

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING ANDREW RONO

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 18, 2023

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Andrew Rono, an Eagle Scout and student at Blaine High School.

Andrew is a shining example of what it means to be a community servant. For years, he has dedicated his time and energy to helping others, especially those in need.

As a member of the "Bengals in Action" Youth Service Club, Andrew volunteers at the North Anoka County Emergency food shelf. There he helps sort and pack food donations and even delivers meals to those who can't easily leave the house.

While volunteering, Andrew and his friend Aaron noticed that food shelf staff members were spending an extraordinary amount of time manually entering food shelf orders into the computer.

Being high school students immersed in technology, Aaron and Andrew sprang into action. They created an application to track the food shelf data more effectively. Their digital application keeps records of past food shelf orders, family members, and dietary restrictions, which customers can reuse each time they come in.

By creating this application, Andrew and Aaron have cut food shelf clients waiting time in half, allowing nutritious food to reach its destination faster than ever.

In recognition of their efforts, Andrew and Aaron were recently presented with the Congressional Award. The award represents the highest Congressional honor available for young Americans.

Andrew and Aaron are true inspirations and examples of what it means to be a community servant. They are bright young men committed to making a difference in the world and I look forward to seeing all they accomplish in the years to come.

REMEMBERING SAUL BELZ

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 18, 2023

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember one of my best friend and a trusted advisor, Saul Belz, a civic leader in Memphis and the Mid-South and a fine lawyer. He was a member of the firm Glankler Brown, for more than 22 years but was also a partner at Waring Cox, and a partner and associate at Burch, Porter and Johnson. Saul passed on Wednesday. Whenever I needed help, I knew I'd better call Saul. In his more than 40 years as a lawyer in Memphis, he had a reputation for handling complex litigation and was recognized one of the country's best. A highly re-

spected attorney, he was low key and humble. He advocated for civil rights and economic opportunity for African Americans. He advised me on judicial recommendations for Western District of Tennessee and gave his highest recommendation for Andre Mathis' appointment to the Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. Saul was a sports fan of all Memphis teams and of Vanderbilt teams, and major fan of music, including all things related to Jim Dickinson. He served as a director of the Tennessee Justice Center, director of the Center for Southern Studies at the University of Mississippi, director of the Memphis Bar Association, chairman of the Memphis Area Legal Services Fundraising Campaign, on the Supreme Court of Tennessee's Advisory Commission on the Rules of Practice and Procedure, and as a director of the Memphis Zoological Society. He received the Pillars of Excellence Award from the University of Memphis Law Alumni Association and he was a Fellow with the American College of Trial Lawyers. Saul graduated from the University of Texas in 1964 and received his law degree from Vanderbilt University in 1967. I extend my deepest condolences to his wife Betsy, and children Jennifer Belz, Heather Belz, Margaret Flanagan, and Hallie Flanagan, his extended family and his many friends. He lived a good life and will be missed.

HONORING SILVIA GUADALUPE GARCIA AND HER ACHIEVEMENTS

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 18, 2023

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the achievements of Silvia Guadalupe Garcia, the woman behind the Garcia family's legacy in the City of Anaheim.

Silvia Guadalupe Garcia emigrated from Guadalupe, Mexico, to Anaheim, California, in 1972, where she worked packing oranges and as a housekeeper in nearby hotels.

It was during this time that she met Frank Garcia, who was working as a cook in the restaurant industry. Silvia and Frank married and raised a son, Frank, Jr., who was born in 1974, and twin daughters, Veronica and Cindy, born in 1979.

In 1985, Silvia and Frank opened La Casa Garcia Restaurant. Initially, they did it all. The couple were the cooks, waiters, cleanup crew, and dishwashers. Due to their hard work and perseverance, the restaurant became a success, leading the family to become well known throughout the community for their excellent food and philanthropic endeavors.

The Garcias, who have been married for fifty years, have continually supported those less fortunate, especially the veteran community. One of their most notable legacies was the creation of "We Give Thanks," a non-profit organization that provides Thanksgiving dinner to some 15,000 people each year in Orange County.

Frank credits his success in life to his "beautiful wife," without whom "I would not be the man I am today." A dedicated, hard-working woman, Silvia has overcome many obstacles in her life, but has also experienced many blessings. Those blessings inspired her to create a legacy of kindness and respect for her Anaheim community and all of Orange County.

Today, Frank and Silvia still work behind the scenes, while their daughters run La Casa Garcia and Frank Jr. operates another successful Orange County restaurant.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and celebrating the achievements of Silvia Guadalupe Garcia, a woman for whom we should all give thanks for bringing a bounty of joy to our community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF THOMAS CHATMON, JR.

HON. MAXWELL FROST

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 18, 2023

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the life and contributions of Thomas C. Chatmon, Jr., a ray of light in our Central Florida community.

Thomas Chatmon was a visionary for downtown Orlando, an innovator, a family man, and a champion of downtown Orlando and the people. As executive director of the Downtown Development Board and the Community Redevelopment Agency, he reimagined a thriving downtown that serves people of all ages, races, and lifestyles. Thomas Chatmon nurtured relationships that redefined our community and ensured everyone he interacted with was seen and heard. He profoundly impacted all the lives he touched, whether through his work or kindness.

He leaves behind a legacy of transformative ideas that have become much of the parts of downtown Orlando that we know and love.

I continue to send my deepest condolences to the Chatmon family, as his passing leaves us with a hole in our hearts and community. We are empowered to carry out his legacy and vision by leading with love in all we do. May he rest in power. God bless.

HONORING MARY K. CLARK

HON. CHUCK EDWARDS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 18, 2023

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mary K. Clark as she celebrated her 102nd birthday on August 9, 2023.

Ms. Clark proudly served our country as a World War II Navy Lieutenant. During the war, she worked on a triage group as an operating room nurse stationed in the Pacific Theater.

• 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.

While serving in the Navy she met her loving husband, Edward L. Clark. The couple was married for 65 wonderful years. Ms. Clark now resides in Candler, North Carolina.

It is my honor to recognize her today.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR JOHN L. SCOTT, JR.

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 18, 2023

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated servant leader, good friend, and native son of South Carolina. South Carolina State Senator John L. Scott, Jr. transitioned from this life on August 13, 2023, in Charleston, South Carolina. His passionate work to improve access to education and health care will have profound implications for generations to come.

Senator John L. Scott, Jr. was born on October 21, 1953, in Richland County, South Carolina, to the late John L. Scott, Sr. and Gracie W. Scott. Senator Scott graduated from C.A. Johnson High School in Columbia, South Carolina, and attended my alma mater, South Carolina State University, where he graduated in 1975 with a bachelor's degree in accounting. He would go on to found J.L. Scott Realty Company, Inc., in 1981 and serve as owner and President of C&S Consulting Group.

I knew Senator Scott well through his transformational work in the state. From 1988 to 1990, he served as Vice Chair for Richland County Council. He was elected to the South Carolina House of Representatives in 1990, where he served until his election to the South Carolina State Senate in 2009. Throughout his nearly 33 years in elected office, Senator Scott sponsored legislation to promote access to education and affordable housing, improve career outcomes for HBCU students, and further rural equity. He was recognized with many awards and accolades throughout his service, from the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina's highest civilian honor; to receiving the South Carolina National Guard Association Senator of the Year award; to receiving honorary Doctorates from various universities.

His dedication to the betterment of the Palmetto State extended to our South Carolina Military Department, as Senator Scott commanded the Joint Services Detachment from February 18, 2017, to January 19, 2019. During that time, he actively recruited to increase enrollment, improved unit efficiency and readiness, and provided critical support for the Youth Challenge Academy Program.

Senator Scott was a man of faith and a longtime member of New Ebenezer Baptist Church in Columbia, South Carolina. He was an active participant in the church, serving as Church Clerk from 1980 to 1995, on the Trustee Board from 1980 to 2005, and as a Deacon from 2005 until his passing. He is lovingly remembered by his wife, Joan Crouch, son, John L. Scott, III, extended family, political colleagues, and the members of our shared brotherhood, Omega Psi Phi fraternity.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in recognizing the life and legacy of Senator John L. Scott, Jr. Senator Scott embodied the Biblical teaching to "Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another

above yourselves," and as such devoted his life to improving the welfare of every South Carolinian. He will be sorely missed and well remembered.

HONORING AARON ANDERSON

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 18, 2023

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Aaron Anderson for his efforts to better his community.

In high school, Aaron was a dedicated member of the youth service club at Blaine High School. As a member of "Bengals in Action," he spent countless hours volunteering at the North Anoka County Emergency food shelf. While volunteering, he noticed a problem with the procedure for taking orders. Luckily for Aaron, the solution lay in another area of his interest, technology.

Aaron, with the help of his friend and fellow Eagle Scout, Andrew, created a software application to help track the food shelf's orders. The application immediately helped reduce confusion when taking orders and increased efficiency in sorting and packaging donations for distribution. Their application keeps records of past food shelf orders, family members, and dietary restrictions, which customers can reuse each time they come in.

In fact, their program has allowed food and necessities to be delivered to clients in half the time.

In recognition of their efforts, Aaron and Andrew were recently presented with the Congressional Award. The award represents the highest Congressional honor available for young Americans.

Aaron and Andrew are true inspirations and examples of what it means to be a community servant. They are bright young men committed to making a difference in the world and I look forward to seeing all they accomplish in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE OPENING OF THE ITALIAN CONSULATE IN SPRINGFIELD MASSACHUSETTS

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 18, 2023

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge a landmark moment for the people of Springfield and the broader western Massachusetts community: the reopening of the Italian Consulate in Springfield, Massachusetts.

The reestablishment of a consulate in our district is more than just a diplomatic gesture; it is a tangible commitment by the Italian government to enhance their services and accessibility throughout the U.S. For years, residents with ties to Italy—ties that span generations—have often had to embark on lengthy journeys to receive consular services. This investment ensures they no longer bear this burden, bringing critical services right to their doorstep.

This consulate is a living testament to the rich tapestry of cultural and historical ties that

bind the Greater Springfield Community with the Italian diaspora. The collaboration between the consulate and local schools to offer Italian-language programs exemplifies this deep connection, going back to the beginning of Springfield's relationship with its sister city, Bracigliano, Italy. Furthermore, this consulate reinforces the essence of our shared stories, and serves as a beacon for younger generations to explore, understand, and appreciate the contributions and shared legacies of Italian-Americans in our district.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my appreciation for the reopening of this consulate in Springfield. It stands as a testament to the shared heritage and enduring bonds forever connecting our two nations. The consulate is a welcome addition to the First District, and I anticipate many fruitful years of collaboration and growth ahead.

HONORING CORPORAL DONALD A. SHIELDS

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 18, 2023

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of service and sacrifice of United States Marine Corps veteran Corporal Donald A. Shields.

Cpl. Shields was born in the town of Harpersfield, New York in 1932. After graduating high school, Cpl. Shields voluntarily enlisted into the United States Marine Corps on September 7, 1951 during the onset of the Korean Conflict. Cpl. Shields left his job as a dairy farmer to serve.

After completing basic training, Cpl. Shields was deployed to Korea where he served selflessly and honorably. Cpl. Shields earned two Purple Hearts for his valor and sacrifice, along with the Korean War Service Medal, United Nations Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, and, most notably, the South Korean Presidential Unit Citation for his service with the 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division in Korea.

Following his 3 years of service in the Marines, Cpl. Shields was honorably discharged from active duty, although he continued to serve in the Marine Corps Reserve until 1959. Upon his return stateside, he found employment as a truck driver for Mobil Oil Corporation. Cpl. Shields moved his family to Castleton, New York and drove for Mobil for 33 years before retiring.

Donald always remained involved in his local community. He worked for the Town of Schodack as a building inspector and member of the Zoning and Planning Board. Donald was also a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7337, a communicant of St Paul's Methodist Church, and a Boy Scouts Troop Leader. Donald was a proud family man, and enjoyed traveling with his wife, spending time with his grandchildren, and doing handyman work for his friends.

Corporal Donald A. Shields' record of service to his country and Rensselaer County is admirable, and it is my honor on behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District to recognize the commendable life and inspiring legacy of Corporal Shields.