

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MS. SOPHIE PASIBE

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 2, 2021*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life and legacy of Sophie Pasibe and to recognize the impact she had on the Filipino-American community in Vallejo and Benicia.

Born September 29, 1931 in the Municipality of Agoo in La Union, Philippines, Ms. Sophie Pasibe's life was characterized by her years as a teacher, philanthropist, and public servant. Before her emigration from the Philippines to the United States in 1969, Ms. Pasibe served her community as a fourth grade teacher. Soon after arriving in the United States, she continued her teaching career for the Stockton Unified School District. In 1975, Ms. Pasibe settled in Benicia, California, where she resided for the remainder of her life.

Ms. Pasibe had a huge impact on advancing the interests of the Filipino-American community. She was a leader, serving as vice president of the Agoonians of California, president of Fil-Ams of Benicia, and chair of the Lakbay Aral Program. Additionally, she helped to found both the Young Generations of Agoo and the Solano County Filipino-American Chamber of Commerce. Through her leadership, she helped to advance the prosperity and cultural expression of her community through projects like the Lakbay Aral Travel Study Program, a collaboration with the Fili Am Chamber and Philippine government to send Filipino-American teenagers to the Philippines, many for the first time, to connect with their roots through an immersive program.

Ms. Pasibe's dedication to her community further fueled her philanthropy, as she served as a certified court interpreter, traveling throughout much of California. Furthermore, she utilized her artistry and creativity to sell crafts at street fairs, with all proceeds going back to her home in the Philippines. Ms. Pasibe will be remembered by her selfless dedication to others.

Madam Speaker, Ms. Sophie Pasibe was a committed community advocate and exceptional leader who dedicated her life to serving the Filipino community.

RECOGNIZING THE BICENTENNIAL  
OF FRANKLIN ACADEMY

**HON. TRENT KELLY**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 2, 2021*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the Bicentennial of Franklin Academy in Columbus, Mississippi—the state's first Public School. In its two hundred years, Franklin Academy has had a profound impact on education in our state.

In December of 1821, construction was completed on the first schoolhouse. A 20x30 foot wood framed structure was erected to house the first classes, and in 1835 a second structure was built to separate the boys and girls. In 1866, a fourteen-room, three-story building became the new home of Franklin Academy. An adjoining chapel allowed for religious services and education.

In November of 1909 President Taft visited Franklin Academy as a stop on a national tour. Nine years later, the school adapted to elementary students when Stephen D. Lee High School was completed. It wasn't until 1939 that the current two-story building was constructed under the Public Works Administration.

Franklin Academy was integrated in September of 1965. It has since been named a Mississippi landmark and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

I commend all current and former faculty, staff, and administration at Franklin Academy for preserving educational excellence and continuously striving for the best quality education for our young people.

CONGRATULATING MAYOR HARRY  
J. PARRISH II ON HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. JENNIFER WEXTON**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 2, 2021*

Ms. WEXTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate City of Manassas Mayor Harry J. Parrish, II on his retirement and thank him for his many years of dedicated service.

A life-long resident of Manassas, Mayor Parrish was appointed to the Manassas City Council in 1993 and was elected to the Council in 1996, 2000 and again in 2004. He had the honor of being elected by the Council as Vice Mayor in 1999. He continued in the Vice Mayor position until May of 2008 when he was elected Mayor. Mayor Parrish now completes his third term as Mayor of the City of Manassas.

Mayor Parrish has played an active role in his community as a member of many service organizations, including the Manassas Volunteer Fire Company, the Kiwanis Club of Bull Run, and the Prince William Hospital Foundation. He is also a member of the city's thriving business community, leading his family business as President of Manassas Ice & Fuel Company.

Mayor Parrish earned a bachelor's degree in Aerospace Engineering and Physics at the University of Virginia. He went on to serve our nation in the United States Air Force from 1973 to 1978. He then earned a master's degree in Business Management from Central Michigan University before returning home to Manassas.

On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives and the citizens of Virginia's 10th Con-

gressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mayor Parrish on his retirement and thank him for his many years of dedicated and honorable service.

RECOGNIZING MS. TANYA DURHAM  
AS THE WALTON COUNTY, FLORIDA  
EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT  
PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

**HON. MATT GAETZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 2, 2021*

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Ms. Tanya Durham as the Walton County Educational Support Professional of the Year. Since August of 2019, Ms. Durham has served the Walton County School District with exceptional passion and an unwavering commitment to serving others.

In Northwest Florida, we are fortunate to have some of the best teachers in the Nation. It is recognized that the position of custodian can be difficult—but also rewarding. Ms. Durham has performed her many duties without hesitation, while always providing a friendly smile for everyone she encounters.

Ms. Durham is revered by her Principal and colleagues for her strong work ethic and compassion. She selflessly considers the needs of both students and staff because of the immense pride she has for her school.

Her support and outreach extend far beyond the hearts and minds of her own students through her willingness to help wherever assistance is needed. Ms. Durham has displayed dedicated teamwork by coordinating events, like "Family Night" for The Boys and Girls Club and the May Day Festival. I commend her for her steadfast willingness to serve as an example for those who matter most—the students and youth of our Nation.

For all of her admirable contributions to our community, I am truly proud to have Ms. Durham as a constituent in Florida's First Congressional District.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Ms. Tanya Durham for her many accomplishments, and her commitment to excellence, professionalism, innovation, and collaboration in the Walton County School District. I thank her for her service, and wish her all the best for her continued success.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF  
MAJOR JACOB D. MCELWEE

**HON. SHARICE DAVIDS**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 2, 2021*

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Major Jacob D. McElwee for his service in the Kansas Army

• 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.

National Guard and his recent role in sending out troops to Topeka and Washington, D.C. this month to provide additional security support for the inauguration.

A resident of the Third District in Shawnee, Major McElwee became a commissioned Judge Advocate General Corps Officer in the Kansas Army National Guard in September 2010. During his service as a Judge Advocate General Corps Officer, Major McElwee deployed to Kosovo in 2014 through 2015 and then again to Kuwait and Iraq in 2018 through 2019.

Major McElwee is currently the legal advisor to the Adjutant General Major General David Weishaar. As a fulltime Kansas Army National Guard Judge Advocate General, Major McElwee handles a non-stop flow of requests and questions, while ensuring the highest quality work product possible. He dropped everything to travel to Salina with another officer and two paralegals to help with the rolling out of troops to protect our state and national capitols.

One of the most rewarding parts of representing the Third District is hearing about the exemplary service and accomplishments of my constituents. Major McElwee is certainly no exception and I commend him for his dedication to our state and country.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF  
DERWOOD RAY BOYLES

**HON. TRENT KELLY**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 2, 2021*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Derwood Ray Boyles who passed away on October 13, 2020. Colonel Boyles was a dedicated serviceman and dedicated his life to faith, family, and country. I join countless Mississippians in mourning his loss.

Born March 20, 1928 to Silas and Lurline Windham Boyles in Lorena, Mississippi, Derwood Ray Boyles and his family soon moved to Jackson, Mississippi where he spent the rest of his life. Derwood was a founding member of the Jackson Boy's Club. In 1946, he graduated from Central High School as an Eagle Scout and a member of the Order of the Arrow. While at Central High, Derwood was also a ROTC cadet, which enabled him to join the U.S. Navy near the end of WWII. He was selected to be a squadron leader at boot camp and spent his tour of duty in the Mediterranean area on the *Providence*, the flag ship of the fleet. It was on this tour Derwood had the opportunity to meet Pope Pius XII.

Derwood returned stateside and graduated from Mississippi State University in 1951. He studied Accounting and soon joined his uncle at Dreyfus Insurance Agency—one of the oldest agencies in the state. He was committed to his partners, continuing to visit the office into his 90s, and was inducted into the Mississippi State University Insurance Hall of Fame in 2007.

While serving as the president of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, Derwood met Miss Jackson, Regina Harlan. On December 17, 1957, the two were married in Rockefeller Center in a ceremony broadcasted on NBC. The two were married for over 62 years before his passing.

Colonel Boyles dedicated 28 years of service to the Mississippi Army National Guard. He was an active member of many veteran and military organizations. In 2006 he was awarded the Spirit of Volunteerism Award by the Defense Department. He also received the Medal for Exceptional Public Service, the highest level public service award given by the Department of Defense.

Derwood is survived by his wife, Regina Harlan Boyles. Other survivors are son, MG Janson Durr Boyles; daughter, Jennifer Boyles McCall; grandchildren Durwood Graham (Gray) Boyles and Connor Boyles of Dallas, TX; Carter McCall, Sarah Douglas McCall and Matt McCall (Laura) of Knoxville, TN.

Colonel Boyles was an outstanding Mississippian who exemplified a commitment to public service. He dedicated his life to making life better for his community. I am grateful for men like Derwood who so humbly served our great state, and my deepest condolences are with those who loved him.

HONORING AHMET AND NESUHI  
ERTEGUN FOR THEIR FIGHT  
AGAINST RACIAL INJUSTICE  
THROUGH THE POWER OF MUSIC

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 2, 2021*

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to draw attention to an article that appeared on January 20, 2021 in the Washington Post entitled, "These Turkish brothers found their calling in D.C., championing the Black music scene" by David Taylor. The article highlights the contributions made by Ahmet and Nesuhi Ertegun, two Turkish brothers who fought against racial injustice. The Ertegun brothers were the sons of Turkish Ambassador, Mehmet Munir Ertegun, and navigated the heavily segregated and complex Washington, D.C. These two young Turkish men dismissed racist comments and individuals, and instead familiarized themselves with the black neighborhoods of Washington.

The two quickly realized how racially divided the city was, and in order to satisfy their love for jazz, the brothers became familiar with jazz clubs on U street, record shops on Seventh Street, and were regulars at the famous "Waxie Maxie," where they would meet fellow jazz enthusiasts. Ignoring the racial barriers which divided the city and country, they unapologetically hosted jam sessions at the Turkish Embassy. The Turkish Ambassador received complaints from irritated neighbors, but simply ignored those who called the music "disturbing". Enamored by jazz music the Ertegun brothers organized the first integrated jazz concert at the Jewish Community Center in the 1940s.

Eventually, the Ertegun brothers founded Atlantic Records in 1947 and the record company became the most successful independent label in the country. Atlantic Records went on to work with Ray Charles, Ruth Brown, La Vern Baker, the Drifters, the Coasters, Aretha Franklin, and Led Zeppelin. The list of music icons also included Stevie Wonder and Mick Jagger. In 1995, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame museum announced that its main exhibition hall would be named after Ahmet Ertegun.

Madam Speaker, as we celebrate Black History Month, I hope that my colleagues will join me in honoring Ahmet and Nesuhi Ertegun. Their story is a wonderful reminder that despite numerous differences there is always a common unifying force between people. Especially during these times when we find ourselves deeply divided, we must remember that we are able to come together despite our differences, and work for a better future as the Ertegun brothers did through the power of music.

[From the Washington Post, Jan. 20, 2021]  
THESE TURKISH BROTHERS FOUND THEIR  
CALLING IN D.C., CHAMPIONING THE BLACK  
MUSIC SCENE

(By David A. Taylor)

Turkish filmmaker Umran Safer has a special place in her heart for Washington. She had the international premiere of her first documentary feature, "Eye of Istanbul," at the 2016 Washington, DC Independent Film Festival, where it won the award for best of the festival.

Her new film brought her back to D.C. for the story of Ahmet and Nesuhi Ertegun, the brothers behind Atlantic Records, and their early years as sons of Turkish ambassador Mehmet Munir Ertegun. The Erteguns, she says, "resisted all sorts of political pressure in the 1930s and 1940s" as they regularly hosted "Black jazz artists on special jazz evenings at the Turkish Embassy in Washington."

As teenagers, Ahmet and Nesuhi were smitten by jazz when they heard Duke Ellington play in London and were excited about moving to his hometown. But when they arrived, they were disappointed to find how racially segregated the city was. "When I first came to Washington, the stores downtown didn't carry any jazz records or blues records," Ahmet said in a 2002 interview. "I had to go to the Black section of Washington for the shops that sold records of the music we wanted to buy."

He visited jazz clubs on U Street and record shops on Seventh Street, and became a regular at Waxie Maxie, the music shop owned by Max Silverman, who built the store into a leading music retail chain. There, Ertegun found other jazz fans, such as Washington Post photographer and reporter Bill Gottlieb, later a writer for the influential *Down Beat* music magazine, and Billy Taylor, who would go on to become a bandleader and for decades directed jazz at the Kennedy Center.

Safer, 51, had read about the jazz concerts the Erteguns organized at the embassy. "It's a great story. I said to myself, 'Let's do this story as a documentary.'" For the film (working title: "Leave the Door Open"), she tracked down everyone she could find who knew them. In New York, she spoke with Atlantic Records colleague Bob Porter as well as Renee Pappas, ex-wife of Atlantic producer Jerry Wexler. Pappas had been friends with both brothers and had vivid stories. (Nesuhi Ertegun died in 1989; Ahmet, in 2006.)

Safer and her small crew arrived in Washington in February 2020 for filming. Everett House in Sheridan Circle—which served as the embassy during the Erteguns' era in D.C., and is now the residence of the Turkish ambassador—opened its doors to them. Safer also had sit-down interviews with jazz historians and radio DJs Willard Jenkins and Larry Appelbaum. And she interviewed people who had interviewed Ahmet (including me).

She pieced together a story of race in Washington, exploring how the Erteguns cracked barriers in segregation and the blowback they faced. When they invited