

JAKE AND ANGIE MOORE, ANGELS
IN ADOPTION

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 17, 2020

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Madam Speaker, Jake and Angie Moore of Yakima have always had a passion for children, especially those with special needs and those who are trauma affected.

Angie is a speech paraprofessional for 5th and 6th graders, and Jake is a paraprofessional in a high school special ed classroom.

On their first wedding anniversary, they were told that it would be a miracle if they ever became pregnant. IVF wasn't an option for them due to the cost, and after giving it a lot of prayer and thought, they decided to move forward with foster care. They felt this was God's timing.

They have since opened their hearts and their home to become the loving parents of multiple children from the Yakima Valley. Though they have faced many struggles with the hardship of the foster care system, they continue to move forward and stay positive, finalizing the adoption of their daughter and welcoming a 2-year-old foster son at the end of 2019.

They are excited to continue to take in more children as the years go on, so they can be the voice and advocate that many of them do not have.

They have two household rules with all of the children they take in: 1. They will all be there to stay unless somebody else says otherwise. 2. Each child will be loved and cherished as their own, no matter how long they are in the Moore's home.

Jake and Angie are an inspiration to parents across the country and in Central Washington. They are truly Angels in Adoption.

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE RAY
OLIVARRI

HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 17, 2020

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I rise in honor of Judge Ray Olivarri who passed away on January 15, 2020 at the age of 64. A community leader and lifelong public servant, Judge Olivarri hails from my hometown of San Antonio, Texas. He is survived by his wife, Brenda Olivarri; two children, Lauren and Jeffrey Olivarri; and grandson Jeffrey Olivarri, Jr. He will be greatly missed.

Judge Ray Olivarri was born and raised in San Antonio, Texas. Upon graduating from Luther Burbank High School, he went on to become a probation officer with Bexar County and served on the City of San Antonio Zoning Commission. Later, he went on to pursue a law degree from Texas Southern University in Houston.

After practicing as a criminal defense lawyer, Olivarri was elected to serve in 2006 as judge for Bexar County Court at Law No. 6. In 2012, he was elected to serve on the 399th State District Court for four years. Eventually, his journey led him to serve as state judge for

the 144th District Court upon his election win in 2018. Judge Olivarri served on the 144th before illness compelled him to step down.

Olivarri was a person of high caliber whose kindness was only matched by his dedication to his family and career. Olivarri was a compassionate justice, sensitive to the vulnerabilities of those who came before him.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to have known such a remarkable individual who defined what it means to live in the service of others. The entire San Antonio community mourns this tremendous loss. I know his legacy and memory will live on in every single life he changed. Judge, thank you for your many years of public service and commitment to our community.

COMMEMORATING "BLACK
JANUARY"

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 17, 2020

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the "Black January" killings which is one of the most tragic events in Azerbaijan's history.

On the night of January 20, 1990, approximately 26,000 Soviet troops stormed Azerbaijan's capital city of Baku in tanks and armored vehicles. That night, the Soviet military bulldozed innocent Azerbaijanis and opened fire indiscriminately on peaceful demonstrators, including women and children. As a result of these merciless acts 147 people were killed, around 800 were injured, 841 were arrested, and 5 went missing.

The Human Rights Watch report "Black January in Azerbaijan" states that "among the most heinous violations of human rights during the Baku incursion were the numerous attacks on medical personnel, ambulances, and even hospitals." The report concludes that the violence used by the Soviet Army constituted an exercise in collective punishment and that the punishment inflicted on Baku by Soviet soldiers may have been intended as a warning to nationalists, not only in Azerbaijan, but in other Republics of the Soviet Union. I offer my thoughts and prayers to the families of those who gave their lives for the independence of Azerbaijan.

The United States was one of the first countries to recognize independence and fully established diplomatic relations on February 28, 1992 and the relationship between our two countries endures to this day. The United States and Azerbaijan are strategic allies and share common interests in the region and globally.

As the co-chairman of the Congressional Azerbaijan Caucus, I urge my colleagues to recognize the sacrifices of the Azerbaijani people in their steps toward a free market economy and encourage a recommitment to the democratic values for which many Azerbaijanis sacrificed their lives.

RECOGNIZING THE ROTARY CLUB
OF BOCA RATON'S OPAL AWARD
HONOREES DORIS AND NEIL
GILLMAN

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 17, 2020

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I am honored to rise today in recognition of the important work done by the Rotary Club of Boca Raton and to congratulate two recipients of their Outstanding People and Leaders (OPAL) awards, Doris and Neil Gillman.

When it comes to strengthening their communities, the Gillmans strongly believe that enduring support begins with not with a check, but with a relationship. The couple has partnered with dozens of charities in Boca Raton and Pittsburgh and have built their volunteerism and philanthropy around being deeply engaged in the organizations to which they commit.

The impact of the Gillmans' connections to causes, particularly those that serve children, veterans, and animals, can be found throughout the city. They've worked closely with Florence Fuller Child Development Centers to construct much-needed new facilities, with the Caridad Center to outfit a new pediatric dental surgery room, with Boca Raton Regional Hospital to provide support for new parents in need, and with Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League to accomplish the vision of their new campus. The couple has also served on local charitable boards; Doris with Boca Helping Hands, and Neil with the Boca West Children's Foundation. In fact, it was BWCF that led them to many of the organizations they have supported, including their most recent focus—Sweet Dream Makers.

Through their philanthropy and service, the Gillmans have touched countless lives and made a lasting impact on our South Florida community. The work they do and the time they have put in is truly deserving of these awards.

I extend my most sincere congratulations to the Gillmans and to all of tonight's honorees. As we begin this new year, I am confident that the Rotary Club of Boca Raton will continue to be a cherished institution in South Florida that betters our community. I greatly appreciate the Club's work and am pleased to honor their OPAL and Lifetime Legacy Award honorees.

CONGRATULATING INDIANA
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE BRIAN
BOSMA ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 17, 2020

Mrs. WALORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Indiana Speaker of the House Brian Bosma on his retirement and to thank him for his many years of dedicated service to Hoosiers.

He was first elected to the Indiana Statehouse in 1986 and served as speaker from 2004 to 2006 and again from 2010 to 2020, making him the longest-serving speaker in Indiana State history. Speaker Bosma has clearly dedicated his life to moving Indiana forward.

His commitment to Hoosier common sense and his tireless efforts to advance opportunities for future generations have made our state a better place to live and work.

I am grateful to have served alongside him in the Statehouse and to have worked together to improve the lives of our fellow Hoosiers. Speaker Bosma's strong conservative values and outstanding leadership have helped bring Indiana's economy and infrastructure into the 21st century. Thanks to Speaker Bosma, Indiana is one of the only states in the nation to pass a 20-year, fully-funded roads plan to improve state-maintained and local roads. Throughout his time as speaker, he never stopped fighting for Indiana businesses and workers. Speaker Bosma helped secure the strong economic climate in which Hoosiers are able to start and grow businesses, including maintaining a AAA credit rating, large budget reserves, and a low unemployment rate. He is also a fierce defender of the unborn and has worked to ensure that every human life in our state is treated with dignity and respect.

In addition to the positive impact of his legislative accomplishments, Brian Bosma's passion for helping others goes unmatched. His family's impressive work through Bosma Industries for the Blind is a testament to the power of one person determined to make a difference. Speaker Bosma brought those same values with him to the Statehouse each and every day. His dedication and passion exemplify the progress our society can make toward greater opportunities and brighter futures through innovative thinking and perseverance. I have no doubt his legacy will last far into the future.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Indiana Speaker of the House Brian Bosma for his lifelong commitment to serving Indiana communities. On behalf of 2nd District Hoosiers, I wish him the best as he embarks on this next chapter in life.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF
JONATHAN WOLMAN

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 17, 2020

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the memory of Mr. Jonathan

Wolman, a man who spent forty-six years of his life tirelessly dedicated to pursuing the truth and reporting on the stories that have shaped modern-day America.

Following in his father's footsteps, Mr. Jonathan Wolman began his career in journalism as a newperson for the Associated Press's (AP) Wisconsin bureau in 1973. His talent for reading the political currents coursing through the hallways of Congress and the state capitals was readily evident to his coworkers and readers from the very beginning. Later that same year the AP sent him to Detroit for the first time, where he would cover the election of Coleman Young, the first African American mayor in a majority minority city.

Mr. Wolman also reported about Fannie Lou Hamer's voting rights campaign. Hamer's effort led to thousands of African Americans gaining the right to vote. His career soon brought him to Washington D.C., where he would cover events that shook the nation like the Three Mile Island nuclear disaster and the No Gun Ri massacre, the latter of which would go on to earn the AP the Pulitzer Prize for Investigative Reporting in 2000. After a two-year stint as senior vice president of the AP, Mr. Wolman moved back west in 2004, working for the Denver Post for three years until his return to the Motor City as the editor and publisher of the Detroit News in 2007. There he would spend the rest of his life reporting on some of our great city's most uncertain years, asking the tough questions and holding our leaders to account until his passing on April 15, 2019.

We owe a debt of gratitude for the hard work and dedication of Mr. Jonathan Wolman. His objectivity and journalistic integrity will be forever remembered. It is with great honor that I ask you to join me in honor of his memory and upon his recognition at Rainbow Push's Let Freedom Ring Awards.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM McCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 17, 2020

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, due to a family medical emergency, I was unable to be in Washington for the week of January 13.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 14, NAY on Roll Call No. 15, NAY on Roll Call No. 16, NAY on Roll Call No. 17 and NAY on Roll Call No. 18.

RECOGNIZING THE ROTARY CLUB
OF BOCA RATON'S OPAL AWARD
HONOREES TOBY AND LEON
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HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

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Friday, January 17, 2020

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I am honored to rise today in recognition of the important work done by the Rotary Club of Boca Raton and to congratulate two recipients of their Outstanding People and Leaders (OPAL) awards, Toby and Leon Cooperman.

The Coopermans' story exemplifies the American Dream. As a first generation American and son of a plumber, Leon worked hard to receive a quality public education before earning his MBA from Columbia University. His hard work continued as he entered the professional world, leading to a remarkably successful career.

Due to the success achieved through their hard work, Toby and Leon feel a moral imperative to give others the opportunity to pursue the American Dream that they have enjoyed. This led them to take The Giving Pledge, a commitment to give the majority of their wealth to address societies most pressing needs.

Through their philanthropy and service, the Coopermans have touched countless lives and made a lasting impact on our South Florida community. The work they do and the time they have put in is truly deserving of these awards.

I extend my most sincere congratulations to the Coopermans and to all of tonight's honorees. As we begin this new year, I am confident that the Rotary Club of Boca Raton will continue to be a cherished institution in South Florida that betters our community. I greatly appreciate the Club's work and am pleased to honor their OPAL and Lifetime Legacy Award honorees.