

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

SHELDON COOPER

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 1, 2023

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sheldon Cooper for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Sheldon has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like Sheldon, who strive to make the most of their education, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Sheldon's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Wayne Carle Middle School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Sheldon Cooper on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

RECOGNIZING SGT. WILLIAM LIND
ON RECEIVING THE FIRST RE-
SPONDER HERO AWARD

HON. ERIC SORENSEN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 1, 2023

Mr. SORENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sgt. William Lind of Moline, Illinois on receiving the First Responder Hero Award from Black Hawk College in Moline, Illinois.

In October of 2022, Sgt. Lind was attacked and critically injured after trying to apprehend a suspect trying to flee the scene of an arson. After his long road of recovery, he finally got back to work at the East Moline Police Department. Upon his return, he received a Purple Heart because of the bravery he showed in the line of duty. The Purple Heart Award is given to officers in the department who have sustained a serious injury from an assault "with potentially lethal force" while on duty. On that day in October, Sgt. Lind sustained life threatening injuries while trying to protect those in our community. Following this Purple Heart, he received the First Responder Hero Award from Black Hawk College. I'm indubitably grateful to have an officer like Sgt. Lind serving the community I represent here in Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Sgt. William Lind formally on the honor of receiving the First Responder Hero Award. I join the rest of the community in thanking Sgt. Lind for his courage and bravery in the line of duty.

NO FUNDS FOR IRANIAN
TERRORISM ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 30, 2023

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to H.R. 5961, the No Funds for Iranian Terrorism Act. If passed, H.R. 5961 would destroy our credibility in negotiation for our nation moving forward on future diplomacy with Iran, putting the U.S.—and the world—in danger of a nuclearized Iran.

Let's be clear: the prisoner swap agreement established earlier this year by President Biden helped eliminate a long-standing obstacle for improving U.S.-Iran relations and was an important step in preventing Iran from ever obtaining a nuclear weapon. By passing this legislation, we could be making future negotiations with Iran impossible, and eroding U.S. diplomatic credibility at a time when regional violence is on the rise. This loss of credibility and leverage damages the United States' ability to negotiate for future hostage release, including Israelis being held in Gaza.

This would be the second time the United States has gone back on its word with Iran. Lest we forget, it was former President Trump who threw the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) into chaos when he announced the U.S. would withdraw from the deal in May 2018. Since the U.S. withdrew, Iran announced that it will not limit its stockpile of low-enriched uranium, which is a loss for national security here at home and across the globe.

As my colleague Rep. GREGORY MEEKS, the Ranking Member on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, said during the markup of this bill: this is not about being friends with Iran. This is about using the best proven method—diplomacy—to stop Iran's nuclear ambition. It is through diplomacy that we have the best chance of reopening formal nuclear negotiations in the future, and we must keep this possibility alive.

In addition to preserving our negotiating integrity with Iran, I am voting against this bill because the United States has a reputation of providing humanitarian aid to oppressed populations, even when we disagree with their governments. We know that when a population is deprived of food, water, access to medicine, and safe shelter, it makes it easier for oppressive regimes to thrive and control their people. If this bill were to pass, the United States would take the unprecedented step of opening up the possibility of sanctions on humanitarian aid. The civilians of Iran did not choose their government. They will suffer the most under economic sanctions.

For these reasons, I must vote against this legislation.

BAILEIGH BENTLEY

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 1, 2023

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Baileigh Bentley for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Baileigh has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like Baileigh, who strive to make the most of their education, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Baileigh's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Arvada K-8 School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Baileigh Bentley on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

RECOGNIZING PEYTON SALLOWES
ON RECEIVING THE CIVILIAN
FIRST RESPONDER HERO AWARD

HON. ERIC SORENSEN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 1, 2023

Mr. SORENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Peyton Sallows of Port Byron, Illinois on receiving the Civilian First Responder Hero Award from Black Hawk College in Moline, Illinois.

This past September, Peyton Sallows, a bright 7-year-old from Port Byron, showed a remarkable amount of courage when her mother Ali experienced severe anaphylactic shock. Peyton quickly called 911 and calmly spoke to the dispatcher. Her bravery and ability to stay calm during an extremely stressful situation saved her mother's life. Her actions allowed first responders to arrive quickly and conduct lifesaving treatment. It is an honor to have a child as bright and courageous as Peyton in the district I get to represent in Congress. I can't wait to see where this bravery leads her in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to formally congratulate Peyton on receiving this much deserved "Civilian First Responder Hero Award" from Black Hawk College. I join the rest of the community in thanking her for her incredible display of courage and bravery during an extremely challenging situation.

● 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 WILLIAM A. MCFARLANE'S SERVICE TO HIS COMMUNITY AND TO OUR NATION

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 1, 2023

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of William "Bill" A. McFarlane and to grieve his passing. A dedicated public servant, his devotion to his community, state, and nation is worthy of remembrance and commendation.

Bill graduated from Willow Run High School in Ypsilanti, Michigan in 1965, later being inducted into their Hall of Fame in 2004. His secondary education was interrupted by the conflict in Vietnam, which at that time was growing in its size and intensity. William proudly served his country in the Army under Colonel George S. Patton IV in 1968 and 1969, during which he was awarded two Bronze Stars for "heroic achievement in a combat zone" as well as two Purple Hearts.

After his service in the Army, Bill graduated from Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, Michigan. A true leader in his community, he was appointed as Head Detective for the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office before serving as the Township Supervisor for Superior Township for 20 years. In his position as Township Supervisor, Bill was crucial in the negotiations that resulted in Hyundai establishing their American HQ in Superior Township in 2003. During his tenure, Superior Township saw a marked increase in population as well as their median income. Not yet satisfied, he would also serve six years on the Washtenaw County Road Commission. Bill was integral in facilitating transportation improvements in Superior Township and throughout Washtenaw County, providing increased mobility and access to all of our residents.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating and honoring the life and service of Bill McFarlane. A leader in his community and a friend to many, his presence will be greatly missed but not forgotten. His memory lives on in his wife, Sharon, two children, and four grandchildren. We offer them prayers of solace in this difficult time, and thank them for sharing their husband, father, and grandfather with us. He made our corner of Michigan a better and more welcoming place for all.

SERGIO NAVARRO

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 1, 2023

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sergio Navarro for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Sergio has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like Sergio, who strive to make the most of their education, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Sergio's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High

School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Sergio Navarro on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

RECOGNIZING THE MOLINE FIRE DEPARTMENT ON RECEIVING THE FIRST RESPONDER AGENCY OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. ERIC SORENSEN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 1, 2023

Mr. SORENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Moline Fire Department in Moline, Illinois who received the First Responder Agency of the Year Award from Black Hawk College.

The Moline Fire Department works incredibly hard to ensure the safety and well-being of the community in which they serve. They are so loved by the city of Moline that they received more nominations than any of the other first responder agencies in the area. The "First Responder Agency of the Year" award acknowledges the dedication and extraordinary contributions of the Moline Fire Department to the community. I am proud to call Moline my home and I am incredibly grateful to have First Responders like these on call when you need them most.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Moline Fire Department formally on the honor of receiving the First Responder Agency of the Year Award. I join the rest of the community in thanking the Moline Fire Department for their commitment to serving and protecting the residents of Moline, Illinois.

HONORING JAMES J. MOSCONI

HON. BRANDON WILLIAMS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 1, 2023

Mr. WILLIAMS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor James J. Mosconi, Jr. of Liverpool, NY for his distinguished career with the United States Postal Service.

Mr. Mosconi was born in Syracuse, NY on Oct. 14, 1951, to Roslyn and James Mosconi, Sr., who was also employed by the USPS. James, Jr. followed in his father's footsteps after having graduated from LeMoyne College with a degree in sociology. He started his career with the USPS part-time during the Christmas season in 1973 at the main post office in downtown Syracuse. In 1979, he was promoted to a full-time clerk/carrier at the office in Liverpool, NY.

At various points, Mr. Mosconi was called on for assignments outside his main location. For instance, he was the Officer in Charge at the Hastings, NY office for a stint in 1991. He also worked as an instructor at the Taft Road Main Office, and later taught computer usage at the downtown office. He even ran stamp shows at local parks and the New York State Fair.

Throughout his nearly 50-year career, Mr. Mosconi embodied everything an employer could hope for in an employee, namely, dedi-

cation, product and service knowledge, a passion for customer service, and unparalleled reliability. His work ethic, the processes he helped to implement, and his amiable and gentle nature will undoubtedly live on at this branch for years to come. And, most importantly, he remained a devoted father, making his five children incredibly proud of his hard work and dedication over the years.

On behalf of New York's 22nd Congressional District, I would like to commend Mr. Mosconi for his nearly five decades of federal employment and his outstanding commitment toward improved Postal Service operations and serving our Central New York community. James J. Mosconi's many contributions to the United States Postal Service—and to the Liverpool branch in particular—will be felt for many years to come.

JULIUS GARCIA

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 1, 2023

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Julius Garcia for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Julius has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like Julius, who strive to make the most of their education, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Julius's hard work; determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Julius Garcia on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITIES FROM FAILURE TO SECURE THE BORDER ACT OF 2023

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 2023

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to H.R. 5283, the Protecting our Communities from Failure to Secure the Border Act of 2023.

In bringing H.R. 5283 to the House floor, Republicans again demonstrate they are more interested in political grandstanding and punishing asylum seekers than advancing any serious policy on immigration. Under the guise of protecting our public lands and national parks, H.R. 5283 would prohibit any temporary or permanent housing for asylum seekers on land controlled by National Park Service (NPS), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), or the Forest Service (USFS). If Republicans truly cared about our public lands, they would not have passed an Interior Appropriations bill that dramatically cuts funding for our federal land management agencies, including \$450 million from the National Park