

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING ELLEN KISKER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2022

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ellen Kisker. Ellen is an exceptional woman who won the award for Woman of Merit from the YWCA St. Joseph Awards Program.

Ellen served as Director of the Non-Traditional Student Center and ADA Coordinator for Missouri Western State University for 24 years. While at MWSU, she was honored with the National ANTSHE College Advisor of the Year and Northland Regional Excellence in Higher Education awards, as well as being awarded the MWSU Presidential Citation under two different presidents. After retiring from MWSU, Ellen worked at the YWCA for 8 years, where she served in various capacities, ending her tenure there as the Family Resources Director. As a hands-on leader, she facilitated the Choices/Decisions program, as well as assisted her staff in the Encore Plus and Healthy Teen Parents and Healthy Babies programs. Since retiring for the second time in 2020, Ellen continues to be a strong supporter of the YWCA and serves on the Women of Excellence Steering Committee. Ellen's hard work and service to the community has been extremely valuable and she is well-deserving of her award.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in thanking and congratulating Ellen Kisker for winning the Woman in the Workplace Leadership award as well as her service to the people of the Sixth Congressional District. I am proud to represent Ellen Kisker in the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING DIANA TAYLOR FOR
CARIBBEAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2022

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Diana Taylor is an extraordinary radio host, broadcaster, and philanthropist from Central Florida who, since 1984, has led her community by mastering the art of entrepreneurship to meet the spiritual, physical, and emotional needs of humanity—more specifically, children.

Ms. Taylor engages children in her program titled “Young People’s Forum” on CAC radio and TV broadcasting on WOKB 1680 AM and 100.1 FM studios, syndicating to South Florida and the Bahamas. She has been able to successfully engage students in the Caribbean and Canada virtually as well.

Her passion to mentor children for the real world has resulted in many who are now in leadership roles in today's job market. Her motto, “Teach the children respect and they

will learn respect. Give respect and get respect,” has been lived by every child who has been a part of this program for the past 29 years.

Ms. Taylor's innovative approach to mentorship has earned her recognition from mayors, governors, law enforcement organizations, and business and community leaders in Central Florida. These include the 2017 Urban Empowerment and Inspiration Station Award for Longevity and Inspiration and Service to the Community, the 2016 Award for the Jamaica Diaspora (Southeastern USA) Facilitation of the Growth and Strengthening of the Regional Networking Capacity, and the 2014 Greater Orlando Cares Mentoring Movement Award.

This year, considering Jamaica's 60th year of independence, Diana received an award of excellence from the Jamaica Diaspora Council of the Southern State. She was also honored as a Woman of Harmony and was featured in the KUOMagazine/TV during Women's History Month for her contributions to humanity.

REFLECTING UPON TODAY'S DECISION
BY THE U.S. SUPREME
COURT

HON. HALEY M. STEVENS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2022

Ms. STEVENS. Madam Speaker, as today marks my 39th birthday and an uncertain number of years that I will still be able to bear children, a chill rides up my spine for the healthcare that I can no longer receive in the United States of America.

In a country with the highest maternal mortality rate of the industrialized world, the action of the Supreme Court is to overturn Roe v. Wade, taking away the constitutional right of women to make their own health care decisions. I shudder to think about what comes next. For the young girl with her whole life before her—will she be able to determine the outcomes of her life equally? How will we achieve equality, accessibility, and economic progress with women unable to make their own health care decisions? We are so much more educated, connected, and liberated than we were in 1973.

I know a new time will mark a new moment for people wishing to conceive freely and fairly on their own terms. Michigan's Governor, Gretchen Whitmer, and Attorney General Dana Nessel are standing with the women of this Nation. I want everyone to know they have a champion in me, and together, the views of the majority in the Nation will rise again.

HONORING REVEREND MARY
MCDONALD

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2022

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Reverend Mary McDonald. Mary McDonald is an exceptional woman and winner of the Woman in the Workplace Leadership Award from the YWCA St. Joseph Awards Program.

Reverend McDonald has served for 27 years at Holsey Chapel, working faithfully and tirelessly on behalf of her congregants. During her years of ministry, Mary also worked for 34 years at Boehringer-Ingelheim and was twice the Outstanding Performance in Sales and Marketing Award recipient. Her hard work and dedication have enshrined her as a leader worth looking up to.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in thanking and congratulating Reverend McDonald for winning the Woman in the Workplace Leadership award as well as her service to the people of the Sixth Congressional District. I am proud to represent Reverend Mary McDonald in the United States House of Representatives.

CONGRATULATING THE SANTA FE
FARMERS' MARKET INSTITUTE

HON. TERESA LEGER FERNANDEZ

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2022

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate the Santa Fe Farmers' Market Institute on its 20th Anniversary on Saturday, June 25, 2022. The Institute champions local farmers and ranchers and provides equitable access to fresh, local food to the community.

Home to one of the largest farmers' markets in the country, and the largest in New Mexico, the Institute serves as a venue for well over a hundred farmers from the 15 counties of northern New Mexico to sell their produce. The Institute nourishes us by giving us access to nutritious locally grown foods. At the same time, it brings our community closer together.

In addition to providing a home for farmers and ranchers to sell their products, the Institute administers Farmer Focused Programs and Microloans. The flexible loans fund projects that support many of the vendors' businesses. They also improve the quality and quantity of the products brought to the Market.

Moreover, the Institute endeavors to benefit everyone in our community. Its Double Up Food Bucks program matches all EBT cards dollar for dollar. That essentially doubles SNAP participants' purchase power for fresh and nutritious local produce.

And almost as important as all of this, is that the Farmers' Market is a joy. It is vibrant,

• 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.

fun, delicious, and makes the community come alive in support of our local growers and makers.

From here in D.C., I can easily recall the smell of green chile roasting in the fall, the crisp apples turned into cider, the fresh snap peas in the spring, and ah, the unforgettable taste of that first full big juicy tomato in the summer. Then there are those beautiful flowers, first as seedlings in the spring, and then as bouquets of sunflowers or garlands of marigolds to be used for Dia de Los Muertos in November.

The market brings to life not only our senses of smell, taste, and vision, but we are often serenaded as we parade through the vendors with marimbas or violins.

I am proud to have the Santa Fe Farmers' Market Institute in my congressional district. Congratulations on two decades of serving farmers, ranchers, families, and the entire community with such bountiful products.

HONORING EBISMENIA HASSELE
FOR CARIBBEAN HERITAGE
MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2022

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Ebismenia Hassele is a professional Latino woman who obtained her master's degree in criminal justice and police science. This led to her work for the New York City Police Department and to currently volunteer for the Polk County Sheriff's office.

Ms. Hassele is a member of Lion Club in Auburndale, Florida. Previously, she was the president of the association for Inwood Community, Inc. for 11 years.

Ms. Hassele established a festival of unity—the Multicultural Unity Festival—within a community that was divided. The event was coordinated with the help of the Polk County Sheriff's Office, the fire department, and several county commissioners and brought the community and law enforcement together.

The event is held every other month. Many members and residents of Inwood bring homemade food to a segment of the event known as "Cop's Night Out."

Ms. Hassele has also organized a black-tie fundraising event with the help of Lieutenant Navarro as well as several health fairs and yard sales to help educate and give back to the Central Florida community.

Throughout the years, Ms. Hassele has assisted with free food distribution and put much of her focus on the needs of elders in her community to help bridge gaps in ages and move her community forward.

Ms. Hassele's community is one of three certified as a Green Dot Agent community, which use a curriculum to help those who have been victims of any type of violence. They work together to stop apathy and inspire the community to reconnect with the renewed possibility that violence is not inevitable.

Ms. Hassele draws her indomitable strength from her family, chiefly her three supportive daughters, Jessica, Love and Candy; three grandchildren; and her late husband, Guy R. Hassele, who was a disabled veteran.

HONORING MONICA MORREY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2022

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Monica Morrey. Monica Morrey is an exceptional woman who won the award for Emerging Leader from the YWCA St. Joseph Awards Program.

Monica has dedicated herself to advocacy and service to others. While in college, she worked at a crisis hotline serving survivors of domestic violence. Since then, she has dedicated herself continually to advocate for victims of crime, especially domestic abuse. She has worked for Legal Aid of Western Missouri assisting victims of domestic violence and acquiring orders of protection for them. Her dedication to these victims and their defense is extraordinary and commendable.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in thanking and congratulating Monica for winning the Emerging Leader award as well as her excellence in serving the people of the Sixth Congressional District. I am proud to represent Monica Morrey in the United States House of Representatives.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
RALPH GROENER

HON. KURT SCHRADER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2022

Mr. SCHRADER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the life of Ralph Groener. Ralph served Oregonians as a Clackamas County Commissioner, state legislator and was a leader in Oregon's labor movement with AFSCME, helping make Oregon one of the most union states in the country.

Ralph was a Christmas baby, born Dec. 25, 1941, to George and Mary Groener in Oregon City, Oregon. He attended local schools and graduated from West Linn High School in 1960. He spent four years in the U.S. Air Force and was awarded the Airman's medal for heroism.

In 1965 he married Sharon Rich, of Oregon City. Initially attending Portland Community College, they moved to Eugene where Ralph attended and graduated from the University of Oregon. While in college, Ralph worked part-time at a local Safeway, and became a member of the retail clerk's union. Upon graduation in 1969 he worked as a community organizer for the war on poverty, taking his first steps on a lifelong pathway fighting for the underprivileged and working families.

Ralph was elected to the state legislature in 1972, where he served two terms in the Oregon House of Representatives. In 1973 Ralph was an original co-sponsor of the first Gay Rights Legislation to be introduced in the nation. He was also instrumental in the passage of SB 100, Oregon's landmark land conservation legislation, as the bill's carrier on the House Floor. Ralph was then elected to the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners, where he served tirelessly for eight years advocating for children and senior citizens.

In 1990 Ralph found his way back to the Capitol, where he served as a political coordinator and lobbyist for AFSCME for nearly three decades. One of Ralph's favorite bible passages was Matthew 25:40—Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it for one of the least of these brothers or sisters of Mine, you did it for Me. It is not hard to see this principle guided him for over three decades fighting on behalf of working Oregonians.

Ralph was a force of nature. He loved to talk. He could out-talk anyone, anytime, anywhere. A familiar sight and sound roaming the halls of the state capitol, he was rarely without his trademark smile or partner Mary Botkin. His son, Chris shared with me that he used to say—keep your chin up and never let them see you sweat. I never saw Ralph without his chin up. Ralph retired from AFSCME in 2018.

Ralph's career was filled with dozens of awards and accomplishments:

United States Air Force Airman's Medal, 1963; Oregon State Sheriffs Association Award of Valor—Three-time recipient; Outstanding Youth Leader of Clackamas County, 1972; Distinguished Service Award from the American Association of Retired Persons, 1972; One of the Outstanding Young Men of America, 1973 and 1975; Oregon's Outstanding Educator—Statesman Award, 1975; Oregon League of Cities "Friend of Cities Award, 2005; NW Senior and Disability Services Advocacy Award, 2018

Ralph passed away on June 1, 2022, losing a dogged fight to cancer. He is survived by his wife, Sharon; daughter Hilary Groener; son Chris Groener; and granddaughter Cassidy Hedger and her husband, Corey Hedger. Ralph is also survived by hundreds of his union brothers and sisters, friends and colleagues from the political and legislative world. I mourn with them on his passing.

HONORING GREGORY JOHNSON
FOR CARIBBEAN HERITAGE
MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2022

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Dr. Gregory K. Johnson is an educator, leader, and technologist in Central Florida. He was born in Montego Bay, Jamaica and currently serves as program director and tenured professor for Digital Media Technology at Polk State College in Polk County, Florida. He earned a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Education from the University of Central Florida, a master's degree from Southern Illinois University, and bachelor's and associate degrees from Saint Louis Christian College.

At UCF, Johnson was a member of and served as historian for the AACTE Holmes Scholars® program, participated in the Summer Policy Institute in Washington, D.C., and received UCF's Graduate Provost's and Dean's Fellowships. As an instructional technologist, he created multimedia content for the U.S. Marines and course modules for a National Science Foundation grant.

At Polk State College, he overhauled the digital media program, created new degree and multimedia options, and hired lab staff to provide instructional support to students. For