

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE EXEMPLARY CONTRIBUTIONS OF DR. CHRISTIAN EUSEBIO TO THE COMMUNITY OF GUAM IN PERFORMING OUR ISLAND'S FIRST BARIATRIC SURGERY

HON. MICHAEL F.Q. SAN NICOLAS

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 18, 2022

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a community leader and public servant, Dr. Christian Eusebio, and congratulate him on his achievement of performing our island's first bariatric surgery.

On the island of Guam, there has been a dire health crisis characterized by a long-standing, tireless fight against obesity and diabetes. With more than 10 percent of our adult population diagnosed with diabetes, childhood obesity rates higher than the mainland United States, and cancer, diabetes, and heart disease among the leading causes of death on our island, our community suffers from these associated conditions at epidemic proportions. Further, a lack of comprehensive health resources and options amplifies this issue for those who need unique medical support like metabolic programs. Often, this results in many of our people seeking specific medical attention off-island or, for others, the acceptance of their conditions due to a lack of financial means for accessing treatments unavailable on Guam. Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, these complex barriers to health have been further compounded, but the hard work of Dr. Eusebio has emerged as a beacon of hope we can cling to as we face some of our island's most challenging times.

Driven by the desire to make a positive difference in the world, inspired by his father, and motivated by the imperative to serve as a good role model for his children, Dr. Eusebio navigated a unique path into the field of medicine after earning degrees from the University of Connecticut, Howard University, and Ross University School of Medicine. While Dr. Eusebio has many accomplishments, which include becoming a board-certified surgeon, the first of his residency class to become a Fellow of the American College Surgeons, obtaining a Professional and Technology Scholarship through the University of Guam, and earning the Medical Student Resident Teacher of the Year Award at the University of South Florida, he also proudly represents our island as the first person from Guam to obtain the Nizar Oweida scholarship for his work in rural surgery.

Prior to Dr. Eusebio's bariatric work on Guam, no such option was available for our people. However, in taking the lead among medical professionals for creating this valuable resource to our community, he has concretely provided a second chance at life for many on our island who have found themselves at a standstill. Madam Speaker, I rise on behalf of the people of Guam, offering my greatest ap-

preciation for his commitment to improving the quality of health care to our island community and the wider Micronesian region. I am honored to have the opportunity to recognize a man who is actively working to open another, much needed door to the collective health and wellbeing of our people and congratulate him on a successful inaugural bariatric surgery. I wish him the best as he continues on his surgical journey, and I look forward to seeing the programmatic developments he will achieve in the coming years.

INTRODUCTION OF THE IMPORT SECURITY AND FAIRNESS ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 18, 2022

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, since 1938 the intention of de minimis in U.S. trade law has been to ease the burden on the U.S. government related to processing imports—the revenue collected from imports of low value simply wasn't worth the effort. Instead of going through a formal process, these low-value imports enjoyed simplified import processes and didn't have to pay any duties, taxes, or fees due to the U.S. government. The original limit for such low value de minimis shipments was \$1.

The government has significantly raised this limit since 1938, to \$200 in 1990s and most recently to \$800 in 2016. The latest increase has coincided with an explosion in e-commerce packages that use the de minimis provision to enter the United States, currently more than two million packages per day. This influx of imports that do not pay duties, taxes, and fees and provide less data to the U.S. government has created a wide-ranging set of unaddressed issues, including compliance with U.S. laws and American competitiveness.

Regulators including U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the Consumer Product Safety Commission have raised strong concerns about compliance with basic U.S. laws designed to protect the United States from unsafe and illicit imports, including goods made with forced labor. Plus, imports that don't have to pay duties, taxes, and fees at the border gain a significant competitive advantage over other similar products, particularly when imported from countries with markets distorted by government intervention.

The Import Security and Fairness Act addresses these concerns by prohibiting goods from countries that are both non-market economies and on the U.S. Trade Representative's (USTR) Priority Watch List from using de minimis. The legislation also prohibits goods subject to enforcement actions from using de minimis and closes the loophole for offshore distribution or processing facilities.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to enact the Import Security and Fairness Act and improve compliance with U.S. law and American competitiveness.

RECOGNIZING LT. COLONEL FLOYDRIDGE UNDERWOOD

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 18, 2022

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lt. Colonel Floydridge Underwood's devotion to our nation and his commitment to serving the JROTC program.

Lt. Col. Underwood was born in Selma, Alabama and knew at the age of 7 that he wanted to serve in the armed forces. He enlisted in the Air Force immediately after high school.

He rose through the ranks and was promoted to the rank of Lt. Colonel over the years. He served in the Air Force for 26 years serving through 22 different assignments.

During his time in the Air Force, he found himself leaning towards giving back to the community the knowledge he had acquired through his service.

Lt. Col. Underwood was selected to serve as the Commander for the JROTC program at Pine Bluff High School. He has served in this role for over 17 years.

During his time as the Commander for the Pine Bluff High School JROTC program, he inspired his cadets to follow this path and join the Armed Forces. More than 30 of his cadets have served in the Armed Forces.

Lt. Col. Underwood will be awarded with the 2022 Martin Luther King Jr. Salute to Greatness Award.

In Selma, he grew up during the Civil Rights movement and took every opportunity to stay involved in the movement.

In March 1965, Lt. Col. Underwood, this son of Selma joined my friend, late Congressman John Lewis, in crossing the Edmund Pettus Bridge enroute to Montgomery and into history.

Lt. Col. Underwood is a great example of an Arkansan who has dedicated his life to defending our Nation, educating our youth, and fighting for freedom of life and liberty.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHN RUSSELL

HON. DEBORAH K. ROSS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 18, 2022

Ms. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my dear friend, John Russell, who passed away on November 30, 2021.

John was a passionate North Carolinian and his contributions to our community will live on for years to come.

Born on October 22, 1954, John spent the early part of his life in Greensboro, North Carolina where he was a proud alumnus and three-sport athlete at Grimsley High School.

Music also played a large role in John's upbringing. Growing up, he was constantly surrounded by Opera. His mother Peggy, was an

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accomplished Opera singer and founded The Opera Company of North Carolina, located in Greensboro. John contributed to his mother's legacy by playing a crucial role in the formation and growth of her company, which eventually evolved into The North Carolina Opera.

Following high school, John went on to attend the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, graduating with the highest honors in English before receiving a Master's Degree in English and Comparative Literature from Columbia University.

After graduating from Columbia University, John spent a few years as the youngest editor ever hired by the Houghton Mifflin publishing company before deciding that he wanted to contribute to his community in a different capacity. He left New York to enroll in Harvard Law School, graduating with honors in 1985 before moving to Raleigh.

In our home of Wake County North Carolina, John practiced corporate law at Moore & Van Allen for 12 years. After, he joined Quintiles Transnational Corporation and during his tenure, he rose from Executive Vice President to General Counsel, eventually becoming the Chief Administrative Officer. In 2008, John became a partner in the Life Science Practice of the global law firm K&L Gates, where he practiced until his retirement in 2017.

John was extremely involved in the community and served on many boards and advisory roles including the North Carolina Railroad advisory, the Association of Clinical Research Organizations (ACRO), Elon Law School, the Center for Studies of the American South, the Gilling's School of Global Public Health, and countless others. This work is a testament to his character and his love for the people of our state and our community.

On top of these contributions, John's passion for literature led him to write two novels, "Favorite Sons" (1992), winner of the Sir Walter Raleigh Award for fiction, and "All the Right Circles" (2019). Both examine North Carolina politics, society, and history. He also was an avid member of our Triangle wide book club, and we enjoyed our time together sharing thoughts and opinions about the non-fiction books we read.

John lived an exceptional life, and I will always be grateful that I had the pleasure of knowing him. He was a dedicated husband, devoted father, and a loving uncle and son. He will be forever missed by his wife Kelley, children Caroline, Taylor, Katie, Roddy, Fields, and Bess, as well as his beloved sister Susan, father, John B. Russell, and grandsons George and Oliver. I miss him dearly and look forward to highlighting his legacy and honoring his service to our community for years to come.

HONORING ANGELICA "KELA"
GARCIA

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 18, 2022

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mrs. Angelica "Kela" Garcia of Edinburg, Texas, who dedicated her life to serving our country and South Texas. Mrs. Garcia was born on February 7, 1923, in Tabasco, Texas to her

parents, Melecio and Andrea Gonzalez, as the youngest of eight children. At the age of 24, she married Mr. Felipe Garcia, Sr. with whom she lovingly raised nine children: Ramon Garcia, Nora Linda Garcia, Thelma Garcia, Felipe Garcia Jr., Roberto Garcia, Nora G. De Leon, Dalila A. Garcia, Leticia Garcia, and Romeo Garcia.

Mrs. Garcia was the type of person that could accomplish anything she set her mind to. As a young girl, she wanted to learn how to play the piano, so she bartered with the local piano teacher, trading milk from their dairy cow in exchange for piano lessons. That fondness for and dedication to the arts extended beyond music to the poetry of Joyce Kilmer. In elementary school, she developed a talent for recitation, winning poetry recital contests at her school.

After the Pearl Harbor attack on December 7, 1941, Mrs. Garcia answered the call to service. She became part of the historic "Rosie the Riveter's Brigade" as an airplane machinist in Marfa, Texas. There, she made critical contributions to our military readiness, work many women had never had the chance to do.

Therefore, Madam Speaker, I stand here today to acknowledge the countless achievements and charitable acts of Mrs. Angelica "Kela" Garcia. She devoted her life for the betterment of our community, and I have no doubt that her legacy will be remembered by all who knew her. Her general love for life, her family, her friends, and country is admirable. May she rest in peace.

HONORING RON AND JANE
MCKELVY ON THEIR 50TH WED-
DING ANNIVERSARY

HON. MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 18, 2022

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor two of my constituents who recently celebrated 50 years of marriage on December 5, 2021. Ron and Jane Mckelvy of Ringgold, Georgia, should be lauded for the example they have set for their children, community, and country. I salute two true partners in life. May God give them both many years of joy and continued happiness together.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 44TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF KOPPER KETTLE

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 18, 2022

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 44th anniversary of the Kopper Kettle explosion in downtown Auburn, Alabama.

Below is the 1978 sermon by Rev. Rod Sinclair at the Episcopal College Center after the explosion occurred:

The explosion at the Kopper Kettle has consumed the time and attention of many of us this week, especially Sunday when it occurred Monday and Tuesday when we were fixing ourselves up and getting heat back

into the building and into the Steven's House. There have been many expressions of gratefulness that no one in town was injured or killed and we have all told each other where we were when we hear of or felt the blast. We have even told each other about other explosions, other calamities and what our reaction was to them. And some of us have gone off into the world of metaphor and analogy and compared the explosion at the Kopper Kettle to what happens to a human being who gets poison in his or her system, poison from unacknowledged anger or poison from unexpressed resentment, and how the pressure can build up an explosion.

There's another type of explosion occurred to me, as it should, being the preacher, which I like to look at this morning. It is the explosion of the spirit and it can be more devastating than what happened last Sunday at Magnolia and Gay.

The explosion of the spirit is what happens when all the things we thought we believed in collapses, when the world of meaning collapses, when the truths that we always thought were true seem untrue, when doubt attacks every item of faith and prevails, and faith seems counterfeit, and trust wanders aimlessly hunting for a place to rest, and when other people's piety bring charges of hypocrisy to our lips. The explosion of the spirit can hit with the force of last Sunday's blast or it can strike in a slow-motion version. Decay is an explosion developing slowly. We can rebuild stores and replace smashed windows, but persons who are smashed by an earthquake under their house of faith have no certainty that they can pick up the pieces, nor may they want to, for their structure no longer has meaning. All that was dear and cherished is splintered and smoking. Their faith is gone, their dreams are smashed, and they have no basis for hope.

What do you do if the explosion of the spirit strikes you? First, I believe you must go to your most trusted friend, not to talk, but to sit in silence—in the presence of the other—in the presence of another human being. And the truth of the presence may be the only truth that is verifiable.

Next, you must allow your friend to care for you. This is more difficult than silence. Nor can it come too quickly. This requires that you give permission to the other to enter your shattered world. And with the entry may come judgment (but surely not!) and may come abject embarrassment (Yes, possibly that) or the painful admission that you are lost in the woods and do not know the way home. (Yes, that too!) Your trusted friend is there to listen, is not therapist, counselor or father confessor (at least not then) and listens to you talk, listens to the starkness of your confession that your religious house of cards proved to be just that, listens to the pain of your isolation—for you are in an empty, flat land by yourself with not so much as four pegs to pitch a tent for shelter. He listens to the description of your futureless future. And the echo of the question "What is there now?" continues to sound in your empty room.

But your friend does not answer your questions; eventually you do. Yet no one can tell you when the eventuality will happen. First, there may be nothing more than the establishing of a routine; but even routine requires a degree of faith. Later, there may be divine word, certainly not acknowledged then as such. From deep within, from the center of your center, may come the word: "Life shall go on." And you know the words are true and your house of meaning receives another plank.

If and when the house is completed, that is, if and when there is a day when you can say: "I believe that the following truths