

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF JOHNNIE HODGES, SR.

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor World War II Navy Veteran, and a friend of Buffalo, the late Johnnie Hodges, Sr. Hodges who served as a light of inspiration to his local community, and I am proud to bring recognition to his life and legacy today.

Mr. Hodges was a trailblazer. He began his service with the United States Navy on January 8, 1944 and following training in Bainbridge, Maryland, was stationed aboard the USS *General Harry Taylor*. Hodges served as a Stewards Mate Third Class on the troop transport ship during World War II, taking part in missions across the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans until his honorable discharge on June 17, 1946. His participation, along with many other African Americans in the Armed Forces, led to the desegregation of the military and planted the seeds for Civil Rights Movement in the United States. He was also the first ever African American Foreman at Bethlehem Steel, a mill which was once the second largest producer of iron in the United States. In addition to his work at Bethlel Steel for 35 years, his wife, Flora, and he were entrepreneurs, owning a successful delicatessen.

Johnnie was known for his kindness which never went unrecognized by those around him. When he came back from serving our great country during World War II, he raised 6 children with his wife Flora. Johnnie was known to always be helping others, from teaching teenagers how to fix their cars, to helping a young neighbor with his newspaper route. Johnnie also served his local community by working as a bus driver for Buffalo for 25 years. When he had fallen behind in mortgage payments as he was caring for his sick wife and was eventually evicted from his home, the local community rallied in support of Johnnie, and raised over 100,000 dollars in less than 24 hours to send Johnnie back to his home. This generosity by family, friends, and strangers, is a true testament to the kind of man Johnnie was, and his lifetime of kindness was quickly repaid when he was in a time of need. These actions also demonstrated why Buffalo is known as the "City of Good Neighbors."

Madam Speaker, please join me to bring recognition to such a significant member of the Buffalo community. It is an honor to be able to recognize Johnnie Hodges, Sr. today. He helped to make our world a better place with his participation in World War II which strengthened our democracy and freedom, and our community a better place by being a true pillar of service and sacrifice. All those who were lucky enough to have known him will greatly miss his generous spirit and forever remember his lasting legacy of kindness.

IN HONOR OF KEN NORTON FOR
HIS 19 YEARS OF SERVICE AT
THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON
MENTAL ILLNESS NEW HAMP-
SHIRE IN CONCORD, NEW HAMP-
SHIRE

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Ms. KUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my sincere best wishes to Ken Norton as he steps down as Executive Director at the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) New Hampshire after many years of dedicated service in the field of mental health.

During Ken's long and successful career in community mental health advocacy, he will be remembered as a leading and influential voice for mental health awareness and access in New Hampshire. Ken has brought science-based grassroots mental health services to every community in our Granite State. We are grateful for Ken's leadership as he grew the NAMI New Hampshire organization, while strengthening partnerships, building the organization's capacity for support, education, and advocacy services. Our families, neighbors, and communities are better because of the work of Ken Norton.

On behalf of New Hampshire's Second Congressional District, I thank Ken Norton for his exemplary service. I wish him the best of luck in the years ahead.

HONORING RICHARD "RICH"
FREEDMAN

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Richard "Rich" Freedman in celebration of his longstanding career in journalism.

Upon graduating from Ygnacio Valley High School in Concord, California, and later from San Jose State University with a bachelor's in journalism, Mr. Freedman began a 27-year long career with the Vallejo Times-Herald. Largely inspired by his late professor, Roger Budrow, and his late father, Bernie, Mr. Freedman had an immense passion for every meaningful story.

While he ended his long and illustrious career with the Times-Herald as the Community Editor, he spent time covering the arts, sports, features, and wrote his own column. As the entertainment writer, he interviewed astronauts, authors, a CIA operative, singers, motivational speakers, and so many more.

In addition to Mr. Freedman's career with the Times-Herald, he spent much of his time serving his community. As a member of Reach Out Benicia, Contra Costa County

Child Abuse Prevention Council, and the Benicia/Vallejo Humane Society, Mr. Freedman received an Honorable Mention from the Contra Costa Press Club and Humanitarian of the Year Award from the Vallejo Boys and Girls Club. He was also recognized by the California Army National Guard and received a California Commendation Medal.

Mr. Freedman and his wife, Megan, have three children, Toby, Charlotte, and Beau, and one son, Cameron, who passed away in 2020. Mr. Freedman, throughout his career, has been known for his sense of humor, his passion, and willingness to serve his community.

Madam Speaker, it is evident that Mr. Freedman has dedicated his life and career to the betterment of Vallejo, Benicia, and journalism. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

RECOGNIZING JOHN P. ANDERSON,
DMD OF RAINSVILLE, ALABAMA

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor Dr. John P. Anderson of Rainsville, Alabama on his service to North-east Alabama after 48 years of practice. Dr. Anderson's decades of service to his community and the State of Alabama exemplify the hard-working spirit of the people we have in Alabama's Fourth District.

Dr. Anderson graduated from Auburn University in 1969 where he was a member of the Phi Eta Sigma, Alpha Epsilon Delta, and Phi Kappa Phi honor societies. He continued his education at the University of Alabama School of Dentistry where he graduated in 1973 with his DMD degree. While at the University of Alabama School of Dentistry he was a member of the Omicron Kappa Upsilon Honorary Dental Society and the American College of Dentists. He received the Dean's Award, the highest award bestowed on a graduating senior, the Walter Pelton Community Dentistry Award, and the Academy of General Dentistry Award.

After receiving his DMD in 1973, Dr. Anderson practiced in Rainsville, Alabama. Deepening his dedication to his field, he served as a Delegate to the American Dental Association for 12 years, where he served as both Vice President and President. He also served as the President of the Dentistry Alumni Association for the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He has been honored with many outstanding awards over the course of his career including the Pierre Fauchard Academy Fellowship Award in 1988, the Academy of Dentistry International Fellowship Award in 1990, the Alabama Dental Association Dentist Citizen of the Year in 1991, the International College of Dentists Fellowship Award in 1992, the American College of Dentists Fellowship Award in 1993, and the Alabama Dental Association Most Excellent Fellow in 1995.

• 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.

As an active member of his community, Dr. Anderson's service extends far beyond the scope of his practice. He has served two terms as the President of the Rainsville Chamber of Commerce and served on a committee that raised \$350,000 of local money to secure matching grants for a new public library in Rainsville. His service to Dekalb County includes serving 12 years on the Board of Directors for the United Givers Fund and chairing the Dekalb County Commission to Improve Education. Additionally, he is currently in his 28th year on the Economic Development Committee of Dekalb County where he has served as Chairman since 2000.

Dr. Anderson has served so many over the past 48 years, not only in Alabama, but in 1988 he even traveled to Bolivia where he provided dental care to the natives of the Andes Mountains.

Dr. Anderson has been married to his wife Frances Randolph Maclin Anderson since 1969. They have one daughter, Mary Stuart Anderson Gallian who followed in her father's footsteps and practices dentistry in Fairfax, Virginia. Please join his family and me in congratulating Dr. John P. Anderson of Rainsville, Alabama on an exceptional career and great service to his community and the great State of Alabama.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MEL
REEVES

HON. ILHAN OMAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Ms. OMAR. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life of a long-time civil rights activist, journalist, and my friend, Mel Reeves who passed away at the age of 64 from COVID-19 complications.

Born in Miami, Florida, he was the youngest of 13 children and was adopted at the age of one. Bullied at a young age, Reeves grew up standing up for others and being an outspoken advocate for marginalized communities. Later in life he attended Northwestern College in Iowa, then moved to Minneapolis where he devoted his life to advocating for social justice.

Mel Reeves was a journalist for the Minnesota Spokesman-Recorded newspaper and never shied away from elevating the truth. He was a devoted and passionate man with a fighting spirit, always ready to support his community advocating for justice and accountability. Reeves did not just write about the many injustices happening around him, such as the horrific murders of George Floyd and Daunte Wright, he used his voice and platform to encourage the community to never stop fighting for justice.

As a community leader, he advocated for racial justice, education reform, the working class and more recently the need to protect oneself from the pandemic by wearing a mask and getting vaccinated.

Reeves is survived by his son Kellen Reeves and five grandchildren.

Rest in peace, friend. I thank him for inspiring many to speak up for justice.

HONORING DR. MAREK
PIENKOWSKI'S 50TH ANNIVER-
SARY OF LIVING IN THE UNITED
STATES

HON. TIM BURCHETT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, today I recognize Dr. Marek Pienkowski, an accomplished medical researcher and a cultural ambassador for Poland. This year he is celebrating his 50th anniversary of living in the United States.

Dr. Pienkowski earned his M.D. and Ph.D. at the Medical University of Warsaw. In 1972 he migrated to the United States to work with Hilary Koprowski, the inventor of the world's first live Polio vaccine, to research cancer-causing viruses. He later became a post-doctoral fellow in clinical immunology at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, and in 1984 he established a clinical practice to treat patients with allergies, asthma, and immunological disorders.

Today, medical research and findings from throughout Dr. Pienkowski's career are widely distributed. He published more than fifty scientific papers and two books, including the Handbook for Human Embryology used by medical students in Poland.

Dr. Pienkowski was key to expanding cultural, artistic, scientific, and business dialogue between the United States and Poland. He established the Marek Maria Pienkowski Foundation to facilitate cooperation and exchanges between the University of Tennessee's School of Art and fine arts schools in Poland. He also founded PolandNow in Knoxville, a civic organization to promote and strengthen Polish-American relationships.

During this time, former United States Ambassador to Poland Victor Ashe worked with Dr. Pienkowski to establish Knoxville's Sister City relationship with Chelm, Poland. For his efforts to strengthen U.S.-Poland relations, Dr. Pienkowski earned an Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland designation from the U.S. Department of State.

When Dr. Pienkowski left Poland to make the United States his home, he brought with him his passions for helping people and building international relationships. Congratulations to Dr. Pienkowski for an impressive career, and I thank him for his contributions to our community.

RECOGNIZING ANNA MAE JONES, A
DEDICATED PATRIOT

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the remarkable life of Anna Mae Jones, a military veteran, teacher, dedicated community leader, and devoted wife and mother. Anna Mae led a long, exemplary life committed to service for her community and country. Her sacrifice and

dedication to our American values made Anna Mae the truest embodiment of a patriot. Anna Mae was born in Saratoga Springs, New York on September 6, 1916. Raised in Tonawanda, she attended D'Youville College, earning her teaching degree in 1938.

When the United States entered World War II, Anna Mae put her teaching career aside to enlist in the war. She strongly believed it was her civic duty, and a true honor, to be able to serve her country. Anna Mae joined the Women's Army Auxiliary and served in New Guinea from 1943 to 1945. Specializing as the chief clerk to the Provost Marshal, Anna Mae was able to utilize her organizational skills as a teacher to help the war effort. Her commendable service record is evident through the numerous awards, medals, and honors Anna Mae was given. As a Second Lieutenant, Anna Mae was awarded the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, Women's Army Corps Service Medal, and two Overseas Service Bars.

It was during her time serving that Anna Mae met the love of her life, Lieutenant John Joseph Jones II. The two were wed in 1946 at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Tonawanda. Anna Mae and John began their wonderful life together in dutiful service to our nation, assigned to bases in the United States and Europe. Together, they raised three beautiful children.

Anna Mae and her family returned to settle in Tonawanda in 1955. Anna Mae began her work as a special-education teacher at Central School in Tonawanda. Anna Mae dedicated her career to enhancing the learning experience for her students, ensuring they got the upmost out of their education. She frequently took her students on camping trips to teach them about nature and even started a summer school program for students in the special education department. Anna Mae was a true pioneer in the special education field, and the students of Tonawanda are forever grateful for her and her work.

After her retirement in 1981, Anna Mae's devotion to service remained steadfast, further immersing herself into the community and civic organizations around her. She sought to make a lasting, meaningful impact in the community she cared so deeply for, and so she did. Anna Mae was a member of St. Francis of Assisi Parish, the Ladies of Charity, the Women's Army Corps, and the Tonawanda Women's Democratic Club. Additionally, she served as Chaplain of the American Legion Post No. 264 in Tonawanda for 27 years, earning the Legion of Honor Award. Furthermore, Anna Mae was an active member in the Legislative Branch of the AARP, served as a board member of the Waterfront Revitalization Committee, and was an active member of the Historical Society of the Tonawandas for 50 years. Three years prior to her passing at the age of 103, Anna Mae was honored at the Buffalo Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Anna Mae and her exemplary work in serving our country. We cannot afford to forget the powerful example citizens like Ms. Jones set for us. Let the memory of her lifelong service to something larger than herself summon our better angels to do our part as well.