

when a Hanafi Muslim group stormed three DC buildings. This act resulted in the killing of a radio reporter, and a security guard and then-DC Councilman, Marion Barry, were both shot and wounded. This was the first of many local, national, and international incidents that would thrust Public Information Officer Gentile into the limelight. These incidents include, but are not limited to, the 1982 shooting of President Ronald Reagan, the 1994 fatal shootings of a Metropolitan Police Department, MPD, sergeant and two FBI agents inside police headquarters, and hundreds of homicides during the 1990s when the District of Columbia was the Nation's murder capital.

Public Information Officer Gentile was promoted to the rank of sergeant on November 15, 1982, and remained assigned as the Public Information Officer because of his invaluable knowledge and years of experience. Sergeant Gentile proudly served as the MPD spokesman for 34 years, during the tenure of eleven chiefs of police. He also participated in ten Presidential inaugurations and served during the 1968 riots, the 1972 May Day demonstrations, the 1982 Air Florida crash and subsequent fatal Metrorail crash, the 1991 Mount Pleasant Riots, and the 2000 IMF demonstrations.

In December of 2006, then-Chief Charles H. Ramsey awarded Sergeant Gentile with a medal and dedicated the public information office in his name. In October of 2007, Chief Cathy L. Lanier presented Sergeant Gentile with a Distinguished Service Award for 40 years of dedicated and loyal service.

A tireless performer and distinguished law enforcement professional, Sergeant Gentile deserves the admiration of all who come into contact with him. Thank you, Sergeant Gentile, for your exceptional service to the Metropolitan Police Department, the Congress, the District of Columbia, and the American people, and congratulations on achieving this important milestone.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PAUL W. HODES

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2008

Mr. HODES. Madam Speaker, due to a misunderstanding on the floor I missed one vote in a series of votes on Thursday, February 14, 2008. As a co-sponsor of the bill, I would have voted "yes" for the following vote: H. Res. 963—Supporting the goals and ideals of National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans Week, and for other purposes.

A TRIBUTE TO ABE AND DONNA LEE GOLDSTEIN

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2008

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Abe and Donna Lee Goldstein for their contributions to the Cub Scout program. Growing up in Wilmington, DE, Abe belonged to the Civil Air Patrol. He attended the University of Delaware

and earned a bachelor's degree in geology and a master's degree in geophysics. After marrying Donna Lee, the two moved to Maryland to raise their new family.

When their oldest son Greg joined the Cub Scouts as a Tiger, the Goldsteins became active members in Maryland's Pack 880. Donna Lee served as the Pack's Den Leader and Song Mistress, while Abe took on the responsibility of being the Committee Chair. Even after their oldest son, Greg, had bridged out from the Cub Scouts and 3 years before their youngest son, Max, could become a Tiger in the Pack, Abe and Donna Lee continued their involvement, opening their personal workshop for the scouts' Pinewood Derby clinics and assisting with the building of the new race track. For his years of consistent dedication to the program, Abe was recently named Cub Master of Pack 880.

The Cub Scout program gives adults the opportunity to have a positive influence on children's lives. People like the Goldsteins have helped sustain the Cub Scout program throughout its history, encouraging more families to become involved. By donating their time, resources, and talent to this worthwhile program, the Goldsteins have enriched the lives of countless children in the Cockeysville community.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Abe and Donna Lee Goldstein. Their commitment and dedication to the scouting program through the years is truly commendable. The impact of the Goldsteins' contributions will affect the youth of their community for years to come. It is with great pride that I congratulate Abe and Donna Lee Goldstein on their exemplary involvement in the Cub Scout program.

H.R. 1528: NEW ENGLAND NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL DESIGNATION ACT

HON. NANCY E. BOYDA

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2008

Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas. Madam Speaker, we heard a lot of debate recently that focused on the threat of passing the New England National Scenic Trail Designation Act. The other side of the aisle attacked the bill with the proclamation that private property owners would have their land seized by the Federal government. This clearly wasn't the case. As stated before, the bill only allowed the National Park Service to purchase land from willing sellers. But in the spirit of that debate, I'd like to take a moment and discuss eminent domain.

I know that myself, the constituents of the Second District of Kansas, nearly every American has the same feelings towards eminent domain. No one wants a federal official knocking on their door asking for their keys and telling them to "pack up and move." Our founding fathers created this country to throw off such tyrannical uses of power by the Government, and we must continue that legacy today.

State, local and Federal Government has a duty to its citizens to preserve their right to private property and use eminent domain only in the rarest of circumstances when it is absolutely necessary. Those occasions should be few and far in between. And in every cir-

cumstance, the Government must look at all options and alternatives to seizing someone's home, business and livelihood. We must ensure proper compensation to private property owners, and not force our citizens into untenable situations.

What was truly upsetting about our debate was the other side of the aisle throwing out this term, getting the American people in an uproar, with no factual basis that eminent domain would be used. It would seem that the Minority's only goal is to further divide this country and make the passage of legislation impossible. We have seen this time and time again. The Minority would rather sit in their corner making baseless attacks against good legislation when they should be fulfilling their constitutional role as Representatives, as leaders, and work with my colleagues to do what is best for the country.

I was pleased to see both sides coming together to quickly pass an important economic stimulus package, but more cooperation is needed for children's health insurance, the Farm Bill and this year's upcoming appropriation process. I hope in this new session we see more of what we saw during the passage of the economic stimulus bill, and not a return to the same old politics that plagued our Chamber last year.

MS. KAITLYN MULHOLLAN TOP YOUTH VOLUNTEER OF ARIZONA PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARD

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2008

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Kaitlyn Mulhollan, who has been selected to receive the Prudential Spirit of Community Award as Arizona's Top Youth Volunteer. The Prudential Spirit of Community Award, which honors young people for outstanding acts of volunteerism, was created in 1995 to emphasize the importance our nation places on service to others, and to encourage all young Americans to contribute to their communities.

A senior at Corona del Sol High School, Kaitlyn has helped build 10 houses for needy families over the past five years as a volunteer with Habitat for Humanity, and now serves as a team leader for the local Habitat chapter. After working on her first house when she was only 13 years old, Kaitlyn has shown up early every Saturday morning when projects are under way. As a team leader, Kaitlyn has the responsibility of guiding and assisting many small groups of volunteers on the construction site. In addition, Kaitlyn has worked tirelessly to educate others about Habitat for Humanity's mission, even recruiting friends and classmates to join the effort. She has also persuaded her employer, California Pizza Kitchen, to provide meals for construction volunteers.

As a state honoree, Kaitlyn will join youth from across the country here in Washington DC in May. Kaitlyn should be proud of her accomplishments. Again, I congratulate Kaitlyn on her award and thank her for a job well done.