

HONORING ROBERT GOAD

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, Robert Goad, for his work in my office and his service to our state.

Rob has been on our team from the very beginning and has worked in a variety of capacities, both in our Indiana and Washington, D.C. offices. As a senior member of my policy team, Rob was responsible for advising me on a variety of issues including education, financial services, transportation, and natural resources. He spearheaded the creation of the Congressional School Choice Caucus and developed landmark legislation expanding parental choice in education. Since leaving our office, Rob has gone on to serve as a Special Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy, focusing on education.

On a personal note, Rob Goad is my friend. We share a love for the life lessons of sports and a commitment to family. I want to thank Rob for his patience, friendship and hard work in our office. I wish him continued success in all that God has planned for him and his family. No doubt, Rob's biggest impact on our state and Nation is yet to come. I will be cheering Rob on every step of the way.

CELEBRATING CATHY HURWIT
FOR A LIFETIME OF PUBLIC
SERVICE

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the most important people in my life for the last twenty years, my treasured friend and Chief of Staff, Cathy Hurwit. After two decades of working by my side, supporting, counseling, directing, and making all things happen, Cathy is retiring at the end of this year.

I think it says a lot about Cathy that she began her service to our county right out of college as a VISTA volunteer. Having never previously been west of the Hudson, she spent a formative year working on a migrant housing project in Davis and Weber Counties in Utah. Her project fixed up homes, developed a community health center, and worked with the children. That year set the stage for Cathy's never-ending commitment to do everything she could to make life better for every-day people.

Cathy Hurwit is well known on Capitol Hill as one of the most knowledgeable, savvy, brilliant, literate, helpful, visionary, hardworking, effective, strategic and relentless progressive leaders. She is the go-to person for staff and members inside the Congress as well as advocates, constituents and lobbyists outside. She is a skilled organizer who knows how to move a progressive agenda.

Cathy's history on the Hill began forty years ago. She served on the staff of Congressman

Toby Moffett (D-CT) as Energy Policy Director from 1976 to 1979. She then worked as advisor to the Subcommittee on Environment, Energy and Natural Resources of the House Government Operations Committee from 1979 to 1982, followed later by two years for Congressman (now Senator) ED MARKEY (D-MA) from 1987 to 1989 as his Legislative Director.

Cathy then left the Hill to become the Legislative Director for Citizen Action, a multi-issue coalition of progressive organizations from 1988 to 1997, overseeing campaigns that blocked President Reagan's efforts to deregulate natural gas—while passing legislation to protect homeowners from utility shutoffs, winning worker and community “right to know” about toxic emissions and promoted Patients’ Bill of Rights in Congress and around the country. Through that period, I became friends with Cathy through our mutual work with our Illinois affiliate.

The American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees, one of the great public employee unions in our country, hired Cathy as their Legislative Affairs Specialist from 1997 to 1999—until I was able to lure her back to the Hill as my Chief of Staff. By then she had vowed never again to work in Congress, but I am grateful that she came back to get me started, and even more grateful that she stayed!

Cathy has built and led incredible staffs in our office over the last twenty years. At the heart are my Deputy Chief of Staff, Kim Muzeroll, who is the glue that holds our D.C. office together, and Leslie Combs, my fabulous District Director who oversees a renowned constituent service operation. Along with Cathy, they make up a team of powerful women who have been in charge of our staff since my very first day in Congress.

Alumni of our office have served in the White House, as Chief of Staff to NANCY PELOSI and others, as Deputies to Cabinet Secretaries, and major leaders in not-for-profit and labor organizations. All of them benefited greatly from Cathy's mentoring and still consider themselves part of Team Schakowsky.

As I write this Extension for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, I still find it impossible to imagine future sessions without Cathy Hurwit right next to me, strategizing about how to move our progressive agenda forward. Her expertise in health care made it possible for me to write portions of the Affordable Care Act. Opportunities like that will hopefully come again soon. Cathy tells me that she will still be available to help, and I will be certain to test that. She remembers all the complicated details of so many issues and bills, the struggles and the victories, the names of all the players on every side of the issues. Her institutional memory is exhaustive. (There are some people who should hope that Cathy does not write a book!)

Even when she leaves, Cathy will be a force to be reckoned with. She has a lifelong commitment to social justice and to working for progressive change. I am sad that this phase is over knowing I have a lot more to learn from Cathy. My precious friend, as you leave the Rayburn Building, know that you have dramatically improved so many individual lives, including mine. And, more importantly, that you have made life better for millions of people who, through your work, now have access to health care and hope for a better future.

Cathy will be deeply missed in our office and throughout the Hill. I look forward to maintaining our partnership in the ongoing struggles for justice, equality and peace. From the bottom of my heart, I thank her for her service.

RECOGNIZING CHRIS GRUDZINSKI
FOR THE 2018 MONTANA CON-
GRESSIONAL VETERAN COM-
MENDATION

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

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

Mr. Grudzinski served as an infantryman in the United States Army from 1996 to 2009. During his second combat tour in Iraq, Mr. Grudzinski was wounded in action and awarded the Purple Heart.

After his military career, Mr. Grudzinski returned to Montana and co-founded the Montana Veteran's Meat Locker in 2017 with his wife, Kristin. The non-profit food pantry served more 7,500 pounds of meat to over 450 Montana veterans in its first year alone.

Mr. Grudzinski is attending Montana State University Billings with the goal of serving veterans and others as a licensed counselor, using outdoor adventures as a form of therapy. At MSUB, Mr. Grudzinski serves as a Peer Mentor and veterans representative volunteer, assisting veterans with educational and financial needs.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Chris Grudzinski for his dedication and passion to serve.

IN RECOGNITION OF CUB SCOUT
FAMILY PACK 210

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Cub Scout Family Pack 210, the first Sabbath Observant Kosher Family Cub Scout Pack in the nation.

Cub Scout Family Pack 210 was formed in conjunction with the Jewish War Veterans Post 210, the Grand Canyon Council and the National Jewish Committee on Scouting. The pack is open to Jewish boys and girls, and children of all faiths. Cubs will get to work on the values of good citizenship, character development and physical fitness.

I thank the leaders of Cub Scout Family Pack 210 for providing an inclusive space where children will experience enriching activities and grow into their best future selves. I look forward to the many future accomplishments of Cub Scout Family Pack 210 and the positive impact they will have on the community.