

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING ROBYN TEPLITZKY,
MSW FOR HER INVALUABLE
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 6, 2023

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join the Jewish Historical Society of Greater New Haven in honoring Robyn Teplitzky, MSW for her invaluable contributions to our community. Robyn has dedicated a lifetime to serving the needs of others and in doing so has left an indelible mark on our community.

Robyn has devoted countless hours to a multitude of Jewish organizations and service agencies. I, like so many who know her, have always found myself in awe of her energy, dedication and ability to devote so much of herself to the community. Robyn grew up in Hamden, Connecticut and even as a young adult exhibited a unique commitment to making a difference in the lives of others. She was an active member of Temple Beth Shalom, United Synagogue Youth, and the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization. It was through this lens that she developed strong leadership skills and found her passion for social work. She spent many hours on community service projects. One particularly impactful experience was providing volunteer assistance at the Jewish Home for the Aged as the organization navigated a work stoppage. She was part of a true community endeavor to support both the residents and staff. Robyn went on to attend the University of Miami Florida where she majored in social services and Jewish studies. After earning her bachelor's degree, she went on to secure her master's degree in social work at the Wurzweiler School of Social Work at Yeshiva University.

Following the completion of her studies, she returned to New Haven to begin her career. Robyn's first job was with the Jewish Community Center and her career has seen her participate in every aspect of the Greater New Haven Jewish Federation, an organization which she continues to work closely with today as the Interim Director for Women's Philanthropy. For more than a decade she served as the Director of Annual Giving and as Diversity Coordinator at Hamden Hall Country Day School and later became the Senior Director of the Mandel Center for Leadership Excellence for the Jewish Federation of America. She is also the founder of RKT Consulting Group and works with nonprofit organizations as a consultant and executive coach. She is also currently serving as the Interim Development Director for inSIGHT Through Education, a Holocaust education program in South Florida.

Robyn has a deep love for and connection to Israel and she has devoted many hours to coordinating trips to Israel on behalf of the Jewish Federation. This past spring, she was

instrumental in coordinating a mission to Israel for a group of members from the New Haven and Hartford Jewish Federations. Looking back today, I am sure that those who joined the mission are grateful to have had such a meaningful experience.

Robyn and the work she has undertaken throughout her life are a reflection of her Jewish faith. Service to the community, cultivating giving in others, preserving Jewish history, and expanding educational opportunities not only for Jewish students but for society as a whole. Her efforts and leadership have been recognized with a myriad of honors from organizations like the Anti-Defamation League, Congregation B'nai Jacob, Yale New Haven Children's Hospital, and the Community Foundation of Greater New Haven.

I am honored to have this opportunity to rise today and extending my deepest thanks and heartfelt congratulations to Robyn Teplitzky as she is honored by the Jewish Historical Society of Greater New Haven. She is an extraordinary leader, and we are so fortunate for her continued good work at the Federation and across our community. I wish her and her husband, Jeffrey, all the best on this special occasion. Congratulations (Mazel Tov).

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEBBIE LESKO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 6, 2023

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 598, H.R. 3774.

RECOGNIZING SEPP KUSS'S HISTORIC VICTORY AT THE SPANISH VUELTA

HON. LAUREN BOEBERT

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 6, 2023

Ms. BOEBERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. Sepp Kuss, a native of Durango, Colorado, and the champion of the 2023 Vuelta a España. Sepp's historic victory made him the first American to win a Grand Tour event since 2013 and earned him the nickname "The Eagle of Durango."

Sepp's journey began in Durango, Colorado, where he initially began cycling as a form of cross-training for his passion of cross-country skiing. He credits his upbringing in Durango with giving him the unique advantage of having so many outdoor opportunities and having a supportive community beside him each step of the way. He entered this race as a support rider for his team, Jumbo-Visma, and emerged as the champion. Sepp's journey from cross-country skiing in the mountains of Colorado to standing atop the podium in Madrid is an in-

spiration to all Americans. He has shown that with hard work, dedication, and a little Southwestern Colorado grit, anything is possible.

Mr. Speaker, Sepp Kuss's victory is a shining example of American excellence. Sepp has become an outstanding role model for young athletes in Durango and across the United States and has shown them that dreams can come true. I urge all Americans to join me in congratulating Sepp Kuss for his historic victory at the Vuelta a España and for being a beacon of American pride and inspiration for Colorado's Third Congressional District and America.

HONORING O&G INDUSTRIES ON
THE OCCASION OF THEIR CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 6, 2023

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to extend my heartfelt congratulations to O&G Industries as they mark their centennial anniversary. For one hundred years, O&G has been a leader in Connecticut's construction industry, and today their expertise covers a wide range of projects from healthcare, where the site must be kept impeccably clean and quiet, to major highway interchanges, where commuter traffic presents a unique variable that must be constantly managed.

Founded in 1923 by Andrew Oneglia and Flaviano Gervasini, O&G Industries is a fourth-generation family-owned company. Its founders set out to build a small business based on the principles of quality service and excellence in craftsmanship. Their company culture was deeply rooted in a dedication to family values—a commitment that still exists today.

For nearly six decades, O&G has consistently ranked as one of the country's top 400 construction companies by Engineering News Record and is one of the Northeast's largest privately-owned construction companies. With a product portfolio that ranges from the distribution of aggregates, concrete, asphalt, and specialty products, O&G utilizes its network of six quarries, eight concrete plants, and nine asphalt plants as well as its comprehensive and well-maintained company-owned equipment inventories to meet the varying needs of its clients.

From building and road construction services to mason products and construction materials, O&G is a recognized and respected industry leader. Yet, O&G's contributions extend far beyond their building and construction projects. From toy drives to supporting the American Cancer Society, their employees engaged in their local communities, contributing thousands of volunteer hours and support for nonprofit and civic organizations each year.

Today, O&G Industries is led by Executive Vice Chairman, Raymond R. (Ray) Oneglia,

• 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.

who I am honored to call a friend. Ray has often hosted me at project sites, where I could see firsthand the impact of federal investments, particularly in transportation. Over the years, we have developed a friendship based on respect and a shared commitment to community. Ray is skillfully leading O&G Industries into a second century of success, and I am so pleased to have this opportunity to congratulate him and his team on this remarkable milestone. As we say in Italian—C'ent Anni.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 6, 2023

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, I wish to clarify that it was my intent to be recorded as YEA on Rollcall No. 572, on Amendment No. 66 to the Fiscal Year 2024 Interior and related agencies appropriations bill offered by Rep. HARSHBARGER of Tennessee on Thursday, November 2, 2023. I believed that my vote was recorded as YEA at that time, but I apparently did not complete execution of my vote. I wish to make it clear that I intended to vote for the amendment. The amendment would have provided that: "None of the funds made available by this Act shall be available for the United States Board on Geographic Names."

HONORING A TRAILBLAZER IN
OUR COMMUNITY, REV. DR.
FREDERICK D. HAYNES III

HON. JASMINE CROCKETT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 6, 2023

Ms. CROCKETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize someone who I not only call a constituent but my pastor and a dear friend—Rev. Dr. Frederick D. Haynes III.

Pastor Haynes, born in Dallas, TX, has committed his life to not only serving within the walls of his Church—Friendship-West Baptist Church—but has made it his mission to stand up for those without a voice. Specifically, his advocacy and commitment to advancing our community can be seen through his strong continued fight for fair lending practices, advocating for just food policies, seeking much-needed criminal justice reform, and much more.

One initiative born from the vision of Dr. Haynes is the successful THRIVE Intern and Leadership Program. During the first year, the Program employed nearly 100 young black males between the ages of 16 through 19. Since its inception, the program has expanded and now employs both young men and women across North Texas. The young people intern with local businesses across the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex as well as Friendship-West and are paid at a rate above minimum wage while receiving intentional mentoring and engaging in community service. This program became so successful that Dr. Haynes received recognition from President Barack Obama for the creation and success of the program.

Celebrating his 40th Pastoral Anniversary earlier this year, Pastor Haynes has remained

a dynamic and powerful teacher of God's word who has been a source of hope and encouragement for many. Through his leadership, Friendship. West has grown its ministry and membership from less than 100 members in 1983 to over 13,000.

While there is much to celebrate and commend Pastor Haynes for, I'd be remiss if I didn't extend congratulations and recognition on his recent appointment as the new leader of the Rainbow PUSH Coalition, one of the nation's oldest civil rights organizations. Founded in 1971 by Rev. Jesse Jackson, the Rainbow PUSH Coalition has been on the frontlines of working to make the American Dream a reality for all while advocating for peace and justice around the world. Under his leadership, I know that the organization will only grow and reach new heights in its impact on underserved communities.

It is safe to say that Pastor Haynes is a coalition builder, social activist, eloquent orator, and someone who has never forgotten about the people. He continues to challenge the status quo and redefine what it means to be a Pastor. The Bible reminds us in 1 Corinthians 2:9 KJV that "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, Neither have entered into the heart of man, The things which God hath prepared for them that love him". I'm convinced that the best is truly yet to come for Pastor Haynes, and I look forward to our continued partnership on the issues pressing our neighbors.

HONORING GARY WALL, FORMER
PRESIDENT OF THE CON-
NECTICUT ROAD BUILDERS AS-
SOCIATION AND TILCON CON-
NECTICUT, INC.

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 6, 2023

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join the Connecticut Road Builders Association as they not only celebrate their 90th Annual Meeting but also pay tribute to their past president, and my dear friend, Gary Wall.

With its membership including contractors, subcontractors, material suppliers, consulting engineers, and professional service providers operating in the heavy and highway construction industries, the Connecticut Road Builders Association represent hundreds of local businesses of all sizes. For the last nine decades, the CRBA has been a vocal advocate on policies and regulations at all levels of government as well as a critical voice in building strong relationships between its members and the labor unions they work with on projects across the state. As its past president, and president of one of its largest members, Gary Wall played an instrumental role in guiding the organization, advocating for its membership, and strengthening these partnerships.

I have had the good fortune to know and work with Gary for many years. I am honored to call him my friend and am so grateful for the friendship and support he has shown me over the years. Having grown-up in North Branford, Connecticut, it may not be such a surprise when after his graduation from Quinnipiac University with a degree in Busi-

ness Administration, Gary followed in the footsteps of three generations of his family, joining Tilcon Connecticut and taking a position working in maintenance at the North Branford Quarry. Since 1923, Tilcon Connecticut has been the primary supplier of asphalt, stone, ready-mix concrete, paving, and construction services throughout the region. Throughout his career, Gary worked in each line of the business—the shop, equipment, asphalt, and aggregates. His lifetime career with the company eventually led to his role as President, a position he held for nine years before his retirement earlier this year.

Gary has long been known, not only at Tilcon but across the industry, as someone who cares deeply about the people he works with and is committed to ensuring that they have every opportunity to grow in the industry just as he did. He has demonstrated that same dedication to the communities he has called home over the years. From North Branford to Plainville, New Britain to Durham and Wallingford, and the community of Guilford that he calls home today, Gary has given back, supporting events, fairs and programs throughout them all. His time with Tilcon Connecticut has allowed him to be even more involved. Whether through a donation of money, material, or time, Gary has always ensured the Tilcon team is always there to help. Among his many accolades, Gary may be most proud to have been honored by his hometown with the North Branford Shining Star Award which he received in 2017 for his involvement and commitment to youth programs.

Having retired earlier this year, Gary is enjoying time with his wife of 41 years, Colleen, as well as his four children and four grandchildren; traveling; tending to his garden and, of course, tinkering with his antique tractors. Tonight, as the Connecticut Road Builders Association recognizes him for his many years of service to the organization, I am honored to stand to extend my heartfelt congratulations and deepest thanks to Gary Wall for his good work and invaluable contributions—both to the industry to which he dedicated his professional life as well as the many communities he has helped to enrich.

HONORING U.S. ARMY PRIVATE
FIRST CLASS, FRANK J. GAFFNEY

HON. CLAUDIA TENNEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 6, 2023

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join Niagara County and the Western New York Community in commending the family of WWI hero and Medal of Honor Recipient, U.S. Army Private First Class, Frank J. Gaffney for preserving his extraordinary military service and achievements during World War I.

On November 10, 2023, the Family of Frank Gaffney presented Niagara County with his medals including the Congressional Medal of Honor for permanent display in the rotunda of Niagara County Courthouse. The display of these medals will not only maintain the legacy of Frank Gaffney, but it will provide a reminder that Niagara County is home to some of the bravest service members who have ever lived.

I am proud of all who supported the development of this project, including the Niagara