

IN HONOR OF BAYOU METO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ON THE CHURCH'S 125TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. MARION BERRY**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise here today to pay tribute to the Bayou Meto United Methodist Church in DeWitt, Arkansas, where my parents were married, my family and I have attended for more than fifty years, and my brother Mark and his family are members. This month marks our church's 25th anniversary, a significant milestone for the congregation and the entire community.

The Bayou Meto United Methodist Church was organized in 1881 as the Mt. Zion Methodist Episcopal Church South. The original 13 charter members chose the southwest corner of the Bayou Meto Cemetery to build a small wooden sanctuary of sawed boards. The sanctuary only had six windows, four of which were made of glass shipped by boat from St. Louis to Crockett's Bluff and hauled by ox wagon to the church site. The original building was heated by a wood stove and furnished with handmade pews and oil lamps.

The Bayou Meto United Methodist Church played a prominent role in the community during this time, serving as the local school until residents could build a school house elsewhere. The first minister, Reverend C.T. Thompson, traveled on horseback from Goldman once a month to preach two services.

By 1915, the church community was anxious to expand. Mrs. Joe Webster donated one acre of land to the church and local residents moved the original building to a new location using horses and ropes. Just four years later, the congregation sold the church building as a private resident and built a new structure to accommodate the growing congregation. The original building still stands about 1,500 feet from its first location.

The new sanctuary included a bell tower and bell donated by a prominent Jewish merchant of DeWitt, Mr. T.M. Loeb. Although our community constructed Sunday school rooms, a pastor's study, and replaced the original church pews, the sanctuary is almost identical to the one constructed in 1919.

The Reverend C.H. Andrews became the church's first resident minister in 1939. During his tenure, the church constructed a parsonage, and a new education building. The church's current minister, Reverend Jackie Gregory, now occupies the parsonage and is the minister for both Bayou Meto and Lodge Corner Churches. The congregation continues to worship in the sanctuary, and the community frequently holds weddings, funerals, reunions, and meetings in both the sanctuary and education building.

The congregation has grown smaller over time as residents leave for larger towns, in search of job opportunities, schools, or greater convenience. As Lucinda Ax Jacobs wrote in her history of the Bayou Meto Cemetery, "Our Bayou Meto community was settled by former soldiers, both Union and Confederate, glad to find peace and a place they could build homes, raise families, and make an honest living for themselves." This phrase remains true for those of us who see this community as

their home, and intend to remain to raise our families and earn an honest living.

The Bayou Meto United Methodist Church has a long history, marked by the community's strong commitment to service. Every single building on the church property was constructed by the men in this community through hours upon hours of hard work and sacrifice. This spirit is unique to our church, and will guide the members in our congregation for years to come.

On May 28, 2006, our community will gather to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the Bayou Meto United Methodist Church. I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in recognizing this community on this important day in history, and to send our best wishes for a memorable service of homecoming and remembrance.

REMARKS IN HONOR OF JENNY CHIA-JEN CHANG

**HON. DAVID E. PRICE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a former staffer who has touched my life and the lives of many others.

Jenny Chang was in the first class of Park Scholars at North Carolina State University, a Caldwell Fellow, student body president, senior class president, and dean's list student. She graduated in 2000 with a degree in biochemistry and minor in economics. She was also awarded a Truman Scholarship for graduate study. Jenny worked in my 2000 re-election campaign and then brought her talent, dedication, and cooperative spirit to my Washington office. Later, she moved to the office of the gentlewoman from New York, Carolyn Maloney.

On April 29, Jenny Chang died after a 4-year battle with breast cancer. She was 28 years old.

One of the things that made Jenny such a remarkable young woman was her grace. She confronted death in the same way she lived life: with candor, with faith, and without mincing words. Knowing that her time with us was probably short, she wasted not a single opportunity whether traveling to the places she longed to see, savoring a good meal, or sharing her love with the people she cherished.

Along the way, Jenny befriended countless breast cancer survivors who were as exhausted by battling bureaucracy as they were from fighting cancer. She was a compassionate warrior. She would visit sister patients in the hospital, even when her energy was diminished by that day's rigorous chemotherapy treatment. She would take a book or just sit quietly nearby, offering support and complete understanding.

Jenny was outraged that we live in a nation where almost 213,000 women this year will be diagnosed with breast cancer and 41,000 will die from the disease. Still, she believed in the power of public policy to create change. She requested that memorial contributions in her honor be made to a scholarship fund to provide a stipend to students in public policy internships.

We honor Jenny by remembering that when we consider funding and policy questions re-

garding research on breast cancer and other dread diseases, we must get beyond the abstractions of budgets and ideologies. We're talking about the lives of loved ones, friends and co-workers. Despite extraordinary advances in medicine and technology, there is still much we do not know. Jenny tried every therapy available to her, but there was no cure.

Jenny was a leader and expected leaders to be good stewards of their power. It stuns us that she is gone, but her legacy of courage, honesty, kindness, and purpose rekindle our efforts and inspire our leadership. We will do better in her name.

HONORING THE CAMDEN NATIONAL BANK ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the Camden National Bank, on the occasion of its 100th year. On May 12, 1906, the United States Department of the Treasury issued a charter for the operation of the Camden National Bank. Since that time, the bank has been a "home-owned, home-operated bank" with faithful and loyal employees.

Throughout the bank's existence, it has overcome periods of serious financial instability including the boll weevil infestation, the Great Depression, and the war years. Although the bank has faced such challenges in the past, it continues to grow and prosper. In March 2004, the Camden National Bank opened its first branch in Greenville, Alabama.

One of the most remarkable qualities of the Camden National Bank is its list of faithful employees. In its 100 years of existence, the bank has seen only four presidents. The first president elected was Mr. Edwin Walker Berry, a former high school principal and mayor of Camden. Upon Mr. Berry's retirement in 1934, Mr. Joseph McReynolds Moore was elected president of the bank, followed by Mr. A.L. (Les) Johnson, Sr. in 1952, and Mr. A.L. Johnson, Jr. who remains president today.

In addition to the presidents, vice presidents, and founding directors, there are several other employees that have substantially contributed to the growth and success of the bank. For example, the bank's first employee, Mrs. Dorothy McNeil, was hired as the bookkeeper in 1941. The Hugh C. Dale Directors' Building was named to honor Mr. Hugh C. Dale and his years of service, including 43 years as a director. Mrs. Barbara Ivey was elected vice president and cashier in 1972 becoming the first female vice president of the Camden National Bank. Also, Mrs. Lola Saulsberry was the first African American employee of the bank when she was hired in 1982 and was later elected assistant cashier in 1995.

The Camden National Bank, over its 100 years, continues to have a "hometown bank" atmosphere. With the help of its loyal employees who have contributed to its success, the Camden National Bank continues to thrive in its accomplishments and its service to the people of Camden and Wilcox County. It is my

sincere hope that the Camden National Bank will continue its success in south Alabama for another 100 years.

IN RECOGNITION OF CARL L. WHATLEY, JR., 2006 ALABAMA STATE SMALL BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Carl Whatley, Jr., of Montgomery, Alabama. The United States Small Business Administration recently recognized Mr. Whatley, Founder and CEO of ProEthic Pharmaceuticals, Inc., as the Alabama State Small Business Person of the Year during Small Business Week 2006.

Mr. Whatley began his career in the industry by working as a salesman for major pharmaceutical firms. In 2001, after nineteen years of working for other companies, he founded Pro Ethic Pharmaceuticals, Inc. The business was created to focus on selling specialty pharmaceuticals that larger companies considered insignificant. Mr. Whatley's company has grown from five to 113 employees, expanding from one to 15 products that it now acquires, develops and markets in 31 states. ProEthic Pharmaceuticals has seen revenues rise from \$1.2 million in 2002 to \$25 million in 2005.

National Small Business Week recognizes outstanding small business owners for their personal achievements and contributions to our nation's economy. Mr. Whatley is a dedicated individual whose hard work warrants congratulations.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BARNEY WEHR

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Barney Wehr for his long and distinguished nursing career.

Barney has been a nurse for the past 35 years. Over the course of her career she has worked in the Operating Room, Post Anesthesia Care Unit and as a Labor and Delivery nurse. Barney has been working at Boulder City Hospital as an Endoscopy nurse for over 10 years.

During her tenure at Boulder City she greatly contributed to the start up and development of the GI Department. Barney also belongs to the Endoscopy RN Society and uses this professional affiliation to help keep the department current on the latest technology. She is admired by both her peers and patients, and regarded as knowledgeable and experienced. Barney is recognized within the Boulder City Community as one of the best nurses in the community. She is a true asset to Boulder City Hospital and the nursing profession.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Barney Wehr for her professional expertise and significant contributions to the art of nursing. I wish her the best in her future efforts.

ON AVIAN FLU

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I made the attached remarks regarding the Avian Flu on May 11, 2006.

You're on your own.

This has been the credo for the Administration's approach to health care and it summarizes their approach to Avian Flu. The Implementation Plan gives a little guidance to state and local governments and businesses and then wishes them luck.

First, there is the leadership vacuum. The plan calls for HHS to coordinate the medical response but calls for Homeland Security to coordinate federal operations and resources. A bipartisan report out of the Senate, released in April, found that the Department has lagged in fixing the problems that plagued its atrocious response to Hurricane Katrina. It found that major structural reforms were necessary and that little has changed in the Department so far. So we can expect Homeland Security to adopt a similar motto to the one they adopted last Summer: you're on your own.

What's more is that the plan has been called the mother of all unfunded mandates. While 7.1 billion dollars for avian flu preparedness is a step in the right direction, it is simply not enough. Dr. Irwin Redlener, director of the National Center for Disaster Preparedness at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health, called the budget "completely unrealistic." A big part of the reason it is insufficient is that it has to make up for years of steady erosion of the public health infrastructure due to lack of funding. In fact, Dr. Redlener points out the need for 5 billion dollars just for "staffs, equipment and supplies, and general resiliency." Yet the vast majority of the Administration's funding is going toward the anti-viral and vaccine stockpile.

This plan, therefore, gives us inadequate leadership and inadequate funding, which leaves the clear impression that we truly will be on our own in a pandemic. And a crisis is precisely the time we need to look out for each other the most.

However, we can be assured that everyone is not left to their own devices.

On November 4, 2005 during a House Government Reform Committee hearing on Avian Flu Preparedness, HHS Secretary Michael Leavitt responded to my questioning by saying that he would not be issuing a compulsory license for the anti-viral drug, Tamiflu. He also declared that he was in negotiations with Roche, manufacturer of Tamiflu, over the cost of the drug being purchased for the national stockpile. On one hand, Secretary Leavitt has a Congressional mandate to stockpile enough Tamiflu for 25% of the nation. On the other hand, he withdrew the threat of compulsory licensing, even if Roche tries to price gouge. In so doing, Leavitt undercut his own negotiating power and effectively surrendered control of price to Roche.

On November 10, six days after the hearing, the New York Times reported that Roche announced what they would be charging developed countries for Tamiflu: 15 Euros, or about 19 dollars for a course of treatment. Wondering how the price negotiations between

HHS and Roche went, my office recently asked HHS what they were paying for Tamiflu for the stockpile. The asking price of 15 Euros, or 19 dollars. Even with the bulk purchasing power of 810 million pills, HHS did not bother to get a better deal than the asking price.

Let's you get the impression that this price is fair, allow me to point out that Roche did not sink a dime into research on the drug. They simply license it from its inventor, Gilead Sciences. That means there is no need to recoup research costs. Furthermore, we know it can be sold for a profit for much less. Cipla, a generics manufacturer in India, for example, is selling Tamiflu for only 12 dollars. That is 36 percent less than what the Federal Government is paying. If we paid Cipla's price instead of Roche's, we would save over a half a billion dollars. I bet local health agencies and hospitals could save a lot of lives with that kind of money. Think of what we could do with a half billion dollars—we could reduce the deficit, put teachers in classrooms, invest in renewable energy, provide health care to some of the uninsured, brace ourselves for the effects of climate change.

Those that stand to gain from inflated prices for pandemic pharmaceuticals are doing well. Roche's sales for the first quarter of 2006 are up 22 percent to 7.7 billion dollars. Gilead Sciences, the company that originally developed Tamiflu and continues to receive royalties on its sales, outperformed RBC Capital Markets estimate of 350 million dollars in Tamiflu Sales by 163 million dollars.

In essence, we are telling state and local governments that there's not enough money to fund things like medical personnel and equipment while we're giving away bags of money to the already incredibly profitable pharmaceutical industry. In other words, you're on your own, unless you're big Pharma.

CONGRATULATING CHARLES D. LEMMOND FOR 50 YEARS OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE WILKES-BARRE LAW AND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

**HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Pennsylvania Sen. Charles Lemmond, who is observing 50 years of membership in the Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association.

A lifelong resident of Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, Senator Lemmond received a bachelor's degree from Harvard University, a law degree from the University of Pennsylvania and an honorary doctor of humane letters degree from Wilkes University.

Prior to his election to the Senate of Pennsylvania in 1985, he served as an assistant and first assistant district attorney in Luzerne County and as a judge of the Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas.

Long active in community and civic organizations, Senator Lemmond is a past potentate of Irem Temple and a 33rd degree Mason, a trustee of the Wyoming Conference of the United Methodist Church, a life member of the board of trustees of Wyoming Seminary and a