

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF THE ANDERSON CENTER FOR AUTISM

HON. PATRICK RYAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 29, 2024

Mr. RYAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 100-year anniversary of the Anderson Center for Autism.

In 1924, the Anderson Center for Autism, founded by psychiatrist Victor V. Anderson, was created to enhance, and optimize the quality of life for individuals who are born with autism as well as their families.

By developing an integrated educational system that helped children with their emotional and social needs, Dr. Anderson developed a nationally renowned autism service agency to support the community around the world.

Through the development of new technologies and practices to help with autism services, individuals can thrive and take advantage of this beautiful campus.

During the commencement ceremony in 1944, First-Lady Eleanor Roosevelt addressed the community and the center's 14 graduates. During her speech, Roosevelt left the community with three quotes; "Remember always that you not only have the right to be an individual, you have an obligation to be one," "You have to accept whatever comes and the only important thing is that you meet it with courage," and "You must do the thing which you think you cannot do." These quotes still resonate today as the center succeeds in staying true to its founding and I wish the center the best of luck in the next 100 years.

RECOGNIZING THE SCHOOL OF MINES FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 29, 2024

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the School of Mines for ranking number one in NCAA Division II for the first time in their football program's history. The Orediggers fought hard for their spot at the top through a strong and impressive season. They earned the division title by winning the Super Region IV final for the third year in a row and made the playoffs for the fifth year in a row, continuing the second-longest playoff streak in the country. Although they did not win in the final championship game, their season was an inspiration to people across Colorado.

This achievement was earned by the dedication of the players, support from students and the community, and the coaching of Pete Sterbick. The team has proven that the Colorado School of Mines is more than an academic powerhouse, it is an athletic one as well.

On behalf of the residents of Colorado's 7th Congressional District, I congratulate the Orediggers on their successful season.

INTRODUCTION OF THE UNIVERSAL PREKINDERGARTEN AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION ACT OF 2024

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 29, 2024

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the Universal Prekindergarten and Early Childhood Education Act of 2024, which would establish and expand prekindergarten programs in public and public charter schools for three- and four-year-old children.

This bill seeks a breakthrough in public education by providing funding for states to add prekindergarten for children at three and four years of age, like the kindergarten programs for five-year-olds now routinely available in public schools. This bill would eliminate major shortcomings of unevenly available day care and, importantly, would take advantage of the safe facilities required in public schools.

This bill would provide federal funds to states, which would be matched by at least 20 percent of a state's own funds, to establish or expand universal, voluntary prekindergarten in public and public charter schools for three- and four-year-olds, regardless of income. The classes, which would be full-day and run throughout the entire school year, would be taught by teachers who possess equivalent or similar qualifications to those teaching other grades in the school. The funds would supplement, not supplant, other federal funds for early childhood education. The unique, money-saving aspect of this bill is that it would use existing public-school infrastructure and trained teachers to make early childhood education available to all, saving billions of dollars in implementation costs.

The success of Head Start and other prekindergarten programs, combined with scientific evidence on the importance of brain development in early childhood, virtually mandates the expansion of early childhood education to all children. Early learning programs have been available only to the affluent, who can afford them, and to some low-income families in programs such as Head Start, which would be unaffected by this bill. This bill is a practical way to create universal, public prekindergarten. The goal of this bill is to provide the benefits of early childhood education to those who have been left out of this essential education.

We cannot afford to allow the most fertile years for childhood development to pass unenriched. This bill responds both to the great needs of parents who seek early childhood education and neuroscience, which shows that a child's brain development begins much earlier than had been previously understood.

Considering the staggering cost of day care, the inaccessibility of early childhood education and the opportunity that early education offers to improve a child's chances of success, schooling for three- and four-year-olds is overdue. The absence of viable options for working families demands our immediate attention.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF THE HONORABLE ROBERT C. COATES

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 29, 2024

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and lasting contributions of The Honorable Robert C. Coates, a critical leader in the California judicial system. Judge Coates leaves behind an indelible legacy of service, selflessness, and humanitarianism.

Born in Pacific Beach in 1937, Judge Coates spent his early years cultivating what would become a lifelong passion for protecting the environment and addressing the most pressing issues impacting his community. After graduating with his Bachelor of Science in Engineering Geology from San Diego State University, Judge Coates joined the Naval Reserve, where he faithfully served our country.

Driven by a commitment to justice, Judge Coates earned his Juris Doctor from the California Western School of Law, beginning what would become an almost six decades-long career in the legal system. As a trial lawyer for 12 years, Judge Coates undertook a wide range of civil and criminal defense cases at the state and federal levels and notably won a case before the California Supreme Court.

In 1982, Judge Coates was appointed to a position as a Judge, where he spearheaded efforts to establish the highly successful Serial Inebriate Program, aimed at treating chronic alcohol abuse. In addition, Judge Coates was a leader in changing how the court addresses homelessness and mental health issues, helping pave the way toward a more equitable judicial system in California and beyond.

Judge Coates' commitment to enacting positive change was not only expressed through his critical work as a lawyer and judge, but also through his mentorship of the next generation of lawyers. He served as an Adjunct Law Professor at the University of San Diego School of Law, where he developed the School's Environmental Law course and established and directed the Environmental and Natural Resources Forum. Judge Coates' critical role in legal education also extended to the Thomas Jefferson School of Law, where he created and taught the Poverty Law course.

In addition to his leadership and mentorship, Judge Coates exemplified the spirit of altruism in all areas of his life. He chaired the San

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Diego's Homeless Women Task Force, providing critical support to women who lack access to public health and psychological care. He also authored multiple books addressing the homelessness crisis in America, including *A Street is Not a Home*, which served as a model for multiple Grand Juries in implementing equitable solutions to housing disputes.

Judge Coates' enduring spirit will live on in his wife of 19 years, daughter, son, and three grandchildren. I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to Judge Coates' loved ones. I know that they, along with the people of California, join me in celebrating his life and legacy.

HONORING RABBI FELIPE
GOODMAN

HON. SUSIE LEE

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 29, 2024

Ms. LEE of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rabbi Felipe Goodman for his 25 years of dedicated service to Temple Beth Shalom and southern Nevada.

Before joining Temple Beth Shalom in 1998, Rabbi Goodman served as assistant Rabbi in Comunidad Bet-El de Mexico in Mexico City, one of the largest conservative synagogues in Latin America. He also co-authored the most widely distributed Pesach Haggadah of the Conservative Movement in Latin America.

Rabbi Goodman has served as the Senior Rabbi of Temple Beth Shalom in Las Vegas, Nevada for 25 years, and his charisma and dedication to community has made a profound impact on our Jewish community. Attendance at Shabbat services has increased significantly during his tenure through innovative programming and a true sense of community that has transformed Temple Beth Shalom into a more vibrant and stronger congregation.

Rabbi Goodman remains an active leader outside the synagogue. He currently serves as Chair of the Board of Directors of the Joint Retirement Board of the Conservative Movement. He is also one of the nine Permanent Members of the Joint Bet Din of Conservative Judaism, and one of a group of only 17 Conservative Rabbis in the world certified by The Joint Bet Din of The Conservative Movement, as experts in the laws and writing of "Gittin." Rabbi Goodman is also part of the AIPAC National Leadership Council and is working on his new book, "Torah from Sin City."

In 2013, Rabbi Goodman was selected by The Daily Forward as one of America's Most Inspiring Rabbis, among the distinguished "36 Rabbis Shaping The 21st Century." In the past, he has served as a member of The Chancellor's Rabbinic Advisory Committee at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, a member of the Executive Committee of the Rabbinical Assembly, and as President of the Board of Rabbis of Southern Nevada.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in honoring Rabbi Felipe Goodman for his many years of dedicated service to southern Nevada, and in congratulating Rabbi Goodman on his 25th Anniversary Jubilee.

EDWARD GANT, LIFE AND LEGACY

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 29, 2024

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend the Life and Legacy of Edward Gant.

Born in Pleasantville, New Jersey and raised in Absecon, New Jersey, Edward Gant spent much of his childhood along the beautiful shores of New Jersey, being considered by those close to him a "Bay Rat". Edward Gant enjoyed the shore so much that it became a way of life for him. He was a fisherman among many other things, and passing those traits onto his children, most notably Gabriel and Matthew Gant. While spending many of his days enjoying New Jersey's magnificent waters, in the spring of 1974 Edward Gant began an apprenticeship, that would become a staple in who he was.

Edward Gant was a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 351, and during his career he became IBEW's business manager and, was an advocate and instrumental voice involved in many individuals' careers as well as local organized labor. During his time as a IBEW member, he became a close friend and mentor to me. Edward Gant and I worked closely together not only in IBEW related matters but matters that were paramount to all working families.

Returning to his roots in Pleasantville, New Jersey, Edward Gant spent time as a board member on the New Jersey Casino Redevelopment Authority (CRDA). It was evident that his love for the area in which he grew up and developed so many fond memories held a special place in his heart. Edward Gant wanted to give back, making positive and everlasting change.

Today, Edward Gant is survived by his wife Susan; his son and daughter in law, Gabriel and Kiersten; his son and daughter Matthew and Andrea; and his two grandchildren, Lyla and Jaxson.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring and commending Edward Gant of Egg Harbor Township, New Jersey, a resident dedicated to his community and who has thoroughly served them to the best of his ability.

HONORING KENTUCKY EAGLE, INC.

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 29, 2024

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kentucky Eagle, Inc., which is located in Lexington, Kentucky. The company celebrated its 75th anniversary in 2023.

Kentucky Eagle, an alcoholic beverage wholesaler, was founded in 1948 by O.A. Bakhaus. Mr. Bakhaus moved from Oklahoma to Kentucky during the Great Depression in 1937 to support his mother and sister. After serving his country as a Major in World War II, he continued his business career back home in Lexington with numerous different businesses, one being what is today Kentucky Eagle.

In 1997, Mr. Bakhaus' daughter, Ann Bakhaus, became the company's second CEO. She ran the company as a family business and diversified its products. Under her leadership, the company experienced growth and success.

Seventy-five years after its founding, Kentucky Eagle has grown into a leading beverage distributor in the state, delivering beer, soda (Kentucky's own Ale-8-One among others) and water to 23 counties in central Kentucky as well as fine Kentucky Bourbons and other wines and spirits to all counties statewide where alcohol sales are legal.

Today, Kentucky Eagle employs over 250 hard-working Kentuckians and is very close to completing an 80,000-square-foot warehouse expansion. The team is led by Mr. Bakhaus' grandchildren, who proudly represent the company as 3rd generation owners and plan on at least 75 more years of business in the Commonwealth. Tate Russell serves as President and Michael Russell is a Vice President of Kentucky Eagle.

Kentucky Eagle is a highly respected Kentucky business. As the company celebrates its 75th anniversary, I congratulate the owners and all the employees and wish them a bright future. I am honored to recognize this company before the United States Congress.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF
REBECCA P. SWANSON

HON. DANIEL MEUSER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 29, 2024

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, with a heavy heart, I stand before you today to pay tribute to the remarkable life and legacy of Williamsport resident, Rebecca Powell Swanson, who passed away on December 31, 2023.

Rebecca was a longtime substitute teacher in Warren, Pennsylvania, where she began her teaching career in the Warren County School District. She taught first at Sheffield Area High School, then at Beaty Middle School, and finally at Warren Area High School, where she retired in 1987.

Rebecca's unwavering commitment extended beyond the classroom. She proudly served as a member of the Warren First Presbyterian Church, where she taught Sunday School, took on the role of a Deacon, engaged in Bible Study circles, and later assumed the position of Secretary for the Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team.

Rebecca's involvement reached across various organizations, including the Warren Association of College Women, Retired Women Teachers of the City of Warren, Warren Forest Chapter of the Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees, and as a Full Life Member of the PASR.

Away from her commitments, Rebecca found joy in travel, literature, piano, crossword puzzles, and enjoyed many bridge games with friends. Most importantly, she enjoyed cheering on the Penn State Nittany Lion football team while surrounded by her loving family.

Today, I encourage my colleagues in Congress to join me in commemorating the life of Rebecca Powell Swanson. May the memory of Rebecca bring solace and blessings to her family, friends, and the community.