

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING VERNON RAY ROSE

**HON. RON LEWIS**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Master Sergeant Vernon Ray Rose, a remarkable man with a long history of service to his country and community.

Mr. Rose had a distinguished 18-year career in the United States Army leading men into combat during a tour of duty in Southeast Asia. He was a platoon sergeant of an infantry platoon with A Troop, 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry, Air, during the Vietnam war. His platoon had the responsibility of rescuing downed U.S. helicopter pilots. In March 1968, Mr. Rose was severely wounded by an enemy hand grenade and was medically retired from the Army.

Vernon Ray Rose was the recipient of many honors during his exemplary military career including the Bronze Star Medal, a Purple Heart, the Army Commendation Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, the Army Occupation Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Combat Infantryman Badge, the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Ribbon, the Parachutist Badge, and the Ranger Arc Tab.

Mr. Rose's service did not end once he retired from the military. Mr. Rose chose to become a National Veteran Service Officer, dedicating his life to serving veterans over the course of three decades.

It is my privilege to honor Vernon Ray Rose today, before the entire United States House of Representatives, for his service to our country and to his fellow veterans. His contributions are worthy of our collective appreciation and respect.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION  
COMMEMORATING THE BICEN-  
TENNIAL OF THE GALLATIN  
PLAN

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing, along with Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. WALSH, Mr. PETRI, and Mr. FARR, a resolution to commemorate the bicentennial of the Gallatin plan for infrastructure investment. This plan built on George Washington's vision of connecting the interior settlements with the markets and ports of the East Coast through a network of roads and canals. As Congress looks at major infrastructure investments for this century, it is worthwhile to remember that the achievements of the past were based on sound planning, and important to note that the value of infrastructure investments is dependent on national planning ef-

forts. As we embark on efforts to improve our Nation's civil infrastructure, we should acknowledge and honor the plans that laid the groundwork for our Nation's greatness.

HONORING AMANDA TAVARES

**HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Amanda Tavares of Robstown, TX, for her hard work in successfully completing the Congressional page program. Amanda has been a shining example of the potential and leadership skills those selected for this selective honor entail.

Amanda, who hails from my hometown, has taken full advantage of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to learn firsthand how Congress works while gaining valuable experience about the legislative process. She excelled in the challenging environment of the Capitol, got to know new and interesting people, and attend the prestigious House Page School with some of the country's brightest young minds.

Prior to her time in Washington, DC, Amanda was involved in numerous activities at her school and church. She has served as a mentor, tutor, and missionary to an orphanage in Reynosa, Mexico. In addition, she has done home improvement work with the Nehemiah project of World Changers in Norfolk, VA.

Amanda's sparkling personality and engaging demeanor have been appreciated by my office and her fellow pages. The people whom a page meets here will be the movers and shakers in the country for the rest of their life. Washington, DC, is an exciting place and every page who leaves the program tells us the experience profoundly changed their life. Amanda has shared that sentiment and I have no doubt that her time as page will influence her goals.

As Amanda heads back to Texas, I am sure that she will take many of the lessons learned here and apply to her all life and activities. I am proud of hard work and accomplishments, despite being so far from her home and her family. I wish her the best of luck when she returns to school, and know she will use her experiences here to go on and do great things.

HONORING JIM CARROLL

**HON. RON LEWIS**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Jim Carroll, a proud veteran and dedicated public servant. Mr. Carroll is retiring this year after 38 years of Federal service, most of which has been

spent with the National Park Service at Mammoth Cave National Park.

Jim Carroll grew up in Hart County, Kentucky, and graduated from Munfordville High School in 1966. He was drafted into the Army in 1968 and served in Vietnam. Upon his return, he enrolled at Western Kentucky University and graduated in 1975.

Mr. Carroll began his tenure with the Park Service in 1972 as a seasonal guide at Mammoth Cave National Park. After a brief assignment at Biscayne National Park in Florida, he returned to Mammoth Cave as a full time Park Ranger. Mr. Carroll then served as a Split Ranger, working with the law enforcement and resources management divisions of the park. Mr. Carroll has been supervised nearly all aspects of Mammoth Cave National Park.

In 1995, Mr. Carroll was named Chief of the Division of External Programs. His responsibilities have included media relations, publications, information technology, concessions management, and community relations.

It is my privilege to honor Jim Carroll today, before the entire United States House of Representatives, for his service to Mammoth Cave National Park. I wish Jim, and his wife Sina a safe and happy retirement.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION  
COMMEMORATING THE CENTEN-  
NIAL OF PRESIDENT THEODORE  
ROOSEVELT'S CONFERENCE OF  
GOVERNORS

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing, along with Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. WALSH, Mr. PETRI, and Mr. FARR, a resolution to commemorate the centennial of President Theodore Roosevelt's Conference of Governors. That conference, which included many State Governors, the members of President Roosevelt's Cabinet, Members of Congress, professional organizations, and Government bureaus—and which served as the first meeting of what today has become the National Governors Association—resulted in a report that incorporated the growing interest in conservation as well as articulated the need for future investments in civil infrastructure. The conference laid the groundwork for many of the critical investments of the 20th century and serves as an important reminder that the value of infrastructure investments is dependent on national planning efforts. In the past few decades, our critical infrastructure has fallen into disrepair. As we embark on efforts to improve our Nation's civil infrastructure, we should acknowledge and honor the plans that laid the groundwork for our Nation's greatness.

• 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.