

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING ALLEN AND LINDA
ERICKSON OF KALISPELL

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 2019

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Allen and Linda Erickson of Kalispell for their commitment to local veterans, and their families, through the North West Montana Veterans Service Center.

The nonprofit organization was born from Allen's vision to serve Montana veterans. He organized and executed a two-day event, Stand Down, to provide supplies and services to homeless veterans. The now annual Stand Down event led to the creation of the Veterans Service Center, which Allen founded and leads as president. The service center includes a food pantry, a thrift store, and medical equipment loans—all tailored to serve veterans.

Allen and Linda opened the Food Pantry in 2002 and have helped organize the community to provide over 156,000 pounds of food to those in need. They have helped provide food to over 2,000 veteran households and over 500 children.

The Veterans Thrift Store provides services such as "move in" assistance, basic furniture, and seasonal clothing. The service center also includes access to shower and laundry facilities for homeless veterans in the community.

In addition to the Stand Downs and the North West Montana Veterans Service Center, the Ericksons have been working on creating Camp Ponderosa Veterans Retreat. The live-in treatment facility will provide veterans with counseling and group therapy. Similar to the Stand Downs, the facility will offer a community for veterans battling homelessness to learn job skills and apply for jobs.

The Ericksons have spent so much of their time dedicated to making this vision become a reality. With the help of countless volunteers and a generous anonymous donor, the camp will become a place for veterans to heal, recover, and rebuild.

Madam Speaker, for their selfless work to provide greater opportunity for our veterans, I recognize Allen and Linda Erickson of Kalispell for their spirit of Montana.

WELCOME GRACE MARGUERITE
MARTIN

HON. HALEY M. STEVENS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 2019

Ms. STEVENS. Madam Speaker, I am happy to congratulate Amanda Martin and James Martin of Royal Oak, Michigan, on the birth of their new baby girl, Grace Marguerite Martin. Grace Marguerite Martin was born on September 16, 2019, at Ascension St. John

Hospital in Detroit, Michigan at 10:54 a.m. Grace weighed eight pounds and six ounces and measured 20 and 8/10 inches long.

I would also like to congratulate Grace's grandparents, Kathryn and Mark Higgins of Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan, Heather and Matthew Martin of Wilmington, North Carolina, Barbara Kortas of Warren, Michigan, and John Ponczocha of Wyandotte, Michigan, as well as her great grandmother, Marguerite Gore, of Grosse Point Woods, Michigan. Congratulations to the entire family as they welcome their newest addition of pure pride and joy.

HONORING MARIAH COLLINS AND
HANNAH MCJESSY FOR THEIR
LIFE-SAVING EFFORTS

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 2019

Mr. WENSTRUP. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor and thank University of Cincinnati nursing students Mariah Collins and Hannah McJessey for their life-saving assistance to the victim of a tragic drive-by shooting on Short Vine Street in April.

Mariah and Hannah were walking on Short Vine Street when the shooting occurred. After witnessing a man fall to the ground, they leapt into action and used a belt from a bystander as a tourniquet to slow the victim's bleeding until he was able to be transported to UC Medical Center for care.

Mariah and Hannah are heroes. I am proud to see them recognized for their extraordinary courage and actions. I can think of no two recipients more deserving of the certificate of merit from the American Red Cross than these two outstanding women and future nurses.

I wish them both the best of luck in their medical careers.

HONORING HARRIS COUNTY SHERIFF'S
DEPUTY SANDEEP SINGH
DHALIWAL

HON. DAN CRENSHAW

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 2019

Mr. CRENSHAW. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Harris County Sheriff Deputy Sandeep Singh Dhaliwal, who was tragically and senselessly murdered in the line of duty while serving the Houston community.

Deputy Dhaliwal's life was devoted to service—to his family, his community, and the residents of Harris County.

Deputy Dhaliwal helped coordinate disaster relief efforts after Hurricane Harvey. He worked with at-risk youth to improve their lives. He recently expressed a desire to start a free food bus to help feed the homeless, because he could not imagine people in his com-

munity going hungry. In the days before his passing, he expressed his dream of creating a fund for first responders and fallen heroes, which UNITED SIKHS will carry on in his name.

Deputy Dhaliwal's service extended beyond his own community. He recently returned from volunteering in Puerto Rico, where he assisted in the recovery efforts after Hurricane Maria. He also recently visited his ancestral village in Punjab to deliver water and other necessities to farmers during a drought.

Deputy Dhaliwal was the first Sikh deputy in the Harris County Sheriff's Department's history to wear the Sikh articles of faith, including his dastaar (turban), kesh (unshorn hair), and kara (steel bracelet) on duty, breaking down the barrier between religious observance and uniformed service. He was proud—and his community was proud of him—for receiving his historic religious accommodation to serve. He was a role model for Sikh Americans nationwide who are interested in a career of service to our nation.

Deputy Dhaliwal was known for his warm and welcoming personality. He was always willing to go out of his way to make the person with whom he was speaking feel respected.

Deputy Dhaliwal was especially warm with children. Since the day of his final patrol, many parents have posted videos of Deputy Dhaliwal interacting with their children. They all ended with a warm hug.

As a Houstonian, I am heartbroken over the loss of Deputy Dhaliwal, but as with every tragedy in my hometown, I am proud to see the community come together in the face of adversity. While this display of compassion does not come close to replacing the husband, father, and son his family lost, it is a small way of showing how much Houston appreciates Deputy Dhaliwal and his contributions to our community and the inspiration he created for Sikhs who want to serve our nation. He was a trailblazer and a hero.

I urge all who hear and read this to take a moment to remember the life of Deputy Dhaliwal. The world would be a better place if we all lived by the example Deputy Dhaliwal set.

IN RECOGNITION OF COLONEL
SCOTT MCFARLANE'S DEDICATED
SERVICE IN THE U.S. ARMY

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 2019

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career and dedicated service of Door County Veteran Service Officer, Colonel Scott A. McFarlane.

Colonel McFarlane spent 30 years in the U.S. Army in both active and reserve service. While enlisted, he attended numerous specialized military schools, expanding his ability to

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