

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## PRAYER OF PUTIN'S WAR

## HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 16, 2022*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, Rev. Dr. Derek W. H. Thomas, now an American citizen from Wales, United Kingdom, being the Senior Minister of the First Presbyterian Church of Columbia founded in 1795 delivered a heartfelt prayer on February 27th for the embattled people of Ukraine with love for the people of Russia. The prayer was authored by Rev. Steven D. Froehlich of New Life Presbyterian Church of Ithaca, NY.

The ministry of Dr. Thomas is so meaningful to our family with six generations having attended First Presbyterian Church of Columbia.

Lord, destroy Putin the tyrant

Lord, have mercy on Putin the man made in your image

Lord, overwhelm the Russian soldiers with the guilt of the evil to which they are party

Lord, show the Russian soldiers the forgiveness that can be theirs in Christ

Lord, guide the weapons of Ukraine to destroy the weapons of their enemy

Lord, may the Russian missiles go astray and miss their targets

Lord, as you have done before, send your angels through the camp breathing chaos and destruction among the Russian army

Lord, as you have done before, send your angels to announce the promise of peace and life in Christ

Lord, keep the Ukrainian people safe and the leaders alive, wise and courageous

Lord, may the citizens of Russia flood the streets with protest against the evil of their leaders

Lord, may the Russian fathers and mothers call to their children bearing arms to lay down their weapons

Lord, may the United States and the nations of Europe be of one mind and resolve to stand against evil, even when it proves costly

Lord, may peace return to the Ukraine and Russia

Lord, as your children were vital to the collapse of the Iron Curtain, may they once again be instruments of peace and justice

Lord, may the Gospel be proclaimed in word and deed so that in war and in peace, in life and in death, in joy and in suffering, Christ might be lifted up, loved and worshipped as the Prince of Peace.

“Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid . . . I have told you all this so you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials, but take heart, because I have overcome the world.” John 14:27, 16:33

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.”

## IN RECOGNITION OF WEAVER HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING STATE TITLE

## HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 16, 2022*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Weaver High School wrestling team for winning the AHSAA Class 1A/4A state title in dramatic fashion.

On February 19, 2022, The Weaver Bearcats beat Ohatchee High School 82 to 81 thanks to pins by Devin Anderson and Joshua Johansson in the final two matches to secure their title win. The event was held at the Von Braun Center in Huntsville, Alabama.

Devin Anderson earned 1A–4A most valuable wrestler. This was head coach Andy Fulmer's first state title and the Bearcats' 10th state title. Their last state title was in 2004.

Madam, Speaker, please join me in congratulating Coach Fulmer, the wrestling team, students, faculty and all the fans. Go Bearcats.

## JASON SLOWINSKI

## HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 16, 2022*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Golden, Colorado's City Manager Jason Slowinski and wish him well as he transitions to a new role at the Colorado School of Mines.

Since being appointed as City Manager in 2015, Slowinski has led the city in several key initiatives, including critical infrastructure projects such as a new interchange at 6th Avenue and 19th Street, street upgrades on North Washington Avenue, and drainage improvements along Ford Street. Slowinski also played a critical role in the Heart of Golden planning initiative to revitalize the Clear Creek corridor—and all of this under strong and transparent budgetary practices. Throughout the COVID–19 pandemic, Slowinski has worked to ensure the City's financial stability, the continuity of the City's essential services, and support the community's overall recovery.

An effective and successful city manager requires dependability, consistency, and dedication to the city's residents. Throughout Slowinski's career as City Manager he has maintained the best interest for the community of Golden and its people. I want to extend my deepest appreciation to Jason Slowinski for his contributions to the City of Golden and the State of Colorado. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

## RECOGNIZING FRISCO ASSISTANT POLICE CHIEF GREG WARD

## HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 16, 2022*

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Frisco Assistant Police Chief Greg Ward on his distinguished twenty-nine year career in law enforcement upon his well-deserved retirement.

In 1985, Ward graduated from Southwest Texas State University with a degree in Criminal Justice. He would later go on to attend the FBI National Academy, the Senior Management Institute for Police, and would obtain a State of Texas Master Peace Officer License.

Since joining the Frisco Police Department in 1999, Chief Ward has supervised numerous departments including patrol, special operations, school resource officer programs, community services, and communications. Chief Ward was also responsible for the Investigations and Services Bureaus as well as the department's firearms program.

Given his extensive experience and active involvement, it comes as no surprise that in 2019 Chief Ward was selected to serve as the interim Chief of Police for the City of Frisco following the departure of Chief John Bruce.

A true public servant, he could often be found around Frisco engaging with residents and participating in events such as Safety Palooza, which sought to bring members of the community face to face with police and fire personnel.

During his twenty-two years of service with the City of Frisco, Chief Ward's versatile skillset made him a valuable asset to both the Department and the community. Due to his approachable nature and willingness to serve as a source of wisdom amongst his fellow officers, Chief Ward was highly regarded not only as a colleague, but also as a friend.

Chief Greg Ward made a lasting impact on the Frisco community during a pivotal time in the city's growth, and his absence will certainly be felt among many. Now upon his retirement, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in thanking Chief Greg Ward for his dedicated career in law enforcement and wish him the best as he prepares to begin a new chapter of his life.

## HONORING THE EMBASSY

## HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 16, 2022*

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding organization, The Embassy in Sedalia, Missouri. The Embassy operates two Christian Discipleship Transitional Men's Homes to provide support to men in recovery and help them overcome

• 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.

substance abuse issues. The organization was founded in 2010 by Chris Patton, Gary Smith, and Ben Embree. The Embassy officially opened their doors on January 8, 2011, to men in the community wanting to overcome their dependence on drugs.

The mission of their ministry focuses on building a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and rebuilding a sense of self and confidence for their residents to become leaders, whether that be in their work, community, church, or family. Along with spiritual development, The Embassy provides occupational opportunities to ensure a comprehensive strategy for treatment and recovery. These jobs help bring restoration and fulfillment through purposeful employment and development of life skills.

I am proud of Executive Director Rick Rogers, and all the mentors and volunteers that have transformed so many lives. Without their assistance, much of this would not have been possible. Their commitment and devotion to the transformation of these men have helped many Embassy residents become productive members of their community. I commend The Embassy's efforts in providing such an impactful program to help the men in the Sedalia community strive to maintain a life of sobriety. I look forward to seeing their continued work in supporting men in recovery for years to come.

HONORING JOHN BLEYL, ON THE  
OCCASION OF THE TWENTY-  
FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS  
COMPANY, BLEYL ENGINEERING

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 16, 2022*

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the distinguished career and community contributions of my dear friend John Bleyl as we celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of Bleyl Engineering.

John founded Bleyl Engineering in 1997, after recognizing the need for high quality municipal projects in Conroe, Texas. The inception of Bleyl Engineering helped jumpstart an era of record-setting growth in the Conroe community.

However, John's keen sense of entrepreneurship, strong Texas values, and reputation for faith-fueled business ethics grew the company from a boutique firm in Montgomery County to an engineering and construction management powerhouse with offices and community projects across the Lone Star State. The company now employs 100 people in Conroe, Austin, Bryan-College Station, and Tomball.

Bleyl Engineering continues to be guided by its founding vision: "to be a foundation for the advancement of stronger, safer communities across Texas." Under John's leadership, not only has Bleyl Engineering prospered as a company, but many communities now have safer intersections, accessible public transportation, critical health care infrastructure, and economic growth opportunities.

Mr. Bleyl's first-class public and private sector engineering portfolio speaks for itself. A

few notable engineering projects that highlight John's legacy across Texas include the George Bush Intercontinental Airport, the Deason Technology Park, Texas Children's Hospital, and the Fish Creek Thoroughfare Expansion. When the highest standard of engineering or project management is required, Mr. Bleyl has been consistently called upon for his efficiency, dependability, and expertise.

Bleyl Engineering has also been committed to supporting the community through various philanthropic causes. It contributes to local fundraisers through the Rotary Club of Conroe and the Magnolia Education Foundation. In addition, Bleyl Engineering sponsored a local Ironman Triathlon competitor to raise money for Syrian refugees displaced by the civil war.

Mr. Bleyl continues to serve as the City Engineer for Panorama Village and Shenandoah, but his ideas live beyond his work as an engineer. His dedication to his community is evident through his involvement in the Lazy River Improvement District Board, Lone Star Groundwater District Board, West Fork—TIRZ Board, Bryan—TIRZ Board, and the New Danville Project.

I am proud to recognize John as an outstanding member of the Conroe community and his business for celebrating a quarter-century of excellence. Mr. Bleyl is an exceptional businessman, a generous philanthropist, and the embodiment of a true Texan. I congratulate him on this milestone and look forward to his continued success.

SAVE THE LIBERTY THEATRE ACT  
OF 2021

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 15, 2022*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3197, which provides a land conveyance to the city of Eunice, Louisiana.

The Save the Liberty Theatre Act of 2021 will allow the city of Eunice to restore its historic Liberty Theatre.

This historic theatre has hosted silent films, live bands, and other entertainment over its beautiful history.

The Liberty Theatre has been a staple of Louisiana's Cajun community for nearly 100 years.

With passage of this bill, the City of Eunice can proceed with its efforts to restore the theatre as an important center of culture and tourism.

The bill will also direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey all rights, title, and interest of the federal government in specified areas of the "Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve" to the city of Eunice, Louisiana.

That area includes an annex owned by the National Park Service (NPS) that is attached to the Liberty Theatre, which is owned by the city.

The area the NPS owns is a section of the Liberty Theatre that provides a handicap accessible entrance, but this ownership interest in the property is hindering efforts to restore the theatre.

The Save the Liberty Theatre Act of 2021 would grant Eunice full ownership of the theatre property so the city can begin restoration efforts.

The theatre's stage has been dark since October 2019, and to local Cajun musicians like Joel Savoy, there is a fear that the centerpiece of the Cajun community will be nothing more than a memory.

Savoy's family is very connected to the theatre, as his parents were the driving force behind a restoration project in the 1980s to reopen the ornate building.

The theatre's return is vital to regional tourism.

Savoy, along with a handful of other Eunice residents, formed the Association for the Liberty Theatre earlier this year.

Their association is looking into ongoing revenue potential through private events, such as wedding receptions, so the theatre doesn't shutter again in a few decades.

Their goal is to renovate and reopen the theatre by 2024 to commemorate the 100th anniversary, and according to Savoy an anonymous donor has committed to donating a "substantial amount" of the projected \$2 million needed to return the theatre to its former glory.

A handful of other Eunice residents plan on launching fundraising campaigns and other public planning projects if the legislation passes.

The people of this community are willing to go the extra mile in hard work and funding to preserve this landmark that is dear to them.

I encourage all my colleagues to join me and vote for H.R. 3197.

Since the people of this community are willing to come together to revitalize this landmark, we should support them.

RECOGNIZING MR. ARMOND  
MORRIS

**HON. AUSTIN SCOTT**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 16, 2022*

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Armond Morris of Irwin County for his retirement as Chairman of the Georgia Peanut Commission.

While farming for over 50 years, Armond has advocated for the peanut industry and farmers nationally and internationally. He served with the Georgia Peanut Commission for more than four decades and was chairman for 20 years. During his service, he led efforts to ensure that the U.S. peanut industry remained competitive against imports, worked toward improving federal policies, and fought off regulation and disease that would've been harmful to the industry. His outstanding dedication to our nation's peanut industry prioritized U.S. peanuts and grew the industry domestically.

As a senior member of the House Agriculture Committee, I am honored to represent outstanding farmers such as Armond. It is individuals like him that make Georgia, and America, great.