

people moving—especially frontline workers who keep our country moving despite the raging pandemic.

Rebuilding a stronger, sustainable economy will require robust, reliable, and frequent transit and we must fund transit equitably like the vital public good and toll for economic empowerment that it is.

HONORING PENNY BISIGNANO AS IOWAN OF THE WEEK

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2020

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, October was National Bullying Prevention Month. As such, I rise today to ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Penny Bisignano for her efforts in bullying prevention in our schools. She has played a key role in supporting anti-bullying training and programming for teachers, parents, and students in Iowa. In fact, our Senate colleagues may remember Penny's 2012 testimony on the issue of bullying.

In 2018 alone, there were more than 835,000 reported incidents of bullying among students ages 12 through 18. As a parent, these numbers are deeply concerning. While the act of bullying is nothing new, the rise of on line communication, social media, and smart phones has provided new and highly accessible environments for aggressions to occur. As a result, bullying has become more subversive and difficult to recognize. Thankfully, we have people like Penny who have coached teachers, students, and parents on what to look for and how these incidents can be prevented.

While working with school counselors, Penny began to see concerning trends in the way children were treating each other. She realized she wanted to help people better understand the seriousness of bullying and how difficult it can be for children to talk about. In 2004, she decided it was time to act and set her sights on championing bullying prevention statewide.

For years, Penny ran the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program in Iowa. The Olweus Program has a comprehensive approach to creating a positive and safe environment in schools. The program's goal is to not only reduce the number of bullying incidents in schools, but also improve relations between students. By addressing antisocial behaviors, this programming has been found to reduce bullying among students as well as truancy and vandalism. Iowa is fortunate to have not only quality programming available, but also so many dedicated organizations working to keep all children safe.

A longtime education consultant, Penny has participated in the Iowa Safe and Supportive Schools Grants Team, focusing on prevention and intervention. She's provided training and networking statewide and facilitated various projects for the improvement of schools and teachers' roles in bullying prevention. Penny also expanded her expertise beyond Iowa by dedicating five years to the Board of Directors for the International Bullying Prevention Association. She eventually founded her own small business, Bisignano Consulting and Coaching,

to work on several projects including a study observing possible links between bullying and chronic health conditions.

Penny remains passionate about bullying prevention. In fact, she's come out of retirement three times to continue her work. That speaks volumes about Penny's character and rings true for so many Iowans: if there's a job to do, they won't rest until it's done well. She's now enjoying her fourth (and hopefully final) retirement while still offering expertise whenever asked. Penny hopes her fellow Iowans continue having conversations about bullying so children and adults alike can learn how to better care for one another, and I couldn't agree more. It is my honor to recognize Penny Bisignano as our Iowan of the Week.

CELEBRATING A.G. HEINS COMPANY 100 YEARS OF SUCCESS

HON. TIM BURCHETT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2020

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, American entrepreneurial spirit is the bedrock of our nation's economy, creating good-paying jobs, solving everyday problems and providing the goods and services we rely on. I rise today to celebrate one of East Tennessee's own, the A.G. Heins Company, which rode that entrepreneurial spirit from humble beginnings to 100 years of success.

Currently in its fourth generation of family ownership, the A.G. Heins Company has long provided building materials to the East Tennessee region. The company provides necessary resources to complete projects of all sizes, from individual household repairs to construction at the University of Tennessee.

Staying in business for 100 years is no easy accomplishment, and the A.G. Heins Company persevered through many challenging economic times, such as the Great Depression and the Second World War. The company's history is a reminder that small businesses can grow and innovate even in the face of adversity.

I would like to extend my congratulations to the Heins family as they celebrate their 100th year in business this month, and I wish them many more years of success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2020

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 239, H.R. 8354—Servicemembers and Veterans Initiative Act.

REMEMBERING ANNABELLE BEAUCHAMP

HON. JOE CUNNINGHAM

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2020

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Madam Speaker, I arise today to honor the short life of Annabelle Kristine Beauchamp of Bellevue, Kentucky.

Annabelle was only three years of age when she left us on December 2, 2020. But in that short time on earth, she inspired a multitude of people with her great inner strength, determination, and fearless zest for life. She bedazzled the world as to how anyone so frail could be so powerful.

Born with Downs Syndrome and a badly damaged heart she endured against all odds. Annabelle fought her way through numerous surgeries, and frequent and prolonged stays in the hospital. In the end, it still took a monstrous and murderous worldwide pandemic to vanquish her. With her death-grappling struggle she easily won all of us to her side. As Virgil wrote, "those things doomed to die, touch the heart."

Against the torrent of hardships which beset her from the very beginning, sweet Annabelle gallantly soldiered on through it all. With her captivating smile and determination, she breathed life into the state's ethos of unbridled spirit.

Though faced with many obstacles at birth, Annabelle was richly blessed with two incredibly brave and loving parents—Will and Jessi Beauchamp. They proved to be a match in love and devotion with little Annabelle's undaunted courage.

Anyone blessed to have known Annabelle during her short life knows that she did not intend to leave us so soon. She intended to live, to grow, to thrive and to bless us all for a long time to come. She intended to stay and bless us, no matter what it took. But, tragically, death conquers the earthly vessel in which we live, even if possessed of the vigor and zest as our little heroine. Annabelle left behind a little bit of herself wherever she went. No amount of physical impediments nor human restraints can be retentive to the strength of spirit. She left us with the eternal gift of that spirit. Even now, though freshly gone, she whispers to us in her own unique and endearing voice.

Do not stand at my grave and cry,
I am not dead, I did not die.
I am the stars that shine at night,
I am the sun in morning's light.
Do not stand at my grave and cry,
I do not sleep, I did not die.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DAN F. MOHON

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2020

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Dan Mohon who passed away on December 6, 2020, just four days shy of his 81st birthday. Dan filled his days with hard work and loyal service to his faith, family, friends, and community.

Dan F. Mohon was born in Vernon, Texas, on December 10, 1939, to his parents Walter and Flora Pauline Beach Mohon. Just before his 13th birthday, Dan, as the eldest child, took on the responsibility of caring for his mother and younger siblings, Nanene and Gary, following his father's death. In order to care for his family, Dan worked 32 hours a week while continuing his education.

After Dan graduated from Quanah High School in 1958, he attended Texas Tech University where he graduated with a degree in

real estate and insurance. While at Texas Tech, he met the love of his life, Shirley Manon Hacker of Oklahoma, whom he married on December 22, 1962.

The Mohons moved to Orange, Texas in 1974 along with their two young sons, Monty and Marcus. They didn't have many material possessions upon arriving in Orange, but what they lacked in worldly goods they made up for in determination, loyalty, and love for one another.

Dan was a man who loved deeply and extravagantly, and that devotion sprang from his faith. His love of God was showered on his wife, sons, grandchildren, family, church, and community. He adored people and spent his life showing others what it meant to live joyfully.

As a leader of his community, Dan had the distinction of serving as mayor of two Texas cities—Orange and Pinehurst. In addition to his civic involvement, Dan also served as treasurer of First Baptist Church and as a board member of the Lutcher Stark Theater for 25 years. He also served in various community organizations such as the Greater Orange Area Chamber of Commerce, Lamar State College Foundation, American Red Cross, City of Orange Planning and Zoning Commission, Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission, Orange Rotary Club, and his favorite, the Orange Lions Club, where he served as president and carnival chairman. Dan was also the proud recipient of the Melvin Jones award, the highest form of recognition for a Lions Club member. A devoted advocate, Dan had perfect attendance at club meetings for more than 47 years.

Along with God, his family, community service, and his many friendships, two other real passions Dan enjoyed were golf and ice cream, both of which he often shared with others.

Dan is survived by his wife of 58 years, Manon; two sons, Monty and Marcus; and ten grandchildren: Joshua, Annabeth, Katharine, Joseph, Isabelle, Jack, Mason, Gray, Reed, and Bliss.

Madam Speaker, I would like to thank Dan Mohon for his unwavering dedication and service to his community. I offer my deepest condolences to his family and friends.

HONORING BARBARA KAIMAN

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2020

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Mrs. Barbara Kaiman for her outstanding leadership and positivity as she serves those in need in her local community and fights food insecurity in Mills County. Barbara has acted as the food bank director, as well as serving many other roles, for the Mills County Storehouse in Glenwood for more than 20 years—all on an entirely volunteer basis. I'm pleased to name Barbara our Iowan of the Week.

Over her years of service, Barbara has witnessed firsthand the need for assistance—but the past two have been especially hard on families in Mills County. Between the historic flooding across Southwest Iowa in the Spring

of 2019 and the current COVID-19 pandemic, she has seen the need for support and assistance increase. In February, the Mills County Storehouse served 185 families. In March, that number jumped up to 240. Barbara has said she is willing to scour the entire area for donations wherever she can get them, including driving for an hour to personally pick up hundreds of baked goods for distribution.

It is Barbara's belief, as she told my team, that the goodness of people always seems to come home. To anyone who has met Barbara, it is immediately apparent that she loves her community and strives to do what she can for those most in need.

Every week, she calls each of her families and reads them a list of what's available in the pantry. And with COVID-19, Barbara has ensured a safe working environment for all of her volunteers and patrons by adapting to the new standards they must meet. Her volunteers have diligently followed safety protocols with masks and gloves. Mills County Storehouse has begun home deliveries for the first time in Barbara's time with them. And they have continued to meet the needs of their community despite increased demand.

It is my distinct honor to name Barbara Kaiman as our Iowan of the Week, and thank her for her commitment to volunteering and ensuring food security for those families most in need. Although we do not know what the next months will bring, we know we can depend on those dedicated Iowans like Barbara to step up to the plate no matter what comes our way.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER AND SERVICE OF WILSON COUNTY COMMISSIONER ALBERT GAMEZ

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2020

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Wilson County Commissioner (Pct. 1) Albert Gamez and his 19 years of service to his community.

Commissioner Gamez was known as a hands-on public servant that took an active interest in all the issues that he faced. He was an individual that was committed to getting the job done and in an efficient manner. There are numerous stories about him that attest to his work. For example, if a storm had passed through the community and caused any damage, he would be there immediately. If there was a fire in the area, he would be sure to show up and make sure that the local firefighters had everything that they needed. In addition to his active approach, he was known for fiscal responsibility and making sure that his county had the funds they needed to make infrastructure improvements.

For his efforts, Commissioner Gamez was honored with several awards and recognitions. He was awarded the Watershed Wise Award by the San Antonio River Authority (SARA), recognized by the Floresville Volunteer Fire Department for 30 years of service, and noted by the Floresville City Council for voicing his concerns regarding the building of a prison in the city. In addition, he was recognized for his work during the floods of 1998 and 2002.

As we move forward, let us take the time to appreciate the work of public servants like

Commissioner Gamez and all the individuals who commit themselves to the public good. It is critical that we recognize those who took it upon themselves to improve their community. However, in the words of President John F. Kennedy, "As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."

Madam Speaker, I take this opportunity to recognize the career and service of Wilson County Commissioner Albert Gamez.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF TRAVIS COUNTY COMMISSIONER GERALD DAUGHERTY

HON. LLOYD DOGGETT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2020

Mr. DOGGETT. Madam Speaker, today I express appreciation not only for myself but on behalf of so many of our neighbors for the valued service of Travis County Commissioner Gerald Daugherty, who is retiring after serving Precinct 3 honorably for 14 years.

Long before Commissioner Daugherty became an elected official, from the Pleasant Valley Sportsplex to Jack Allen's Kitchen, he made significant contributions to our entertainment and our waistlines as a business leader. We don't always agree. After all, Commissioner Daugherty is a Republican, but I salute him for his integrity and true commitment to public service. And he did get off to a good start long ago giving up the Boston Red Sox to become a fellow Longhorn. Especially during these divisive political times, when we need more bridges, not walls, public servants such as Commissioner Daugherty deserve our gratitude for attempting to bridge the political divide by seeking bipartisan solutions.

Commissioner Daugherty's thoughtful and respectful demeanor, with an eye to detail, benefitted the Travis County Commissioner's Court and Travis County taxpayers. He is respected as an advocate for our veterans and an active supporter of the Travis County Veterans Service Office in its commitment to military veterans, service-members, and their families. Importantly, this year he early recognized the threat of this COVID-19 pandemic and offered strong leadership in protecting lives and livelihoods.

Many of us remember his last campaign in 2016 or at least we remember his wife, Charlyn. His ad, which went viral internationally, employed a humorous touch featuring Charlyn and friends listening to him endlessly talking about the obscure details of county policies, with Charlyn wondering what she would do with him were he not reelected and devoting himself to the County. At a time when negativity filled the airwaves, his message was a breath of much needed levity as well as depth. I trust that in addition to time with his great family, Commissioner Daugherty will find a hobby in his retirement, but I also know that he will remain engaged in the affairs of our community.

Commissioner Daugherty leaves office with the esteem of colleagues and departments with whom he worked. I thank him for his service to our community and I wish him well in all his future endeavors.