

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING MR. TOM SCHMITZ ON 44 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE U.S. SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRY

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 22, 2023

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Tom Schmitz on 44 years of service to Leonardo DRS and our country.

At the end of this year, Mr. Schmitz will retire from his position as the Director of Business Development—Navy Sales. Born and raised in St. Louis, Mr. Schmitz began his career in shipbuilding in 1979 and has seen the U.S. confront some of our greatest military challenges, all while overseeing the placement of DRS Marlo products on every Navy submarine and surface combatant. Mr. Schmitz now retires as the most senior employee at DRS Marlo in High Ridge, MO.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Mr. Schmitz's exceptional career and wishing him a very happy and well-deserved retirement.

HONORING THE PINECREST PATRIOTS ON WINNING THEIR SIXTH GIRLS GOLF STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 22, 2023

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Pinecrest High School Women's Golf Team on winning their second straight state championship.

Last month, for the second straight year and the sixth time in school history, the women of Pinecrest High School have brought the North Carolina High School Athletic Association championship back home to Southern Pines. The Patriots won this year's championship by a hefty 10 strokes over their closest rival, Northwest Guilford. After this year's victory, Pinecrest is tied for the most N.C. High School Athletic Association girls' golf titles of all time. Additionally, Pinecrest placed three individual golfers in the top 12 and four in the top 17.

The coaches and players of the Pinecrest Women's Golf Team have brought great pride to both their school and all of Moore County. I wish them all the best and hope to see them continue their great success next season. Go Patriots!

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in congratulating the coaches and golfers of Pinecrest High School on their victory in this year's N.C. High School Athletic Association 4A girls' golf state championship.

IN MEMORY OF GLENN SPENCER

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 22, 2023

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a special man, Glenn Spencer.

He was born in Mt. Sterling, Kentucky on August 21, 1945. He passed away on December 8, 2023, at his home in the Peeled Oak community of Bath County, Kentucky.

Mr. Spencer graduated from Bath County High School and from Lexington Barber College. For 58 years, he worked as a barber. In addition to haircuts, he provided his customers with a listening ear and with friendship. Mr. Spencer also worked the land, growing trees, pumpkins, hay, and vegetables with his brother-in-law Joe Karrick. Their business, Big Oak Nursery, provided trees all across Central Kentucky.

Mr. Spencer was a friend to many in his community, always ready to lend a helping hand and assist friends, family, neighbors, and strangers as needs arose. He was an active member and elder in his church, Kendall Springs Church of Christ. He taught classes there for young children for many years. He was married to his high school sweetheart, Bonnie, for 58 years. They have two daughters, one son, four grandchildren, and a large extended family.

Glenn Spencer was a kind, devoted, and dependable man who helped others every chance he had. He made a difference in his community and through the lives of those he touched. I am honored to lift up his life before the United States Congress.

CONGRATULATING DUCESNE BOYS' SOCCER ON THEIR CLASS 1 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 22, 2023

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Duchesne High School on their victory in Missouri's Class 1 Boys' Soccer State Championship.

The Pioneers claimed the Class 1 title for the first time in 20 years with a narrow 1-0 victory over Dubourg. Junior Zach Hubert came off the bench to net the game's only goal, as goalie Ben Burke led the defense in recording its ninth shutout of the season. The team should be commended for all their hard work throughout the past year and for bringing home a state championship to their school and community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the Duchesne Boys' Soccer Team for a job well done.

HONORING CHIEF DEPUTY WILLIAM "RICHARD" MANESS FOR HIS OVER THREE DECADES OF LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF NORTH CAROLINA

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 22, 2023

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Chief Deputy William "Richard" Maness on his retirement from the Moore County Sheriff's Office and to thank him for his more than 37 years of total law enforcement service.

Maness is a born and bred native of Moore County, North Carolina. He grew up in Robbins, attended North Moore High School and went on to college at Appalachian State University, graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice. Shortly after graduation, he began what would be a dynamic career in law enforcement.

Over the course of his career, Maness would serve in various law enforcement capacities across the state. In 1990, Maness joined the North Carolina State Highway Patrol where he rose the ranks, achieving the rank of Captain before his retirement from the group in 2014. After leaving the North Carolina State Highway Patrol, he took a position as the school resource officer with STARs Charter School. Eventually, in 2018, Sheriff Ronnie Fields appointed Richard as his Chief Deputy, a position he has served in up until this day.

Maness' dedication to service and constant willingness to step up when needed is commendable and inspiring. It has been an honor serving the people of Moore County alongside him and I wish him all the best as he begins this next chapter of his life.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in recognizing William "Richard" Maness for his great service to our community and the great state of North Carolina.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR THE LIFE OF DON HORSLEY

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 22, 2023

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Don Horsley, a great patriot and true public servant, who died of cancer on November 24, 2023, at the age of 80.

Don Horsley was born in San Francisco and moved with his family to Daly City where he attended high school and earned his Bachelor's degree from San Francisco State. After college he worked for the Daly City Police Department, then became a juvenile counselor for the San Mateo County Probation Department.

• 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.

Don began work at the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office in 1972, and in 1993 was elected County Sheriff. As Sheriff he upgraded deputy training and helped plan the new corrections center to include medical and mental health care facilities.

In 2010 he was elected to the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors, where he served with distinction until 2022. While on the Board he improved mental health services, improved access to parks and open spaces, and provided expanded services for the homeless.

Don Horsley was a remarkable man and a tireless public servant whose tremendous legacy and impact will not be forgotten. He was a man who cared about the most vulnerable in our community, was a man of enormous integrity, and had a great sense of humor. He lived a full and distinguished life, and his work defines what good government is all about.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life and work of Don Horsley, and in extending our most sincere condolences to his entire family.

He was a good man who did great things to better our communities and strengthen our country. Don Horsley was a national treasure.

CONGRATULATING FATHER
TOLTON ON THEIR CLASS 5
GIRLS' CROSS-COUNTRY STATE
CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 22, 2023

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Father Tolton Catholic High School on their victory in Missouri's Class 5 Girls' Team Cross-Country Championship.

The Trailblazers claimed the Class 5 title, becoming the only school in the state to win state titles in three separate classes. The team should be commended for all their hard work throughout the past year and for bringing home this state championship to their school and community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the Father Tolton Girls' Cross-Country Team for a job well done.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ALFRED
'SMOKEY' DREHER

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 22, 2023

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Alfred 'Smokey' Dreher of Vernon, Connecticut. Alfred was a true, devoted member of the Vernon community, always looking for ways to keep others safe. Aged 89, Mr. Dreher sadly but peacefully passed away on December 2nd.

Born on August 14, 1934, to Gladys and Alfred O. Dreher, Sr. in Rockville, Connecticut, Alfred attended Rockville High School, graduating in 1953. Even before his completion of high school, Alfred joined the Rockville Fire Department in 1950 as a Junior Firefighter. Alfred served as a part of the Hockanum Host

Company as a hose-man, ladder-man, and driver, eager to fill in wherever necessary.

Upon his high school graduation, Alfred entered the workforce, joining the Aetna Life and Casualty Insurance Company in Hartford as an Apprentice Underwriter. It was here that Alfred met the love of his life and wife of 59 years, Diane.

In 1955, Alfred heeded his nation's call to action and joined the Army as a Heavy Equipment Transport Driver at Fort Lee Virginia and Fort Dix New Jersey. It was during this service that Alfred and Diane got married and began their lives together. After an honorable discharge in 1962, Alfred and Diane relocated to Rockville, where they would remain the rest of their married life. Alfred rejoined Aetna in the Supply Department, as a Security Guard. Alfred retired from Aetna in 1992, after 40 years. As if 40 years of service isn't enough, Alfred never missed a day of work because of illness, always dedicated to his commitments.

Throughout his career, Alfred remained unwavering in his work as a firefighter. When the Rockville and Vernon Fire Departments merged into the Town of Vernon Fire Department, Alfred became an EMT. He served with Rescue 411 as a driver and paramedic and attained the rank of second Lieutenant. After 55 years as a Firefighter and EMT, Alfred semi-retired. This retirement did not, however, stop Alfred's work with the Vernon Fire Department. Alfred joined the Town of Vernon Fire Police to make sure responding crews were sufficiently equipped with tools and to help with traffic control during accidents and fires. Alfred is the longest-serving firefighter in Vernon's history, concluding an astonishing 65 years with the Fire Department upon his retirement in 2015.

Alfred's selfless devotion to creating a safe and welcoming community was without limits. He was involved in numerous local organizations such as American Legion Post 14 in Vernon to organize and advocate for fellow veterans. To help ensure others were equipped to successfully serve their communities, Alfred taught as a First Aid and CPR instructor for the American Red Cross. He spent his free time as a volunteer for Meals on Wheels, delivering meals to seniors in the region. Alfred was also a devout member of St. John's Episcopal Church in Vernon for over half a century.

Mr. Speaker, I am incredibly lucky to represent constituents as devoted to serving their communities as Alfred. As a resident of the town of Vernon for the last forty years, I had the honor and privilege to know Al and his son Jeffrey and can personally attest to his steadfast commitment to the fire department, and what a beloved and respected leader he was in town. He was completely down to earth and had a wry sense of humor. The loss of Alfred leaves a deep void in the Vernon community. Alfred's work giving back to those around him was extraordinary. Though we mourn this loss, we take solace in the knowledge that his legacy will live on in those he impacted. Alfred is survived by his sons John and Jeffrey, sisters Nancy, Irene, and Tina, half-brother John, grandson Joseph and countless nieces and nephews. I ask my colleagues to join me as we memorialize Alfred's faithful service to his community.

CELEBRATING THE LEGACY OF
MR. IRA DAVID WOOD, III

HON. WILEY NICKEL

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 22, 2023

Mr. NICKEL. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor and celebrate an icon of North Carolina's cultural landscape. Mr. Ira David Wood, III, as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of his legendary portrayal of Ebenezer Scrooge in Ira David Wood, III's "A Christmas Carol."

Mr. Wood's unique and comedic adaptation of this Christmas classic has become a beloved holiday tradition for the Raleigh community.

As the first Eagle Scout in Enfield, North Carolina, and one of the first students to graduate from the North Carolina School of Arts. Mr. Wood has always been a trailblazer and his passion for the arts has been unwavering.

His visionary leadership in theater, coupled with his remarkable talents as an actor, author, singer, and playwright, has left a profound impact on the arts in North Carolina.

As the founder and Executive Director of Theatre in the Park in Raleigh, Mr. Wood has been instrumental in making theater more accessible and engaging for our community.

Mr. Wood wrote and directed the Opening Ceremonies for the U.S. Olympic Festival in 1987, served as a guest artist with the North Carolina Symphony and the National Symphony Orchestra, and has written numerous original plays and three books.

His success in elevating North Carolina's vibrant all scene has earned him prestigious recognitions, including two Medal of Arts awards, the North Carolina Award in Fine Arts, and The Order of the Long Leaf Pine, the highest civilian honor in North Carolina.

It's with great admiration and gratitude that we celebrate Ira David Wood, III's 50 years of artistic excellence, particularly his innovative and humorous rendition of "A Christmas Carol."

As we celebrate this milestone, let's applaud Mr. Wood's extraordinary contributions not only to the arts but to the heart and soul of North Carolina.

Please join me in congratulating Mr. Wood on this remarkable achievement and wishing him continued success.

CONGRATULATING LUKE SIEVERS
ON THE CLASS 5 CROSS-COUNTRY
STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 22, 2023

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Luke Sievers on his victory in Missouri's Class 5 Individual Cross-Country Championship.

Luke claimed the Class 5 title by setting a course-record time of 14 minutes, 51.9 seconds in the 5,000-meter race to secure his first high school cross-country victory and lead the team to a win in the Team Championship. Luke should be commended for all his hard work throughout the past year and for bringing