

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

REMEMBERING DR. THOMAS E.  
FLORESTANO

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, on March 31 my state of Maryland lost a giant in the realm of higher education. Dr. Thomas E. Florestano, who served for fifteen years as President of Anne Arundel Community College, sadly passed away at age 79.

The son of Italian immigrants, Tom was born in Annapolis and graduated from St. Mary's High School in 1952. He matriculated into the University of Maryland but paused his studies to serve in the U.S. Army as a military police officer in Korea and West Germany. Honorably discharged as a sergeant four years later, Tom returned to the University and earned a bachelor's degree in education in 1958.

While an undergraduate, Tom met his future wife of 52 years, Patricia Sherer. Together, they dedicated their careers to improving access to higher education for Maryland students, with Patricia teaching at the University of Baltimore and currently serving as chairwoman of the Board of Regents for the University System of Maryland.

After graduating, Tom worked as an education advisor at the Army Education Center in Fort Meade. Two years later, he joined the University of Maryland as assistant dean of student life and director of student activities. During this period, Tom earned his master's degree in education and later obtained his Ph.D., both from the University of Maryland.

Tom turned his attention to community college administration in 1970, when he took a job as dean of evening and community education and summer school at Prince George's Community College. After nine years there, Tom was appointed President of Anne Arundel Community College.

He took over during a time when the college was facing significant challenges, including tensions between faculty and administration as well as declining enrollment and budget shortfalls. Tom oversaw a program of revitalization that tripled enrollment, instituted new degree programs, expanded the campus, and turned deficits into sound finances by the time he retired in 1994. The legacy of his leadership of Anne Arundel Community College has been its transformation into the third-largest community college in Maryland. Even more so, Tom put the "community" back in "community college."

All of us who knew Tom recognized him as one who looked at a challenge and saw an opportunity and who looked at a student and saw a future. Those futures were what he worked so hard to make possible for thousands of Maryland students.

Tom will be greatly missed by the Maryland education community and by all of us who called him a friend. I join in celebrating his life

and offering my condolences to Patricia, their son Tom Jr., daughter Leslie, son-in-law Kevin, and their extended family.

TRIBUTE TO ROMNEY, WEST  
VIRGINIA

**HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 250th anniversary of the city of Romney. In 2012, the city will celebrate its 250th birthday with a year-long celebration. Romney is the oldest town in the oldest county in West Virginia. On December 23, 1762, Virginia's Governor signed the act that created Romney.

When Virginia was divided during the Civil War, Romney was located in what became West Virginia. The city was located in an area that was important to both the North and the South during the Civil War and is rumored to have changed hands 56 times as a result. Romney is home to the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind as well as Davis History House, Hampshire County Courthouse, the Taggart-Hill House, the Wilson-Woodrow-Mytinger House, and the oldest office building in the state. I'm pleased to have this unique city in my district!

CONGRATULATING PRESIDENT MA  
AND THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN

**HON. DENNIS A. ROSS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. ROSS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I extend my congratulations and best wishes to Mr. Ma Ying-jeou and the people of Taiwan as they celebrate Mr. Ma's presidential inauguration this May 20. Mr. Ma Ying-jeou won re-election as the fifth freely elected president of the Republic of China on January 14.

President George W. Bush once famously described Taiwan as "a beacon of democracy to Asia and the world." His words were recognition of Taiwan's achievements in democratic developments. The United States and Taiwan value human rights, civil liberties and the rule of law. Our shared values have produced a strong and dependable friendship for the past century. Taiwan was one of the first to come to our aid after the events of September 11th and Hurricane Katrina. Taiwan continues to be our ally in the war against terrorism by cooperating with humanitarian assistance in Iraq and Afghanistan and providing intelligence. They have shown generosity and compassion by donating to the Twin Towers Fund and Pentagon Memorial Fund.

In honoring Taiwan, we need to continue to sell defensive weapons to Taiwan under the

framework of the Taiwan Relations Act. Despite the rapprochement that has been built up between Taiwan and the PRC, a well-armed Taiwan is still the best guarantee to permanent peace in the Strait. Also, I firmly believe that Taiwan should have a much broader international visibility. I encourage my colleagues to support Taiwan's current bid to join the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) as an observer.

To President Ma and the people of Taiwan, I extend my congratulations on their Presidential Inauguration Day.

HONORING WILFRED EARL  
ARCHER

**HON. DAN BENISHEK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, let it be known, that it is a pleasure and honor to pay tribute to Wilfred Earl Archer, who was born in Port Huron, Michigan on Jan. 30, 1926, to Glen and Genevieve Archer. "Bill" was raised in Flint, Michigan, and attended North Muskegon High School. His family then moved to Detroit, where he attended Denby High School.

Following in the footsteps of his father, who served in the U.S. Army and fought in World War I, Bill felt an intense need to serve his country during World War II. He left school and enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard, on April 1, 1943. He was stationed in San Diego, CA, where he received Amphibious Forces Training in operating Troop Carriers (LCVPs). He was then transferred to San Francisco and stationed on the USS *Middleton*, which was modified/ transformed into an Assault Personnel Attack vessel. The *Middleton* was sent to Maui, Hawaii, and then to New Guinea to assist the 98th Infantry in the invasion of the Philippines. Bill was awarded five Battle Stars for service in the battles within the Pacific Theater; Saipan, Tinian, Okinawa, Leyte, and Luzon. As an LCVP engineer and gunner, Petty Officer 3rd Class Archer also served as a Diesel Electrical Engineer. He was honorably discharged in January of 1946. As a civilian, Bill worked at a foundry in Muskegon.

In 1948, Bill enlisted as a Staff Sergeant in the U.S. Army Air Corps, which shortly thereafter became the U.S. Air Force. He received training in aircraft engine repair in Biloxi, Mississippi. His military career took another direction when Bill was sent to Japan to activate the 1273rd Transport Squadron. While in Japan, Bill achieved flying status as a Flight Engineer, and accumulated 18,000 flying hours while involved with embassy flights to the Philippines and India, and combat flights in the Korean Conflict. In 1949, Bill was a crew member of a C-54, which was the first U.S. aircraft destroyed in the Korean Conflict. It was unoccupied when it was bombed at an air base in Kempo, South Korea. After serving

• 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.

four years there, he was transferred back to the United States, and served in Great Falls, Montana, with Operation Blue Jay, to build an Air Force Base in Tule, Greenland. He received flight training in SA-16 Tri-Phib in West Palm Beach, Florida. He was promoted to Tech Sergeant, and flew AC-47s inspecting instrument landing equipment, at Hamilton Field in San Francisco. Bill later became part of the Strategic Air Command in Omaha, Nebraska. He attended flight engineer school at Chanute Air Force Base in Rantoul, Illinois and was assigned to Homestead Air Force Base in Florida as a Flight Engineer on KC-97s.

Bill retired from the Air Force, but retirement didn't last long. While working with the Civil Service, his knowledge as an F-4 aircraft Inspector led Bill to transfer from retired status to the U.S. Air Force Reserves, servicing and flying C-124s. He was sent to transport combat troops and materiel to Cam Rahn Bay, Republic of Vietnam. Bill was discharged from the U.S. Air Force Reserves in 1974. That was the end of an exemplary thirty-one-year military career, involving combat service in three major conflicts. Technical Sergeant Wilfred Earl Archer served with great distinction in World War II, the Korean Conflict, and the Vietnam War.

When his exemplary military career ended, and his civilian career began, Bill received a Teachers Certificate in Automotive Technology from Texas State Technical Institute, and later taught at the TSTI Connally campus. He is a Life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and served his fellow veterans as a VFW Commander of Post 2053 in White Cloud, Michigan.

HONORING MITCHELL SIMON OF  
EAST AMHERST, NY

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor 11 year-old Mitchell Simon, a resident of the town of Amherst in Erie County and Western New York.

In many ways, Mitch is an entirely ordinary 11 year old boy. He loves playing baseball, riding his bike, and hanging around with his friends, his siblings and cousins. Mitch is an inquisitive young man, always present with a ready smile and a friendly face.

But in another area, he is very special indeed. Mitch was born with a rare condition that affected the function of his liver. After surgery at a very young age, Mitch was fortunate to live a relatively normal life. But in December 2011, troubles developed, and Mitch was placed on a waiting list to receive a liver transplant.

On Tuesday April 17, the call came, and Mitch and his family, led by parents Jason and Denise, made the trip to Pittsburgh, PA. Overnight, after a grueling surgical procedure, the miracle of life was handed back to Mitch.

After surgery, it was said that Mitch was soon sitting up in bed, playing his X-Box, but it's undeniable that the recovery has had its ups and downs. Any 11 year old would be frustrated to be in bed for too long, and we know that Mitch is fighting hard to get back home.

On Saturday, June 2, a benefit will be held for the Simon family, to help defray the costs associated with Mitch's illness. The response for the benefit has been overwhelming, with friends, relatives, schoolmates' families and Mitch's baseball and basketball teammates and their families all pitching in for a great cause.

I would be remiss if I did not also speak of the tremendous sacrifices made by those who promote and participate in organ and tissue donation. Mitch had the gift of life given back to him with his surgery, but this is not the Simon family's first such experience. Mitch's mom Denise was a kidney donor to her brother in 2002. While an unthinkable tragedy occurs with the death of a child, the Simon family will be forever thankful that another family's tragedy resulted in a new lease on life for Mitch. The miracle of organ donation is never ending, and one hopes that the Simon family's story—both as donors as well as recipients—is an inspiration to others to join the ranks of those willing to "Donate Life."

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that you will join with me and with all of our colleagues to commend the Simon family and offer the best wishes of the House of Representatives to Mitch for a speedy recovery.

TRIBUTE TO DR. MAUREEN  
CLANCY-MAY

**HON. RUSS CARNAHAN**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Maureen Clancy-May, and honor her for her years of service to the people of the St. Louis area.

Dr. Clancy-May has achieved many milestones during her 33 years in education. She received her Bachelor's in Teaching Exceptional Children from Southeast Missouri State University, her Masters of Education from the University of Missouri-St. Louis, and her Ph.D. from Saint Louis University in Educational Administration. Dr. Clancy-May then applied her knowledge as a teacher, a Director of Student Services, a Principal, and as an Assistant Superintendent for schools across the St. Louis area. She has also shared her knowledge and experience with other educators as an adjunct professor in the Education Leadership Department at Saint Louis University.

Since July 1, 2004, Dr. Clancy-May has worked as the Superintendent of Schools for the Bayless School District. There, she led the Bayless School District to achieve full accreditation and Missouri's Accreditation with Distinction. Under her guidance, Bayless Elementary School and Bayless Junior High earned both the Missouri and the National School of Character awards. Her determination to improve her school district resulted in numerous awards for the district, as well as a \$1.5 million math and science grant.

In addition to her work in education, Dr. Clancy-May supports her community in many ways. She is an active member of the Rotary Club of St. Louis County and the Lemay Chamber of Commerce, and has served four years on the Board of the Affton Community Chamber of Commerce. She is a member of numerous education organizations, serving as

a representative on the Missouri Association of School Administrators' Executive Committee and as the president of the Cooperating School Districts of the Greater St. Louis Area's Board. Dr. Clancy-May has also been recognized for her many accomplishments, including: being awarded with the FOCUS St. Louis What's Right with the Region Award; Hardee's Hometown Hero Award; and the Southeast Missouri State University Alumni Merit Award.

Dr. Clancy-May has dedicated much of her life to serving the St. Louis community. I congratulate Dr. Maureen Clancy-May for her devotion to one of the nation's most important professions: educating our children and preparing them for a responsible and productive adulthood.

HONORING LEWIS N. WALKER

**HON. SANDER M. LEVIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2012*

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Lewis N. Walker, who will retire next month after years of distinguished service at Lawrence Technological University in Southfield, Michigan.

Dr. Walker joined Lawrence Tech in 1994, serving as provost for 12 years. During that time, he improved student access to computer technology, expanded international partnerships, and developed facility improvements to support emerging technologies and career fields. Dr. Walker is also credited with fostering and instituting the only required undergraduate leadership program in the country outside the Nation's three military academies.

In 2005, again through Dr. Walker's efforts, the University began a unique partnership with the Ferndale Public Schools to establish University High School, which offers a rigorous preparatory curriculum for public school students. This partnership is making a difference. A full 99 percent of University High School's first three graduating classes received their diploma, and 85 percent have gone on to higher education.

In 2006, Dr. Walker was made President of LTU. The severe economic downturn that began the following year brought a time of extraordinary challenge for the country, and especially for the State of Michigan. With steep job losses, especially in our State's vital auto and manufacturing sectors, there was a clear need for retraining of displaced workers. Through Dr. Walker's leadership, Lawrence Tech stepped up and addressed the challenge through the "Recovery Starts Here" initiative, which provided grants to over 650 displaced workers and supported efforts to diversify Michigan's economy. This program was widely replicated and serves as an example of the vital synergies that can and should exist between institutions of higher education and our Nation's economy.

Building on the successful redevelopment of the campus quadrangle and A. Alfred Taubman Student Services Center, Dr. Walker set in motion the next phase of growth of LTU by laying the groundwork for development of a state-of-the-art Engineering, Life Sciences, and Architecture Complex. Over the years, my office has been pleased to work closely with Dr. Walker and his team on efforts to expand