

one. Throughout her career, her piercing optimism and resilience cut through obstacles of discrimination and discouragement, clearing a path to where she now stands as one of our country's wealthiest self-made African-American women.

Hughes, who became a mother at the age of 16, has recalled taking her son to classes and, later on in her career, having him sleep in a sleeping bag in her office when she had to work late. Growing up among a family of entrepreneurs, as Hughes did, she was no stranger to hard work, business jargon and long hours. Her father was the first African-American to earn an accounting degree from Creighton University. Her mother played trombone.

In 1971, Hughes came to the District of Columbia to work at Howard University's School of Communications, and she went on to become a General Sales Manager for the University's radio station, WHUR-FM. On her arrival in the District, Hughes wrote to her mother, "My eyes were tired at the end of the day, staring at the greatness of Black people doing so many things."

In the late 1970s, Hughes started her own radio station, once known as Radio One, now Urban One. During her career she endured racism and sexism, but these were no match for her electric optimism. After seven years, the radio station became profitable and continued to grow. In 1999, at the recommendation of her son, who had received his MBA at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, Cathy Hughes became the first African-American woman to chair a publicly held corporation, following the sale of more than seven million shares of common stock to the public.

She has received numerous awards, including being selected for the National Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame in 2019, the Woman of the Year Award by 100 Black Men of America in 2018, the Ida B. Wells Living Legacy Award in 2011 and the Essence Women Shaping the World Award in 2008. She was inducted into the Radio Hall of Fame in 2010, and the Cathy Hughes School of Communications at Howard University was named for her in 2016.

I relish this opportunity to recognize and honor the work of Cathy Hughes. Her resilience, optimism and determination are true guiding lights through these difficult times. She has mentored countless women and her entrepreneurial energy has touched many, both in D.C. and across the nation.

I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the accomplishments of Cathy Hughes on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of Urban One.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION COMMISSIONED OFFICER CORPS AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2020

SPEECH OF

HON. JENNIFFER GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2020

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. 2981, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration Commissioned Officer Corps Amendments Act of 2020. I was also proud to cosponsor the House companion to this bill—H.R. 2406—introduced by my colleagues, Representatives ED CASE of Hawaii, DON YOUNG of Alaska, and JARED HUFFMAN of California.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps (NOAA Corps) operates the agency's highly specialized international fleet of research and survey ships and aircraft. They conduct oceanographic and atmospheric research and include the Hurricane Hunter aviators, who provide the National Weather Service with the necessary data for their storm forecasts and warnings.

In Puerto Rico, we know how important this work is. For instance, before Hurricane Maria even departed our waters in September 2017, the NOAA Corps-led *NOAA Ship Thomas Jefferson* became the first federal vessel on scene in relief efforts. Over the next 20 days, that ship and crew worked uninterrupted, around-the-clock shifts throughout Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, eventually clearing eighteen individual port facilities in thirteen areas. Seven of them were in Puerto Rico alone.

That is why I support passage of S. 2981, which would give NOAA Corps the authorities it needs to continue as an effective service for our nation. The bill would provide its officers employment rights in line with other uniformed services, authorizes education loan repayment programs for NOAA Corps officers and tuition support for prospective officers, and gives NOAA updated authorities to manage the size and composition of the Corps, among other provisions.

I look forward to continuing supporting the men and women of the NOAA Corps.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RONNIE S. WILLIAMS

HON. GEORGE HOLDING

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Mr. HOLDING. Madam Speaker, I rise today to take pause and reflect on the life of Ronnie S. Williams.

Madam Speaker, Ronnie Williams was especially proud of his service to his country. He graduated from Garner High School in 1966, attended Wake Community College then served in U.S. Army. He was deployed to Vietnam from 1969 to 1970. Williams was a member of American Legion Post 232 and Garner VFW Post 10225.

In addition to his military service, Williams was a former first responder. He was a volunteer both in the Garner Volunteer Fire Department and in Garner EMS, serving as chief of the latter from 1980 to 1983.

Madam Speaker, Ronnie Williams served on the Board of Aldermen for Garner, North Carolina for 20 years before being elected Mayor of Garner, and serving in that role between 2005 until December of last year.

Under Ronnie's nearly three decades of public service, Garner, North Carolina prospered now includes over 30,000 residents outside of Raleigh. He also assumed roles of regional and statewide leadership during his ten-

ure as mayor. He served as chair of the Wake County Mayors Association from 2007 to 2009 and was selected to be an at-large member of the N.C. League of Municipalities' Board of Directors

Sadly, former Garner Mayor Ronnie S. Williams passed away on Saturday, September 12, 2020 at the age of 72.

His legacy as a devoted and dedicated public servant will be missed by all of those who knew him.

IN HONOR OF LAURA DAVIS

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Laura Davis upon her retirement from the San Bruno City Council after three years of service. Serving on the council of a small city is never easy, but doing so during a global pandemic not seen in a century is almost unimaginable. Yet, Laura and her colleagues used and created tools and mechanisms that made San Bruno residents as safe and supported as possible. Laura's hard work and dedication are a testament to her commitment to her community.

While on the council, Laura served on the Utilities Committee, the Traffic Safety & Parking Commission, the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee, the Airport Land Use Committee, the Bay Area Water Supply & Conservation Agency and the Peninsula Traffic Congestion Relief Alliance. These complex issues require a lot of knowledge, research and consideration and Laura always took the time to do her homework. In her day job, Laura is the Customer Relations Manager at California Water Service company where she has worked for 20 years. She brought extensive expertise on water issues to the council.

Laura also served on the Recreation and Aquatics Center Advisory Committee which is tasked with supporting the construction of a new Recreation and Aquatics Center in San Bruno City Park. This project will be a tangible symbol of the community spirit of San Bruno residents. After the fatal and devastating explosion of a Pacific Gas & Electric Company gas pipeline in 2010, the community voted on how to best spend a restitution settlement with PG&E of \$70 million. It was agreed that all residents of San Bruno should benefit from the settlement and a new pool was voted the highest priority. It is that spirit of resilience and solidarity that defines San Bruno's character.

Laura also isn't a newcomer to public service. Prior to the council, she served on the San Bruno Crime Prevention Committee and on the Parks & Recreation Commission. She served on the committee that planned the spectacular Centennial celebration of San Bruno in 2014, three years before being elected to the council. An avid outdoors and sports enthusiast, she has coached numerous softball, basketball and soccer teams in San Bruno. She founded "Friends Helping Friends" through St. Robert's Parish and raised \$100,000 to help those in need of medical treatment with their expenses. After Laura survived her own battle with cancer, she served as a committee member of a Relay for Life fundraiser and she organized a community

Superhero Day for two boys fighting cancer. It is obvious from these activities that Laura Davis deeply cares about others and has a profound desire to improve their lives. St. Robert's Church named her Woman of the Year.

Laura was born in San Francisco but raised in San Bruno. She worked in the family business, Roma Delicatessen, which she credits with teaching her the importance of hard work, community and giving back. Laura graduated from Capuchino High School and then attended the College of San Mateo and San Francisco State University. Before working for Cal Water, she was the General Manager for Palace Press International for 10 years. Laura has been married to her husband Jim Davis for 29 years. They have two children, Ryan and Sarah.

Madam Speaker please join me in honoring Laura Davis for her service to San Bruno residents. We are very fortunate to have such a talented and caring woman as a community leader who will undoubtedly stay active and engaged.

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF
RADIO

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Mr. EMMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the very first commercial radio broadcast. From delivering lifesaving information during emergencies to playing the music, sports, and news that keep us connected, our communities rely on broadcast radio.

As co-chair of the Congressional Broadcasters Caucus and a former radio show host, I know firsthand the power of local radio to connect, inform, and inspire all of us.

The same wireless technology that brought us the results of the Harding-Cox presidential election in 1920 continues to keep us informed with critical information about the current outbreak, weather emergencies, and local news today.

This outbreak has impacted all Americans in one way or another, and local radio stations continue to provide listeners with a valuable connection. Broadcasters are also leading the charge to collect donations for relief funds which support Americans in their time of need.

I want to thank the thousands of local radio stations across the nation providing this invaluable service. I thank them for their dedication to radio, which will keep this critical information service available to all Americans for the next 100 years.

HONORING COUNCILMAN PETER
MURRAY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Councilman Peter Murray, and to celebrate his 31 years of public service to the City of Pinole.

Councilman Murray's dedication to his community is lifelong and enduring. His service to the City of Pinole began in 1989 when he joined the Pinole Planning Commission. In 1992, he was elected to the Pinole City Council, and went on to serve for seven terms, including as Mayor of Pinole for seven separate years.

During his 28 years on the City Council, Councilman Murray has earned the respect and appreciation of the public, and has consistently focused on bettering his community. His economic leadership was instrumental in bringing new businesses to the area, such as by revitalizing the Pinole Valley Shopping Center. Councilman Murray has also worked hard to improve public safety through growing Pinole's Neighborhood Watch program and pursuing community-oriented policing practices. He played an important role in upgrading the Pinole-Hercules Water Pollution Control Plant, which will continue to protect our natural resources for decades to come.

Councilman Murray's leadership in his community goes beyond his duties as a City

Councilman. Since 1997, he has coached local Little League and Youth Soccer teams and inspired countless young people with his integrity and dedication. He has also coordinated the Annual Pinole Coastal Cleanup for many years, protecting our coastlines from pollution.

Madam Speaker, Councilman Peter Murray is an outstanding public servant who has dedicated his life to serving his community. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

CORONAVIRUS AID

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call for the immediate passage of coronavirus relief for the American people. Members of Congress must not return home to their districts before a coronavirus package has been agreed upon and passed.

The House passed the Heroes Act in the Spring, over six months ago, extending additional relief to American families struggling to put food on the table, pay their rent, keep their businesses afloat, and pay their student loans.

The do nothing Republicans in the Senate have not only refused to vote on the Heroes Act, but they have refused to even put up a viable alternative that their members can accept. It's shameful the Republican Majority in the Senate would rather confirm President Trump's lame-duck political appointees and judges than offer even a modest measure of coronavirus support to American workers and struggling families. Meanwhile, President Trump has provided zero leadership.

Madam Speaker, the coronavirus is infecting more people now than at any other time in the last year. We stand on the face of a precipice that will leave tens of thousands more Americans dead. We must pass coronavirus aid before the end of this week.