

HONORING MARISSA LYNCH

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a former member of my staff, Marissa Lynch, for her work in my office and her service to our state.

Marissa served as my Deputy Chief of Staff in Indiana during my first and second terms in Congress. In that role, she managed our district offices, improved our constituent outreach programs, and oversaw our Indiana-based staff. Since leaving our office, Marissa started her own consulting company and now has clients around the state.

On a personal note, I admire Marissa's commitment to her faith and family. Marissa works very hard and delivers great results. But, you always have the sense that Marissa's priorities are in the right order. Marissa is a wise advisor and loyal friend.

I want to thank Marissa for her friendship and her hard work in our office. I wish Marissa continued success in all that God has planned for her family.

HUMAN RIGHTS WITHOUT BORDERS EXHIBIT & "HUMAN RIGHTS AND FREEDOM DEFENDER" AWARD CEREMONY

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to include in the RECORD my speech at yesterday's event, "Human Rights without Borders," organized by the Wei Jingsheng Foundation and the European Union Parliamentary Liaison Office. It was my privilege to receive the "Human Rights and Freedom Defender" award.

We must continue to shine a light on human rights abuses in China. I look forward to working with my colleagues on a bipartisan basis to continue to carry the torch for liberty in China and globally.

Thank you all so much for the invitation to this very poignant exhibit, "Human Rights without Borders."

Thank you to Wei Jingsheng as well as Antoine Ripoll of the European Parliament Liaison Office for so graciously hosting this very special event.

Wei, what a pleasure to see you again. I had the honor of hosting him in my district 16 years ago at the Toledo Labor Day Parade, as well as an event at the University of Toledo.

And thank you all for continuing to carry forward the flame of human rights in China, and across the world.

What an honor to receive this reward. I am truly humbled.

I would like to dedicate it to all the freedom fighters in China and across the world that are being detained, tortured, or persecuted due to their pursuit of liberty.

As you all know, human rights and democratic principles are not just for wishful thinking.

These principles are central to our nation's security because we know a more democratic world is a more secure world. We know that countries with strong human rights records

are more prosperous, stable, and reliable partners to build world peace.

Tragically, the Chinese regime has a deeply troubling human rights record.

As we speak, up to one million Uyghur Muslims are languishing in concentration camps in North West China.

At least 321 Tibetans have been detained since 2012, yet heroically continue their struggle for self-determination.

Meanwhile, millions of Chinese workers toil away at penny-wages in slave conditions to benefit the Chinese regime and transnational corporations.

There is no freedom of association to form trade unions, leaving the level of occupational disease and injuries alarmingly high. And also prevents oversight of child labor and severe abuse of migrant and ethnic minority workers.

During peak production season, workers are forced to cover 80-175 overtime hours per month with little to no protections, exposed to hazardous chemicals and deadly working conditions.

More than 480 million people in China—one third of its population—live on less than \$2 a day.

The lack of an independent judiciary, independent press, rule of law, and due process raise serious concerns of core principals of fundamental human rights.

With such an ancient and rich culture, the Chinese people deserve better than this brutish and crude oppression.

As Congress debated allowing China into the World Trade Organization, many argued that welcoming China into the world fold would lead to democratization. They said that a middle class would demand their rights.

Instead, we've seen more oppression and a more aggressive Chinese foreign policy that can use its new-found riches to challenge American influence abroad.

China has yet to open its markets to American goods. Our trade deficits have soared, clocking in at over \$375 billion in 2017 alone and despite promises from the Trump Administration to correct this gaping imbalance.

As a result, American workers in Ohio and across the Midwest have lost thousands of jobs to corporate greed and offshoring.

Free trade with China has surely been a one-sided deal.

Just as China shows a blatant disdain for human rights and rule of law in their own country, she tramples upon international law and seeks to overturn the global rules-based order.

As a strategic competitor, she seeks to spread its propaganda and tear down the virtues of democracy. She would seek to replace the blessings of liberty and replace it with its oppressive and dark ideology.

China provides diplomatic cover and assistance to the pariah-state North Korea that threatens global security with nuclear weapons and intercontinental missiles.

China fails to control illicit flows of fentanyl into the United States killing so many unsuspecting victims in my District, Northern Ohio, and across America.

While the United States takes a step back in global leadership and diplomacy, China is too eager to fill the void. We see China investing millions in developing nations in South American and Africa, spreading its undemocratic and tyrannical influence.

We watch as Chinese foreign aid and influence pays dividends in nations as they shift to recognize mainland China over a free and democratic Taiwan.

China seeks to illegally take control of international waters in the South China sea-way and undertakes aggressive naval maneuvers to challenge stability in the region provided by our naval fleet.

China's global strategy and dominance is that of a sleeping dragon. But with its aggressive state-driven Belt and Road Initiative, which will invest \$1 trillion on development projects globally, America can no longer tip-toe around the dragon.

As a Member of the Congressional-Executive Commission on China, I join my colleagues in the commitment to work to hold China accountable on its deeply disturbing human rights record.

We need to take China's failure to live up to its commitment much more seriously. We need a trade policy that creates jobs in the U.S. And we must continue to check China's revisionist and aggressive foreign policy.

Thank you all again for this great honor, and I look forward to working with you and my colleagues on a bipartisan basis to continue carrying the torch for human rights in China and globally.

RECOGNIZING DONALD BOST FOR THE 2018 MONTANA CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Donald Bost of Lewistown, a recipient of the 2018 Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and leadership in his community.

Mr. Bost was a member of the U.S. Navy Seabees Mobile Construction Battalion 58 in 1968 and 1969. For his service in Vietnam, he earned the National Defense Ribbon and the Vietnam Service Medal.

In Lewistown, Mr. Bost has been a steadfast contributor to numerous community and veteran projects. He is the Commander of American Legion Fergus Post 16 and has donated countless hours working on the Veterans Memorial Park and various events.

As an active member of the local Chamber of Commerce for 34 years, Mr. Bost helped boost the area's economy by working to establish the Nexus Treatment Center and Western Transportation Institute facilities in Lewistown. He readily participates in more than a dozen local business, civic, and veteran organizations, and his involvement with local historic attractions helps keep the area's tourism industry vibrant.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Donald Bost for his dedication and service.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE NEW RALEIGH, N.C. HEADQUARTERS OF ADVANCE AUTO PARTS, INC.

HON. GEORGE HOLDING

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Advance Auto Parts, Inc. on the recent relocation of its headquarters to Raleigh, N.C.

I am proud that for the second straight year in a row North Carolina has topped Forbes' "Best States for Business" list. Our well-educated workforce and low taxes continue to attract valuable businesses to the region from all

over the world. North Carolina has cultivated one of the strongest business climates in the country and we are proud to open our doors to a wide variety of industries from retail to biotechnology.

I applaud Advance Auto Parts for its decision to expand operations in our thriving Raleigh community and am excited for the future growth opportunities companies like these bring to North Carolina every day.

HONORING KATY CANNON

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a former member of my staff, Katy Cannon, for her work in my office and her service to our state.

Katy worked as part of our team in Washington, D.C., for over five years. Katy has an incredible work ethic and was a tremendous asset to our operation. She brought a wealth of experience and knowledge to our team and was someone I could rely on for advice.

On a personal note, Katy is a kind soul, with a positive spirit and consistent big smile. Katy works extremely hard, but never forgets to treat people the right way. I am proud to call her my friend.

I would also like to thank Katy for her kindness to my family and her hard work for our operation. I wish her and Matt continued success in all that remains ahead for their family.

IN RECOGNITION OF PRADEEP GUPTA

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Pradeep Gupta as he departs the South San Francisco city council. Councilman Gupta served four years during a time of enormous change in South San Francisco, and previously served for three years as a planning commissioner.

South San Francisco is a city of 67,000 with a long and colorful history. Immigrants settled in the early 1900's and were the backbone of a thriving industrial hub. The city was once home to steel mills, meat packing plants, and paint manufacturers, among many industrial enterprises. Today, South San Francisco is universally recognized as the biotechnology capital of the world, and the founding location of the biotechnology industry with Genentech's establishment in 1976 in the city's Oyster Point area.

Pradeep Gupta fits well with his city's history. In 1964, he arrived in the United States from India with a superb education and ambition, but little money. He attended Purdue and obtained his MSEE in 1966 and his PhD in Electrical Engineering in 1969. He had a successful engineering career around the globe working with Southern California Edison, the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), and as a consultant to USAID and the World Bank on international energy projects. Ultimately,

Pradeep and his wife, Kumkum, settled in South San Francisco.

Councilman Gupta is a scientist at heart, and a leader in growing the connections between industry and local schools. He initiated the Steering Committee on Biotechnology, Workforce and Education. He worked hard with the Genentech Foundation so that a new \$7.9 million biotechnology laboratory at South San Francisco High School could be approved and constructed. Today's students in South San Francisco schools come from around the globe. Councilman Gupta is living proof that America thrives when its immigrants have opportunity. Extending this lesson to others, and using his position on the council for educational advocacy, is a passion of Councilman Gupta.

Population growth is rarely without conflict. Historically, South San Francisco has extended the hand of welcome to new arrivals and allowed for the construction of ample housing at affordable prices. In recent years, global capital flowing into the biotechnology sector has brought explosive employment growth to the east side of the city. Councilman Gupta was far-sighted enough to welcome new, high density housing in the city's core and around the train station so that employees could find homes near their jobs. On numerous occasions over the years, Councilman Gupta remarked to me or to my staff about how troubled he was by the hardships created by skyrocketing rental and homeownership costs. He can be proud that developments near the core and near the BART station around Chestnut and the El Camino Real will allow many families to settle and work in the community.

San Mateo County is one of a few communities to have created its own electricity aggregator. Peninsula Clean Energy delivers greener, less expensive electricity than the existing utility. Councilman Gupta, with his extensive history in the industry, was an invaluable contributor to the effort to bring this service to San Mateo County residents.

Among his many responsibilities on the council, he has served as a board member of the Association of Bay Area Governments, as the Chair of the Economic Strategy Group, as Mayor in 2017, and as a board member of the C/CAG Resource Management and Climate Protection Committee. He performs all these official duties while also being a loving father to his children Seema and Susheem, and a loving grandfather to grandson David and granddaughters Riya, Raveena, and Nadia.

I closing, I want to remark upon the goodwill and grace of Pradeep Gupta. He is my friend, and I've known him to be passionate, but I've never seen him cross. I've known him to be energetic, but he's always organized. His constituents recognize him as highly educated but nonetheless a man who easily relates to others. In short, he is a quintessential leader of South San Francisco—outgoing, responsive to community needs, and deeply devoted to his family. As he closes this chapter in his life, others will open.

I spent my childhood in this city, and despite all of the outward change the community remains rooted in family, faith and country. In sum, South San Francisco, the Industrial City, is a place of generous, loving people vigorously engaged in the enterprise of building the United States of America. Pradeep Gupta will be remembered by his neighbors and friends as a master builder.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN TAVAGLIONE

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to our region have been exceptional. After serving 24 years on the Riverside County Board of Supervisors, my good friend John Tavaglione will be stepping down.

John is a fourth generation resident of Riverside County and has dedicated much of his life to improving the Inland Empire region. John received his bachelor's degree in business administration from California Baptist University and is a proud U.S. Army veteran. His professional career spanned nearly 25 years as a commercial real estate executive. Prior to his election to the Board of Supervisors, he served on the Riverside City Council and was a member of the Riverside Public Utilities Commission. In 1994, John was elected to represent the Second District on the Riverside County Board of Supervisors.

As a member of the Board of Supervisors, John has been credited for his leadership in regional transportation issues, community and economic development, parks and open space preservation, and for his strong fiscal and organizational management. In 2010, John was selected to serve as President of the California State Association of Counties by California's 58 counties. Over the years, John and his wife Jan have graciously helped to send hundreds of students to college by hosting an annual fundraiser where all proceeds go towards scholarships for graduating high school seniors in his district.

John has contributed immensely to the betterment of our region and I am proud to call him a fellow community member, American and my friend. To conclude, Mr. Speaker I want to thank John for his service to the Inland Empire—his dedication, insight and passion will be greatly missed.

HONORING KATHY NICKEL FOR HER TIRELESS SERVICE IN ADDRESSING THE OPIOID CRISIS

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize our Brookings Fellow, Kathy Nickel. I am sad to say that her last day in my office is today, December 14th. I thank Kathy for her work on addressing the opioid crisis. Her service to the people of New Hampshire and the United States of America is truly appreciated.

Kathy, like many of us, is personally affected by the opioid epidemic. Her desire to make a positive impact in our nation's struggle with this "disease of the brain" brought her to Washington from her home in Oxford, Ohio. An accomplished employee for the Environmental Protection Agency, she brought a passion and perspective that is greatly needed here in Washington.

As you might expect, Kathy was a wonderful liaison to families and community leaders