

TRIBUTE TO ROOTS OF PEACE

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 2003

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. PELOSI, Ms. TAUSHER, Ms. WOOLSEY and myself honor Roots of Peace, a humanitarian organization dedicated to fostering prosperity in the spirit that turns swords into plowshares.

Since its founding in 1997 by Ms. Heidi Kuhn, Roots of Peace has worked towards the global eradication of landmines, sowing seeds of goodwill by transforming "mines into vines." In communities throughout the world, Roots of Peace restores hope and prosperity by replacing toxic minefields that maim and kill with blossoming vineyards and fields of grain.

Understanding that landmines impact not only individual victims and their families, but hold entire communities hostage emotionally, environmentally, and economically, Roots of Peace implements comprehensive and lasting solutions. The organization has waged its campaign against landmines on four fronts: awareness, removal, treatment, and restoration.

Landmines maim or kill approximately 26,000 people each year, 10,000 of them children. Lurking patiently beneath the earth's surface, mines can wait almost indefinitely for their victims. Today, an estimated 70 million mines in over 70 nations are waiting for a mere eight pounds of pressure to detonate. These indiscriminate weapons of terror neither know nor care if that pressure is applied by the boot of a marching soldier or the bare foot of a playing child.

The successful removal of these gruesomely destructive weapons is both dangerous and costly. In contrast to the three dollars required to manufacture and plant a landmine, its removal can cost up to 1,000 dollars. Since its inception, Roots of Peace has worked tirelessly garnering the resources necessary to rid vast expanses of land of the mines that keep them lying fallow and transform them into thriving farmland.

This summer alone, Roots of Peace is planting rice in Cambodia, orchards in Croatia, and grapes in Afghanistan. Also, in a particularly poignant expression of hope for a lasting peace, Roots of Peace will be planting wheat in Iraq, bringing the dream of neighbors in this war-torn country breaking bread together closer to fruition.

We ask all of our colleagues to join us in commending Roots of Peace for their outstanding work which saves lives and restores livelihoods in communities around the world.

HONORING MARY LAVERONI

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 2003

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mary Laveroni for her 50 years of service with Groveland Community Service District and her other contributions to the community of Groveland. She will be honored at a ceremony on August 19th to dedicate Groveland's Wayside Park as Mary Laveroni Community Park.

Laveroni has shown continuous involvement and commitment to the Groveland community. She was one of three founding directors who formed the Groveland Community Service District in 1953 to address the area's water problems. She served on its board for a total of 26 years, 18 as Board President. Along with fellow board members, Laveroni helped secure a reliable and low cost water supply from San Francisco's Hetch Hetchy project. Today, the Groveland Community Service District handles not only the area's water needs by providing wastewater collection and treatment, but also park maintenance, fire and rescue and other vital services to the community.

Laveroni's contributions to her community go beyond the formation of the services district. Mary is responsible for donating the land and financing the construction of the Groveland Medical Clinic. She also served for 17 years in the U.S. Forest Service.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mary Laveroni for her contributions to the Groveland community. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring Mary for her continual service and years of dedication.

IN HONOR OF CAPTAIN TIMOTHY MCHENRY

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 2003

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Captain Timothy McHenry who has served with distinction in the San Mateo County Sheriff's Department for almost thirty-seven years and who is now retiring.

Before his career with the Sheriffs Office, Tim McHenry drove an ambulance and served in the Army Reserves. He joined the Sheriff's Office on September 19, 1966 as a Deputy Sheriff, a rank he held for eight years. In this position he was assigned to the patrol unit, the courts and the manpower pool. He took over the Explorer program in 1969, devoting himself to serving the youth of our community. He has earned the many commendations from the five Sheriffs he has served under in his career for his extraordinary leadership and affiliation with Exploring.

Tim McHenry was promoted to Sergeant on October 1, 1974, a rank he held for 23 years. He served as Administrative Sergeant in the Reserve Program and was also active with the Divers, beginning the organization of the Emergency Services Bureau. He developed the Emergency Services Detail, the primary unit within San Mateo County that searches for lost people. He also launched a second Explorer post and the Deputy Cliff Rescue unit which has been responsible for many rescues on the cliffs of San Mateo County.

Tim McHenry developed the search and rescue coordinator position, a 24-hour on-call position for search and rescue, fires, floods, earthquakes and hazardous materials. This program has been expanded to include terrorism response. He initiated the County Commanders' paging system for mutual aid, developed the mobile field force concept for enforcement in mutual aid zones and developed, with the County's police chiefs, the personal protective equipment concept for all law enforcement in San Mateo County.

Tim McHenry has been honored by several Sheriffs for developing STAR camp, a very successful summer camp opportunity for youth in San Mateo County. He brought the Exploring Challenge, a regional Explorer event with competitions and education for teenagers, to San Mateo County in 1996 and 2000.

Tim McHenry was promoted to Lieutenant in March 16, 1977 and to Captain in March, 2002.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Captain Tim McHenry for his extraordinary service to our community spanning almost four decades and in wishing him every blessing in his well-deserved retirement.

IN HONOR OF POINT LOOKOUT STATE PARK'S RECEIPT OF A 2003 CHESAPEAKE BAY GATEWAYS NETWORK GRANT

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 2003

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker I rise today to recognize Point Lookout State Park and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. Point Lookout State Park received a 2003 Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network Grant for a project designed to enhance key sites and resources at the park. The Maryland Department of Natural Resources will match the grant.

The Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network, which includes more than 120 museums, State parks, wildlife refuges and other sites in five States and the District of Columbia, was created to enhance the experience of visitors to the Chesapeake Bay and its many roads, rivers and trails. Authorized by the Chesapeake Bay Initiative Act of 1998, the Gateways Network is coordinated by the National Park Service in partnership with the Chesapeake Bay Program.

During the past four years, Gateways Network Grants have funded new maps, improved signs, and expanded trails that have made visits to parks, wildlife refuges and water trails even more exciting and enjoyable than they had previously been. These grants help enhance the public's ability to learn and enjoy the Chesapeake's stories and significance, explore its natural and cultural resources, and become involved in helping conserve and restore the Bay and its watershed. Through these projects and other Gateways Network efforts more and more people recognize the Chesapeake as a true national treasure.

In 2003, the National Park Service is awarding \$1,387,309 in grant funding, matched by over \$2 million in partner contributions. Thirty-two grants are being made to Gateways throughout the Bay watershed in Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia. Point Lookout State Park is receiving a grant of \$39,320 and \$39,415 in partner contributions.

The project proposed by Point Lookout State Park and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources will develop a series of up to 14 outdoor interpretive exhibits, or waysides, highlighting key sites and resources at the park. A number of exhibits will focus on Civil War era stories showing how the Chesapeake Bay and the Potomac River played important roles in the war. Additional exhibits will

highlight the Point Lookout lighthouse and the lives of lighthouse keepers. With nearly a half million visitors annually, Point Lookout provides a real Bay experience for many people. The new exhibits will greatly expand interpretive information for visitors and share more of the Bay story.

Mr. Speaker, it is with the assistance and vision of organizations such as Point Lookout State Park and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources that the Chesapeake Bay and the entire region has become the treasure that we know it to be today. Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Point Lookout State Park and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources on receiving this grant and wishing them the best of luck in completing their project.

TRIBUTE TO THE SOUTHERN REGIONAL ROLLER HOCKEY TEAM

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 2003

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call your attention to the members of the Southern Regional High School Roller Hockey Team. On Monday, August 4, 2003, New Jersey's Southern Regional High School Rams defeated Georgia's Milton Eagles in the final game of the USA Hockey Inline High School National Roller Hockey Championships held in Alpharetta, Georgia.

Led by Coach Robert Schoka, the Rams were seeded number two in the playoffs with a tournament record of 5–2 when they entered the tournament finals. Their hard-earned victory against the Eagles came in overtime, with a final score of 6–5, allowing the Rams to become the first ever National Championship Team in high school roller hockey history.

In addition to taking home the national championship title, several members of the Rams took home awards for their individual performances during the tournament. Goaltender Kenny Calicchio, who started and finished all eight games in goal, received an award for the Best Goaltender in the tournament for his record of 187 saves on 207 shots made on goal. Donald Cioffi, the third highest scorer in the tournament with eight goals and eight assists, was selected to the All-Tournament Team. Most impressive, however, is the Team Sportsmanship Award that the tournament referees awarded to the Rams for the team's fair play and sportsmanlike behavior.

It is only fitting that the Rams' exemplary performance during this historic event in U.S. High School Athletics be honored in this, the permanent record of the greatest freely elected body on earth.

Mr. Speaker, the job of a United States Congressman involves so much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing the individual and team accomplishments of such talented young individuals as the members of the Southern Regional Rams.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, the Rams' families and friends, and me in honoring Coach Schoka and the members of the Southern Regional High School Roller Hockey Team.

TRIBUTE TO SANDY DRAGGOO

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 2003

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Sandy Draggoo of the Capital Area Transportation Authority (CATA) as she has recently received the American Public Transportation Association's Outstanding Public Transportation Manager Award. Ms. Draggoo has dedicated nearly thirty years to the Capital Area Transportation Authority and is responsible for the successful enterprise it is today.

In 1974, Sandy Draggoo's career with CATA began while the authority was in its infancy. Just two years after its inception, Sandy started as the secretary to the Executive Director. She was soon promoted to Personnel Manager in 1976, and after nine successful years succeeded her former boss as Executive Director in 1984. Under Ms. Draggoo's leadership, CATA has changed markedly in the last eighteen years. Annually, CATA provides over 8.7 million rides, more than twice the number it provided just five years ago, and almost twelvefold the roughly 730,000 rides the authority provided in 1974. This dramatic increase in ridership is a testament to Sandy's dedication and hard work and earned CATA the American Public Transportation Association's Outstanding Transit System Award in 1991.

In 1997, CATA announced the opening of the CATA Transportation Center, an intermodal passenger transfer center that had been a project of the authority since the mid 1980's. Sandy's leadership was paramount in overcoming the many hurdles necessary to bring this project to fruition. More recently, Sandy secured a contract with Michigan State University to assume operation of their bus system and consequently increased ridership from 850,000 to nearly 3 million. Ms. Draggoo brought extended CATA routes to Michigan State University students living in new off campus communities, averting severe congestion that worried local residents and municipal leaders.

Mr. Speaker, in her tenure, Sandy Draggoo has transformed the Capital Area Transportation Authority from a startup public transportation system into one of the nation's most premier. Her hard work and determination have earned her the American Public Transportation Association's Outstanding Public Transportation Manager Award. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Draggoo for the receipt of this award and for her leadership and commitment to my community.

HONORING EDWIN HAWKINS

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 2003

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Edwin Hawkins on his 60th birthday for his achievements as a gospel music pioneer and community activist. He has been a composer, producer, songwriter and vital force in gospel music for four decades.

The album "Let Us Go into the House of the Lord" was the first to bring acclaim to Mr. Hawkins. Among its highlights was the track "Oh Happy Day," which unexpectedly found a home on underground FM playlists across San Francisco. The single quickly began earning airplay on mainstream R&B and pop outlets across the country, and in the spring of 1969 it reached the U.S. Top Five on its way to selling an astounding seven million copies and taking home a Grammy award for Best Gospel/Soul Performance of 1969. At this time the choir was rechristened the Edwin Hawkins Singers, although the featured voice on "Oh Happy Day" belonged to singer Dorothy Combs Morrison, who soon exited in pursuit of a solo career.

In 1970 the group made a return appearance on the pop charts supporting the artist Melanie on her hit "Lay Down (Candle in the Wind)." Edwin Hawkins remained a critical favorite, and in 1972, the Singers won a second Grammy for "Every Man Wants to Be Free." Recording prolifically throughout the remainder of the decade, in 1980 they won a third Grammy for "Wonderful"; a fourth award, for "If You Love Me," followed three years later.

In 1982, Edwin founded the Edwin Hawkins Music and Arts Seminar, an annual week-long convention that offers workshops exploring all facets of the gospel industry and culminating each year with a live performance by the assembled mass choir. The 2002 Love Fellowship Mass Choir included hundreds of representatives from the United States, Europe, and Japan.

Gospel musicians and vocalists from around the world will meet to celebrate this great composer, musician, and vocalist on his 60th birthday. On a personal note, I would like to thank Edwin for his long-standing friendship and encouragement. He is a true believer, and has been steadfast in his honesty and support. I take great pride in joining his friends, colleagues, and family to salute the extraordinary Edwin Hawkins.

HONORING THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF COLONEL CHARLES YOUNG

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 2003

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the centennial anniversary of Colonel Charles Young's service as superintendent of Sequoia National Park. A ceremony was held in his honor at Sequoia National Park on Saturday, August 23.

Colonel Young graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1884. While serving as a Captain in the Cavalry at the Presidio of San Francisco he received orders to take his troops to Sequoia National Park. In doing so, he became the first black superintendent of the park. His men, known as the "Buffalo Soldiers", were the all-black members of the 9th U.S. Cavalry. They completed the first road into the Giant Forest, constructed trails, and began active protection of the world's largest trees. Colonel Young later went on to have a successful career in a practically all white army. He was buried at Arlington National Cemetery with full honors.