

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF NORMAN LEAR

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2022

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, happily, I rise today in celebration of the 100th birthday of a towering titan of American television, a patriotic champion of our civil liberties and a dear friend to many in the Congress: the legendary Norman Lear.

Over his long and storied career, Norman has been a singular force in shaping our nation's culture. From the Golden Age of TV to the Streaming Age of today, from our television sets to the silver screen, he has challenged our nation to grapple with issues of power, privilege and prejudice, long considered taboo. In doing so, he has helped break down barriers between our communities, while inspiring generations of Americans with his magnificent and moving artistry.

Born a century ago in New Haven, Connecticut, Norman Lear was raised in a family that took immense pride in their Jewish heritage and values. Even as a child, Norman dared to dream of a world where diversity was not merely tolerated, but celebrated. Driven by this vision, he dropped out of college at just twenty years old to enlist in the United States Air Force and join the fight against fascism. He bravely flew 52 combat missions in the European theater—and for his valiant, patriotic service, he was awarded the distinguished Air Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters.

After fighting for freedom across the Atlantic, Norman returned to the United States to carry on his mission of advancing liberty, justice and equality through American culture. A gifted writer and a masterful storyteller, he created many of television's most iconic sitcoms: including from All in the Family to Sanford and Son, from Maude to The Jeffersons. Refusing to be satisfied with merely commercial success, he used his commanding platform and trademark wit to speak truth to power. His groundbreaking scripts and unforgettable characters breathed new life into essential discussions of racism, sexism, homophobia and more—sparking similar conversations in living rooms across the country. Our nation is grateful that, even at 100 years old, Norman continues to bless us with his sharp insights and creative brilliance today.

At the same time, Norman's impact was not simply confined to the writer's room. His unrelenting love of America is legendary, as demonstrated when he purchased an original copy of the Declaration of Independence and sent it around the country—so all of America, in its beautiful diversity, could bear witness to and celebrate our founding document.

Norman's deep patriotism has helped strengthen our Democracy. As the founder of People for the American Way, he has played a pivotal role in the defense of free speech, the right to vote and the guardrails between

church and state. In doing so, he has pushed our nation to live up to our founding values of truth, freedom and justice—and advancing a future where all children can live free from barriers to achieving their fullest potential.

Indeed, his cultural creations and determined activism have earned the admiration of many Members of Congress and countless Americans across the country. His outstanding career has paved the way for generations of artists to follow in his footsteps, continuing his legacy of pushing the boundaries of cultural conversations and fighting for progressive change.

On behalf of his many friends in Congress, we join in celebrating this momentous milestone in Norman's extraordinary life. We wish him, his dear wife Lyn, his beloved children Kate, Benjamin, Maggie, Brianna, Madeline and Ellen, and the entire Lear family all the best as they celebrate this joyous occasion.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2022

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, July 26, I was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

NAY on Roll Call Number 386;

NAY on Roll Call Number 387;

YEA on Roll Call Number 388;

YEA on Roll Call Number 389;

YEA on Roll Call Number 390;

YEA on Roll Call Number 391;

YEA on Roll Call Number 392; and

YEA on Roll Call Number 393.

JOSEPH (BUDDY) MATISE

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2022

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor the many accomplishments of Joseph "Buddy" Matise, a lifelong Hamonton, South Jersey resident. Buddy married his wife, Josephine, over 60 years ago and raised 2 children with her in South Jersey. In addition to being a family man, he is a World War II Navy veteran. Buddy fought in the Pacific Theater on the USS *Norman Scott* from 1943 to 1945 and fought for his country in many World War II battles. Buddy should be proud of his brave service to our great nation, and it is an honor to be able to recognize him for his sacrifices and courage. God Bless Buddy, and God Bless our United States of America.

HONORING ASSEMBLYMEMBER MARK STONE

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2022

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize California's 29th District Assemblymember Mark Stone as a long-standing champion of the LGBTQ+ community.

Assemblymember Stone's efforts to combat social injustices dates back to his time as a Santa Cruz County Supervisor. As a two-term Supervisor, he overhauled the county's child welfare system. The improved system increased family and community support for foster youth and provided more integrated care, including culturally competent care for LGBTQ+ youth. Engaging with stakeholders around this issue led to a long-standing partnership with the Queer Youth Task Force of Santa Cruz County. Additionally, he supported funding the Queer and Trans Youth Council of Santa Cruz County and has been a speaker at multiple LGBTQ+ youth-led events, where he encourages future leaders to create communities that celebrate diversity and pride.

Since his election to the California State Assembly in 2012, Assemblymember Stone's mission has remained consistent. During his tenure, he has authored successful legislation that prohibits dismissing prospective jurors based on gender identity and expression and removed gender terms from the Fair Employment and Housing Act, effectively ensuring that transgender, non-binary, and gender non-conforming people are offered equal protection. Notably, Assemblymember Stone co-authored legislation to add a non-binary gender marker on California birth certificates, drivers' licenses, and identity cards, as well as a bill to protect incarcerated transgender people.

Assemblymember Stone's efforts in advancing the rights and protections of all Californians have earned him consistent recognition by Equality California, Planned Parenthood, ACLU, and the Courage Campaign, just to name a few. Taking full advantage of his time in office, Assemblymember Stone has honored outstanding members of the LGBTQ+ community in state commemorations, including Dayna Sinopoli, a transgender woman, as the Assembly's Women of the Year for the 29th District and Dr. Jen Hastings, the Assembly's first non-binary Person of the Year. Additionally, Assemblymember Stone proudly named Dr. Chris DiMaio, co-founder of the Rainbow Veterans of Santa Cruz County, as his 2015 Veteran of the Year.

Madam Speaker, I offer my sincere congratulations to Assemblymember Mark Stone on being commemorated by Santa Cruz County's 47th Annual Pride Festival. We are all so grateful for his leadership and his advocacy.

• 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.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PELL GRANT

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2022

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, Nelson Mandela imparted a lesson to all of us when he said: "Education is the most powerful weapon we can use to change the world." This summer, we mark the 50th anniversary of the Pell Grant—a program that put postsecondary education in reach for tens of millions of low-income students, a program that gives access to the pursuit of knowledge for those not born into privilege, and a program that allows students to change the world regardless of how much change is in their pockets.

It is an honor and privilege to recognize the 50th Anniversary of the Pell Grant Program. There was no Pell Grant when I went to college. The only way I could attend college was by the grace of receiving an academic scholarship that another student turned down. In 1972, Congress recognized the challenges faced by students like me, and it amended the Higher Education Act to provide direct financial aid to low-income students to afford them the same access to higher education and opportunity for success as their higher-income peers. Originally called the Basic Educational Opportunity Grant, this program was later named the Pell Grant in honor of its original sponsor, Senator Claiborne Pell, a Democrat from Rhode Island. Signed into law by President Richard Nixon, the program has maintained bipartisan support for five decades.

Since its creation, the Pell Grant has helped more than 80 million students attend college. Currently, 40 percent of undergraduate students—nearly 7 million students—receive Pell Grants. In Illinois's 7th Congressional District, nearly 33,000 students use over 142 million dollars in Pell Grants to pursue their higher education goals. The Pell Grant is undoubtedly the bedrock of federal financial aid for students. It is especially critical for students of color, with nearly 60 percent of Black students, half of American Indian or Alaska Native students, and nearly half of Latinx students receiving a Pell Grant each year. Without this pivotal program, many students—especially Black students—would be excluded from higher education altogether or have to dig themselves deeper into debt or struggle so much harder by working multiple jobs while attending college.

I am especially proud that, as we mark the 50th anniversary, Congress has restored the Pell Grant to the incarcerated, a policy for which I fought for decades via the REAL Act. Just this week, the Department of Education issued its proposed rule to restore Pell so that incarcerated individuals can complete higher education coursework that improves their re-entry, strengthens their economic well-being and that of their families, increases labor force participation, and grows our economy.

The Pell grant has undeniable positive impacts on students across the United States, that much is certain. As policymakers, it is our responsibility to ensure that the future of tomorrow—our youth—are not hindered by the monetary challenges of today. I urge my colleagues to join me in fighting to substantially

increase funding of this life-changing program so that it can make college affordable in the face of rising higher-education costs as it was intended.

HONORING COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR GRETCHEN EVANS**HON. CHELLIE PINGREE**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2022

Ms. PINGREE. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to recognize a courageous veteran, a resilient leader, and a selfless Mainer. Command Sergeant Major Gretchen Evans of Brunswick, Maine is one of the most decorated female veterans in American history serving in the United States Army for 27 years. Since enlisting at age 19, CMS Evans has served in tours of Kosovo, Bosnia, Somalia, Iraq, and Afghanistan, where she responsible for more than 30,000 ground troops. Ms. Evans' honorable dedication to defending our country earned her the position of Command Sergeant Major, the highest non-commissioned officer rank in the military.

In 2006, Command Sergeant Major Evans survived a barrage of mortar fire in Afghanistan which rendered her deaf and wounded. After her combat injury, she quickly found renewed vitality by learning to lip read, forging relationships with her "hearing dogs," Aura and Rusty, and by proactively reaching out to fellow veterans with similar lived experience.

Today, in Maine, CMS Evans continues to give back as an active fundraiser and ambassador for local nonprofits which provide support services to disabled veterans and which seek to prevent veteran-experienced social isolation and depression. Additionally, CMS Evans is a distinguished public speaker who advocates for the importance of leadership, perseverance, and teamwork, as a part of "Women Veterans Speak," a national speaker's bureau.

When she is not inspiring others to serve, CMS Evans pursues her passion for extreme sports, running 40 marathons. CMS Evans also led UNBROKEN, the first all-mixed abilities team to complete in "The World's Toughest Race," a 670-kilometer, week-long endurance race held in Fiji. This achievement recently earned her the Pat Tillman Award for Service at the 2022 ESPYs, which honors individuals with both strong connections to sports and community leadership. This fall, CMS Evans will also be inducted into the U.S. Veteran's Hall of Fame in recognition for her outstanding meritorious service to our country.

I thank Command Sergeant Major Gretchen Evans, for her selfless acts of duty to keep this Nation safe. The people of Maine are incredibly lucky to have her as an advocate, a leader, and a community member. I wish CMS Evans the very best and I look forward to seeing her continue to thrive.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION**HON. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2022

Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I missed the first 5 votes in

an 8 vote series on Tuesday, July 26th, due to my flight being delayed from Tampa to DCA for weather. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 386; NAY on Roll Call No. 387; YEA on Roll Call No. 388; YEA on Roll Call No. 389; and YEA on Roll Call No. 390.

HARRIET TUBMAN BICENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 26, 2022

Mr. MEEKS. Madam Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 1842, Harriet Tubman Bicentennial Commemorative Coin Act, which I introduced with Congressman KATKO.

This legislation honors Harriet Tubman by requiring the Department of Treasury to mint and issue coins bearing her likeness. We can all agree she is an icon for the constant push for more freedom and equality in this country.

Tubman was born into slavery and escaped after surviving many years of brutality under the institution of chattel slavery. She dedicated her life to fighting against the oppression of white supremacy, for the freedom and rights of African Americans and women's suffrage.

In today's world where we are continuing to fight for justice and equality for all, we should all learn from Tubman's historic contributions and sacrifices.

I want to thank the Harriet Tubman Home in Auburn, New York which was founded by Tubman herself, and the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center in Ohio, for working with me and Congressman KATKO on this bill.

I urge all Members to vote for this bill and help these organizations who are doing incredible work to promote Harriet Tubman's core values and inspire Americans with her story.

RYAN CYBULSKI

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2022

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, last month, I had the pleasure of attending Ryan Cybulski's (Si-bull-ski) Eagle Scout Court of Honor. In September of 2010, Ryan joined Mantua Pack 45 Cub Scouts and worked his way up the ranks to eventually earn the rank of Eagle Scout. For his Eagle Scout project, Ryan approached the Mantua Township Fire Chief and formulated a plan to build a hose bed training aid for the fire station. His project benefits the fire department by allowing the firefighters to practice using a fire hose without having to take the hose off one of the fire trucks. Ryan should be proud of his contribution to the Mantua Township Fire Department, and it was my honor to attend his Eagle Scout ceremony. God Bless Ryan, and God Bless our United States of America.