

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMMEMORATING 125 YEARS OF INTERNATIONAL PAPER COMPANY

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2023

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate 125 years of the International Paper Company.

International Paper, IP, was founded in January 1898 and they celebrated their 125th anniversary in January, an incredible milestone in our Nation.

Their company is committed to providing essential products that people depend on, including being one of the world's largest producers of fiber-based products.

Essential paper and paper products are important in our everyday lives, ensuring goods are protected, and keeping consumers safe.

They're a driver of local economic development in our great state.

There are over 550 IP employees in six facilities throughout Arkansas, which 150 of those work at the Conway, Arkansas graphic plant.

I congratulate International Paper for their 125 years of service, and I look forward to their continued impact on Arkansas and around the world.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF DR. ORIN T. ALLEN

HON. MARK DESAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2023

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of Dr. Orin T. Allen.

Throughout his life, Dr. Allen was committed to advancing justice and serving his community. He worked for the Contra Costa County Probation Department in California for 35 years, serving as a counselor, probation officer, and director. He was especially passionate about supporting our youth, serving on the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Commission, East County Youth, and Family Services Board of Directors, East County Boys and Girls Club, and the Boy Scouts of East Delta District. The Byron Boys Ranch was even renamed the Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Center in honor of his work. In 1999, Dr. Allen was named Contra Costa County's Humanitarian of the Year in recognition of his steadfast commitment to the county's youth.

As part of his humanitarian work, he worked tirelessly to provide quality education in the community and support students through his work as an elected member on the Pittsburg Unified School District, where he served for more than 20 years. For his work in this space, Dr. Allen received the Outstanding Friend of Education Award from the Association of California School Administrators.

Outside of his professional pursuits, Dr. Allen enjoyed spending time with family and friends and in the community. He had a passion for building and flying remote-controlled planes and travelling with his loved ones. He was also an active member of St. David's and St. Anna's Episcopal Church.

Sadly, Dr. Allen passed away on April 23, 2023. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Fredrica Allen, his daughter Shula Bernstine, his daughter Vicki Scali, his son Orin T. Allen Jr., his brother Jaja Allen, his sister Thomasina Moten, 8 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great-grandchildren. He will be remembered for his compassionate nature and his many contributions to our community. Please join me in recognizing the life of Dr. Allen.

HONORING THE LIFE AND CAREER OF BRYAN FLINT

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2023

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the sudden loss of a true champion for those in need, Bryan Flint, of Ellington, Connecticut. Bryan departed this world at the age of 64, as a result of a car accident this past May.

Born in 1959 to Wayne and Emily Flint, Bryan was quickly instilled with the values of selfless service and community care. Early in his life, Bryan attained the rank of Eagle Scout, starting a lifelong journey of lending kindness and a helping hand unto others. Bryan's infectious kind demeanor served him well in his first major life's endeavor—family entertainment.

In 1986, Bryan founded Showtime Productions, setting a stage for his earned status as a lynchpin of Connecticut's children's entertainment industry. His career as a business owner, where he missioned to put smiles on the faces of children and their parents, spanned 30 years. Motivated in a manner which perfectly exemplifies his caring nature, Bryan felt continuously inspired in this career through Showtime Productions' impact upon local youth. A favorite anecdote of Bryan's was from one day in 1991, when he happened by children playing on garbage cans in the Town of Rockville. He was discouraged by the lack of opportunity reflected by the scene but encouraged by the children's enthusiasm. He took action and organized a music and magic show to provide a safe, joyful recreational space in the town. Moments like these were just the beginning of his truly special kind of advocacy which defined Bryan's life.

In the early 2010's, Bryan sought a life-path that would be of even greater service to others. He became actively involved in the School-Family-Community Partnership as the program coordinator. Through the Partnership, Bryan had boundless opportunities to support

the youth who were the most in need, launching a Maple Street Community School and the Bookmobile program, the latter of which supported student literacy during summertime periods. In 2013, Bryan transitioned careers again, becoming the Deputy Director of the Cornerstone Foundation, a local, faith-based nonprofit which provides food and shelter for the homeless and impoverished. Bryan truly put the lives of others before his own. He would frequently give out his personal phone number, get up late at night to open the shelter, or even head to the store to buy medicine from his own personal pocket—all for those in need. The day before his untimely passing, Bryan was seen at the Rockville Walgreens buying medicine for residents at Cornerstone—a testament to his compassion for others.

As amazing as his work with the foundation was, it was far from the capstone to his life's work. He was also a member of the Rockville Community Association, the Vernon Community Network, the Rockville Development Association, and the Greater Rockville Clergy Council. Bryan's generous spirit was known to all in town, whether from his work in the community, magic shows, or his portrayal of Uncle Sam on stilts during Vernon's annual Independence Day celebration. Through it all, he was motivated by an unwavering faith. The breadth of his impact can be seen by the tens of hundreds mourning his loss.

Mr. Speaker, over the years, as Bryan's neighbor in Vernon, I had a chance to see up close the profound positive impact he had on our community. It was always apparent to me his activism was motivated by a sincere, authentic desire to help people in need. His infectious smile came right from a generous heart and soul. His premature passing leaves a massive tear in our northeastern Connecticut community fabric, particularly for his wife of 27 years, Kim, and their children including Melissa, Alexis, Mystica, Jesse, Alex, Cassi, their respective partners, and his 13 grandchildren. In the wake of his loss, we can only hope to find solace in committing his servant's heart to our collective memory. The lives he has touched throughout these past several decades will no doubt go on to further Bryan's ideals and memory, leaving an unsought but completely earned legacy of a community caretaker. I ask that my colleagues join me and the citizens of Vernon in honoring Bryan's life and work.

CUSTOM HEALTH OPTION AND INDIVIDUAL CARE EXPENSE ARRANGEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. A. DREW FERGUSON IV

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 21, 2023

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under

• 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.

consideration the bill (H.R. 3799) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for health reimbursement arrangements integrated with individual health insurance coverage:

Mr. FERGUSON. Madam Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 3799, the CHOICE Arrangement Act.

According to research by NFIB, small businesses have ranked the cost of health insurance as their number one problem for 32 straight years. Republicans are spearheading innovative health care solutions to bring down health care costs for small businesses.

The CHOICE Arrangement Act does a great job giving employers more choices and flexibility in how they help provide health coverage for their employees, without Washington being involved.

In 2019, the Trump Administration finalized rules that allow employers to establish "Individual Coverage Health Reimbursement Arrangements" for their employees. These ICHRA's are employer-funded arrangements that employees can use to purchase their own health insurance plan in the individual market and pay for out-of-pocket medical expenses.

The CHOICE Arrangement Act appropriately codifies these regulations, ensuring that this option will remain available.

While employers of all sizes may find this approach of interest, it is particularly important as a means for small employers to offer health coverage for employees and their families without having to manage a complex health insurance plan and with more predictable costs.

The different health insurance choices available, such as CHOICE Arrangements, Qualified Small Employer Health Reimbursement Arrangements, or the Small Business Health Care Tax Credit, are unknown to 70 percent of small businesses. This measure would ensure that those businesses be notified about these options' availability and their tax advantages so that they can decide how best to serve their employees' health care preferences.

These arrangements also help facilitate coverage portability, because employees can continue their individual health Insurance plan if they change jobs.

The current regulations also allow the flexibility for employers to offer to employees both an ICHRA and excepted benefit coverage, such as dental or vision coverage. I am pleased this bill will preserve the same option to have both CHOICE Arrangements and these other benefits.

The CHOICE Arrangement Act includes other provisions similarly designed to assist small employers and their employees with respect to health coverage options. I urge support for this important measure to provide options for American workers and families.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF CRAIG MEADOWS

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2023

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of Montgomery County Administrator Craig Meadows. Craig is set to retire in November, having served as County Administrator since August 2009. Before his current

position, Craig also served as city manager of Bedford, Virginia from 1998 to 2005 and then of Monroe, North Carolina, from 2005 to 2009. In addition to County Administration, Craig has served in leadership roles with multiple state and national organizations, including the Virginia Association of Counties, the Virginia Local Government Management Association, and the International City/County Management Association. Additionally, he has been involved with several local organizations, including New River Valley Water Authority, the Western Virginia Regional Jail Authority, and the Economic Development Authority.

Described as "accessible and approachable", and a "champion for Montgomery County," Craig successfully facilitated more than 20 construction and renovation projects during his time as County Administrator, addressing education, public safety, recreation, and key infrastructure needs of the county. Under his leadership, the county experienced positive economic growth and was one of the few localities in Southwest Virginia to gain population since 2020. I congratulate Craig Meadows, on a job well done. I know that his colleagues and the residents of Montgomery County will greatly miss his efforts in his role as County Administrator. He deserves to enjoy retirement with his wife, Rhonda, along with their children and grandchildren.

RECOGNIZING ARKANSAS SCHOOLS IN CODING COMPETITION

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2023

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences and Arts, Conway High School, eStem Charter High School, Little Rock Central High School, and North Little Rock Center for Excellence for advancing to the state coding competition.

Out of more than 160 teams, these five are part of 16 teams that were selected to advance to the state competition.

The top three finishing teams will receive monetary rewards of \$2,000 for first place, \$1,000 for second place, and \$500 for third place for each member of the team.

The money will be placed in a 529 college savings plan account to help those students with their journey towards earning a college degree.

I thank the Our Kids Code for providing the grant money for the winning teams, and I congratulate the students for qualifying for the state competition.

RECOGNIZING THE 2023 INSTITUTE FOR EXCELLENCE IN SALES AND DEVELOPMENT AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2023

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 2023 recipients of the IES Sales Excellence Awards presented by the Institute

for Excellence in Sales & Business Development (IES).

IES was created to foster excellence in business sales and development practices and to help sales professionals and organizations maximize their efforts. Each year, IES recognizes individuals, teams, and organizations who demonstrate exemplary performance through leadership, risk taking, innovation, vision, and customer development.

A recipient of the 2023 Lifetime Achievement in Sales Award is Susan Shapero, Vice President and General Manager of U.S. Public Sector for Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE). With more than 20 years of holding leadership positions at HPE, Susan has retained her passion in assisting vital operations within the federal government along with state and local communities.

Another recipient of the 2023 Lifetime Achievement Awards is Joe Ayers, Vice President and General Manager of U.S. Industries for Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE). By being a leader at HPE for more than 8 years, he oversees all aspects of the business, including sales, marketing, customer experience, services, and integration of new acquisitions.

The recipient of the 2023 Woman in Sales Executive Leadership Award is Alyssa Merwin Henderson. Alyssa is the global Vice President of LinkedIn Sales Solutions. Since joining LinkedIn, Alyssa has held numerous leadership positions.

The 2023 Entrepreneurial Sales Leader of the Year Award is presented to Tien Wong, being the first ever recipient of this award. Tien Wong is a technology entrepreneur, CEO, and angel investor. He is Chairman and CEO of Opus8, Inc. He is also Chairman of Lumious, along with Lore Systems, Inc. Along with his other positions, Tien is the Founder and Host of the Big Idea CONNECTpreneur Forum, a global community of over 25,000 founders, CEOs, angels, VCs, CXOs and business leaders.

The recipient of the 2023 Member of the Year Award is Bob Greene, a nationally recognized corporate sales trainer and strategic business advisor. Through his position as CEO of rcgworkgroup.com, he provides tailored solutions to companies of all sizes.

The 2023 Sales Speaker of the Year Award is presented to Queirra Fenderson. Queirra is an Award-Winning Speaker, ICF Professional Certified Coach (PCC), and CEO of The Ambition Studio®. Queirra has worked to ensure that The Ambition Studio® improves employee retention and safeguards talent pipelines by offering credentialed expertise.

The 2023 Jay Nussbaum Rising Sales Star of the Year Award is presented to Mayssa Haddad. Mayssa is a Senior Manager at Amazon Web Services (AWS) within the Public Sector Partner Programs team where she leads ISV and CoSell programs for the AWS Public Sector Organization.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Susan Shapero, Joe Ayers, Alyssa Merwin, Tien Wong, Bob Greene, Queirra Fenderson, and Mayssa Haddad for their innovative and effective leadership and in congratulating them on being recipients of the IES Sales Excellence Awards.