

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF JERICO

**HON. RICHARD E. NEAL**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 19, 2022*

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my warmest congratulations to The Bureau for Exceptional Children and Adults (JERICO) on celebrating their 50th anniversary. This milestone achievement deserves the highest praise for the hard work and dedication of the organization's board, staff, and everyone who has contributed to JERICO's success.

Founded in the late 1960s by Father Robert F. Wagner and Sr. Joan Magnani, JERICO was created to address the need for religious education classes and services for people with special needs in western Massachusetts. Through their work, they have brought new awareness and previously unavailable support to those families and individuals who are often ignored.

For 50 years, JERICO has striven to fulfill its mission of bringing dignity, respect, and wholeness into the lives of people with disabilities and their families. In that time, thousands of families have benefitted from the programs, support, and the many other services provided by JERICO throughout the western Massachusetts community. The past few years, in particular, have highlighted the need for the support and connection gained through organizations such as JERICO.

Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate JERICO again on celebrating their 50th anniversary and thank them for continuing to provide the means to meet life's spiritual, moral, and social challenges. JERICO is a cherished member of Massachusetts' First District, and I wish them many more years of success and prosperity.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 19, 2022*

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, on September 15, 2022, I missed one roll call vote. Had I been present I would have voted YES on Roll Call No. 437, on passage of H.R. 2988.

CELEBRATING DR. WARREN H. STEWART, SR.

**HON. RUBEN GALLEG0**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 19, 2022*

Mr. GALLEG0. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Warren H. Stewart,

Sr. on 45 years of preaching at the First Institutional Baptist Church of Phoenix, Arizona. Dr. Stewart's leadership, faith, and advocacy have inspired generations of Arizonans, and I want to express my gratitude for his service to our community.

Dr. Stewart is the Senior Pastor at First Institutional, where he has served since 1977. Since moving to Phoenix, Dr. Stewart has tirelessly worked to help Arizona's most vulnerable populations and fought to bring justice to all in the state. He was instrumental in the passage of the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday in Arizona and founded FIBCO Family Services, Inc. in 1986. Through the values of service, respect, integrity, empowerment, and diversity and inclusion, FIBCO Family Services works to, "provide people with knowledge, skills and support to transform and empower their lives." The services they provide include food and clothing distribution, affordable housing, immigrant and refugee support, and health care.

Throughout his distinguished career, Dr. Stewart has had numerous academic achievements, won awards and accolades, and published several books. He has served as a beacon of hope and integrity. I'd like to again congratulate Dr. Stewart on 45 years of preaching at First Institutional and thank him for over four decades of service and leadership to the Phoenix community.

RECOGNIZING PRIVATE FIRST CLASS (PFC) EDMUND F. LEWIS

**HON. W. GREGORY STEUBE**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 19, 2022*

Mr. STEUBE. Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize Private First Class (PFC) Edmund F. Lewis, of Port Charlotte, Florida. On October 1, 2022, PFC Lewis will be awarded the Legion d'honneur, France's highest honor for acts of valor and integrity. PFC Lewis was drafted into service in 1943 and deployed to France in January of 1945 with the 65th Infantry Division. During his time in combat, PFC Lewis helped reestablish freedom for France from its hostile occupation by Nazi Germany. As an Infantryman, he found himself fighting on the front lines, advancing from town to town to free the occupied territory. Often under the presence of heavy enemy resistance, PFC Lewis and the allied forces pushed their way west into Germany and beyond, with the goal of bringing an end to the war. After months of fighting, PFC Lewis and his brothers in arms were able to secure the surrender of Nazi Germany on May 8, 1945. Following the surrender, PFC Lewis aided in the liberation of one of the most infamous Concentration Camps, Mauthausen, and freed thousands of prisoners who were held captive there. I thank PFC Lewis for his years of dedicated service to our Nation and congratulate him on receiving the Legion d'honneur.

RECOGNIZING MR. CRAIG PEDERSEN

**HON. DAVID G. VALADAO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 19, 2022*

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the incredible career of Mr. Craig Pedersen and to congratulate him on his retirement.

Mr. Pedersen has spent most of his life in Kings County. Born in Reno, Nevada, his family moved to Lemoore in 1962 to return to their family farm. While he didn't know it at the time, this would begin a lifelong career in the agricultural industry for Mr. Pedersen. After graduating from Hanford High School, Mr. Pedersen began working full time with the family farm in 1982 and would eventually become business partners with his father, Robert. Together, they formed Pedersen Farms in 1987.

After many years of learning the agriculture business on his family farm, Mr. Pedersen began to take on leadership positions in the local agricultural community. He has served as the Chairman of the California Cotton Growers Association, the California Wheat Commission, and the Kings County Farm Bureau. In 1992, Mr. Pedersen accepted a multi-year fellowship with the California Agriculture Leadership Program, which allowed him to travel across North and South America to obtain an even better understanding of the agriculture industry. Following his fellowship, former California Governor Pete Wilson appointed Mr. Pedersen to serve a four-year term on the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board. In 2015, Mr. Pedersen was elected to the Kings County Board of Supervisors, where he has continued his lifelong commitment to the Central Valley agricultural community.

Mr. Pedersen has been an essential part of the Central Valley community for over thirty years. His work has been widely recognized throughout Kings County, where he has received both the California Agriculture Leadership Profile in Leadership Award in 2000 and the Kings County Agriculturalist of the Year award in 2002. I cannot think of a man more deserving of these recognitions than Mr. Pedersen, who has dedicated his entire adult life to supporting agriculture in the Central Valley.

I ask all my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the lifelong work and achievements of Mr. Craig Pedersen and congratulate him on a well-deserved retirement.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. GLENN THOMPSON**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 19, 2022*

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I was unable to cast my votes on

• 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.

April 27, 2022, and September 14, 2022. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 428, YEA on Roll Call No. 429, and YEA on Roll Call No. 127.

#### RECOGNIZING RON HALBER

#### HON. JAMIE RASKIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 19, 2022*

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to observe the remarkable tenure of Ron Halber, who is recognizing his 25th year of service to the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington. Ron has served as the JCRC's Executive Director since 2001, and his passionate work in that role reflects his dedication to the DC-area Jewish community.

Ron has transformed the JCRC of Greater Washington, turning it into one of the nation's most robust Jewish community relations organizations. Under his leadership, the JCRC has advocated for numerous pieces of beneficial state and local legislation and has been able to vastly increase its programming in support of the organization's mission.

Ron is the deserving recipient of the 2006 Ted B. Farber Professional Excellence Award and the 2001 Professional of the Year Award from the Association of Community Government Affairs Directors. However, his career outside of JCRC has been just as remarkable as his career inside. He has long been involved in his community, serving as the political coordinator for the Montgomery County Democratic Party and, long before, as the community liaison for New York State Senator Martin Solomon.

Ron Halber's tenure has been beneficial for the State of Maryland, and I know that he will continue to serve the state as Executive Director of the JCRC. His dedication to Maryland's Jewish community and the greater Maryland community serves as an example for us all of what it means to be an American, committed to both pluralism and the common good. I hope that the House will join me in celebrating Mr. Halber's contributions.

#### HONORING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PORT OF HARLINGEN, TX

#### HON. MAYRA FLORES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 19, 2022*

Mrs. FLORES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Port of Harlingen, Texas, as it celebrated its 70th anniversary this year.

On February 27, 1952, John Fullbright, the President of the Intracoastal Canal Association of Louisiana and Texas, stood in front of a crowd and said, "Port Harlingen is now open for business!" For 70 years, the Port has served a major role in the growth and development of those in the Rio Grande Valley and throughout the country.

In 1926, Mr. Lon C. Hill, the first Mayor of Harlingen, envisioned that the newly formed city would be a vital port for the Arroyo Colorado River. He was right. Soon after, he and

several other colleagues began the process of creating the Port. From 1926 to 1941, the commissioners worked to secure the funding for the Port of Harlingen and in 1938, the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers approved the building of the channel. Not long after, construction began. For the next nine years, construction workers tirelessly worked to build the Port. Finally, the Port of Harlingen was finalized. On February 27, 1952, the Port was officially opened as it discharged its first cargo shipment of steel pipes.

Initially, the Port was responsible for transporting steel, fuel, a variety of seafoods, and gasoline. Later, it quickly began to be a transporter of fertilizer and liquid bulk. This meant that the Port could serve as a means of transporting the goods local farmers produced as well as means of receiving the needed assistance to increase their production. The Port of Harlingen continued to expand. In 1979, the construction of the Administration Building began, and in 1983, it officially changed its name to "The Port of Harlingen Authority".

It also serves as the starting point of the Gulf-Intracoastal Waterway and has become a critical port for the South Texas as well as the rest of the country. The RGV would not be the area like we know it without the Port of Harlingen. It is an essential part for the people of the Valley as it employs just over 4,600 jobs for individuals directly and indirectly.

It is for these reasons and our history that I congratulate the Port on its 70th anniversary and look to the future as it will continue to impact the RGV.

#### RECOGNIZING THE KOREAN AND VIETNAM WAR VETERANS

#### HON. CLIFF BENTZ

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 19, 2022*

Mr. BENTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Korean and Vietnam War Veterans from Oregon's Second Congressional District who are visiting their memorials on the National Mall through the efforts of Honor Flight of Oregon. When I have the opportunity to meet these heroes, I am reminded of the enduring words of General George S. Patton, who said, "Wars may be fought with weapons, but they are won by men. It is the spirit of men who follow and of the man who leads that gains that victory." The words he spoke then, Madam Speaker, still ring true today. Those who value liberty are indebted to these heroes, for each one of them chose to defend freedom through acts of service, incredible sacrifice, and bravery on behalf of our country. It is my privilege to include in the Record their names.

The Veterans on this Honor Flight from Oregon are as follows: Robert Altvatter, Army; Dennis Allen, Marine Corps; Kenneth Anderson, Navy; Fred Barber, Marine Corps; Keith Becker, Marine Corps; Robin Brown, Coast Guard; Ricky Davis, Air Force; James DeSully, Army; George Endicott, Army; Robert Fincham, Navy; James Gabriel, Navy; Vernon Gurney, Army; James Lindgen, Navy; Thomas Mabalot, Navy; Thomas McCann, Navy; James Mills, Navy; George Oldham, Army; Joseph Petrelli, Navy; Thomas Queener, Navy; Wade Reece, Army; John Richardson, Marine

Corps; Ronald Robbel, Army; Harold Schneider, Navy; Gerald Smith, Army; Spencer Stewart, Marine Corps; Allan Tobiason, Army; Jay Turnage, Navy; Mark Wirges, Marine Corps; Jimmie Young, Marine Corps; and James Zupancic, Air Force.

These heroes join over 240,000 Veterans who have been honored through the Honor Flight Network of volunteers nationwide since 2005. I would also like to recognize volunteer Dr. Jana Frazier for her years of dedicated service to our Veterans and the Central Oregon Honor Flight.

Madam Speaker, Ronald Reagan affirmed that, "We owe this freedom of choice and action to those men and women in uniform who have served this Nation and its interests in time of need. In particular, we are forever indebted to those who have given their lives that we might be free." As a nation, we must never take for granted the liberties we enjoy today, recognizing that these freedoms have been hard-won by the honor, commitment, and sacrifice of our Veterans. Each Member in this chamber and citizen in these United States should be humbled by the courage of the brave Veterans who voluntarily underwent dangers and successes in order to preserve our country and way of life. Colleagues, please join me in thanking these Veterans and the volunteers of Honor Flight of Oregon for their remarkable service and devotion to our great country.

#### CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF CIRCLE THE CITY

#### HON. RUBEN GALLEGO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 19, 2022*

Mr. GALLEGO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Circle the City. By recognizing health care as the first step to empowerment and independence, Circle the City is an invaluable community partner in addressing homelessness in Phoenix.

Founded by Sister Adele O'Sullivan, CSJ, MD, Circle the City opened the first medical respite center for people facing homelessness in Phoenix in 2012. Today, Circle the City operates two medical respite centers, two outpatient health care clinics, and four mobile medical units. The COVID-19 pandemic increased homelessness in Phoenix dramatically and made providing health care to underserved populations more important than ever. Circle the City rose to the challenge, providing vaccinations to the hardest to reach individuals. As climate change continues to worsen extreme heat in Phoenix, Circle the City has been working to help people experiencing homelessness prevent and heal from heat exhaustion and dehydration.

I would like to offer my deepest thanks to Circle the City for their work providing health care to a population that is too often overlooked. I congratulate them on a decade of service and look forward to helping them achieve another 10 years.