

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE 32ND ANNUAL
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
YOUTH ORATORICAL CONTEST

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 9, 2022

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the 37th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration and the cornerstone of the event, the 32nd Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Oratorical Contest, hosted by the Prince William Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

Each year, the members of the Prince William Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated invite community members to gather on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day to reflect upon the past year and receive a message of hope from the youth of today and leaders of tomorrow. Dr. King will forever be enshrined in our history as the formative figure in the quest for justice through civil dialogue. Responding through peaceful and principled communication to condemn the injustice of social and racial inequality, Dr. King worked tirelessly to establish a more fair and equal society. Our nation still faces obstacles that Dr. King fought to remove, and it is imperative that we continue his work for our next generations. Dr. King's words continue to inspire our youth, molding the future leaders of our country.

Participants in the MLK Youth Oratorical Contest pay tribute to Dr. King's legacy with their ability to communicate with passion and clarity, just as Dr. King did. This year, the competition challenged students to stretch their imaginations and bring inspirational meaning to Dr. King's vision. Specifically, students sought to honor the work of Black women, the unsung heroines of the Civil Rights Movement past and present.

Three middle and three high school orators demonstrated how the vision and tireless work of these women aligned with Dr. King's vision and maintained his legacy. I congratulate the following contestants and commend them for their participation in the 32nd Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Oratorical Contest:

Mahmud Ibn Abdul-Rahman Khabir—Bull Run Middle School, Makaya Elizabeth Freeman—Graham Park Middle School, Shavonne Davis—Marsteller Middle School, Varsha Jyothikaa Palaniyandy—Gar-Field High School, N'Na-Mayi Akosua Tama—Osborn Park High School, Kenedi Cheri Wiley—Hylton High School.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the Prince William Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. for showcasing the power of purposeful and meaningful communication reminiscent of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and in congratulating the talented youth of the 2022 MLK Youth Oratorical Contest. Let us learn from the young people and renew our fight against

injustice, ensuring that all Americans will enjoy the equality they deserve.

LUCA MESTEMAKER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 9, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Luca Mestemaker for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Luca Mestemaker is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Luca Mestemaker is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Luca Mestemaker for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE WOMEN'S CLUB
OF HIALEAH IN HONOR OF WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 9, 2022

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Madam Speaker, in honor of Women's History Month, I rise today to recognize the Women's Club of Hialeah, whose dedication towards bettering Southern Florida and giving back to the community has had a significant impact on Florida's 25th Congressional district.

The Women's Club was founded in the house of Mrs. James Bright and Mrs. Lua A. Curtiss on May 4, 1922. These dedicated women lived in Hialeah and created the club with the goal to form a library for the city. The first venue used for the library was the porch of one of the ten members, all the books for the library were donated by members for the community. As the club started to evolve it became part of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, with their first project being art classes for children. The Women's club moved locations of their library multiple times over the years and were challenged when a hurricane wiped away one of their sites. Regardless of the obstacles that had to be overcome, they remained hopeful and persistent.

After many years of searching for a clubhouse to call home, the Women's Club of Hialeah moved into the Old Chamber of Commerce building in Hialeah. While there they held different events such as a dance for the Senior High students, sponsored a free clinic for babies, and donated dresses and clothes to the PTA for children in need. The club also worked on multiple projects around Hialeah to brighten the city and to eliminate pollution. Due to many of the projects done in Hialeah the Women's Club was able to create the Hialeah Pollution Environmental Control Board that was adopted in 1971.

The Women's Club of Hialeah has been organizing events and acts of services for now 100 years in May. Some of the events that have been held here are monthly Bunco parties for seniors and others, cooking classes for mothers and daughters, an annual Pink Party to raise money and awareness for cancer research, painting classes, a High School Arts scholarship, volunteer support with our County Commissioner and State Senator for Thanksgiving food giveaways and pet adoptions. The club has made an overall impact to not just the city of Hialeah but to many in South Florida.

Madam Speaker, as a beacon of service, it is truly a privilege to work with the highly esteemed Women's Club of Hialeah. Their determination to help others and their continuous generosity in our community has never wavered, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this outstanding club.

RECOGNIZING MARY ANN HIRN ON
BEING NAMED THE 2022 CITIZEN
OF THE YEAR BY THE CASS
CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 9, 2022

Mrs. McCLAIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mary Ann Hirn on being named the 2022 Citizen of the Year by the Cass City Chamber of Commerce.

Mary Ann began her career as a nurse, and later owned a business with her late husband Bob, who was named Citizen of the Year in 2003. She has also been involved with many groups in the Cass City community, including the local Catholic church, the Cass City Historical Society, the Friends of the Thumb Octagon Barn, the Friends of Rawson Memorial Library, and the Hills and Dales Hospital Auxiliary.

One recommendation letter rightly proclaimed, "Look about and you will see her footprints throughout the community." I thank Mary Ann for her years of humble service to the Cass City community and congratulate her on earning 2022's Citizen of the Year award. As someone who does not do this for the attention or acclamation, I am confident she will continue to make an imprint on the community she loves for years to come.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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