

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO MARGO
FENSTERMAKER OF JEROME,
MICHIGAN, EXCEPTIONAL
TEACHER

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2003

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, education is the key for our Nation's future prosperity and security. The formidable responsibility of molding and inspiring young minds to the avenues of hope, opportunity and achievement rests partly in the hands of our teachers. Today I would like to recognize a teacher from Jerome, MI, that most influenced and motivated exceptional students in academics and leadership that were winners of the LeGrand Smith scholarship.

Margo Fenstermaker teaches English at Hanover Horton High School in Horton, MI. She is credited for instilling in students an enthusiasm for the subject and for life itself. In one student's own words, "Mrs. Fenstermaker is an inspiring, encouraging and optimistic woman who instills a sense of respect for others." The respect and gratitude of her students speaks well of Mrs. Fenstermaker's ability to challenge young minds to stretch the mental muscles and strive to achieve the best that is in them.

Mrs. Fenstermaker's excellence in teaching challenges and inspires students to move beyond the teen-age tendency toward surface study and encourage deeper thought and connections to the real world. No profession is more important in its influence and daily interaction with the future leaders of our community and our country, and Margo Fenstermaker's impact on her students is certainly deserving of recognition.

On behalf of the Congress of the United States of America, I am proud to extend our highest praise to Mrs. Margo Fenstermaker as a master teacher. We thank her for her continuing dedication to teaching and her willingness and ability to challenge and inspire students for leadership and success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHRIS BELL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2003

Mr. BELL. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 276, I was unavoidably detained in the air. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

RECOGNIZING PHI MU ALPHA
SINFONIA

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2003

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity, one of the most distinguished music fraternities in the nation, as they gather in Washington for their triennial convention. Founded in 1898 at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, Massachusetts, there are currently 212 collegiate chapters, colonies, and alumni associations in the United States.

The President of Phi Mu Alpha Fraternity, Dr. Darhyl Ramsey, is a distinguished citizen of the twenty-sixth District of Texas, and I congratulate him on his leadership of this prominent and effective music organization. Dedicated to the development of musicians as well as to the music itself, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity has significantly furthered the education and advancement of music in the United States of America.

Once again, I articulate my gratitude to Phi Mu Alpha Fraternity and to Dr. Ramsey for their dedication to the music of our nation.

DISCHARGE PETITION ON H.R. 303

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2003

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, on June 17, I signed onto the discharge petition H.R. 303, and I rise today to express my continued support of the efforts to release this bill from committee. Concurrent receipt is an issue that warrants the attention of this House, the Senate and the President of the United States.

Currently, veterans who have served our country nobly and suffered a service-connected disability receive a retirement check reduced by the amount of their disability compensation. With that reduction, the disability compensation becomes negated as it simply fills the hole left by the federal government in the veterans' retirement checks. American men and women who served in our Armed Services need not be slighted anymore after putting their lives in harm's way for the survival of this great democracy. This discharge petition will draw out those that believe the codes of valor and honor outrank fiscal tightfistedness.

By releasing H.R. 303 from committee and allowing debate on the bill, we can begin to address the issue of concurrent receipt. The bill was introduced with bipartisan support, but the discharge petition lacks that same support. You and I both know, Mr. Speaker, that there are bills introduced everyday that are never intended to reach the House floor. This should not be one of those bills. This should not be one of those issues.

In these times when we ask so much of our military community, the women and men of our Armed Forces need our help. The rising costs of prescription drugs and VA enrollment fees and a struggling economy only hamper the efforts of our veterans trying to continue their lives in the nation they spent their careers defending. Disabled veterans have paid their price, and I would urge this body to not make them pay twice.

TRIBUTE TO JUDY LOWE

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2003

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a leader and a friend in my district who has shown what one person can achieve through selfless dedication to her community. Judy Lowe, of Alexandria, Virginia, is an inspiration to all of us who wish to better the lives of the people around us.

This year, Judy was recognized by the Alexandria Commission on Women by honoring her with the Marguerite Payez Award. This lifetime achievement award is given to a woman who has devoted her life to benefit the City of Alexandria. I can not think of a person more deserving of this than Judy.

Judy Lowe has served as the "Mayor" of Del Ray, a working class and diverse section of the City of Alexandria where I have spent most of my adult life. She has worked tirelessly to improve the Del Ray area through her volunteer work. Her service on the civic association executive board for 10 years helped shape Del Ray into the vibrant neighborhood that we know today. Judy authored the community newsletter during her time bringing the news to her friends and neighbors in a way that pulled the community together.

"Art on the Avenue" is one of the most impressive and valuable events that the City of Alexandria hosts, and it would never have been possible without the assistance and dedication of Judy. This annual event helps showcase the diversity of the city through multicultural art and music. Judy has ensured that this event improves each year and she should be commended for her commitment to showcasing the arts of our area.

Judy's involvement in a range of civic activities in Alexandria has endeared her to countless individuals and organizations throughout the area. Her passion for her community has never faded and she has always been one of the first people to step up and volunteer for an activity or an event.

Most importantly, Judy Lowe is a true leader whose magnanimous spirit is infectious. The words most often used to describe Judy are cheerful, dedicated, and role model. She is known not only for her dedication to Alexandria, but also her devotion to the Washington Redskins. She is the only person I know to wear black after every game the Redskins

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