

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING CLAUDINO “TITO”
ROSARIO FOR HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2022

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, as a labor organizer, Claudino “Tito” Rosario has served Central Florida for the past 15 years working to organize hospitality workers with UNITE HERE Local 362.

Tito was one of the key organizers in the union’s fight to win \$15 per hour at Walt Disney World in 2018, while winning affordable healthcare for airport workers, recruiting countless workplace leaders, participating in civil disobedience, and building a stronger union that is filled with hope due to his spirit.

Tito first joined UNITE HERE when he became a custodial cast member at Walt Disney World in 1995. He worked in several resorts across their property, eventually working at Disney’s Animal Kingdom where he became a shop steward for his co-workers in 2005. He was hired to the Local 362 Union organizing team in 2007 where he organized workers at Walt Disney World, airport food service workers, airline catering workers, and casino workers across the country.

In retirement, Tito plans to spend time with his wife Lourdes of 25 years, his 11 grandchildren, and his one great-grandchild. He also plans to donate time to his church’s ministry—Iglesia Pentecostal Pozo De Jacob, Inc. Pastores Melissa Rivera y José A. Franco—serving as secretary general. Tito has touched thousands of lives in Central Florida, and I join the members of UNITE HERE Local 362 in being forever grateful for his hard work and dedication.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 136TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MOUNT MORIAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2022

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church on the anniversary of its inception after 136 blessed years of contributing to and serving the surrounding community through ministry and service. Mt. Moriah celebrated their anniversary on Sunday, September 25, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. during their Sunday service in Macon, Georgia.

The Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church was founded in 1886 by Rev. Harrison Hall and Rev. Henry A. Williams. Starting as a humble wooden structure on Powell Street, the church began to expand over the years to include a Sunday School and other additions

that would become meeting spaces for community groups and clubs such as the Loyal Matrons, Richardson Literary, Cooperative Women, the Brotherhood, and a new Boy Scout Troop. After many fruitful years of ministry and expansion, the Lord provided Mt. Moriah with the means to relocate to its present-day home on Millerfield Road in 1967 where it was able to further expand and serve its members with even greater impact.

The Mt. Moriah Baptist Church has for a century played a vital role in the spiritual and overall development of several generations through its active involvement in the Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Brownies, and Vacation Bible Schools. The church has always prioritized educating its members, and especially its youth, in positive life skills and encourages all members to join Prayer Meetings and Bible Study. And truly, the congregation of Mt. Moriah has always demonstrated a genuine concern for uplifting the surrounding community. Mt. Moriah continued in this mission in the foundation of the Family Life Center. Built and dedicated in 1992, the Center houses a nursery, library, six classrooms, and a gymnasium to be used and enjoyed by the church’s members and ministries such as the Single’s Ministry, the Couple’s Ministry, Mission Board, YDC Ministry, Keenagers (Senior Saints), the Men of Mt. Moriah, and Women of Mt. Moriah. In 2006, the church established the Travel Ministry and took on the worthy cause of spreading its mission of evangelism and altruism abroad. Over the years the Travel Ministry would spread its ministry wide, including travel to Barbados, Jamaica, Liberia, South Carolina, Florida, and many other places with people in need.

Over the decades, none of Mt. Moriah’s accomplishments could have been possible without the hard work and dedication of the church’s many dedicated members, deacons, ministers, and, most importantly, its pastors. Each pastor has contributed to the growth and excellence of the church through various initiatives; under Reverend Lonzy Edwards, Sr.’s leadership Mt. Moriah saw the establishment of a college scholarship fund, a new radio ministry, and a property expansion. Mt. Moriah’s current lead pastor, Reverend Dr. Stanley Kimble, has not only continued to advance the church’s long-held mission of uplifting the greater community; he has also brought forth a newfound passion for youth engagement and local charities. Dr. Kimble founded the “Get Your Glory Youth Praise Dance Ministry” and the Youth Cafe on every third Sunday, as well as the Feeding of the Homeless Ministry and the Red Cross Blood Drive. It is without a doubt that these pastors’ contributions inspired so many to do what they may never have thought possible.

The story of Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church, which began as a small group of people worshipping 136 years ago and has grown into an expansive and successful church, is truly an inspiring one of the dedication and perseverance of a faithful congregation who put all of their love and trust in the Lord.

Ephesians 4:4 tells us, “There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling.” Mt. Moriah from its inception has served as one body and spirit in service to God and Jesus Christ.

Madam Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the more than 730,000 people of Georgia’s Second Congressional District in recognizing and honoring the Mount Moriah Missionary Baptist Church on its 136th anniversary for its congregation’s enduring commitment to each other and to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. May their actions continue to inspire the community in courage, in dedication, and in faith.

HONORING SOMOS MAYFAIR

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2022

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 25th anniversary of Somos Mayfair, a community organization located in East San Jose.

Mayfair is a vibrant neighborhood with a deep legacy of social services, community organizing, and social justice movements. Renowned labor leader Cesar Chavez did early work here and it is recognized as the birthplace of the Chicano Civil Rights Movement.

Somos Mayfair builds community power in East San Jose through leadership development and by organizing resident-led solutions. Somos has built an inclusive vision of a thriving, healthy, and safe community.

Recent accomplishments include:

Building a network of resident leaders trained to be community organizers, leaders, and advocates;

Providing over 1,600 parents and young children the resources and community they need through their Family Resource Centers;

Collaborating with partners to win the development of Quetzal Gardens—a new project making affordable apartments available to residents;

Securing \$1.2 million for translation services within San Jose public schools; and

Championing a local preference policy to protect residents from displacement.

As we move forward in challenging, yet hopeful times, we salute Somos Mayfair and its families. We look forward to working together to create opportunities and advancement for all working families.

HONORING DIANA MENDEZ FOR
HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2022

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Dr. Diana Mendez was born and raised by her Peruvian

• 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.

family in Lima before moving to Orlando, Florida when she was 14 years old.

After high school, Dr. Mendez earned a bachelor's degree with honors in psychology from the University of Central Florida. She then earned her Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Detroit Mercy and completed a clinical health psychology post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Psychiatry, and Behavioral Sciences.

Dr. Mendez is board certified in behavioral and cognitive psychology and began working at the Orlando VA healthcare system in 2014. As a result of her outstanding clinical skills and natural leadership abilities, she now oversees the clinical care, staff, and operations of mental health services across four of the Orlando VA's community-based outpatient clinics.

Every aspect of Dr. Mendez's career reflects a dedication to advocacy, equity, and service to others. Her research focuses on decreasing health disparities by improving social determinants of health for at-risk and underrepresented communities. She works tirelessly to improve access to mental health care for veterans from historically marginalized communities, which is reflected in her clinics' operations, as well as in the evidence-based, culturally sensitive approach she takes within her clinical work.

As a VA national consultant for diversity, equity, and inclusion, Dr. Mendez's leadership and expertise has been a driving force behind many DEI-related initiatives at the Orlando VA and throughout VA's across the country.

HONORING 82ND AIRBORNE HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE CORPORAL JOHN S. GILBERTIE FOR HIS VALOROUS SERVICE AND SACRIFICE

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2022

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Corporal John S. Gilbertie who was inducted into the 82nd Airborne Division's Hall of Fame on September 28, 2022.

The 82nd Airborne Division's Hall of Fame began in 2018 to honor the division's 101 years of legendary service and its members. It honors veteran paratroopers who are nominated for their service within the division, their commitment to the division's values, their contributions to their chosen field outside of their division, or any other valorous combat actions.

A brief look at Cpl. Gilbertie's career accomplishments only begins to adequately describe the importance of his military service. He served in the 82nd Airborne Division from October 1917 to May 1919, which included serving as an infantryman and squad leader in company E, 327th Infantry Regiment during the St. Mihiel and Meuse-Argonne campaigns of World War I. During WWI, Cpl. Gilbertie led nightly patrols for the 327th Regiment, which earned him the Distinguished Service Cross. According to his citation, he carried messages from the front lines to battalion and regimental headquarters in October 1918 near Cornay, France; "Although suffering from the effects of gas and sickness, on two occasions, he volun-

teered and led patrols in the enemy territory, obtaining and returning with information of the utmost importance and value." For his efforts, Cpl. Gilbertie was awarded the Silver Star Medal, the World War I Victory Medal with three Clasps and the Italian War Cross.

In the words of the former commander of the 82nd Airborne Division, Gen. Erik Kurilla, "the All American Hall of Fame is about preserving our legacy and paying homage to our All American Legends." Cpl. Gilbertie's selfless service could not be more deserving of such recognition. I know I speak for all in our community and Nation in thanking Cpl. John S. Gilbertie for his committed service and leadership in the 82nd Airborne Division and our nation's military more broadly.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring and congratulating Corporal John Gilbertie for his induction to the 82nd Airborne Division's Hall of Fame.

HONORING THE LIFE OF NEAL J. KATZ

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2022

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to honor and celebrate the life of Neal J. Katz.

On November 23, 1954, Neal was born to Regina and Louis Katz in New York City. In high school he would earn the name "Statz" after managing statistics for Horace Mann's Basketball Team, a lifelong skill to which he was well suited.

Following his graduation from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute where he received a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering and a Master's in Business Administration, Neal and his wife, Diane, would move to Texas, eventually settling in Plano.

Mr. Katz would become an active fixture in Collin County politics where his roles included serving as an elector as part of the Texas delegation to the Electoral College, on the State Republican Executive Committee, as a delegate to the National Convention, and as an active participant in more than a dozen local organizations. Most recently, he retired as Executive Director of the Collin County Republican Party.

Service above self was an important component of Neal's life, and his passions included keeping his hometown of Plano safe. To that end, he was a graduate of the Plano Citizens Police Academy, a Field Training Officer, and a volunteer in several initiatives including Citizens Assisting Plano Police, the Plano Youth Police Academy, and Summer Safety School.

As a proud father to Janelle and Rachel, Neal proudly served as a Girl Scouts Troop Cookie Dad before being elevated to a University of North Texas sports fan and ISU theatre patron.

While we mourn Neal's loss, we remember his many contributions as a servant leader within our community. With much gratitude for his longtime grassroots efforts, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the rich legacy of Neal J. Katz.

HONORING MIKE BRENNAN, FOUNDER AND FORMER CO-CHAIRMAN OF UNITY FOUNDATION

HON. FRANK J. MRVAN

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2022

Mr. MRVAN. Madam Speaker, it is with great respect and admiration that I take this time to honor Mike Brennan and to wish him well upon his retirement from the board of Unity Foundation of La Porte County. Mike is the founder and former Co-Chairman of this outstanding organization, and his lifetime commitment to charitable efforts is to be commended. Mr. Brennan will be honored at the foundation's 30th anniversary celebration taking place at Blue Chip Casino in Michigan City, Indiana, on Saturday, October 1, 2022.

Mike Brennan is a developer, entrepreneur, and philanthropist. His successful career and lifetime of service is truly impressive and noteworthy. Among his many accomplishments, Mike is the founder and developer of Light-house Place Premium Outlets mall, which was built in 1987 in Michigan City, Indiana. In 1997, Mike was an investor of the former site of Joy Manufacturing which he helped develop into the Michigan City Enterprise Center, a facility that housed numerous companies and created many jobs throughout Northwest Indiana. In addition, he was a co-owner of Sager Metal Strip Company in Michigan City, a company that engineered and designed conveyor systems for organizations worldwide.

In the early 1990s, Mr. Brennan responded to the Lilly Endowment Inc. GIFT Initiative (Give Indiana Funds for Tomorrow) and began organizing ideas that would eventually culminate in the creation of Unity Foundation of La Porte County. Mike sought to establish an organization focused on giving back to the community. Since the beginning, he worked to unite local companies and partnered with remarkable leaders from La Porte, Michigan City, and throughout the region to help create Unity Foundation of La Porte County. Under Mike's outstanding leadership, the foundation has been immensely successful and continues to grow and expand. Today, the organization's assets have grown to more than forty million dollars while awarding over one million dollars in grants and scholarships each year. In addition, Unity Foundation has successfully reached all seven of Lilly Endowment Inc.'s fundraising challenges and has funded many projects, grants, and services including the Unity Park project, Save the Mill Pond, The Home Team, Trail Creek Watershed Planning & Partnership, The Discovery Alliance, Vibrant Communities of La Porte County and numerous COVID disaster relief and recovery efforts, to name a few. For his devotion to improving communities in La Porte County and throughout Northwest Indiana, Mr. Brennan is worthy of the highest praise.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing Unity Foundation of La Porte County as the organization celebrates its 30th anniversary and in honoring Mike Brennan for his inspirational leadership and in wishing him well upon his retirement from the board. Mr. Brennan's remarkable contributions to the foundation and to the community will have a positive impact for generations to come.