

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF MRS.
RICHIE JEAN SHERROD JACKSON

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2013

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Richie Jean Sherrod Jackson, a phenomenal woman and beloved teacher, author, and civil rights activist who departed this life on Sunday November 10, 2013. For her dedicated service to the City of Selma and the State of Alabama, I pay tribute today to the life work of Mrs. Richie Jean Sherrod Jackson.

Mrs. Jackson was born August 30, 1932 the only child of the late John W. and Juanita Richardson Sherrod. Her early years were spent in York and Selma, Alabama.

Mrs. Jackson graduated from Caradoza High School in Washington, D.C. and completed her Bachelor's degree in Education from Alabama State University and Master's degree in Education from the University of Montevallo.

Mrs. Jackson was married to Dr. Sullivan Jackson and together made Selma, Alabama their home. To this union was born one child; Jawana Virginia Jackson to whom they were devoted.

In addition to her strong commitment to family, Mrs. Jackson in 1961 began a 30 year teaching career with Selma Public Schools serving as both a teacher to countless numbers of children and as an administrator with the school system.

Because of her family's dedication and allegiance to civic and social justice, the Jackson home on Lapsley Street became a focal point for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and other leaders as they planned the Selma to Montgomery Civil Rights March.

In 2011, Mrs. Jackson's book, *The House by the Side of the Road: The Civil Rights Movement* was published by The University of Alabama Press. The book detailed her personal memoirs reflecting on how her home in Selma served as the informal headquarters for Dr. King during the Civil Rights Movement. She and her husband Dr. Jackson were influential and prominent supporters of the movement. Dr. King and other national leaders, including Ralph David Abernathy and John Lewis, held strategy sessions at the Jackson house and also met with Assistant Attorney General John Doar to negotiate plans for the Selma to Montgomery march.

This firsthand account showed the heart of Dr. and Mrs. Richie Jean Jackson, and the pivotal role they played to carefully create a safe haven for civil rights leaders. They also courageously dealt with the challenges of living through events that would forever change America through the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Mrs. Jackson demonstrated an exemplary commitment to community and enjoyed membership in the Historic Brown Chapel AME Church; the Alabama State Dental Wives Aux-

iliary; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and numerous civic and community endeavors in Selma, Alabama.

On a personal note, I will always remember Mrs. Jackson as my sixth grade teacher at Cedar Park Elementary School in Selma, Alabama. Mrs. Jackson was a gifted teacher and strict disciplinarian. She expected the best from her students and settled for nothing less. I am grateful to have her as a guiding influence in my life and I will cherish the memories of being in her class. Mrs. Jackson was also a longtime member of my home church, Btown Chapel where she would faithfully sit in same pew each Sunday. I was always aware of the special role she and her home played in the civil rights movement but I believe one of her greatest gifts is embodied in the hearts and minds of the many students she taught and mentored in her 30 year teaching career.

On behalf of the 7th Congressional District, the State of Alabama and this nation, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering the life and legacy of Mrs. Richie Jean Sherrod Jackson. May we strive to emulate her servant heart and pay tribute to her distinguished humanitarian efforts and contributions to the betterment of society.

IN RECOGNITION OF FLAHERTY
DRIVE

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2013

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the completion of the Flaherty Drive Project in New Bedford.

Greater New Bedford is a working city, constantly progressing and growing. The New Bedford Business Park allows local businesses to set up shop and participate in our community's—and nation's—economy. Of course, with emerging businesses, space is limited. When two million dollars were allocated to extend the park by 45 acres, an opportunity was given to new businesses, and existing businesses were given the opportunity to expand. The Flaherty Drive Extension has been completed by the Bourne Financial Development Corporation, and currently offers water, sewer, gas, electric, and telecommunication services to the New Bedford businesses looking to operate in the new section of the Business Park.

This project would not be possible without Bill Flaherty, the longtime Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Greater New Bedford Industrial Foundation's Executive Committee. He served on the Committee from 1987 until 2002. Mr. Flaherty passed away in 2003 at the age of 57 after a courageous battle with cancer. He is survived by his wife, Joan, and his daughters, Megan and Mary. At the Celebration of the Flaherty Drive Project, a memento of dedication to Mr. Flaherty will be presented to his family. It's essential to highlight the pro-

gression of local businesses, especially in the current economy. It is the hard work and dedication, as exhibited by Bill Flaherty, that allows for our country to advance and thrive economically.

Mr. Speaker, it brings me great pride to recognize the completion of the Flaherty Drive Project in New Bedford. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the importance of this newly expanded business park, the insurmountable role it will play in the lives of local business owners, and the devotion of Bill Flaherty in his work to better the City of New Bedford.

TRIBUTE TO LINDA BISIGNANO

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of Linda Bisignano of Des Moines, Iowa who passed away on November 11th at age 64 following a long struggle with breast cancer.

Linda and her family have been a foundation of the Des Moines' culinary scene for more than half a century. In 1956, the Bisignano family opened the now renowned Chuck's Restaurant in Highland Park. Specializing in traditional, homemade Italian recipes, Chuck's has been an area favorite for its great service, atmosphere, food and live music.

Linda will fondly be remembered for her invaluable contributions not only to her cherished family business, but also to the community as a whole. Each year, "Dinner at Chuck's" provides a free Thanksgiving dinner to the area's homeless, seniors, families and shut-ins. Last year, nearly 3,500 meals were provided with 2,600 meals delivered to homes across the area.

Mr. Speaker, anyone who had the pleasure of witnessing Linda's hospitality firsthand can tell you she was a one-of-a-kind spirit who truly embodied the sense of community and strong work ethic that Iowans are known for. In her passing, we are reminded of her compassion and her dedication to excellence in doing what she loved. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in offering the Bisignano family my prayers and deepest sympathies during this difficult time.

KRISTEN MOLINARO, HAZLETON
LIONS CLUB

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2013

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Past President Kristen Irene Molinaro of the Hazleton, Pennsylvania Lions Club.

Ms. Molinaro served as president of the Hazleton Lions Club from 2011 to 2013. Since its

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