EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PASSAVANT RETIREMENT COMMUNITY'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2005

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Passavant Retirement Community on the 100th year anniversary of its founding.

Over the past 100 years, the Passavant Retirement Community has been successful at encouraging their residents to maintain their independence, while also staying involved in community activities. Situated on 42 acres in the historic Lawrence County town of Zelienople, the retirement community has a true sense of caring and community among residents and staff. I recognize Passavant Retirement Community for all of their hard work and dedication to serving the citizens of western Pennsylvania.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the 100th anniversary of the Passavant Retirement Community. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute such principled organizations as the Passavant Retirement Community.

A PROCLAMATION CONGRATULATING SENIOR AIRMAN MATTHEW D. DAWLEY FOR RECEIVING THE AIR FORCE ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Senior Airman Matthew Dawley has served his country with honor and courage in the United States Air Force; and

Whereas, Senior Airman Matthew Dawley is to be commended for his actions with the 45th Civil Engineer Squadron at Patrick Air Force Base, Florida; and

Whereas, Senior Airman Matthew Dawley is the recipient of the Air Force Achievement Medal for meritorious service.

Therefore, I join with family and friends and the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in thanking Senior Airman Matthew Dawley of the United States Air Force for his service to our country and celebrate with him in receiving the Air Force Achievement Medal. Your service has made us proud.

A TRIBUTE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2005

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the United Nations Association of the United States of America, Pasadena/Foothills Chapter, on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the United Nations.

The United Nations Association of the United States of America Pasadena/Foothills Chapter was formed in 1947 and is one of the largest UNA–USA chapters in the Nation, encompassing most of the San Gabriel Valley, Burbank, Glendale, and Northeast Los Angeles. In 1972, it was one of the first chapters to be incorporated and then began an extensive program to educate the general public about the United Nations.

The Pasadena/Foothills Chapter of the UNA–USA has been most active in the field of education. They sponsor the UNA–USA National High School Essay Contest annually and also host current-event lectures on a regular basis. A quarterly newsletter, Our World, is also published to increase public awareness of advocacy issues and current foreign affairs. The Chapter has also most recently sponsored a Great Decisions course at Pasadena City College, taught by a current board member.

The current focus of the Pasadena/Foothills Chapter is to incorporate the Model United Nations curriculum into elementary and high schools in the Pasadena Area. The Model U.N. program encourages leadership and cooperation, while giving students opportunities to take part in competitions in the arenas of International Affairs, Human Rights, and Conflict Resolution.

The Pasadena/Foothills Chapter is also involved in many philanthropic efforts and sponsors an event known as the Night of a Thousand Dinners, raising over $12,000 in the last 2 years for land mine clearance. Trips to U.N. Conferences in countries such as Turkey, China, Italy, Cuba, and South Africa have also been organized by the Chapter.

This year, the Pasadena/Foothills Chapter is celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the United Nations. The Chapter is organizing an event at the Pacific Asia Museum that showcases the artwork of local and international artists centering on the themes of peace and equality to commemorate the founding of the U.N.

I ask all Members to join me in recognizing the United Nations Association of the United States of America, Pasadena/Foothills chapter, for its nearly 60 years of incredible work and service to the greater Pasadena Area.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. 437, ESTABLISHING THE SELECT BIPARTISAN COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE THE PREPARATION FOR AND RESPONSE TO HURRICANE KATRINA

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN McCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2005

Mrs. McCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, Hurricane Katrina took an enormous personal toll on thousands of families across Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama, many of whom are now relocated in neighboring states and need to begin rebuilding their lives. Congress' first priority must be to ensure the evacuees have the necessary resources.

We must also determine why the Federal response, led by FEMA and the Department of Homeland Security failed to recognize the urgency of the situation. Americans may have died because of the Federal Government's slow response. This is unacceptable.

Last Thursday, the House passed legislation in support of a bipartisan committee to investigate the Federal Government's response to Hurricane Katrina. Unfortunately the committee will not truly be bipartisan because it will be selected and led by the Republican leadership, which may be inclined to place blame on local officials while overlooking mistakes made by the Bush Administration. This will not give us the objectivity that we need. We must have an independent panel modeled after the 9/11 Commission.

It is not a question of Members being capable of serving on a committee, but I fear their political affiliations will cause many Americans to doubt the validity of their conclusions and findings. Americans no longer trust their elected officials to set aside politics and develop objective conclusions identifying personnel and policy that failed us during Katrina and what can be done to remedy our emergency infrastructure failures.

The 9/11 commission put politics aside and delivered concise and direct conclusions about failings in our intelligence infrastructure. We need to again appoint a similar non-partisan commission to ensure what happened in New Orleans never happens again and this begins with the response and actions of FEMA and the Department of Homeland Security.

I was pleased that Congress acted quickly to appropriate funds for the states and victims of the disaster. Congress has the responsibility to ensure that FEMA and the Department of Homeland Security use this aid appropriately to help those harmed by Katrina.

Since the creation of the Department of Homeland Security there have been detailed instances of contracting fraud and waste. In an effort to prevent this practice in the future, I have cosponsored legislation that calls for the creation of an Inspector General for Natural Disaster Response and Reconstruction

within the Department of Homeland Security. The Inspector General will have one responsibility, to conduct, supervise, and coordinate audits and investigations of the treatment and handling of Federal funds by any organization providing relief to Katrina. This will ensure the funds are reaching those most in need and ensure tax dollars are not wasted.

On a positive note, I congratulate my Long Island colleague, Congressman PETER KING, for being named Chairman of the Homeland Security Committee. With his experience working with Federal and local in the aftermath of the 9/11 terrorist attacks and serving on the Committee since its inception, PETER is more than qualified to lead. I am confident he will show the same dedication for rebuilding the Gulf Coast that he has demonstrated for rebuilding his hometown and trust he will work bipartisanly when deciding how to use Federal resources in response to Katrina as he has in the fight with the war on terror.

TRIBUTE TO MR. HYMAN KING OF BENTON, KENTUCKY

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2005

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a constituent and friend in my District, Mr. Hyman King of Benton, Kentucky. Mr. King was born on June 9, 1924, in Biggers, Arkansas and after traveling much of his youth, he settled in McKenzie, Tennessee to work in the family's wholesale grocery business. He served his country in the United States Navy during World War II and was stationed in North Africa, Europe, and aboard a troop transport ship.

After World War II ended, Mr. King returned home to Tennessee to continue working for his uncle at their wholesale grocery business. In February of 1950, Mr. King and his brother Derril King opened their own grocery in Benton and later opened another store in Draffenville, Kentucky. The store was known as King Brother's Supermarket and is still in operation 55 years later. Mr. King's nephews, Ronnie and Ted King, operate the stores now and still maintain the work ethic that was taught to them by their father and uncle. The stores have prospered because they are an integral part of the community they served over the past half century. Mr. King's service to his country and his economic contributions through the establishment of his successful business, make him a person of integrity and a respected citizen in his community.

NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2005

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 16th annual celebration of National Recovery Month, and to salute those who have shown us the promise and possibility of recovering from addiction. I am proud to be a member of the Congressional Caucus on Addiction, Treatment, and Recovery, and I join my colleagues in highlighting the need for increased access to treatment.

Despite the fact that virtually everyone has a relative, coworker, friend, or neighbor who has had problems with alcohol, drugs, or other addictive behaviors, the difficulties in getting into and completing a treatment program are not often publicly discussed. Public stigma further compounds the problems of a system that is alarmingly overburdened. Health insurance policies often do not cover treatment of alcohol or drug dependency; and, when they do, coverage is not always adequate.

In Wisconsin, more than 120,000 people are currently unable to gain access to treatment for alcohol or drug dependence. To family and friends trying to help a loved one, the many obstacles standing in their way can seem insurmountable. With appointment wait times often approaching three weeks or longer and costs of care becoming prohibitively expensive, only one in four people with alcohol or drug addiction is able to get treatment.

In Congress, I'm working to address the problem in several ways. I have re-introduced the Health Security for All Americans Act. This legislation would provide health care for all Americans by encouraging the States to expand coverage through various methods of their own choosing and providing them with the funds to do so. Equally important, the legislation sets standards for the level of coverage and includes parity for mental health and substance abuse treatment benefits. This means that no limitations or financial requirements could be imposed on the treatment of mental illness or substance abuse that are not also imposed on other medical and surgical benefits.

I'm pleased to report that exciting work is being done on this issue in my home State of Wisconsin. Last year, the University of Wisconsin—Madison, along with The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, launched a national program to help treatment providers find innovative ways to meet their many challenges. The Network for the Improvement of Addiction Treatment, or NIATx, works with providers who are trying to treat more people with fewer resources. The 29 participating organizations are applying business and quality improvement principles to reduce wait times to get into treatment and the number of no-shows for treatment while increasing admissions to treatment and the number of those continuing in treatment.

NIATx agencies experienced dramatic improvements in access to treatment and retention, proving that significant change may be a lot simpler, less time consuming, and less costly than is often presumed. They're also developing new ideas and tools to share with the rest of the treatment field.

As we celebrate National Recovery Month throughout September, it's important to recognize and salute the dedicated and determined addiction treatment providers, as well as and the brave and committed individuals who are recovering. I look forward to continuing my work with my colleagues, especially.those who are members of the Addiction Treatment and Recovery Caucus, in ensuring that all Americans have access to timely and affordable addiction treatment.

FLEXIBILITY FOR DISPLACED WORKERS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2005

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker and members, I rise today in support of the Flexibility for Displaced Workers Act because it is the right thing to do.

This bill provides greater flexibility to the National Emergency Grants Program at the Department of Labor.

This will enable communities that are assisting evacuees to increase employment opportunities for evacuees.

For example, this legislation will allow temporary employment of evacuees in positions that are not directly related to the disaster.

While thousands of jobs will be created in rebuilding New Orleans, the Houston area has an estimated 200,000 evacuees in the area. If we pass this bill today, we will be able to offer these people more job opportunities for a longer period of time.

We hope those who want to return and help rebuild New Orleans will do so.

However, we also expect many evacuees will find it easier to settle in Houston now that there are opportunities to find housing and employment.

The State of Texas has already processed over 49,000 calls from evacuees seeking unemployment benefits since the evacuation started.

Texas, and especially Houston, need this bill to pass in order to help these people find employment.

I urge all my colleagues to support this measure.

Those of us with large numbers of evacuees in our districts need this change to help those displaced by Hurricane Katrina rebuild their lives rebuild their lives.

J.J. KENNEDY, INC.'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2005

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate J.J. Kennedy, Inc. on the 100th year anniversary of its founding.

Over the past one hundred years J.J. Kennedy, Inc., a family owned business, has grown from a feed and flour mill to a top ready-mix concrete and building supplies distributor. Incorporated in 1970, the business has expanded considerably now consisting of four locations and 75 employees strong. I recognize the J.J. Kennedy, Inc. for all of their hard work and dedication to serving the citizens of Western Pennsylvania. In order to mark the special occasion, a celebration is planned for Sunday, September 18th at Moraine State Park.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the 100th anniversary of the J.J. Kennedy, Inc. It is an honor to represent the