

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING KEVIN BOREN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kevin Boren of Grain Valley, Missouri. Kevin is 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 1228, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Kevin has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Kevin 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 Kevin Boren for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MRS. MONICA
(RUHL) KINNEL

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I rise today to inform our colleagues of a milestone event that occurred yesterday for a very special lady in the Grande Ronde Valley of Oregon. Mrs. Monica (Ruhl) Kinnel turned 100 years old yesterday and celebrated over the weekend in Island City, Oregon with many generations of her family and a legion of friends and admirers. Monica is an amazing lady who has led a remarkable and exciting life, and The Observer newspaper in La Grande, Oregon recently chronicled her adventures to date and I'd like to share with you some highlights from it.

In July 1892 a land purchase was made on the outskirts of Alicel in modern day Union County that became the seminal grounds for a ranching/farming family that has spanned five generations in the Grande Ronde Valley. Monica's grandparents, Henry and Anna Ruhl, purchased 338 acres near Alicel for \$10,000 and assumed a \$2,500 debt on the land. Their son Harry continued operation of the Alicel ranch and married Maude Gaskill whose parents owned a farm less than two miles away.

Maude designed a ranch home that her father-in-law Henry built on his land. Built with brick from the La Grande brickyard and mortar made from sand from the Grande Ronde River, the home was completed in 1906. Two years later on June 2, 1908, Monica was born. Monica lives with her daughter and son-in-law, Sharon and Bob Beck, in the house she was born in 100 years ago.

Harry and Maude were fun-loving and curious and involved Monica in life's happenings. Monica remembers an outing to Boise with her father when he bought a toaster. Monica asked him what he was going to do with it since they didn't have electricity. Harry replied, "We'll be ready."

Monica was married to Bob Kinnel in 1930. They took over the family ranch, raising Hereford cattle and farming. They added more farm land adjacent to the Ruhl ranch and the whole became the Kinnel Ranch where they raised their family and lived until Bob's untimely demise at the age of 43 in 1955. Monica and Bob made a real team and raised three lovely daughters, Suzanne (who passed away in 1999), Joanne and Sharon. Sharon recounts that her parents had "a love affair so powerful and so joyful that the two of them seemed to know something that no one else knew."

Willis Ketchum, who now owns a neighboring farm, and the girls who were then in their early 20s, rallied around Monica and pitched in to save the ranch. In the fall of 1956 Monica hired on a scrapping, ranch-raised young man from Telocaset named Bob Beck. In just over a year he married Sharon and together they have added their own chapter to the family saga.

Monica traveled the world with daughter Joanne and the United States with other family and friends. Monica's legacy of love and laughter has been imparted to her grandchildren and great grandchildren as well. Anecdotes abound, like the time she brought grandson Rob a male tarantula from California. He built a terrarium and the next year she took Rob to the same desert to release him. Another is when grandson Brad and some contractor working on the house witnessed Monica—then in her 80s—leave the house with a fishing pole and satchel "to go catch breakfast" and came back within 30 minutes with a 22-inch rainbow trout.

Monica has always taught her family to live in the now, don't put things off til later as there may not be a later. Given the choice of describing her life as a hard-working, tenacious and productive ant or a carefree, live-for-the-moment grasshopper, Monica chose the grasshopper without hesitation. Her philosophy is "live and let live." Fortunately for Monica and her family, she continues to live an exhilarating journey.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I wish Monica Kinnel a very happy 100th birthday!

CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HERITAGE
MONTH

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to praise the contributions of the Caribbean-American community to this Nation's history

and development. Since before the 1770's when Jean Baptist Pointe DuSable moved to what is now my hometown of Chicago this community has played a vital and positive role in the development of this country.

With over 4.6 million Caribbean-Americans in this country the contributions of this community should not be overlooked. This Caribbean-American community has brought to us such notables as Alexander Hamilton, Sydney Poitier, W.E.B. Dubois, Malcolm X, and former Secretary of State Colin Powell.

Madam Speaker, without the contributions of these individuals the United States would not be the country we see today. Without Hamilton, would we have been the Constitutional Republic that allows us to be here today? Without Dubois when might we have realized that "The cost of liberty is less than the price of repression." Without Malcolm X would our youth understand that "The future belongs to those who prepare for it today."

Madam Speaker, in preparing for that future I believe it is fundamental that we remember our roots. I thank the Caribbean-American community for their contributions to society and look forward to what is yet to come.

HONORING MR. PETER QUINN

HON. JOE SESTAK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a remarkable man and his equally remarkable family. Mr. Peter Quinn of Wallingford, PA is a man of many talents—each of enormous value to our community. He is deeply spiritual, with extraordinary compassion for those in our society who struggle with a wide range of personal challenges. A graduate of Villanova University and a peerless teacher and guidance counselor at Bishop McDevitt High School in Philadelphia, Pete Quinn possesses a unique capacity to positively influence young people. That quality was never clearer than when he left Bishop McDevitt to become a founder and prime mover behind "The Bridge" at Fox Chase. This creative residential substance abuse treatment program is a safe harbor for teenagers from Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware and a model behavioral health service program. While at The Bridge, Pete worked tirelessly to see that young men with substance abuse problems received innovative treatment and, most importantly, that they had a role model for life in the person of Pete Quinn.

Following that signal achievement, Pete became a valuable member of the Philadelphia business community while serving as the Government Relations Director and Community Outreach Coordinator for one of the world's largest pharmaceutical firms. For nearly a decade he promoted responsible corporate programs to help the community he loves so dearly. In June 2008, Pete Quinn will complete

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