

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR.  
LANCE GERSHEN

**HON. MARK DeSAULNIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 11, 2020*

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of Lance Gershen, M.D.

Dr. Gershen was born in 1944 in New York City, where he spent his childhood. He attended Stuyvesant High School and then went on to study at Brooklyn College of The City University of New York. After graduating in 1965, Dr. Gershen received his M.D. from Albert Einstein College of Medicine in 1969.

Dr. Gershen's professional ambitions were delayed when he was drafted into the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War, during which time he served at the Naval Station Great Lakes in Chicago. Upon discharge from the military, Dr. Gershen moved to California where he completed his residency at The Children's Hospital Los Angeles. Dr. Gershen then made his way to Contra Costa County and began working as a pediatrician at Diablo Valley Pediatrics where he became a principal partner. Dr. Gershen was also the Pediatric Department Chairman at several local hospitals and President of the East Bay Pediatric Society. One of Dr. Gershen's many achievements came when he developed the first alternative birthing center in the East Bay. Dr. Gershen's professional legacy, which spanned over 40 years, is one of thoughtfulness and dedication to children and families.

In his personal life, Dr. Gershen was an active participant in his community. He was a member of Congregation B'nai Tikvah in Walnut Creek, the J Mensch men's group, and helped found JBL, a Jewish men's softball team. Above all else, Dr. Gershen loved spending time with his family. Dr. Gershen's faith in humanity was seen in his compassionate nature and his work to improve the lives of others.

Following Dr. Gershen's diagnosis with Parkinson's Disease, he learned about the Parkinson Network of Mt. Diablo. Serving as co-president, he worked to support and provide resources to others living with the disease. Dr. Gershen's own battle with Parkinson's never impacted his work to help others.

Sadly, Dr. Gershen passed away this year at the age of 75. He is survived by his eight children, fourteen grandchildren, and his wife Cindy. Please join me in honoring Dr. Lance Gershen for his many contributions to our community and this country. Dr. Gershen was a cherished member of Contra Costa County and he will be missed.

RECOGNIZING AMBER HARBIN

**HON. J. FRENCH HILL**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 11, 2020*

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the 2,977 victims who lost their lives in the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and four hijacked planes.

For all Americans, September 11th will be marked in our minds and hearts forever as a solemn day where innocent men and women were killed in what became the greatest attack on this nation since Pearl Harbor.

After the attacks, the Conway Fire Department sent firefighters to Ground Zero in New York to help. In October 2011, the Conway Fire Department requested and received a large piece of steel from the World Trade Center.

That piece sat inside Central Station until Conway resident Kevin Bass took it upon himself to create a memorial, launching the Citizens for Conway 9-11 Memorial page.

Thanks to the efforts of the Conway Fire Department, Conway city officials, and Mr. Bass, that piece of the World Trade Center is now a memorial to honor those who lost their lives.

The Searcy Fire Department also was selected by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to receive an I-beam of steel from the World Trade Center.

The Searcy Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary organized a fundraiser to cover the costs of that memorial. They had businesses and residents in Searcy to sponsor one of 343 American flags that were placed along the Beebe-Capps Expressway. The flags were placed on September 11, 2011, and each bore a ribbon with the name of a firefighter killed on 9/11.

Thanks to the community's help, the 9/11 Memorial is a focal point at the Searcy Fire Department today.

Both memorials stand as stark reminders of the constant bravery and heroism displayed by our nation's firefighters.

This year, on the 19th anniversary of September 11, I pray for the families who lost loved ones and friends who no longer have their companions.

May their cherished memories of good times, laughter, and happiness never fade.

HONORING HODARI P.T. BROWN

**HON. RASHIDA TLAIB**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 11, 2020*

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the fine example of Hodari P.T. Brown, a resident of Redford Township, Michigan.

Mr. Brown is an active and engaged member of the community. Born and raised in De-

troit, Michigan, he graduated from Detroit Public Schools before going on to earn his Bachelor of Science, Master of Business Administration, and Doctorate of Management degrees. Further, Mr. Brown is a proud military veteran.

He currently serves as Public Affairs Specialist for the U.S. Small Business Administration Michigan District Office, where he helps entrepreneurs grow their businesses with valuable resources and exposure. His dynamic career spans more than 15 years of excellence in leadership, customer service, project management, program management, public affairs and talent acquisition. Throughout his career, he has managed projects throughout key milestones for critical strategic initiatives and has helped bridge lines of communication between diverse groups and organizations.

Mr. Brown has earned numerous accolades for his hard work and leadership. He currently sits and holds offices with various advisory boards, committees and organizations such as the United State Taxpayer Advocacy Panel (TAP), First Independence Bank Millennial Advisory Board, President of Detroit Tennessee State University Alumni Association Foundation, Co-Campaign Chair of the National Business League Inc. Detroit Chapter, Board Member of BUF Connect of Michigan, and the co-founder/creator of the Young Millennium Power Hour, which is a forum for Young Entrepreneurs to get information about how to start, grow and expand a small business. Most recently, he has been recognized as a Junior Chamber International Michigan 2020 Outstanding Michigander of the Year.

Please join me in celebrating Mr. Hodari P.T. Brown's outstanding contributions.

HONORING COLE SAMPSON AS  
IOWAN OF THE WEEK

**HON. CYNTHIA AXNE**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 11, 2020*

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring a dedicated and community-minded young man from Cass County for this week's Iowan of the Week. Cole Sampson, now a freshman at Iowa State University, was recently honored with the 2020 Silver Cord Scholarship in his hometown of Atlantic, Iowa. The Silver Cord Program promotes volunteerism with all civic organizations in the area. Atlantic High School seniors who volunteered a minimum of 200 hours throughout their high school career graduated this year with a silver cord and were eligible for a scholarship provided by the Atlantic Area Chamber of Commerce.

"The Silver Cord program was started to educate students about the importance of community service. It gives students the opportunity to see firsthand how investing their time can enhance and grow their community,"

• 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.

Bailey Smith, Executive Director of the Atlantic Area Chamber of Commerce said.

Cole volunteered for numerous community activities, including Red Cross community blood drives, RAGBRAI, AtlanticFest, Coca-Cola Days, Christmas in Atlantic Ice-Skating Rink, and more. One of his favorite days among them was enlisting at a company picnic for a local organization. There, he manned bouncy castles and was able to interact with a lot of great community members.

"A big lesson I learned from these experiences was the importance of coordination and communication. I saw the many details and all the preparation that goes into events like these and how it can go smoothly if things are well planned and executed. I come from a family who believes in volunteering," Cole stated.

Volunteerism is significant to the entire Sampson family, Cole's mother Jackie being an encouraging force for Cole to continue volunteering within his community. His grandmother, Eleanor Hoover, was also a role model for what it means to be a true member of the community.

"My grandmother was always ready to help in the community in any way she was able, whether it was with sporting competitions, YMCA events, or with anyone else who needed a hand," said Cole.

Maintaining a rural community takes many hands and the work is never finished. Atlantic's Silver Cord Scholarship program is a great example of not only how to maintain a community, but also how to instill from a young age a sense of purpose and pride in giving back for the greater good. Because of that early engagement and opportunity to learn, a young man is carrying important Iowa values with him from Atlantic to Ames and beyond. I am proud to recognize Cole for his dedication to supporting his hometown and causes that make a meaningful, local impact. I am even prouder knowing there are many young people from communities across southwest Iowa who are carrying that same spirit forward as they embark on the next phase. It is my honor to share Cole Sampson's story and recognize him as our Iowan of the Week.

#### REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF INA RAE BURDMAN LEVY

#### HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 11, 2020*

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Ina Rae Burdman Levy, of Sarasota, Florida, who passed away peacefully Sunday, Aug. 30, 2020, at the age of 91.

Mrs. Levy was born July 22, 1929, to Harry and Doris Burdman, in Youngstown, Ohio. Each of her parents immigrated to the United States from Russia in the 1920s. Mrs. Levy was raised in Youngstown, and in 1957, she married the love of her life, Rabbi Theodore S. Levy. Together for 48 beautiful years, they lived in Huntington, West Virginia, and Waterbury, Connecticut, and then settled with their family in Syracuse, New York, for 30 years. After Syracuse they spent 10 years on Hilton Head Island, where Rabbi Levy died in 2004. Ina Rae moved to Sarasota, Florida and into the Sarasota Bay Club, where she enjoyed

continued community work, new friends and being closer to her children and grandchildren.

Mrs. Levy's life was full of educational pursuits, community involvement, philanthropic work, family and travel. Ina Rae Levy earned her Bachelor of Science degree in education in 1967 and a Master of Science degree in family therapy in 1972 from Syracuse University. Her relationship with Syracuse University continued throughout the 1970s while she worked as an assistant professor and assistant to the dean in the College of Human Development. Mrs. Levy was involved in innumerable local and worldwide organizations and received many awards as a result of her impact in those organizations. She was vice president of the New York State Federations of Women's Clubs and was the first president of the Women's Assembly of Syracuse Jewish Federation. Levy was also active in the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods and was the president of her district. As a vice chair for the World Union for Progressive Judaism, she traveled extensively with her husband, visiting member Reform Congregations around the world. While in Syracuse, Mrs. Levy was also the president of the prestigious Upstate Medical Center. Levy once received the Hannah G. Solomon Award from the National Council of Jewish Women.

Mrs. Levy was also tireless in her devotion to the equality and advancement of women. She was named by the Syracuse Post-Standard as the Woman of Achievement in Career Development in 1972 and again in 1985 she was named the Overall Woman of Achievement. In addition, she was always involved in and passionate about Planned Parenthood and The League of Women Voters wherever she lived. One of Ina Rae's proudest achievements was being the only woman invited to participate in the first ordination of Rabbis since the Holocaust in Dresden, Germany.

When Mrs. Levy moved to Sarasota, she once again became active in her synagogue, became an active member of the American Jewish Committee (AJC), chairing fundraising events in both Sarasota and Tampa. She always was concerned with the plight of Jews around the world. In 2005, Mrs. Levy was instrumental in the donation of a Holocaust Torah from a synagogue in Youngstown to a small synagogue in a small Russian community. She regretted not being able to attend the Torah dedication herself.

Despite all of the accolades and achievements, foremost for Mrs. Levy was her love for her family. She had three younger brothers, Ronald, B. Richard and Kenneth Burdman, all who predeceased her. She leaves behind two sisters-in-law, Babette Burdman and Marsha Burdman and their families. In addition to her children, Seth (and wife, Alice), Cyndi and Jonathan (and wife, Karen), she leaves five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. They were all the joys of her life.

I sincerely thank Mrs. Levy for her years of dedicated service and activism. She truly embodied the spirit and grit of the Mahoning Valley. I am proud to be friends with Mrs. Levy's son, Jonathan, and his wife, Karen. My deepest condolences go out to Mrs. Levy's entire family, and to all whose lives she touched.

#### APPRECIATING BILL RISER

#### HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 11, 2020*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, the Midlands of South Carolina is appreciating the extraordinary service of the late Bill Riser, as so well revered by The Times and Democrat of Orangeburg on August 21, 2020:

JOHN W. RISER SR.

WEST COLUMBIA—On Monday, Aug. 17, 2020, John William "Bill" Riser Sr., loving husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, passed away at the age of 86 after a short illness.

Bill was born on Jan. 4, 1934, in Bowman, to the late Thomas "Doc" Riser Sr. and Nell Weathers Riser. He received a BS degree from Clemson University in 1957, where he played basketball from 1952–56. He was on the first Clemson team to play in the first ACC Conference in 1954. He worked for the Clemson University Extension Service in Aiken, Saluda and Richland counties retiring in 1989. In 2015, he was in the first class of inductees to be inducted into the A. Frank Lever County Extension Agent Hall of Fame for service to S.C. and the farming industry.

Bill also served in the South Carolina House of Representatives from 1991–2002 for House District No. 69, Lexington County. His tenure in the House included effective membership on the critical Ways and Means Committee and on the budget subcommittee for Higher Education, TECH, and Cultural, as well as his vital chairmanship of the legislative Personnel and Benefits Subcommittee. He was also a member of the Agricultural, Natural Resources and Environment Affairs Committee for four years.

Bill served his community well, and never met a stranger. When he became Richland County's top agent, he became a media star, hosting the Early Riser show from 1976–89, and was a columnist for The State. A longtime farmer and extension agent, he never refused to share plant and garden tips as he traveled the countryside. Bill was a former Jaycee, Lion's Club member, and worked with the youth in the 4-H program in Saluda County.

He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Peggy Ann Gwinn Riser. They raised three children, Deborah A. Riser of Columbia, Karen R. Roof (Robert) of Eastover and John W. Riser Jr. (Jennifer) of Atlanta; four grandchildren, Caldwell Roof, Kirsten McClam, Emma Riser and Chloe Riser; as well as one great-grandchild, Drakeford McClam.

#### HONORING EMORY ALTIZER

#### HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 11, 2020*

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of Emory Ralph Altizer of Cedar Bluff, Virginia, who passed away on August 29 at the age of 99. Once recognized as America's oldest coal miner, Mr. Altizer represented the strong work ethic, spirit, patriotism, and faith that characterize the people of Virginia's Ninth Congressional District whom I am honored to serve.

Mr. Altizer was a native of Tazewell County, born on August 12, 1921 to William and Chloe