

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2017

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call Nos. 530 (motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended H.R. 3823), and 531 (motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended H.R. 2061), I did not cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on both these votes.

RECOGNIZING THE PASSING OF COLONEL JAMES BROWN OF FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2017

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with the sad news that Colonel Jim Brown, a resident of Fredericksburg, Virginia passed away on August 30, 2017. Col. Brown graduated from Annandale High School in 1956 and went on to graduate from Virginia Tech with a degree in Electrical Engineering in 1960. Col. Brown served 30 years in the Army Reserves, retiring in 1991.

Col. Brown dedicated his career to public service, spending much of his career working with electric power systems ensuring power supply adequacy and reliability, in addition to restoring systems after storms and earthquakes. Jim served as the Department of Virginia President of the Reserve Officers Association, Region IV Commander as well as Department of Virginia Commander of the Military Order of the World Wars. I have had the pleasure of working with Jim on the Fredericksburg Veterans Council for the past 8 years. Jim is survived by his wife, June; children, James and Julie; and three grandchildren, Joshua, Victoria, and Michael.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me and countless others as we recognize the many contributions of Colonel Jim Brown.

PJM 90TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. RYAN A. COSTELLO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2017

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard work and dedication of all employees, past and present, at PJM Interconnection, which is celebrating its 90th anniversary.

The work of PJM employees is critical to ensuring homes and businesses—more than 65 million people in total in all or portions of 13 states and the District of Columbia—have a

reliable and efficient source of power. In fact, PJM oversees the largest power grid in North America, employing more than 600 people at their headquarters in my district near Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

PJM was founded in 1927 when three utilities determined they could provide power more efficiently by interconnecting to share their generating resources and created the world's first continuous power pool. Over the past 90 years, PJM has grown to include more than one thousand members representing transmission owners, generation owners, consumers, and residential and commercial customers. PJM earned the distinction of being the country's first fully-functioning independent system operator in 1997 and the country's first fully-functioning regional transmission organization in 2002.

Mr. Speaker, PJM Interconnection has demonstrated extraordinary leadership and embraced innovation in the constantly-evolving utility industry and, therefore, I would ask my colleagues to join me in extending best wishes for continued success to all employees as they commemorate this memorable milestone.

HANK ALDERFER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Hank Alderfer for receiving the 2017 Hall of Fame Award from the West Chamber.

The Hall of Fame Award recognizes outstanding individuals who have significant, long-lasting impacts through their leadership and contributions to Jefferson County's economy, community and legacy.

Hank Alderfer has shown a lifelong dedication to the Jefferson County community and is known for his love of history in the mountain communities. He was raised in Evergreen, Colorado on the Alderfer Ranch. Eventually the Alderfer family sold or donated much of their property to Jefferson County Open Space which would become the 242-acre Alderfer/Three Sisters Open Space Park. When the Alderfer ranch house and barn were designated historical landmarks, Hank contributed critical information to Jefferson County Planning and Zoning in the creation of the Evergreen Area Community Plan. During his tenure on the Board of the Evergreen Park and Recreation District, Hank was instrumental in developing the Evergreen hiking and biking trails known as the Evergreen Trails Plan. Hank also shares his vast knowledge of the history of the area in his Canyon Courier newspaper column "Yesteryear."

I extend my deepest congratulations to Hank Alderfer for this well-deserved recognition by the West Chamber of Jefferson County.

HONORING THE LIFE OF REV. IMRE A. BERTALAN

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2017

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Rev. Imre A. Bertalan, devoted husband, father and grandfather, who served as a compassionate pastor of Calvin United Church of Christ and was known for his dedication to his church, his dedication to his Hungarian heritage, and advocating for his beloved East Toledo neighborhood, Birmingham. Imre passed away after a valiant struggle against cancer on August 29, 2017 in Latrobe Hospital in Latrobe, PA.

Imre was born in New Brunswick, New Jersey, on October 4, 1949 to Margaret and the Rev. Imre G. Bertalan. He graduated from New Brunswick High School, held a bachelor's degree from Rutgers University and a master of divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary.

Initially not intending to be a minister after graduating from seminary, Imre started as a community organizer and helped form the East Toledo Community Organization. He became a member of East Toledo's Calvin United Church of Christ, which was founded as the Hungarian Evangelical Reformed Church. He was elected pastor in 1979.

During his tenure as pastor, Imre reached out to the congregations of all of the religions in the neighborhood so that Calvin was not just known as a Hungarian church, but as a neighborhood church open to the entire neighborhood.

True to his Hungarian-American roots, Imre was integrally involved in efforts on behalf of America's ethnic communities. A strong representative particularly of the Hungarian-Americans with whom he shared a common heritage, Imre served on the boards of national Hungarian-American organizations for many years. He extended his national efforts to his family, instilling a love of their Hungarian tradition in all. He was encouraging, comforting, filled with abiding kindness and a gentle soul, always advising people that "everything will be all right."

After decades in ministry as pastor, Imre became the executive director of Bethlen Communities in Ligonier, PA, a retirement and nursing community founded by the Hungarian Reformed Federation of America. Even after his move to Pennsylvania, Imre and his wife maintained a home in the Birmingham neighborhood of Toledo and were active in the planning for the annual Birmingham Ethnic Festival.

Reverend Imre Bertalan will long be remembered for his dedication to his family, church, the Toledo community at large, and Bethlen Communities. A beautiful memorial service was held for Imre at Calvin United Church of Christ in East Toledo on September 23, 2017. We gathered together and gave thanks for the

• 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.

ministry of Reverend Imre Bertalan. Just as importantly, we remembered a loving family man and friend.

We offer Imre's beautiful and artistic wife of almost 37 years, Magdalene "Baba" J. Ujvagi, Imre's children, Sara Davis, Magda Bertalan, Juli Bertalan, Margit Bertalan, and Imre Bertalan, his five grandchildren, his sisters Lilian Bertalan and M. Sarah Bertalan, his family and friends our prayers and hope. May they find comfort in the wonderful gift of Imre's life, their memories of their husband, father, brother, uncle, grandfather, friend, his imprimatur on his church and neighborhood. All that he did contributed to humanity's greater good and the glory of God.

Hungarian in his soul, a patriotic American, faithful Vicar of Christ, Imre Bertalan's life was writ large. His life will long echo in his family and friends, his congregations and those he served so well. I know he was welcomed home with "well done, my good and faithful servant."

HONORING MS. PATRICIA
McDERMOTT

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2017

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the continuous dedication and hard work of Ms. Patricia McDermott. Ms. McDermott is an invaluable member of our community and longtime dedicated employee of the Philadelphia Municipal Court.

Ms. McDermott, a trailblazer in the Philadelphia Municipal Courts, was the first woman to be appointed to Deputy Court Administrator of the Civil Division in 1996. However, her path to arrive at this point was not easy. As a single mother, Ms. McDermott struggled early in her career to find her footing within the court. Nevertheless, she worked her way up the system diligently, starting in the Private Criminal Complaint Unit, then moving to the First Filing Unit in the clerical division, then to Assistant Supervisor, then to Supervisor until she was appointed to her current position.

Ms. McDermott has shown exemplary devotion and dedication throughout her 43-year-long career. She has done much good for the City throughout her tenure, including her several renovation projects such as the combination of units work space at 34 S. 11th Street 2002 and the successful relocation of Municipal Court's Civil Division to The Widener Building in June 2012. Ms. McDermott was also responsible for the implementation of a nationally recognized electronic case management system known as C.L.A.I.M.S.

Ms. McDermott's work is certainly admirable and notable. A devoted wife and mother of four children, she will always consider the Philadelphia Municipal Court to be her second family. Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Ms. Patricia McDermott for the wonderful work she has done and continues to do for the Philadelphia Municipal Courts.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR. JOE
CURRY

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2017

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the passing of Mr. Joe Curry. Mr. Curry passed peacefully at his home in Lancaster County recently at the age of 84. He is survived by his two sons and three daughters.

Mr. Curry was a well-respected figure in the community. Born in the Depression, Mr. Curry experienced many things in life. He served as a Marine during the Korean War, started and ran a thriving crab steaming business, and later Curry Pottery, to which many in the community including myself, would stop by to say hello and seek his counsel on local issues.

Mr. Curry was known as a great community leader, whether it was serving on the Northern Neck Planning District Commission, the Bay Aging Board or the Lancaster County Economic Development Authority. However, Mr. Curry's figure as a community leader went well beyond the various Boards and Commissions he served on. His true passion was helping the needy, and one of his favorite charities was the Boys and Girls Club. Mr. Curry was recognized for his charitable work in the Commonwealth, receiving numerous awards from the American Red Cross, American Heart Association, Kiwanis Club, and Rotary International. With that said, Joe Curry will be remembered most for his gracious heart and tireless work towards racial reconciliation.

I am grateful to have known Mr. Curry and thankful for his words of wisdom and support over the years. Mr. Curry will be dearly missed by his family and friends. Virginia and the Nation sends its greatest gratitude for his service in the U.S. Marine Corps and in his community.

HONORING MR. EDUARDO DIOKNO

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I, along with my colleague Representative MARK DESAULNIER, rise today to honor Eduardo Diokno upon his retirement after 12 years of service with Contra Costa County. Mr. Diokno currently serves as Deputy Chief of Staff to Supervisor Federal Glover and has been a thoughtful policymaker and committed voice for Filipino Americans in the County.

Mr. Diokno is a lifelong East County resident with a passion for serving our community. He served our country in the U.S. Army as a 2nd Lieutenant and later joined the Army Reserves. Mr. Diokno then worked as a journalist for 28 years with the Philippine News, Oakland Tribune, and Contra Costa Times where he reported on politics and policy-making.

Upon joining the County, Mr. Diokno served as a Senior Field Representative and then a Policy Analyst before stepping into his current position with Supervisor Glover. In his various roles, Mr. Diokno facilitated the County's first recognition of the contributions of Filipino Americans, developed small business initia-

tives, and worked with committees and advisory bodies developing health policy at the county level. He also served as the principal liaison to Bay Point, the County's largest unincorporated community.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Diokno has served our country and our county and his legacy sets a high standard to which other public servants should aspire. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today and extend our best wishes for an enjoyable retirement.

JOHN ELLIS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud John Ellis for receiving the 2017 Jefferson County Hall of Fame Award from the West Chamber.

The Hall of Fame Award recognizes outstanding individuals who have significant, long-lasting impacts through their leadership and contributions to Jefferson County's economy, community and legacy.

John Ellis has shown a lifelong dedication to the Jefferson County community. His extensive involvement includes serving on many nonprofit boards such as the Evergreen Christian Outreach, Blue Spruce Kiwanis, Evergreen Audubon, and Jeffco Outdoor Lab Foundation just to name a few. For the past eleven years John has served as an elected official with the Evergreen Metropolitan District and for almost four years has served on the Evergreen Parks and Recreation District board. In addition to these endeavors, John is an avid fisherman and has been teaching fly fishing for the past 27 years and is involved with Evergreen Trout Unlimited preserving cold-eater fisheries.

John Ellis' history of volunteerism and support of the community and its businesses spans decades. He currently holds the position of Community Relations Manager for Evergreen National Bank.

I extend my deepest congratulations to John Ellis for this well-deserved recognition by the West Chamber of Jefferson County.

HONORING PRIVATE FIRST CLASS
FREELON F. KELLY

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2017

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, today we honor Wayne County resident, Private First Class Freelon F. Kelly, decorated combat veteran, farmer, friend, and fallen hero.

Born on the 2nd of May, 1912, PFC Kelly trained as an infantryman and shipped to the European Theater of Operations in 1940 where his 26th Infantry Regiment of the 1st Infantry Division led America's first-ever combat amphibious assault in North Africa. His division, nicknamed the "Big Red One" for the red Arabic numeral 1 on their shoulder sleeve insignia, fought the enemy at Tunisia's Kasserine Pass, the Amphibious Battle of Gela, Sicily, the Normandy invasion, the battle of