

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## HONORING PAUL JONES

### HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Paul Jones, a World War II Veteran in Corbin, Kentucky, who recently celebrated his 103rd birthday.

Paul Jones earned the distinguished role as a U.S. Navy Pilot, after being trained by one of his Major League Baseball idols. Ted Williams became Jones' naval pilot trainer when his career as a legendary left fielder for the Boston Red Sox was placed on hold for military service. Growing up in Corbin, Kentucky, Jones played baseball for his local Appalachian coal camp team. He quickly became a fan of Williams who earned a .344 batting average with 521 home runs over his 19-year baseball career. It was their common love of baseball and courage of conviction to serve their country that led them to the same path at the Naval Pilot Training field in Pensacola, Florida. When Williams found out Jones was from Eastern Kentucky, he nicknamed him "Briar," and gave him the opportunity to play catch with him and other members of the Pensacola Naval Base baseball team.

It was Williams' expert pilot training that prepared Jones to fly F6F Hellcat fighter planes, taking off from the carrier deck of the USS *Guadalcanal*. Jones was honorably discharged from the Navy in 1945 without having to face combat, and returned home to play on Corbin's L&N Railroad baseball team, the "Railroaders." In 1946, he was named to the Kentucky All-State Team at second base.

In addition to his passion for baseball and the U.S. Navy, he fell in love with Shirley Wallen Jones, a local healthcare professional in Corbin with whom he shared 55 years of marriage. Jones managed his family-owned furniture store, joined local civic activities, and joined the Navy Reserves. His zeal for flying led him to purchase a small Cessna 182 that he used to help transfer decommissioned Navy planes. Jones then committed to flying jets for the Navy Reserve from 1955 to 1959 and continued his military service for more than 20 years.

At the age of 82, he finally stopped flying his plane, but at the age of 103, he's still driving his car, walking on the treadmill, going to watch Cincinnati Reds ballgames with friends, and enjoying local sporting events and local restaurants.

Out of the 16.4 million Americans who served this great Nation during World War II, only about 45,000 of our heroes are left in 2025. We owe a great debt of gratitude for Paul Jones' remarkable life of service as a business operator in Corbin, a civic leader and a pilot for the U.S. Navy and Navy Reserves. His legacy demonstrates the utmost patriotism, while living the American dream to the fullest. May Paul's life be richly blessed as he celebrates 103 years well-lived.

## HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. JAMES E. ALDREDGE

### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Dr. James E. Aldredge, a trailblazer, educator, and public servant whose lifelong commitment to improving the City of Fresno—particularly for residents in Southwest Fresno—has left an enduring mark on our community. Dr. Aldredge passed away peacefully on October 12, 2025, surrounded by his loved ones.

Born in Gilmer, Texas, and raised in Fresno from the age of four, Dr. Aldredge's story is one of perseverance, excellence, and service. A star athlete at Edison High School, he signed with the Pittsburgh Pirates at just seventeen years old, showcasing the talent and determination that would define his life. After a career-ending injury ended his professional baseball aspirations, Dr. Aldredge redirected his focus to education, an area he would champion for decades to come.

Dr. Aldredge earned degrees from Fresno City College and California State University, Fresno, before completing both a master's and Ph.D. in Organizational Development at the University of Southern California, with additional studies at Oxford University. His academic journey reflected his deep belief that education is the key opportunity, a principle he shared throughout his life with students and colleagues alike.

In 1985, Dr. Aldredge made history when he became Fresno's first Black City Manager, breaking barriers and paving the way for future generations of leaders. His steady leadership, integrity, and commitment to equity guided the city through times of transition and progress. After retiring from City Hall in 1989, he continued to serve the community as an educator at Fresno State, City College, the University of San Francisco, and Fresno Pacific University, mentoring countless students who would go on to serve their own communities with the same sense of purpose.

Beyond public service, Dr. Aldredge dedicated his time to numerous organizations, including the boards of Saint Agnes Hospital, Kings View Behavioral Health, and CEN-CAL Business Finance Group. He also established a foundation that grew over one million dollars in assets to support students, athletes, and social services. Among his many honors, he received the B'nai B'rith Award for his lifelong commitment to justice and equality and was inducted into the State Center Community College District's Wall of Honor at the African American Historical and Cultural Museum.

Dr. Aldredge was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Daisy Rae, and his brother, John Aldredge. He is remembered by his family, friends, colleagues, and former students for his humor, wisdom, and unwavering belief in Fresno's potential. His legacy continues

through the James E. Aldredge Foundation, which embodies his vision of empowering others through education and civic engagement.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in recognizing and celebrating the extraordinary life of Dr. James E. Aldredge. His story reminds us that true leadership is rooted in service, resilience, and commitment to uplifting the communities we call home.

## RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF HIS ALL-HOLINESS ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH BARTHOLOMEW

### HON. BARRY MOORE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. MOORE of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize the remarkable accomplishments of His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew. His All-Holiness is not only a recipient of the Congressional Gold Medal, but he is also soon to be the recipient of the Templeton Award, the world's foremost award in Religion and Science.

His All-Holiness is the spiritual leader and Primus inter Pares of Orthodox Christianity, providing leadership to a Church of 300 million people. He has throughout his ministry been a foremost advocate of religious freedom and has regularly traveled to countries hostile to Christians in order to advocate for peace.

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew is a leading figure in the dialogues of the Abrahamic Faiths—Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, and his presence in Washington, D.C. is an extraordinary opportunity to highlight the positive role that religious leaders of his stature bring to the cause of religious liberty.

On behalf of the people of Alabama, especially the Orthodox community of my district, I want to thank His All-Holiness for his continued efforts towards peace for Christians everywhere.

## RECOGNIZING DAN MOLNAR AS THE CHAMPION OF THE WEEK FOR OHIO'S 13TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

### HON. EMILIA STRONG SYKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dan Molnar as the Champion of the Week for Ohio's 13th Congressional District.

This year during the Akron Marathon, Dan, a local nurse practitioner, was cheering his fiancée on when a runner collapsed due to experiencing cardiac arrest. Dan hurdled a barricade, and joined other medical personnel to help.

• 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.

He immediately began CPR on the runner for roughly five minutes. His quick response helped the runner regain a pulse, ultimately saving his life.

During the emotional ordeal, Dan missed seeing his fiancée cross the finish line, but he told a local news outlet that if he had to do it all over again, he would still jump in to help.

For his heroic actions, I want to extend my sincere gratitude to Dan and members of the Akron Fire Department for answering the call to help a neighbor in need. Dan is a shining example of why Ohio's 13th Congressional District is known as the "Birthplace of Champions."

#### HONORING THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

##### HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 12, 2025*

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, with tremendous pride, I rise today to honor the founding of the United States Marine Corps nearly 250 years ago.

On November 10, 1775, the Second Continental Congress meeting in Philadelphia passed a resolution stating that two Battalions of Marines be raised for service as landing forces with the fleet.

This resolution established the Continental Marines and marked the birth date of the United States Marine Corps.

For 250 years, the United States Marine Corps has embodied the American spirit, fighting to preserve our collective future with every victory. The year-long commemoration of this milestone anniversary celebrates a legacy of honor, courage, and commitment to our country.

As history records, the Marine Corps stands ever ready to continue in the proud tradition of those who so valiantly fought and died at Belleau Wood, Iwo Jima, the Chosin Reservoir, and Khe Sanh.

In the spirit of Semper Fidelis, the Marines have demonstrated steadfast loyalty and continually worked to help our Nation become that more perfect Union. Once again, our brave men and women in uniform remind us of what unites us all.

On behalf of everyone in the 13th Congressional District, I salute the United States Marine Corps on its 250th anniversary and express gratitude for unparalleled service and sacrifice, security and protection.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF CARMICHAEL RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT

##### HON. AMI BERA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 12, 2025*

Mr. BERA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Carmichael Recreation and Park District on their 80th Anniversary. Through their mission, they have provided valuable community resources that have enriched the lives of its residents.

Starting in 1945, Carmichael Park and Recreation District acquired its first land parcel that went on to become their flagship park, Carmichael Park. After further land acquisitions between 1971 and 1990, the district now includes 12 additional park sites.

Parks in the district are major community hubs that include playgrounds, dog parks, ball fields, tennis and pickleball courts, as well as community gathering spaces. With their wide variety of outdoor spaces, the parks attract thousands of visitors every year.

Over their 80 years of service, the Carmichael Recreation and Park District has successfully maintained its parks and facilities through many challenges. They continue to provide exceptional recreation experiences and will continue to do so for many years to come.

I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing this day as the Carmichael Recreation and Park District's 80th Anniversary and thank them for their dedication to their community and its residents.

#### HONORING THE MILESTONE OF THE CALIFORNIA WOMEN FOR AGRICULTURE ON ITS 50TH

##### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 12, 2025*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the 50th Anniversary of California Women for Agriculture.

Founded in 1975 in the Coachella Valley, this remarkable organization has become a powerful voice for women in agriculture throughout California. What began as a small group of farmers, ranchers, and consumers united by a shared commitment to agriculture has grown into a statewide movement dedicated to education, advocacy, and community engagement.

For five decades, California Women for Agriculture has built a proud legacy of supporting both the industry and the people who sustain it. Programs such as Ag Venture, which introduces community leaders to the crops and challenges of farming, and Adopt-a-Legislator, which fosters relationships between members and policymakers, have ensured that agriculture remains a vital part of California's future.

Local chapters serve as hubs of activity and outreach, hosting student career tours, scholarship programs, community dinners, and fundraising events that celebrate our agricultural heritage while building strong connections. Their efforts inspire the next generation to pursue careers in agriculture and empower women to serve as leaders in this essential industry.

As we mark this milestone, we pay tribute to the vision and determination of the women who founded this organization and to all those who have carried their mission forward with dedication and heart.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating California Women for Agriculture on 50 years of unwavering service to agriculture and to communities across our state.

#### RECOGNIZING SETH GOLD

##### HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 12, 2025*

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Seth Gold for his service to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

A native of Cincinnati, Ohio and graduate of The George Washington University for both a Bachelor of Science in Public Health and Master of Public Health—Seth began his career on Capitol Hill as a Health Legislative Assistant for Dr. Michael Burgess (TX-26) in 2016 before moving to the Senate to work as Health Policy Advisor for Senator Rob Portman (OH) in 2017. In May 2021, Seth joined the Subcommittee on Health for the House Committee on Energy and Commerce when I served as Subcommittee Republican Leader, and later Subcommittee Chair, under Chair Cathy McMorris Rodgers. During his time under Chair Rodgers and myself, Seth was an invaluable Professional Staff Member and under his leadership—our committee strengthened Medicaid through the Working Families Tax Cuts, which established Medicaid work requirements and expanded home and community-based services to new beneficiaries.

After serving two Chairs and three Subcommittee Chairmen, Seth will soon depart Capitol Hill and move to Louisiana to serve as the Policy Director for the Louisiana Department of Health. I wish him the best, congratulate him on his new role, and thank Seth Gold for his service to the House Committee on Energy and United States Congress.

#### RECOGNIZING PRESIDENT ÁLVARO URIBE VÉLEZ

##### HON. CARLOS A. GIMENEZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 12, 2025*

Mr. GIMENEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the former President of the Republic of Colombia, Álvaro Uribe Vélez, for his extraordinary leadership, steadfast defense of democracy, and unwavering commitment to the safety and prosperity of the Colombian people.

President Uribe assumed office in 2002 during one of the most challenging periods in Colombia's modern history, a time marked by violence, narco-terrorism, and instability. Through his bold and visionary "Democratic Security" policy, President Uribe restored law and order, dismantled the strongholds of terrorist organizations like the FARC, and reestablished the authority of the Colombian state across the nation.

Under his leadership, Colombia's economy flourished through increased trade and investment. His administration strengthened U.S.-Colombian relations, culminating in the U.S.-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement, which expanded cooperation on security and counter-narcotics efforts.

President Uribe's courage in confronting narco-terrorist groups and his dedication to the rule of law set a model for democratic governance. For his leadership, integrity, and tireless defense of liberty, many regard President