

war it is most appropriate to recognize both today's troops and their forefathers. Our community is proud to be home to veterans who have defended our freedom in the past and to our soldiers who continue to fight for freedom today. I know that my colleagues will join me in welcoming these courageous warriors to our Nation's capital and thanking them, these soldiers of the greatest generation, for their invaluable service to our country.

THE DAILY 45: 2 LITTLE GIRLS
KILLED IN A SMALL OKLAHOMA
TOWN

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, the Department of Justice tells us that, every day, 45 people, on average, are fatally shot in the United States. I grieve, daily, in solidarity with those I serve in Chicago over the senseless loss of life from guns, especially among our children. There are thousands of other communities across our Nation that, likewise, see their children cut down by perpetrators wielding the merciless barrel of a gun.

Today, it's my sad responsibility to extend my condolences to the family and friends of 13-year-old Taylor Paschal-Placker and her 11-year-old best friend, Skyla Whitaker, who lost their lives on Sunday, June 8. Both were shot while walking not far from their homes in the small, rural town of Weleetka, Oklahoma. As law enforcement officials continue to investigate this crime, these children's families and their close knit community of 1,000 are grieving and frightened while a murderer remains at large.

Americans of conscience must come together to stop the senseless death of "The Daily 45." When will we say "enough is enough, stop the killing!"

RECOGNIZING DR. ROBERT
DIXON—SCOTTSDALE HEALTH-
CARE'S "SALUTE TO MILITARY"
HONOREE

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Robert Dixon, Scottsdale Healthcare's "Salute to Military" Honoree for June 2008. Scottsdale Healthcare is recognizing Dr. Dixon and other physicians with a connection to the Armed Services for their dedication to saving lives and securing our freedom.

Since the program's inauguration in 2004, Scottsdale Healthcare has provided over 300 medical personnel with outstanding trauma skill training. The program is offered in partnership with Maricopa Integrated Health System and has focused on the Air National Guard, Luke Air Force Base, and Davis Monthan Air Force Base.

Dr. Robert Dixon is a deserving recipient of Scottsdale Healthcare's tribute. He is a Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Air Force, stationed at the 56th Medical Group of Luke Air Force Base in Arizona since 2004. Dr. Dixon will be deployed to Iraq in May of 2008, which will be his fourth deployment to the Middle East and Southwest Asia.

He was the first surgeon to participate in Scottsdale Healthcare's Military Training Program in preparation for deployment to the Gulf. The Military Training Program is designed to maintain trauma skills and integrates trauma surgery, neurosurgery, burn trauma, and other critical skills. He played a prominent role in the development and testing of the pilot project at Scottsdale Healthcare, in conjunction with Dr. Michael Foley and Dr. Ken Ransom.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Dr. Robert Dixon's tireless service and sacrifice to this country.

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF DEPUTY
DENNIS POLLEY

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the diligent and steadfast service by Chief Deputy Dennis Polley and congratulate him on his retirement from the Marshall County Police department. During Dennis's tenure as Chief Deputy he has consistently demonstrated commitment to his position, his co-workers and his community.

For the last 32 years, Chief Deputy Polley served Marshall County faithfully and honorably. Chief Deputy Polley's daily courage goes above and beyond what we are asked of as citizens of this country. His service in providing safety to his community earns him respect and honor and for this I offer him my utmost respect, congratulations and thanks.

I commend Officer Dennis Polley for his many years of loyal service in protecting Iowans. It is an immense honor to represent Officer Polley in the United States Congress, and I know that my colleagues join me in wishing him a long, happy, and healthy retirement.

SAINT CATHERINE HOSPITAL 80TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great sincerity and appreciation that I stand today to recognize the 80th anniversary of Saint Catherine Hospital in East Chicago, Indiana. For the past 80 years, Saint Catherine Hospital has served the city of East Chicago and the citizens of northwest Indiana by offering quality care to those in need.

In the 1920s, recognizing the need for a healthcare facility in the heavily industrialized

city of East Chicago, Indiana, community and business leaders began investigating the possibility of building a hospital within city limits. With the guidance of the Manufacturers Association of East Chicago and the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ (Ancilla Domini Sisters), a committee was appointed, led by Colonel Walter J. Riley. Due to the tireless efforts of these community and business leaders to formulate plans and raise money, Saint Catherine Hospital opened its doors on May 17, 1928.

Over the years, with the continued support of the Riley family and the Inland Steel Ryerson Foundation, the hospital flourished, increasing not only the number of beds but also the depth of its services. The medical staff at this time became well-known for their innovation and medical advancements, eventually creating the first school of x-ray technology in 1936. In addition, Saint Catherine Hospital became a very important location in the fight against polio, and in 1963, was the venue for the first open-heart operation. Expansion of the hospital continued through the years with new wings and remodeling, a new patient tower in 1987, and the Family Birthing Center in 1997.

In 2001, Donald S. Powers, a true visionary and one of northwest Indiana's finest citizens, brought together Saint Catherine Hospital, Community Hospital in Munster, and the Saint Mary Medical Center in Hobart to create the Community Healthcare System. From this vision emerged a partnership that would allow these outstanding hospitals to work together instead of competing with each other, resulting in one of America's best integrated healthcare delivery systems.

Subsequently, a \$2.5 million MRI system was added at Saint Catherine Hospital and in 2002, a \$2.2 million renovation of the emergency room was completed. In 2005, the CyberKnife Center opened, which brought the Community Healthcare System its most impressive piece of technology to date. Recently, Saint Catherine Hospital was awarded the 2008 HealthGrades Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence, making it the third consecutive year that the hospital has received this award.

In honor of the 80th anniversary celebration, Saint Catherine Hospital will recognize the companies and individuals who have aided in the construction and enhancement of the hospital. These honorees are: Donald S. Powers, ArcelorMittal Steel, ASF Keystone, BP, NIPSCO, the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ (Ancilla Domini Sisters), the Block family, and the Riley family.

Madam Speaker, at this time I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating these honorees, as well as the staff and administration of Saint Catherine Hospital, past and present, who have spent the past 80 years providing quality healthcare services to the people of northwest Indiana. Through their efforts and their standards of excellence, many in the northwest Indiana community have had the opportunity to enhance their lives. It is the compassion and commitment of facilities like Saint Catherine Hospital that make northwest Indiana such a great community, and they are to be commended for their selflessness and dedication.