

IN HONOR OF THE REVEREND JAY
SCRIBNER

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 18, 2005

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Jay Scribner, who distinguished himself by his 28 years of service and commitment to the people of Southwest Missouri.

After receiving his Master of Divinity from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1977, Reverend Scribner began his service at the First Baptist Church in Branson, Missouri. This year, Jay and his wife Kay leave a much larger church at a different location and with an outreach around the world after 28 years of dedicated service.

During this time, Reverend Scribner has acted as a Guest Chaplain for this body, participated in the Presidential Prayer Breakfast, and was honored with an Honorary Doctorate of Theology.

Pastor Scribner has not only touched lives in Southwest Missouri, but has also served as President of the Missouri Baptist Convention and has been a leader in religious broadcasting and Christian education. His work has taken both he and his ministry to places such as Israel, Jordan, Egypt, Australia, Taiwan, and Iraq.

The contributions of Reverend Jay Scribner during his years of service have impacted thousands of people in Southwest Missouri and throughout the world.

WELCOMING FORMER TAIWANESE
PRESIDENT LEE TENG-HUI TO
WASHINGTON, DC

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 18, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome former Taiwanese President Lee Teng-Hui to Washington, DC this week.

President Lee was born on January 15, 1923, in Sanchih, a rural community on the outskirts of Taipei. After graduating from Taipei High School, he was admitted into Kyoto Imperial University in Japan. After World War II, he returned home to continue his studies at National Taiwan University (NTU), majoring in agricultural economics.

After being elected vice president in 1984, he helped engineer various political and economic reforms. On the sudden death of President Chiang Ching-kuo on January 13, 1988, Dr. Lee became President and completed the remainder of Chiang's. During his 2 years in office he greatly impressed the people of Taiwan with his able leadership. And, on March 21, 1990, Dr. Lee was elected in his own right by the National Assembly as president of Taiwan.

President Lee Teng-hui can rightfully called the founding father of Taiwan's democratic system. "The George Washington of Taiwan."

At the age of 82 today, he still seeks to learn and educate himself about our American democracy. He visited the National Archives to see the Constitution and the U.S. Declaration

of Independence. He received a tour at the Jefferson Memorial; no doubt prompted by the fact that he himself stood at the cradle of democracy in Taiwan.

Mr. Speaker: We have an opportunity to meet with President Lee in person this Wednesday afternoon. I urge all my colleagues to participate in this historic occasion and join me in welcoming President Lee to Washington, DC.

We need more friends like President Lee. Yes, we need more friends like Taiwan.

I hope that soon all restrictions on high-level visits from Taiwan will be lifted including the President, the vice-President, the foreign minister and the defense minister. So that a balanced understanding of both sides of the Taiwan Strait will be directly available to Congress, the Administration and the American public.

After President Lee's visit, I look forward to welcoming Taiwan's current President—Mr. Chen Shui-bian—to Washington, DC as well. Sooner rather than later.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE
MEADOWLANDS HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 18, 2005

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Meadowlands Hospital Medical Center in Secaucus, New Jersey. I take great pride in knowing that my constituents have access to some of the best hospitals and health care in the country. I am delighted to announce that the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Health Care Organizations has recently inspected the Meadowlands Hospital and found it to be in superb condition and in need of no improvements. This is an incredible accomplishment in the current age of medicine. This great achievement gives validation to what we in Northern New Jersey have always known—that the Meadowlands Hospital is in the top tier of hospitals nationally.

The Meadowlands Hospital has also received a "Five Star" rating for its Obstetrical Services from Health Grades, an independent agency that rates the quality of programs in hospitals around the country. Health Grades shows that the obstetrical services at the Meadowlands Hospital ranks in the top 5 percent of programs nationally, when it comes to positive outcomes and lower complication rates. In addition, the hospital's acute inpatient rehabilitation unit, the Liberty Rehabilitation Institute, is rated among the highest in patient satisfaction in the Northeast, based on surveys of its patients performed by Press Ganey, Inc.

The Meadowlands Hospital will soon be celebrating its 30th anniversary. I'm sure that all of my constituents will join me in recognizing the great services that the hospital provides to our community and congratulating them on their recent accomplishments. We all look forward to celebrating their third decade of service and working to expand the hospital so it can continue providing superior health care to Secaucus and all of Northern New Jersey.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES BE COMMENDED FOR IMPLEMENTING MEDICARE DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE BARTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, Chairman THOMAS, requested that the attached exchange of letters be submitted during the floor debate on H. Res. 261.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE,
Washington, DC, Oct. 17, 2005.

The Hon. BILL THOMAS,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you for your letter in regards to H. Res. 261, a resolution "[e]xpressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services should be commended for implementing the Medicare demonstration project to assess the quality of care of cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy, and should extend the project, at least through 2006, subject to any appropriate modifications."

As the Committee on Ways and Means was named as an additional Committee of jurisdiction upon the resolution's introduction, I acknowledge and appreciate your willingness to not exercise your full referral on the resolution. In doing so, I agree that your decision to forgo further action on the resolution will not prejudice the Committee on Ways and Means with respect to its jurisdictional prerogatives on this legislation or similar legislation.

I look forward to working with you on this resolution.

Sincerely,

JOE BARTON,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
Washington, DC, Oct. 11, 2005.

The Hon. JOE BARTON,
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN BARTON: I am writing concerning H. Res. 261, a resolution "[e]xpressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services should be commended for implementing the Medicare demonstration project to assess the quality of care of cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy, and should extend the project, at least through 2006, subject to any appropriate modifications," which was ordered reported by the Committee on Energy and Commerce on Wednesday, July 20, 2005.

As you know, the Committee on Ways and Means has jurisdiction over matters concerning Medicare. This resolution calls for the extension of the Medicare demonstration project to assess the quality of care for patients undergoing chemotherapy, and thus falls within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means. However, in order to expedite this legislation for floor consideration, the Committee will forgo action on this resolution. This is being done with the understanding that it does not in any way prejudice the Committee with respect to the appointment of conferees or its jurisdictional prerogatives on this or similar legislation.

I would appreciate your response to this letter, confirming this understanding with respect to H. Res. 261, and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the Congressional Record during floor consideration.

Best regards,

BILL THOMAS,
Chairman.

HONORING ALBERT GONZALEZ

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 18, 2005

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a leader in Colorado's Latino community, Albert Gonzales. Mr. Gonzales is the president of Gonzales Consulting Services which he founded in 1990. After 15 years in business, Gonzales Consulting Services has 250 employees who provide financial management, support services, information technology, and emergency security communications to clients in nine States. Having realized extraordinary success in his own business endeavors, Albert finds time now to mentor small businesses with their growth and development.

By any measure, Albert Gonzales is a true American success story. He is not only a leading entrepreneur in Colorado, he is raising his family and contributing to the larger community.

In fact, he has focused much of his life to giving back to his community—particularly to the Latino community. In 1992, Albert Gonzales founded the Colorado Democratic Latino Initiative, the first initiative of its kind in Colorado. The Latino Initiative has given many Hispanic Coloradans a means for more effective participation in politics within the Democratic Party. The initiative has provided training and information on issues that affect the community and has been a model for political involvement across our region, including similar efforts by the Republican Party. As a result, there has been a tangible increase in the participation in the political process by Colorado Latinos. That participation shows itself in more than just Latinos exercising their right to vote. Many have been given the tools and encouragement necessary to run for public office.

Although Albert is a committed Democrat, his partisan affiliation is not why I rise to acknowledge his leadership. Albert's real contribution to Colorado is in his work as a businessman, as a mentor, and as a person of conscience and good will.

As a decision maker and political leader, Albert Gonzales has shown how important it is for Latinos to occupy positions of power in policy making—particularly as this community continues to grow and influence the culture, politics and economy of the West. Although Albert will retire from the Colorado Democratic Initiative Board this year, I have no doubt that he will continue to work in other ways and with the same passion, intelligence and commitment for this community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Albert Gonzales for his commitment toward elevating the Latino community's influence in the public arena—a worthy objective that cuts across partisan lines and serves to strengthen our democratic process.

RECOGNIZING MASTER JOHN BACHKOSKY FOR HIS ACT OF HEROISM

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 18, 2005

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to acknowledge the act of heroism displayed by Master John Bachkosky on August 18, 2004. John, a Webelos Scout of Cub Scout Pack 688, demonstrated both determination and heroism by saving the lives of his sister Robin, and friend, Morgan at minimum risk to himself.

The 6-year-old girls were playing in the waves of Ocean City, Maryland, when they became caught in a rip tide. John was nearby and had an opportunity to swim to shallow water. However, as a genuine Scout would, he acted courageously by swimming to where the girls were. He then held them up until help arrived.

John's vigilance and instincts prevented the girls from any serious injury. The Boy Scouts of America upon recommendation of the National Court of Honor presented John with a Heroism Award.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join with me today in commending Master John Bachkosky for adhering to the Core Values of Cub Scouting, displayed through his Courage, Perseverance, and Responsibility. His actions are evidence of the principles of the Boy Scouts of America.

CALLING ATTENTION TO CUSHING'S DISEASE

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 18, 2005

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw both the House and the Nation's attention to Cushing's disease: a disease that debilitates, degenerates, and devastates the lives of 10 to 15 million people a year.

Yet despite the grievous nature of this disease, it has gained little attention from the general public as well as medical advocates across the country.

Cushing's disease is caused by the body's overproduction of cortisol, the hormone that serves a number of imperative functions such as sugar break down, metabolism regulation, inflammation reduction, maintenance of blood pressure and cardiovascular function, and regulation of the body's response to stress.

Unfortunately, the severity of the disease is also coupled with a high degree of unfamiliarity with its symptoms among victims and doctors alike. These circumstances prove highly dangerous as it is frequently misdiagnosed.

This illness comes in various yet equally grievous forms in which its myriad of symptoms are easily confused with other diseases, conditions, and disorders. Some of the most commonly experienced symptoms include rapid weight gain, central obesity, moon face, weakness, fatigue, backache, headache, increased urination, impotence, neuropsychological disorders, muscle atrophy, stretch marks,

osteoporosis, high blood pressure, and uncontrolled diabetes.

Failure to properly and aggressively treat Cushing's disease quickly can lead to fatal consequences.

Recently, Ms. Stephanie Womack-Gilchrist, my constituent in the 8th District of New Jersey, shared with me the story of her excruciating battle with this rare and relatively unknown disease. She has endured a 7-year battle with the illness in which she subsequently experienced sporadic hospitalization, comas, seizures, and a miscarriage.

Additionally, she was diagnosed with diabetes, suffered from depression, broke both feet due to the severity of her osteoporosis, developed a tumor on her pituitary, and had to endure radiation treatment. Her symptoms baffled various doctors and specialists for 3 years before her original internist identified her affliction as Cushing's disease. Yet, despite this horrific ordeal, Stephanie has persevered.

This resilient woman contacted me in an effort to raise awareness about Cushing's Disease. And I stand here today to educate my colleagues on the severity of this disease in order to help her and others suffering from this disease to promote a wide-spread understanding of it.

After enduring the absolute havoc that Cushing's wreaked on her life, Ms. Womack-Gilchrist has allied herself with the organization, Cushing's Understanding Support Help (CUSH). This organization is leading the charge in raising the level of public awareness about this debilitating disease.

Their website provides comprehensive information about the causes, symptoms, and consequences of Cushing's Disease, and strives to promote a wide understanding of all the elements of this illness. It also provides information on ways to reach out to patients and their families and offers a Chat Night every Wednesday.

In addition, CUSH posts opportunities to participate in symptoms studies and various other medical research. They also have an interactive message board on which they post international events, recent news, biographies of CUSH founders and patients, and relevant web casts and video footage, among other things. Such efforts work to not only inform and support those with the affliction, but to globally implement a much needed, education campaign.

It is our duty as the legislative leaders of this Nation to respond to all those who are and who will be affected by Cushing's.

I urge Congress to recognize the detrimental effects of this agonizing illness and emphatically encourage my colleagues to help promote awareness and understanding of Cushing's Disease.

RECOGNIZING THE UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION-EAST BAY CHAPTER TRIBUTE CELEBRATION

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 18, 2005

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise with my colleague and neighbor Ms. BARBARA LEE to pay tribute to the celebrations planned by the