

IN HONOR OF DR. DIETER MARTIN
GRUEN

HON. SEAN CASTEN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2019

Mr. CASTEN of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today on Dr. Dieter Martin Gruen's 97th birthday, in support of his nomination for the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

On November 4th, my colleagues, Representative BILL FOSTER and Representative CHUCK FLEISCHMANN, joined me in supporting Dr. Gruen's nomination for the highest civilian award in this country. Dr. Gruen has dedicated his life to science and made monumental contributions to shaping the United States as a leader and world power in technology, innovation, and national defense.

For nearly eight decades, Dr. Gruen has worked to enhance American technology development as a former Manhattan Project Scientist and Argonne National Laboratory Distinguished Fellow. Born in 1922, Dr. Gruen is an internationally esteemed German-American chemist, inventor, and innovator who immigrated to the U.S. from Nazi Germany in 1936. Throughout his career, Dr. Gruen has been driven by his curiosity and commitment to science—allowing him to make critical contributions to nuclear fission and fusion, solar energy, energy storage, and conservation. Specifically, Dr. Gruen has made several key technological advancements such as the nuclear submarine reactor cooling design and purification of uranium used to end World War II in the Pacific theater.

Through this work and countless other selfless endeavors, Dr. Gruen has been recognized by the international scientific community with numerous awards—including from Argonne National Laboratory, Northwestern University, and the Patent Law Association of Chicago—for his pioneering research in chemistry, physics, along with the emerging fields of materials and nanoscience.

I had the great pleasure of sitting down with Dr. Gruen earlier this year at his home in Downers Grove. What was intended to be a thirty-minute meeting became a two-hour conversation where I heard countless stories about Dr. Gruen's work on the Manhattan Project in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, the nuts and bolts of nuclear fission technology, and his unique journey to the United States. At 97, Dr. Gruen still sees the world as a place of vast opportunities for technological innovation. His optimism has been a source of inspiration and encouragement in my work as a Member of Congress as we tackle critical issues facing our society.

Dr. Gruen has continued his lifelong commitment to science by actively funding the building and demonstration of his novel solar cell technology in collaboration with the University of Illinois at Chicago. For the reasons mentioned here and many more, I sincerely believe that Dr. Dieter Gruen should be awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom for his lifelong contributions to science and technology that continue today. Dr. Gruen's tireless efforts to solve future energy challenges have seldom been exhibited by an individual. Humble and unpretentious, Dr. Gruen has been and remains the embodiment of a dedicated American and pure scientist.

I congratulate Dr. Gruen for his decades of accomplishments and exceptional contributions to science and the national security interests of the United States. I cannot think of a more deserving citizen for this award, and today I wish him the happiest of birthdays.

**RECOGNIZING MARGIE WAKEHAM
FOR THIRTY YEARS OF PUBLIC
SERVICE TO ORANGE COUNTY**

HON. KATIE PORTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2019

Ms. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize Ms. Margie Wakeham for her 30 years of public service to the Orange County community. As the CEO of Families Forward for 26 years, Ms. Wakeham has led the fight for families in need to achieve and maintain self-sufficiency through wraparound services that include career counseling, housing, and an onsite food pantry, among other vital programs.

As a young woman, Ms. Wakeham served as a group counselor to incarcerated youth, and later, an investigator for the juvenile court systems in San Diego and Orange Counties. Ever the trailblazer, Ms. Wakeham was an active mother who continued to be involved with local service organizations while raising her children. It was as a mother that she realized the profound need for school improvements, which inspired her candidacy and nearly two decades of service as an Irvine Unified School Board Member. As a champion for Irvine schools, Ms. Wakeham was moved to action when she learned of the serious struggles by families in her community due to food and housing insecurities. Through first-hand insight into the heartbreaking stories of children growing up alongside her own children, Ms. Wakeham knew action was needed.

In the early 1990s, Wakeham served as a board member of the previously titled organization, Irvine Temporary Housing, which had been helping shelter families since 1984. In 1993, Ms. Wakeham joined a team of distinguished leaders throughout the City of Irvine to save the nonprofit from closing its doors. Ms. Wakeham transformed the newly minted Families Forward into a major success, housing thousands of families in our community and scoring top ratings from nonprofit watchdogs for fiscal management. In many ways, the renaming of Families Forward resembles a tectonic shift in service delivery for Orange County. Over the last three years, an astounding 95 percent of the families served by Families Forward did not reappear in the homeless services provider system. This stands as a testament to its steady leadership under Ms. Wakeham.

When we end homelessness in Orange County, it will be because of the hard work and foundation-laying of community advocates like Ms. Wakeham. Today, we celebrate not only her success as a leader, but also the bright future Families Forward to the community. I am proud to recognize Ms. Margie Wakeham for her commitment to serving the 45th Congressional District of California.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2019

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Madam Speaker, on Friday, November 15, 2019 I am not recorded on final passage of H.R. 4863, the United States Export Finance Agency Act of 2019. I was engaged in a conversation with a constituent from the state of Washington discussing the issue of homelessness and mistimed the vote for final passage although I was present.

The U.S. Export-Import Bank is critical to the Washington state economy and its workers, and I support its reauthorization. If I had been present on final passage, I would have voted: yes, on Roll Call 624.

**HONORING KANSAS CITY BOARD
OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**

HON. SHARICE DAVIDS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2019

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the importance of clean water and the dedication of the members of the Kansas City Board of Public Utilities (BPU) to their role in serving our communities. Access to clean water has become a major national concern. With the increased awareness of how environmental changes affect our water supply, as seen in towns like Flint, Michigan, it becomes increasingly important that we value our water and ensure it's safe for the public. In that spirit, today we celebrate a department that has demonstrated commitment to serving their community.

The Kansas City BPU has received the "10-Year Directors Award" from the Partnership for Safe Water; a program developed by EPA, AWWA, and associated Partner organizations to guide water suppliers towards improving water quality by optimizing system operations. The Partnership is a voluntary self-assessment and optimization program for water treatment plants and distribution system operations. More than 300 utility subscribers, collectively serving more than 100 million people, are committed to the Partnership's goals of providing safe, high quality drinking water through achieving operational excellence in water treatment. Partnership members participate in a rigorous four-phase self-assessment and peer review process, developed by water utility optimization experts, and are recognized for their commitment to deliver safe water to their communities.

The BPU plant was one of a select group of utilities honored by the Partnership at the annual conference of the American Water Works Association, the largest and oldest worldwide organization dedicated to safe water. I am honored to recognize William Johnson, BPU General Manager, as well as staff as they celebrate this outstanding award.

HONORING MICHAEL CARRIGAN

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2019

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Michael Carrigan on the occasion of his retirement as the president of the Illinois American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO). I have appreciated Michael's leadership of the Illinois AFL-CIO and his vision and hard work towards improving the quality of life for workers in Illinois and across the region and country.

Mike Carrigan served for 12 years as president and 7 years as secretary-treasurer of the Illinois AFL-CIO. During his 19-year tenure, he worked on many successful initiatives that have helped the Illinois workforce and families, including gradually raising Illinois' minimum wage to \$15 an hour, a \$45 billion infrastructure program, the legalization of cannabis and many legislative initiatives and programs that improve the lives of Illinois residents.

Mike serves on the national AFL-CIO State Federation and Central Labor Council Advisory Committee and was the chairman of the 12-state AFL-CIO Midwest Labor Federation Council. In Illinois he serves on the Workers' Compensation Advisory Board and the Illinois Prevailing Wage Council.

Prior to his work with the Illinois AFL-CIO, Mike was elected to the Decatur City Council in 1995 and served nearly four terms before being appointed Mayor of Decatur in 2008. He was business manager/financial secretary for IBEW Local 146 in Decatur from 1992 to 2000; he was a journeyman wireman in Decatur from 1978 to 1990 and became business manager of the local.

Mike Carrigan is a fierce champion of the labor movement and a fighter for worker's rights and his leadership will be remembered and missed. On a personal note, I have appreciated his advice and counsel, his friendship and support and his steady leadership on behalf of Illinois workers and their families. Congratulations to Mike on his retirement, and I thank him for his years of service.

HONORING THE HOMESTEAD GRAYS

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the Homestead Grays, a baseball team deeply rooted in the District of Columbia, for its legendary success in the National Negro League.

In light of the Major League Baseball World Series championship won by the Washington Nationals this year, we must also remember a team that shaped the game of baseball and brought World Series glory to the District long before the Nationals, the Homestead Grays. In 1948, the Grays won their third National Negro League World Series title against the Birmingham Black Barons to become one of Washington's most successful baseball teams.

The Homestead Grays came to D.C. in 1940, when Clark Griffith, owner of the Washington Senators, saw a lucrative opportunity for the Grays to use Griffith Stadium while the Senators played away games. By 1943, the Grays, originally from Pittsburg, played over half their games in the nation's capital. Griffith Stadium, located in the heart of D.C.'s African American community and close to Howard University, became a hub for Black baseball.

The Grays played at a time when the face of baseball was changing in America. As the National Negro League continued to demonstrate excellence in baseball, the sport began to integrate. It became too impossible for white teams to ignore African-American players. This led to the folding of the National Negro League in 1948 but to the rise of many African-American Major League Baseball players like Jackie Robinson.

Found on the Ring of Honor in Nationals Park, the team's stadium, are several names of Homestead Grays' most iconic players, including Cool Papa Bell, Ray Brown, Josh Gibson, Buck Leonard, Cumberland Posey and Jud Wilson. These men led the Grays to three National Negro League World Series and 10 National Negro League pennants.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the Homestead Grays for their enduring place in Washington and U.S. baseball history.

OCTOBER VETERAN OF THE MONTH

HON. KEVIN HERN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2019

Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the First District of Oklahoma's October Veteran of the Month, Senior Airman Kelli Ingraham.

A Public Health Journeyman in the United States Air Force, Senior Airman Ingraham honorably served our nation for four years. Upon returning home from service, Senior Airman Ingraham followed her passion for service and has dedicated her life to serving her fellow veterans.

As a Veterans Services Representative with the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs (ODVA), Senior Airman Ingraham works with our nation's veterans to help them in navigating the federal bureaucracy. Assisting veterans with claims for service-related disabilities, education opportunities, advance medical compensation, as well as employment and housing placement, Ingraham's work with the ODVA is truly admirable. Her devotion to ensuring that our nation's heroes receive the benefits they deserve is honorable and she sets an example we should all strive to follow.

In addition to working as a Veterans Services Representative for ODVA, Ingraham is involved with the Tulsa Vet Center, the Tulsa Stand Down for Homeless Veterans committee, and the Oklahoma Women Veterans Organization. Senior Airman Ingraham lives a life of unmatched dedication, sacrifice, and service to our great nation. She answered the call to defend freedom across the globe and sacrificed whatever was necessary in the name of that noble cause. She continues to serve our country, community, and her fellow

veterans at a high level on a daily basis. It is my honor to recognize Senior Airman Kelli Ingraham as the 1st Congressional District of Oklahoma's October Veteran of the Month.

CONGRATULATING SHELLY LUTZ ON RECEIPT OF THE VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD

HON. DANIEL MEUSER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2019

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, it is with great respect that I rise today to congratulate Shelly Lutz of Lake Harmony on being named the recipient of the Carbon County Chamber and Economic Development's Volunteer & Community Impact Award.

Shelly is both the owner and director of golf at the Split Rock Golf Club in Lake Harmony, Pennsylvania. Shelly oversees the operations of a beautiful 27-hole golf course and restaurant. Of her many honors and accolades, Shelly is perhaps best known for her annual "Let's Save the Dogs" golf tournament, which raises much needed funds for the NEPA Pet Fund & Rescue, the Carbon County Animal Shelter and the Red Rock Rescue of Northeast Pennsylvania. I applaud her hard work, business savvy, and dedication to her community.

On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives and the citizens of Pennsylvania's Ninth Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Shelly Lutz on this great honor.

HONORING THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY: MEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING TEAM

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2019

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today with Congressman DESAULNIER to honor the incredible performance and achievements of the University of California, Berkeley Golden Bear Men's Swimming and Diving team in the 2019 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Men's Swimming and Diving Championships.

On March 30, 2019, the Cal Bears captured the 2019 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I, swimming and diving national championship following four impressive days of competition at the Lee and Joe Jamall Texas Swimming Center in Austin, Texas.

The Cal Bears have won the NCAA Men's Swimming and Diving National Championship six times in program history. The championship was won in 1979, 1980, 2011, 2012, 2015, and 2019.

The Cal Bears also set a school record with 560 points accumulated at the NCAA championships and bested runner-up Texas by an 85-point margin of victory.

I am proud of my alma mater for having extended their run of placing in the top two at the NCAA championships to 10 consecutive years. It also brings me great pride to recognize the Cal Bears' Head Coach, David