

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING PROSECUTOR
VICTOR VIGLIUCCI ON HIS RE-
TIREMENT AS PORTAGE COUNTY
PROSECUTOR

HON. EMILIA STRONG SYKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 23, 2025

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my congratulations to Victor Vigliucci for his service as the Portage County Prosecutor, and my sincere gratitude for all that he has done for the people of Ohio's 13th Congressional District, the "Birthplace of Champions." I have appreciated his partnership as we worked together to expand opportunity and deliver results for our shared constituents.

His drive to lead is commendable, and I have no doubt that he has bettered countless lives as a result of his steadfast service. Throughout his time in office, he proved to be a true public servant and leader. He led by example through his perseverance, compassion, and dedication to his role in the community.

As he goes on to continue serving our community in new ways, I wish him all the best in his future endeavors. On behalf of Ohio's 13th Congressional District, I thank him for his commitment to the people of Portage County and Northeast Ohio.

RECOGNIZING JANUARY 29, 2025, AS
T T, OR VIETNAMESE NEW YEAR

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 23, 2025

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize this upcoming Wednesday, January 29, 2025, as Têt, or Vietnamese New Year.

This annual holiday is one of Orange County's most important celebrations. Families cook traditional dishes, exchange red envelopes, and come together at festivals across our district and all over the country.

Orange County's Vietnamese community is an essential part of our Orange County family—in fact, we are proud to be home to the largest Vietnamese community outside of Vietnam. Immigrants and Vietnamese-Americans are our firefighters, teachers, soldiers, entrepreneurs, and local leaders.

I'm proud to have represented parts of Little Saigon for decades throughout my career in public service, and I will always recognize the contributions and positive impact they've had in Orange County and across the United States.

In fact, I was honored to host the U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam, Mr. Marc Knapper, a year ago for his first visit to Orange County. As the proud co-chair of the Vietnam caucus, we engaged with local community leaders and discussed ways to strengthen the ties between our two countries. We stopped by the Bao

Quang Temple in Santa Ana, met with business leaders throughout Little Saigon, and focused on bringing attention to our local Vietnamese community's concerns.

As we prepare to kick off the Year of the Snake, I want to wish everyone at home and around the world a happy Têt celebration.

Happy New Year (Chuc Mung Nam Moi).

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 23, 2025

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I had to return to California unexpectedly this week for medical treatment and missed votes. Had I been present, I would have voted NO on Roll Call No. 23 on passage of S. 5; YES on Roll Call No. 25 on passage of H.R. 471; and NO on Roll Call No. 27 on passage of H.R. 21.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GORDON
FRASSINELLI, SR.

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 23, 2025

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and accomplishments of a long-standing public servant, Gordon John Frassinelli, Sr. of Stafford Springs, Connecticut. Aged 88, Gordon passed away sadly but peacefully on October 26, 2024, in the arms of his loving wife Barbara and surrounded by his family. Gordon led a remarkable and full life full of love and dedication to his family and community that will be sincerely missed.

Born October 8, 1936, to Lieutenant Governor Attilio "Pop" Frassinelli and Mildred (McLagan) Frassinelli in Stafford, Gordon was destined to live and thrive in Stafford. Gordon was raised in a close family and his father was a strong example of what it means to serve one's community. Gordon attended the Borough School prior to his tenure at Stafford High School where his strong work ethic and drive to help others became evident. In school, he served as a class officer as well as a member of the band, chorus, and drama clubs, student council, National Honor Society, history club, basketball team manager, and president of the ski team. This was only the start of a lifetime of community-based involvement.

Following graduation from Stafford High School in 1954, Gordon attended the University of Connecticut where he continued over-achieving. He served as President of the Newmann Catholic Society, played the French horn, served as President of the UConn marching band, and was a member of the Reserved Officers Training Corps (ROTC), recog-

nized as a Distinguished Military Graduate when he completed the program. It was during this time that Gordon also fell in love with his life partner, Barbara Boone.

Gordon graduated from UConn in 1958 and was commissioned as a lieutenant, serving his country in the U.S. Army from 1959 to 1961. In the Army, Gordon furthered his education at the Adjutant Generals School at Fort Benjamin Harrison in Indianapolis, Indiana and served on the staff of the school until he was discharged as a 1st Lieutenant in February 1961. His service in the Army could not keep him from the love of his life, and he married Barbara on January 2, 1960.

Gordon spent the bulk of his career working for the State of Connecticut from 1961 to 1992. Rewarded for his diligent work, he rose from the position of Trainee to the highest possible merit system position of State Executive Budget Officer in the Governor's Office of Policy and Management. As part of his work for the state, Gordon served as the architect of the state budget, always looking for the best ways to serve the people of Connecticut. I got to know Gordon during my time as a State Representative from neighboring Vernon and saw firsthand the high regard and respect Gordon commanded in both our state's Executive Branch of government and Legislative Branch. He was a true professional who made our state function well.

While Gordon selflessly served the state, his top priority always remained his family, never missing a game or show for any of his six children, and later, his grandchildren. Many of his children also became active in local politics, keeping the family tradition alive. Raising a group of athletes, Gordon was a strong advocate for athletic programs on governing boards and commissions for youth athletics including as President of the Stafford High School Booster Club where he helped reinstate football at Stafford High School in 1980 after a 30-year absence. He also spent time as the President of the Stafford Olympics Youth Football Program. While Gordon enjoyed the Yankees and Celtics, UConn sports had a special place in his heart as a longtime season ticket holder for the women's basketball team.

No matter what beheld him in his personal life, Gordon remained devoted to serving his community and enjoying time with his family. Gordon was a lifelong member of St. Edward Church, where he was baptized and married, volunteering to maintain the grounds, lecture, and share his voice as a member of the choir. Gordon also emceed at stag parties, fundraisers, and political dinners and spent time as a board member of the Italian benefit society, "the Club." Always involved in supporting his local community, Gordon was also a member of the Stafford Scholarship Foundation Scholarship Selection Committee.

In his retirement, Gordon settled into his role as a family man, helping out with everything from picking up kids and babysitting to building a house with his son-in-law. Even after suffering from ischemic optic neuropathy in 2001 and becoming legally blind, Gordon

● 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.

did not let anything stop him from enjoying and going about his daily life. Most of all, Gordon was always devoted to his wife Barbara, keeping humor and love alive in their relationship.

Gordon had an incredible sense of humor and was simply an amazing reflection of what eastern Connecticut has to offer. His impact will not soon be forgotten, and his legacy will live on in the lives he touched and the long-lasting effects his work will continue to have on the Stafford and greater Connecticut community. Gordon is survived by his wife of 64 years, Barbara, his six children, 17 grandchildren, one great-grandchild, sister, and many nieces and nephews. To this end, I ask that my colleagues in this chamber join me in honoring the example left by my friend and colleague Gordon Frassinelli.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 23, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, due to travel restrictions related to my pregnancy, I was unable to travel to D.C. to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 20; NAY on Roll Call No. 21; YEA on Roll Call No. 22; and NAY on Roll Call No. 23.

HONORING THE LATE CAROLYN JEAN SNYDER

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 23, 2025

Mr. LIEU. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of my friend, Carolyn Jean Snyder. She passed away peacefully on Friday, December 6, 2024, surrounded by her loving family. Carolyn was a community leader and realtor in the community of Torrance.

Carolyn Snyder was born in South Charleston, West Virginia on September 9, 1937, to her parents Boyd and Josephine O'Dell. In 1956, Carolyn moved along with her parents to Torrance, California.

In Torrance, Carolyn was a dedicated community leader and a successful realtor with over 25 years of experience. In her free time, Carolyn served the community of Torrance in numerous ways. As a Commissioner on Aging, she served the residents of the city and advocated for the needs of aging people. Carolyn was active in the Parent Teachers Association as well as the Pacific Coast Little League and the American Youth Soccer Organization. She supported the Torrance Education Foundation and the local Relay for Life. For over 40 years, Carolyn volunteered for the Torrance Memorial Hospital, assisting this important institution with its annual Holiday Festival, an important event for our community.

Beyond Carolyn's numerous contributions to the South Bay, she also loved being with her family and friends. She traveled a great deal and loved camping and sewing. It was an honor for my wife Betty and I to have known Carolyn.

Carolyn is survived by her children, James Franklin Campbell, Troy Campbell, Todd Sny-

der, and Tori Parker, eight grandchildren, five great grandchildren and siblings, nephews, nieces and cousins. Carolyn left an indelible mark on the community of Torrance and will be deeply missed.

HONORING COLONEL HAROLD PRESSEL

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 23, 2025

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I'm honored to recognize Colonel (COL) Harold Pressel, U.S. Army Air Corps, on the auspicious occasion of his 101st Birthday on February 3, 2025.

COL Pressel honorably served alongside the "Greatest Generation" in WWII as a machine gunner on the B-24 Liberator, during which he earned—among myriad awards and decorations—the Purple Heart for his actions and wounds in combat. His aircraft was hit by flak after turning around for a second bomb run, which pierced the fuel tank. After bailing from the plummeting aircraft, COL Pressel told himself not to panic even when overcoming his parachute malfunction that caused him to barrel 120 MPH towards the ground.

After landing safely, he was surrounded by the enemy. Five German soldiers took him to a nearby farmhouse, where a German officer was waiting. While being interrogated with the rest of his crew, COL Pressel and his crewmates remained steadfast by answering every enemy question with only "name, rank, and serial number"—and was thrown in a boxcar headed to a German Prisoner of War camp. After suffering horrors from starvation to bug infestations, COL Pressel and his crew were liberated by General George Patton's Army on April 29, 1945.

COL Pressel returned to the United States a hero. After a brief time at the air base in Middletown, he was honorably discharged from military service. He began his civilian career at the Motter Electrical Shop in York, Pennsylvania—where he helped build numerous nuclear power plants in Pennsylvania.

COL Pressel shared two sons—Jim and Gary—with his beloved wife, Grace, before her passing, as well as four grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild.

Mr. Speaker, I'm honored, humbled, and privileged to recognize Colonel Harold Pressel on his 101st Birthday. I wish him the blessings of great health, happiness, and prosperity in his future adventures. "Thank you" will never be enough for his service and sacrifices in the name of our great Nation. His life and legacy set the standard by which we all should be judged.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF MAJOR GENERAL CHRISTOPHER P. CALLAHAN

HON. GABE AMO

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 23, 2025

Mr. AMO. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to recognize the 44th Adjutant General

of Rhode Island, Major General Christopher P. Callahan. After a storied career of more than four decades of service to our country, I would like to take a moment to express my profound gratitude and admiration for Major General Callahan's steadfast contributions to our state in advance of his retirement on January 31, 2025.

Since 2015, Major General Callahan has faithfully carried out the duties as Adjutant General and Commanding General of the Rhode Island National Guard. As the senior-most officer and strategic leader of our state's military forces, he is responsible for the mission readiness of all Army and Air National Guard units in the Ocean State. Over the past decade, more than 3,000 soldiers and airmen have skillfully and successfully deployed on missions around the globe thanks to Major General Callahan's leadership.

But beyond the logistical demands of ensuring that the National Guard is well-equipped, well-trained, and well-led, Major General Callahan capably navigated our community through the once-in-a-generation challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. Thanks to Major General Callahan, the Rhode Island National Guard played an instrumental role in our state's robust vaccination efforts. As I look back on how we came together to keep Rhode Islanders safe, his example shines as a testament to courageous leadership during uncertain times.

Mr. Speaker, I am thankful for General Callahan's willingness to answer the call and serve our Nation with distinction. He has nobly served his fellow Americans and fellow Rhode Islanders for more than 40 years and our state will deeply miss his steady presence and wealth of experience. I thank him for his service and dedication.

HONORING EVAN MARQUARDT

HON. ZACHARY NUNN

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 23, 2025

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the incredible service of Evan Marquardt to the people of the Iowa Third District.

Always the first to arrive to the office, Evan's service to the people of Iowa is reflected in his commitment to running the best constituent response program on Capitol Hill. As a staff assistant, legislative correspondent, or legislative aide, nothing is more important to our team than ensuring every constituent is heard by their Member of Congress. A strong leader in our office, Evan has also proudly served as Fantasy Football Commissioner, Office Emergency Coordinator, and March Madness Tournament champion. His name shall live in glory in the Nunn office as the winner of the 2023 Fantasy Football season and in infamy as the loser of the 2024 Fantasy Football season.

A champion on the dodgeball court, and a true champion for heartland values, Evan embodies the hard work and passion for putting others first that have made him a fighter for Iowa.