

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING BARBARA HIGGENS

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2017

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the long and distinguished career of Barbara C. Higgins on the occasion of her retirement. After 19 years of dedication and commitment, she is stepping down as CEO of Plumbing Manufacturers International (PMI).

Since its founding in 1998, Ms. Higgins has nurtured and grown PMI's visibility and influence within the United States and abroad. Ms. Higgins revamped the organization from her kitchen table as its first employee. She went on to hire dedicated professional staff and significantly enhanced the association's advocacy, technical, water conservation, environmental, and trade initiatives. Today, PMI is the nation's leading plumbing manufacturing trade association representing 90 percent of all the plumbing fixtures and fittings sold in the United States.

Under her leadership, PMI has grown into an advocate for water-efficient products meeting high safety and performance standards. She was instrumental in the introduction and passage of a federal nationwide law to reduce lead in plumbing products, known as the Reduction of Lead in Drinking Water Act, which was designed to safeguard all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating this special occasion and wishing Barbara Higgins every happiness in her well-deserved retirement.

IN HONOR OF CHRIS VANDERSLICE

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2017

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chris VanderSlice, who passed away on October 28, 2017 after a courageous four year battle with leukemia. Chris was a beloved educator and leader in the West Michigan community—whose legacy will never be forgotten.

Chris, or "Slice" as his colleagues knew him best, was a servant leader with Grandville Public Schools for nearly 18 years. His career began as a teacher at Grandville's Middle School and South Elementary. Chris was then promoted to assistant principal at Grandville High School, where he became principal in 2013.

A former Hope College basketball team captain, Chris brought his competitive spirit to the classroom and school district. He inspired a culture of "pride and excellence," that influenced both students and teachers. After only a short time as principal, Chris implemented professional learning communities to improve teaching techniques and accountability.

Following the initial diagnosis of acute lymphoblastic leukemia in 2013, the Grandville community quickly rallied to embrace the VanderSlice family. The swift response from the community is a touching testament to the character of Chris, his family, and West Michigan as a whole. Chris leaves behind a legacy of "grit and perseverance"—characteristics that will continue to inspire, encourage, and forever impact generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, Chris VanderSlice spent his life working to educate and better the students of Grandville, Michigan. It is thus fitting and proper that we honor him here today. I extend my deepest condolences to his wife Tonya, daughters Hannah and Elizabeth, and to all who knew and loved Chris.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF PATRICIA BOWSER

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2017

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Patricia Bowser, age 67 who passed away on Monday, November 6, 2017.

Patricia was born on October 3, 1950 in Youngstown, Ohio to Stephen and Mary Ann (Svesko) Sinkovich. She was a graduate of Cardinal Mooney High School and attended Youngstown State University for college. She devoted 30 years to working with the Youngstown Board of Education with behavioral and special needs children. Patricia was also a member of the AFL-CIO executive board and was an active participant with the Democratic Party of Mahoning County. She was also an avid cat lover.

She is survived by her mother, Mary Ann Sinkovich of Struthers, Ohio; two sons, Russel Bowser and Jerred Kent Bowser, both of Youngstown; two sisters, Sue Benish of Struthers and Marianne (Keith) Burnside of Struthers; a niece, Kayla Burnside; and a nephew, Keith (Luca) Burnside. She was preceded in death by her husband, Melvin K. Bowser, whom she married in 1979, and by her father and brother.

I extend my most sincere and heartfelt condolences to Patricia's family and friends. She will be dearly missed.

HONORING THE MONTEREY COUNTY FILM COMMISSION

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2017

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of an organization that displays the unique beauty of my district around the entire world. The Monterey County Film Commission

has served my district on the central coast of California by inspiring, facilitating, and assisting in the production of media that highlights the pristine beauty, and unique culture of our community. This year, the Monterey County Film Commission celebrates its thirtieth anniversary. Since its inception, the Commission has helped attract and assist in the production of hundreds of movies, television shows, commercials, documentaries and still photography productions. Thanks to the work of the Commission, our community has benefited from over one hundred million dollars in direct financial impact in our local communities.

The Commission serves as a liaison for movie producers, government entities and local businesses. It provides substantial information about our Monterey County, and straightforward guidelines for filming procedures that facilitate the development of successful media productions. The Commission also serves our community by highlighting highly desirable Monterey County locations through domestic and international tradeshows, sales trips and direct public advertising campaigns. Beyond this, the Commission also contributes to growing the next generation of young filmmakers, and is crucial in our communities' effort to create opportunity for creative-minded young people to find success pursuing their passion.

I would also note that the Monterey Peninsula has been, and remains, home to many prominent actors including Clint Eastwood and Betty White. Clint Eastwood came to Carmel to film *Play Misty for Me*, and later become Mayor of Carmel. The Peninsula has hosted stars such as Marilyn Monroe and Barbara Stanwyck in *Clash by Night*. Over the years, the Central Coast of California has attracted over two hundred films, hundreds of television programs and countless magazine ads. Most recently, my district played home to the highly successful and critically acclaimed HBO series *Big Little Lies*, filmed on the Monterey Peninsula, largely in Monterey and Pacific Grove.

The hard work of the staff and Board of Directors of the Monterey County Film Commission continues to provide our community and our country with great films and TV shows filmed in our beautiful district. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize the dedication and hard work the Monterey County Film Commission has given to the Central Coast and the entire State of California. I ask my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing the Monterey County Film Commission as an integral part of our community.

HONORING THE CAREER OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL KIRK WINDMUELLER

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 2017

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career of Lieutenant Colonel

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