EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TO CONGRATULATE LANGHORNE BOROUGH MAYOR CHRIS BLAYDON

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 23, 2013

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Langhorne Borough's Mayor Chris Blaydon on a long career of public service. Mayor Chris Blaydon and his wife, Mary, have lived in Bucks County for 50 years. In that time, he has helped shape the community as a volunteer, borough councilman, mayor, and 30-year member of the borough Shadetree Commission. We sincerely commend him for his honorable service to our community as well as to our Nation as a U.S. Air Force pilot and later, as a Pan America pilot. Because of his appreciation for the historical significance of Bucks County, for the last 37 years, he has participated in the re-enactment of Gen. George Washington's crossing of the Delaware River on December 26, 1776 during the Battle of Trenton. Therefore, as Chris Blaydon concludes his mayoral career, we thank and wish him good health and many new adventures.

HONORING DEVLIN L. HODGES

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 23, 2013

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, Devlin L. Hodges came to Yonkers from Richmond, Va., where he was born via New York City. While in New York, in 1975, he became a Police Department Associate and was assigned to the Lower East Side of Manhattan during one of the worst times in the city's crime era. After three years he joined the New York State Department of Correctional Services and two years later joined the City's Department of Corrections.

There he blossomed, becoming a Captain in 1988, and an Assistant Deputy Warden before retiring in 1998. He currently is a Security Officer with the Jewish Home and Healthcare Organization.

He is a member of the James H. Farrell Lodge of the Masons since 1994, starting as a Junior Steward and then appointed as Secretary of the Lodge. In 2007 he was elected to the esteemed office of Worshipful Master and while serving in that capacity he was elected President of the Masters and Wardens Council of the Third Masonic District.

From there he returned to the office of Secretary of the Lodge, a position he has held since.

In 2008 he received his thirty-second degree of Freemasonry when he became a member of Pentecost Consistory #98 of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite Masons, Prince Hall Affiliated of the Northern Jurisdiction. In 2009 he was appointed District Deputy Grand Lecturer of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity and Accepted Masons, serving in that position since.

He has served in many positions of responsibility in the Masons and it is through his leadership that the Luther V. Garrison, Sr. Masonic Foundation was formed. He has served as president of the Foundation from its founding in 2008.

Devlin Hodges has served his community wisely and well for many years and I am proud to join the Luther V. Garrison, Sr. Foundation in honoring him as Man of the Year.

HONORING SCARSDALE MEDICAL GROUP

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 23, 2013

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, the Scarsdale Medical Group began in 1957 when Kenneth Roth, MD, joined Herman Tarnower, MD, and John Cannon MD, both of whom had been associated since World War II, to start a practice of medicine in Scarsdale Village.

After his return from military service in the late 1950s, Tarnower purchased land near the ''five corners'' in Scarsdale and erected a two-story medical building at 259 Heathcote Road. He envisioned a six-member medical group of internists with varying subspecialties. The building was finished in 1960 and its roster of six physicians was completed by July 1961, with the addition of Roderick A. Granzen, MD, and James L. Carvelas, MD—internists who had been in practice in White Plains—and Marvin M. Lipman, MD, fresh out of a research fellowship.

That nucleus remained intact for nearly 15 years, when three more doctors joined. In 1980, tragedy struck when Tarnower, who had achieved international fame as the author of The Scarsdale Medical Diet, was murdered.

Over the following years five of the original members left and five others joined. Of the original members only Dr. Lipman remains.

With the start of this century SMG grew exponentially, adding 31 physicians in 10 years.

By 2007, the need for expansion was acute. Space was leased on Mamaroneck Avenue in Harrison, allowing the Heathcote Road property to be temporarily vacated for needed repairs.

SMG's growth was steered by a committee of several members of the partnership and the executive director, Maria Trusa. She joined SMG in 1987 as a medical assistant, advanced to manager by 1992, and was named Executive Director.

Over the 57 years, SMG has served Scarsdale and the surrounding community, growing from the original six physicians to its present complement of 39. SMG expanded to treat patients after hours and on weekends and holidays. For urgent care, no appointment is necessary. SMG renders primary care, plus dermatology, neurology, nutrition and podiatry services as well as virtually all of the subspecialties of internal medicine, and obstetrics/gynecology services.

In 2012, SMG was awarded the designation of Medical Home by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality of the Department of Health and Human Services.

I congratulate the Scarsdale Medical Group on its decades of medical service to the community and celebrate the reopening of their Heathcote Road offices, allowing even more services for Scarsdale and its environs.

HONORING JEFFREY A. MOERDLER

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 23, 2013

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, Jeffrey A. Moerdler is being honored by the Riverdale Jewish Community Relations Council for his extraordinary work on behalf of Riverdale's Jewish community, including his 27 years of service on the Riverdale Y Board, his past service as President of the Y, more recently of the Y's President's Advisory Council, and his work as a Vice President of the Riverdale Jewish Community Council.

More significant on a basic level is his commitment to Hatzalah, the largest volunteer ambulance service in the United States, as an Emergency Medical Technician responding to 150–200 emergency medical calls per year, principally in Riverdale. He is also a Coordinator (co-president) of the Riverdale Hatzalah chapter and is a member of the Executive Board of the Citywide Hatzalah organization. He was part of the aid response when Captain ''Sully'' Sullenberger landed his airplane in the Hudson River. Most significantly, he has six ''saves,'' four in cardiac arrests and two in chokings, as well as having participated in the delivery of one baby in the field.

In his day job, Mr. Moerdler is head of Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C.'s Real Estate and Communications practices in New York. He has been recognized as a New York Super Lawyer for real estate in the New York Times every year since 2006 and in Best Lawyers in America for Real Estate in 2013–14.

He is a Commissioner of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, Vice Chair of its Audit and Security Committees and its Insurance Working Group, and takes an active role as the lead board member on many of its largest real estate transactions at the World Trade Center site.

Plus, he does a substantial amount of pro bono legal work for a variety of Jewish and community service organizations.

Jeffrey Moerdler has demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to his community and his fellow human beings for three decades. I

am proud to join with the Riverdale Jewish Community Relations Council in honoring him with its Community Service Award.

HONORING WAKEFIELD TAXPAYERS & CIVIC LEAGUE 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 23, 2013

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, citizens groups are the backbone of a democracy, banding together to make their lives, their neighborhoods, their country a better place.

I am privileged to have one such extraordinary group in my district, the Wakefield Taxpayers and Civic League, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary. It was formed in 1913 to ''maintain the integrity of the community'' and is one of the oldest such organizations in New York City.

The League involves itself in improving their community by, for example, getting the outer walls of P.SW. 1 repaired; getting the retaining wall abutting a playground on Carpenter Avenue, in danger of falling, fixed; advocated successfully for the closing of 'topless' bars in a residential neighborhood; initiated a study to change zoning regulations that allowed motels to be built in residential areas; and fought illegal construction and illegal rentals in two- and three-family homes.

The League maintains a lively and deep interest in politics and I have appeared before them many times seeking their endorsement, as have any other person seriously seeking to represent them.

Wakefield is a beautiful community because its residents work hard to keep it so. The League works closely with the District Attorney's Crime Assistance unit and has a Wakefield Civilian patrol to deter crime. It has stopped crimes in progress, alerted the Fire Department to fires, and saves lives by bringing medical attention to accident scenes.

The Wakefield Taxpayers and Civic League is a model of what citizens can accomplish by working together in their neighborhoods. I am proud to be associated with them and congratulate them for 100 years of building and maintaining a model community.

HONORING HITCHCOCK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 23, 2013

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, Houses of Worship have been central to American communities since the founding of our country. One such House of Worship, the Hitchcock Presbyterian Church in Scarsdale, is now celebrating its centenary.

In 1913, a group of 19 gathered to worship in a portable chapel borrowed from the Presbytery of Hudson River and set on the corner of Walworth Avenue and Fenimore Road. The Reverend George Smyth helped that group organize Hitchcock Presbyterian Church, build a sanctuary, organize the Sunday School, Women's Guild, Missionary Society and Women's Prayer Group.

In 1949 Dr. Smyth retired and the Reverend Dr. Robert W. Youngs was installed as senior pastor. By then increased attendance necessitated two worship services each Sunday.

In 1959 the Reverend James S. Stewart became senior pastor and served until 1972. During these years the Weekday School was begun and the three women's organizations merged to form the Guild, and in 1991 became the Presbyterian Women of Hitchcock.

The Reverend J. Scottie Griffin became senior pastor in July 1975 and served until 1982. The growing Asian population in this area stimulated the development of the Living in America program to serve the international community.

In September 1983 the Reverend Robert S. MacLennan became senior pastor and served until December 31, 1992. During his ministry there was increased dialogue with the local Jewish community. In 1984 Special Ministries to Japanese, an interdenominational ministry to Japanese-speaking people in the metropolitan area, began holding Japanese language worship once a month.

In 1986 a fire destroyed the sanctuary building but not the program or the mission of Hitchcock Church. The rebuilding was completed and a sanctuary dedicated on October 7, 1990.

In May, 1995 the Reverend Donald J. Steele became the pastor. During his 10 year ministry, the church became very active in mission work and supported ''Beyond Borders''—a literacy program in Haiti.

The congregation called The Rev. Dr. John W. Miller of Dallas as new pastor and he began his ministry in 2008.

In congratulate the Hitchcock Presbyterian Church on the celebration of 100 years of serving its congregants. The church has contributed enormously to its worshippers and I wish it many more years in our community.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF BEAR CREEK HIGH SCHOOL'S STUDENT JOURNALISTS

HON. JERRY McNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 23, 2013

Mr. McNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor Bear Creek High School's newspaper, The Bruin Voice, which has been recognized as the best in the Nation. The Bruin Voice recently won the prestigious National Scholastic Press Association's Pacemaker Award for excellence, in addition to receiving Best in Show for its coverage of student protests.

The student journalists at Bear Creek High School put a tremendous amount of effort toward producing a newspaper of outstanding quality. They have displayed exceptional writing and reporting skills and have produced compelling editorials and cartoons. The accomplishments of Bear Creek High School's student journalists are emblematic of their pursuit of excellence and commitment to their fellow students, faculty and our community.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Bear Creek High School's journalism students, and their extraordinary dedication to producing an award-winning newspaper.

HONORING EILEEN MASON

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 23, 2013

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, Eileen Mason arrived in Larchmont in 1968 in pursuit of a good local school for her three year-old daughter, Alison, and later a son, Gregory. Eileen was very active in the PTA. As Health and Safety Chair at the Murray Avenue School, she spearheaded the drive which although failing to reinstall the traffic light, resulted in the school system's first school crossing guard.

From 1972 to 1983 she worked to create after school clubs for ''latch-key kids'' and help mainstream students with disabilities. In 1980, she was chair of the Middle States High School Evaluation team for School and Community.

Eileen became interested in the cable franchise proposals in the late 'seventies while doing publicity for several local organizations including the Girl Scouts, The Garden Club of Larchmont, the Woman's Club of Larchmont and the PTA. Offering news to the community has been the focus of her thirty years with LMC–TV.

Her own original programs started with ''It's Your Community'' and the establishment of water control measures at the Reservoir and coastal zone management and environmental concerns. She produced a series on Save the Sound, a Connecticut organization based in Stamford, as well as programs for the Federated Conservationists of Westchester County.

Other organizations benefitting from her coverage are the League of Woman Voters, Summit, Cancer Support Team, Girl Scouts, Kemper Memorial Park Preservation, Hispanic Resource Center, Mamaroneck Library's Children's Department and Larchmont Public Library's Friends, Rye Arts Center, Memorial Day and Holocaust Memorial events.

For the past twelve years she has produced monthly programs for Larchmont-Mamaroneck Interfaith Council. I congratulate Eileen Mason who is being awarded the Special Recognition Award for her extraordinary contributions to LMC–TV productions as a volunteer.

HONORING ALPHA EPSILON PI INTERNATIONAL FRATERNITY

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 23, 2013

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I extend my congratulations to the Alpha Epsilon Pi International Fraternity on the celebration of its centenary. With more than 177 active chapters across the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, France, and Israel, and over 9,000 undergraduate brothers, there is certainly much to celebrate.

The fraternity is celebrating the largest event in its history—the Centennial Celebration on August 8th honoring the first 100 years of its existence and its success in cultivating generations of Jewish leaders on college campuses across the world.

The first 100 years are said to be the hardest, but the success of Alpha Epsilon Pi is a wonderful start.

I wish the fraternity every success in the future and look forward to seeing more leaders from Alpha Epsilon Pi take their place in the world.

AEPi was founded in 1913 at New York University, initially as a brotherhood of young men from similar backgrounds, but expanded in time with the goal of giving them the best college and fraternity experience. Since then approximately 100,000 men have been members of the fraternity.

More important is the leadership training provided by AEPi. Its members include Wolf Blitzer, Mark Zuckerberg, former Florida Congressman Ron Klein, National Hockey League Commissioner Gary Bettman, James Brooks, a producer/director of The Simpsons, Paul Simon and Art Garfunkel, and architect Frank Gehry, plus numberless more.

Celebrating a Centennial is a rare event. AEPi has contributed to the nation and the world for 100 years and if past performance is any indication, this will continue for many generations to come.

HONORING YONKERS COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 23, 2013

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, the Yonkers Commission on Human Rights is celebrating 50 years of working to affirm the rights of all citizens to full equality before the law as part of its commitment to eliminating racism and to empowering women.

The Commission on Human Rights was created on October 1, 1963, by the City of Yonkers with a charter that delineated the need for protection from human rights violations and the essence of human rights education for Yonkers residents and businesses alike.

The organization actively promotes human rights awareness and outreach in the Yonkers community through special events and activities, serving as a model for dialogue, discussion and coalition building to eliminate racism and intergroup hostilities.

The Yonkers Human Rights Commission fosters mutual respect and understanding among all racial, religious, and ethnic groups in the community, and strives to eliminate all forms of discrimination based on sex or age. It undertakes studies that aid in improving relationships among groups. It inquires into incidents of tension and conflict among or between various racial, religious, and nationality groups, and takes action to ease such tensions and conflicts.

The Human Rights Commission not only seeks to alleviate tensions but to actively promote goodwill among neighbors and communities.

For a half century the Yonkers Human Rights Commission has worked for equality for all in employment, housing, public accommodation, credit, and education. It is an outstanding example of what can be accomplished locally to enhance all of our lives. I am proud to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Yonkers Commission on Human Rights, and congratulate it for the work done for our community.

HONORING AUDREY SMITH-JOHNSON

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 23, 2013

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, Audrey Smith-Johnson was born in Yonkers and attended Yonkers Public Schools, and graduated from Tefft Business School. As a high school student, she volunteered at the Yonkers YWCA and was a Candy Striper at St. Joseph Hospital. But it was while working various positions at a temp agency that she found her passion in real estate. She received her Real Estate Certificate and has been working in that field for 28 years.

But she has another calling, and that is as a member of her community. In July, 2005, she joined Community Sunset Temple #1132, Daughters of Elks, LBPOE Elks of the World. She was promptly elected as Doorkeeper and in 2006 she was elected as the Treasurer. There she has embraced in all facets of Elkdom. Some of the positions she holds are: Assistant Vice Loyal Daughter of Unity Past Daughter Rulers Council (Westchester & Rockland), she is a member of the New York State Daughters of Elks—Royal Court Department, Treasurer/Financial Secretary of the Past State President Circle of Westchester, Rockland and Sullivan Counties. This year she is the Chairperson of the Mid-Winter Conference for The New York State 1B POE of W.

She also belongs to the Yonkers African-American Heritage Committee, a not-for-profit community based organization that partners with several other such organizations, such as: Sister To Sister, YMCA, YWCA and The Yonkers Public Library. Mrs. Johnson joined the YAAHC in 2005, and was named Financial Secretary, a job she has kept, along with several appointed positions such as: Chairperson-Nominating Committee, Joint-Chair-Scholarship Committee and Assistant Corresponding Secretary.

In May 2009, Senior Center #9, located at Terrace City Lodge #1499 appointed her Communication/Publicity Director.

She and her husband, John (Worshipful Master of James H. Farrell #34, PH) have been married for 31 years. They have two children, Mrs. LaTasha Pagan and John, Jr., and a granddaughter Karissma. She is also a mother and grandmother to her extended family—Ms. Capricia McClellan and her children and her grandchildren.

I am proud to join the Luther V. Garrison Sr. Masonic Foundation in honoring Audrey Smith-Johnson as Woman of the Year for her many contributions to her community.

REV. EDWARD MULRAINE

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 23, 2013

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, Houses of Worship in the United States have played a major role in our communities, offering solace, support, and sustenance, both physical and moral, to all. In Mount Vernon, the Unity Baptist Tabernacle, under the guidance of the Rev. Edward Mulraine fulfils all those roles, and today we are celebrating Rev. Mulraine's tenth Pastoral Anniversary in guiding the membership of his church.

Rev. Mulraine has accomplished much in that time to help his Church, his Ministry and his Community.

He established a Men's Fellowship Choir, a Prayer Ministry, a Senior Ministry, and the Gospel Pearls. He expanded the Church's Ministry through radio station WVOV and the Internet. He instituted Women as Deacons and Unity Baptist Tabernacle saw its first Women Deacons in 2011. Unity Tabernacle now teaches Weekly Bible Study and has a Drama Ministry and a Catering Ministry.

More pragmatically Rev. Mulraine raised the funds for a new computer center which now has 14 brand new computers, installed new air conditioning in the Dining Hall, painted the sanctuary and redid the Church roof, and is paying off the $300,000 mortgage.

Beyond his church and ministry, Rev. Mulraine has aided his community by getting pedestrian crossing lights on local streets, marching against violence, and protesting cuts to Day Care and Mount Vernon Hospital. He established the Annual Church Trip and Fellowship to South Carolina, started Home Coming after Summer Break, and fought for funds for the South Street Park.

Rev. Mulraine, and all of Mount Vernon, today celebrate his tenth anniversary as Minister of the Unity Baptist Tabernacle. I am proud to join in this celebration of a man who has made a great difference in his Church, his Ministry and his Community.

TO CONGRATULATE SADIE R. GOLDMAN ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 23, 2013

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sadie ''Honey'' Goldman on her 100th birthday. Mrs. Goldman was born on December 27, 1913 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to Soloman and Selina Hart. She married Irvin J. Goldman and both became loving parents to Philip and Beverly. Alongside her husband, Honey enjoyed working in the family business at Gold Electric Service Inc. in Philadelphia as well as setting time aside for her knitting and sewing. She has been blessed with seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Through her life, she has continued to pass on love, guidance, and wisdom from one generation to the next. I wish her a very happy birthday and good health and happiness.