew. Mr. Geiger kept them from bleeding out and saved their lives. He is a true hero who went above and beyond the call of duty to serve his fellow man and country.

Mr. Geiger has served on the Church Council for the United Methodist Church, the Pondera Medical Center Hospital Board and is a member of the American Legion. He is a well-respected and adored member of his community.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending James Geiger for his dedication and service.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF MCCOWNGORDON CONSTRUCTION

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2019

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, today I proudly rise to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of McCownGordon Construction and its numerous contributions to the Kansas City community. As a significant cornerstone of the community, I am truly honored to have this establishment in the Fifth Congressional District of Missouri.

McCownGordon Construction began as an idea between two friends and eventual co-founders, Pat McCown and Brett Gordon, who dreamed of starting their own construction company. Their main priority was to create a workplace that would prioritize their employees, better serve their clients, and give back to the community. They made this dream a reality through dedication, perseverance, and hard work in July of 1999. During the labor shortage of recent years when many construction companies struggled to find employees, McCownGordon Construction managed to endure by investing in the development of its team. The business tripled its training budget in order to be prepared for business growth when the economy bounced back. Due to this training initiative, McCownGordon is consistently

hiring qualified and strong candidates in order to continue providing the best for its clients.

In 2013, McCownGordon Construction was named Business Philanthropist of the Year by Nonprofit Connect because of its consistent commitment to giving back to Kansas City. The company devotes at least 10 percent of net profits to worthy causes in the communities it serves. The company's craftsmanship and involvement in the Ronald McDonald Longfellow House aided in providing temporary housing for families with sick children receiving medical treatment. Along with the R.A. Bloch Foundation, McCownGordon collaborated in renovating a portion of the Cancer Survivor's Park as well. Multiple projects for one of Kansas City's treasures, the NelsonAtkins Museum of Art, have also been completed by McCownGordon Construction. Thousands of visitors and Kansas City natives can view priceless and rare works of art in the newly renovated exhibits. Beautiful places like these are preserved and enjoyed by many because of the unwavering support of companies like McCownGordon Construction. These contributions and collaborations demonstrate how McCownGordon Construction has proven to be an invaluable part of Missouri's Fifth Congressional District.

Today, McCownGordon Construction employs around 400 staff, all of whom contribute to the company in various ways. Construction workers, architects, management, and administrative staff all work together in order to create meaningful projects and buildings. McCownGordon is entirely employee-owned, so all employees have a stake through the Employee Stock Ownership Plan. The company's innovative and ambitious vision for the future and for the community drives McCownGordon Construction's success. McCownGordon sets itself apart by focusing on growing positive relationships between employees and clients, while adhering to its core values. The company's positive and communicative workplace environment prompted it to be named one of the best places to work by Fortune, the Kansas City Business Journal, and others.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring McCownGordon Construction and its employees for their hard work, perseverance, and commitment to their community. Together, they have made it possible to achieve this monumental twentieth anniversary.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. WILL HURD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2019

Mr. HURD of Texas. Madam Speaker, I was absent from votes due to travel.

Had I been present, I would have voted yea on Roll Call No. 610, and yea on Roll Call No. 611.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF WILLIAM J. "BILLY" MCCOY

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2019

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of William J. "Billy" McCoy, who passed away on Tuesday, November 12, at the age of 77.

Billy was an honorable public servant, serving as Speaker of the House for the Mississippi House of Representatives for many years. As Speaker, Billy contributed to significant legislation that revolutionized the economy of our State. He was the champion of the 1987 infrastructure plan that established a four-lane highway system across Mississippi, which brought more businesses into the State that created thousands of jobs for Mississippians. Billy is directly responsible for bettering the lives of thousands of people.

Billy was respected by all lawmakers across the aisle as he lived his life true to Jesus' words: "love thy neighbor as thyself." Left to cherish his memory is his wife, Edith, his two children, Sam and Kim, as well as all of the people who had the pleasure of working with him. Billy's life was one of service, grace, and love for his community. He will be greatly missed by all whom he encountered.

HONORING MICHAEL MERY

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2019

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of West Marin community leader Michael Mery, who passed away on September 28, 2019, at the age of 80, after a lifetime of service.

Mr. Mery was raised in Inverness, where his family ran the post office, and he attended local schools through his graduation from Drake High School. As a youth, he spent many days exploring Tomales Bay and the area that would become the Point Reyes National Seashore. The experiences left him with a lifelong love for the region's natural beauty and rural character.

Mr. Mery was a deeply rooted advocate for his beloved West Marin community and lived in Point Reyes Station at the time of his passing. He was instrumental in the creation of the West Marin Fund and a key figure in the creation of the fund's community grants and Giving Through Youth programs. The community grants program has disbursed nearly \$3 million to local nonprofits thanks in large part to Michael's vision and leadership. The Giving Through Youth program was a particular passion of his; the program teaches local students how to research organizations for grant opportunities.

Michael's activism served to sustain and nurture the agricultural community he called home for most of his life. He worked variously as a carpenter and as an organizer with the International Development Exchange, and ably brought his life experiences to bear as a devoted advocate for economic and social justice. He helped launch the West Marin Clinic