

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF DARLA
HOOPER

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 28, 2021

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Darla Hoover for her commitment to performing and educating, on the occasion of her 60th birthday. Ms. Hoover was a member of New York City Ballet (NYCB) from 1980–1991. Following her retirement from NYCB, Ms. Hoover began a distinguished career as a ballet teacher and repeteur for the George Balanchine Trust. For over 25 years, she has served as Artistic Director of Ballet Academy East (BAE) on the Upper East Side of Manhattan. In 2019 she was named Artistic Director of Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet. Ms. Hoover celebrates her 60th birthday on May 31 of this year.

Darla Hoover trained at the renowned Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet before moving to New York City to attend the School of American Ballet when she was 15 years old. In 1980, after choreographing a solo for her in the New York City Opera production of *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme*, George Balanchine chose her to become a member of NYCB.

As a repeteur for the George Balanchine Trust, Ms. Hoover has traveled the globe faithfully teaching the legendary choreographer's most celebrated works. She has done this work at some of the most prestigious ballet institutions in the world. Ms. Hoover has staged Balanchine ballets for The Royal Danish Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, Joffrey Ballet, New National Theatre Tokyo, Dance Theatre of Harlem and the Vaganova Ballet Academy in St. Petersburg Russia. This performance marked the first time the Vaganova Ballet Academy had ever performed a work by Mr. Balanchine.

As Artistic Director of BAE, Ms. Hoover has—alongside Executive Director Julia Dubno—developed it into one of the most renowned ballet schools in the country. Alumni have become professional dancers in ballet companies around the world, including NYCB, American Ballet Theater, and Dance Theatre of Harlem. The BAE faculty includes world-renowned current and former dancers, and its performances have been praised by publications such as *The New York Times*.

Ms. Hoover has been recognized as one of the best ballet teachers in the country. She directs a nationally recognized Teachers Workshop, in which she teaches fellow dance educators on the syllabus and methodologies developed by the late Marcia Dale Weary, under whom she studied. Ms. Hoover has been invited to share her successful techniques at some of the Nation's premiere ballet programs, including Boston Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet and Miami City Ballet.

Ms. Hoover has made a significant public contribution to American ballet as a teacher and mentor to young dancers. Her investment

in the personal success and well-being of her students has positively impacted countless children and adolescents in ways that reach far beyond ballet. She regularly forms close relationships with her students, who remain her “kids” even after they move on to pursue professional careers.

Ms. Hoovers dedication to her students and ballet is truly inspirational. The profound connection and skillful instruction Ms. Hoover provides countless young dancers demonstrate both her brilliance and the importance of arts education.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the accomplishments of Darla Hoover and expressing appreciation for her dedication to the betterment of her students, the arts, and community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LONG-
TIME SERVICE OF TREASURER
ANDY MEISNER

HON. HALEY M. STEVENS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 28, 2021

Ms. STEVENS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the longtime service of Oakland County Treasurer Andrew “Andy” Meisner.

Andy has served the families of Oakland County at the Federal, State, and local levels. He served three terms as a member of the Michigan House of Representatives—eventually chairing the House Commerce Committee. Andy began serving as the Oakland County Treasurer in 2009, when our country was in the depth of the foreclosure crisis. He worked diligently with stakeholders to help them get back on their feet and stay in their homes, all while maintaining Oakland County's AAA bond rating.

Over the past 12 years, Andy has made it his priority to protect the financial well-being of Oakland County and its residents. He has creatively educated students on the importance of financial literacy through his Financial Literacy Art Contest and created the Financial Empowerment Center, a program aimed at advising county residents, especially small business owners, through financial challenges. We in Michigan's 11th Congressional District, and across the county, are so very grateful to him for his dedication to our community.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Oakland County delegation, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Andy Meisner for his service and many contributions as Oakland County Treasurer.

CELEBRATING ASIAN AMERICAN
AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERIT-
AGE MONTH AND HONORING
SABRINA JAVELLANA

HON. STEPHANIE N. MURPHY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 28, 2021

Mrs. MURPHY of Florida. Madam Speaker, as part of our national celebration of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, I am paying tribute to Floridians who have made outstanding contributions to our community and our country.

Today I rise to honor Sabrina Javellana.

Sabrina, who is a proud lifelong resident of Hallandale Beach, graduated from Hallandale High School and Florida International University. On November 19, 2018, Sabrina made history as she became the first Asian-American, and the youngest person, ever elected as a Commissioner of Hallandale Beach. Within days, her colleagues selected her to serve as Vice Mayor.

A dedicated public servant and community activist, Sabrina has championed environmental policies to protect Florida's coral reefs and waterways. She has advocated for the City of Hallandale Beach to recognize the devastating effects of climate change and to prepare for climate change-related extreme weather events and natural disasters.

Sabrina is a champion for equity and justice in South Florida.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and celebrating Commissioner Sabrina Javellana.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF EVAN
DWIGHT BASS

HON. RALPH NORMAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 28, 2021

Mr. NORMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Evan Dwight Bass, who tragically passed away on April 10, 2020, in Chester, South Carolina. Born in Rock Hill on March 4, 2003, Evan is the son of Bobby and Wendy Tinker Bass and the brother of Brady Coleman Bass.

Evan was a well-rounded, deeply engaged, and hardworking young man. An honor student at Chester High School, Evan was involved in golf, wrestling, and Beta Club. A dual sport letterman for the Cyclones, Evan was also a goalie for the school's Varsity Boys Soccer Team. Evan was described by the athletic department as “a true teammate . . . who had genuine love for everyone he met. He taught us to always be kind, care for others, to be selfless, to have fun, and to love.”

An avid sports fan, Evan cheered for the Carolina Panthers and the South Carolina Gamecocks. He especially loved the Coastal

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Carolina University baseball team, where he volunteered as a batboy throughout his childhood.

A man of faith, Evan was also deeply involved with the Chester ARP Church. He enjoyed being part of the Senior High Youth, volunteering at Bible School, and attending the annual church mission trip to Appalachia.

In addition to his strong faith and athletic achievements, Evan was a civic-minded individual. For example, Evan was a member of Chester ARP Pack 61, where he earned the highest rank in Cub Scouting, the Arrow of Light. Evan was also a member of Chester ARP Troop 61, where he achieved Life Rank. Evan was working diligently on his Eagle Scout project when he tragically passed away. His grandfather, Terry Tinker, is the Coroner in Chester County, so Evan decided to create a prayer building with an eternal flame and benches honoring the fallen first responders at the Coroner's office. Evan never had a chance to finish his Eagle Project, so his scout brothers completed it in his honor.

Evan was a remarkable young man who humbly served his community well. There is no doubt in my mind that he has left an everlasting mark on Chester County. Evan's heart of gold is deeply missed by all who knew him, but his legacy will shine on for years to come.

HONORING STAFF SERGEANT
DAVID HERSHBERGER

HON. A. DONALD McEACHIN
OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, May 28, 2021

Mr. MCEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Staff Sergeant David Hershberger as the 2021 recipient of the inaugural Memorial Day recognition program for the Fourth Congressional District of Virginia.

Staff Sergeant Hershberger died on January 10, 1968, in service of his country while assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment, 9th Infantry Division during the Vietnam war. Staff Sergeant Hershberger was involved in close combat with an armed hostile force and for his gallantry in action he was posthumously awarded the Silver Star.

Staff Sergeant Hershberger was born in Norfolk, Virginia, on June 10, 1947, the first child of Lloyd and Wilchester Woodley Hershberger (Chester). Along with his siblings Cindy, Patti, and Charles, David relished life in the country. With many aunts, uncles, and cousins nearby, he was rooted in family. The Hershberger family faithfully attended Laurel Avenue Church of Christ in Chesapeake, Virginia, where David attended youth group and was much loved by his church family.

He attended Princess Anne High School in Virginia Beach where he was on the track team. He was particularly adept at running hurdles and was awarded a trophy for Athlete of the Year. He graduated with the class of 1965.

SSG Hershberger enlisted in the United States Army in 1966 and attended his training as an infantryman in Fort Jackson, South Carolina. Dr. James D. Johnson served with SSG Hershberger and said that, "David was a natural leader. Everyone, and I mean everyone, in Company A, 360th Infantry knew him . . . When David spoke, everyone knew to lis-

ten and that whatever he said was straight. He was very energetic, enthusiastic, mature beyond his years and highly respected in everything he did."

It is for these reasons and so many more that I am proud to recognize Staff Sergeant Hershberger as the 2021 recipient of the Fourth Congressional District of Virginia's inaugural Memorial Day recognition program for his selfless service to our Commonwealth and our country.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Staff Sergeant Hershberger for his devotion to the United States of America and his selflessness while in defense of our country.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICE
OF COLONEL RANDY SOUTHARD

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, May 28, 2021

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Colonel Randy Southard. Serving in both the Reserves and Active Duty in the Army, and as a patrol deputy for the Outagamie County Sheriff's Office, Colonel Southard is an asset to his community and to his Nation.

During his nearly 30 years of military service, Colonel Southard took on several leadership positions as an infantry officer and commander. He served as the primary staff officer of five large Army Reserve units, Deputy Brigade Commander and Exercise Branch Chief for 1st Brigade, Great Lakes Training Division, 75th Training Command, and Chief Observer Controller Trainer for 15 Battalion and higher echelon units. During Colonel Southard's service he completed tours overseas in Kabul, Afghanistan as Deputy Chief, Afghanistan National Army Development, providing crucial support to the United Nations Security Council's International Security Assistance Force Joint Command.

Amidst his deployments and hard work in the Army, he continued serving Northeast Wisconsin as a patrol deputy in the Outagamie County Sheriff's Office. Beginning his career with the Outagamie County Sheriff's Office on June 7, 1999 Colonel Southard has served as a Field Training Officer, as a member of the Emergency Response SWAT team, and as a K9 handler. Colonel Southard has clearly demonstrated his commitment to serving for the public good and making the world around him a safer place during his 22 year career.

I am incredibly thankful for his dedication and continued service with the Sheriff's Office.

Madam Speaker, I urge all Members of this body to join me in applauding Colonel Southard for his impressive career and service in the United States Army.

RECOGNIZING DR. PAMELA WHITTEN FOR HER SERVICE AS PRESIDENT OF KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY

HON. BARRY LOUDERMILK

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, May 28, 2021

Mr. LOUDERMILK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outgoing President of Kennesaw State University, Dr. Pamela Whitten. After serving as the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost at the University of Georgia from February to June 2018, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia selected Dr. Whitten to lead one of Georgia's top universities.

During her tenure, Kennesaw State University has experienced record enrollment growth, stronger research capacity, and a more beneficial student experience. In response to COVID-19, President Whitten challenged KSU's faculty, staff, and administrators to prioritize student health and maintain academic excellence in innovative ways, even during a pandemic. Under her leadership, the university became a leading example of remote learning and established a COVID testing site on campus for the region.

I thank President Whitten for her friendship, her leadership of Kennesaw State University, and am grateful for her dedication to all who call themselves KSU Owls. I wish her the best as she becomes the next President of Indiana University.

RECOGNIZING ACHIEVEMENTS OF
BRAD HICKS

HON. CLIFF BENTZ

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, May 28, 2021

Mr. BENTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Brad Hicks, who retires on June 30, 2021, after working nearly 28 years with The Chamber of Medford & Jackson County, serving as its President and Chief Executive Officer for 21 of those years.

Brad was raised in Grants Pass, Oregon, and graduated from North Valley High School in 1983, where he served as Class President. Brad attended Southern Oregon University, graduating with a bachelor's degree in Political Science in 1987, and then worked with members in the Oregon State Legislature and the United States Congress for nearly five years. In 1993, Brad returned to the Rogue Valley, beginning his career in chamber management as the Membership Director for The Chamber of Medford & Jackson County. In 1999, Brad took leadership of The Chamber as its President and CEO.

As leader of The Chamber, Brad's experience in government helped him develop a unique strategy focused on encouraging competition among small businesses, limiting their tax burden, and promoting highly qualified workers. Brad also raised serious questions about how businesses were expected to thrive while government was failing to capitalize on Oregon's economic advantages. He also focused The Chamber's attention on issues