

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING AARON PAUL
GOTZON FOR ACHIEVING THE
RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 9, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Aaron Paul Gotzon, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 260, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Aaron has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Aaron has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Aaron Paul Gotzon for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN HONOR OF MELVIN BELL LANE

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 9, 2007

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a remarkable citizen, Mr. Melvin Bell Lane, who passed away in July at the age of 85. Mel and his brother Bill helped define Western living with their publications "Sunset" magazine and Sunset books. Mel was also well known as a philanthropist and was one of California's most prominent conservation leaders.

Mel Lane was born in Iowa, where his father sold advertising for "Better Homes and Gardens" magazine. When Mel was 6 years old, his family moved to California, where his father bought the 30-year-old "Sunset" magazine. It was then the on-board tourist magazine for the Southern Pacific Railroad's Sunset Limited.

During World War II, Mel and Bill both served in the Navy. After the war, the brothers went to work for the magazine, eventually becoming co-owners. Under their direction, "Sunset" magazine and its books on food, gardening, travel, and do-it-yourself became standards of the industry. It was said that "Sunset's Western Garden Book" was the most revered of its many publications, with well-thumbed copies found in nearly every nursery in the State.

In 1965, California Governor Pat Brown appointed Mel to be the first chairman of the newly created San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission. This agency was successful in stopping developers from filling in the bay and paving over the wet-

lands. Later, Governor Ronald Reagan named him to be the first chairman of the California Coastal Commission, and Governor Jerry Brown re-appointed him. His attitude was that a healthy environment was crucial to a healthy economy. "As soon as business tightens up, not only do we drop environmental controls but as a shot to the economy we drill for more oil and cut down trees," he said. "These are a rip-off of the environment that can't be done indefinitely, so it's poor business."

When Ronald Reagan was elected President, he asked Mel to come to Washington to direct the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, but Mel was not one who enjoyed being in the public eye, and he declined. Mel also co-founded the Peninsula Open Space Trust, preserving nearly 60,000 acres to expand State and local parks.

Mel graduated from Stanford University in 1944, and as a trustee from 1981 to 1991, he was a strong supporter of the humanities and creative writing, and of course for environmental research and teaching. Following the Loma Prieta earthquake of 1989, he worked to restore the damage that had been done to the campus, especially to the Memorial Church.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Joan Fletcher Lane; daughters Whitney Miller and Julie Lane Gay; his brother, L.W. "Bill" Lane; and four grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I had the great pleasure of knowing Melvin Lane when he and my father worked together on the California Coastal Commission. He was a smart businessman, a dedicated environmentalist, well known yet humble; a man who always said "Make my speech shorter." He had that unique ability to inspire confidence and loyalty from people with opposite points of view. He will be sorely missed.

CONGRATULATING WILLIAM
BRUCE ORR

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 9, 2007

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to extend congratulations to William Bruce Orr, who recently accomplished the highest rank in Boy Scouting, becoming an Eagle Scout on October 14, 2007. He is a member of Boy Scout Troop 142, Mannhoac District, located in Leetown, West Virginia.

William helped improve one of America's recreational treasures, the Appalachian Trail. He constructed a tent pad along the trail at the Rod Hollow site in northern Virginia. He and others carried lumber and tools from the base of the trail to the top of the mountain where the site is located. His tent pad structure will provide hikers with shelter for years to come.

Jeremiah was home schooled in Jefferson County and was a 2007 recipient of the Promise Scholarship. He is currently a freshman at Shepherd University.

I am proud to recognize William Bruce Orr for achieving the high honor of the Eagle Scout. Jefferson County and the State of West Virginia are fortunate to have him as a leader and a volunteer in his community.

CELEBRATING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF PRIDE—PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY IN A DESIRABLE ENVIRONMENT

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 9, 2007

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, the Appalachian Mountains, the Cumberland Lake and River, and red bud trees are just some of the natural assets that make southern and eastern Kentucky one of the most special places in the world. For many years, however, people who visited here could not say it was very special because what they saw were dumps, trash, litter, and filthy water.

These problems, which emerged over decades, were largely due to inadequate infrastructure for handling ever-growing amounts of solid waste and wastewater. And we had to do something about this problem, or else there would be no hope of ever having a clean environment or growing the economy.

In the summer of 1997, the region's elected officials gathered to face these problems including a key State official—the late General James E. Bickford, the former secretary of Kentucky's environmental department. They presented a battle plan for declaring "war against pollution" in the region. Their vision was to encourage citizens to take responsibility for protecting their environment and provide the education and resources needed to do so. Their campaign would promote PRIDE, or "Personal Responsibility in a Desirable Environment."

PRIDE has 10 years under its belt and now is a good time to remember why this initiative is essential to moving our region forward. People understand these days that a clean environment goes hand-in-hand with a healthy, vibrant economy.

Our region's religious, civic and elected leaders look for ways to leverage what makes us special—whether that is our mountain heritage, red-bud trees, scenic highways, or our pristine rivers. Our region will sell itself as long as we continue to show the world what makes us special. There is nothing special about trash and pollution. No matter how nice a place is, nobody wants to visit places that are polluted and littered.

First impressions count. When people see a natural area or town square for the first time, what makes a real impact is how clean a place is. For too long, the first impression people had in our area was empty bottles and fast food wrappers strewn along the highway, or in some cases—abandoned appliances, automobiles, and junk in an otherwise pristine natural setting.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.