

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF DENVER EAST HIGH SCHOOL'S 'WE THE PEOPLE' NATIONAL FINALS FIRST PLACE WIN

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Ms. DEGETTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Denver East High School on its first-place finish in the 2019 national finals of the 'We the People' competition sponsored by the Center for Civic Education. The students and teachers of the Denver East High School team should feel exceptionally proud of this outstanding achievement.

After winning the Colorado statewide 'We the People' competition, Denver East High School traveled here to Washington, D.C. where they prevailed over the competition to bring home first-place. The students of the Denver East High School team demonstrated exceptional skill and character as they worked towards this well-deserved win. I know that the lessons learned, and knowledge gained through this experience will be invaluable to the students throughout their lives and future careers, no matter what path they take.

Each year over 1,200 high school students from across the nation come together to learn about and debate the issues of the day. They participate in simulated congressional hearings, testifying as constitutional experts before panels of judges acting as congressional committees. Students demonstrate their knowledge of the U.S. Constitution as well as a variety of topics connected to our country's historical and political heritage.

Robust civic education is the foundation of our democracy and is key to its future success. Informed citizenship in our youth is a primary factor of this future success. The students who participate in this competition inspire us all to be more informed citizens.

Madam Speaker, I would like to give special recognition to the incredible teachers who led the Denver East High School team. Susan McHugh and Matt Fulford have provided vital mentorship and guidance to these students, and their work with this team is a testament to the quality of teachers we have in the Denver Public school system. The winning team included Sam Anderson, Grant Austin, Kennedy Austin, Jack Beardshear, Max Boubin, Rebecca Chapman, Hayden Christopher, Henry Fox, Jessica Freedberg, Aidan Glennie, Sophie Goldberg, Alexa Goldstein, Ethan Gutterman, Ben Hamik, Anja Hutson, Marco Jimenez, Aiden Kahn, Ballard Kauffman, Madison Moore, Maggie Morrison, Matthew Nekritz, Amelia Nugent, Maddie Parker, Isabella Sanderson, Abby Schuman, Lulu Scully, Ella Snyder, Kacey Tanner, Elena Thoman, and Walker Young. Congratulations to all, and we are all so proud of their wonderful accomplishment. I wish them continued success in all their future endeavors.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MR. HOWELL BEGLE

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. BEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the exemplary life of Mr. Howell Begle—a veteran Army captain, lawyer, advocate for R&B singers' rights and my dear friend.

Howell's life was spent in service to his country and helping others. After receiving his law degree from the University of Michigan in 1968, Howell was commissioned a captain in Okinawa and served in the Judge Advocate General's Corps. His wife, Julia, would tell you that he was particularly proud of his work in the JAG Corps, defending soldiers who were being tried for minor transgressions like growing their hair too long or neglecting to salute an officer, and explaining the Geneva Convention to soldiers who were being shipped out to fight in Vietnam.

Howell left the Army in 1973 and began working in Washington, D.C. as a successful corporate lawyer specializing in media mergers. His many prestigious clients included the Kennedy Center, the American Film Institute, and the Academy Awards. A lifelong fan of R&B music, Howell began advocating for R&B artists after learning that one of his favorite singers, Ruth Brown, hadn't received royalties from her former record company, Atlantic Records, in decades.

Using his years of experience working in the legal profession, Howell helped Brown pressure Atlantic records to eventually disperse her royalties in 1988—28 years after they were due. Howell's pro bono work led to industrywide royalty reform and Atlantic Records recalculating royalties for its numerous R&B artists, many of whom were African American and living in poverty due to unfair payment practices. That same year, Atlantic Records helped create the Rhythm and Blues Foundation, which gives grants to artists in need. Howell served as the foundation's first executive director.

Howell's work touched many lives, but his most significant accomplishment was the family he loved and cherished. He was deeply committed to his wife Julie, his children Mark, Matthew, Charles and Kristin and his three grandchildren.

In an interview, Howell once told The Washington Post: "Too often in one's professional career, you don't get a chance to be on the right side of the right issue." Today, I thank Howell for being on the right side of the right issue and for his years of committed service.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Howell Begle's distinguished life and legacy.

RECOGNIZING COLONEL TIMOTHY HOLMAN

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, today I recognize Colonel Timothy Holman of the United States Army for his extraordinary dedication and service to our Nation. Colonel Holman will soon transition from his current assignment as the Chief of the United States Army House Liaison Division in the House of Representatives to the Deputy for the Army's Unity and Inclusion Office.

With an impressive and proven record of leadership, including combat tours in Iraq as the Brigade Operations Officer of the 130th Engineer Brigade and in Afghanistan as the Battalion Commander of the 54th Engineer Battalion, Tim was chosen to serve as the Chief of the House Liaison Division in 2017 after serving as a Chief of Staff of the Army Senior Fellow with the Center for a New American Security. Colonel Holman's outstanding work led to him being selected as the Chief of the United States Army House Liaison Division. His first-hand knowledge of the military, its culture, and traditions was a tremendous benefit to Army senior leaders and Congressional offices. Tim was especially effective in his service to Members and staff as he escorted them on fact-finding and oversight delegations within the United States and around the world.

Recently, Colonel Holman led a CODEL to the 75th Anniversary of the D-Day landing at Normandy, the largest CODEL of this type on record. His expert planning, attention to detail, and love of travel enabled exceptional visits for fifty-eight Members of Congress and their staff. I found him to be a thoughtful, intelligent, and a professional soldier in the best traditions of America's Armed Forces. Madam Speaker, it has been a pleasure to work with Colonel Holman during his tenure as the Chief of the United States Army House Liaison Division in the House of Representatives.

On behalf of a grateful Nation, it is my honor to recognize the selfless service and sacrifice of a fellow Mississippian, Colonel Timothy Holman, and his wife, B.J. Holman. I wish them the very best.

TRIBUTE TO THE AMERICAN LEGION

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor The American Legion upon its 100th Anniversary.

In 1919, The American Legion was chartered by Congress and founded by veterans of

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

World War I, who upon returning home noticed a lack of government assistance in assimilating back to their pre-service lives. Though they had experienced extreme suffering during the war, veterans received no disability compensation, comprehensive medical care, pensions for widows and orphans, or vocational training. As a result, The American Legion sought to create a self-help organization that would provide veterans with devoted care nationwide with Posts in local communities. The 28th Congressional District is proud to house Burbank Post 150, Glendale Post 127, Los Feliz Post 527, Hollywood Post 43, Sun Valley Post 520, Sunland-Tujunga Post 377, and Verdugo Hills Post 288.

The American Legion's mission was founded on four principles: Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, Americanism, National Security, and Children and Youth, and these principles reflect the founders' vision for America, one in which military veterans are honored, respected, and prosperous. For 100 years, they have done just that as The American Legion has made great strides in strengthening veteran care in America. In 1923, results from a nationwide survey conducted by The American Legion shocked the nation, as they showed that many veterans from the Great War had given up hope and were homeless, suffering from PTSD, and were merely attempting to survive. As a result, the Veterans Bureau was created, and federal and state laws were enacted that provided greater care for veterans. One of the laws that The American Legion is credited for creating is the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, or the GI Bill, which provided benefits for servicemen returning from World War II.

A lifeline to the veteran community, today The American Legion boasts over 2 million members and 13,000 posts nationwide. Some of the nationwide programs include The American Legion Baseball program, which is dedicated to mentoring the youth of America and Operation Comfort Warriors, which provides recovering wounded warriors with comfort items during their time in hospitals.

I am proud to recognize The American Legion for a century of outstanding service to veterans and the United States. I ask all Members to join me in congratulating The American Legion for its remarkable achievements.

CITRUS COLLEGE, GLENDORA,
CALIFORNIA

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Madam Speaker, I congratulate Citrus College, the first California community college to receive top honors for student success by a national organization. At an awards gala on April 15, 2019, American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) President, Dr. Walter Bumpus, and AACC Board Chair, Dr. Sandra Kurtinitis, presented Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, Superintendent/President of Citrus College, with the 2019 AACC Award of Excellence in the Student Success category. This well-deserved national recognition affirms the outstanding campus-wide effort to boost completion and transfer rates. Citrus College is the only community college in Cali-

fornia to have been honored by the AACC in 2019.

Every year, the AACC recognizes the exceptional work accomplished by the nation's community colleges by presenting Awards of Excellence in six categories: Student Success, Advancing Diversity, CEO/Board Relationship, Community College Safety and Planning, Faculty Innovation, and Outstanding College/Corporate Partnership. The AACC Award of Excellence in the Student Success category recognizes a community college that has demonstrated a sustained commitment to student achievement. The criteria used to determine this year's finalists included the development of a comprehensive strategic completion plan, the achievement of measurable and significant increases in degree completion, certificate completion, and transfer from two-year to four-year institutions.

Citrus College was highlighted for establishing and promoting an associate degree for transfer (ADT) pathway to four-year colleges and universities, and for introducing the Citrus College Promise, a program designed to cover enrollment fees and other college costs for first-time students for up to two years. As a result of the college's efforts, transfers have risen by 38 percent from 2014 to 2017.

We send our sincere congratulations to Dr. Perri and all students, faculty, staff, and Members of the Board of Trustees at Citrus College, and we wish them continued success.

WORLD WAR II VETERAN JOHN
O'CONNER OF PAYSON, ARIZONA
CELEBRATES HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor World War II Veteran John O'Conner as he celebrates his 100th Birthday. John O'Conner of Payson, Arizona epitomizes a life dedicated to serving others and defending our country.

John was born on June 11, 1919 in Bradford, Pennsylvania. He attended the University of Buffalo in Buffalo, New York. During this time, he met and married his wife of 54 years, Velma. After such a joyous and momentous occasion, his country called for him to serve as socialism spread throughout Europe.

Without hesitation, John answered his country's call, took his new bride to live with his mother and joined millions of the Greatest Generation to fight for the survival of mankind. The year of 1940 marked the beginning of John's five-year service in the European Theatre. He served in the artillery division of the United States Army Air Corps. By the grace of God, John survived the war and helped save the world from the rise of socialism.

After the war, he went on to author the first instruction manual for the nuclear submarine, the very same nuclear submarine invented by the "Father of the Nuclear Navy," Admiral Hyman Rickover. John and Velma went on to raise three wonderful children, John, Patricia and Kathleen. John moved to Payson in 1969.

When we look at John's life and what he has accomplished, it's clear to see why he is loved by so many. He and so many like him put their lives on hold and placed themselves

in a situation that none of us could possibly fathom. All of this, in defense of our country. We can never repay John's service to our country. May he have a blessed birthday and may many learn from his example of service and patriotism. Happy Birthday, John.

STRENGTHENING LOCAL TRANSPORTATION SECURITY CAPABILITIES ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 10, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2539, "Strengthening Local Transportation Security Capabilities Act of 2019."

H.R. 2539 requires DHS to prioritize the assignment of officers and intelligence analysts from TSA and DHS I&A to locations with participating State, local, and regional fusion centers in jurisdictions with a high-risk surface transportation asset.

The tragic events of 9/11 thrust the issue of physical security into public domain as never before and set in motion responses that have re-shaped transportation in unforeseen ways.

H.R. 2539 authorizes DHS to develop, through the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers, a training program to enhance the protection, preparedness, and response capabilities of law enforcement agencies with respect to terrorism and other serious incidents at surface transportation assets.

In addition, threats to health, such as the spread of pandemics, present significant challenges to transport planning and operations.

Railway stations and airports are some of the most densely populated sites anywhere.

From 2009, all the flights originating, bound to or flying over the United States had their list of passengers cross-referenced by a central no-fly list managed by the TSA.

Security involves many steps, from restricting access to airport facilities, fortifying cockpits, the setting of no-fly lists, to the more extensive security screening of passengers.

Screening now involves more rigorous inspections of passengers and their baggage at airports, including restrictions on what can be personally carried in airplanes such as gels and liquids.

Considering the emergence of global supply chains, the emphasis in freight transport security is gradually shifting into a more comprehensive but complex approach.

The large number of ports, the vast fleet of global shipping and the range of products carried in vessels, and the difficulty of detection has made the issue of security in shipping an extremely difficult one to address.

The less regulated and greater international dimensions of the shipping industry have made it vulnerable to security breaches.

We need appropriate security measures to protect the susceptibility of American lives against possible acts of violence and terrorism.

The growth in the use of information technologies and their associated networks have opened new forms of vulnerability as control and management systems can be remotely accessed.