

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IOWAN OF THE WEEK—CHRISTIAN
VANDEHAAR

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 14, 2020

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Iowa's Bondurant-Farrar High School's art teacher Christian Vandehaar for his hard work in his community and his continued contributions to his students' success.

Mr. Vandehaar is a true public servant. He has been teaching 9th through 12th grade art classes at Bondurant-Farrar High School for nine years. Mr. Vandehaar received his Bachelor of Fine Art degree from Iowa State University and his master's from Drake University. He decided to become an art teacher because he enjoys helping others and seeing them reach their full potential.

With help from Mr. Vandehaar's passion for the arts, Bondurant-Farrar High School has been recognized as one of Iowa's top three All-State Art Schools, with his school earning the number one overall spot in 2018. Students from Mr. Vandehaar's art classes have had success at state and national competitions, including the Congressional Art Competition. Under Mr. Vandehaar, art students from Bondurant-Farrar High School have been selected for the Congressional Art Competition for five of the past six years. 12 of his students have even earned All-State honors within the last four years. The accolades continue with three Gold and Silver medals in the National Scholastic Competition, two Grant Wood Legacy Prize Awards, and a National Scholastic American Vision Medal.

Outside of the classroom, Mr. Vandehaar and his students have worked with the Bondurant Community Foundation to create a 100-foot mural along an area bike path. However, Mr. Vandehaar's proudest accomplishment is his Art Canned Food Drive, which challenges classes to donate the most canned items for their Combat Hunger week. Through his initiative, students have donated over 15,000 items in the last seven years.

It is an honor to commemorate Mr. Vandehaar's outstanding achievements in his school and his community. I have great respect and admiration for our educators and am particularly thankful for the strong foundation they are giving our kids. As the mother of two boys, I know that a quality education is crucial to success. Mr. Vandehaar is not only helping his students succeed in the arts, but teaching them actively engage with their community.

I applaud Mr. Vandehaar for his hard work and dedication, and I congratulate him and his students for their success.

RECOGNIZING SOUTH MIAMI
MAYOR PHILIP STODDARD'S TEN
YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. DONNA E. SHALALA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 14, 2020

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of Philip Stoddard, mayor of South Miami. First elected in 2010, he has gained a reputation as one of the most environmentally conscious mayors in the United States.

Ten years ago, Mayor Stoddard implemented term limits for city officials, preventing himself from serving more than five two-year terms. Now, as he nears the end of his final term, Mayor Stoddard can look back on his time in office with pride. He fundamentally changed the standards of public policy in the city of South Miami.

A biology professor at Florida International University, Mayor Stoddard made environmental science and conservation a priority for the city. He signed laws requiring the installation of solar panels on new homes and banning pesticide spraying in the city. Last year, he led South Miami to commit to a goal of 100 percent renewable energy citywide by 2040.

Mayor Stoddard's expertise in environmental public policy extended beyond South Miami. In 2015, he helped the Obama administration develop policy to address sea level rise.

Mayor Stoddard is an inspiration for all of us who hope to help South Florida become greener and more resilient to climate change. I'm grateful for his decade of service and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

APPROVING REQUEST OF SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS FOR WAIVER UNDER SECTION 1703E(f) OF TITLE 38, UNITED STATES CODE

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2020

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, as a senior Member of Congress, I rise in support of H.J. Res. 80, which requires the approval of the request of the Secretary of Veterans' Affairs for a waiver under section 1703E(f) of 38 U.S.C., which provides for the Veterans' Community Care Program.

As a strong proponent of veteran care, I support this resolution because our veterans deserve to receive the maximum quality of hospital care, medical services and extended care services.

This resolution will improve the quality of dental care granted to our veterans by allowing them a more diverse group of dental providers to choose from, at affordable rates.

There are a total of 9.1 million enrollees in the Veterans' Affairs Health Care system.

This resolution gives veterans the opportunity to use Veterans' Affairs administrative support to search for non-VA, pro bono or discounted dental services.

Over 580,000 Veterans with comprehensive dental care benefits were provided dental care in Fiscal Year 2019.

Veterans identified as Class I, those with a service-connected compensable dental disability or condition, are eligible for any dental care needed.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has created a new community care program that allows veterans more choice in health care providers.

These revolutionary modifications will extend services to over 28,000 veterans within the 18th Congressional District.

The Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center in Houston provides a full range of health care services that include trauma recovery, mental health, and substance dependence programs to veterans.

Waiving section 1703E(f) of 38 U.S.C., United States allows the Veterans Community Care Program to keep the methods that are used for veteran medical services as up to date as possible and to ensure that veterans have access to dental care when needed.

I ask my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to vote in support of H.J. Res. 80.

CONGRATULATING THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN FOR HOLDING SUCCESSFUL ELECTIONS AND COMMENDING PRESIDENT TSAI ING-WEN ON HER REELECTION

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 14, 2020

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the people of Taiwan for holding successful elections on January 11, 2020 and commend President Tsai Ing-wen on her re-election. Free and fair elections are a core tenet of democratic societies and it is encouraging to see the people of Taiwan continue to enthusiastically embrace their civic duty, especially in the face of significant election meddling on the part of the People's Republic of China.

The United States and Taiwan have long enjoyed a close friendship, with strong bonds forged through our economic, trade, and security ties. It is critical that the United States never loses sight of the importance Taiwan will play in our efforts to assure a prosperous and peaceful rise for all our friends and allies in the region.

Taiwan's dedication to democracy, freedom, and the rule of law make it not only a great partner for the United States, but a beacon of hope for all countries striving to protect and further democratic ideals.

Madam Speaker, I again congratulate our friends in Taiwan and President Tsai Ing-wen on this momentous occasion.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

SCOTT JONES' QUEST OF ALL 419
NATIONAL PARKS**HON. RAUL M. GRIJALVA**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 14, 2020

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Scott Jones, who last summer completed a quest to see all 419 units of our National Park System, an impressive feat. Apparently, this wasn't enough for Mr. Jones though, who added all the National Monuments and National Conservation Areas managed by the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management just for good measure. On August 26, 2019, Mr Jones became the first person to visit all 478 of the federal protected lands he calls our nation's Treasured Places.

The list includes some of our most iconic and inspiring landscapes (such as Grand Canyon and Yellowstone), and places that serve to interpret some of our most important historical lessons (Gettysburg and the Lincoln Memorial). Mr. Jones' travels took him to both the best of America, and to places that help us remember the turbulent and even unsavory history that is part of our shared national experience. Mr. Jones is quick to admit that each trip was an education and his experiences at many sites were rich opportunities to understand more about himself and about the United States.

For instance, Mr. Jones spoke to local reporters about his moving experience at Topeka's Brown V. Board of Education National Historic Site in Topeka, Kansas, which chronicles the fight to end school segregation. He recalled walking down a hallway lined as video of people yelling racial epithets played around him—mimicking the experience of Linda Brown on her walk to school.

From Topeka to 477 other sites, the Treasured Places quest took almost 15 years and involved a lot of travel. Mr Jones started out just like anyone would, visiting places close to his home in Phoenix, Arizona, but he had to venture a bit further than most, with trips to interior Alaska, the Northern woods, and even the War in the Pacific National Historical Park in Guam, his farthest trip at over 6,500 miles.

Mr. Jones' quest was not just a personal whim, he used it as an opportunity to inspire others. Through his blog and social media, he invited anyone interested to follow his adventures. Each of his quests are designed to encourage others to "just get out more" at whatever ability and with whatever time each of us has, whether for just a day trip or an epic adventure. His three slogans: explore eagerly, travel cheaply, and adventure often.

Many of his trips provide examples of how achievable and inexpensive it is to visit some of our nation's exceptional public lands. He completed this quest while working full-time for conservation nonprofits and made a point of not counting any visits that were made for his job toward completion of the total goal.

But for Mr Jones, adventuring is a constant goal and his thirst for adventures is far from slaked. In 2016, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service, he took an epic trip to visit 100 parks in 100 days. He examined every "World Largest Ball of Twine"—all three of them—while making his way to every state in the U.S. In the future, he

plans to climb to the highest point in every county in Arizona and he plans to visit 50 different countries by the time he turns 50.

A proud graduate of Arizona State University, Mr. Jones is a fanatic supporter of ASU Sun Devil football. Ever the explorer, even this interest has become another quest—Mr Jones has been to 8 of the 12 football stadiums of the PAC-12.

Now that his personal Treasured Places quest is complete, Mr. Jones continues to encourage others to undertake their own quests to visit these places with the help of his website, treasuredplaces.us.

Mr. Jones is an exemplary person, who transformed a personal interest in parks and special places into a quest that he has shared as an inspiring invitation. His efforts truly do encourage all of us to make the time and effort to "get out there more" and enjoy our country's many treasured places.

COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING
JOYCE IRENE MARTRATT ON THE OCCASION
OF HER RETIREMENT**HON. MICHAEL F.Q. SAN NICOLAS**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 14, 2020

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Joyce Irene Martratt on her retirement.

Born on August 28, 1939, Joyce is a World War II survivor of the Japanese occupation. After the war, she grew to be fearless and had a thirst for knowledge, immersing herself into every learning opportunity she could.

Joyce started her career as an educator, teaching a first-grade special needs class at the old Barrigada Elementary School. She also taught 3rd and 6th grade levels. Years later, she obtained a temporary job at the Andersen Air Force Base at the Civilian Personnel Office as a clerk typist, and with her hard work and authenticity, she persistently thrived. Joyce gained a great deal of experience over the years as a civilian employee and worked within the SAC's 3960th Civil Engineering Squadron Material Control Section, Programs and Planning, Operations and Maintenance, and eventually moved to the 3960th Civil Engineering Squadron's Commander's office, to name a few. In 1974, both needing a secretary, the Commander, and Vice Commander determined to integrate the position and personally requested for Joyce to accept the offer.

On July 18, 2005, she took her final transfer to the 36th Wing Commander, which is where the "Ask Joyce" column was developed. The column was placed in the Andersen Air Force Base paper, "Pacific Edge" and served as an informative outlet to learn about Guam's culture and society. Due to its immense popularity, the people of Guam still remember the details of her column to this day.

Joyce served alongside notable leaders, and amongst the most skilled airmen and civil servants who recognized her as a distinguished woman of character who cared deeply for our island. I thank Joyce for her many years of service and wish her the best in a much-deserved retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOUTHERN ILLINOIS HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 14, 2020

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Southern Illinois Healthcare Foundation on its thirty-fifth anniversary.

Southern Illinois Healthcare Foundation, or simply SIHF as its known in the area, had its start in 1984 when a group of community leaders recognized the need to attract physicians to the Metro-East of the St. Louis Metropolitan area. SIHF opened its first site in Centreville on January 7, 1985 with a physician, a nurse, and a director. Today, SIHF serves 1,100-plus patients each day with open arms and a dedication to providing compassionate, comprehensive and efficient care.

Community collaboration has been the key to SIHF's success. SIHF has fostered a dynamic approach to caring that includes shared staff, coordinated services and a joint approach to community problems. To that end, SIHF has partnered in collaborative efforts with dozens of community, civic, governmental, and various health care groups throughout the region. The single focus of these linkages has been to improve access, expand coverage, and provide the most efficient and effective care possible. The effectiveness of these initiatives has had a profound effect on the area.

Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure I stand to recognize Southern Illinois Healthcare Foundation. SIHF has embraced its role of being a leading provider of health care for thirty-five years, and in that capacity has benefited thousands, a record of service I am pleased to acknowledge today. And with its single-minded focus on providing the very best health care to the area, I can confidently predict many more years of success for Southern Illinois Healthcare Foundation.

CYBERSECURITY AND FINANCIAL
SYSTEM RESILIENCE ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2020

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, as a senior member of the Homeland Security Committee and its Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection, and Innovation, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4458, the "Cybersecurity and Financial System Resilience Act of 2019."

The bill before us requires the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System to submit a report to Congress, explaining the measures taken to strengthen cybersecurity functions within the Federal Reserve System. In recent years, cybercrimes across the world have become increasingly commonplace and a serious threat to the American people.

In a 2018 Gallup Poll, 71 percent of Americans say they frequently or occasionally worry about being victims to a cybercrime whereas less than 30 percent of Americans worried about being victims in a violent crime.