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THE LEGACY OF JIM ROUSE

HON. RICK LAZIO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 1996

Mr. LAZIO of New York. Mr. Speaker, when I decided last Wednesday that I wanted to come to the floor to speak about Jim Rouse, I realized that there is a lot to talk about. Jim's involvement in housing and community building spans seven decades and represents some of the most important changes in how this country lives.

Jim Rouse's legacy is enormous, but it is more than creating the idea of a shopping mall. It's more than a Presidential Medal of Freedom. It's more than his work for the Federal Housing Administration in its infancy during the Great Depression, when it played such an important part in Americans lives and forged a new path for home finance. His legacy is more than the work he did for President Eisenhower's task force on housing in 1953 or for President Reagan's task force on private housing in 1982.

Jim Rouse's legacy goes beyond places like Columbia, MD, a town not far from this very building where his vision of integrated, economically varied community of families took root. His legacy is more than the revitalized urban areas in Boston and Baltimore and other cities across the country whose citizens owe him such a debt for his hard work and vision of the healthy and vibrancy that their neighborhoods and communities could regain.

Jim Rouse's legacy goes beyond even the Enterprise Foundation that he created in 1982 with his wife Patty and the goal of seeing that all low-income people in this country should have decent housing and an opportunity to pull themselves out of poverty.

Jim Rouse's most important legacy is his belief that we, as a Nation and as a national community, cannot and will not abandon cities and the families and people who live in them. We must embrace inner-city neighborhoods and work to improve their economies and to renew their vibrancy. Jim Rouse believed in the importance of cities both as centers of commerce and as a fundamental basis of what makes up our national identity—our fundamental American character.

It's a proud and potent legacy.

More than 10 years ago Jim Rouse said in an interview that "we need to work from the neighborhoods, from the bottom up" to create the necessary systems to deal with low-income families and poverty-stricken neighborhoods. He was pursuing just that kind of model when he died. His work in Baltimore's Sandtown-Winchester community tried to address all of the needs of a dysfunctional community—housing, education, health care, public safety and employment—to create a community based strategy.

Mr. Speaker, this country was very fortunate, not only to have had him a part of our national community, but to have had him play such an important role in shaping our national character and in defining not only who we are,

but who we ought to be. I hope that we can continue to work in the spirit Jim Rouse inspired.

IN RECOGNITION OF DAN RIEDL'S "ANSWERING AMERICA'S CALL" WINNING COMPOSITION

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 1996

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this chance to recognize Daniel Riedl, the Ohio State winner of the Voice of Democracy broadcast contest. This competition is sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Ladies Auxiliary.

Mr. Riedl exemplifies the civic and patriotic strength of much of today's youth. Mr. Riedl recounts the story of his immigrant grandfather who came to this country and worked his way through our educational system to earn his doctorate. His grandfather also defended this country in World War II. The United States is the land of freedom, but it is also a land where determined individuals use this blessing for a greater good. Mr. Riedl's grandfather did this and Mr. Riedl continues this responsibility today. America is the land of opportunity, but it would not be so if there were no people like the Riedls, who are willing to defend its ideals. I congratulate Daniel Riedl and his stirring account of freedom, responsibility, and sacrifice.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD LEROY LEHNER

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 1996

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure I rise today to congratulate Comdr. Richard Leroy Lehner of Sumner, MI, on his retirement as Michigan's State Commander of Foreign Wars.

Mr. Lehner has a long and distinguished career with the Veterans of Foreign Wars, first joining with the Mark Daniels V.F.W. Post #1735 in 1986. After years of hard work, and endless dedication, Richard was proudly elected as State commander on June 18, 1995.

His motto while State commander was "One Step Ahead" which clearly represents not only his personal commitment, but also the immense role he played in the progress and development of the V.F.W. Under Mr. Lehner's leadership were 86,479 members in the State of Michigan with 431 posts, 14 districts, and 10 county councils.

Mr. Speaker, Richard Lehner's active participation in the V.F.W. and community has earned him the respect and admiration of friends, family, and fellow community leaders. Richard's love of and dedication to this country and the American veterans is clear. He has consistently gone beyond what was expected or required to achieve excellence. His reputation as an honest, dedicated, hard-working public servant will serve as an example for many years to come. I know you will join me in recognizing his achievements and wishing him a satisfying retirement.

SARAH L. WATSON-BLANDING

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 1996

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize the contributions of one of Brooklyn's most committed community activists, Sarah L. Watson-Blanding.

Sarah is a native of Cameron, SC, and the daughter of Mrs. Hester Bookhardt and Mr. Richard Watson. After an early education from Orangeburg, SC, schools, she graduated from Claflin College with a major in Social Science and a minor in Education. Sarah also did graduate work at New York University.

For the past 25½ years, Sarah Blanding has been an outstanding employee with the Department of Labor. For her work, Sarah received both the Merit Award and the Julius Shapiro Youth Award for the highest placement of youth in New York City.

Sarah has continued her collegiate activism with the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority and the NAACP. She is also an energetic member of the New Canaan Baptist Church and is presently the president of the Brooklyn Alumni Association of Claflin College. Sarah and her husband Jesse have one daughter, Renee, a graduate of Brown University who resides in Atlanta.

I comment Sarah Watson-Blanding on her exceptional commitment and dedication to youth and the Brooklyn community at large.

PHARMACIST'S PATIENTS PROTECTION ACT OF 1996

HON. MICHAEL D. CRAPO

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 1996

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Pharmacist's Patients Protection Act of 1996. This legislation relates to an everyday common occurrence, namely getting a prescription filled at your local pharmacy. As we all know, when you go to your pharmacy for a prescription, the pharmacist not only offers to counsel you on how to take your medication safely and effectively, but the pharmacist also provides detailed written information that is understandable and user friendly when the prescription is dispensed.

Through the use of computer technology, consumers routinely receive written information about prescription drugs from their pharmacist in a variety of retail settings, such as pharmacies located in supermarkets, chain drug stores and independent pharmacies. And not only are pharmacists providing the information voluntarily, more importantly this written information is often specifically tailored to the particular needs of the patient in order to achieve the maximum benefit from the prescribed medication.

I applaud community pharmacists for their dedication and commitment in this important area of patient education and information, but apparently these voluntary efforts aren't good enough for the Food and Drug Administration. Even though every survey conducted since 1994 shows that patients routinely receive written information on both new prescriptions

and refills, FDA has decided that it wants to mandate this aspect of pharmacy practice and to restrict pharmacists so that only the information that FDA deems appropriate is distributed to patients.

In other words, FDA knows better than your personal physician and your pharmacist regarding the information you should receive. And on top of this, FDA wants everybody to get the same information, no matter whether you are elderly, a young child, male, female or pregnant.

The cost of this particular FDA initiative, called the Medguide Program will exceed \$100 million each year to mandate what pharmacists are already doing voluntarily right now. FDA's Medguide Program is unnecessary, very costly and is the wrong approach.

Additionally, I should mention that FDA's Medguide Program exceeds the agency's statutory authority. While FDA does have legal authority over the content of a drug manufacturer's labeling and advertising, FDA has no authority whatsoever over the professional practice of pharmacy. Standards of professional practice, including patient care, counseling and the dissemination of written information to patients has always been and still are the responsibility of state boards of pharmacy—not FDA.

In summary, Mr. Speaker, the legislation I am introducing will prohibit the FDA from using any of its funding to implement its proposed Medguide Program.

We don't need this costly mandate from the FDA when the competitive retail pharmacy marketplace is making great strides in providing consumers with meaningful, accurate and easily understood written information about prescription drugs. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor and support the Pharmacist's Patients Protection Act of 1996. Let's stop the misguides Medguide Program.

RECOGNITION OF CONGREGATION AM SHALOM'S MITZVAH DAY

HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 1996

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to recognize Congregation Am Shalom of Glencoe, a synagogue in the 10th District of Illinois whose members are making a positive and wonderful contribution to our community.

Congregation Am Shalom has designated Sunday, April 28, 1996, as a Mitzvah Day. In the Jewish religion, a mitzvah is a commandment to perform acts of kindness to others. Mitzvah Day will be a voluntary, congregationwide community service endeavor to reach out with philanthropic hearts and resolute hands to the surrounding community and to help people in all walks of life.

As many as 1,000 Am Shalom volunteers will take part in worthwhile projects on that day, including repairing and painting homes, delivering home-cooked meals to the homebound and the elderly, taking children on outings, and cleaning up local parks. In all of these ways, they will touch the lives of others.

Mr. Speaker, Am Shalom's commitment to make a difference through these various projects should not only be recognized, but

applauded. I am proud to represent a district that includes people with such tremendous volunteer spirit, and I am pleased to recognize Am Shalom's community leadership and to praise the outstanding contributions of every participant in the April 28 Mitzvah Day.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2854, FEDERAL AGRICULTURE IM- PROVEMENT AND REFORM ACT OF 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 28, 1996

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the conference report for H.R. 2854, the "Agricultural Market Transition Act." This measure reforms numerous laws affecting the business of farmers, including dairy farmers. In modifying laws that pertain to dairy farmers, H.R. 2854 has the effect of amending the Food Drug and Cosmetic Act [FFDCA] as it pertains to standards of identity and nutrition labeling requirements for fluid milk under milk marketing orders. As Chairman of the Committee on Commerce Subcommittee on Health and Environment, I would like to note the jurisdictional interest of both the full Committee and my Subcommittee in these modifications of our country's dairy program.

Portions of the language in the conference report regarding dairy programs supersede certain provisions in the FFDCA by making them inapplicable in some circumstances. The FFDCA is a statute within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Committee on Commerce. Therefore, the amendment to the FFDCA in the conference report for H.R. 2854 is also within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Commerce Committee. In accordance with rule X of the rules of the House, I look forward to continued exercise of our legislative jurisdiction in this area.

TRIBUTE TO RON BROWN

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 1996

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to salute a man who did more to advance U.S. economic interests at home and abroad than any other in our nation's distinguished history. Ron Brown, whose other accomplishments include revitalizing the Democratic party and advancing race relations in America, died tragically 2 weeks ago on a trade mission in Bosnia.

As Commerce Secretary, Brown was accompanied by 34 other brave Americans, one of whom was my constituent. Adam Darling, a 29-year Commerce Department assistant who offered to bike cross-country from his Santa Cruz, California home to promote Bill Clinton's 1992 presidential campaign, also lost his life on that terrible flight. I had the honor of saluting Adam's life last Friday, along with the First Lady, his family and friends at a touching memorial service. He will be sorely missed by all.

Adam was on board, because as President Clinton put it, Ron Brown could see in him and

the others "the promise of a new tomorrow and he knew they needed someone to reach down and give them the opportunity to serve." Ron Brown was truly one of a kind.

The son of a hotel manager, Ron Brown grew up in black America but bridged the gap between white and black from the earliest years of his life. Attending white private schools, Brown went on to be the only African-American in his class at Middlebury College, where he forged the desegregation of his fraternity. He later attended St. John's University Law School and subsequently worked as a prominent attorney in the largely white world of law. After that, Ron Brown became the first African-American chairman of the Democratic National Committee. As former National Urban League chief John Jacob said, "Ron could accomplish anything, because he didn't believe he couldn't do it."

As Commerce Secretary, Ron Brown worked tirelessly to promote our economic interests both here and around the globe. He firmly believed that free, but fair trade was one of the best ways of advancing our country's national interests as we move into the 21st century. It was for this reason that Ron Brown enthusiastically led his mission to Bosnia. He believed that the untapped possibilities of the war-torn region held untold possibilities for the United States.

I personally have had the pleasure of working with Ron Brown on a number of occasions. Before his untimely death, he and I had been developing a unique initiative of sustainable development for my congressional district. We both eagerly looked forward to harnessing the creative energy of public and private enterprise to forget this new national model.

I don't believe a day has gone by since the tragic accident that I have not mourned what this country will miss without Ron Brown, and the others aboard his plane. While the important work of the Commerce Department will surely continue, America will never recapture the potential that traveled aboard that flight. We can never replace the enormous possibilities that traveled with Ron Brown.

IN RECOGNITION OF OFFICER KENNETH L. PONTIOUS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 1996

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to join my constituents in commemorating the retirement of Officer Kenneth L. Pontious. Officer Pontious is retiring after 28 years of service to the community and citizens of Union City.

During his 28 years of service, Officer Pontious has contributed to the Union City Police Department in many different capacities. He has served as a Motorcycle Patrol Officer. In addition, he has worked as a Traffic Officer and a member of the Special Enforcement Response Team.

Officer Pontious has also assisted the community as a School Resource Officer giving his time directly to our young people. Finally, Officer Pontious has worked as a Field Training Officer, Rangemaster and Police Explorer Post Adviser.