

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

APPRECIATING MISS ALYSSA DINH FOR HER SERVICE ON MY STAFF

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in appreciation of Miss Alyssa Dinh for her service to the people of California's Eighth Congressional District as a member of my staff. A native of California, Miss Dinh joined my office in October 2022, having served previously in the offices of Congressman HOYER and Congressman Lowenthal. Her critical experience and knowledge made her a natural choice as Scheduler and Legislative Aide in my office.

The Scheduler is widely considered to be one of the most demanding positions in any Congressional office. From ensuring that I made votes on the House floor, joined Committee proceedings, or attended meetings with constituents and dignitaries. Miss Dinh's work each day ensured that I was able to carry out my duties as a Member of Congress.

In addition to serving as my Scheduler, Miss Dinh also served as my Legislative Aide, handling a critical legislative portfolio covering agriculture, animal welfare, and women's rights issues. In that role, she proved adept at ensuring my work in Congress comprehensively addressed the priorities and concerns of California communities. Miss Dinh quickly grew into the role and became an integral member of my DC, staff. Quite simply, her excellent work was essential in allowing me to effectively represent the constituents of California's Eighth Congressional District.

Miss Dinh has joined the Office of Congressman HOYER, as an Executive Assistant. I and all the members of Team Garamendi wish her all the best in her new position. During her tenure on my staff, Miss Dinh approached her work with an attention to detail and the flexibility to solve challenges as they arise without complaint. These same qualities will serve her well in her future endeavors.

While we will miss her, we all look forward to what Miss Dinh will do next. She will remain a deeply valued member of Team Garamendi, always.

HONORING EBON RICHARD "RICK" JONES

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ebon Richard "Rick" Jones as he is presented with the John Shafer Visionary Award, which recognizes his exemplary advocacy work in Napa Valley.

Mr. Jones was born in Illinois. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Princeton University and his Master of Business Admin-

istration degree from the Stanford University Graduate School of Business. Mr. Jones is a treasured member of the Napa community as he advocates for matters of health and youth education.

Mr. Jones has been active in the Napa community for decades. In 2013, he joined the operating board of OLE Health, a nonprofit health center serving vulnerable populations in and around Napa County. He then served as treasurer from 2014 to 2015 and board chair from 2017 to 2018. Currently, Mr. Jones has been reappointed treasurer of the OLE Health foundation board and remains a trusted advisor for OLE Health leadership.

Beyond his work at OLE Health, Mr. Jones sits on the boards of Napa Valley Education Foundation, St. Helena Hospital Foundation, the Napa Valley Community Foundation, the Napa Valley Vintners, and Napa Valley Firewise Foundation. He has previously served in leadership roles on the boards of the San Francisco Zoo, Silicon Valley Community Foundation, Napa Learns, and Raising a Reader.

When he is not engaging in community organizations throughout Napa, Mr. Jones is a respected Napa Valley vintner. Having developed a passion for viticulture while living in France in the 1970s, he founded Jones Family Vineyards in 1996, which he now operates together with his two daughters Heather and Stephanie. Their family-run winery is certified by Napa Green, a certification program with an emphasis on climate action and regenerative farming.

Mr. Speaker, the John Shafer Visionary Award exists to honor the legacy of vintner John Shafer, who was among Napa Valley's strongest community leaders. There is no doubt that Mr. Jones has been a dedicated advocate for the Napa Valley community.

MAY CONSTITUENT OF THE MONTH KEVIN SHIN

HON. MIKE LEVIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize Kevin Shin as my May Constituent of the Month.

As a veteran, businessowner, and volunteer, Kevin has served our District in countless ways and has worked tirelessly to make our community a better place to live.

During Asian American and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Heritage Month, I am proud to celebrate the exceptional work of individuals like Kevin Shin who volunteer their time to contribute to our unique and beautiful district. I'm honored to recognize and thank him for his service in the U.S. military and for his service to our region since. Kevin is a true leader, and I am proud to honor him today.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF OFFICER ROBERT J. SHISLER

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, family, friends, the community, police officers, and leaders from across the Nation, gathered inside Pfleeger Concert Hall at Rowan University on Wednesday, May 17, 2023 to celebrate the life, legacy and bravery of Officer Robert "Bobby" J. Shisler.

Officer Robert J. Shisler proudly served as a Police Officer for the Deptford Township Police Department. Born on October 22, 1995, Robert grew up in South Jersey. He graduated from Deptford High School in 2014, where he was an exceptional athlete, playing both varsity football and baseball.

Officer Robert J. Shisler continued his education and athletic career when he committed to play Division One baseball at Presbyterian College in South Carolina. He was also very passionate about hunting and weightlifting, taking first place in a bodybuilding competition in 2021.

Officer Robert J. Shisler will forever be remembered as a dedicated officer and a hero who gave his life to protect and serve his community, state, and country. His heroic actions and service, putting others safety above his own, will be etched in history for all to honor and remember.

Officer Robert J. Shisler was not only an exemplary officer, but he was also an excellent son, grandson, and brother. He came from a family committed to public service, working alongside his brother who currently serves as a Deptford Township Police Officer. He is survived by his parents Robert and Tracy, grandparents Marion, Robert, and Ethel, and his siblings Ashley and Tyler.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful Nation, I ask you to join me in honoring and commending Officer Robert J. Shisler, for his outstanding service and his selfless dedication to the Deptford Township Police Department and community, the Great State of New Jersey and the United States of America.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF MYSTIC AQUARIUM

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a national leader in the global effort to protect the world's oceans, Mystic Aquarium. Mystic Aquarium celebrates a major milestone this year—its 50th anniversary, and it is fitting that this chamber recognizes the institution for its service to and advocacy on behalf of our natural world.

• 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.

Since its opening in 1973, Mystic Aquarium's mission and capabilities have evolved impressively over the decades. From education, exhibition, conservation, to research, the team at the Aquarium has grown yet remained ever so dedicated toward advancing our respect for and understanding of marine wildlife.

As we celebrate what Mystic Aquarium has become after all these years, it would be impossible to recap all of the nonprofit's achievements. It has expanded interactive educational opportunities to accommodate roughly 800,000 visitors annually, a number which will only grow as it opens a new exhibit this year. The Aquarium is also engaging the local community through other means, including strengthening a volunteer conservationist network under its newer Ocean Ambassadors Program. Through its Animal Rescue Program and multiple freshly constructed veterinary facilities, Mystic Aquarium has also directly supported the rehabilitation of Long Island Sound area populations. The Aquarium even takes on cases from other rescue facilities, reducing pressure on our nation's veterinary system for marine wildlife.

The Mystic Aquarium has taken on greater efforts to become an advocate of conservation on the national stage. The organization actively studies opportunities to protect endangered species such as the African Penguins, Coral Reefs, Sea Turtles, Sharks and Rays. Its expert researchers have also notably been central in laying the groundwork for the establishment of the first federally protected monument in US Atlantic waters, the Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument. This monument is a hotbed of biodiversity that is now better protected from human activity because of the Aquarium's advocacy apparatus.

Over the years, Mystic Aquarium has grown into a major employer which significantly contributes to the Second District of Connecticut's economy and culture. I know countless success stories of youth who have taken up summertime, annual employment or internships, and have forged those early formative experiences into full-on careers.

Mr. Speaker, the work Mystic Aquarium takes on is community driven, compassionate, and highly technical. They have been tremendously valuable to both our region and nation which is why they continue to earn federal support. To that end, as Mystic Aquarium celebrates a half-century of outstanding service, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the legacy of their mission and its future relevance, and wishing them many more milestones to come.

RECOGNIZING DOLLY RABINOWITZ,
YIDEL PERLSTEIN, AND LT. IRA
JABLONSKY

HON. DANIEL S. GOLDMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mr. GOLDMAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the month of May as Jewish American Heritage Month. As a proud American Jew and the Representative of one of the largest Jewish populations in a Congressional district in the country, Jewish Amer-

ican Heritage Month is particularly meaningful to me.

Jewish Americans have made countless contributions to our great Nation, and at a time when Jews continue to be the single most targeted religious minority in this country, I encourage all of us to take this month to recognize and appreciate the deep connections and rich history the Jewish people have to America.

I also rise today to recognize 3 prominent constituents of my district. They stand as exemplars of the achievements of American Jews and are befitting of this great honor.

Dolly Rabinowitz is a 94-year-old Holocaust survivor who has lived in New York since the end of WW2. She was born in Czechoslovakia to a rabbinical family and when she was 19, her family was told to pack up for an unknown village. From there she was forced to endure the barbaric cruelty of Auschwitz and the Death March to the Ravensbrück concentration camps. After experiencing unspeakable atrocities simply because of her faith, Dolly was liberated by the Allies in 1945. Following the war, Dolly emigrated to the United States and has lived in New York ever since, working as a bookkeeper and participating in Jewish life across the city. Dolly is one of a dwindling number of Holocaust survivors and we must pass along her story and others, so we never forget.

Yidel Perlstein is a local leader and the Chairman of Community Board 12 in Borough Park. He was the first Hasidic Jew to lead this impactful community organization and was just reelected after more than a decade in that position. With Yidel at the helm, CB12 has continued to lead many aspects of life in Borough Park—organizing voter outreach, community forums, and representing Borough Park's interests to elected officials across the country. On Jewish holidays you can find Yidel running food drives for needy people across Borough Park, demonstrating the spirit of giving that typifies the tight-knit bond of the Brooklyn Hasidic community.

Lieutenant Special Assignment Ira Jablonsky of the New York City Police Department has been on the force for over two decades. He grew up attending Brooklyn Yeshiva and was interning at the Office of Emergency Management on 9/11. After seeing the first tower hit, Lt. Jablonsky jumped into action, running into 7 World Trade and helping as many people as he could before they were ordered to evacuate. Lt. Jablonsky is a Brooklyn yeshiva graduate and has worked in the community his entire career to make it safer for New Yorkers and fellow Orthodox Jews alike. He demonstrates the importance of having Jews represented in law enforcement, working to catch several high-profile antisemitic vandals who threaten the safety and security of Jewish Brooklynites. His service to his community does not go unnoticed, and I am honored to give him this distinction today.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing May as Jewish American Heritage Month as well as these 3 outstanding Jewish Americans who represent the best of what our community offers their communities, their city and state, and their country.

HONORING COACH EARL SMITH,
JR. OF GARY EMERSON HIGH
SCHOOL

HON. FRANK J. MRVAN

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I stand before you today to recognize Coach Earl Smith, Jr. and the alumni of Gary Emerson High School. The Emerson All Class Reunion Gala will take place on September 2, 2023, at Chateau Banquets in Merrillville, Indiana. During this special event, Coach Smith will be honored for his lifetime of dedicated service by former students, athletes, colleagues, and friends.

Coach Earl Smith, Jr. was a true mentor, leader, teacher, and advisor for the Gary Community School Corporation for over 56 years. His lifelong career includes numerous positions, culminating with his retirement as City Athletic Director in 2013. Throughout his tenure, Mr. Smith coached track and field, football, golf, and basketball at Tolleston, Froebel, West Side, Emerson, and Lew Wallace high schools, and he holds the distinction of being the first African American head coach at Froebel, Emerson, and Lew Wallace. His basketball teams won five conference titles, three sectional titles, three regional titles, and twice advanced to the elite eight at the Indiana State Tournament. In addition, Coach Smith's 1977 Emerson basketball team won the Hall of Fame Classic Tournament, reaching the number one ranking in the state polls during that time.

For his outstanding career and his unwavering dedication to the Gary Community School Corporation and beyond, Coach Smith has received many accolades. He has been inducted into the Indiana Track and Field Hall of Fame, the Indiana Football Hall of Fame, and the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame. Coach Smith was also honored with the prestigious Ray Crowe Excellence in Leadership Award by the Indiana High School Athletic Association for his superior standards of sportsmanship, exceptional ethical conduct, and high moral character. His outstanding and unwavering commitment to the community of Gary and Northwest Indiana is worthy of our highest commendation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Coach Earl Smith, Jr. and in recognizing the alumni of Emerson High School. For his noteworthy career and his remarkable dedication to youth sports and education, Coach Smith is worthy of the highest praise, and he serves as an inspiration to us all.

HONORING DETECTIVE AGNES
WATSON FROM THE CITY OF RI-
ALTO POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. PETE AGUILAR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mr. AGUILAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Detective Agnes Watson from the City of Rialto Police Department. Detective Watson was awarded the Rialto Police Department's Meritorious Service Award for her tenacious work to secure the release of a juvenile