

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING DAVID MINGUS  
ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM  
MAYOR OF EAST PEORIA

**HON. CHERI BUSTOS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize David Mingus for his retirement from the position of mayor in East Peoria, Illinois. Mayor Mingus has served as the mayor of East Peoria for 12 years.

Mayor Mingus' retirement from this position brings to an end a long chapter in his outstanding career in public service. As a certified counselor and social worker, Mayor Mingus has used his knowledge and expertise to better the East Peoria community. In addition to serving as the city's mayor, Mayor Mingus spent three terms on the City Council and served on the local School Board. Serving his community has always been a passion of Mayor Mingus' ever since he earned a master's degree in counseling and human development, and went on to begin a career in the mental health field. He served as director of Neighborhood House in Peoria, as well as CEO of the Tazwood Mental Health Board. I commend Mayor Mingus for all of his efforts to better the community of East Peoria and wish him well as he takes on new professional opportunities in his career.

It is because of dedicated leaders such as David Mingus that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate David Mingus on his retirement as mayor and thank him for his service to the community.

HONORING TWENTY-TWO TEACHERS  
OF THE GREATER BOCA  
RATON AREA

**HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the twenty-two outstanding teachers in South Florida who have been awarded the Teacher of the Year award from the Rotary Club of Boca Raton Sunrise.

For the past 33 years, the Rotary Club of Boca Raton Sunrise has offered this annual distinction to one teacher at each of the twenty-two schools in the greater Boca Raton area. Each awardee is selected by the school's principal. These teachers have dedicated their time to inspiring, empowering, and bettering the next generation of youth in our community. Their passion in this effort is truly worthy of our recognition.

These twenty-two exemplary teachers have made a profound impact on their students through their caring, commitment, and profes-

sionalism. They are a cohort defined by integrity, excellence, and the highest marks in all they do. The City of Boca Raton is fortunate to have such outstanding faculty.

Congratulations to Jennifer O'Sullivan, James Wade, Theo Wiles, Mary Donnelly, Sarah Call, Scott Johnson, Mary Cavaioi, Laurel Cash, Mary Giddings, Sunshine Grunstein, Kimberly Attias, Scott Fontaine, Susan Kinderman, Richard Andreacchio, Bogdan Paraschivoiu, Kathleen Kaminsky, Kevin McEnroe, Joann Tatham, Anna Lombado, Catrina D'Annunzio, Jennifer Napuli, and Melissa Romero on being nominated for this year's teacher of the year award.

I am pleased to honor them, and I thank them for their continued service.

RECOGNIZING COLONEL DELWYN  
SEVERIO MERKERSON

**HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. BEYER. Madam Speaker, our brave men and women of the Armed Forces continuously make sacrifices to keep our nation strong and free. Among the ranks is Colonel Delwyn Severio Merkerson, who I want to recognize today for his 30 years of service in the United States Army and the United States Army Reserve.

General Colin Powell once stated, "Success is the result of perfection, hard work, learning from failure, loyalty and persistence." Colonel Merkerson's military service is a shining example of success at its finest. He made numerous substantial and lasting contributions to the quality, effectiveness, and readiness of the United States Army and the United States Army Reserve at operational and strategic levels.

Colonel Merkerson served in various positions over his 30-year career, as an artillery officer, budget officer, Deputy J-1 during a deployment in Afghanistan, Battalion Commander, Deputy Director for Reserve Component Policy, and finally as Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1. Colonel Merkerson's entire career was characterized by strong leadership, resolute mission-focus for achieving intrinsic excellence, and a genuine commitment to the welfare of soldiers, civilians, and families. He served as a model to the many who served with him and is nothing short of a transformational leader.

The cost of freedom is always high. However, our military personnel do not shoulder the stress and sacrifice of military service alone. The backbone of their commitment lies with their families. Colonel Merkerson's wife Noel, sons Delwyn Jr., Kolby, Kaden and Staff Sergeant Daven Gates and daughters Raisha and Private Deja McCree have stood proudly by his side throughout the years. To them also, we offer a warm and heartfelt thank you.

Madam Speaker, for these reasons, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Colonel Delwyn Merkerson.

HONORING BETH KILLIAN FOR  
HER SERVICE TO SYRACUSE  
MEALS ON WHEELS

**HON. JOHN KATKO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. KATKO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Beth Killian's dedicated involvement with Meals on Wheels Syracuse. Throughout her nine years with the organization, Ms. Killian has worked as both a volunteer and treasurer, playing an integral role in updating and managing the organization's records.

Meals on Wheels Syracuse is an important part of our Central New York community, providing home delivery food service to seniors throughout the region. Volunteers like Ms. Killian are the foundation of Meals on Wheels Syracuse, and are a vital part of delivering healthy meals, nutrition education, and resource assistance to the most vulnerable members of our community.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in honoring Beth Killian and her philanthropic spirit. Through Ms. Killian's involvement with Meals on Wheels Syracuse, senior citizens in Central New York have the ability to continue living independent lives while not having to worry about their next meal. Ms. Killian's service has contributed to a better Central New York and it is volunteers like her who strengthen communities around the country.

**LARRY KIKER**

**HON. FRANCIS ROONEY**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. ROONEY of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Lee County Commissioner Larry Kiker, who passed away early Tuesday, April 23 at Hope Hospice.

Mr. Kiker grew up in Clovis, New Mexico and moved to Southwest Florida two decades ago. After moving to Florida, he became a charter boat captain and then owned and operated a Fort Myers Beach realty company with his beloved wife, Paula.

Larry was first elected to the county commission in 2012—defeating a 24-year incumbent commissioner—and won re-election in 2016. Prior to his service as commissioner, Mr. Kiker had a long career in managing customer service at several high-tech companies, and served as a Fort Myers Beach Town Councilman and as mayor. Larry's leadership and team building skills were well recognized by his peers and the citizens of Southwest Florida.

Larry served our community with honor. We are all grateful for his contributions and commitment to our community. His passion, intellect, and wit will be long remembered, and

• 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.

greatly missed. Our prayers are with his wife, Paula, and his entire family.

# HONORING THE 85TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WORLD RECORD WIND ON MOUNT WASHINGTON

## HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the 85th anniversary of the world record wind. On April 12, 1934, civilian scientists at the top of Mount Washington observed wind speeds of 231 miles per hour. For over 60 years, this stood as the fastest wind gust ever recorded, and today it remains the fastest surface wind speed ever observed by humans.

New Hampshire's way of life is rooted in our natural surroundings, and few sites are as closely associated with the Granite State as Mount Washington. As a lifelong resident of New Hampshire, I have always marveled at the might of Mount Washington. At 6,288 feet, it is the tallest peak in the Northeast. And while there are certainly taller, snowier, and even colder places on Earth, Mount Washington has mesmerized Granite Staters and people around the world for decades because of its ruggedness and sheer unpredictability.

While the world record wind is certainly notable in its own regard, it also serves as a testament to the dedication, hard work, and public service of the Mount Washington Observatory. Since 1932, the Mount Washington Observatory has not only monitored the weather on top of the mountain but also served as a critical educational and climate research resource.

The Mount Washington Observatory has pioneered innovative forms of weather research and wind tracking data for over 85 years. Their pioneering curiosity has led to universal intrigue about Mount Washington, and today, people from all over the world, visit New Hampshire for the opportunity to hike or drive to its summit. The Observatory's continuing contribution to science and education are immeasurable.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I want to congratulate the Mount Washington Observatory on the anniversary of this groundbreaking feat. I look forward to continuing the celebration when I hike Mount Washington this summer. Once again, I thank the Mount Washington Observatory for all that they do to make the Granite State such a wonderful place to live, learn, and hike.

# CONGRATULATING PAUL RUMLER ON WINNING THE QUAD-CITIES MALE CHAMPION OF CHANGE AWARD

## HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Paul Rumler for winning the Quad-Cities Male Champion of Change Award

for his work as president and CEO of the Quad-Cities Chamber of Commerce.

The Quad-Cities Athena Awards are given to one woman and one man who are committed to gender diversity and empowering women in leadership. Under Mr. Rumler's leadership, 13 women have been hired or promoted within the Quad-Cities Chamber of Commerce, which was one of his top goals in the role. These efforts to make the organization more inclusive and, as a whole, more representative of our community. Mr. Rumler is dedicated to his work in the Quad-Cities region and is an asset to the community where he has fought for women's aspirations and goals. I commend Mr. Rumler for his work and look forward to seeing his future accomplishments.

It is because of dedicated leaders such as Paul Rumler that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Paul Rumler for winning the Quad-Cities Male Champion of Change Award and thank him for empowering women in our community.

# HONORING MR. CHARLES "CHUCK" CORJAY

## HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. BEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the exemplary life of Mr. Charles "Chuck" Corjay.

Mr. Corjay was born in 1932 in Springfield, MA to John and Helen Solenski as the youngest of three sons. He served in the U.S. Air Force for over seven years, including during the Korean War. Mr. Corjay later dedicated his life to helping others pursue an education. As a lifetime member of the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association he was the first recipient of the NoVa AFCEAN of the Year Award, now known as "The Corjay Award", for raising over \$10 million in STEM scholarships and financial assistance for veterans.

Mr. Corjay also forged a lifelong career in Information Technology. As the Senior Vice President of DoD Strategy with CACI International Inc., he built successful relationships at senior levels within the Department of Defense. In 2007, he was named to Federal Computer Week's Federal 100 list of IT leaders.

Mr. Corjay passed away peacefully on March 17, 2019 and is survived by his wife Diane and his daughter Marcy. He was known as a friend, mentor, and coach to all, and his spirit and character are reflected in his vast network of friends.

Madam Speaker, I extend my deep condolences to Mr. Corjay's family and friends and ask that you join me in recognizing his life and legacy.

# COMMEMORATING THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GENEVA ROTARY CLUB

## HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the Geneva Rotary Club.

On May 12, 1919, twenty-five Genevans became the charter members of the Geneva Rotary Club. As they installed their first officers, President Edward Dean, Vice President John Farwell, and Secretary William Gracey, this newly founded branch of Rotary International made a commitment to service in their community.

The Rotary International motto is Service Above Self and Geneva Rotary has embodied that principle over one hundred years of raising money and supporting community service projects. Their fundraisers such as Pancake Suppers, the Poinsettia Sale, the Santa Train Express, and the Service Above Self Dinner have brought together the community in Geneva to support a variety of good causes. Over the years their work has supported the likes of Geneva General Hospital, the Boys and Girls Club, United Way, the Community Dinner Program, Happiness House, and the Geneva Public Library.

Geneva Rotary has helped to ensure that the spirit of service is alive and well in the city of Geneva. Rotarians are active volunteers and more than eighty men and women belong to the club today.

One hundred years of service in the community is certainly a cause for celebration. I congratulate the Geneva Rotary Club on this impressive milestone and look forward to their continued success in the years to come.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of the Geneva Rotary Club.

# RECOGNIZING BARBARA MARKLEY RECIPIENT OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF BROWARD COUNTY'S 2019 EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP AWARD

## HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Barbara Markley, and congratulate her on receiving the League of Women Voters of Broward County's 2019 Excellence in Leadership Award. Barbara is well-deserving of this recognition for her efforts to reduce firearm deaths throughout Broward County, Florida.

Barbara Markley is a practicing attorney and gun safety advocate. She is the Co-Chair of the Gun Safety Committee for the League of Women Voters of Broward. Her innovative Lock it Up! Gun Safety Program, created in partnership with the Miami VA, has distributed 23,000 educational brochures and 11,200 gun locks in Broward in just 6 months with the help of 180 community partners. Her goal is to educate everyone about the dangers of unlocked guns and to save lives.