

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE 2019 CONGRESSIONAL ART COMPETITION WINNER FROM TEXAS' 11TH DISTRICT

**HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2019

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2019 Congressional Art Competition winner from Texas' 11th District, Ms. Rylee Braden. Rylee's piece was chosen to be displayed in the tunnels under the U.S. Capitol, where Members of Congress, staff, and visitors from around the country can view and appreciate it for a full year.

Rylee is a very accomplished senior at Wall High School where she excels in academics, athletics, and art. Her drawing titled "Mamaw Molded Me" depicts the time-worn, loving hands of her grandmother that she drew using charcoal and colored pencils.

Rylee's Mamaw, Rosalie Sturm, told me that although she has always wanted to, she has never had the opportunity to visit Washington, D.C. Now through her granddaughter's rendering of her hands, a little piece of her will not only travel to Washington but will be displayed in the Capitol itself. I am proud to have the 11th District represented by a piece that speaks to the wisdom that is passed down through generations and the impact of a loving parent and grandparent.

Again, I congratulate Rylee on her achievement and look forward to seeing her art every day when I walk to and from the Capitol.

TRIBUTE TO THE GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF LOS ANGELES

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2019

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles upon its 40th Anniversary.

In July of 1979, the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles (GMCLA) was formed when ninety-nine men stepped up at the Plummer Park Community Center in West Hollywood, having seen posters announcing the formation and first rehearsal of a new gay chorus. Three months later, the chorus performed at the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, thus marking the beginning of their important legacy.

Throughout their forty-year history, GMCLA members have used their comradery and shared experiences to challenge stereotypes and enrich the community. At the height of the AIDS epidemic, the GMCLA family lost 150 members, but even that horrific tragedy did not stop their work and their commitment to celebrate and serve the LGBTQ community. The GMCLA has since become an essential

part of the fabric of Los Angeles, with members dedicating their time to advocating for equality through song and community service.

The GMCLA has stayed true to its core message of equality by transforming and nurturing the Los Angeles and LGBTQ communities through its initiatives, such as the Alive Music Project. The multi-faceted project, which has reached over 65,000 middle and high school students, promotes acceptance and anti-bullying, and provides opportunities for music education programs in Los Angeles schools. Additionally, the GMCLA is a proud member of The Arts for Incarcerated Youth Network which offers music education to juvenile detention center students. Through these initiatives, the GMCLA reaches countless youth.

Today, the GMCLA boasts over 300 members and has performed in iconic venues around the world, including Walt Disney Concert Hall, the Hollywood Bowl, and Carnegie Hall in New York. With each new venue, they sing for a world that promotes acceptance and is free from discrimination. The Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles will honor its anniversary and the 50th Anniversary of the Stonewall uprising in August, when they will be joined by the New York City Gay Men's Chorus for a historic concert and gala to benefit their music education programs.

I am proud to recognize the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles for four decades of musical entertainment and outstanding service to the LGBTQ and Los Angeles communities. I ask all members to join me in congratulating the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles for its remarkable achievements.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MAX ROSE**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2019

Mr. ROSE of New York. Madam Speaker, during Roll Call Vote number 341 on H.R. 2740, I mistakenly recorded my vote as No when I should have voted Yes.

CASE OF MR. MICHAEL NGUYEN

**HON. AL GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2019

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I stand here today in support of Michael Phuong Minh Nguyen—a proud American citizen, a loving husband to Helen Nguyen, and a doting father of four young daughters.

However, it saddens me deeply that Mr. Nguyen has been unjustly detained by the Vietnamese government for over eleven months now—nearly a year—which has caused immense suffering for his family and his entire community.

Mr. Nguyen was arrested on July 7, 2018 while visiting relatives in Vietnam, detained without official charges, and is only now finally to stand trial next week on June 24, 2019 in Ho Chi Minh City.

Mr. Nguyen has been an upstanding, model citizen of the United States for some 40 years and, to my knowledge, has no criminal record.

In fact, he is an entrepreneur and a small business owner.

He is also a man of faith and is actively involved in his local community church.

One of our most sacred duties as elected officials is to protect our citizens from harm—on both domestic and foreign soil—and indeed I have never given up on my constituents even after they have been deported or detained abroad.

This is why, since his detention last year, I have consistently urged, to both the United States and Vietnamese governments, swift action be taken to expeditiously return Mr. Michael Nguyen home.

I am tremendously grateful to my colleagues in both chambers and on both sides of the aisle for their tireless advocacy on behalf of Mr. Nguyen and his family.

Madam Speaker, I close by respectfully imploring the Vietnamese government to do the right thing—ensure a fair trial, a speedy resolution, and justice for Michael Nguyen.

MELISSA SANTA CRUZ  
APPRECIATION DAY

**HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2019

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Melissa Santa Cruz in honor of her day of appreciation as enacted by the City of South Tucson, Arizona. A pillar of the local airwaves, Ms. Santa Cruz has accomplished just as much in her community as she has on the radio. Her driving passion both in her work and activism has endeared her to all of her many listeners.

With over 30 years as an on-air personality, Santa Cruz began her career in the town of Globe, Arizona, on the country music station KQSS 98.3 FM. She eventually moved back to the Tucson area, being a featured personality across many broadcast stations, and bringing music of all genres to the listeners of Southern Arizona. In her current role, Santa Cruz now serves as Program Director for Tejano 1600AM, while continuing on as a country and adult contemporary radio DJ on 97.1 The Bull and My 92.9, respectively.

A daughter of former South Tucson Councilman Reynaldo Santa Cruz, Melissa has always known the value of community. As a young girl, Santa Cruz saw both her father as well as her mother Lydia volunteer as members of Santa Cruz Church Parish, and has continued their work into her professional life. Santa Cruz has made it a point to keep her

● 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.

community up to date on local benefits and functions, making a point to highlight families and non-profit organizations in need. She not only talks the talk, but walks the walk, and has emceed events for various Latinx organizations such as Chicanos Por La Causa, LULAC, and the League of Mexican American Women.

Melissa Santa Cruz has truly indebted herself to the City of South Tucson and to Southern Arizona as a whole. She truly serves as an inspiration to our community, broadcasting the music of the Borderlands across Tejano 1600AM while also being proactive on issues of importance to all Southern Arizonans. I am proud to stand here on the floor today on Melissa Santa Cruz Appreciation Day, in recognition of Melissa Santa Cruz as one of our community's most valuable citizens.

**RECOGNITION OF THE MARCHING COBRAS FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY**

**HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2019

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the Marching Cobras. It is my distinct honor to congratulate this prestigious drill team on fifty years of success. Throughout my public life, I have been pleased to see this organization grow in number and recognition.

In a time when Kansas City was experiencing a lull in our rich and vibrant music scene, the Marching Cobras provided vitality and energy by enthusiastically marching in the style of Mr. Willie Arthur Smith. They played a pivotal role in maintaining our city's reputation as a musical and cultural hub. It is my great pleasure to recognize the Marching Cobras' students and leaders, past, present, and future. Their dedication has made this organization what it is today. The Marching Cobras reflect the vibrant community they represent and add bright colors to the rich historical fabric of Kansas City.

Concerned with the lack of productive activities available to students, Mr. Willie Arthur Smith saw an opportunity to provide his community with the means to both keep students off the streets and share his passion for marching. While teaching at Lincoln Junior High, Smith taught a group of his students a dance called the Madison Line for an all-student talent show. This simple act marked the birth of the Marching Cobras. Since 1969, the Marching Cobras have risen to a place of international recognition and continue their legacy of excellence. They have won national competitions and performed in events like the American Royal and the Cotton Bowl. They have even played prestigious venues from Nice, France to the White House.

With every performance, the Marching Cobras act as ambassadors of Kansas City and represent our city with pride. The dedication of the students and leaders shows a devotion to constant, beneficial improvement. It is this demonstration of excellence that engenders a desire for progress in every community that the Marching Cobras touch. I look forward to seeing the Marching Cobras' legacy continue to grow. They provide students with a means for accomplishment and gaining valuable

skills. If it were not for people like Willie Arthur Smith and other Marching Cobras leaders, hundreds of students would not have the ability to participate in this vibrant and meaningful experience.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the Marching Cobras' fiftieth anniversary of bringing music, pride, and recognition to the community. On behalf of myself and the entire Fifth Congressional District of Missouri, it is my joy to congratulate the Marching Cobras on this significant milestone and wish them even greater success in the years to come.

**CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF JEANNETTE FRANK AT THE ARC OF SCHUYLER**

**HON. TOM REED**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2019

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the service of Jeannette Frank to The Arc of Schuyler and congratulate her on her retirement.

Jeannette Frank has dedicated her career to The Arc of Schuyler, beginning nearly forty years ago as an Outreach Worker. Jeannette joined The Arc shortly after its formation in 1978, and has dedicated her career to aid families and their loved ones with disabilities. Her commitment to those supported by The Arc of Schuyler and their families has been an inspiration, both to her team at The Arc and the community as a whole.

For the last eight years, Jeannette has served as the Executive Director of The Arc of Schuyler. Her dedication and hard work have ensured the high quality of services that The Arc provides to people with disabilities. She has not only advanced community-based services such as the Schuyler County Transit and Transportation Link-Line, but also social enterprises operated by The Arc such as Franklin Street Gallery and Gift Shop and Glen Copack.

As Jeannette moves forward with the next chapter of her life, we applaud her tireless efforts to improve the quality of life for people in Schuyler County and we wish her all the best in her retirement.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to celebrate Jeannette Frank and her extraordinary career.

**RECOGNIZING JUNE AS ALZHEIMER & BRAIN AWARENESS MONTH**

**HON. JOHN KATKO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2019

Mr. KATKO. Madam Speaker, June is Alzheimer's & Brain Awareness Month and I rise today to share with this chamber the impact Alzheimer's Disease has had on my family. Today, 5.8 million Americans live with brain disease. I have witnessed firsthand the burdens of these illnesses because my father, Andrew Katko, lived with Alzheimer's for nearly a decade before passing away a few months ago.

My family was faced with the difficult decision on how to care for our father during this time in his life. This is not uncommon among families after a brain disease diagnosis.

Often, family and friends are primary caretakers for those suffering with Alzheimer's and dementia. My mother, Mary Lou, served as my father's primary caregiver, joining the 16 million Americans who provide unpaid care. This year, unpaid caregivers will provide 18.5 billion hours of care valued at \$234 billion.

The BOLD Infrastructure for Alzheimer's Act was signed into law last Congress and is now being implemented. This legislation authorizes the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to research prevention methods for dementias, establish local treatment facilities, and provide better resources to caregivers. I am committed to passing additional policies that improve the lives of those living with dementias.

**HONORING TUCSON'S NATIONAL HISTORY DAY WINNERS**

**HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2019

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Tucson, Arizona's four students who won first place at the National Endowment for the Humanities' National History Day contest. The young history buffs, Sean Choudhry, Elias Rice-Bensch, Zia Rice-Bensch, and Keona Wallen all attend the Accelerated Learning Laboratory in my district. Their website Radium Girls: From Jaw-Dropping Tragedy to Glowing Triumph earned the top prize in the contest that featured more than 3,000 students from across the country.

National History Day began in the 1970s and is the culmination of a yearlong academic program for students in grades 6 through 12 to engage in historical research. Students produce essays, exhibitions, films, performances, or websites to enter into local and state competitions. State winners move on to compete in the national finals at the University of Maryland at College Park. The National Endowment for the Humanities has been a sponsor and partner of National History Day for more than 30 years.

The theme for this year's competition was "Triumph and Tragedy in History" and more than a half million students submitted entries. On their website, Sean, Elias, Zia, and Keona state, "The radium girls were young factory workers who unknowingly consumed lethal amounts of radium, often resulting in slow, painful deaths. Despite their tragic circumstances, their desire for change and persistence in court caused revolutionary change to workplace safety regulations and sparked monumental scientific advancements regarding radium and radioactivity."

The students go on to document how radium was commonly used and recommended. At the focus of their website is the story of the women who, at the start of the 20th century, were exposed to high levels of radium in their work as they painted watch dials. Such exposure proved quickly fatal and resulted in physical deformities and cancer. The legal battles that followed were tumultuous and provided minor relief for the women who had been exposed to radium. Their legacy, however, lives