

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING CEPHAS CARTER AS HE RETIREES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2025

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Cephas Carter, who will be retiring after 35 years of serving the House. Cephas has been with the Clerk office since October 1989.

He started his tenure as a Property Supply Specialist under the then Clerk Donald K. Anderson. In 1992, he joined the Office of the Official Reporters as a production specialist. And then in 2012, Cephas joined the Legislative Computer System's Audio team, where in 2018, he was promoted to its team leader. Over the past 13 years, Cephas has provided an exemplary service on the House Floor, providing audio coverage of the Floor proceedings. His professionalism, accountability, and kind personality set him apart. He could always be counted on to be there to provide a seamless service, whether it was late nights or weekends, always flexible to the needs of the House. Cephas was and is a consummate professional, excelled at his job, and understood the importance of his mission. He was always proud to be part of this great institution.

Cephas looks forward to his retirement and spending more time with his wife and family. I wish Cephas Carter many years of good health and congratulate him on a well-earned retirement. He has helped the People's House function For The People, which is why I ask all my colleagues to join me in thanking him.

HONORING ERIC AMICK

HON. SARAH ELFRETH

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2025

Ms. ELFRETH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Eric Amick as he prepares for retirement after more than 23 years of service to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Eric was born in Cumberland, Maryland. In 1976, he graduated from Bishop Walsh High School. After high school, Eric attended Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana, where in 1980, he earned a bachelor's degree in computer science.

After college, Eric worked as a software engineer for S3 Technologies, NeuralTech, and Banktech.

In August 2002, Eric joined the Legislative Computer Systems, a division of the Office of the Clerk, as a software engineer. During his tenure, Eric worked on numerous mission critical applications, including the Electronic Voting System (EVS), the xMetaL, Member Information System (MIS), and most recently the Legislative Information Management system

(LIMS). Eric's expertise in House documents and legislative data has been critical to many of the behind-the-scenes legislative activities that help this institution run smoothly.

Eric has dedicated 23 years of his professional career to the Office of the Clerk. He has worked under six Speakers of the House: the Honorables J. Dennis Hastert, NANCY PELOSI, John A. Boehner, Paul D. Ryan, Kevin McCarthy, and now, MIKE JOHNSON.

In addition, Eric has worked for five Clerks of the House: the Honorables Jeff Trandahl, Karen L. Haas, Lorraine C. Miller, Cheryl L. Johnson, and Kevin F. McCumber.

Post retirement, Eric is looking forward to his next chapter of adventures. He plans to spend more time with his lifelong hobby, which includes trivia, crossword puzzles, and board games.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, I want to thank Eric Amick for his wonderful service to this institution.

COMMEMORATING THE BICENTEN- NIAL CELEBRATION OF THE TOWN OF CARROLL, NEW YORK

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2025

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join the Town of Carroll in celebrating an extraordinary milestone—200 years of history, heritage, and community spirit. Established in 1825, the same year the Erie Canal opened New York to the world, Carroll stands as a testament to the vision and determination of the American spirit. They came here seeking opportunity, building a town that would reflect the strength, faith, and perseverance that defines Western New York to this day.

Carroll was named in honor of Charles Carroll of Carrollton, the last surviving signer of the Declaration of Independence—a man who stood for liberty, patriotism, and principle. That legacy lives on here in every sense. This town has given much to our state and Nation, including the birth of Reuben E. Fenton, one of New York's great statesmen. As Governor and later as U.S. Senator during the Civil War, Fenton championed freedom and unity when our country needed it most. His roots here speak volumes about the character and leadership fostered in this community. Robert H. Jackson, who later became a U.S. Supreme Court Justice and the chief U.S. prosecutor at the Nuremberg Trials, was born in Spring Creek, Pennsylvania, but grew up in Frewsburg, New York, where he graduated from Frewsburg High School in 1909.

But it wasn't politics that shaped Carroll—it was people. The town has long been enriched by a strong Scandinavian, especially Swedish, heritage, brought by families who arrived in the 19th century with little more than faith and work ethic. Their legacy lives on in the churches, traditions, and values that continue to de-

fine life here today. The blend of cultures and generations has made Carroll more than just a town—it's a home, built on unity and shared purpose.

As we celebrate this bicentennial, let's not only reflect on where we've been but commit to where we're going. I will continue to be a voice for towns like Carroll in Washington—fighting for rural investment, family farms, and the future of communities that still believe in the American Dream. I congratulate the Town of Carroll on 200 remarkable years and may the next 200 be just as proud. May God bless the Town of Carroll, and may God continue to bless the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING THE DACOR BACON HOUSE

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2025

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the DACOR Bacon House (the "House"), formerly known as the Ringgold-Carroll House. The House, a building in the District of Columbia, celebrates its bicentennial today.

The House is situated on land previously owned by David Burnes, whose other landholdings now house the National Mall, the White House and other notable D.C. landmarks.

The House was constructed in 1825 by Trench Ringgold using enslaved individuals. Shortly after being built, the House's boarders included Chief Justice of the Supreme Court John Marshall and occasionally other Supreme Court Justices, including Joseph Story, Gabriel Duvall, Smith Thompson and Henry Baldwin.

In 1835, the House was sold to former Maryland Governor Samuel Sprigg, who gifted it to his daughter and son-in-law, Sally Sprigg and William Thomas Carroll, the Clerk of the Supreme Court. When the Carrolls owned the House, it hosted numerous dignitaries, including President Abraham Lincoln.

From the end of the 19th century to the beginning of the 20th century, the House remained a home for dignitaries. Residents included Russian Imperial Minister Nikolai Shishkin and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Melville W. Fuller, who hosted Presidents Grover Cleveland and Theodore Roosevelt, as well as William Howard Taft during his tenure as Secretary of War.

Illinois Senator Medill McCormick and his wife, future Congresswoman Ruth Hanna McCormick, resided in the House during the 1920s, where they entertained lawmakers and their spouses.

In 1925, the House was purchased by Congressman Robert Low Bacon and his wife, Virginia Murray Bacon. Virginia Murray Bacon founded the Bacon House Foundation, which worked with the DACOR Education and Welfare Foundation to form the DACOR Bacon

• 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.

House Foundation, which maintains and preserves the House today.

Since 1986, the House has served as DACOR's headquarters, regularly hosting educational programming related to foreign policy, including professional development and networking. The House continues to welcome dignitaries, including the numerous ambassadors, military officers, political appointees and members of Congress who are members of DACOR.

I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the DACOR Bacon House for its contributions to American history.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN J. MCGUIRE, III

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2025

Mr. MCGUIRE. Mr. Speaker, I missed the vote on the House Floor. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 157.

RECOGNIZING MISSION MISSISSIPPI OF LEFLORE COUNTY FOR ITS COMMITMENT TO RACIAL RECONCILIATION AND COMMUNITY UNITY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend Mission Mississippi of Leflore County, a remarkable organization based in Greenwood, Mississippi, for its unwavering commitment to racial reconciliation, spiritual healing, and community building.

Founded as part of the broader Mission Mississippi movement, which began in Jackson in 1992, the Leflore County chapter has become a beacon of hope and unity in the Mississippi Delta. At a time when division often dominates our national discourse, this grassroots organization brings people together across racial and denominational lines through intentional fellowship, shared meals, and mutual respect.

Mission Mississippi of Leflore County is led by Mr. Terry Williams, a local painting contractor and pastor, and Mr. Luke Quinn, a minister and clinical therapist. Together, they facilitate regular gatherings—often breakfasts or luncheons—that rotate between churches with historically Black or White congregations. These events are not mere meetings; they are powerful acts of reconciliation, fostering honest dialogue, trust, and deeper understanding among individuals of diverse backgrounds.

Through these efforts, Mission Mississippi of Leflore County engages in what Mr. Williams aptly describes as “heart work”—emphasizing their belief that the path to racial harmony begins with the courage to know one another, to listen, and to love unconditionally. Their work underscores that true unity is not achieved solely through laws or policies, but through relationships and shared purpose.

In January of this year, the chapter hosted a luncheon at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, followed by a community meal in April

that featured remarks from Dr. Montrell Greene, pastor of Sycamore Street Church of Christ. These are but a few examples of their ongoing efforts to bring diverse voices to the table and create a space where differences are acknowledged and celebrated.

Mr. Quinn, reflecting on his journey from Texas to Georgia to Wisconsin before settling in the Delta, spoke candidly of Mississippi's often misunderstood legacy. He rightly observed that Mississippi is too frequently portrayed as a scapegoat for America's racial challenges, when in truth, it is home to many individuals working tirelessly to heal those very wounds—Mission Mississippi of Leflore County among the foremost.

Grounded in faith and expansive in impact, their mission exemplifies what it means to live out the gospel in a divided world—breaking bread, building bridges, and showing that we have more in common than in conflict.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mission Mississippi of Leflore County for their vital work in uplifting their community, challenging stereotypes, and leading with grace and love. Their efforts remind us that reconciliation is possible—one conversation, one relationship, and one act of compassion at a time.

RECOGNIZING SCOTT GATTO AS JUNE 2025 VETERAN OF THE MONTH

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2025

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with profound respect and gratitude to recognize the extraordinary service and unwavering dedication of Staff Sergeant Scott Gatto, a proud veteran of the United States Marine Corps and our distinguished Veteran of the Month for June 2025 from Michigan's 9th Congressional District. His exceptional military career and steadfast commitment to innovation, leadership, and mentorship embody the very best of American service.

Scott Gatto answered the call to serve his country after he completed high school when he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. He reported to the 3rd Marine Division on September 11, 2001, just two hours before the tragic attack on the World Trade Center occurred. Over a remarkable near-decade career, Scott worked to forge strong relationships with foreign leaders, serving in diverse and demanding environments across the globe. Scott and his unit conducted hundreds of combat missions, demonstrating bravery and commitment.

During the intense second Battle of Fallujah, Scott was one of only nine Marines from his 41-member platoon to survive. Five of these survivors were critically wounded. Scott and his unit demonstrated dedication to our country and made tremendous sacrifices.

After his service with the United States Marine Corps, Scott played a vital role in working with the Department of Defense. Here, he led teams responsible for providing essential gear to troops on the battlefield. In 2013, Scott then transitioned into the pharmaceutical industry, applying his college education and background to become a top sales representative.

Scott focused on advocating for patients and helping drive success within his teams. Scott continues to work and thrive in the industry by helping counteract the social stigmas associated with the field. He has received several honors and awards for his efforts.

In 2017, Scott founded a non-profit organization called “Reunite the Fight”. The organization is dedicated to supporting veterans who struggle with PTSD, survivors' guilt and other mental health challenges. Having been diagnosed with PTSD himself, Scott felt the call to help other veterans access essential support such as medical treatments, PTSD therapy workshops, employment opportunities, and veterans' benefits. His non-profit has successfully helped over 1,500 veterans and continues to make significant contributions to his community today.

Above all, Scott is a devoted father to three children—Alaina, Scottie, and Kai. Together, they share a passion for adventure and the outdoors, while also valuing the importance of learning about new and diverse cultures.

Mr. Speaker, let us express our sincerest appreciation to Scott Gatto for his outstanding military service and for his excellent acts of leadership that have protected our country and also helped his local community. His story is a testament to the American spirit of service, sacrifice, and leadership, and it is an honor to recognize him as our Veteran of the Month.

NEWSLETTER FROM CONGRESSMAN CHUCK EDWARDS

HON. CHUCK EDWARDS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2025

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following newsletter to give an update to my constituents on Helene recovery, Chatuge Dam repair, and protecting consumer choice.

Dear Friend,

News outlets thrive on controversy, and nothing grabs attention like conflict.

Since coming to Congress, my colleagues on both sides of the aisle have come together to pass more than 430 bills and amendments, but that doesn't make for entertaining news.

To stir up conflict, news outlets often create a black hole of information by limiting views or regularly misrepresenting or ignoring them.

If the media is a driving force behind division, it must also be part of the solution. You can read my full discussion on media bias here.

CLEARING DEBRIS FROM WATERWAYS POST-HELENE

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) continues to work diligently to clear debris from many of our waterways after Hurricane Helene.

I appreciated the opportunity to receive an update on their progress and share a few of the concerns that I've been hearing from our community, including the need for debris removal efforts to be mindful of endangered and threatened species and to avoid removing healthy vegetation from the streambanks.

USACE's methodical approach to debris removal has facilitated the clearing of over 3.4 million cubic yards of debris, giving the natural environments that have been reshaped by Helene the opportunity to heal.