

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM O'HALLERAN

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mr. O'HALLERAN. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, on September 15, 2022, I was unable to vote for H.R. 302, the Preventing a Patronage System Act. I would have voted in favor of H.R. 302. I was also unable to vote on Agreeing to the Amendment by Mr. HICE on H.R. 302. I would have voted against the Amendment.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHUCK FUENTES

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a very heavy heart to honor the life of Chuck Fuentes, my dear friend and confidant, who passed away on September 13 at the age of 70.

Born March 16, 1952 in Whittier, CA to Robert H. and Theresa M. Fuentes, Charles Patrick "Chuck" Fuentes was raised in the City of Norwalk, CA. He attended St. John of God Catholic School, St. John Bosco High School, Cerritos Community College, and the University of California-Berkeley.

Chuck was raised a proud Democrat by his father, Robert H. "Bob" Fuentes, a politico of some note. Chuck ran countless campaigns and ran for office himself. He was a shrewd strategist with a keen sense of timing, and he had a knack for connecting a candidate's vision to voters' concerns.

Chuck was a ubiquitous presence in city, county, state, and national politics, causes, and committees, and was elected the youngest member of the Cerritos Community College Board of Trustees. He served for 26 years on the Democratic State Central Committee, was elected Vice Chair of the California Democratic Party in 1989, and was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention.

Working at all levels of government, Chuck was at one time my right hand, serving as my advisor on the Norwalk City Council and my Chief of Staff in the State Assembly and the United States Congress. My gratitude for all his years of service knows no bounds. He was instrumental in helping guide me as a public servant but was so much more than an employee. Chuck was family, and his loss is immeasurable.

Chuck was also campaign manager for James K. Hahn in his final successful campaign for City Controller and his later successful campaigns for City Attorney and for Mayor of Los Angeles. He served as Chief Administrative Officer for the Los Angeles City Controller's Office and later as the Chief Administrative Officer for the Los Angeles City Attorney. Chuck was City Manager of Pico Rivera and was General Manager at the Central Basin Municipal Water District.

A devout Roman Catholic and member of the Knights of Columbus, Norwalk Council 3678, Chuck was an active member of numer-

ous church communities and served as a parish bereavement minister.

Chuck is survived by his spouse, Linda L. Unruh; siblings Christine M. Fuentes, Roberta T. "Bobbi" Buescher, Andrea Kunkel (Robert), Cecilia C. Fuentes, Robert H. Fuentes III, Christopher Fuentes (Paul), and Joseph A. Fuentes (Amy); and godchildren Ryan A. Kunkel, Jonathan Palomares, Robert H. Fuentes IV, and Ray Morones.

I extend my deepest sympathies to the family, colleagues, and friends of Chuck Fuentes, and I urge all my colleagues to join me in recognizing his distinguished life and public service. Although he is deeply missed, he will forever remain in our hearts.

RECOGNIZING MRS. DIANE MESSER DODDS

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Diane Messer Dodds, for receiving the Bench and Bar Award, Kern County Bar Association's most prestigious award.

A graduate of Yale Law School, Mrs. Dodds was sworn into the California State Bar in 1975 and began her lifelong commitment to provide outstanding legal services to those in need. She started her legal career working with the Legal Aid Office in Long Beach, California. After a year there, she began clerking for U.S. District Judge Harry Pregerson. Following her clerkship, she would go on to work at the Western Center on Law and Poverty in Los Angeles.

After her time with Western Center, Mrs. Dodds moved to Kernville after marrying her husband, Patrick. For 12 years, she would provide important legal services to the elderly throughout her community as she and Patrick raised their young children. This work led to her meeting Pat Jennison, an attorney in Bakersfield, who has been a dear friend and important legal partner. The two would go on to open the law office of Jennison and Dodds in 2007.

For decades, Mrs. Dodds has provided vital legal services to clients throughout the Valley. Mrs. Dodds's pro bono work has earned her special recognition from the California State Bar, as a recipient of the Wiley M. Manuel Award for Pro Bono Legal Services. Mrs. Dodds has dedicated thousands of hours to legal clinics for self-represented litigants through the Greater Bakersfield Legal Assistance and the Kern County Law Library—even teaching a monthly class at the library for self-represented litigants for the past 15 years.

Mrs. Dodds has rightfully received the praise of fellow attorneys, Judges, Bar Associations throughout California, and most importantly—her clients. She has accomplished all of this while being a dedicated wife and loving mother to three children, and I cannot think of a more deserving recipient of this prestigious award than Mrs. Dodds.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the incredible work of Mrs. Diane Messer Dodds for her accomplishment of receiving the Kern County Bar Association Bench and Bar Award.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS FOR 2022

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize three schools in the Illinois 11th Congressional district that have been named National Blue Ribbon Schools for 2022: Eisenhower Academy, Elmwood Elementary School, and Highlands Elementary School. These schools are recognized for their overall academic excellence on their progress in closing achievement gaps among student groups, demonstrating that all students can achieve at high levels.

Throughout its 40-year history, the National Blue-Ribbon Schools Program has affirmed the hard work of students, educators, families, and communities in creating safe and welcoming schools where students master challenging content. The award flag gracing a school's building has been widely recognized by everyone—from parents to policymakers—as a symbol of exemplary teaching and learning.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the faculty, staff, administrators, parents, and students at these three schools for their great accomplishment.

RECOGNIZING THELMA CASTILLO AND THE BLUE WATER AREA CHAMBER

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mrs. McCLAIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Thelma Castillo and The Blue Water Area Chamber in Port Huron, Michigan for supporting, celebrating, and growing small businesses in Michigan.

The Blue Water Area Chamber is hosting a MI New Favorite Snack competition this fall. The competition gives businesses with 10 or fewer employees a chance at a generous cash prize. This opportunity allows up and coming businesses the chance to show off their products and promote them in an exciting new way. Participants look forward to the marketing benefits as well as a chance at winning the cash prize to invest in the growth of their business.

Small businesses are a critical part of our economy and community. We must continue to help them grow by supporting them in any way we can. I applaud the work of Thelma Castillo and The Blue Water Area Chamber for recognizing small businesses in Michigan.

RECOGNIZING PASTORS RANDY AND AMY BEZET

HON. W. GREGORY STEUBE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mr. STEUBE. Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate Pastors Randy and Amy Bezet

on 20 years of faithful service leading Bayside Community Church. In 2002, Randy and Amy left their home state of Louisiana, moved to Florida, and founded Bayside Community Church. What started as a small congregation that met inside an elementary school has grown into a church spreading the Gospel to thousands of members across Southwest Florida. Randy and Amy have been blessed to witness God's work in the ministries they have launched over the past 20 years. They continue to expand their vision to reach people for Christ, raise them to become followers of the Lord, and release them to live their God-given purpose. Their heart for people has cultivated an authentic experience at Bayside Community Church and has changed many people's lives. I thank them for their dedicated service to those who live in our community and for their commitment to share the Gospel.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL PASCHELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mr. PASCHELL. Madam Speaker, on September 14, 2022, I missed one roll call vote. Had I been present I would have voted YES on Roll Call No. 424, On Ordering the Previous Question.

CELEBRATING 125 YEARS OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CHURCH

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 125th anniversary of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church. As the only Parish that serves the Old First Ward of Buffalo, this congregation has been a cornerstone of Buffalo for well over a century. In honor of this milestone, I wish to recognize all that the church has done to enrich countless Buffalo residents.

Established on March 25, 1897, during the "Feast of Annunciation," Bishop James E. Quigley led its creation. Carving out portions of the St. Brigid and St. Stephen parishes, the Bishop began recruiting families to his own congregation. Along with Father O'Connell, who was chosen to be the first leader of the parish, Our Lady of Perpetual Help succeeded in incorporating over 800 families to the new congregation.

Father O'Connell spearheaded the effort to develop the church, obtaining the land where the rectory and church now stand using funds donated to him by the JJ Glenn Estate. In collaboration with the Lansing and Beiri firm to design the church, Father O'Connell brought gothic styles popular during the Middle Ages to his parish with vertically pointed arches, ribbed vaulting, and floral design that can still be seen today.

The parish celebrated its first Mass on July 11, 1897, under the leadership of Father O'Connell. A few months later, the church opened its doors to students for Sunday

school with a class size of 46 boys and 41 girls. In 1909, the church acquired a three-story brick schoolhouse in honor of Father O'Connell who had passed a few years prior. The street the parish now stands on was also later renamed after him in honor of all he had done for his congregation. The school closed its doors in 1971 after over 2,900 students received an education.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help is currently led by Father Paul Seil who continues to be a beloved public figure. Since joining the parish, Father Seil has led numerous restoration efforts at the churches as well as increasing the Church's social media presence to allow for congregation members to stay connected. With a large hall, four meeting rooms, a stage, and a kitchen in the building's basement, Our Lady hosts a myriad of activities to strengthen community ties. The Church also encourages youth organizations by sponsoring Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops.

Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to honor the contributions Our Lady of Perpetual Help has made to our community for the past 125 years.

HONORING AN ARIZONA LEGEND, DR. WARREN H. STEWART, SR.

HON. GREG STANTON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mr. STANTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor an Arizona legend, Dr. Warren H. Stewart, Sr., and congratulate him for reaching the milestone of 45 years of service as the senior pastor of First Institutional Baptist Church of Phoenix. Our community is so fortunate that Pastor Stewart has devoted his life to meaningful service that has made a difference in the lives of many, and I am personally grateful to call this civil rights leader, humanitarian, scholar and author a friend.

Pastor Stewart answered the call early in life and preached his first sermon when he was just 17 years old. Several years later he became the pastor at First Institutional Baptist, the youngest—and eventually longest serving—in the church's history.

During his tenure, he has led his congregation through transformative growth and his impact stretches far beyond his spirited sermons from the pulpit. He created a family resource center, the Samaritan House for homeless families, a home for teenage mothers and expanded the church's education and outreach services. Each of these have changed the trajectory of people's lives for the better.

Through many challenging moments in our community's recent history, Pastor Stewart has offered a voice of moral clarity. He's stood up to the darkest forces in our state and prevailed. When the extremists first stopped Arizona from recognizing Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, it was Pastor Stewart who organized, mobilized and energized the campaign to make that day a reality in our state.

It's not just Arizona where his legacy lives. He's preached throughout the United States and in more than 50 countries. While overseas, Pastor Stewart helped build a new church edifice and parsonage in the Republic of South Africa.

Arizona is fortunate to have experienced 45 years of Pastor Stewart's leadership, and we are hopeful for many more.

I thank Pastor Stewart for his friendship and service, and extend congratulations to him on this significant milestone.

HONORING THE TOWN OF GLEN ELLEN AND THE GLEN ELLEN POST OFFICE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 150th year milestone of Glen Ellen and the Glen Ellen Post Office in Sonoma County, California.

Originating on July 19, 1872, Glen Ellen was named after Ellen Mary Stuart, the wife of Colonel Charles Stuart. Glen Ellen is located in the canyon between the Mayacamas Mountain Range and Sonoma Mountain. The beautiful Calabasas and Sonoma creeks run through downtown Glen Ellen further adding to the immaculate scenery.

Glen Ellen, part of the historic Valley of the Moon, is home to many Sonoma County wineries and culinary gems. It is home to nearly 800 people but also serves as a getaway for many California residents due to the various hiking trails and its close proximity to Sonoma Valley Regional Park.

The Glen Ellen Post Office holds historical value in the community it serves. It was created at the same time as the town and has been led by a distinguished list of postmasters, such as Charles Justi, John Gibson, and Charles Crofoot. The post office is located in historic Jack London country, surrounded by vineyards.

One of the most notable attractions of Glen Ellen is the Jack London State Historic Park. Created in 1960 and named after author and owner Jack London, the park spans fourteen hundred acres and contains a winery dating back to the 19th century, as well as a variety of orchards and historic structures. Celebrations commemorating Glen Ellen and its post office have been held here, signifying the importance of the park and the historical significance it has to the community.

Glen Ellen is a place for Californians to seek quiet and relaxation. The variety of attractions, including wineries, restaurants, hiking trails, historic landmarks, such as the Mill, all contribute to the town and its community. Along with the historic Glen Ellen Post Office, these attractions are an important part of what make Glen Ellen a special place to live.

Madam Speaker, it is therefore appropriate that we acknowledge Glen Ellen's 150th milestone and wish them another 150 years of success.

IN RECOGNITION OF SCHREIBER FOODS GUINNESS WORLD RECORD

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Schreiber Foods on achieving the Guinness World Records title for the largest macaroni and cheese.