

A TRIBUTE TO KEVIN C. BRYANT

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Kevin C. Bryant, detective first grade of the New York City Police Department. Mr. Bryant was born and raised in Brooklyn and attended public school through 12th grade. In 1985, at Queens College, Mr. Bryant was sworn in as a probationary police officer for the NYPD.

Mr. Bryant successfully graduated from the police academy and was eventually assigned to his permanent command in the 81st precinct of Brooklyn's North neighborhood. Because of his honorable work on the police force, Mr. Bryant was offered invitations to join the Narcotics Division several times, an invitation he finally accepted in 1987.

Mr. Bryant was assigned to a special anti-crack unit in Queens where he was an instrumental component in hundreds of undercover buy-and-bust operations throughout the city. He made such a significant impact that he was promoted to detective third grade in 1989.

Mr. Bryant was selected to initiate a federally funded program aimed at disrupting drug gangs called the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Task Force in 1991, after continuing to make positive contributions in his community. His HIDTA program was so effective that it became the rubric for developing HIDTA programs across the country.

Mr. Bryant continued to prove his dedication to crime-fighting during his work with the HIDTA, which resulted in his promotion to detective second grade.

Mr. Bryant accepted an invitation to join the Intelligence Division in 1998. There he performed tasks ranging from investigating organized street gangs, to post-9/11 terrorism investigations. He was promoted to detective first grade in 2007.

Mr. Bryant retired from the NYPD on his 44th birthday in April of 2007. He now spends more time with his family, his wife of 16 years Choddie Bryant and his three children, Porsha, Kai and Khail.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the accomplishments of Kevin C. Bryant, as his selfless and unwavering dedication to the betterment of New York City has forever benefited the lives of its residents.

Madam Speaker, Kevin C. Bryant's service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes him most worthy of our recognition today.

WPET-AM CELEBRATES A HALF
CENTURY OF SERVICE

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. COBLE. Madam Speaker, for more than 50 years, a radio station in the Sixth District of North Carolina has been providing our citizens with the best in local programming. Since WPET-AM 950 went on the air in June of 1954, listeners in the Piedmont Triad region of North Carolina have had their souls nourished,

their hearts enriched, and they have been entertained, enlightened, and educated by the programming provided by WPET.

The station has had a rich and colorful history. The first owner was Mr. Wayne Nelson. Between 1957 and 1959, WPET was owned by Mr. Bill Mitchell and Mr. Bob Montgomery. In 1959, Beattie Broadcasting Group owned and operated the radio station. From 1967 until 1984, Mido Communications owned WPET. Mr. Tom Armshaw was the co-owner, vice president, and general manager of WPET. It was Tom Armshaw who changed the station programming to an all-Southern Gospel format, which has endured for the last 40 years. In 1984, WPET-AM and its sister station WRQK-FM were purchased by A.H. Robins Company. From 1987 until 2002, WPET was owned by Bahakel Communications and from 2002 until the present, WPET has been owned by Entercom Communications.

Consistent quality has been a hallmark of WPET throughout its history. This year, the current program director, Mr. Dave Compton, entered his 30th year of service to the listeners of WPET. The on-air team at WPET feels like family to its many loyal and faithful listeners. In addition to Dave Compton, WPET's many fans enjoy listening to Jan Harkey (also known as Miss Dusty), Andy Johnson, Jimmy Fulmer, Larry Dunlap with morning sports, and Paul Heil, the host of Gospel Greats.

In addition to broadcasting the Gospel in both word and song, WPET presents local news and weather, provides community information and airs sports programming such as Greensboro Grasshoppers baseball, the men's and women's basketball teams at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro Spartans, and the East Carolina University Pirates football team. An example of how WPET serves its listeners in many different ways will occur on June 23 when the radio station sponsors a free Health and Community Service Day in Greensboro. The event will provide free blood pressure, cholesterol and glucose screenings, along with food, games and entertainment for all who attend.

In the spirit of full disclosure, I must admit to some personal bias in our office when it comes to our affection for WPET. My Chief of Staff Ed McDonald is an alumnus of the radio station, having served as a news reporter for WPET from 1981 until 1984 when I hired him away from the station. In addition, many folks call me an "AM radio guy in an FM world," and I plead guilty to that charge. So personally and professionally, we can say that we are big fans of WPET.

Allow me to quote Dave Compton, the station's program director, who accurately captured the essence of what makes WPET special. "With a Southern Gospel format," Dave Compton stated, "WPET airs the Good News of our Lord, embracing Christian values with local churches and the church community of the Piedmont, and being that comforting voice with the Good News of the Gospel, offering hope and solace in a sometimes troubled world."

I could not have said it any better, Madam Speaker. I will simply add that, on behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we thank, the owners and staff of WPET-AM 950 for providing the Piedmont with quality Southern Gospel radio.

AMERICAN COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS CLIMATE COMMITMENT

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight some encouraging and important activity at America's colleges and universities. This morning I attended a kick-off event celebrating the decision by 284 universities and colleges from across the Nation to sign the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment.

Let me say that I am pleased to see that this group is led by President Michael Crow of Arizona State University, which is in my hometown of Tempe. ASU and the other 283 colleges and universities have made a commitment to move their respective campuses toward meeting a long-term goal of climate neutrality.

I applaud their commitment to lead the country by example. Sustainable energy is an issue that affects our environment, our economy and our national security, and we cannot leave this problem for future generations of Americans to solve.

These universities and colleges are taking proactive steps to solve the problem of global warming. They are implementing solutions on campus, educating students and future generations, and generating the research for how we can solve the growing climate change crisis.

By making this climate commitment, these colleges and universities have made a bold declaration that America's higher education institutions are ready and able to take on the challenge of global warming and are committed to concrete action.

I am particularly proud of the steps ASU has taken to address climate change. ASU has already established the Global Institute of Sustainability and the School of Sustainability. This is a significant accomplishment of which the entire State of Arizona is proud.

I congratulate these universities for their leadership and vision and wish them success in this endeavor.

TRIBUTE TO JOSIAH HOLLOPETER

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, on a day when the House of Representatives has passed legislation providing for the health and well-being of our veterans, it is with a heavy heart I honor a brave man who will not be returning home. Specialist Josiah Hollopeter, of Valentine, NE, was shot and killed by small arms fire while on dismounted patrol in Normandy, Iraq, on June 14.

My thoughts and prayers are with Josiah's family—his parents and his wife—today. Josiah represented the best of what it means to be a Nebraskan. His service and sacrifice for our country will long be remembered.

Again, I ask my colleagues to remember the Hollopeter family during this time of grieving.