

RECOGNIZING THE LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS OF HUMBOLDT
COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2006

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the League of Women Voters of Humboldt County, California.

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan political organization that has worked since 1920 to improve our governmental systems and impact public policies through citizen education and advocacy. A grassroots organization, working at the national, State and local levels, the League's enduring vitality is a testament to its member's commitment to their communities.

The League of Women Voters of Eureka, California was organized in 1956, and in 1981 became the League of Women Voters of Humboldt County. It has influenced public policy through education and advocacy including supporting local efforts to increase affordable housing and the development and maintenance of a high quality public education system. Additionally the League has advocated for responsible stewardship of the Humboldt Bay and has aided in improving public library facilities in the Humboldt County Library District.

From its inception the League of Women Voters of Humboldt County has provided a comprehensive nonpartisan Voter Service program to the public, including live and televised candidate forums, printed information concerning State ballot measures, voter registration booths and online resources. Since 1980 the League has published and updated "A Citizen's Guide to County Government," an excellent source of current information about local government, distributed to the public free of charge.

Since 1992 the League of Women Voters of Humboldt County has honored 18 individuals and 8 organizations at its State of the Community Luncheon, with Civic Contribution Awards for the recipients' efforts in making democracy work in Humboldt County.

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County is committed to the mission of encouraging the informed and active participation of citizens in government and has declared 2006 "The Year of the Voter" to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the organization's existence.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize and commend the League of Women Voters of Humboldt County on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

IN HONOR OF THE JOURNEY FOR
FREEDOM RIDE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of our U.S. Veterans and the men and women motorcyclists of America, many of whom are veterans, whose

ride across America in support of our troops overseas and in honor of the service and sacrifice of our U.S. Veterans, is reflected in the rumbling wave of bikes soaring across the highways of America's heartland, echoing the universal sound of freedom, support, unity and peace.

The "Journey For Freedom Ride" began on May 17, 2006 in Tacoma, Washington, and will end in a celebration of nearly half a million riders just outside Washington, DC, on May 26. Conceived by U.S. Veterans and organized by Harley Davidson enthusiast and entrepreneur Dan Harris, founder of Global Biker Films, the "Journey For Freedom Ride" is supported by Harley Davidson Dealerships throughout the Nation, veterans groups and private businesses. The mission of the Ride is as simple and powerful as taking to the open road: To support our enlisted military women and men around the world, until they come home safely; and to ride in tribute of our veterans, especially those who've made the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of our entire Nation.

The "Journey For Freedom Ride" will be captured on film and sent overseas for free distribution to our troops. Global Biker Films is also planning the establishment of the "Journey for Freedom Foundation," an initiative that will provide college scholarships to the loved ones of our fallen servicemen and service-women. On May 25, 2006, the band of American freedom riders will roll into Cleveland, Ohio, at the Harley Davidson Sales Company, located on Lorain Avenue. Company owner Dan Schmidt and General Manager Joe Cervelli have offered a warm welcome to the freedom riders and veterans from our community and from the across the country.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of the riders and organizers of the "Journey For Freedom Ride." Their volunteer journey of support will serve to honor our veterans and active military personnel as they rocket down the highways of America, the chrome soul of our Nation shining like a beacon of hope, roaring with the wind, blue sky, and rolling highways, and held aloft by a spirit of unity, freedom and the endless quest for peace, here at home and around the world. Ride on.

CHILDREN'S TRANSPLANT CENTER
OF PITTSBURGH CELEBRATES 25
YEARS

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2006

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform my colleagues in the House that June 3 will mark the 25th anniversary of the Children's Transplant Center at the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh.

The Children's Transplant Center was the first pediatric transplant center in the entire Nation when it was established in 1981. For 25 years, the unprecedented efforts of the surgeons and staff at the Center have continually raised the bar for pediatric transplant surgery and recovery, both nationally and around the globe.

Twenty-five years after the establishment of the Children's Transplant Center under the guidance of transplant pioneer Thomas E.

Starzl, MD, PhD, the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh today is widely recognized as a leader in developing strategies to manage organ rejection. From the first and most successful series of small intestine transplants to its breakthrough work in pediatric multi-organ transplants, Children's has repeatedly achieved major advances in the operating room and laboratory.

I commend the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh for its commitment to taking on the most challenging and difficult cases—which, by the way, has not prevented its dedicated and hard-working doctors and staff from achieving survival rates that repeatedly exceed national and international averages. I am so very proud to say that these people are the caregivers for my young constituents and for desperately sick children from around the world.

I want to extend my warmest congratulations to the Children's Transplant Center, the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, and all of the surgeons and staff that are part of the Center and wish them continued success in the future.

PALESTINIAN ANTI-TERRORISM
ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 22, 2006

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4681, the Palestinian Anti-Terrorism Act, PATA, which passed the House earlier today. PATA denies all direct aid to the Hamas-run Palestinian Authority until it renounces violence and recognizes Israel's right to exist.

Hamas is a terrorist organization responsible for killing hundreds of innocent men and women, including over two dozen Americans. In fact, in April, a suicide bomber killed 9 and injured over 60 civilians in Tel Aviv, but Hamas has not disavowed the act nor denied complicity.

If Hamas will not agree to fight terrorism, recognize Israel's right to exist as a Jewish state, or accept previous agreements between the Palestinian Authority and Israel, then Hamas is not a partner of the United States, let alone a partner worthy of funding from American taxpayers' hard earned dollars.

Madam Speaker, let me be clear, no one wishes to harm Palestinians or to deny them humanitarian aid. In fact, this bill ensures that humanitarian aid is still able to reach the Palestinian people, while keeping taxpayer dollars out of the hands of terrorists. Unfortunately, since its election 3 months ago, Hamas has consistently made a choice; faced with the option of peace, negotiation, and a path forward, or continued violence and the status quo, Hamas has chosen the latter. As long as Hamas continues to make that decision, the United States and her allies will continue to isolate Hamas and to deny funding to a terrorist group.

I appreciate that so many of my colleagues share my support for PATA.