EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ON THE LAKE WORTH PUBLIC LIBRARY 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 9, 2012

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the 100th anniversary of the Lake Worth Public Library. This library is a symbol of what a community can accomplish when it comes together for a common goal and embodies the American hunger for knowledge and education.

In 1912, as the city of Lake Worth was being built, the women of this new city recognized the need for a library. That year, the local newspaper sent out an appeal for book donations. As the donations came in, Mr. and Mrs. John L. McKissock would ride their bicycles the seven miles to West Palm Beach to pick up the donated books and bring them back to the new library in Lake Worth. A point of pride for the Lake Worth community is that the Lake Worth Library was established five months before the first school and almost two years before electricity was brought into the city.

As the library outgrew its room in the Lake Worth City Hall, plans were made for the library to be established as a memorial library in honor of General William Jenkins Worth, the man credited with ending the Seminole Wars. However, the bill that would have made this possible was vetoed by President Roosevelt after passing Congress.

The citizens of Lake Worth never gave up though. They worked together, and through fundraising and smart investment, they were able to complete the new library in 1941. Thanks to a sizable donation from James and William Strait, the Lake Worth Public Library was able to even open an art wing which was later converted to a children's library.

To this day, the Lake Worth Public Library is not your average community library. In addition to being a hub of educational activity for adults and children alike, the library is home to unique treasures such as the only known collection of historic paintings by R. Sherman Winton, and wood carvings by Sam J. Schlappich, a Lake Worth artist who exhibited at the Century of Progress Fair in 1933 and the 1939 World Fair.

Libraries like the Lake Worth Public Library and others around the country serve a vital role in our communities. They provide access to computers, books, and research material, host cultural events, and offer technology training essential in today's job market to people from all walks life. Libraries break down barriers and bring communities together, and the Lake Worth Public Library is no exception.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the Lake Worth Public Library, and I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure that despite cuts to Federal, State, and municipal budgets, libraries across the United States receive the support they need to continue their vitally important work.

TRIBUTE TO ELDON FFA KNOWLEDGE TEAM

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 9, 2012

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Eldon FFA knowledge team of Eldon FFA Chapter for winning the National FFA Knowledge Career Development Event.

This team and their advisor should be commended for all of their hard work throughout this past year and for bringing home the national title to their chapter and their community.

I ask you to join me in recognizing the Eldon FFA knowledge team for a job well done!

A TRIBUTE TO EAGLE SCOUT BRADY GARDEN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 9, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Brady R. Garden of Charles City, Iowa for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

The Eagle Scout rank is the highest advancement rank in scouting. Only about five percent of Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout Award. The award is a performance-based achievement with high standards that have been well-maintained over the past century.

To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout is obligated to pass specific tests that are organized by requirements and merit badges, as well as completing an Eagle Project to benefit the community. For his project, Brady chose to demolish a crumbling wall at the World War I Memorial at Sunnyside Cemetery in Charles City and replaced it with a new wood structure with vinyl siding. In total, this project took more than 150 hours of hard work to complete. The work ethic Brady has shown in his Eagle Project and every other project leading up to his Eagle Scout rank speaks volumes of his commitment to serving a cause greater than himself and assisting his community.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young man and his supportive family demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I am honored to represent Brady and his family in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating him on obtaining the Eagle Scout ranking, and I wish him continued success in his future education and career. Thank you.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MAYOR MILBURN GRAVLEY

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 9, 2012

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I stand to honor the life of Milburn Ray Gravley, the former mayor of Carrollton, Texas, who passed away on October 13, 2012, after courageously battling cancer for much of this year.

Milburn was born on January 3, 1931, and was the youngest of nine children. He was a great-grandson of Alexander Wilson Perry, one of the founding landowners of Carrollton, Texas. Like his ancestors before him, Milburn dedicated his life to rigorous and faithful service of his community. He served on several civic boards and committees, including the city council. He was also a member of the Carrollton Lodge #1400 in Carrollton, Texas, and the James A. Smith Lodge #395 in Farmers Branch, Texas. Milburn was a 33° Mason. Most notably, Milburn served as the mayor of Carrollton for twelve years, from 1987 until 1994 and again from 1996 to 1999. Later in his life, and up until his passing, he was the Chairman of the Trinity River Authority, and a member of the Valwood Improvement Board, the Metrocrest Chamber of Commerce, and the Old Downtown Carrollton Board. Multiple bodies duly recognized Milburn's exceptional and enduring service over the years, and he was even named Metrocrest Citizen of the Year in 1989.

Milburn married and is survived by Sylvia McInnish Gravley. Together they had a daughter, Lynda, and two sons, Gary and Alan. He is survived by them and also his six grandchildren, Cristi, Casey, Lori, Matthew, Nicole, and Christopher; four step-grandchildren, Richard, Ashley, Kristen, and Preslee; and four great-grandchildren, Madison, Sydnee, Reece, and Juliet. Milburn was preceded in death by two of his brothers and four of his sisters. Two more brothers, Joe and Wilton, survive him.

It is a great professional honor for my son, Matthew, and I to have held the same office that Milburn did as mayors of Carrollton, Texas. Yet, the greater and more profound honor and joy was to have known Milburn personally. I think that I speak for the entire Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex community when I say that he will be deeply missed.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in honoring the great life and passing of Mayor Milburn Ray Gravley.