

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE PORTERVILLE EXCHANGE CLUB

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Porterville Exchange Club on their 65-year anniversary and thank them for their significant contributions to the Central Valley. The Porterville Exchange Club is a nonprofit organization that plays a vital role in meeting the needs of Tulare County residents. Since their founding, the Porterville Exchange Club has remained steadfast in its commitment to providing individuals and their families with the support they need to live fulfilling lives. For more than six decades, the organization's staff and volunteers have worked tirelessly to support Porterville's youth, senior, and veteran populations. The Porterville Exchange Club is passionate about improving the quality of life of all residents of the community. Their programs are instrumental in connecting veterans with permanent housing, helping families in crisis, and supporting the community's brave law enforcement officers and healthcare workers. Every year, the organization hosts the Treasure Trove Dinner Party, which helps to support these essential initiatives. The organization is focused on serving children in Tulare County and hosts numerous fundraising events every year to ensure they have the resources they need to serve our community. Through the annual Child Spree event, the Porterville Exchange Club, in partnership with a local store, provides students with back-to-school clothes and school supplies for the first day of school. Every year, the Child Spree event supports hundreds of students and their families in Porterville. Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the Porterville Exchange Club on their 65-year anniversary. Their work to improve the lives of residents of the Central Valley will be felt for generations to come.

RECOGNIZING JEREMY KUREK

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, today I want to recognize Assistant Fire Chief Jeremy Kurek for his 22 years of service with the Dearborn Fire Department in Michigan's 12th District Strong.

Assistant Fire Chief Kurek began his career as a firefighter with the Dearborn Fire Department in 2002. He has been steadfast in his commitment to the people of Dearborn and upholding public safety, serving in multiple roles including Engineer, Lieutenant, and Captain before being promoted to Assistant Fire

Chief. Assistant Chief Kurek has been recognized for his outstanding service many times, earning the John D. Dingell Medal of Freedom Memorial Commendation and Firefighter of the Year Award in 2019. These are the highlights of a long and outstanding career, with extensive recognition to public service.

Please join me in recognizing Assistant Fire Chief Jeremy Kurek for more than 20 years of service to the people of Michigan's 12th District as we wish him well in his retirement.

RECOGNIZING UNION LEADER TOM CASTLEMAN

HON. NORMA J. TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Tom Castleman and his 39 years of public service and dedication to the City of Pomona with the Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' International Association, Plasterers' Local 200.

Tom joined the union in 1985 and became a business agent for the union in 2003. In 2010, he was appointed as a business manager for the Plasterers' Local 200. Throughout his time with the union, he also served on the Apprenticeship Committee mentoring the next generation of plasterers entering the field.

Tom is officially retiring this year. I hope that he gets to rest and enjoy time with his wife, Patti, and family. We are grateful for his service to our community.

For his outstanding accomplishments, it is my honor to recognize union leader Tom Castleman. His years of civic service are worthy of commendation.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARC OF NEW JERSEY

HON. MIKIE SHERRILL

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Ms. SHERRILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 75th anniversary of The Arc of New Jersey, an organization in New Jersey's Eleventh Congressional District, and its outstanding commitment to supporting children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

Since its founding in 1949, the Arc of New Jersey has worked tirelessly to improve the lives of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), protect their human rights, and enhance their and their families' lives. The Arc continues to achieve these goals through their advocacy and direct assistance efforts.

The Arc of New Jersey advocates for individuals with IDD at both the state and federal

levels. Their thorough evaluation of legislation affecting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families, or care providing agencies, has benefited countless families in New Jersey and throughout the country. I am grateful for their close partnership with the New Jersey delegation as they keep us informed of the critical issues for the IDD community on Capitol Hill.

Beyond legislative advocacy, the Arc of New Jersey provides resources and programs that have a huge impact on the lives of individuals with IDD and their families to support them in reaching their goals. Programs like The Criminal Justice Advocacy Program, a one of a kind program in New Jersey to provide individuals with IDDs with alternatives to incarceration, and Project HIRE, a program to provide post-graduate plans for students in special education programs provide invaluable support to our community.

This year is the 75th anniversary of The Arc of New Jersey, and their decades of service to our community are an inspiration. I am grateful for all they have done to support New Jersey families and look forward to seeing their continued impact.

HONORING PAUL FREDERICK

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a special man, Paul Newton Frederick of Lexington, Kentucky. Mr. Frederick will celebrate his 100th birthday on July 5, 2024.

Mr. Frederick is a lifelong Lexingtonian. He left high school to join the Marine Corps, enlisting on July 30, 1942. He was assigned to the 3rd Division of the 21st Regiment of the United States Marines. Mr. Frederick experienced combat as a bazooka man and machine gunner on several islands in the Pacific. His ship was struck by a torpedo on November 17, 1943, killing many and causing the ship to sink. Mr. Frederick was injured but returned to active duty soon after treatment. He participated in many battles in the Pacific Theater. He was a part of one of the most difficult battles of the war and he lost many friends during the Battle of Iwo Jima. For his service, Mr. Frederick was awarded the Purple Heart, the Presidential Unit Citation, the American Campaign Medal, the World War II Victory Medal, and several more medals. He was honorably discharged on October 18, 1945.

Following his service, Mr. Frederick worked at his father's service station until 1963. He then went to work for the U.S. Postal Service and retired in 1989. Sixty years after he left high school, he earned his high school diploma. He was married to Myrtle Zimmerman Frederick for 71 years. They have two sons, four grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. Mr. Frederick served as a scout leader and a youth sponsor for many years at

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Broadway Christian Church. He currently resides at Thomson-Hood Veterans Center.

Mr. Frederick is a true patriot. He and his fellow veterans are American heroes. As members of the "Greatest Generation", they willingly served to protect and defend the freedoms that we enjoy today. I am humbled to honor Mr. Paul Frederick and celebrate his 100th birthday before the United States Congress.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF THE
SEMICENTENNIAL OF THE CITY
OF FINDLAY BEING DESIGNATED
AS FLAG CITY, U.S.A.

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Semicentennial of the City of Findlay being designated as "Flag City, U.S.A.". Through a community-wide effort, spearheaded by the Women's Division of the Chamber of Commerce, the City of Findlay was named the Flag Capital of the United States on Flag Day, June 14, 1968. A proclamation by Congressman Jackson E. Betts became part of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on June 12, 1968. Findlay was officially declared "Flag City, U.S.A." on May 7, 1974, by House Joint Resolution 1003, which was introduced by Congressman Tennyson Guyer.

The effort started with John B. Cooke, member of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), who believed it was important to fly the American Flag. Mr. Cooke had the idea that every house in Findlay should fly an American Flag on Flag Day, June 14, so he went around the city speaking to businesses and individual citizens to make it happen. A fund was created by the John Hancock Chapter of the SAR to help fund Mr. Cooke's goal to buy 14,000 small flags. The goal was accomplished with enough money remaining to dedicate a plaque in memory of those men and women who fought for our nation's freedom.

The media was notified that Findlay would become the Flag Capital of the United States on Flag Day. On Wednesday, June 12, 1968, the Honorable Jackson E. Betts, Member of Congress from District 4, made a presentation in the House of Representatives and requested that a flag fly over the Capitol to mark the occasion. On June 14, 1968, flags waved, and the enthusiasm was set for the future flying of the National Flag. This tradition continued until 1974. By that time, Congressman Tennyson Guyer had replaced Congressman Betts in Congress. The Women's Division of the Chamber of Commerce started a campaign to have the flags fly once again and for Findlay to become Flag City, USA. Finally, Congressman Guyer introduced House Joint Resolution 1003, and Findlay was officially declared Flag City, USA. Since then, Findlay's community leaders, businesses, and residents have taken great pride in this designation.

Findlay has become a growing community of over 40,000 citizens. It is an international community with several world-wide corporations and industries located in Findlay. For the last decade, Findlay has been named the Top Micropolitan Community in the United States by Site Selection Magazine. Every year, the

city is proving that its values are based on hard work, patriotism, and a spirit of outstanding American ingenuity.

Mr. Speaker, by celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Findlay's designation, we recognize the outstanding achievements and pride that Findlay citizens have for their city. Congratulations to the City of Findlay on 50 years of being designated as "Flag City, U.S.A."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK T. McHENRY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Mr. McHENRY. Mr. Speaker, due to unforeseen circumstances, I was unable to cast my vote for H.R. 2964.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 249.

HONORING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY
OF DRIVE CLEAN INDIANA

HON. FRANK J. MRVAN

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with sincere appreciation that I take this time to recognize Drive Clean Indiana as the organization celebrates its 25th anniversary on June 15, 2024. Through sustainable transportation and energy efforts, Drive Clean Indiana has enhanced the quality of life for residents and visitors of Northwest Indiana and throughout the state for the past 25 years.

Drive Clean Indiana, which originated as South Shore Clean Cities, Inc. before its statewide expansion in 2022, is a member-based, nonprofit coalition that aims to encourage the use of domestic fuels, improve air quality, strengthen energy security, reduce dependence on imported oil, and build the state and local economies. On June 15, 1999, South Shore Clean Cities was founded as the 71st Clean Cities & Communities coalition by the United States Department of Energy. Under the initial leadership of Liz Williams and Deb McClelland-Parker, the coalition continued to grow, serving Lake, Porter, and LaPorte Counties in Northwest Indiana. In 2005, Carl and Lorrie Lisek became co-coordinators of South Shore Clean Cities. Then, in 2011, Lorrie became the Executive Director of Wisconsin Clean Cities while Carl was named Executive Director of South Shore Clean Cities, a position in which he remains today with Drive Clean Indiana. Drive Clean Indiana's dedicated team has been recognized with countless awards and accolades throughout the years, and the organization is truly worthy of each of these honors. And I would be remiss if I did not mention that, in 2015, Carl and Lorrie were both inducted into the United States Department of Energy's Clean Cities & Communities Hall of Fame.

Drive Clean Indiana's transition to the statewide coalition is a testament to its extraordinary results. The organization has consistently exceeded expectations and surpassed its goals, while its membership has seen immense growth. Since its inception, the organi-

zation has managed many programs and projects including NIPSCO's IN-Charge Project, the BP Cleaner Air through Diesel Emissions Reductions Grant Program, and the Green Fleet Program. More recently, the organization has been heavily involved in fostering the use of electric vehicles across the state through its management of the Go Electric Vehicle Indiana (GOEVIN) program and the Indiana Clean School Bus Consortium (ICSBC). The ICSBC recently secured an award announced by President Biden and the United States Environmental Protection Agency that will bring 51 electric buses to Indiana school districts. It has also collaborated on many other projects including the Midwest Hydrogen Hub, which will promote clean energy through the production of hydrogen by leveraging renewable energy, natural gas, and low-cost nuclear energy. These are just a few of the many remarkable programs and projects in which Drive Clean Indiana is involved.

Over the past 15 years, Drive Clean Indiana has helped to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2 million tons, the number of gasoline gallon equivalents by 300 million gallons, and the number of oil barrels by three million. For their truly innovative and successful energy and transportation initiatives, the organization's members and leaders are worthy of the highest praise.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Drive Clean Indiana on this outstanding milestone. For 25 years, the coalition has continued to make great strides toward improving the quality of the air we breathe and, in turn, improving the lives of countless individuals. Its steadfast commitment to Northwest Indiana and throughout the entire state is recognized and appreciated by all.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT
OF MS. JENNIFER BRINKLEY

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and celebrate the retirement of an exceptional individual, Ms. Jennifer Brinkley. With a career spanning over four decades, Jennifer has dedicated herself to public service with unwavering commitment and integrity.

Jennifer began her journey in 1984 as the municipal court clerk for Tupelo. Her exemplary service and dedication quickly became apparent, and in 2012, she joined the District Attorney's Office for Mississippi's 1st Circuit District. Throughout her tenure, she has been a cornerstone of our community, bringing efficiency, dedication and a profound sense of justice to her role.

Her professionalism and demeanor significantly enhanced the productivity of both the municipal court and the District Attorney's Office. Jennifer's legacy will have a lasting impact on our judicial system and community.

Her professional accomplishments are matched only by her dedication to her family, community, and church. Jennifer's active involvement has made her a beloved figure in all these circles, demonstrating that her impact extends far beyond her professional achievements.