

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

REMEMBERING WORLD WAR II VETERAN, VAUDEVILLIAN MUSICIAN AND FULLERTON RESIDENT, CHARLES PAUL PECORARO

HON. GILBERT RAY CISNEROS, JR.

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2019

Mr. CISNEROS. Madam Speaker, it is with immense sadness and great humility that I rise to mark the passing of another member of America's greatest generation. Charles Paul Pecoraro was an entertainer, a businessman, a veteran of the Second World War, a stalwart member of the veteran's community in Southern California, and most of all, a beloved family man who passed away at the age of 100 on July 2, 2019.

Charles Pecoraro was born in the living room of his parents' small Manhattan apartment on November 29, 1918. It was the height of the First World War but also the age of ragtime, when New York City had more horses than cars. Charles' life spanned and exceeded what we now refer to as the American Century.

Music was his family's business and his greatest passion. By the age of seven he was accompanying his father, a classically trained Sicilian mandolin player. Before he turned twenty he was a veteran of the Vaudeville circuit, having toured up and down the East Coast playing jazz guitar and earning his chops in concert halls, speakeasies, dance clubs, and Broadway orchestra pits.

When America entered the Second World War, Charles didn't hesitate. He joined the Coast Guard and served aboard the *Admiral H.T. Mayo* (AP-125). Charles sailed on the ship's shakedown cruise, then transiting the Panama Canal, helped ferry troops during two trips across the Atlantic. Transiting the Panama Canal again, Charles continued his service in the Pacific where he and his shipmates transported more troops to the Okinawa campaign.

Evading U-Boats in the Atlantic and outrunning Japanese submarines and aircraft in the Pacific, Charles attained the rank of Petty Officer 1st Class. He would ultimately return to his music career, before beginning what his family refers to as his third act. Charles met the love of his life Lucy, his wife of 53 years. He, Lucy, and their only son "Charlie" Charles Pecoraro, Jr. moved to Fullerton, California in the 1970s so that Charles could join his brother Steve. Together, they opened Angelo's & Vinci's, a neighborhood institution that still stands and continues to thrive only blocks from my office. Its success is carried on by the spirit of the two Sicilian-American brothers who founded it.

Like many men of his generation, Charles was modest to the extreme. A deeply devoted religious and family man, he spoke little of his wartime service. Only after his son was grown did Charles' neighbors in Fullerton convince

him to share his story with others. He joined Fullerton's American Legion Post 142, where he became a quiet example of service to others and a fixture at events. In fact, one of those events was Fullerton's Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony where I had the honor to shake his hand.

Madam Speaker, at this time, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Charles Paul Pecoraro for his dedication to God, country, the arts and most of all his surviving family members, wife Lucy and son Charles. We are blessed to have had this man for a century and to have his memory continue to inspire us.

TRIBUTE HONORING MEGAN POSER

HON. MAX ROSE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2019

Mr. ROSE of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my distinguished colleagues to join me in honoring my constituent Megan Poser for her efforts to dispel the stigma of addiction and to congratulate her on receiving the Girl Scout Gold Award.

No community has been hit harder by the opioid epidemic than Staten Island. And at just 17 years-old, Megan decided that she wasn't going to just sit around and wait for others to do something about it. She decided she'd take it upon herself to change the perception and the stigma surrounding this crisis. Beyond her research of the drug epidemic on Staten Island, she took the initiative to become trained in the use of naloxone, a drug that has saved countless lives in our borough.

She also surveyed young people in our community about the dangers of this crisis, because she recognizes that the first step in overcoming the opioid epidemic is addressing the perception of the issue. She built on her findings to create a presentation that she then used to educate her fellow young Staten Islanders about the nature of the drug epidemic. She became certified in Mental Health First Aid which gives people the tools to help someone experiencing a mental health or substance use-related crisis.

The Girl Scouts have already recognized Megan's hard work and dedication to the Staten Island community by presenting her with its Gold Award, and it is my honor to do the same here in the Halls of Congress. She has successfully set herself up on a foundation of service to her community that is already having an impact on Staten Island, and I am confident that she will continue to build on these accomplishments to make the world a better place.

So, Madam Speaker, today I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Megan for her selfless and compassionate service to the Staten Island community. Megan's commitment to ex-

tend this project beyond receiving the Girl Scout Gold Award shows a continued love for learning and educating her peers. Ms. Poser is already an inspiring leader and I look forward to seeing her other projects unfold.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. JADA RUSSELL

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2019

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of my dear friend, Mrs. Jada Russell, who passed away on July 2, 2019, after her battle with breast cancer. Jada was a beloved and admired woman whose light lit up any room she was in. She was a brilliant professional known for her gift of marketing and public relations work.

More importantly, Madam Speaker, Jada was a woman full of compassion known for her drive to give back to our hometown of Chicago, Illinois and who used her talents to amplify the voices of those who have too-often been left out of the conversation.

A ballet dancer in her youth, Jada was known in her community as a strong leader who was consistently willing to provide guidance and support to her many friends and colleagues. After graduating from the Fashion Institute of Technology, Jada began her career at Guess Jeans, going on to work for Condé Nast, and as a publicist for Johnson Publishing Company. As the founder of High Style Marketing, Jada's talents attracted the attention of such prominent figures as Dwayne Wade, Common, Rhymefest, and Reverend Jesse Jackson. Madam Speaker, I also had the distinct privilege of working with Jada and benefitted immensely from her passion and expertise.

Though the world lost Jada too soon, we take comfort in knowing that her memory lives on in those who continue to love her: her devoted husband, Julius Russell, her sister, Sybil Goodlett Smith, her father, Bill Goodlett, and the countless lives she touched through her good works.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of my wife, Paulette, my staff, and all those I serve in the 1st Congressional District of Illinois, I extend my heartfelt sympathies and prayers to Jada's friends and family as I mourn this deep loss with them.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE TERRIBLE CONDITIONS WITNESSED AT DETENTION FACILITIES BY REPRESENTATIVES OF IMMIGRANT FAMILIES TOGETHER

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2019

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to express concern

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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.

about the horrendous treatment of immigrants at detention facilities. A community-based organization in my district, Immigrant Families Together (IFT), has been helping immigrant families settle in the United States. They have provided legal aid, food, shelter, clothing, household goods and other assistance. In the course of their work, they have collected some horrific stories from the people they have helped.

The stories range from inadequate medical treatment to sexual abuse to refusal to provide food, water and blankets. There are reports of adults and children being denied necessary medication, including a girl who suffered seizures who was put on a bus without her medication. Women at a facility in Elloy, Arizona were reportedly given one meal a day and ten minutes to eat. There are also reports that women at this facility were denied water for 3 days. Women at this facility also claim that their laundry was done in unsanitary conditions that allowed lice to infest their clothing.

One four-year-old boy was held in Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) custody in Dallas, Texas for roughly two months during the summer and fall of 2018. On his way to the U.S. border he had broken a femur and dislocated a hip. Although the boy was clearly injured and ICE took him to the hospital for examination, ICE refused to pay for his surgery. Reportedly, ICE simply gave him Tylenol for two months until he was released. Following his release, IFT paid for his surgery.

In Texas, a mother and her one-year-old infant were held first in the 'icebox' for two days and later in the 'Dog Pound' for four days. The mother and child were given one aluminum blanket for the two of them. When the mother asked for a second blanket, an ICE officer screamed at her. The infant became very sick on their third day in the 'Dog Pound,' with vomiting, diarrhea and dehydration. An ICE doctor examined the child. Rather than prescribing treatment, he recommended release. IFT believes that they were released so that the baby's condition would not be ICE's responsibility. The mother and child were put on a bus for New York City, but the baby nearly died in New Jersey and was taken to an emergency room where he was given fluids that enabled him to survive.

A pregnant teenager was released from Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) custody in California one week before giving birth. After she gave birth, it was discovered that she had a urinary tract infection that was so severe that she had a kidney infection.

One father related that his six-year-old daughter was sexually assaulted by a boy at an ORR facility in Casa Glendale, Arizona. She reportedly was told it was her responsibility to stay away from him and was told to sign a document asserting that she understood her obligation. A couple of weeks later, the same boy assaulted her again and hit her.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in condemning a system that treats immigrants with such brutality and lack of compassion.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOSH HARDY

HON. ELAINE G. LURIA

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2019

Mrs. LURIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the late Josh Hardy, who was senselessly murdered in the Virginia Beach Municipal Center shooting. Virginia Beach lost Josh far too soon.

Josh worked as an engineering technician for the Department of Public Works for the City of Virginia Beach for over four years. Josh was a fun coworker, was never too stressed to crack a joke, and always wore a smile. Loved ones described Josh as a father figure and as a kind-hearted man. He was dedicated to his faith and shared it with others. Josh's life of hard work and service to the community, as well as his kind heart, will forever be remembered.

Josh will be missed by all his loved ones. Hampton Roads significantly benefited from his presence; he made our community a better place. Today we remember and honor his life.

RECOGNIZING MEMPHIS MATH TEACHER BERNELL JONES

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2019

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Bernell Jones, a seventh grade mathematics teacher at the White Station Middle School in Memphis for the last 16 years, who was recently nationally recognized as an inspiring educator.

Before he became a math teacher, Mr. Jones was a computer specialist in the Marines, which explains his effectiveness in keeping discipline in his classroom. "Classroom management from a military perspective is fairly easy," Mr. Jones told The Commercial Appeal newspaper. "You're just so used to telling people what to do. These are young kids, and at school they will do the right thing."

Mr. Jones earned a master's degree in teaching at Christian Brothers University he began teaching at White Station Middle School. An innovator in the classroom, he said he seeks to make mathematics fun with "pi" days and a waffle festival. He has changed the minds of many students who didn't initially like math—one became a math teacher herself.

Mr. Jones is an inspiration to his students and to our whole community, and I congratulate him for this recognition.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RECOVER ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the Reducing the Effects of the

Cyberattack on OPM Victims Emergency Response Act of 2019 (the RECOVER Act), which would require the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) to make permanent the free identity protection coverage that Congress required OPM to provide for 10 years to individuals whose Social Security Numbers were potentially compromised during the OPM data breaches. In 2015, OPM reported that the personally identifiable information of as many as 25.7 million current, former and prospective federal employees and contractors was stolen in two data breaches. I appreciate that Representative C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER is co-leading on this bill.

After OPM announced that it would offer identity protection coverage of limited duration and value, Senator BEN CARDIN and I introduced the RECOVER Act in July 2015, which would have provided affected individuals lifetime protection and at least \$5 million in identity theft insurance. Congress subsequently included a version of our bill in an enacted appropriations bill, but limited the duration of the protection. Under current law, OPM is only required to provide identity protection coverage through fiscal year 2026. Under the bill we are introducing today, OPM would be required to provide coverage for the remainder of the lives of affected individuals.

The current coverage is inadequate, particularly considering that there is no limit to when the thieves (or those they have shared the stolen data with) may exploit the data. Therefore, there should be no limit on the duration of the coverage provided to affected individuals. This bill would give current, former and prospective federal employees and contractors who were affected both some peace of mind and protection. OPM failed to protect these people. It follows that the government must do the right thing to make up for its mistake.

I urge my colleagues to support this important bill.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 85TH BIRTHDAY OF MR. PAUL ROJAS

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2019

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise today to celebrate the 85th birthday of the Honorable Paul Rojas and to recognize his numerous contributions to Missouri's Fifth Congressional District. Mr. Rojas' life has been dedicated to the betterment of those around him and it is an honor to have the opportunity to recognize his service.

Paul Rojas was born in 1935 in the Westside Neighborhood of Kansas City, Missouri. Mr. Rojas is the youngest of six boys and a son of immigrant parents. Growing up, he and his family frequented Guadalupe Centers and relied on their services after the death of his mother. Their kindness and generosity showed Mr. Rojas the effect that a community organization such as Guadalupe Centers can have on a person's life. Community organizations provide not only tangible assistance, but they also teach the importance of helping one's neighbor.

After attending Guadalupe Grade School, he attended De La Salle High School. He worked in the fields, as a busboy, on the railroads, in