

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING CHAIRMAN RAÚL GRIJALVA: A LEGACY OF GRACE, GRIT, AND GOOD TROUBLE

HON. SYLVIA R. GARCIA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to honor a friend, a colleague, and a leader who we have lost—someone whose absence we feel deeply.

To me, Raúl Grijalva will always be “Mr Chairman.”

Now, to be clear, I never served on a committee with Chairman Grijalva. But you didn’t need to be in committee to feel his presence. When he spoke, people listened. When he acted, it mattered. His leadership left a mark.

For more than two decades in Congress, Raúl was a force for good. A champion for Native communities, for our environment, for the God-given right to clean water and clean air—for the future of this country. He reminded us, over and over, that our fight isn’t just about the present—it’s for the generations coming after us. For the babies, he’d say, for the ones who will inherit this earth.

He never lost sight of who he was fighting for.

Whether he was standing up for Dreamers, workers, or tribal communities, Chairman Grijalva led with humility, with heart, and with an unwavering belief in doing what’s right. He gave voice to the voiceless—and he did it with grace and grit.

I was proud to serve alongside him in the Congressional Hispanic Caucus. My thoughts are with his family, his staff, and the people of Arizona, who he served with passion and purpose.

This Wednesday, my colleagues and I will travel to Tucson to say goodbye to a man of faith, a man of good trouble, a man we loved. I will wish him peace.

May God bless him, and may he rest in peace. (Que Dios te bendiga y que descanse en paz).

CELEBRATING THE 5TH YEAR OF ICECYCLE BUFFALO

HON. TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the incredible impact of IceCycle Buffalo, an annual fundraising event held in Buffalo, New York, where participants engage in 45-minute indoor cycling sessions on ice to raise funds for cancer research and patient care programs at Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center.

This unique event brings together 13 fitness studios and approximately 1,600 riders. Participants will take part in a 45-minute cycling

class on ice, all while raising funds for crucial research and programs at Roswell Park. Now in its fifth year, the Western New York fitness community is once again coining together for cancer patients everywhere. Each pedal stroke on their bike makes participants part of something bigger—helping to shape the future of cancer care and research.

Each year, more than 49,000 patients trust Roswell Park with their cancer journeys. By supporting IceCycle Buffalo, participants are ensuring that Roswell Park researchers and clinicians can continue to innovate and bring the newest, most cutting-edge treatments and technologies to cancer patients. Roswell Park develops cancer-fighting methods that were mere hopes a decade ago. With the help of donor support through events like IceCycle Buffalo, groundbreaking advancements are being made in the way cancer is diagnosed, treated, and ultimately cured.

Mr. Speaker, Roswell Park is committed to the care of the whole person. Their work extends beyond medical treatment to include the mental, emotional, and spiritual wellness of every patient. Participants in IceCycle Buffalo help to guarantee that Roswell Park’s leading experts can continue to run quality of life programs that support every patient and caregiver who steps through their doors. Through events like IceCycle Buffalo and the dedicated efforts of everyone involved, residents in Western New York continue making incredible strides in the fight against cancer, and we are all the better for it.

COMMEMORATING THE OPENING OF THE NATIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR MUSEUM IN ARLINGTON, TEXAS

HON. ROGER WILLIAMS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on National Medal of Honor Day to commemorate the opening of the National Medal of Honor Museum in Arlington, Texas.

This museum is a one-of-a-kind tribute to those who risked and, in many cases, sacrificed their lives to save their fellow soldiers and others.

The Medal of Honor is our Nation’s highest military decoration for valor in combat by our heroes in the armed forces, symbolizing courage, sacrifice, commitment, integrity, citizenship, and patriotism.

Future generations must learn from history, remember those who came before us, and ensure that their stories are never forgotten.

Thank you to those who have dedicated their time to telling the stories of American patriots and preserving history for all to admire.

Let us continue to be inspired by the stories of our Nation’s heroes and promise to strive for greatness in our daily lives.

May God bless our servicemembers and their families.

May God bless Texas.

And may God bless the greatest country in the history of the world, the one we love and call, the United States of America.

In God We Trust.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOSH GOTTHEIMER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Mr. Speaker, I missed the following votes, but had I been present, I would have voted: YES on Roll Call No. 72, and YES on Roll Call No. 73.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 72, and YEA on Roll Call No. 73.

DOE AND USDA INTERAGENCY RESEARCH ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1326, the “DOE and USDA Interagency Research Act” which I was proud to introduce alongside my colleague and friend, the gentleman from Oklahoma, Mr. LUCAS.

H.R. 1326 is a bipartisan bill that would authorize cross-cutting and collaborative research and development between the Department of Energy and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Together these agencies can leverage their incredible capabilities to address some of our multi-disciplinary research challenges in crop science, biofuels, carbon storage, and precision agriculture technologies.

Codifying the partnership between these agencies would be a testament to our commitment to these communities, particularly rural America, and our climate.

The Science, Space, and Technology Committee generated substantial momentum through the bipartisan CHIPS and Science Act, which included research support towards agriculture productivity improvement goals. The DOE and USDA Interagency Research Act would sustain and strengthen this momentum in its entirety, by empowering deeper collaboration between these two agencies, enabling our research and agriculture communities to fully utilize the opportunities presented by a broad range of new emerging technologies.

• 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.

With this, I encourage all my colleagues to support this bill.

CELEBRATING THE REMARKABLE CAREER OF OTIS T. BARKER, SR.

HON. TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Mr. Otis T. Barker, Sr. and his remarkable career of service to the City of Buffalo as he enters into retirement after many years of dedicated work. Mr. Barker is a lifelong resident of the City of Buffalo, raised in the Kenfield/Langfield neighborhood and received his education in the Buffalo Public Schools and at the State University of New York at Fredonia.

Mr. Barker's career began as a seasonal stock clerk for the Adam, Meldrum & Anderson department store, where he worked for 14 years. After several promotions, Mr. Barker became the company's first African American male to hold the executive title of buyer in its 125 year history. Soon after, Mr. Barker was hired by the former Deputy Speaker of the New York State Assembly, Arthur O. Eve, to serve as Chief of Staff from 1996 through 2002. This experience deepened his understanding of his community and the affairs of New York State.

After the retirement of Deputy Speaker Eve, Otis Barker joined then-New York State Senator Byron W. Brown's team as Director of Community Relations. When Senator Brown became Mayor of the City of Buffalo in 2006, Mr. Barker was appointed Director of the Division for Youth, where he managed the Mayor's Summer Youth Internship Program and the Mayor's Summer Reading Program. In 2011, Mr. Barker was promoted to Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Community Services and Recreational Programming, where he managed seven divisions, including Youth Services, Senior Services, Disabled Parking Permits, and Workforce Development. Later, in 2017, Mr. Barker was appointed Commissioner of Community Services and Recreational Programming, where his leadership and dedication continued to shape the city's services for the better.

Mr. Barker is a proud father of four children—Otis Jr., Jarred, Ondréa, and Peyton, and a grandfather to three—Destiny, Olivia, and Omeir. As he retires, Mr. Barker looks forward to spending more time with his family and finally getting some well-deserved rest.

Today, as Mr. Barker retires from his decades of dedicated service, we celebrate not only his professional accomplishments but also his dedication to mentorship, his commitment to his faith, and his tireless work to better the City of Buffalo. Please join me in congratulating Mr. Otis T. Barker, Sr. on a career well spent, and wishing him well as he enters this new chapter of his life.

HONORING LLOYD HENRY'S DEDICATION TO PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate and recognize Lloyd Henry for his 80 years of service to the Lampeter Fire Company.

Mr. Henry joined the Lampeter Fire Company on February 16, 1945, when he was 16 years old. His entry into the fire service came during an era where fire trucks consisted of Model-T Fords and when pumpers were still new to fire departments. From 1968 to 2002 he served as Fire Chief, where his penchant for adopting new technology and training transitioned the company into modernity. Throughout his many years of leadership, the Lampeter Fire Company became synonymous with reliability.

As a state master fire instructor, Mr. Henry traveled the Commonwealth to teach others, and he even assisted in writing the curriculum for a course at Penn State University.

Even when he left his role as fire chief, Mr. Henry continued to ride on fire engines until he was 80 years old.

Mr. Henry's son, Bob, characterizes his father as having his "heart and soul . . . in the fire service." As he hits a milestone 80 years with the Lampeter Fire Company, the community and I are beyond thankful for Lloyd Henry's dedication to keeping us safe.

CELEBRATING PHYLLIS WHEATLEY COMMUNITY CENTER'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ILHAN OMAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Ms. OMAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Phyllis Wheatley Community Center on its 100th anniversary. For a century, this incredible institution has been a beacon of hope, opportunity, and resilience for the people of North Minneapolis.

Since its founding in 1924, the Phyllis Wheatley Community Center has stood as a testament to the power of community-driven progress. It has uplifted generations through education, social services, and advocacy—ensuring that families, children, and individuals have access to the resources they need to thrive. This legacy of empowerment, equity, and inclusion is deeply woven into the fabric of our shared history and continues to serve as an inspiration for us all.

The center, originally created during the Jim Crow era as a settlement house, began as a lifeline for Black women studying at the University of Minnesota who were barred from living in university dorms. Over time, it evolved to serve the community in many other ways, offering social services, recreational activities, and a cultural gathering space for the growing Black population in North Minneapolis.

Throughout the decades, the center has weathered challenges with determination, adapted to evolving community needs, and remained steadfast in its commitment to justice

and opportunity for all. It is a pillar of strength and a cornerstone of progress for our community.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to celebrate the Phyllis Wheatley Community Center for its 100 years of service and to recognize the leadership, staff, volunteers, and supporters who have contributed to its legacy. The center's ability to provide sanctuary, build community, and uplift generations is a true testament to the resilience and spirit of the people it serves. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Phyllis Wheatley Community Center on its remarkable achievement, and 100th anniversary.

CELEBRATING 27 YEARS OF NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION—BUFFALO NIAGARA CHAPTER 388

HON. TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and celebrate the National Association of Women in Construction, Buffalo Niagara Chapter 388, as they reflect on their remarkable journey since being organized in September 2020. Founded by Jillian Penkin, who had been an active member of the NAWIC Greater Rochester chapter for over a decade before relocating to the Buffalo area, the chapter was quickly established with the help of twenty-five other women in the construction industry.

The National Association of Women in Construction began in 1953 as "Women in Construction of Fort Worth, TX," founded by sixteen women working in the construction sector. At a time when women were a minority in the industry, the founders sought to create a supportive community for women in a male-dominated field. The organization's success led to its national charter in 1955, officially becoming the National Association of Women in Construction.

Today, the National Association of Women in Construction has expanded to more than 115 chapters across 44 states, the District of Columbia, and Guam and continues to grow. Dedicated to professional development, education, networking, leadership training, and public service, the organization has been a strong advocate for women in the construction industry. In 2019, it awarded thousands of dollars in scholarships to deserving individuals pursuing education in construction-related fields.

Women in Construction Week aims to spotlight women as a crucial and visible force in the construction industry. It also provides a meaningful opportunity for local chapters to contribute to their communities. During Women in Construction Week, the National Association of Women in Construction's thousands of members across the country come together to raise awareness about the wide range of opportunities for women in construction and emphasize the expanding role women play in the field.

Today, as we celebrate the National Association of Women in Construction Chapter 388 for their ongoing efforts to advance women's roles in this vital field, let us continue to uphold the vision of its founders, ensuring that