

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 24, 2020

Mr. KEATING. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted AYE in favor of the EN BLOC No. 2 Amendment for H.R. 7608.

IN HONOR OF THE
GROUNDBREAKING OF EXPAN-
SION AT THE KALAMAZOO GOS-
PEL MINISTRIES

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 24, 2020

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize a celebration as the Kalamazoo Gospel Ministries breaks ground on an expansion to their ministry.

I want to recognize the extraordinary accomplishment of Pastor Brown and all the staff and volunteers at the Kalamazoo Gospel Ministries. I am incredibly proud of the work they are doing and send my sincere congratulations today as they break ground on the new women's and children's center.

For over 80 years, and in these uncertain times, the Kalamazoo Gospel Ministries has been a place of hope and healing in the Kalamazoo community. This new expansion, "A Shelter From Their Storm," will no doubt be filled with the same heart and care that they have shown for decades.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize the Kalamazoo Gospel Ministries and their team and thank them for their continued service to the Kalamazoo community.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY IS
MASKING A DIFFERENCE
ACROSS SOUTH CAROLINA

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 24, 2020

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, the following was published in the Aiken CEO on Thursday, July 23, 2020:

As the coronavirus continues to impact the Palmetto State, South Carolina Association of Habitat for Humanity announces a statewide effort to ensure nonprofits have the resources needed to safely serve communities during the pandemic. Masking a Difference is a one-day collaboration which will distribute 175,000 masks and 2,800 gallons of hand sanitizer among nonprofit organizations and Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD) partners at 17 Habitat locations throughout SC.

"Our toolkit has expanded beyond hammers and shopping carts," shared Nancy Lee, executive director of the state association of Habitat for Humanity. "As nonprofits are being called on to do more with fewer resources, I'm grateful Habitat has been given the opportunity to share these supplies with our fellow philanthropic partners."

Since February, Habitat for Humanity has been working alongside state and federal

agencies to ensure the safety of Habitat teams, partners, and communities. Habitat credits South Carolina Emergency Management Division (SCEMD) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for enabling this collaboration to occur.

As of July 12, Habitat for Humanity has already distributed over 150,000 masks and 630 gallons of hand sanitizer throughout 37 counties. Upon conclusion of Masking a Difference, Habitat will have dispersed a total of 325,000 masks and 3,400 gallons of hand sanitizer to assist in South Carolina's coronavirus response.

Nonprofit organizations seeking additional information are encouraged to visit southcarolinahabitat.org. Masking a Difference request forms for cloth face coverings and 50-gallon drums of hand sanitizer will remain open through noon on July 20, 2020. Submissions from eligible organizations will be accepted in the order received. Notifications will be sent out the week of July 20 announcing the locations of pick-up and official distribution date of Masking a Difference.

HONORING THE McALLEN POLICE
DEPARTMENT

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 24, 2020

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the McAllen Police Department for another successful year lowering overall crime in the City of McAllen, Texas.

This is the 10th consecutive year the McAllen Police Department has successfully lowered crime, resulting in a 35-year low. McAllen's estimated population of 158,044 had a crime volume of 3,735 and a crime rate of 2,363 per 100,000 residents in 2019.

In 2018, the population was 154,634 with the crime volume being 3,978 and the crime rate being 2,573 per 100,000 residents. This shows that with a 2.2 percent growth in population, the McAllen Police Department was able to decrease the crime volume by 6.1 percent, and the crime rate by 8.1 percent in one year.

I want to thank Police Chief Victor Rodriguez for his leadership in achieving this incredible milestone. Though he credits federal resources, technology and home surveillance systems for his department's success, it takes a true leader and an exemplary team to make a difference of this magnitude.

I also want to thank the brave officers of the McAllen Police Department. Every day, they risk their lives in order to make our community safer. Our city is safer because of devoted officers like Edelmiro Garza, Jr. and Ismael Chavez who unfortunately made the ultimate sacrifice.

Madam Speaker, I stand here today to acknowledge the decade long achievement of the McAllen Police Department in lowering the crime in McAllen. Each member of the police department is an incredible leader in our community, and their legacy will no doubt inspire public service and volunteerism of future generations.

IN MEMORIAL: RABBI ISAAC
FURMAN

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 24, 2020

Mr. NORCROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Rabbi Isaac Furman.

Rabbi Isaac Furman was a pillar of the southern New Jersey Jewish community. Rabbi Furman was the Rabbi of Congregation Beth El in Voorhees, New Jersey and helped found the Beth El Academy in 1961, now known as the Kellman-Brown Academy.

An immigrant to this country, Rabbi Furman's family left Poland in 1939 after the German occupation. His family initially fled east to Siberia before making their way south and then west at the conclusion of the war. It was at the displaced persons camps of Poland that Rabbi Furman met the love of his life, Molly.

Southern New Jersey was truly fortunate that Rabbi Isaac and Molly Furman chose our community to settle down. A graduate of Yeshiva University, Rabbi Furman found his true calling as a teacher. Throughout his nearly 60 years as a rabbi in southern New Jersey Rabbi Furman taught tens of thousands of Jewish children. His former students remember him as kind, funny and generous of spirit.

Rabbi Furman and Molly raised their daughters, Esther and Phyllis in the community, and took great pride as they began families of their own. Molly Furman was an accomplished teacher who was a fixture of the community and I'm told that their love for one another lived on after her passing in 2016. Through Esther and Phyllis, the Furmans were blessed with six grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I am told that his family was truly much larger than his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Rabbi Furman was beloved by generations of students, his congregation and his community. Though Rabbi Furman passed away earlier this month I know his memory will be a blessing for many years to come.

CONGRATULATING CHARLES AND
SHERRY DOBIS ON THEIR 50TH
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 24, 2020

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Charles and Sherry Dobis on their 50th wedding anniversary. July 25th marks five decades of devoted matrimony for these two esteemed citizens of Irving, Texas.

Originally from Gary, Indiana, "Chuck" and Sherry married in their hometown, and have since accompanied each other on a journey of personal and professional accomplishments.

In 1971, Chuck graduated from the School of Pharmacy at Purdue University where he was a member of Pi Kappa Psi. For the past 49 years, he has been licensed to practice pharmacy in Indiana, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas. Throughout his distinguished career, he has assumed a variety of leadership

roles which include President of the St. Joseph County Pharmacist Association; Chairman and President of the Indiana Pharmacist Association (IPA); founding Chairman of the IPA PAC; and Chairman and Treasurer of the American Pharmaceutical Association (AphA) PAC.

In 1979, Sherry also graduated from Purdue University with a Bachelor of Science degree, and continued to enhance her qualifications through a program at the South Bend Medical Foundation. Seeking to further her studies, she obtained her Masters in Public Administration (MPA, '90) from Indiana University where she was involved in the Pi Alpha Alpha honor society. Sherry's professional roles have been extensive. Over the span of her fruitful career, she has served as a Medical Tech. at Mishiana Community Hospital, Lab Director at LaPorte Hospital, Lab Administrator at Parkview Hospital in Vicksburg, MS, Senior Director for Laboratory, Respiratory and Business services at VHA in Dallas, and Vice President for Business Development at Health Network Laboratories in Allentown, PA.

Chuck and Sherry are now semi-retired, but they remain actively involved in the Catholic community and enjoy travelling, reading, gardening, crafting, orchestra and fly tying/fishing. They are also the proud parents of Diane Dobis and loving grandparents of Anthony, Christina, and Vivian Dobis, all of whom reside in Irving, Texas. As Chuck and Sherry's journey continues to unfold, may their commitment to one another continue to serve as an example of how love and dedication can enrich our lives.

Madam Speaker, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing this noteworthy milestone, the 50-year wedding anniversary of Chuck and Sherry Dobis.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR CHRISTIE
PAPILLA CUNNINGHAM

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 24, 2020

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay special tribute to Major Christie Papilla Cunningham for her exemplary dedication to duty and service as she transitions from her previous position as a Congressional Budget Liaison for the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Financial Management and Comptroller).

A native of Los Angeles, California, Major Cunningham was commissioned as a Military Intelligence Officer upon her graduation from the University of Southern California with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. She has also earned a Master's degree in Legislative Affairs from the George Washington University.

For the past 13 years, Major Cunningham has honorably served in command and staff positions in the California Army National Guard, U.S. Army Forces Command, U.S. Army Special Operations Command, U.S. Army Cyber Command, and the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command. She has been assigned to Fort Huachuca, Arizona; Fort Bragg, North Carolina; Fort Belvoir, Virginia; and Fort Meade, Maryland. Christie deployed to Afghanistan twice in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, first as the Execu-

tive Officer for the Bagram Theater Joint Interrogation Facility and then as the Joint Intelligence Officer for Joint Task Force Paladin South, a Counter-Improvised Explosive Device Task Force in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

In 2018, Major Cunningham was assigned as a Congressional Budget Liaison for the U.S. Army's Assistant Secretary of the Army for Financial Management and Comptroller. In this role, Christie effectively managed the Army's Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation portfolio and worked tirelessly with Members of Congress and their staffs to accurately articulate the Army's budget position to the Appropriations Committees. Christie's professionalism, integrity, and dedication to the mission are unmatched.

Christie cherishes family. Her husband, Patrick, also an active duty Major in the U.S. Army, and her children, Esai, Kai, Kaleo, and Kira, are the foundation of Christie's success. As we know, military families share in the sacrifices made by our servicemembers. The Cunninghams' selfless service to the U.S. Army and to their community is a shining example of what makes our military the best in the world.

Throughout her career, Major Cunningham has positively impacted countless soldiers of all ranks. Our country has benefited tremendously from her extraordinary leadership, intelligence, and passion. I join my colleagues today in honoring her dedication to our nation and her invaluable service to the U.S. Congress as a Congressional Budget Liaison.

I must also note that, as a Defense Legislative Fellow in my office, Major Cunningham consistently provided me with sage advice and quickly became a trusted source of counsel to me, my personal staff, and the House Appropriations Committee. Christie's sterling intellect, versatility, and team-first disposition proved indispensable in addressing the number of challenging tasks placed before her. Further, her incomparable work ethic, poise under pressure, and generosity will be sorely missed. To put it simply, Major Cunningham's performance as a Defense Legislative Fellow was outstanding and reflects great credit upon the U.S. Army and the Department of Defense. I am deeply appreciative of her contributions to my office and the U.S. Congress.

Madam Speaker, it has been a genuine pleasure to have worked with Major Cunningham. On behalf of a grateful nation, I recognize and commend Christie for her service to our country and I wish her all the best as she continues her service in the U.S. Army.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANTHONY G. BROWN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 24, 2020

Mr. BROWN of Maryland. Madam Speaker, if I had been present in the House of Representatives on July 20, 2020 for consideration of H.R. 6395, the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021, I would have voted YEA on roll call no. 141, Escobar of Texas Amendment No. 3; YEA on roll call no. 142, McAdams of Utah Amendment No. 4; and YEA on roll call no. 143, Smith of Washington Amendment En Bloc No. 1.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 24, 2020

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, during yesterday's vote on Rep. LOWEY of New York's Amendment En Bloc No. 3, my vote was incorrectly cast as Yea. I intended to vote Nay along with the majority of my colleagues.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 24, 2020

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, during Roll Call Vote Number 161 on H.R. 7608, I mistakenly recorded my vote as Yea when I should have voted Nay.

MEMORY OF OSCAR TEMORES

HON. TJ COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 24, 2020

Mr. COX of California. Madam Speaker, we pray for the soul and family of Navy Master-at-Arms 3rd Class Oscar Temores.

Oscar, a native of Lemoore, California and a dedicated husband, father, son and brother, was proudly serving his country and protecting his fellow sailors at Joint Expeditionary Base Fort Story, Virginia Beach, when he tragically lost his life in December 2019.

Unfortunately, the tragedy did not stop there for the family of Oscar Temores. When Bethany Temores, the wife of this fallen hero, joined the Congress as my guest for this year's State of the Union, I learned just how difficult the experience had been for her and the family of Master-at-Arms Temores. Numerous, compounding issues with the Casualty Assistance Program turned the process of laying Oscar to rest—one of the most traumatic things a spouse and family can endure—into what Bethany described as "a nightmare."

All service-connected families deserve our respect. We owe it to our fallen heroes to honor their legacy and to ensure military families have support in their time of need, including timely communication, travel and accommodation assistance, and an understanding of all benefits and other forms of relief.

To ensure that no other family endures what the Temores family endured, I introduced an amendment to the FY2021 National Defense Authorization Act that includes key changes to the way the Department of Defense (DoD) handles the transportation of fallen heroes and to direct the Department to review the current Casualty Assistance Calls Officer (CACO) procedure in order to make improvements to benefit all military families. Specifically, the amendment seeks to correct the miscommunication between the DoD, airports and transportation agencies in order to ensure survivors do not have to travel excessive distances, or experience undue effort, just to get their loved one home.