

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN MEMORY OF FRED O. PLACKE
III

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 14, 2020

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Fred O. Placke III. He was a businessman, educator, realtor, public servant and humanitarian.

As a college student at Tarleton State in Stephenville, Texas, Mr. Placke and a small group of fellow football players distributed donated gifts to children at a local foster home. Over the past four decades, he expanded that initial charitable endeavor into an annual community Christmas event in Goldthwaite, Texas as he and a multitude of volunteer "elves" delivered moving trucks full of thousands of presents for children at the New Horizons Foster Home.

After graduation, Mr. Placke returned to his hometown of Spring Woods where he taught history and coached football. Later in his teaching career, he taught U.S. government at Marcus High School in Flower Mound, Texas and was voted "Teacher of the Year" in 1997. Two years later, he was elected to the Lewisville ISD Board of Trustees and subsequently served for twelve years; six of those years, he led the Board as President. Fred Placke was a passionate educator, dedicated leader and active community volunteer. He was a beloved husband, father and grandfather and will be sorely missed by his family and friends to whom I extend my sincere condolences.

HONORING DANIEL C. WEBER

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 14, 2020

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Daniel C. Weber, veteran, husband, father, grandfather, entrepreneur, visionary and giant in the conservative movement. Dan passed away in February. He embodied the American dream: humble and optimistic, resilient and resolved, hopeful and quick to give. Dan was never without a ready smile, never without appreciation for good fortune, never without faith in America, his fellow Americans, and his loving God.

Believing that Americans aged 50-plus deserved better representation in DC, Dan and his wife Judy created AMAC—the Association of Mature American Citizens for Americans. AMAC is the voice for individuals concerned with the spread of big government and its intrusion into their daily lives, the erosion of personal liberties and disregard for the Constitution, a document Dan believed to be the greatest ever conceived by mankind. Dan envi-

sioned AMAC to be a right-of-center, member-driven organization with an unwavering focus on the best interests of its membership.

From very humble beginnings in 2007, today AMAC has a membership of over 2 million people residing in every state of the country and it continues to grow. AMAC's common-sense, free-market approach to the problems facing the country resonates with Americans looking for an organization that holds their values of faith, family and freedom in the same high regard.

Dan Weber was an American success story and pillar of the conservative movement. We are grateful for the example he set. May he rest in peace knowing that his "good fight" to preserve America's best will continue. I am confident his beloved AMAC army will grow ever stronger, bigger and more resolved to see the mission through.

TRUMP BUDGET CUTS TO SNAP

HON. ALMA S. ADAMS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 14, 2020

Ms. ADAMS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak for our food insecure families.

Federal anti-hunger programs like SNAP play a vital role in the lives of 12th District families, but the Trump Budget slashes \$182 billion from food assistance programs.

President Trump's proposal to cut SNAP benefits comes on the heels of three USDA rules which will cut benefits for almost 4 million Americans and jeopardize 1 million children's access to free school breakfast and lunch.

These are real people they're hurting. These are our children, our friends, our neighbors.

Here's the sad truth: this President wants to pay for his billionaire tax cuts by letting children starve.

A couple months ago, I visited Windsor Park Elementary School in Charlotte as they were putting together their first food pantry for students.

Of their 650 students, many are homeless and 150 have immediate needs.

Their food pantry was put together because students kept asking their teachers and administrators for food.

Principal Shanna Rae told a local TV station that "you can tell a difference in students when they have something to eat."

That's not Oliver Twist: sadly, that's our community.

Over 20 million children across our country rely on SNAP.

Instead of cutting SNAP, we should expand it, so that children and families don't have to worry about where their next meal is going to come from.

Scripture tells us that Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

How can we expect them to do that if they have nothing to eat?

HONORING MARGARET WHELCHER
AS A VETERAN AND AS A PART
OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 14, 2020

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Margaret Patricia Whelcher for her achievements in the United States Air Force for Black History Month. Ms. Whelcher served from August 3, 1988 to November 5, 1991 and earned the rank of Senior Airman.

Senior Airman Whelcher trained at Lackland Air Force Base and Langley Air Force Base, and was part of the 1913 Communications Group. Her dedication and passion are evident, I commend Senior Airman Whelcher for her service and honor her as a part of the Black History Month Program in Rockford called "Capturing American History: The Unique Perspective of the African American Female Service Member." I would like to thank Senior Airman Whelcher for her service and recognize her for her experiences as an African American, female service member.

It is because of community leaders like Margaret that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally honor Margaret Patricia Whelcher for her service in the United States Air Force.

IN RECOGNITION OF CAPTAIN
DAVID OWEN

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 14, 2020

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exemplary work and life of service of Captain David Owen of the University of North Texas Police Department in Denton, Texas.

Captain David Owen began his law enforcement career with the Titus County Sheriff's Office in 2004. He was hired by the University of North Texas Police Department on June 13, 2005 as a Police Officer. He served the UNT students, faculty, and staff until his death on February 11, 2020 after a courageous battle with cancer.

Captain Owen received a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and political science from Midwestern State University and a graduate certification in criminal justice education from the University of Virginia. He also attended several leadership training programs including the 270th session of the FBI National Academy, the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators Executive

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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.

Development Institute and the Institute for Law Enforcement Administration's School of Police Supervision.

At the time of his death, Captain Owen supervised the Field Services unit of the police department, overseeing patrol and special events planning. His prior roles in the department include serving as Support Services Unit Supervisor, Criminal Investigator and Patrol Officer. Captain Owen was a certified TCOLE Master Peace Officer and Police Instructor. He had served on UNT's Student Support Task Force, and earned a Police Commendation and the Excellence in Public Service award, as well as being recognized by MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving).

David Owen was extremely tough and resilient in his last fight, a reflection of the type of person he was—dedicated to performing the job well and to the best of his abilities. He stood up for what he believed was right but was always thoughtful enough to consider the viewpoints of others. He believed strongly in educating himself and others so that clear and informed decisions could be made. He is survived by his wife Joy and their six children who live in Krum, Texas.

Captain Owen devoted over 20 years of his life to protect and serve his community, putting strangers' safety above his own, and we are indebted to him. His positive impact and worthwhile contributions to the UNT Police Department and UNT community will be sorely missed. I am deeply grateful for his service and pray for comfort and peace for his wife, children and friends.

RECOGNIZING THE TYSONS REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND THE INCOMING 2020 BOARD MEMBERS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 14, 2020

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce and to congratulate the incoming 2020 board members.

Tysons has drastically transformed during the past 56 years from a sleepy, rural area to one of the most vibrant regions in the country. This change began when the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors approved plans for the Tysons Corner Shopping Center in 1962. When the mall opened in 1968, it was hailed as the largest enclosed mall in the world.

Since then, there has been a dramatic influx of technology companies, government contracting firms, and other corporations. Tysons has become the premier business district of the Washington Metropolitan Area and is one of the largest employment centers in the United States. With the opening of Metro's Silver Line and ongoing redevelopment, the region is expected to continue adding not only businesses but also high-density residential housing. 45 million square feet of transit-oriented development is already present in Tysons and more is on the way.

The mission of the Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce is to be the unified voice of the business community while ensuring that its ties and commitment to the community are strengthened.

The Chamber actively promotes local non-profits and community organizations as well as youth educational programs, and it sponsors multiple events each year in support of these activities. The growth of the Chamber has been the result of the diversity of its members and the leadership of its Board. I am pleased to include in the RECORD the following names of the incoming 2020 board members:

Chairman of the Board: Tucker Gladhill.

At-Large Members: Adelle Elia, Alex Levy, Andrew Clark, Angela Inzerillo, Anthony Anikeeff, Brenda MacRoberts, Courtney Pierce, Diana Villarreal, Dr. Michelle Walker, Gina Westfall, Jeff Brouse, Kara Shelton, Kathy McNeill, Ken Fischer, Kevin Corey, Kevin Schafer, Maureen Caufield, Maurice Springer, Miriam Tadross, Micah Edmond, Mike Batt, Peter Fish, Richard Luttrell, Timothy Klinkner, Tracy Harris, Vicki Warker.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the incoming board members and in commending the Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce for its commitment to promoting the business community while encouraging social responsibility and civic engagement. I wish the Chamber the very best for its continued growth and success.

IN HONOR OF TORRINGTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT'S 100 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. LIZ CHENEY

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 14, 2020

Ms. CHENEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Torrington Volunteer Fire Department on celebrating 100 years of dedicated service to Torrington and the surrounding community.

When it was formed on February 14, 1920, the department consisted of a horse-drawn cart and a fire bell. In the years that followed, the department received modern engines like the 1934 Ford engine that has been fully restored and is on display at the firehouse today. Volunteer fire companies play a critical role in keeping our communities safe, and I extend my thanks to all the volunteers—past and present—who have dedicated their time to Torrington. Today represents a milestone in the storied history of the department, and I know they will continue to serve their community with distinction for the next 100 years as well.

Again, Madam Speaker, I extend my congratulations to the Torrington Volunteer Fire Department for 100 years of service.

CONGRATULATING THE VILLAGE OF WILLIAMSFIELD FOR RECEIVING THE 2019 GOVERNOR'S HOMETOWN AWARD CUP

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 14, 2020

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the village of Williamsfield, Illinois for receiving the 2019 Governor's Hometown

Award Cup for the Playground Barn Raising Project. The Williamsfield Park District and Williamsfield Future Farmers of America Alumni and Friends worked together to make this project possible.

The Governor's Hometown Award Cup has been bestowed every year since 1983 to recognize those who have contributed to projects that improve quality of life in the community. When the playground in Williamsfield village park started deteriorating, \$150,000 were raised to build a multi-level playground barn with several other play features. Seventy-seven volunteers were recruited and gave 2,032 hours to build these structures. The award committee noted that the "inspirational barn raising promotes physical activity among youth and embodies the power of volunteerism." This marks the first time the award has gone to anyone in Knox County, Illinois. Williamsfield will keep the trophy for a year and the Illinois Department of Transportation will set up a road sign in the community for the award. I commend Williamsfield for their dedication to the community.

It is because of the community leaders, volunteers and everyone who made the Playground Barn Raising Project possible in Williamsfield that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate the village of Williamsfield for winning the 2019 Governor's Hometown Award Cup.

CELEBRATING THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF HELEN SEKUTOWSKI

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 14, 2020

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Ms. Helen Sekutowski, a resident of Westland, Michigan, as she celebrates her ninetieth birthday.

Ms. Sekutowski was born in Detroit on February 25, 1930 to Polish immigrant parents. She carries a life-long pride in her Polish ancestry. Ms. Sekutowski's devotion to community and family are apparent. She, along with her husband Eugene, created a loving home for their six children. She is committed to living a positive and spiritual life, attending mass services every Sunday. Her light and love for life is demonstrated through the positive spirit and impact that she has on her friends and neighbors.

Please join me in celebrating Helen Sekutowski's ninetieth birthday as we wish her many more to come.

REMEMBERING CLIFFORD C. KUNKEL

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 14, 2020

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory and service of Colonel Clifford C. Kunkel, a decorated Air Force veteran and active member of his community in California.