

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

MOTHERS AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING NATIONAL ESSAY CONTEST

HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 1996

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to share with my colleagues the winning essays of the Mothers Against Drunk Driving's National Essay Contest.

As we are all aware, drunk drivers kill thousands of Americans each year on our Nation's roads. Though we have made great strides over the last decade or so with increased education and stiffer penalties, there is still much work to be done.

Mothers Against Drunk Driving has been one of the preeminent forces in changing our Nation's drunk driving laws and educating our citizens on the dangers of driving drunk. The national essay contest serves as a way to bring these issues to the forefront of public attention.

I commend all of the young men and women who participated in the essay contest. However, I would like to specifically recognize Caitlin McCuiston, of El Dorado, KS, Christopher Jackson, of Stow, OH, and Angela DeAnn Wiczorek, of Monterey, IN, for their outstanding essays on the dangers of drunk driving.

1996 MOTHERS AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING NATIONAL POSTER ESSAY CONTEST

1ST PLACE NATIONAL WINNER, GRADES 4 TO 6

(By Caitlin McCuiston)

Hello, I am a road, part of a large highway. Some people may not think I am very important, but I am. I guide people to their destination, helping them along the way. It may not sound like a very hard job, but it is.

I am forced to watch accidents quite often. They are difficult to witness, but I cannot close my eyes to them. Unfortunately, these accidents are not the hardest to see.

The worst are, in my opinion, caused by drunk driving. These accidents are horrible, caused only by some careless person who is drunk. Every time I see another disaster caused by this, I feel despair and complete hopelessness emitting from friends and family quietly standing by.

Police, paramedics, and other people acting as rescue workers feel the pain too. "Another accident," mutters one rescue worker under his breath. "When will this all stop?" None of us are sure.

In fact, who is sure? Is anyone? All humanity may think I am made of asphalt, dirt, or gravel, but I know what I am truly made of. I am made of the blood and tears from victims and their families. Everyone, please remember this—"Drinking and driving is the road to nowhere."

1ST PLACE NATIONAL WINNER, GRADES 7 TO 9

(By Christopher Jackson)

"Where have you been tonight son?" I heard the voice asking from just behind the flashlight beam. "Nowhere," I said.

"Where did you get the beer?" the voice asked. "Nowhere," I replied. I tried squint-

ing to look past the flashlight beam, but all I could see was flashing red and blue lights. This guy asking me these stupid questions was really nowhere. I must have fallen asleep while driving home from the party with Ed. He must have left me in the car and gone somewhere. Now some guy with a flashlight is hassling me.

"What are you? A cop?" I asked. "Yes" came the reply. Boy, have a few beers and they treat you like a drunk, I mean drunk.

"Where were you and your buddy going?" came the third stupid question. I told him "nowhere." If they found out I took a case of beer from our dad I'd be in real trouble. The two of us each drank six beers so far tonight. No big deal, I drink more than that some nights.

I figured he'd want some ID, so I reached for my wallet but my arms wouldn't move. I looked down to see the steering wheel pressed against my chest. I turned to yell for my brother Ed and saw him in the light of the flashlight. He was halfway through the windshield and two people were trying to pick him up.

I looked over as they put Ed on a stretcher and screamed for someone to help him. The cop started to strap him in, but the EMT stopped him and said, "Don't bother, he's going nowhere," as he pulled the sheet over Ed's face.

1ST PLACE NATIONAL WINNER, GRADES 10 TO 12

(By Angela Wiczorek)

Dear Mom...

Mom! Mom! Please don't cry! I always hated to see you cry. Oh, Mom. I'm so sorry. I never meant for this to happen.

I should have listened when you told me not to leave. You just had a feeling. Deep down, you knew. That's why you held me so tight and told me how much you loved me. Then, reluctantly, you let me go and I left.

It was not your fault, Mom. Please stop thinking that. You weren't the only one who knew. I knew too. I almost listened to you and stayed, but something inside me kept pushing me out the door.

The weird thing was that I knew the man would run the red light, but I pushed the gas pedal anyway. He hit me so fast, I didn't even know what happened. But I heard it—the horrible sound of metal crashing against metal. The aroma of alcohol invaded my senses. It was so strong. The man had been drinking! Wild thoughts raced through my mind as I recalled all the seminars and speeches I had heard about things like this. I never dreamed it could happen to me.

Oh, Mom. I'm so very sorry. I'm sorry it was me, your little girl, that death claimed and not the man at fault. I'm sorry you have to live with the knowledge that the man who killed your daughter only suffered a broken arm.

But, Mom, you can't stop believing in God because I'm gone. I know it seems unfair that the Lord took me before I could graduate, but it was my time to go. In your heart, you know that. And now that man has to live in a dark room with nothing to do except remember. Because of his drinking, he claimed the life of a seventeen year old girl. Something that he knows could've been prevented. God works in mysterious ways. That's what you taught me.

I love you, Mom. So much more than I ever told you. I miss you, but you have to carry

on. You have to be strong for Dad and little Tommy. They need you now more than ever.

I know in your heart, you know I'm alright. I'm at peace now and I'm ready to go Home. You should go too.

Come visit me often. And Mom, don't forget to bring flowers. I like the yellow ones.

BENEDICTION BY RABBI ALEXANDER SCHINDLER, NATIONAL DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE COMMEMORATION

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 1996

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, on April 16, Members of Congress, members of the Diplomatic Corps and hundreds of survivors of the Holocaust and their friends gathered here in the Capitol Rotunda for the National Days of Remembrance commemoration. The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council was established by Congress to preserve the memory of the victims of the Holocaust. I commend the Council and the members of the Days of Remembrance Committee, chaired by my good friend Benjamin Meed, for their vigilant and genuine adherence to their extraordinarily important task.

One of the first acts of the Council was to establish the annual Days of Remembrance commemoration to mirror similar observances held in Israel and throughout our Nation and elsewhere in the world. This year, the commemoration centered on the 50th anniversary of the Nuremberg trials. The observance was a reminder of the difficult process of first coping and then healing that all survivors and their families and loved ones had to endure.

Rabbi Alexander Schindler's benediction closed the commemoration with a reminder of the tragedy that we must not forget. In his typically elegant prose, his prayer instructed us how to turn remembrance into strength, how to turn sadness and horror into hope for a better future. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to read Rabbi Schindler's prayer and hear his frank but hopeful words of wisdom.

PRAYER OFFERED BY RABBI SCHINDLER, HOLOCAUST COMMEMORATION

Once again, a sacred hour of remembrance summons us to these time-hallowed halls.

Not that we really need such an occasion lest we forget.

We need no reminders.

We remember too well.

Memories come * * * to interrupt our sleep

* * * to still our laughter * * * to fill

our silence with the voices of the past.

Oh, would that we could forget. But quick forgetting is not the reality of a people who lost one-third of their number in half a decade;

Who lost one and one-half million of their children, during those tear-stained years.

No, we cannot, we will not, forget these martyrs.

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

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

All those who perished through the cruelty
of the oppressor.
Not punished for any individual guilt, but in-
discriminately,
Men and women * * *
Young and old * * *
The learned and the simple * * *
Were "driven in multitudes along the road of
pain and pitiless death."
They lie in nameless graves.
Their places of everlasting sleep are not
known to us.
Yet we will not forget them.
We take them into our hearts and give them
a place beside the treasured memories
of our own beloved.
May their remembrance give us the strength
To turn from death to life,
To love where others hate,
To hope where others despair,
To retain our belief in humankind and in the
conviction that,
In spite of everything, there is meaning in
life and in human history.

Thus will we give substance to the words of
our tradition, those words which we repeat
six million times—and more.

Yitgadal, V'yitkadash sh'mey rabba * * *

Magnified and sanctified be thy Name of
God.

HONORING THE GALLATIN
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this
opportunity to applaud the invaluable services
provided by the Auburntown Volunteer Fire
Department. These brave, civic minded people
give freely of their time so that we may all feel
safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard
work that goes into being a volunteer fire-
fighter. To quote one of my local volunteers,
"These fireman must have an overwhelming
desire to do for others while expecting nothing
in return."

Preparation includes twice monthly training
programs in which they have live drills, study
the latest videos featuring the latest in fire
fighting tactics, as well as attend seminars
where they can obtain the knowledge they
need to save lives. Within a year of becoming
a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Ten-
nessee Fire Training School in Murfreesboro
where they undergo further, intensified train-
ing.

When the residents of my district go to bed
at night, they know that should disaster strike
and their home catch fire, well trained and
qualified volunteer fire departments are ready
and willing to give so graciously and gener-
ously of themselves. This peace of mind
should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they en-
sure a safer future for us all. We owe these
volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude
for their service and sacrifice.

TRIBUTE TO RABBI BRADD H.
BOXMAN

HON. VICTOR O. FRAZER

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 1996

Mr. FRAZER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay
special tribute to Rabbi Bradd H. Boxman.
Rabbi Bradd H. Boxman was born and raised
in Philadelphia, PA. He became a bar mitzvah
and was confirmed at Beth David Reform
Congregation, where he later taught in the re-
ligious school for nearly 5 years. Bradd earned
a B.A. in modern languages at Villanova Uni-
versity, where he also minored in Christian
studies. From 1979–81, he served as presi-
dent of the Hillel Jewish Student Union at
Villanova. In 1980, he traveled to the Soviet
Union to visit Soviet Jewish Refuseniks. In
1981, he began his rabbinic studies at the He-
brew Union College-Jewish Institute of Reli-
gion in Jerusalem, where he created and fa-
cilitated a wood workshop program for phys-
ically disabled children at Alyn Hospital.

In Cincinnati, OH, where Bradd completed
his rabbinic education, he taught at Wise Tem-
ple and Yavneh Day School. He was chair-
person of the social action committee at HUC
for 2 years and was appointed as the first rab-
binic student liaison to the UAHC Social Ac-
tion Commission. Bradd served as a member
of the board of the Cincinnati Council of Soviet
Jews between 1983–86. His strong interest in
and commitment to social action was recog-
nized by the Central Conference of Rabbis in
1985, when he was awarded the Horace J.
Wolf Memorial prize for the social action pro-
grams he implemented.

Rabbi Boxman was the student rabbi for 2
years at Temple Beth Shalom in Winter
Haven, FL. He also served pulpits in Marion,
IN, and at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in
Dayton, OH, where he was a civilian chaplain.
Bradd's rabbinic thesis is entitled: "The Signifi-
cance of Brit Milah in Reform Judaism."

Rabbi Boxman began his career as a rabbi
at Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation where
he served as assistant and then associate
rabbi from 1986–90. At Indianapolis, Rabbi
Boxman initiated several new programs and
activities, including a Soviet Jewry Committee,
a unique basic Judaism curriculum, and an
award winning family education program en-
titled "Geshber L'Mishpachah." Rabbi Boxman
also directed the establishment of the new li-
brary facility at that congregation.

Rabbi Boxman served as chaplain at the In-
diana University Medical Center and as a civil-
ian chaplain of Ft. Benjamin Harrison. He was
chairperson of the Indianapolis Board of Rab-
bis, 1989–90, and was actively involved in
interfaith work throughout his tenure in that
city.

Rabbi Boxman moved to St. Thomas in
September 1990. Soon after his arrival he es-
tablished Interfaith Coalition of St. Thomas/St.
John and served as its first president from
1991–95. He served on the St. Thomas Hos-
pital's pastoral care committee and its bio-
medical ethics committee. He also served as
a board member for the following organiza-
tions: The Child Abuse Task Force of St.
Thomas/St. John, Y.E.S.—youth experiencing
success, and the United Way Grant Allocation
Committee.

Rabbi Boxman was honored by the St.
Thomas/St. John Federation of Teachers with

a Feddy Award in 1993 for his religious lead-
ership in the community. During the syna-
gogue's bicentennial year 1995–96, Rabbi
Boxman led his congregation's 200th anniver-
sary celebration by bringing religious leaders,
scholars, artists, and social programs to the is-
land. These included Cardinal Bernard Law,
Rabbi Harold Kushner, Supreme Court Justice
Ruth Bader Ginsberg, Itzhak Perlman, Elie
Wiesel, and Maya Angelou. He also helped to
institute the Anti-Defamation League's teach-
ing tolerance program called A World of Dif-
ference in the public, private, and parochial
schools on St. Thomas and St. John.

Rabbi Boxman and his wife Linda have
been married for almost 13 years and have
three daughters: Ariel, Talia, and Achira. They
will next take up residence in Danbury, CT,
where Rabbi Boxman will be the spiritual lead-
er of the United Jewish Congregation.

Mr. Speaker, as the representative of the
people of the Virgin Islands, I wish Rabbi
Boxman and his family God speed and remind
him that they will always be a part of the Vir-
gin Islands. We will always leave the door
open and the light on for them.

A FLAG DAY TRIBUTE TO THE
CATSKILL ELKS LODGE

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 1996

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, back on June
14, 1777, the Continental Congress of the
United States adopted a resolution that gave
us the Stars and Stripes that are our America
flag. This June 14, 1996, we will celebrate the
219th Flag Day and this Sunday, June 9,
1996, the Catskill Elks Lodge will be holding
their annual Flag Day celebration to com-
memorate the most significant occasion.

Mr. Speaker, let me tell you why it is so im-
portant that organizations like the Elks Lodge
No. 1341 in Catskill, NY, take the time to re-
cognize Flag Day and the American flag. It's
because our flag is unique and so is Flag Day.
To my knowledge, no other nation has a holi-
day like it. No other nation has a special day
when its people gather, as those will gather at
the Catskill Elks Lodge, to honor the flag as a
special symbol.

And that Mr. Speaker, is what makes our
flag and Flag Day unique. It represents a
unique nation, the strongest, freest, greatest
nation on Earth. No other flag is anchored so
securely in the hearts of a people like Old
Glory is in ours.

Let's stop for a moment and consider why
that is. It's because of civic organizations and
people like those at the Catskill Elks Lodge
who continually remind us of the importance of
our flag. It's because of their efforts to raise
public awareness of the flag and all that it
stands for that Old Glory commands the devo-
tion, respect, and reverence that it does.

That's why, Mr. Speaker, I am so proud to
address the members of the Catskill Elks
Lodge as Brother Elk. The Elks are devoted to
promoting pride, patriotism, and volunteerism
and do more than anyone when it comes to
those goals. The Benevolent and Protective
Order of Elks have helped to relight the fire of
patriotism in every American citizen and
through their voluntary acts on behalf of the