CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MAXIE BROADDUS

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with the sad news that Mr. Maxie Broaddus, a lifelong resident of Caroline County, Virginia passed away on December 31, 2015. As a fourth generation farmer, Maxie spent his entire life farming the land in and around his native county. At the young age of 16, he dedicated his life to hard work and his family, starting with only 650 acres of land.

Maxie Broaddus was a businessman, role model, and friend to so many. At the time of his passing, he farmed 7,000 acres spanning the counties of Caroline, Essex, and Richmond, making him the executive of one of the largest growing operations in all of Virginia. He was always open to new ideas and technology, allowing his business to thrive.

As a member of Salem Baptist Church, he enjoyed fellowship as he walked in faith every day. He also had a passion for helping the children of the area. He donated both time and talent to countless children's events and was often heard saying, ''It's all about the kids.'' Maxie was never one to seek out recognition for his good works. He was known and respected for his dedication and will continue to inspire the members of the Caroline community.

Maxie loved the people of Caroline County, he loved our great Commonwealth of Virginia, and he loved his country. He always gave of himself to make the lives of others better.

He is survived by his daughters, Mindy Broaddus, Jessica Broaddus, and Danni Broaddus; his mother, Pat Homes; his brother, Mike Broaddus; his half-brother, Leo Mitchell; his grandsons, Weston James, and Own Wade Parker and his aunts, Mary Scott Haley and Jackie Dean.

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

TRIBUTE TO HELEN AND RICHARD FORRESTER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Helen and Richard Forrester of Carson, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on July 16, 1966 at Hazel Dell Methodist Church in Crescent, Iowa.

Helen and Richard's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, I hope it is filled with happy memories. May their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

COMMEMORATING THE NATIONAL DAY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA

HON. DAVE BRAT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. BRAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the National Day of the Republic of China (Taiwan) this upcoming October 10th, 2016. This day commemorates the beginning of the end of China's Qing Dynasty and the subsequent establishment of the Republic of China.

In 1979, the U.S. Congress passed the Taiwan Relations Act, which was signed into law one month after being introduced. Today the TRA is the cornerstone of the robust relationship between the people of the United States and the people of Taiwan.

Taiwan is a good friend to the United States. Our shared values include respect for market institutions, democracy, free elections, and human rights. Taiwan is also an important strategic partner, promoting peace and stability in the region. Our economic relationship continues to grow, with benefits for both countries. According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. trade in goods with Taiwan reached $66 billion last year. Impressive for a population of only 23 million people, Taiwan has become America's ninth largest trading partner. Taiwan is also the ninth largest export market for the Commonwealth of Virginia, and its fourth largest export market in Asia.

In addition, the 39th Assembly of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) will take place soon in Montreal, Canada, beginning on September 27, 2016. Congress passed a law in 2013 calling for Taiwan's participation in the triennial ICAO assembly as an observer. With wide international support, Taiwan was invited to attend the 38th ICAO Assembly in 2013. Considering the Taipei Flight Information Region (FIR), which is administered by Taiwan and provides over 1.53 million instances of air traffic control services, handles 58 million incoming and outgoing passengers in 2015, and serves as an indispensable part of the global air transport network, I hope to see that Taiwan will be invited to observe again this year.

I wish the people of Taiwan a Happy Double Ten Day. I look forward to further strengthening this important relationship in the years to come.

NO MORE EXCUSES, NO MORE LIES. RESTORE THE VOTE

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to address the ongoing problem of voter suppression in this country and the pressing need to restore the vote.

The American people are tired. Tired of the lies, tired of the excuses and tired of being silenced. Our country was founded on the strong values of democracy and those principles are embedded throughout the Constitution. Why then must we continue to fight and ask the leaders of this country to support an essential right—the right to vote? Instead of making changes, Republicans in Congress are making excuses—excuses to justify suppressive voting laws and false alarms of an alleged concern of voter fraud. This is an election year and there is too much at stake. Enough is enough.

Following the 2013 Supreme Court decision in Shelly v. Holder, states all across the country put in place new suppressive voting laws including new regulations for voter IDs under the guise of fighting against the problem of voter fraud. Mr. Speaker, too often a lie can be viewed as truth simply because the lie is repeated over and over and over again. But here is the truth—one of the most comprehensive studies to date found that between 2000 and 2014, out of nearly one billion votes cast in America, there were only 31 possible cases of voter impersonation fraud. 31 out of one billion. Is voter fraud truly a problem in this country? The numbers and facts reveal quite the opposite.

The cost/benefit analysis simply doesn't add up. Hundreds of thousands of eligible voters are potentially being blocked from the ballot box because of these new suppressive voter ID laws. The voter fraud myth has been used as a pathetic excuse to justify the silencing of select Americans nation-wide. Where there is no vote, there is no voice. We can no longer allow Americans to be silenced and subjected to these charades.

Republican leaders cannot continue to say they support voting rights, while refusing to restore the Voting Rights Act. They cannot continue to say they disavow racism, while refusing to restore the Voting Rights Act and protect against racial discrimination at the polls. The hypocrisy has to stop. The repeated lies need to end. We are in desperate need for immediate action in this country. These threats to our democracy and civil rights bar thousands of Americans from their right to the voting polls. I am committed to push for improving and strengthening voting rights legislation that makes voting easier, not harder for the American people.

On this Restoration Tuesday, I give us all the charge to battle against the continued suppression of the American vote and stand strong by our principles of democracy, liberty and justice for all. Mr. Speaker, my Republican colleagues should join the 168 members of Congress and support H.R. 2867—the Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2015. Let's restore the Voting Rights Act of 1965. It is the right thing to do.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF MRS. LYDIA DE LA VINA DE FOLEY TO THE CONGRESSIONAL CLUB OF WASHINGTON, D.C.

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding individual, Lydia de La Vina de Foley, who will step down this month as Executive Director of

the Congressional Club after more than four decades of service to this important federally chartered institution.

Lydia first began her work at the Congressional Club as a volunteer illustrator of the Club's Bicentennial Congressional Club Cookbook in 1975. In 1977, she was asked to come on full time as Secretary to the Club. In the 1990's Lydia became Administrative Assistant to the President of the Club, and then became its Executive Director in the 2000's.

Throughout her tenure, Lydia has served under twenty-two Club presidents and, as she aptly describes, ''lived through thirty-nine First Lady's Luncheons, the Club's premiere annual event honoring the nation's First Lady. She has been part of the Congressional Club's continued growth and development as a key center of bipartisan comradery in the Nation's capital.

Lydia has been a Life Member of the Club since April 10, 1981 and became a member through her father-in law and mother-in law, the late Honorable John Foley and Lucy Foley of Maryland.

Founded in 1908, the original purpose of The Congressional Club was to provide a nonpartisan setting for friendships among the spouses. Although the scope of the Club and the breadth of its activities have increased over the years, its purpose remains the same. The Congressional Club is rich in history and tradition, and we can thank Lydia for being an integral part of it.

I also want to commend Lydia's family who has stood by her all of the years she has helped to lead the Congressional Club including her husband, John (Jackie) and her children, Bryan Juan Carlos and Nicole Vivianne.

Lydia says that her most memorable experiences as part of the Club are ''the friendships forged with many members and presidents of the Club.'' Her dedication and commitment can be summed up as ''be willing to do everything and work hard.'' Mr. Speaker, Lydia has a been a friend to hundreds of Congressional spouses over these past four decades, and because of her dedication, she has truly made Washington, D.C. and the Congress a better place. Lydia, we will miss you. We honor her on this day with love and good wishes.