

TRIBUTE TO NORM LOVELACE

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2001

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend and congratulate a good friend and advocate of Guam and the Pacific Islands, Norm Lovelace, on his distinguished career and his well-earned retirement.

Currently the manager of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Pacific Insular Area Programs, Norm initially joined the EPA in 1972. At the time, he was tasked to develop, validate and utilize mathematical models for water quality, phytoplankton and hydraulics of the Chesapeake Bay and the Potomac River for the EPA's Region 3 Annapolis Field Office.

Prior to his stint at the EPA, Norm was employed by the California Department of Water Resources. From 1966 until 1969, he worked on developing water quality and hydraulic models of the Sacramento-San Joaquin delta. Having obtained a degree in Civil Engineering from the University of California at Davis in 1969, he went on to perform terrestrial and oceanic geophysical surveys as a senior watch officer aboard the *NOAA Ship Surveyor* until 1972, when he joined the EPA.

Norm first got acquainted with Region 9 in 1979, upon obtaining a transfer to serve in several capacities mainly focused on the EPA's program in the Pacific Basin. He was the project officer for water programs on Guam and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands from 1975 until 1979. He went on to be selected as Chief of Municipal Management Section in the Water Division in 1979 where he managed programs and projects for key municipal areas such as San Francisco, Los Angeles, Orange County, and San Diego. In 1981, he became the Chief of the Office of Territorial Programs. Renamed Pacific Insular Area Programs (PIAP) soon after he took over, the office administered to all agency domestic involvements in American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and Guam. This is in addition to agency interests in the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of Palau as well as in U.S. possessions such as Wake and Palmyra.

An advocate of the needs of the Pacific Islands, Norm served as a spokesman and representative—ensuring that national agencies involved with the Pacific Islands were keenly aware of the special circumstances and needs of the region. He was instrumental in the development and enactment of public laws which adapted complex and cumbersome EPA programs to special circumstances and public health needs of the Pacific Islands community. Through his guidance, policies were refined, funds were allocated, and changes were implemented—all to the benefit of the region. For Guam, Norm played a key role in obtaining full delegation for the island's Hazardous Waste Management Program and Solid Waste Management Program. He was largely responsible for the federal funds secured for the construction of a highly needed hazardous waste transfer station currently in operation on Guam.

For all his work and dedication, we, who have been the beneficiaries of his hard work and dedication, are most thankful. Upon his

retirement, I offer my congratulations for his distinguished career and my personal commendation for a job well-done. We wish him the best on his well earned retirement and all the luck in his future endeavors. Si Yu'os Ma'ase, Norm.

“CAN DO” SPIRIT CONTINUES AS
45-YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2001

Mr. KANJORSKI Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Community Area New Development Organization Inc. of Greater Hazleton, Pennsylvania, better known as CAN DO, on its 45th anniversary.

CAN DO is truly a remarkable organization. It was formed in 1956, in a moment of dire economic crisis for the Greater Hazleton area. The area's main industry, anthracite coal mining, was already in rapid decline when Hurricane Diane struck in 1955 and dumped several feet of water on the area. This killed most of the area's coal industry by flooding the deep mines and causing more than half of the remaining coal workers to be laid off. Unemployment reached almost 23 percent and stayed there.

A group of local civic and business leaders decided to take action. Working with the Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce, and led by respected physician Dr. Edgar L. Dessen, they formed CAN DO to attract new and diverse industries.

To purchase land they could market to new businesses, they tapped the generosity of the community, beginning with the Dime-A-Week campaign under which workers contributed \$5.20 a year, and the Mile of Dimes campaign, in which residents showed their support by taping dimes along Broad Street—Hazleton's main thoroughfare.

After purchasing land, the next step was to construct shell buildings, pre-built to be ready for new industry. CAN DO's organizers defied doubters who said the group would never be able to raise a half-million dollars in financially strapped Greater Hazleton. They raised more than \$700,000.

Over the years, CAN DO has built on that initial success, guided by a series of dedicated community-minded citizens such as Dr. Dessen and others too numerous to list here from the founding era to the current leadership, including Chairman Joseph M. DeBias and President W. Kevin O'Donnell. CAN DO has grown from a grass-roots effort to a nationally recognized, award-winning leader in the economic development field.

Its achievements include amassing more than 270 industrial and office projects, more than 21 million square feet of buildings worth more than \$534 million, almost \$1.5 billion in private investment, more than \$5 million in taxes generated for local municipalities and school districts, more than \$275 million in annual payroll, and more than 11,000 current jobs.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to call to the attention of the House of Representatives the many accomplishments that have flowed from the “CAN DO” spirit of the founders of the

Community Area New Development Organization, which is still reflected in its volunteers and staff today. As the U.S. Representative for the Greater Hazleton community, I am privileged to work with such a dedicated organization, and I wish them and the community continued success in the future.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THOMAS
CONRAD

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2001

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Thomas Conrad for his dedicated service to the town of Middletown, Michigan.

Thomas Conrad was born in Hoboken, New Jersey and served his nation in the United States Army during both war and peace time. While in the Army during World War II, he served in the 5th Army, 10th Division, and was awarded the Purple Heart medal.

Soon after, he moved to Middletown, Michigan and quickly adopted it as his hometown. In Middletown, Thomas worked for the township Department of Public Works, the Housing Authority, served as a lecturer for the Knights of Columbus, and was a member of the Kiwanis Club and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 2179.

Thomas was an active member of his community but was probably most remembered for helping those in need. He was a strong advocate for senior citizens and worked hard to see that each senior had access to quality healthcare. He was active in the Irish Society and ran the 50/50 booth at the St. Mary's fair each year.

In 1984, the Kiwanis Club of Middletown named Thomas Man of the Year, and last year he was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for his service during the war.

Thomas Conrad away passed on February 23 of this year at the age of 75. He will always be remembered as a good hearted man who was always willing to lend a hand to those in need.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Thomas Conrad for his exemplary service to his community and his country.

VIRGINIA KEY BEACH RESOURCE
STUDY BILL

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2001

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, Virginia Key Beach in Miami, Florida is a historically important and environmentally significant place that should be restored and preserved. This is why I have introduced a bill to study the possible inclusion of Virginia Key as part of the National Park Service, and I ask my colleagues to support it.

H.R. 2109 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of Virginia Key Beach, Florida, for inclusion in the National Park System.

Virginia Key is a 1,000-acre barrier island, characterized by a unique and sensitive natural environment, situated just off the mainland of the City of Miami, between Key Biscayne to the south and Fisher Island to the north.

Although there has been some limited development, the island is non-residential and includes ponds and waterways, a tropical hardwood hammock, and a large wildlife conservation area.

Beyond its natural attributes, Virginia Key is also worthy of inclusion in the National Park System because it illustrates our nation's progress toward achieving racial justice. When integrated, as they should be, beaches can be democratizing spaces, which naturally perform a communal function of bringing people together. But this was not the case in South Florida where, for decades, beaches were strictly segregated by race.

As the only beach in Miami that permitted blacks from the 1940s to the 1960s, Virginia Key provided the only escape and source of recreation for countless African American families in South Florida. Virginia Key was the site for baptism and religious services, courtships and honeymoons, organizational gatherings, visiting celebrities and family recreation.

Today, Virginia Key is being restored by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, but its value to the nation and to Florida is based not just on its natural beauty, but also as a symbol of the ongoing struggle of African Americans for equal rights and social justice.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support this important legislation.

DIGHTON HONORS VETERANS

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2001

Mr. FRANK. Mr. Speaker, the town of Dighton, Massachusetts has been steadfast in its commitment to honoring those who have served our country in time of war. Originally the Veterans Memorial in Dighton covered the Civil War and World War I. The people of Dighton, led by the veterans, have admirably decided to expand, to recognize fully the veterans of all of our wars for their gallantry, patriotism, and sacrifice.

Thus, on Saturday, June 16, at 10:00 a.m., the Town of Dighton will dedicate the Dighton Veterans Memorial Common, which will feature seven flag poles in a semi-circle commemorating each branch of the U.S. military, as well as the flag of the United States and the POW flag. There will also be four granite benches listing the names of all of the residents of Dighton who died in the wars of our country in defense of freedom. World War II veteran John Pimenta spear headed this effort, which was coordinated by Alice Pimenta, a tireless worker for this cause. And we are all grateful to the Dighton Power Charitable Fund for financial assistance in this very worthy project.

Mr. Speaker, I was pleased to facilitate the flying of a flag over the Capitol that will now take its permanent place in this important memorial.

The dedication will take place under the leadership of Commander Ronald Louis Naro,

of Rapoza/Knott VFW Post 2094 of North Dighton. Mr. Speaker, this is an important event of which the citizens of Dighton are justifiably proud, and I am proud to have played a small part in it, and to be able to call the attention of the nation to this important act of memorial.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2001

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, last week due to an urgent family matter, I was unable to be in Washington for Roll Call votes #150-155. Had I been here, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call votes #150-155.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RICHARD HUSBY

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2001

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Richard Husby of Lansing, Michigan for being selected as the recipient of the national American Water Works Association 2001 Exemplary Wellhead Protection Award.

Mr. Husby has been the manager of West Side Water in Lansing, Michigan since July 1, 1979. West Side Water purchases treated water from Lansing's Board of Water and Light, and sells it to its customers, having to continuously comply with Environmental Protection Agency rules and regulations on drinking water standards.

Mr. Husby is on the Board of Trustees of Mid-Michigan Water Supply which carries out the proper management and protection of ground water. He is also a member of the Capital Area Ground Water Alliance and is a board member of the Youth Education Committee that educates children about the importance of a clean environment and clean ground water.

The American Water Works Association has awarded him with the 2001 Exemplary Wellhead Protection Award for his commitment to plugging abandoned wells and for educating the citizens of Mid-Michigan on how to detect abandoned wells and the dangers they present.

Therefore Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Richard Husby for being awarded the American Water Works Association's 2001 Exemplary Wellhead Protection Award.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY CLASS OF 2001

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2001

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the 2001 grad-

uating class of Michigan State University. Due to their hard work and dedication, they are now prepared to make significant contributions to the State of Michigan and the United States of America.

As graduates from the first land grant University in the United States, whatever endeavors the Michigan State class of 2001 may pursue, success is certain to follow.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Michigan State University Class of 2001. May this only be the beginning of the great accomplishments they will achieve in their lifetime.

TO HONOR ELVIRA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN TUCSON, ARIZONA

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2001

MR. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to pay tribute to an elementary school in my district that has an outstanding record of commitment to its children and the community. The accomplishments of this school recently received national recognition from the Department of Education, which named it a Blue Ribbon School. I'd like my colleagues to take a moment and join me in paying tribute to Elvira Elementary School in Tucson, Arizona.

Elvira Elementary School is a kindergarten through fifth-grade school in the Sunnyside Unified School District in the southwest portion of Tucson, Arizona. It is a school that has welcomed many challenges and been described as the "best of the best in public education," by one of our local newspapers in Tucson. In addition, it is one of only three elementary schools statewide to be awarded the coveted "A+" ranking by the Arizona Educational Foundation's Model Schools Program in 1999. Selection for this honor was based on Elvira's exemplary student focus and support, active teaching and learning environments, powerful community and parent partnerships and strong educational leadership.

Let me tell you a little about the student body at Elvira. Currently, 88.6 percent of the school's 690 children participate in the federal freereduced breakfast/lunch program, which qualifies Elvira as a Title I school. Almost 48 percent of the students are Limited English Proficient, 10.4 percent receive Special Education services and the student mobility rate is nearing 30 percent.

But as I said, Elvira welcomes challenges. The culture of Elvira values all stakeholders and has high expectations for each of its members. A strong sense of devotion is exhibited by staff, parents and community members who join together to advocate for children.

While most of the families in Elvira are in a lower socio-economic strata, and while the school community has dealt with numerous adverse circumstances and incidents in the past several years, Elvira's resiliency holds, and the community has reacted with caring and commitment to children and their promise for the future. Elvira continually seeks avenues for close analysis of programming in order to improve and expand upon learning environments which nurture the development of the full potential of each child. High expectations