

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING FREDNA MAHAFFEY

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 14, 2022

Mr. LONG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Fredna Mahaffey.

Fredna Barton Mahaffey was born on July 18, 1929, in Highland Park (Dallas), Texas. After graduating from Highland Park High School, she attended SMU where she became a member of the Pi Beta Phi Sorority. After transferring to the University of Wisconsin in Madison she graduated with a BA in Spanish while also becoming President of the local Pi Beta Phi chapter.

In 1953, Fredna was very blessed to have gone on an afternoon blind date where she met her future husband John B. Mahaffey of Springfield, Missouri. Their date was to a football game between two arch rivals, the Texas Longhorns and the Oklahoma Sooners. 'Freddie' as John called her had another date with another suitor scheduled for that evening but she was so taken with John she cancelled the later date. John and Fredna got married October 29, 1954, in Dallas. After their nuptials Fredna moved to Springfield in southwest Missouri. Their children, Robert and Beth, grew up with the political commitment of their parents.

Fredna campaigned for Richard Nixon in 1960 and took her daughter to a Nixon rally at the Ozark Empire Fairgrounds. Throughout the 1964 presidential campaign, her children remember that she wore a gold elephant pin with black horn-rimmed glasses in support of Barry Goldwater. I didn't wear an elephant pin but 1964 was the first campaign I worked on as a nine year old in Springfield. I would ride my bicycle all over the neighborhood nailing 'Goldwater For President' placards to telephone poles. Fredna's father was a physician who had the first EKG machine in Dallas, and after he read "A Texan Looks at Lyndon" published in March 1964 he shared it with Fredna.

In the mid-1960's, she worked tirelessly for then-State Senator Jack Curtis' re-election, whose district lines had changed to include the whole of Greene County. Their phone bank was 3 rotary-dial telephones in the basement of Jack and Helen Curtis' home in Springfield with volunteers fueled by Helen's delicious brownies.

Fredna was a Greene County, Missouri, GOP Committeewoman and local political organizer for many years, back in the day when all her voter records were on handwritten index cards.

Fredna and John were instrumental in Southwest Missouri in the Republicans rise in Missouri including the election of Jack Danforth to Attorney General in 1968, Kit Bond as State Auditor in 1970, and Kit Bond for Governor in 1972. Over the past 50 years, Fredna supported numerous Federal, state and local candidates and GOP party committees' fundraising campaigns. In 2000 and 2004, Fredna

supported John's efforts as a major national fundraiser for former President George W. Bush. She and John opened their homes on Catalpa and in Highland Springs and hosted or sponsored gatherings for former President George H.W. Bush, former Vice President Dan Quayle, former President George W. Bush, Lynne Cheney, Senator Roy Blunt, Senator Josh Hawley, Governor Mike Parson, Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft, Congresswomen Ann Wagner and Vicky Hartzler, former Senators Jack Danforth, Kit Bond and Jim Talent, and former Lt. Governor Peter Kinder.

In our recently completed election cycle, Fredna, at 93 years old continued to support Republican candidates including myself for Senate along with Eric Schmitt for Senate, Eric Burleson for Congress in Missouri—07 and Erik Aadlund in Colorado—07 (whose father is the former Commanding General at Fort Leonard Wood). Her heart and head has not wavered from the mission of liberty, smaller government and free enterprise instilled in her many years before.

Fredna had 58 years together with John, including in the political arena, until his passing in August 2013. She supported his more than 3 decades of service as a Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army under 5 U.S. Presidents, traveling the world in support of the U.S. Army. The John Mahaffey Museum Complex at Fort Leonard Wood is a testimony to their joint faithfulness to our soldiers, as is their establishing the Operation Promises scholarship at Missouri State University for veterans who were injured in combat after September 11, 2001.

Fredna is most importantly a lifelong Christian, a strong believer in Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior and a faithful member and supporter of First and Calvary Presbyterian Church in Springfield.

Madam Speaker, Fredna has dedicated her life to so many great causes near to her heart, and I am proud to honor her today.

RECOGNIZING VIRGINIA "GINNY" BURROUGHS ON HER 102ND BIRTHDAY

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 14, 2022

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding constituent from my district, Virginia Jewell Rogers Burroughs. Ginny was born on December 19, 1920. As we celebrate her 102 years of life, we think of all the memories and stories that she has and continues to share as a citizen of this great country. Ginny was born and raised in the Trenton, New Jersey area, spending much of her adult life in Pennington, New Jersey. She is a mother and was the devoted wife of her husband, Robert Burroughs who was the CEO and Owner of the Trenton Folding Box Company. Ginny raised 4 children and

is the grandmother to 9 grandchildren and multiple great-grandchildren. Ginny would often split her time between Pennington, New Jersey and Naples, Florida until she retired at Holland Village where she actively engages in the community beyond bingo and canasta. Ginny is a supportive voice in the Holland Village Community and continues to care for others by making sure they have their meals and welcomes visitors to her dining room table. Now as she has turned 102 years young, I am proud to recognize and celebrate Virginia Jewell Rogers Burroughs as an exceptional citizen from my district. We are incredibly grateful for the positive impact Ginny has had throughout her life and the countless people she has touched through her kindness, and we wish Ginny countless blessings as she continues to be a voice for her community.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF GARY YANDURA

HON. LUCY MCBATH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 14, 2022

Mrs. MCBATH. Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize the retirement of Gary Yandura, Chief Emeritus of the Brookhaven Police Department. For 40 years, Chief Emeritus Yandura has served with distinction as a law enforcement officer and a leader in community policing.

Chief Emeritus Yandura began his career in policing in Lake Forest, Illinois, where he served for 24 years before retiring as deputy chief. Here in Georgia, he served as chief of police in Hiram and College Park. In College Park, he was credited with reducing crime by 30 percent during his first four years as police chief. Following a nationwide search, he was appointed the first chief of police for the newly incorporated city of Brookhaven in April of 2013. For the last decade, Chief Emeritus Yandura has put Brookhaven on the map as one of the most innovative and forward-thinking police departments in the country.

During Chief Emeritus Yandura's tenure, he has made significant contributions in law enforcement, criminal justice, and mental health. Through initiatives like the Brookhaven Police Transparency Project, the Mental Health Co-Responder Program, and the innovative use of drones in police work, Brookhaven's Police Department has put an emphasis on prioritizing safety and building trust in the community. Because of these initiatives, the Brookhaven Police Department is routinely invited by law enforcement agencies from across the country to share their work so that more communities in America can benefit from the wisdom of the standards and practices that have been fostered by Chief Emeritus Yandura.

Over the last 4 years, I have been honored to work in partnership with Chief Emeritus Yandura as I have represented the City of

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Brookhaven. He and his department have gone above and beyond the call of duty in service to the residents of Brookhaven. While his presence will be sorely missed, I know his legacy will live on through the programs he has developed and implemented through the years. On behalf of my office and the United States House of Representatives, I wish Chief Yandura all the best in his retirement and thank him once again for his decades of outstanding service to our community.

RECOGNIZING THE DEPARTURE OF
THE HONORABLE CAROLE
GROOM FROM THE SAN MATEO
COUNTY BOARD OF SUPER-
VISORS

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 14, 2022

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize my good friend and colleague Carole Groom as she departs the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors after 13 years of service. The people of San Mateo County are losing a champion of children, healthcare, economic justice, and the environment.

Carole began her public service career on the City of San Mateo's public works and planning commissions. She was appointed to the city council in 2000 and won election to a full four-year term in 2001. She twice served as Mayor. Carole and her colleagues skillfully guided the Bay Meadows development through public reviews and controversy, and the result is a spectacular 83 acres of mixed-use development adjacent to a major rail station. It hosts 1,250 residential units and 1.25 million square feet of office space. She also supported the overlapping Rail Corridor Specific Plan that covered the area from Hillsdale Boulevard to the old Kmart site. That plan produced hundreds of new housing units, retail and office buildings at the old Kmart shopping center, serving as a regional example to emulate. As an avid booster of downtown San Mateo, she coined the saying, "If you can't find it in San Mateo, you don't need it." This remains an unofficial slogan of the city.

Carole was appointed to the Board of Supervisors in 2009 and formed the first board with women in the majority. She won a full four-year term in 2010. These were the darkest days of the housing recession. In her first comments as a member, she noted that she wanted to continue her work on the county's budget deficit and universal health coverage. Carole's priorities also included protecting parks and open space.

In 2009, she launched "Active San Mateo County" which convened an annual Fall conference exploring health and wellbeing, and that planned an annual countywide event, "Streets Alive! Parks Alive!" The county's parks and recreation directors recognized her with their "Champion of the Community" award in 2012.

Perhaps Carole's signature effort to boost economic justice in San Mateo County came through an innovative program known as "The Big Lift." It was a big lift to consider a countywide program to increase the percentage of third graders reading at grade level from 58 percent to 80 percent, but Carole, her board

colleagues and the county's superintendent of education took on the task. Key interventions included access to preschool, inspiring summer experiences, reducing chronic absenteeism, and increasing family engagement from preschool to third grade. The pandemic struck a blow to this noble effort, but it continues and undoubtedly paid off for thousands of children from 2013 to 2020 when classes were greatly disrupted.

Peninsula Clean Energy was the brainchild of Supervisors Pine and Groom. This countywide energy aggregator buys clean, renewable energy on the market and sells it to most businesses and households at 5 percent below the rates of our local utility. We all search for ways to reduce the cost of living and to improve the environment. The two Supervisors found a remarkable way to do both, and today the agency has expanded its offerings to include grants for purchases of energy efficient appliances.

Carole has deep roots in the health care system, having served as Vice President of Mills Peninsula Hospital for 18 years. She presently serves on the Board of Directors of the San Mateo County Hospital Board, the governing body for the San Mateo Medical Center. The hospital is a gem, and Carole Groom, as a skillful board member, is one of the finest jewelers in our community.

In addition to her work on the Board of Supervisors, she serves as a member of the California Coastal Commission, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, and on the board of our local transit agency, Samtrans. If it thrives on our coast, Carole protects it. If it pollutes the air, Carole opposes it. If it glides on big axels down the El Camino Real and gives essential mobility to the disabled, our working poor and the elderly, Carole celebrates it.

Madam Speaker, we now say goodbye to a woman who everyone welcomes with joy when she walks into a room. We know that her heart was focused on policies that were fair and that protected the most vulnerable. It is said that on a clear day you can see forever. Carole saw the good in people, and her vision built a better life for millions over more than twenty years that she served our community and state. The woman who promoted reading to promote justice is now retiring. San Mateo County owes Supervisor Carole Groom its eternal appreciation. While she will be out of the limelight, Carole will remain in the hearts of all of us.

EXPRESSING THE COMMITMENT
OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTA-
TIVES TO BUILDING ON THE
TWENTY YEARS OF SUCCESS OF
THE GEORGE MCGOVERN-ROBERT
DOLE FOOD FOR EDUCATION
AND CHILD NUTRITION PRO-
GRAM

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 1156, expressing the commitment of the House of Representatives to building on the 20 years of success of the

George McGovern-Robert Dole Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program.

The McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program helps support education, child development and food security in low-income, food-deficit countries around the globe.

In 2017, there were 821 million people worldwide experiencing hunger. That is 1 in every 9 people.

Sixty-six million children are experiencing hunger worldwide every day. One in 6 children are food insecure.

According to UNICEF, approximately 3.1 million children globally die from undernutrition every year. It is estimated that every 10 seconds a child around the globe dies from hunger.

Even in the United States, hunger and food insecurity are major problems. In my home of Houston, almost 725,000 people experience food insecurity, which amounts to about 23 percent of Houston's households.

More than 500,000 Houstonians live in food deserts. These food deserts are found mostly in areas with limited transportation, lack of aid, and high unemployment rates.

Hunger is also tragic because it reflects economic and social inequity. In Houston, for example, food deserts are more likely to occur in primarily Black communities.

Lack of food doesn't just impact a child's hunger levels. Food insecurity stunts a child's growth and development and often children fall behind in school because they are unable to focus while experiencing hunger.

Children who experience food insecurity grow into adults with health complications that emerged from the lack of food.

As former Chair of the Congressional Children's Caucus I worked to improve the lives of children not only in the United States, but globally because the children are the future, and we must do everything possible to protect them.

Global food insecurity is of great importance to me because, not only am I a longtime Member of the House Hunger Caucus, I represent the same Congressional District that had been represented by iconic leaders who fought to end hunger in the U.S. and globally.

I am proud to continue the historic legacy of Congresswoman Barbara Jordan, who was a champion for human dignity and fought for the rights of all people regardless of race, gender, heritage, or economic status, and Congressman Mickey Leland, who worked tirelessly to raise awareness of, and fight for, policies to end food insecurity around the globe and who, tragically, died in a plane crash while working to end world hunger on a relief mission in Ethiopia.

Starvation is a terrible thing. It's something that nobody should have to go through. And yet, there are people in this world who are starving right now as a consequence of natural disasters, war, and even as a tool of warfare.

In Pakistan, food deprivation is compounded by the human toll from recent floods and other natural disasters. Using drought to strategically exacerbate starvation is unacceptable.

The people of Ethiopia's Tigre Province are being subjected to a truly vile and malicious use of food deprivation in this way. The region was already suffering from drought, and when compounded by forced starvation from denial of access to food as a weapon of war, the effect is heinous and the consequences are unforgivable.