

HOUSE CHAPLAIN SEARCH

HON. TOM BLILEY

OF VIRGINIA

EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, as co-chairs of the chaplain search committee we are announcing to Members that we have begun our initial stages of the search. We encourage Members to recommend qualified candidates to the search committee. They may do so by forwarding applicant materials to the Speaker's office, H-232 Capitol, House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515, Attention: House Chaplain Search Committee. Applicant materials should include a cover letter and resume.

As you know, the House Chaplain prepares and delivers the daily prayer in the House of Representatives; coordinates the use of the Prayer Room; speaks to visiting groups and gives invocations at events; assists Members in contacts with religious groups; conducts wedding ceremonies, visits hospitals and conducts memorial services; and is available at all times for pastoral counseling to Members and staff.

The chaplain is one of five elected officers of the House of Representatives. The chaplain is paid \$132,100 per year.

The other members of the search committee are: LOIS CAPPS, HELEN CHENOWETH, JAY DICKEY, CAL DOOLEY, ANNA ESHOO, STEVE LARGENT, JOHN LEWIS, JOE PITTS, RALPH REGULA, CIRO RODRIQUEZ, ROBERT SCOTT, JOHN SHIMKUS, TED STRICKLAND, ZACH WAMP, HENRY WAXMAN, and DAVE WELDON.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 212, had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING THE LIFE OF
GOVERNOR BOB BULLOCK**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

HON. JIM TURNER

OF TEXAS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

HON. LLOYD DOGGETT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today, my colleagues and I and the State of Texas

lost a legend. Lt. Governor Bob Bullock passed away at the age of 69.

Before coming to Congress, we served with Governor Bullock as members of the Texas State Senate. No Texan stood taller than Bob Bullock in his knowledge of Texas Government, his influence over the affairs of Texas and his deep commitment to our State.

His love for our state was legendary. Each time he spoke of Texas, the feeling of his pride was very clear. He always said, "I have no agenda but what's good for Texas. And I have no love, but Texas."

Governor Bullock was born in Hillsboro, Texas on July 10, 1929. He was elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 1956 and was reelected in 1958. While still in the Texas Legislature, Governor Bullock enrolled in law school. He earned a law degree from Baylor University as well as a bachelor's degree from Texas Tech University. He was also a graduate of Hill College in his hometown.

Governor Bullock also served as an assistant attorney general, heading up the first anti-trust and consumer protection division in that office. He won several historic cases including a multi-million dollar recovery from five large drug companies that conspired to fix prices. Bob Bullock held other positions in Texas State government, serving on the Texas Historical Commission, on the staff of former Governor Preston Smith, and as the Texas Secretary of State.

In 1974, Bullock was elected Comptroller of Public Accounts. He would serve four terms as the state's chief tax collector. His tenure as Comptroller was marked by innovation and efficiency. He became the first elected state official to adopt an equal employment opportunity program. He was among the first elected officials to use computer technology in state government to cut costs and improve productivity. He developed a Taxpayer Bill of Rights to guarantee that Texas taxpayers were treated with fairness, courtesy and common sense.

In 1990, Bob Bullock was elected Lieutenant Governor, a job considered the most powerful in the State of Texas. In this position, he presided over the Texas Senate, made committee appointments, sat on key government boards, and controlled the flow of legislation in the Senate.

As the presiding officer of the Texas Senate, Governor Bullock overhauled the ethics laws in an effort to restore public confidence in state government. He created the Texas Performance Review to analyze spending at state agencies and recommend cost-saving alternatives. He pushed through a constitutional amendment requiring voter approval before a state personal income tax could be enacted and if the voters approved the tax, requiring the money be earmarked for education.

Governor Bullock is survived by his wife, Jan; a son, Robert D. (Bobby) Bullock, Jr. of Austin; a daughter and her husband, Lindy and Phil Ward of Austin; a grandson, Grant Bullock Robinson of Austin; a stepdaughter and her husband, Kimberly and Jeff Ader of Houston; and a brother and his wife, Tom and Jane Bullock of Brenham. He is also survived by several nieces and nephews. Two sisters, Sara Read and Louisa Bond preceded him in death. We would like to offer our sincere condolences to Jan and the rest of his family.

Governor Bullock's accomplishments were shaped by his desire to make Texas the best state in the union. Governor Bob Bullock al-

ways ended his speeches with, "God bless Texas." Today, we would like to add, "God bless Bob Bullock."

TRIBUTE TO DR. J. DANIEL
STEWART**HON. JOE SCARBOROUGH**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who has dedicated 25 years of his life to protecting the people of this great nation and ensuring the American way of life. This gentleman has distinguished himself as a community leader, a dedicated family man, and a decorated civil servant in the United States Air Force. The man I speak about today is Dr. J. Daniel Stewart, Executive Director, Air Force Development Test Center at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida.

I could praise Dr. Stewart for his many successes as an engineer, an innovative manager and leader, or his demonstrated commitment to doing what it takes to get our warfighters the weapon systems they need. I could mention his many academic accomplishments earning multiple advanced degrees from some of our most prestigious institutions. Or I could applaud his decorations including the Presidential Rank Award ranking him in the top one per cent of civil servants in recognition to his contributions to National Defense. But I'm sure Dr. Stewart would say that those accomplishments were just part of his duty.

Mr. Speaker, these accomplishments only begin to describe the caliber of a man like Dr. Stewart. Ralph Waldo Emerson once said that what people say about you behind your back is the true measure of your character. The words said about Dr. Stewart behind his back include: honest, loyal, dedicated, courageous, honorable, hard working, and a true gentleman. From the time he entered federal service at the Air Force Rocket Propulsion Laboratory at Edwards Air Force Base in 1974 until today, when he leaves Eglin AFB to assume his new responsibilities as Executive Director of the Air Force Material Command, Dr. Stewart has shown a standard of excellence and dedication to duty that made him stand out as a man of intellect, skill, and integrity.

Dr. Stewart's dedication to his country serves as a model in the lives of the hundreds of civil servants, Air Force officers and enlisted personnel he has trained, supervised, and encouraged. The legacy Dr. Stewart leaves behind at Eglin Air Force Base as Executive Director, Air Force Development Test Center, will remain an inspiration to the men and women that were fortunate enough to serve under his leadership.

TRIBUTE TO WEST POINT
GRADUATE RALPH WARE**HON. BOB SCHAFFER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize a young man dedicated to excellence in the service of his country. On May 29,

1999, Cadet Captain Ralph Ware of Aurora, Colorado, graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York.

The United States Military Academy is among the most prestigious military academies in all the world. The Academy selects only the best and brightest young people of our nation to serve and study at West Point for four years. Once admitted, the cadet must endure the most rigorous training, testing his mind, body and spirit on a daily basis. As the cadet meets each challenge, he is transformed into a new, multifaceted person, capable of serving his country in the face of any obstacle. This transformation culminates in graduation, where each cadet celebrates the achievements of the past and the possibilities of the future.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to congratulate Cadet Captain Ralph Ware and all of the West Point graduates. With confidence, I look forward to their leadership in America.

MANDATORY GUN SHOW BACKGROUND CHECK ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 1999

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2122) to require background checks at gun shows, and for other purposes:

Mr. MEEKS of New York. Mr. Chairman, I support the McCarthy amendment because I believe that gun shows should come under the same laws as gun stores. When individuals buy a gun from a gun store, they must undergo a background check—we must have the same background check for gun shows.

This amendment will require under the Brady Law, the instant background check of up to 3 business days on all gun show transactions. This is fair. We should have no exceptions to the rule.

Imagine no background checks. According to the National Association of Arms Shows, over 5 million people attend nearly 5,200 gun shows each year in the U.S. No background checks or record keeping was done at these events.

According to Deputy Attorney General Eric Holder, if the 72-consecutive-hour rule had been in effect over the past 6 months for regular retail store purchases—more than 9,000 felons and other prohibited purchasers would have been able to buy guns because their background checks would not have been completed in time.

Now, if this could happen at gun stores—imagine if we do not have this 3 day period when purchasing a gun at a gun show? Why should we make it easier for potential criminals to purchase a gun? An increasing number of criminals—who couldn't pass a background check at a gun store—are finding gun shows to be an easy source of guns. Imagine all the people that have died—because someone bought a gun without a background check.

And let me remind you that under Mr. DINGELL'S amendment proposing a 24-hour background check—17,000 prohibited persons would have slipped through the system.

We do not want any more crimes to occur. We do not want any more children in jail. We do not want to go to any more funerals.

Let's regulate gun show sales the same way as gun store sales. Support the McCarthy amendment like the: National Alliance of Stocking Gun Dealers, American Bar Association, The Police Foundation, National Association of Black Law Enforcement Officers, and the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

RECOGNIZING CROSSROADS COMMUNITY HOSPITAL AND HILLSBORO AREA HOSPITAL

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take one moment to recognize Crossroads Community Hospital in Mount Vernon and Hillsboro Area Hospital in Hillsboro for being mentioned in HCIA's "100 Top Hospitals: Benchmark for Success—1998."

It is comforting for me and the citizens of the 20th district of Illinois to know that we are receiving some of the best health care treatment provided in the Nation today. Health Care in America today is a vital issue. The successes of these Hospitals show that Illinois has given the issue the attention it deserves.

I am proud of the quality of medical care that these hospitals have provided to my district. The excellent service provided by Crossroads Community and Hillsboro Area Hospitals are symbols of the excellence in aiding and saving the beloved residents of the 20th district.

RECOGNIZING PROJECT '99 AT SHORE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Project '99 at Shore Regional High School, which serves West Long Branch, Sea Bright, Oceanport, and Monmouth Beach, New Jersey. Project '99 is an innovative 4-day pre-graduation program that combines public service events with seminars on self-improvement.

The schedule contains activities that will be held throughout the community from June 21–24, 1999. To be eligible to participate in Project '99, students must maintain exemplary discipline and academic records, and also be involved in the planning and development of two different events.

The first three days of the project focus specifically on community service. Participants engage in dune grass planting, school beautification, and mural painting projects. In addition, students host a senior citizen breakfast, organize and run a field day at the Monmouth School for Children, and work with Habitat for Humanity.

On the final day of the program, students turn their attention towards preparation for life after high school. Events include classes in self-defense, personal finance and car maintenance, and a special health and fitness ses-

sion. Project '99 concludes with a motivational speaker and a barbecue send-off.

At a time when most seniors are involved only with celebrations and awards ceremonies, it is admirable that these students are choosing to take time and rededicate themselves to helping others. The personal qualities of compassion, awareness, and a commitment to public service emphasized by the Project '99 program are essential for the next stage of the students' lives.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in honoring the creativity of the students, teachers, administrators, and parents at Shore Regional High School who are finding ways to make even the last days of high school a valuable educational experience.

HONORING THE OUTSTANDING GRADUATES OF JOHN J. PER- SHING INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL 220

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating special graduates of the 12th Congressional District of New York. I am certain that this day marks the culmination of much effort and hard work which has led and will lead them to continued success. In these times of uncertainty, limited resources, and random violence in our communities and schools, it is encouraging to know that they have overcome these obstacles and succeeded.

These students have learned that education is priceless. They understand that education is the tool to new opportunities and greater endeavors. Their success is not only a tribute to their strength but also to the support they have received from their parents and loved ones.

In closing, I encourage all my colleagues to support the education of the youth of America. With a solid education, today's youth will be tomorrow's leaders. And as we approach the new millennium, it is our responsibility to pave the road for this great Nation's future. Members of the U.S. House of Representatives I ask you to join me in congratulating the following students from IS 220: Salutatorian, Weva Kalidahanova; Valedictorian, Carol Chan.

FAMILIES FIRST ACT

HON. TOM BLILEY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, in time for Father's Day, I have introduced the Families First Act with Representatives JAMES OBERSTAR, DAVE CAMP, BOBBY SCOTT, DAN BURTON, EARL POMEROY, and JIM DEMINT. This bill that would make adoptions more affordable and provide children with loving homes. Sadly, many families wanting to open their homes and provide love to children are unable to do so because of the extremely high costs of adoption, which