SUPPORTING THE OBSERVANCE OF BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, as this week concludes the National Breast Cancer Awareness Month of October, I rise today to reflect on some of the issues that have been brought to the country's attention over the last 30 days.

According to the National Cancer Institute there have been over 180,000 new cases of breast cancer among men and women and nearly 50,000 deaths in the United States this year. Breast Cancer disproportionately affects women and is the second leading cause of death for American women.

Mrs. Priscilla Davis from Hartford, Connecticut, a constituent as well as the mother of a member of my staff, was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2006. Her story is an all too familiar one—a story of fear and confusion on one hand, and courage, strength and hope on the other. Thankfully, Priscilla's breast cancer was detected early and treated before it was too late. Sadly, as the statistics show, many women are not as fortunate.

Research, education, and awareness are essential in curbing the mortality rates of breast cancer. I would like to commend organizations like the American Cancer Society and the Susan Komen Foundation for their commitment to making us aware of the symptoms of breast cancer and for their advocacy on behalf of the women and families who have been affected by this deadly disease.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the women and men across the country who share Priscilla Davis's story and in honor of those who have lost their lives to the disease, I ask my colleagues to join me in carrying forward what we learned during this year's National Breast Cancer Awareness Month in the hope that during the next one we will also have cause to celebrate a cure.

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF HEBBRONVILLE ON ITS CELEBRATION OF THE HISTORY OF THE VAQUERO

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2007

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, Whereas, the Vaqueros are the true original cowboys of South Texas, and thus started the development of the ranching industry in Jim Hogg County.

Whereas, the first ranches founded in the area with the help of the vaqueros were Randado, Las Noriacitas, Las Animas, San Antonio Viejo, Las Enramadas, Las Viboritas, El Baluarte, and San Javier. Some of these ranches are still held by descendants of the original owners, such as Randado, which was visited by General Robert E. Lee during the Civil War.

Whereas, the vaqueros were renowned for their exemplary ranching and stock-handling skills, which were needed for the development of ranches in Jim Hogg County.

Whereas, the skills and the ranching practices shown by the vaqueros have left a lasting impact on the present ranching industry. The equipment of the vaquero—saddle, chaps, bandana, lasso, and spurs—has become the standard gear of all Texas cowboys.

Whereas, ranching remains one of the vital elements of the economy in Jim Hogg County because of the efforts of the vaqueros in the nascent start of the ranching industry; be it hereby

Resolved, That Congressman HENRY CUELLAR, in representing the 28th Congressional District of the State of Texas, commends the City of Hebbronville on its celebration of the history of the vaquero on November 3, 2007.

IN RECOGNITION OF ORPHANS INTERNATIONAL AND ITS FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT, MR. JAMES LUCE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Orphans International Worldwide and to its dedicated Founder and President, James Luce. Orphans International Worldwide is an innovative interfaith, interracial, intergenerational and Internet-connected non-profit initiative that helps the world's disadvantaged orphaned and abandoned children meet critical needs. By realizing his dream of developing an extensive international network of affiliated organizations working to help the world's youngest and most vulnerable citizens to overcome extraordinarily difficult circumstances, Jim Luce has truly distinguished himself as an extraordinarily dedicated and effective humanitarian, activist, and philanthropist.

With its North American offices headquartered in New York's Fourteenth Congressional District, Orphans International was founded in 1999 by the former investment banker Jim Luce in response to the global crises confronting children in disadvantaged circumstances, including the worldwide AIDS epidemic, natural disasters, low health standards and inadequate medical care, and devastating poverty. Assuming a carefully structured, sustainable approach, Orphans International has adopted as its vital mission the worthy goal of "Raising Global Citizens." The organization helps address both the immediate needs of orphaned and abandoned children and the long-term development goals of improving disadvantaged communities in its project nations, whose list is expanding to include Indonesia, Guyana, Haiti, El Salvador, Peru, the Philippines, Romania, Ghana, Sri Lanka, and Togo. In recognition of its effectiveness in serving disadvantaged youngsters around the globe, Orphans International Worldwide was recognized by the United Nations as an official Non-Governmental Organization in December 2006.

Today, Jim Luce and Orphans International Worldwide continue not only to assure the survival of the disadvantaged and abandoned children they serve, but also to enable them to become contributing members of a global society by rendering service to their local communities. Orphans International often operates in troubled, regions grappling with the fallout from disasters caused by natural, economic, and political conditions. Through its programming, Orphans International instills in those whom it serves the values of leadership, conflict resolution, diversity and tolerance, and global citizenship, frequently bringing American students into a global partnership to help achieve these laudable goals.

Madam Speaker, I rise to request that my distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing Orphans International Worldwide and its Founder and President Jim Luce for their tireless efforts to promote the well-being of orphaned and abandoned children and to help realize the innate worth, dignity and potential of all citizens of the world.

CONGRATULATING BETSEY FLACK ON HER ADMISSION TO THE GEORGIA BAR

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2007

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Betsey Flack on her admission to the Georgia Bar. After years of hard work and dedication to her studies, Ms. Flack will now begin pursuing a career in the legal field.

Ms. Flack attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as an undergraduate. During her time at UNC, Ms. Flack was active in campus activities and academic life. Upon graduation from UNC, Ms. Flack enrolled in classes at the Mercer University School of Law to pursue her Juris Doctor degree.

She completed this program in the spring of this year, and successfully passed the bar exam soon after graduation.

As a Member of Congress, I have seen firsthand how the law can be used as a force for good. I look forward to following the career of Ms. Flack, as she uses her knowledge and expertise in the law to serve others and to pursue legal and social justice.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ms. Betsey Flack.

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MOSS LANDING HARBOR DISTRICT

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2007

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 60th anniversary of the Moss Landing Harbor District. Moss Landing is a picturesque coastal hamlet tucked into the dunes of the Monterey Bay halfway between its better known neighbors of Monterey and Santa Cruz. It is home to some fantastic restaurants and cafes and an eclectic group of antique shops and some of the best sea otter viewing opportunities anywhere. The many boats that fill its harbor offer a photographers dream of masts and gleaming boat hulls berthed alongside well-worked fishing vessels. It is a truly wonderful place to visit like so

many other small harbor communities around the coasts of the United States.

A little deeper look reveals a community that is much more than a quaint tourist stop. Moss Landing is a true economic powerhouse of the California Coast. For starters, it is home to the Monterey Bay region's largest commercial fishing fleet. It is also home to two of the top marine science research institutions in the world—the Moss Landing Marine Lab and the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute. Because of those labs, several world class ocean research vessels call the port home. Moss Landing is also a major draw for ocean recreationists of all stripes, from sailors, recreational fishers, kayakers, and surfers. It is also home to Mighty Mo, the largest natural gas fired power plant on the west coast.

Moss Landing has a long history of commercial vitality, dating back to the mid nineteenth century and the grain loading wharf operated by the community's namesake Captain Charlie Moss. But the real growth dates back to the 1947 creation of the Moss Landing Harbor District and the dredging and stabilization of the harbor channel by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Over the past 60 years, the district has shepherded Moss Landing's development into economic powerhouse that supports recreation, commercial fishing, science, and tourism.

Under the leadership of the current Harbor Commission President Russ Jeffries, Commission members, Margaret ''Peggy'' Shirrel, Ph.D., Yohn Gideon, Vince Ferrante and Frank Gomes, Jr., and Harbormaster Linda G. McIntyre, Esq., the Harbor District has just this year completed a major $4 million renovation of its north harbor area. The new amenities include a new 4-lane launch ramp, paving of the 5-acre site for parking, storm drains and a boat wash, a 900-foot public access wharf at the water's edge, and a 110-foot visitor serving dock alongside the wharf. A pedestrian/bicycle trail, funded by a Federal grant, and designed to run along the perimeter of North Harbor along scenic Highway 1, will complete the project. This last component of the project is the central part of a comprehensive bike and pedestrian trail under development that will link Monterey to Santa Cruz and place Moss Landing at the heart of what will be one of the most spectacular coastal trail experiences on the Pacific coast.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to have the opportunity to recognize the Moss Landing Harbor District for 60 years of achievement. I know that I speak for the whole House in offering congratulations to the leadership, employees, and users of this Pacific Coast gem.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2007

Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, October 31, 2007, I was absent from the House in order to attend a ceremony in honor of a new mission for the Tennessee Air National Guard's 118th Airlift Wing. Had I been present I would have voted:

On rollcall No. 1021, No. 1022 and No. 1023, I would have voted ''yea.''

HONORING LONGFELLOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2007

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Longfellow Elementary School of Wheaton, Illinois, for being named a No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School for the 2006–2007 school year. Principal Paul McKinney, Longfellow faculty, students and parents—you should be very proud of this remarkable accomplishment.

At a time in our nation's history when the efficacy of our education system is often questioned, it is a great comfort to see a school that truly commits itself to finding ways to teach our children and provide hope for our nation's future.

The No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon Schools Award is a distinction given to the public schools throughout the country whose students score within the top 10 percent on state assessments. This year, of the more than 97,000 public schools in the United States, just 287 schools were recognized with this distinct honor.

In the State of Illinois, 19 schools were members of this elite group. The Blue Ribbon School Award recognizes what we all know: the Longfellow students, faculty and staff are some of the best and brightest in the nation.

In addition to exceptional test scores, Longfellow has shown steady academic progress for the past 3 years. In awarding the 2006–2007 Blue Ribbon School Award, the U.S. Department of Education recognized Longfellow's success in helping students consistently achieve at very high levels, as well as its continued commitment to narrowing the achievement gap.

As we strive to educate our current generation of children and prepare our nation's future leaders, Longfellow Elementary School stands out as a shining example of scholastic and institutional excellence.

I am proud to represent Longfellow Elementary School in the United States Congress and I look forward to their continued achievements.

Madam Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues please join me in congratulating the talented students and dedicated faculty and staff of Longfellow Elementary School for receiving the Blue Ribbon School Award.