

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE ORLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT ON TWO MILESTONES

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 19, 2019

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Orland Fire Protection District as it celebrates 125 years of fighting fires and 50 years as an organized fire district. I am privileged to recognize the Orland Fire Protection District on this occasion.

The Orland Fire Protection District traces its roots back to 1894, the year sewn onto the flag of the early Volunteer Fire Department. With 14 original members, the department operated a four man, hand-pulled pumping engine and a hose cart out of a wood-framed building on Beacon Avenue that doubled as the village hall.

In 1914, Peter J. Pitts was named Fire Marshal, taking charge of the 25-member volunteer fire department and its \$100 annual budget. The Orland Fire Department would serve the community for 75 years in total until voters approved a referendum creating the Orland Fire Protection District in 1969. Fire Chief Arthur Granat Sr., who joined the ranks as a volunteer in 1946 and was elected Fire Chief in 1957, was essential in overseeing this transition. In honor of Chief Granat's service to the community, the Orland Fire Protection District Training Facility was named in his honor.

While the Orland Fire Protection District traces its 125-year history to humble beginnings, it now operates a model, contemporary service for the community and its residents. Appointed in 1988, Fire Chief/Administrator Robert M. Buhs played a large role in the Fire Protection District's modernization. Today, Fire Chief Michael Schofield provides excellent leadership and has established the Orland Fire Protection District as a regional leader in fire safety and training. The Fire Protection District also deserves recognition for its significant community engagement work on opioids and other issues.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the rich history of service that the Orland Fire Protection District has provided. May the selfless dedication to community of all the employees of the OFPD serve as an example to us all.

HONORING GLENN GILLESPIE FOR HIS 20 YEARS OF SERVICE ORGANIZING THE CLINTON COUNTY FAIR ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 19, 2019

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Glenn Gillespie for his 20 years of service organizing the Clinton County Fair. After 20 years and on the 71st anniversary, this year marks the last time Glenn will be heading the event after recently announcing his retirement.

The Clinton County Fair has been a mainstay of the community since 1948 with generations of North Country residents attending the fair each year. Whether it be the rides, the music, or the animals, the fair has something for everybody and has been a celebration that has bonded our communities for generations.

Thanks to Glenn's vision and passion, the fair has grown in attendance every year and expanded the list of attractions. During his tenure, Glenn introduced the Plattsburgh Bluegrass Festival to the fairgrounds and brought in booster clubs from local schools. Glenn's accomplishments extend statewide having served as a representative to the state convention of fairs during his tenure and serving as-president of all state fairs in 2008. In 2016, Glenn's contributions were recognized when the New York State Agricultural Fair Association named a stage on the fairground in his honor.

Glenn Gillespie has left a permanent mark on the Clinton County Fair and the North Country at large. His accomplishments have

strengthened our community and brought joy to countless North Country residents. On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I want to thank Glenn and wish him and his family the best as they move into this new chapter in their lives.

HONORING NELSON MANDELA

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 19, 2019

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who absolutely put his life and freedom on the line for a cause greater than himself: South African President Nelson Mandela.

Nelson Mandela was a transformative leader who was imprisoned for 27 years, but rose to become the first black President of South Africa. He used his tenure to dismantle apartheid, combat institutional racism, and heal his nation.

Nelson Mandela's courageous leadership inspired my own involvement in the anti-apartheid movement in the United States, where I was a national leader of the Free South Africa Movement and TransAfrica, and fought for the passage of my bill, Assembly Bill 134, which forced California to divest \$ 12 billion in state pension funds tied to South Africa's apartheid regime.

Nelson Mandela will always be a personal hero and a dear friend to me. I cherish the opportunities that I had to visit him in South Africa, and host him in the United States: first, as the chair of a Welcome Home Celebration that filled the Los Angeles Coliseum, and again at a Congressional ceremony that I hosted in his honor in the U.S. Capitol.

Today, on what would have been his 101st birthday, let us all remember the powerful lesson of courage, sacrifice, and service that is the legacy of our beloved "Mandiba."

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