

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR.
DENNIS KAHN

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2012

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the life Mr. Dennis Kahn, a great citizen and prominent attorney in my western New York Community. Mr. Kahn passed away on February 6th, 2012 at the young age of 60.

Mr. Kahn was one of Buffalo's brightest and most successful attorneys. He earned his law degree from the University of Akron after completing undergraduate work at the University at Buffalo. He began his practice in 1976 and became partner at a firm that eventually bore his name, Siegel Kelleher & Kahn, focusing on personal injury law. Mr. Kahn helped expand the firm to the sixth-largest law firm in western New York. He was recognized in "Who's Who" in law and nominated as "Best in Field—Personal Injury".

Throughout his distinguished career, Mr. Kahn served as a member of the Erie County, New York State, and American Bar Associations. He was admitted to practice before U.S. District Court for the Western District of New York, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of New York, and Federal Tax Court, and the U.S. Supreme Court. Mr. Khan also served as a member of the advisory board for Bry-Lin Hospitals and is a former member of the board of trustees for Shea's Performing Arts Center.

I was privileged to introduce Dennis at an American Cancer Society event in 2011. Dennis was a tireless advocate in the fight against cancer and I was proud to stand with him in that fight. We will carry on this mission in his memory, reflecting on the passion with which he waged his fight against this terrible disease.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to express my deepest condolences to Dennis's wife, Carrie, his son, Max, and the rest of the Kahn family.

HONORING NATHAN VINCENT
FAGERSTONE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2012

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Nathan Vincent Fagerstone. Nathan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 175, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Nathan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Nathan has been involved with

scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Nathan has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Nathan Vincent Fagerstone for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY
MONTH

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2012

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect and sincere admiration that I rise to celebrate Black History Month and its 2012 theme—Black Women in American Culture and History. This year's theme offers us the opportunity to reflect on the outstanding accomplishments of African American women who often faced not only racial discrimination, but gender discrimination as well.

The innumerable contributions made by African American women throughout history have played a major role in shaping our great nation. From historical heroes, such as the leader of the Underground Railroad, Harriet Tubman, and the courageous civil rights activist, Rosa Parks, to modern leaders, including First Lady Michelle Obama, and locally, the Honorable Karen Freeman-Wilson, Mayor of the City of Gary, Indiana, the American people have been blessed and inspired by extraordinary African American women who have at many times, against all odds, strengthened our union.

As the Representative of the First Congressional District of Indiana, I have had the opportunity and pleasure to know and work with Mayor Freeman-Wilson. Mayor Freeman-Wilson's first term began this year, and her victory is an extraordinary example of how far our nation has come. With her recent election, Mayor Freeman-Wilson became the first female mayor of the city of Gary and the first African American female mayor in the State of Indiana.

Standing on the shoulders of the brave African American women who fought so hard for their rights, Mayor Freeman-Wilson continues to inspire and is a role model for women of all races. Mayor Freeman-Wilson grew up in Gary and was taught by her parents the importance of hard work and public service at an early age. She eventually graduated from Harvard Law School but quickly realized her calling was to be a public servant. She has held many prestigious positions throughout her career including: presiding judge for the Gary City Court, Attorney General for the State of Indiana, Executive Director of the National Drug Court Institute, and Director of the Indiana Civil Rights Commission. She is also ac-

tive in numerous organizations and charitable groups aimed at protecting human rights, promoting the quality of life, and combating substance abuse. In particular, Mayor Freeman-Wilson's work with the Second Chance Foundation, an organization she helped found to fight substance abuse, is truly admirable.

It is leaders like Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson who become an inspiration for future generations. We honor her, along with all of the courageous African American women, past and present and across the nation, for their courage and tenacity to help create better communities and a better nation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in remembering the many strong African American women who have left their mark in history and have fought for equality for all races and genders. They are worthy of the highest praise. Through the efforts of these honorable individuals, we are reminded of how far we have come as a nation, while recognizing that there is still much progress to be made.

CONGRATULATING PRESIDENT MA
YING-JEOU ON HIS RE-ELECTION

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2012

Mr. FALEOMAVEGA. Mr. Speaker, President Ma Ying-jeou was inaugurated President of the Republic of China, ROC, on May 20, 2008. He was elected on a platform which included a promise to revive Taiwan's economy and improve cross-Strait relations.

President Ma was re-elected on January 14, 2012. Upon President Ma's re-election, The White House issued a statement. "Cross-Strait peace, stability, and improved relations in an environment free from intimidation are of profound importance to the United States. We hope the impressive efforts that both sides have undertaken in recent years to build cross-Strait ties continue." The U.S. State Department also congratulated President Ma and, added, "Taiwan has once again held a free and fair election."

President Ma's victory shows that the people of Taiwan agree with his efforts, and so do I. As the former Chairman and current Ranking Member of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, I offer my congratulations to President Ma. I have known President Ma before he was first elected, back when he was one of many candidates. I knew then what I know now. President Ma is the right man for the right times.

Since his election in 2008, U.S.-Taiwan relations have been far better than any period in recent memory, and the Obama administration has shown clear support for the Ma administration by more than doubling the Bush's administration's arms sales to Taiwan. The Obama administration has also sent high-level officials from the U.S. to Taiwan and, most recently, the Obama administration nominated

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