

and the "special right" to have photographs on your desk, to have picnics in public places, and to care for your friends who are sick. He has worked for the "special right" to be free and equal and unafraid in America.

Tom has done all this by speaking, teaching, advocating, organizing, and writing. He has been a model for young people who care about progress, and he has been a reminder for older people that not all justice has yet been done. Tom is the kind of American who has made the Nation make the quantum leap from thinking about gay civil rights as a fringe issue to gay civil rights as a fundamental issue.

The Alliance for Justice has made these leaps before, leading the Nation closer to liberty and justice for all. I am pleased to join with the Alliance in honoring Tom Stoddard as a pioneer in that fight, and as a man whose work has changed politics for the better and forever.

TRIBUTE TO 2D LT. WAYLAND E. BENNETT, USMC

HON. STEVE LARGENT

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 1995

Mr. LARGENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to 2d Lt. Wayland E. Bennett, a Marine Corps pilot who perished on a training mission during World War II, but was only recently brought back to this country for burial. The story of his return is a remarkable tale of friendship and dedication and deserving of special recognition.

Mr. Bennett was a young man of 18 when he left home to join the war effort in the South Pacific. In 1943 he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps and was sent to a small island 1,200 miles northeast of Australia to complete his training and join the elite Black Sheep Squadron of fighter pilots. On October 22, 1943 his Corsair crashed into a jungle area of the island too dense and too dangerous to risk a patrol. The wreckage and Mr. Bennett's remains were considered by the military to be unrecoverable.

But the story doesn't end there, thanks in large measure to the devotion of Mr. Robert Bowden of Texarkana, TX. He refused to let his memories of his childhood friend end with a plane crash in the jungle. In 1988, he began a friendship with Dr. Dan Bookout, and together the two men decided to search for the wreckage. Enlisting family, friends, and strangers alike, Mr. Bowden and Dr. Bookout began to raise money and to organize an expedition to the South Pacific to scour the jungle for the plane.

Dr. Bookout led his teams of volunteer searchers on four trips to Vanuatu, the first in 1988. He made friends with and enlisted natives to aid in the searches. The team endured many hardships and dangers in the jungles, each trip bringing them nearer to their objective as they eliminated improbable sites. Then in March and April of 1994, local villagers assisting in excavating a crash site told the CILHI team that they knew of another crash site and led the CILHI team to this site. From April 2 to 5, 1994, the CILHI team conducted an excavation of this newly revealed crash site and recovered the remains tentatively identi-

fied as being those of 2d Lt. Wayland E. Bennett. The board appointed to review the matter after all tests were completed acted with characteristic military thoroughness and on August 23, 1994, confirmed positive identification of the remains as being those of 2d Lt. Wayland E. Bennett, USMC. Lt. Bennett's nearest survivors were so informed, and on September 16, 1994, 2d Lt. Wayland E. Bennett's remains were interred in the family plot in Texarkana, TX. Dr. Bookout continued to act as the Bennett family representative until the interment.

I know I speak for all Members of Congress when I say the selflessness and dedication of Mr. Bowden and Dr. Bookout deserves recognition. I hope you will join me in extending best wishes to them, as well as to the families of Lieutenant Bennett. I am proud that their efforts led to his return.

CATHOLICS UNDER ATTACK IN BANJA LUKA

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 1995

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I want to bring to the attention of my colleagues the deteriorating conditions in the region of Banja Luka in northern Bosnia. It seems the latest atrocities committed by Bosnian Serb militants, who control the area, are directed at Catholic Church leaders and Catholic believers, who are primarily Croats. These attacks come on the heels of Croatia's efforts to regain control over some of its territory occupied by the Croatian Serb militants since 1991. Around 40,000 Croats still live in northern Bosnia despite significant ethnic cleansing by the Serbs. An estimated 50,000 Croats and hundreds of thousands of Moslems have been expelled from this region alone during the past 3 years.

In one recent incident in Banja Luka, a priest and nun were reportedly doused with gasoline and set on fire in the parish rectory as militants blew up the parish church building next door. This tragic act of barbarity is part of a larger campaign directed against the Catholic community in the diocese of Banja Luka. On May 4, militants forcibly expelled nuns from two convents in the region. Since that time, a total of five churches and one monastery have been destroyed. In all, since the beginning of the war, 40 churches in the diocese have been completely destroyed and another 25 have sustained heavy damage.

The bishop of Banja Luka, Franjo Komarcia, has repeatedly called upon the Bosnian Serb leadership to stop the attacks. These pleas have fallen on deaf ears. Bishop Komarcia, in an open appeal, described the current situation in his diocese: "Fear and panic, for their lives, has overcome the Catholics remaining in the area because they are totally unprotected from the local and newly arrived Serbian extremists. They are virtually [sic] hostages and are faced with the real threat of immediate catastrophe or widespread banishment." Bishop Komarcia began a hunger strike recently to draw attention to the gravity of the situation faced by the Catholic community in Banja Luka. Late last week, an urgent appeal was sent to the head of the Serbian Orthodox Church urging his intervention to ensure the

protection of Catholics in the Serb stronghold. The senseless attacks in Banja Luka have been roundly condemned by Pope John Paul II.

Mr. Speaker, these tragic developments are but the latest examples of the campaign of death and destruction directed against innocent civilians by the Bosnian Serb militants in Banja Luka and elsewhere in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM K. WATERS

HON. JACK REED

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 1995

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a gentleman who has dedicated his life to one of our Nation's most honorable and arduous professions: teaching. Mr. William K. Waters has been a social studies teacher at Park View Junior High School in Cranston, RI, for his entire 31 year tenure with the Cranston public school system. At the end of this school year, Mr. Waters will retire after his many years of teaching.

Mr. Waters first went to Park View as a student teacher while studying at Rhode Island College in 1963. The following year, he returned to Park View as a full-time social studies teacher. He quickly became immersed in this dynamic school, and soon his duties extended far beyond the classroom.

Mr. Waters has worked tirelessly with students on Park View's award winning yearbook for over 20 years. As the ninth grade class advisor for 28 years, Mr. Waters' encouragement and guidance instilled qualities of responsibility and leadership. However, Mr. Waters' legacy to Park View will be most remembered as advisor to the student council, a position he has held for 29 years.

Park View's student council has long been the envy of junior high schools throughout Rhode Island. The council's many longstanding traditions and services have benefited students, teachers, and the community. Students chosen by their peers to represent their class on the student council have managed school stores, a student handbook, all-school dances, the ninth grade dance, and fundraisers. Overseen by the always attentive and dedicated Mr. Waters, these were not merely student activities, they fostered a cooperative and active student body within the Park View community.

And for the students fortunate enough to serve on the council, it served as a life-long lesson. Someone believed that at their age they could be trusted with money, to carry out responsibilities, and to deliver results. Leadership and commitment are not easily learned, but Mr. Waters not only encouraged these, he expected them.

The student council's organizational skills and resources also benefited the local community. The Meeting Street Center, the Heart Association, the R.I. Lung Association, and Rhode Island's senior citizens have all come to recognize that Park View is not just another junior high school. At the same time, students were able to learn about life beyond the confines of classes, teachers, and friends.

Of course, none of this would have been possible had someone not taken on the enormous responsibility of going beyond the afternoon school bell. Junior high school teachers

are a rate commodity. They face challenges in the classroom that go far beyond textbooks, homework, and grades. Mr. Waters is a dedicated professional who went beyond the call of duty and always bestowed any credit to his students.

Mr. Waters has gotten to know many generations of young adults growing up in eastern Cranston. His guidance and devotion is demonstrated by the caliber of students who have graduated. Prepared academically when they graduated to high school, these young adults were also prepared to be role models and leaders for other students. Mr. Waters is an institution, and will always be fondly recalled by his students, their parents, and his colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Mr. Waters' service to Park View Junior High School and commend him as a teacher, an advisor, and a person. Mr. Waters is truly a role model for future teachers and students, and I would like to wish him continued success in retirement.

A TRIBUTE TO MARFA ON THE
40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
MOVIE "GIANT"

HON. HENRY BONILLA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 1995

Mr. BONILLA. Mr. Speaker, 40 years ago the town of Marfa, TX, joined with Hollywood to bring to life "Giant," the classic movie etched in the minds of so many Americans as a tale of trial and tribulation. This May 27, Marfa will have the pleasure of hosting a return engagement of this memorable classic with some of the original cast and crew joining in the celebration.

Many of us recall the family saga which features Hollywood greats Rock Hudson and Elizabeth Taylor. We especially remember James Dean, a young actor who was relatively unknown back in the summer of 1955 and had just finished filming another movie "Rebel Without a Cause."

Five years ago, Presidio County Judge Jake Brisbin came up with the idea to host a "Giant" reunion. Marfa Chamber of Commerce manager, Sheila Lujan and many others in the community have been very busy planning this exciting event. A few months ago, however, a fire swept through the Marfa City Hall, damaging the theater and dampening hopes that the reunion would take place. However, the people of Marfa didn't stop for a minute and now, their dream will become a reality.

The reunion will include a barbecue and look-alike contest at the Riata Ranch, a screening of "Giant" and a roundtable discussion on the famous movie. Robert Hinkle, who taught James Dean and actress Fran Bennett how to rope for the movie, will serve as a panelist.

Sponsored by the Marfa Chamber of Commerce, the Big Bend Quarterly, and the Cibolo Creek Ranch, the 40th anniversary "Giant" reunion will truly be unforgettable.

"Giant" brought the spotlight to west Texas and showed America the culture and history of this unique area. The movie's plot helped define what Americans today perceive as the modern-day oilman. Many Marfans, too, still remember that long, hot summer 40 years ago

when Marfa took center stage and dozens of people from Hollywood descended upon the town.

This reunion will be another historic moment for Marfa. The citizens of Marfa have shown faith and resolve in putting together what is sure to be a grand event. Congratulations and good luck to the community of Marfa.

A TRIBUTE TO JOHN BUDD

HON. VIC FAZIO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 1995

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my sincere condolences to the family of John Budd, the Regional Liaison for the Bureau of Reclamation's Mid-Pacific Regional Office in Sacramento, CA. John passed away on April 18. His loss is a tremendous blow to the Bureau and to the Federal service.

In many ways, John Budd was the Bureau of Reclamation in Sacramento. He was responsible for communicating the Bureau's policies, programs, and activities to congressional, State and local decisionmakers. He was the face that went with the Bureau.

John was always very helpful to me and my staff. John had a tremendous instinct when it came to seeing issues developing on the horizon. John was almost always the first person to give me a "heads up" on problems so we could deal with them before they reached the crisis stage.

John was a long-time Bureau employee. He joined the Bureau in 1965 as part of the construction crew for the San Luis Unit. Prior to his appointment as Regional Liaison, John was a repayment specialist responsible for negotiating and administering water service and repayment contracts for water deliveries from the Central Valley Project. John's fellow employees honored him many times during his years of service, perhaps most notably with the Department of Interior's prestigious Superior Service Award.

The formal accolades are important because they are the official markers of John's distinguished career. The real touchstone of John's career is the lasting impression he made on the lives of the people who surrounded him.

Mr. Speaker, I am glad to have had the opportunity to work with John Budd. We will all miss his professionalism, but more importantly, we will miss his friendship.

JOE PETERSON: TEACHER,
SCHOLAR, VOLUNTEER

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 1995

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, in these days when we hear too many voices ask "What's in it for me?" It is always refreshing to hear of those who freely donate their time and efforts for the good of their fellow citizens—in other words, volunteers.

Volunteers can be found in every community. They are both male and female, of all races and faiths. They come from all walks of

life and from all economic strata, and they range in age from elementary students to senior citizens. However, these volunteers all have one attribute in common: they ask for no compensation other than the good feeling they got from helping their fellow citizens.

One such volunteer is Joseph Peterson, of Carlton, MN in my congressional district. Mr. Peterson is an amateur scholar in American history, particularly in the history of the Presidency. He is an amateur in the root sense of the word: he is a true lover of his chosen field of study.

Like all volunteers, Mr. Peterson does not hide his light under a bushel. He happily shares his knowledge of our Government and our Presidents with schools, churches, social groups, and libraries in Carlton County and throughout Minnesota. A democratic society relies on an educated electorate, and Joseph Peterson is one man in one American community who is doing what he can to inform, educate, and stimulate interest in our democratic process.

Mr. Speaker, I would like at this time to share with you and my colleagues a newspaper article about Mr. Peterson from the Cloquet Journal and a sampling of the letters I have received recognizing his activities in the community. I'm sure you will join me in recognizing the importance of this volunteer's contribution to our society.

[From the Cloquet Minnesota Journal]

PRESIDENTIAL BUFF CONTINUES HOBBY

(By Wendy Rockvam)

February is the month the nation traditionally honors its presidents. For one Cloquet resident, however, Presidents' Day is a year-round observance.

Joe Peterson, a presidential history buff whose pursuits have taken him to President Bush's State of the Union Address and President Clinton's Inauguration, has been interested in the lives of the presidents since he was in second grade. During that year, President Kennedy was assassinated, and Peterson put together a detailed report on it for his class at school. His teacher gave his efforts high praise, and thus began a lifetime interest in the presidential office and those who have held it.

Peterson's hobby has involved an extensive amount of reading and study as well as a vast amount of correspondence. He has received Christmas cards, birthday cards, and autographed photos of several presidents, and he is constantly on the lookout for presidential memorabilia of all sorts.

Peterson said he tries to view presidents as people rather than political figures and finds them all fascinating in their own respect. His personal favorites are Pierce ("He kept the same cabinet for all four years of his presidency") and Polk ("He was the only Speaker of the House to go on to become President").

He is also a collector of presidential trivia. "For example," he asked "did you know that there are only three states—Ohio, Nebraska, and Hawaii—that actually recognize all the presidents on President's Day? All the others honor only Washington and Lincoln."

"Another thing I've uncovered that most people don't know," he said, "is the fact that no left-handed president has ever been elected to office. President Clinton, by the way, is left handed. . . ."

BILLY GRAHAM
EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATION,

Minneapolis, MN.

For many years Joe has researched and studied about our United States Presidents