

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HARVEY TEYLER TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Harvey Teyler, manager of the Alamosa Mosquito Control District. Mr. Teyler has been awarded the Special District Association of Colorado's 2011 Distinguished Manager of the Year Award.

Presented in September at the SDA's annual conference, this honor recognizes managers who have demonstrated outstanding leadership, dedication and service to their district. The SDI is an association consisting of over a thousand members who promote the effective and economical operation of special districts in Colorado. These districts function as a form of local government that provides basic services and public needs.

Mr. Teyler was recognized for increasing the Alamosa Mosquito Control District's quality of service under the motto "Effective and Efficient." He is well respected for his leadership style, a commitment to thoroughly educating and training his employees, and for never asking them to do something that he has not done himself.

Mr. Teyler leads the District's efforts to protect public health through the surveillance of mosquitoes, counting and identification, various methods of extermination, and West Nile Virus testing, all while adhering to environmentally sensitive practices. After humble origins in a shed with no utilities, the District now operates out of a fully furnished 5500 square foot facility. The citizens of Alamosa, known in the past to be overrun with mosquitoes, are certainly grateful for Mr. Teyler's dedication.

Mr. Teyler is also an active member of the Alamosa community, where he has been a part of the Kiwanis Club, the Blue Peaks organization for the mentally challenged, and the Ranch Advisory Board.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Harvey Teyler. I rise today to thank him for his public spirit and devotion to the health of Alamosa's Citizens.

HONORING BRIAN HUDSON OF THE PENNSYLVANIA HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, Pennsylvanians in need of affordable housing, and those of us who advocate for quality, safe housing accessible to all, have a quiet superstar in our midst.

Since 2003, Brian A. Hudson Sr. has served as Executive Director and CEO of the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency, the agency

that turns the portfolio of affordable housing programs into brick and mortar. His ascension to leadership is well deserved: he has worked at the agency for three decades.

Brian Hudson's work frequently brings him into Philadelphia where PHFA has accomplished near-miracles in public-private-non-profit partnerships and Brian Hudson is legendary for the art of the deal. Those deals provide affordable housing for seniors, for young families, for veterans, for low-income families, for individuals facing substance abuse and Philadelphians with disabilities.

Brian Hudson may not be well-known by the public but those who work with him and his agency hold the man in awe. Mr. Hudson's presence at a ribbon-cutting or turnkey dedication or groundbreaking is a welcome sight, and I've been pleased to share that podium with him on many occasions as an advocate in Congress for these critically needed programs. When Brian Hudson is on the scene, it means the hard work has been done, and it's been done right.

Most recently, on October 31, Mr. Hudson and I, joined by Mayor Michael Nutter and a "who's who" of business and community leaders as well as older residents who were already in residence, dedicated The Apartments at Cliveden in Philadelphia's Germantown neighborhood. The NewCourtland Network's latest development is a \$14.6 million project, launched with major help from Brian Hudson and PHFA, to provide 62 units of affordable, dignified, modern living for seniors 62 and older.

Brian Hudson's list of credits—and responsibilities—in the housing field is long and impressive. He has been a Director of the federally chartered Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh since 2007. He has served as Vice President and on the board of the National Council of State Housing Agencies. He is a member of the Consumer Advisory Council at The Federal Reserve System.

Since its founding in 1972, the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency has financed more than 130,000 houses and 54,000 apartment units while assisting 40,000 homeowners threatened with foreclosure.

In recent months Mr. Hudson's PHFA performed an astounding feat of public service under extreme deadline conditions. PHFA was able to administer and distribute more than \$100 million made available to Pennsylvanians under the Emergency Homeowners' Loan Program (EHLPL) by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development—within less than six months.

I sponsored the EHLPL program in Congress and secured its inclusion in the Wall Street Reform Act. This emergency assistance was based on an earlier program, the Homeowners Emergency Mortgage Assistance Program (HEMAP) that I developed as a young legislator in the Pennsylvania General Assembly in the early 1980s. That's just about the time a young housing whizkid named Brian Hudson came to work for PHFA, helping that agency turn HEMAP into the nation's premier state-

based emergency mortgage assistance program.

Over a quarter century HEMAP provided more than \$433 million in emergency mortgage assistance loans. Nearly 90 percent of Pennsylvania homeowners receiving this assistance have avoided foreclosure. Those clients were Pennsylvanians who had been making their mortgage payments until, through no fault of their own, they lost a job or other income stream and tumbled toward default. Thanks to HEMAP, 17,000 Pennsylvania families were able to stay in their homes, get back on their feet, and even to repay HEMAP for that home-saving loan. In fact, over its lifetime, HEMAP actually turned a modest profit for the taxpayers!

That outstanding track record was worth duplicating, and it became the model for the EHLPL program I introduced. This federal program provided up to \$50,000, or 24 months, of continuing financial assistance, to families who were in danger of losing their homes due to lost income from involuntary unemployment, under-employment or medical expenses. Unfortunately we were able to fund EHLPL only for FY2011. Faced with the rapidly approaching Sept. 30, 2011, deadline and a complex set of regulations for homeowners in need of emergency assistance, Mr. Hudson oversaw the processing and approval of 3,056 applications in Pennsylvania, with distribution of \$108 million in emergency home-saving aid in less than six months. That's more than 10 percent of the EHLPL funds made available coast to coast.

We will be working to bring EHLPL back to life. Meanwhile, Brian Hudson and the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency have plenty of work to do. They've been funding a housing locator service for state residents dislocated by Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee. They are expediting affordable housing developments everywhere in the Commonwealth involving a myriad of municipal, state and federal programs.

The record builds, and tens of thousands of Pennsylvanians are already saying thank you. Through it all, the simple formula for success remains: Brian Hudson = Affordable Housing.

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE BREAST CANCER RESEARCH AUTHORITY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2011

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. 384, which will reauthorize the sale of the highly successful Breast Cancer Research Stamp. I am a proud co-sponsor of House companion legislation.

Breast cancer has or will eventually touch all of our lives. According to the National Cancer Institute, more than 230,000 women in the

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

United States will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year and nearly 40,000 will die. Breast cancer is the most common non-skin cancer among women. It is also the second leading cause of cancer-related death among women.

Designed by Ethel Kessler of Bethesda, Maryland and illustrated by Whitney Sherman of Baltimore, Maryland, the Breast Cancer Research Stamp was first issued in 1998. Since then, it has raised over \$74 million for cancer research at the National Institutes of Health and the Department of Defense. By renewing this stamp today, Congress is reaffirming its deep commitment to increasing awareness and finding a cure for this terrible disease.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan, lifesaving legislation.

CELEBRATING THE WORK OF
CAROL FIXMAN OF THE PHILADELPHIA EDUCATION FUND

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, on December 16, advocates for educational excellence in Philadelphia will be celebrating the service of a dear friend of mine, Carol Fixman, the soon-to-retire Executive Director of the Philadelphia Education Fund. Together, Carol and I have worked to make the dreams of Philadelphia's school children a reality and to brighten the future of our city.

Under Dr. Fixman's direction, the Ed Fund has been actively engaged in issues of school reform, teacher quality, college access, and community engagement in support of public education. Prior to her appointment at the Ed Fund, Dr. Fixman was Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculty at Philadelphia University, where she provided leadership for more than 40 undergraduate and graduate programs in business, design, architecture, engineering, science, and health.

She has held positions directing international programs at Temple University and at the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. She has also served as Director of the Philadelphia Education Fund's College Access Program and the Philadelphia Scholars, a citywide initiative to improve access to and success in postsecondary education for Philadelphia public school students. Dr. Fixman has played a critical role in GEAR UP, the nation's premier early college awareness and readiness program and CORE Scholars, a place-based scholarship program serving students in Philadelphia—two programs that I am proud to have launched, nationally and locally.

Dr. Fixman has a distinguished academic record in addition to her achievements in the field of education. She holds a Ph.D. and M.A. in German literature from Brown University and a B.A. in Russian literature from Indiana University (Bloomington).

I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge Carol Fixman's dedication and perseverance toward improving the quality of public education in the Philadelphia region so that underserved youth are prepared for college and careers and thank her for making Philadelphia a better place.

As she retires from the Philadelphia Education Fund, she will surely be missed by all.

I urge this body to recognize her contributions and continue to support her work.

CONGRATULATING DR. DAVID
HALTIWANGER

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Dr. David Haltiwanger for his tireless efforts on behalf of the health and well-being of people living with HIV/AIDS and the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community. In his work as a clinician, administrator, teacher and advocate, Dr. Haltiwanger has demonstrated a deep well of compassion, a vision for true inclusiveness and a commitment to using his voice and organizing the voices of others to improve the lives of those in Baltimore, in Maryland, and across the United States.

Dr. Haltiwanger has been involved in the fight against AIDS from the very beginning, first as support to friends and later as a therapist, clinical supervisor and administrator overseeing a range of mental health, substance abuse, health promotion and case management services at Chase Brexton Health Services, Maryland's largest community-based provider of healthcare services to people living with HIV/AIDS. At Chase Brexton, he served as Mental Health Director and later as Director of Clinical Programs and Public Policy. Even as his other responsibilities increased, Dr. Haltiwanger continued to see patients, giving him keen insight into the challenges on the ground and enabling him to be an especially effective advocate in Annapolis and here on Capitol Hill, where he has been a valuable resource to members and staff alike.

Dr. Haltiwanger has channeled his expertise and commitment into the work of two very important national organizations. He served for six years as a member of the Board of Directors of the Communities Advocating Emergency AIDS Relief (CAEAR) Coalition, a leading national voice for the treatment and care needs of people living with HIV/AIDS, and also as a Board Member and Co-Chair of the National Coalition for LGBT Health, which is committed to improving the health and well-being of LGBT individuals through federal advocacy focused on research, policy, education, and training.

In his work as an advocate, Dr. Haltiwanger has been especially committed to educating others in his community about the importance of participating in public policy issues and mentoring them in those efforts. Throughout his career, Dr. Haltiwanger has made an enormous impact on Baltimore and has changed the lives of countless individuals and families in the State of Maryland and beyond. As he retires from Chase Brexton, I would like to thank him for his many years of service and his visionary leadership.

CELEBRATING THE WORK OF
THOMASENNIA AMOS OF THE
PHILADELPHIA EDUCATION
FUND

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, Philadelphia's educational advocacy community will be losing one of its most respected and versatile leaders with the retirement of Thomasennia Amos.

Thomasennia Amos is stepping down as the Director of the College Access Program at the Philadelphia Education Fund, where she has served the cause of public education since 1999. Ms. Amos also has directed the Student Success Centers, a partnership between the College Access Program and the School District of Philadelphia to create a sustainable college-going culture within local neighborhood high schools. In addition, she has supervised the Scholarship Coordinator of the Ed Fund's Philadelphia Scholars.

Among her earlier assignments at the Ed Fund, it is noteworthy that she served as Director of the GEAR UP Initiative (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs). GEAR UP, which I developed and guided into law in 1998, has been a national as well as local success story, impacting the educational prospects, jump-starting the higher education opportunities and improving the life chances of 12 million young people in 49 states plus U.S. territories. The GEAR UP partnership of the Ed Fund and the School District of Philadelphia has been a particularly fruitful one.

The Philadelphia Education Fund is simply the latest stop for Thomasennia Amos in her rich and varied career throughout my home town. Before joining the Ed Fund, Ms. Amos served as an instructional supervisor in the School District of Philadelphia. Throughout her career, she has worked in professional development, supporting new teachers and introducing and coaching instructional best practices to school communities. She served under several superintendents in a central office capacity.

Ms. Amos is a dedicated educator who has supported students and teachers in every region of the School District of Philadelphia. She has served as an Adjunct Faculty member at Temple University, University of Pennsylvania, Arcadia University, Drexel University, and Chestnut Hill College. She is also certified as a Principal, and has a strong personal commitment to improving education for Special Education students.

Ms. Amos holds an M.Ed. in Special Education from Arcadia University, and a B.S. in Elementary Education and K-12 Special Education from Pennsylvania State University. She has won countless honors for educational achievement and advocacy, including, in 2010, an award from the Philadelphia Alliance of Black School Administrators.

I ask my colleagues to join with me in congratulating Thomasennia Amos on a lifetime of hard work, dedication and success instilling generations of Philadelphia's young people, especially those from underserved communities with the tools, the will and the incentive to succeed. For an educator as talented as Ms. Amos, transitioning to retirement, this is the highest honor of all.