

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMMENDING CHIEF GARY
PONTHIEUX, JR. UPON HIS RE-
TIREMENT

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 26, 2022

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished service of Chief Gary Ponthieux, who will retire this year after 28 years of service to South Mississippi.

Chief Ponthieux, from Bay St. Louis, MS, currently resides in Pass Christian, MS, where he lives with his wife, the former Kacey Edwards of Bay St. Louis and their children, Luci (12) and Max (9). Chief Ponthieux obtained his bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice with a double minor in Forensic Science and Psychology from the University of Southern Mississippi. In 1994, Chief Ponthieux attended the Hattiesburg Police Department Law Enforcement Academy and received the highest academic award.

Chief Ponthieux began his public service career in 1994 with the Gulfport Police Department as a police officer. Within a short period, he worked his way up to Narcotics Detective and served from April 1995 to January 2003. In January 2003, he was promoted to Criminal Investigations Detective Sergeant. He continued to serve the Gulfport community in this role until November 2017. Following his time as Criminal Investigations Detective Sergeant, he left the Gulfport Police Department to serve as Chief of Police of Bay St. Louis. Concluding his time in Gulfport, he spent a little over 23 years serving the Gulfport community and nearly five years serving the Bay St. Louis community. Chief Ponthieux has spent 28 years serving the people of South Mississippi.

For his service, Chief Ponthieux has been awarded numerous prestigious awards, such as the top academic award as a graduate of the Hattiesburg Police Academy, being named outstanding officer by the Gulfport Rotary Club, Gulfport Chamber of Commerce, and many more. Upon his retirement, Gary took a position with the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area, HIDTA, a DEA task force that targets high-intensity drug trafficking and money laundering organizations.

Chief Ponthieux has continuously gone above and beyond to answer the call of public service. I am grateful for his service and dedication to South Mississippi. Most importantly, he embodies the virtues of integrity, hard work, and selflessness that South Mississippians expect from their government officials. Chief Ponthieux leaves the City of Bay St. Louis better than he found it. On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District of Mississippi, I congratulate Chief Ponthieux on his retirement, and may God watch over him and his family as he continues to serve and protect.

TRIBUTE TO VAN DO-REYNOSO,
PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR,
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

HON. SALUD O. CARBAJAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 26, 2022

Mr. CARBAJAL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Van Do-Reynoso, Public Health Director, County of Santa Barbara for her impeccable 5 years of service. Van served as Public Health Director since 2017, leading the Department through countless events and disasters, such as the Thomas Fire, the January 9, 2018, Montecito Debris Flow, and the COVID-19 pandemic. During each one of these events, Van always ensured that protecting the public health of the community was first and foremost.

On January 21, 2020, when the first case of COVID-19 was reported in the United States, the spotlight was thrust towards Van and her dedicated team, and as always, Van did not let us down. Van's enduring passion to serve the residents and ensure equity for all in Santa Barbara County, led the Board of Supervisors to declare racism a public health emergency and found the Office of Health and Equity.

Van is especially known for her ability to develop and mobilize partnerships to further the Public Health's mission, building deep collaborative relationships with community members and organizations across the County. Importantly, Van has worked tirelessly to have health care centers provide access to services beyond primary care, including telehealth, behavioral health, and pharmacy services. Van is also a strong advocate for Animal Services and ensuring the safety of animals in our community.

As Van understands the calming effects and health benefits animals provide, Van introduced a Pet Policy for Public Health to allow pets in the workplace. Van's tireless energy, enthusiasm, empathy, and efforts to improve the lives and health status of all Santa Barbara County residents will always have the respect of her colleagues.

Madam Speaker, Van Do-Reynoso leaves the Public Health Department, County of Santa Barbara in a strong place, well prepared to continue its mission to improve the health of our communities by preventing disease, promoting wellness and health equity, while ensuring access to needed health care, and maintaining a safe and healthy environment. I respectfully ask that you join me in expressing immense gratitude to Van Do-Reynoso for her 5 years of distinguished and dedicated public service.

HONORING COLTON HARRIS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 26, 2022

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Colton Harris. Colton is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Colton has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Colton has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned 33 merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Colton has achieved much as a scout, having achieved the ranks of Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Troop Guide, Quartermaster, and Librarian. Colton has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Colton's project entailed 200 hours of extensive landscaping to enhance the area in which he worked.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Colton Harris for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America, and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF BERNARD J. MAHONEY

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 26, 2022

Mr. KATKO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the life of Bernard J. Mahoney, a dedicated and longtime public servant, a gifted attorney and businessman, and a devoted and loving husband and father who passed away on July 19, 2022.

Bernie was a beloved member of the Central New York community and served in the Syracuse Common Council and in the New York State Assembly. He attended Saint Anthony's School, Christian Brothers Academy, and graduated from Le Moyne College. He attended Syracuse University College of Law and practiced law at the Mackenzie Law Firm. He also was employed by IBM and used that experience to start Niagara Computer Sales, Inc. Bernie also served his country in the U.S. Army at Ladd Army Airfield in Fairbanks, Alaska.

Bernie won his bid to serve in the Syracuse Common Council as Councilor-at-large in 1977 and served ten years in that seat. He returned to the Council in 1990 as a Representative for the 3rd District. Bernie won a seat in the New York State Assembly in 1994 and served two terms. His daughter, Joanie Mahoney, followed in his footsteps and served

• 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.

on the Syracuse Common Council and as County Executive for Onondaga County.

Bernie Mahoney was a fixture in Central New York politics, a friend to all who knew him, and a public servant in the truest sense. He instilled these values in his daughter, as they both cared deeply for the community they served and were both trusted confidants and dear friends of my family.

Outside of his work, Bernie was a devoted father, grandfather, and active member of Most Holy Rosary Church. In celebration of his proud Irish heritage, Bernie and his daughter, Joanie served as co-Grand Marshalls of the 2019 Syracuse Saint Patrick's Day Parade. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Joanne, their 9 children, and 17 grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House join me in remembering Bernard J. Mahoney, honoring his many years of selfless public service, and to keep him and his family in mind as we remember his many contributions to the Central New York community.

TRIBUTE TO THE KIWANIS CLUB OF GLENDALE

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 26, 2022

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Kiwanis Club of Glendale, California upon its 100th anniversary.

The club was chartered on April 28, 1922, and at the charter night celebration on July 22, of that same year, 61 charter members were present. Sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Pasadena, California, the Kiwanis Club of Glendale in turn, sponsored other clubs in 1922 including in Burbank, Santa Barbara, North Hollywood and Alhambra and several other clubs over the years.

Dedicated to selfless service to the community's youth with the goal of creating responsible citizens of tomorrow and following Kiwanis International's mission of "improving the world one child and one community at a time," the club has supported a plethora of community programs, youth groups and projects over the last century.

In 1932, the renowned Glendale Kiwanis Chorus was formed. The chorus, which was active for decades, gave generously of their talent and time, performing at retirement homes, schools, other service clubs and international Kiwanis conventions, and participated in television and radio broadcasts. In 1940, the Boy Builders project, which operated for over 20 years, provided club and after-school athletic activities for at-risk boys, and was created in partnership with the Glendale YMCA. Other notable projects included providing facilities and camp buildings for Girl Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, and Boy Scouts, and in 1944, a Vocational Guidance and Veterans' Welfare Center was established which served over 9,500 veterans in 1945 and became a model for similar centers in other communities. In the 1950's, the club formed Key Clubs at Hoover High School and Glendale High School, sponsored foreign exchange students, organized a Circle K Club at Glendale Community College, and held an annual basketball tournament for community college teams that changed in 1971 to an annual tournament for

high school teams, and which provided income for the club's youth activities.

Current programs include the distribution of scholarships to local students, the Kiwanis Read Aloud project which supports the Glendale Public Library, the Reading is Fundamental program where books are distributed to local elementary schools, and The Blanket Project where members make blankets and distribute them to local charities such as the Salvation Army and the YWCA. In addition, the club partners with numerous local food pantries to feed local children and families, including the Glendale Community College Food for Thought Pantry for college students experiencing food insecurity.

To support their many worthwhile programs, the Kiwanis Club of Glendale's creative endeavors include the Kiwanis Incredible Duck Splash (KIDS), an annual holiday gala and ice socials.

I ask all Members to join me in congratulating the Kiwanis Club of Glendale and thanking its members for a century of outstanding service to the Glendale community, particularly to our children.

HONORING MRS. BOBBYE MAGGIO

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 26, 2022

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the outstanding work and dedication of Mrs. Bobbye Maggio. Bobbye Maggio was born and raised in Batesville, Mississippi. She graduated from Saint Joseph Catholic School in Madison, Mississippi, and then attended the Providence School of Nursing in Mobile, Alabama.

In her senior year of nursing school, she met the late Dr. Henry A. Maggio, whom she married upon her graduation. They were married for 58 years, and together they raised their four children—Shannon, Melissa, Stephen, and Michael—in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi. Today, Bobbye is the proud grandmother to 16 grandchildren and the great-grandmother to 4 great-grandchildren.

Bobbye was instrumental in founding Our Lady Academy Catholic School in 1971, the only all-girls private school in the state of Mississippi. She deeply believed in the importance of Catholic education for girls so that they may learn Catholic Christian morals and values and achieve their full academic and personal potential.

Bobbye has a long history of public and community service to the Mississippi Gulf Coast. She was a founder of the Junior Auxiliary of Hancock County and is involved in local Bible studies, church groups, and youth retreats. Additionally, Bobbye is a member of the all-women Krewe of Nereids, which has grown into one of the largest Carnival organizations on the Mississippi Gulf Coast today.

Bobbye is a longtime Republican activist. She has campaigned for local Republican government officials and participated in local elections.

Today, we recognize Mrs. Bobbye Maggio for her outstanding service to the Republican Party, Hancock County, and the State of Mississippi.

HONORING WILLIAM THOMSEN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 26, 2022

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize William Thomsen. William is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1214, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

William has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years William has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned 38 merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. William has achieved much as a scout, having achieved the ranks of Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, and Senior Patrol Leader. William has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. William's project saw him plant trees in a neighborhood park, an excellent way to provide upkeep for his community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending William Thomsen for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America, and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING VIRGINIA BELL

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 26, 2022

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor an incredible woman, Virginia Bell. Mrs. Bell lives in Lexington, Kentucky and turned 100 years old on June 30, 2022.

Mrs. Bell was born and raised on a farm outside of Cynthiana, KY. She attended Transylvania University, graduating in 1944 with degrees in mathematics and biology. After raising five children with her husband Wayne, she went back to school and earned a master's degree in social work in 1982 at the age of 60. She became the first family counselor at the University of Kentucky's Sanders Brown Center on Aging. Mrs. Bell developed the revolutionary Best Friends Approach for the care of people with Alzheimer's and other dementias. She created the Best Friends Adult Day Program, one of the first dementia specific adult day care centers in the country. Her ideas have been replicated world-wide.

Mrs. Bell is internationally known in the field of dementia care, having lectured in over 30 countries.

She has co-authored 5 books and been widely published in professional journals. She was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Transylvania University in 1992. The National Council on Aging presented her with the prestigious Ruth Von Behren Award in 1994. She was the first inductee in the University of Kentucky College of Social Work Hall of Fame in 2004.

Mrs. Bell is a true pioneer. Her work leaves a lasting legacy and her advocacy for people with dementia has impacted countless lives. It is my honor to lift up the accomplishments of