

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING KAREN MILLER

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2024

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Karen Miller for earning this year's Woman of the Year Award from the Arvada Chamber of Commerce.

Karen is a longtime volunteer throughout Jefferson County, especially in Olde Town Arvada. She served on the Historic Olde Town Arvada (HOTA) Board for many years and was instrumental in the creation of the Business Improvement District for Olde Town in 2014. Karen is a passionate and dedicated leader and a tremendous asset to the Arvada community. She dedicated countless hours to local events including the Harvest Festival, St. Patrick's Day, Festival of Scarecrows, A Chocolate Affair, and Flicks in the Square. Karen currently sits on the Arvada Historical Society Board and manages the Arvada Flour Mill.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Karen Miller on receiving the 2023 Arvada Chamber of Commerce Woman of the Year Award.

RECOGNIZING VERONICA IGNAT

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the unique contributions made to our community by one of my constituents, Veronica Ignat, who is a member of the Pasco County Senior Leadership Team. In June of 2023, in order to avoid disruption of services for vulnerable seniors in Pasco County, the county stepped up to the plate to provide state and federally funded essential case management and services to seniors via three major programs: Community Care for the Elderly (CCE), Home Care for the Elderly (HCE), and the Alzheimer's Disease Initiative (ADI). When the former lead agency was unable to continue in that capacity, Pasco County Senior Services Leadership Team acted swiftly because they understood the importance of ensuring seamless continuity of services to seniors. As such, the team spent hundreds of hours researching and writing a 750-page grant that they did not have experience writing, preparing services that they had never offered, and standing up a new team to complete the services, whereby, almost doubling the size of its current Division. They did so while continuing their normal service to seniors throughout the county. In the end, the county was awarded the honor of becoming the new "Lead Agency." This ensured that over 500 at-risk seniors in Pasco would not go without critical care. The Pasco County Senior

Services Leadership Team also took on new duties and extra challenges during the transition period. All Program Coordinators took specific parts of the new grant or accompanying duties to learn and provide feedback on or they took on extra work to allow other team leaders to do so. This team truly collaborated with each other and several other departments to make this Lead Agency bid a reality. Taking on this new tier of services demonstrates how this team exemplifies the term "Heroes Among Us."

It is clear that Ms. Ignat and the Pasco County Senior Leadership Team has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for their service.

HONORING DAVE STEINBACH'S SERVICE TO SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN AND THE NATION

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2024

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the life of David Steinbach and to grieve his passing. A dedicated member of Ducks Unlimited and a lover of the great outdoors, the roles and responsibilities Dave filled during his lifetime in Washtenaw County, Michigan are worthy of commendation.

Dave dedicated his life to serving others. After attending Northern Michigan University, he joined the U.S. Navy, where he served as a Nuclear Reactor Operator on the U.S.S. *Omaha* based out of Pearl Harbor. Once returning to Michigan, Dave began to work at the College of Engineering at the University of Michigan, where he supported classroom technology for over 34 years.

Outside of his career, Dave also left a lasting mark on the communities he was a part of. One such organization was the Chelsea Rod and Gun Club, where he was an active member and served in a number of positions, including as president. A testament to his service can also be seen in his work with youth members in the community. In 2002, Dave was one of the founders of the youth shooting group and was an active instructor. In this role, he was a model for safety while encouraging youth to enjoy nature.

Another organization where Dave made a considerable difference is Ducks Unlimited, a nonprofit organization dedicated to conserving waterfowl habitats in North America. Here, he served in many different roles at the local, state, and national chapters. Among these roles, he served as the Ducks Unlimited Michigan Chairman. His dedication was immeasurable, and his passing is a great loss to the conservation community throughout Michigan. Dave's contributions and service with Western Washtenaw Ducks Unlimited will continue to serve the community for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating and remembering the life-

time of work that David Steinbach has accomplished. His dedication to his country, communities, family, and the wildlife that he worked so hard to conserve is inspirational and will not soon be forgotten. His passion for the great outdoors drove so much of his work and impacted so many. His impact should be celebrated and remembered.

RECOGNIZING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF DR. VERNON C. WALTON, SENIOR PASTOR OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VIENNA

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2024

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Dr. Vernon C. Walton for his 10th Anniversary as Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church of Vienna.

Church and community have always been staples of the ministry of Dr. Vernon C. Walton. Dr. Walton, a native of Jersey City, New Jersey, has served as Senior Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Vienna, Virginia, since February, 2014. He is the 19th Senior Pastor in the history of this 156-year-old congregation, First Baptist Church of Vienna.

Dr. Walton's primary mission is to "make a difference in our community and be a light of hope for the World." His charismatic, energetic, and innovative leadership has led the congregation of First Baptist into a season where they are "Empowered by the Past and Excited About the Future." As a result of his leadership, First Baptist has increased its community engagement, mission opportunities, and strengthened the capacity of its 33 ministries—making a difference in the lives of those within and outside of the church.

During his tenure at First Baptist, Dr. Walton has focused much of his ministry efforts on missions, cultural awareness, and social justice. Under his leadership, First Baptist Vienna has been on the forefront, helping to ensure that the needs of Fairfax County's marginalized communities are addressed by implementing programming geared toward education and justice such as the annual Juneteenth Celebration and Justice and Legislative Sunday.

First Baptist also partners with area elementary schools and community partners to provide tutoring, Thanksgiving meals, and Christmas presents for students and families. At the height of the Covid-19 pandemic, the church distributed over 25,000 boxes of food throughout Northern Virginia and held multiple vaccine clinics delivering over 3,000 vaccinations. First Baptist has also provided meals to nearly 1 million food insecure people around the world by partnering with Rise Against Hunger and hosting meal packaging events. He also initiated "Be the Church Sundays" which serve as opportunities for church members to go outside the walls of the church to serve others throughout Northern Virginia.

• 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.

Dr. Walton serves on Fairfax County's Affordable Housing Advisory Council, the Police Reform Task Force, and the Fairfax County Public Schools Strategic Planning Team. Most recently, he has served on the Chairman's Task Force on Equity and Opportunity in Fairfax County, chairing the Public Safety Committee, and is a founding member of Voices of Black Fairfax.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Dr. Walton for his tremendous efforts as a leader in our communities, as he celebrates his 10th Anniversary, as Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church of Vienna.

RECOGNIZING JOEL FOLK

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2024

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Joel Folk of Arvada, Colorado for winning the Arvada Chamber of Commerce's Image Award.

Joel is a retired veterinarian and a nearly 30-year member of the Arvada Jefferson Kiwanis. He is also an active volunteer for the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth. Over many years and through his countless volunteer hours, Joel has improved the lives of the youth and elderly across Jefferson County. Arvada Chamber Image Award winners are selected for the positive image of Arvada they portray within the community, and Joel has done just that.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Joel Folk for winning this award and thank him for his commitment to our community.

RECOGNIZING MONICA GONZALEZ

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the unique contributions of one of my constituents, Monica Gonzalez who serves as a volunteer Board Member for the local non-profit, Brooksville Main Street. These outstanding volunteers put in hundreds of hours while running their businesses and organizations. They have all come together for a common cause—to serve the community by bringing much-loved events to downtown Brooksville. Each of these board members have servant hearts, and their dedication and commitment to our community is impressive. Part of what makes our country so great is the willingness of ordinary Americans to go above and beyond to selflessly give back to others. Volunteerism is one of the cornerstones of our society and part of the fabric that unites us.

It is clear that Ms. Gonzalez and her fellow board members have made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for their service.

HONORING DR. TERESA
WOODRUFF

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2024

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to the extraordinary contributions of Dr. Teresa Woodruff—a pioneering scientist and esteemed academic leader. Throughout her career, Dr. Woodruff has earned recognition for groundbreaking research in the fields of ovarian biology and reproductive science. She has also provided compassionate leadership during a tumultuous period at Michigan State University when the campus needed her most.

From her days as a graduate student at Northwestern University to her tenure as Provost and interim President at Michigan State University, Dr. Woodruff has dedicated herself to bettering the lives of others through her medical research and leadership.

Her trailblazing work in the field of oncofertility, a term she coined in 2006 merging the fields of oncology and fertility, has revolutionized cancer care. She has led efforts to improve reproductive care and to address the complex reproductive health needs and quality-of-life issues of cancer survivors whose fertility may be threatened by their disease or its treatment.

Dr. Woodruff has been a passionate advocate for women in STEM, dedicated to advancing scientific knowledge and gender equity. Among her many initiatives to address the attrition of women from scientific careers and promote sex inclusion in biomedical research, she created the Women's Health Science Program for High School Girls & Beyond to provide science education programs to high school female students in Chicago Public Schools.

Her commitment to mentorship and equity and her many contributions to science have earned her numerous awards and honors. She is an elected fellow of the National Academy of Medicine, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and other prestigious organizations. In 2011, Dr. Woodruff was awarded the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science Mentoring by President Barack Obama. More recently in 2021, she was the recipient of the Endocrine Society's Laureate Award for her achievements in endocrinology.

In August 2020, Dr. Woodruff joined Michigan State University as Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, and was named interim President of the university in November 2022. During her time leading this global research institution, she demonstrated her steadfast commitment to the students and faculty under her care. She showed exceptional leadership and resilience in the face of adversity, guiding the university through challenging times including a tragic mass shooting incident on campus that took the lives of three students and injured five others on February 13, 2023.

In the wake of the shooting that shook the community, Dr. Woodruff stressed the importance of supporting and caring for the families and students affected by the shooting. She provided a steadying presence and a listening ear to students. She partnered with students, faculty, staff, and community members in rec-

ognizing the anniversary of the incident and in the planning of a permanent memorial that will serve as a space for reflection, honoring, and remembering.

As Dr. Woodruff transitions to her role as MSU Foundation Professor in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Biology, and the Department of Biomedical Engineering to resume her research, I have no doubt that she will continue to support and empower students in the Spartan community and beyond. It is with profound gratitude that I honor Dr. Woodruff's incredible leadership and achievements.

EQUAL REPRESENTATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. HARRIET M. HAGEMAN

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

Ms. HAGEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I wish to reiterate Congress's intent to further describe its expectations of the executive branch when interpreting, administering, and complying with this bill's provisions should it become law. The legislative intent of this bill is simple, yet Congress is compelled to further clarify the record on this bill to pre-empt an executive branch that routinely seeks to avoid the letter of the law through rule- and policy-making, and in the face of an administration opposed to this bill.

The Fourteenth Amendment establishes that a U.S. citizen is a person born or naturalized in the U.S. Federal law further clarifies that a U.S. citizen is someone who is a citizen of the U.S. by law, birth, or naturalization. Under H.R. 7109, it is this citizenship status that the federal government is to collect through the decennial census, and then determine apportionment and the electoral college. Should this bill become law, Congress intends the executive branch to use this definition when implementing the Act, and no rule or policy can infringe on this requirement.

Congress would typically expect the executive branch to execute all of the Nation's lawful force as instructed by the legislative branch and as required by the separation-of-powers provisions found in the Constitution. Congressional and judicial scrutiny of the acts of the executive branch has continued to increase over time because of its propensity to ignore, misinterpret, or misapply Congressionally imposed restrictions or mandates. The current administration has a track record of routinely pushing the limits of, and outright ignoring, the law to achieve political goals through rule-making and other executive policy.

The Biden Administration's regulatory abuse is exemplified through a variety of actions, such as the Department of Education's Income Drive Repayment Program; a slate of Environmental Protection Act rules, such as Multi-Pollutant Emissions Standards for Model Years 2027. Later Light-Duty and Medium-Duty Vehicles, and the Clean Power Plan 2.0; the Bureau of Land Management's Conservation and Landscape Health Rule; and the Security and Exchange Commission's Enhancement and Standardization of Climate-Related Disclosures for Investors. None of these rulemakings find a foundation in the laws, yet the Administration has moved forward with