

They want us to stop assuming that Washington knows best. We passed legislation eliminating unfunded mandates on the States and put a halt to Federal regulations and red tape while preserving national standards for health, safety and the environment.

They are willing to try new approaches. We are all frustrated that Washington-imposed programs to solve the crises of crime and welfare have not worked. So, we proposed giving our States and local communities the flexibility and the resources to try new approaches. And, we have not overlooked the fact that the Government programs are not a substitute for personal responsibility or community involvement.

In all, I have cast over 280 votes so far this Congress. I am told that not since 1933 has Congress been so active in voting on major issues. I weighed each vote individually and carefully and I know that there is still much room for improvement in many of our proposals as we work with the President and the Senate.

While we have made a lot of progress, the Congress faces more tough choices in the next 100 days as we lay out a plan to balance the budget by 2002.

The goal is clear—we must bring spending under control and allow all Americans to control more of their hard-earned money. It is the specific choices that will be tough and New Jersey will not be immune to them even as our delegation works to assure that we get our fair share.

I remember the tough choices I had to make working on the budget in Trenton. As I did then, I will continue to listen to all my constituents and pledge to do my share to make these tough decisions with the utmost of care and fairness.

I will do my best to explain our decisions, although I would forewarn that some media and political "sound bytes" often have more persuasive power than do the facts. We need an honest dialog with our constituents, and I welcome their ideas at all times.

RADIO VISION'S 15TH ANNUAL  
VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION DAY

**HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 5, 1995*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, on May 6, 1995, Radio Vision, a service organization in my 20th District of New York which is staffed 100 percent by volunteers, will be celebrating its 15th annual "Volunteer Recognition Day."

Radio Vision is a closed-circuit radio broadcasting service that provides news and information for the blind and sight impaired throughout 5 counties in the Hudson Valley region of New York. The volunteers who give of their time to provide the Radio Vision service free of charge to hundreds of sight-impaired persons is highly deserving of our gratitude and special recognition. Without Radio Vision, sight impaired people would have no access to the day-to-day information, especially regarding local events, that the rest of us all take for granted.

A sight impaired person's access to the media is limited to listening to radio and TV broadcasts that briefly outline national and

world news stories. For a person that has difficulty holding or reading a newspaper, local news and happenings—such as the stores which are having sales, where new facilities have opened in the vicinity, and what our neighbors are accomplishing—is difficult to obtain. Without Radio Vision, a blind person has little or no access to information about his or her community.

Radio Vision provides a free closed-circuit radio to people who need help getting news. Over 100 volunteers read local news, topical literature, shopping hints and other vital information to the more than 400 blind, sight impaired or otherwise disabled Hudson Valley residents who subscribe to the Radio Vision service.

For the past 15 years, Daniel Hulse has done a superlative job as program director. In addition, Carol Cleveland has worked tirelessly to coordinate the volunteers who find time to aid disadvantaged members of their community.

Their voluntary hard work has enriched the lives of many of my constituents, and I am proud to honor them today.

TRIBUTE TO ERNIE PYLE

**HON. STEPHEN E. BUYER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 5, 1995*

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of one of the most beloved Hoosiers of the 20th century on the 50th anniversary of his death. He was a man of strong character, unwavering dedication, and a common touch. Born in the American heartland, he became world famous by chronicling the struggles of countless "G.I. Joes" during World War II. His writing remains some of the most poignant and moving in the history of warfare. I speak, of course, of that most beloved war correspondent and friend of the common soldier, Ernie Pyle.

He was born in Dana, IN, on August 3, 1900. It could have been Anywhere, USA. An only child, he was a wiry, red-headed, shy boy raised on a farm. After a short stint in the Navy, he enrolled in journalism at Indiana University. Restless and eager to move on, he left school his senior year to pursue a career in writing. His early jobs included positions with the La Porte Herald Argus, the Scripps-Howard Daily News in Washington, DC, and the Evening World and the Evening Post in New York.

Ernie Pyle began his career as a syndicated columnist in 1935 when he took a 3 month sick leave from the Washington Daily News and toured the country by car with his wife, Geraldine Elizabeth Siebolds. Returning to Washington, he wrote numerous columns describing his experiences. His chatty style, which became his trademark, was popular with readers and the Scripps-Howard group created the post of roving correspondent for Pyle. In this position, he criss-crossed the continent 35 times gathering material for his columns.

Ernie Pyle's first experience with war came in 1939, when he was sent overseas to cover the outbreak of World War II. His early coverage of the Nazi bombing of London was so gripping that his dispatches were cabled back

to Britain for readers there. Soon Pyle found himself accompanying military units to the various fronts that developed as the war progressed. It was here that Pyle developed his now famous love for the combat infantryman—the "G.I. Joes" of the U.S. Army. His coverage of the North African campaign, written in the folksy style that became his trademark, included the names and hometowns of the junior officers and men who actually did the fighting.

Known affectionately as "the little guy,"—he weighed only 110 lbs—Pyle accompanied the soldiers through North Africa and into Sicily. His writing is best described by Pyle himself:

I only know what we see from our worm's-eye view, and our segment of the picture consists only of tired and dirty soldiers who are alive and don't want to die; of long darkened convoys in the middle of the night; of shocked silent men wandering back down the hill from battle; of chow lines and atabrine tablets and foxholes and burning tanks and Arabs holding up eggs and the rustle of high-flown shells; of Jeeps and petrol dumps and smelly bedding rolls and C-rations and cactus patches and blown bridges and dead mules and hospital tents and shirt collars greasy-black from months of wearing; and laughter, too, and anger and wine and lovely flowers and constant cussing. All these things it is composed of; and graves and graves and graves.

Exhausted, Pyle returned home following the invasion of Sicily, only to return to Europe in time to cover the Italian campaign, including the Anzio landing. Although sick with anemia, it was here that Pyle wrote his most famous column on the death of Capt. Henry T. Waskow of Belton, TX. He returned to England in April 1944 to await the invasion of Normandy. During this period, he received the Pulitzer Prize for his war correspondence. He continued his coverage of the European theater from the Normandy landings to the liberation of Paris. After 29 months overseas and 700,000 written words on the war, Pyle returned home once again.

His restlessness continued. Half-bald, grey and thin, Pyle declared himself a deserter, and decided to return to combat, this time in the Pacific. He landed with the 77th Infantry Division on Ie Shima in the Ryukyus on April 17, 1945. It was here that Pyle's luck ran out. After spending the night under fire, he started out for the front in a jeep on the morning of April 18. Caught in a machine gun ambush, he dove into a ditch for cover. He was killed minutes later by a Japanese sniper when he raised his head. On learning of his death, the Secretary of War stated that "They like him because he talked their language. They trusted him because he reported them faithfully to the public at home."

Originally buried where he fell, Pyle's body was later interred on Okinawa and finally at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, the Punchbowl Crater, Hawaii. But he was never forgotten in his home in Vermillion County. In 1975, Pyle's farmhouse was moved into Dana and became a museum. On April 18, 1995, 50 years after his death, two Quonset huts will be dedicated as additions to this museum to store his memorabilia. There can be no more fitting symbol to honor a man who covered America's finest in the farthest points of the globe.

Today we remember Ernie Pyle. Not for his Pulitzer, or his honorary degrees, but for his