

HONORING THE MEMORY OF MR.
DENNIS MIDDLETON

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to the memory of an exceptional leader, longtime Scoutmaster, and dedicated family man, Mr. Dennis Middleton.

Dennis owned and operated E. L. Middleton and Son Garage in Loxley, Alabama, for the past 40 years. Dennis, along with his wife, Jean, took in and raised several foster children. He also served as an assistant minister of the First Christian Church of Robertsdale for 30 years. As a member of the church, he worked with the Outreach Minister Program "Life Connection" which focused on helping ex-offenders. However, the title for which he was most proud was Scoutmaster of Troop 45 in Robertsdale.

For 33 years, Dennis served as a Scoutmaster of Troop 45. He was recently asked what Scouting meant to him, and his answer was "everything." Dennis never expected his life to revolve around Scouting. When asked by the previous Scoutmaster to take charge of Troop 45, he decided to serve until a replacement could be found. Three decades later, he positively influenced countless young lives and was once described as, "the backbone of Scouting" in his area.

Dennis was a selfless individual, always eager to help anyone in need. For example, a few years ago during a Cub Scout campout, Dennis spent an entire day working on a broken water well. The Cub Scouts later found out that it was his birthday, and instead of being home celebrating with friends and family, he was at the campground making sure the Cub Scouts had water. In recognition of his tireless efforts on behalf of the Scouts, a Scout lodge at the Silver Creek Campground was recently dedicated in his honor. Humbly, Dennis requested the new building not be named for him and instead follow the Scout tradition of honoring American Indian cultures. Today, the lodge is named Toknaawa Pahn, meaning "Silver Creek" in Muscogee, the native tribal group.

The great contributions made by Dennis as Scoutmaster did not go unnoticed. He was honored with several Scout awards, such as the Silver Beaver and the Order of the Arrow Vigil Honor. He also received the Who's Who Gulf Coast Award in 1989. Dennis was a member of the Order of the Arrow WOA Cholena Lodge No. 322. He attended the Wood Badge SR 550 and was a member of the respectable "Bob White" patrol.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated community leader and friend to many throughout south Alabama. Dennis Middleton will be deeply missed by his family—his wife of 43 years, Jean Middleton; his daughters, Sabrina Middleton and Beverly Middleton; his son, Dennis Wayne Middleton; his foster son, Allen Kittrell; his sister, Mary Sue Archer and her husband David; his brother, Charles David Middleton and his wife Lillie; his 13 grandchildren—as well as the countless friends and fellow Scouts he leaves behind.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them all during this difficult time.

HONORING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TEXOMA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS AND THE SERVICE OF VOLUNTEERS IN THE TEXOMA FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the legacy of leadership within the Texoma Council of Governments, as well as the service of dedicated volunteers in the Texoma Foster Grandparent Program.

The Texoma Council of Governments (TCOG) was formed by the Legislature in 1968, and was designated under the authority of Chapter 391, Local Texas State Government Code, along with 23 other State Planning Regions, to review and comment on Federal and State financial assistance requests. It is a voluntary organization comprised of city and county governments, colleges, school districts, and chambers of commerce, determined to build strength through regional cooperation. TCOG is responsible for evaluating any project that would have an impact on the three-county area of Cooke, Fannin and Grayson Counties, and works to continually improve the economic, social, and educational opportunities for the citizens in these regions.

Due to the large number of senior community servants in the area, TCOG founded the Texoma Foster Grandparent Program. This program is part of a national organization focused on utilizing area seniors, ages 60 or older, to mentor and tutor "at risk" youths. These volunteers serve approximately 40,000 hours per year in public settings such as Texoma schools, day care, and community centers. On April 24th, the Program's Advisory Council recognized its dedicated senior volunteers with a 50s themed recognition, fittingly entitled, "Volunteers Rock," at the Sherman First United Methodist Church. Several area businesses donated food, door prizes, and funds to help make the event a success, as all volunteers received awards for hours served during the year. The Texoma Foster Grandparent Program Advisory Council and the program's volunteers are wonderful role models for the community at large, and I wholeheartedly applaud them for utilizing their experience, talents, and energy to serve as a positive influence for special needs children and "at risk" youths.

But Texoma's celebration doesn't end there because on June 19, 2008, TCOG will celebrate its 40th Anniversary at Austin College with an event entitled "Legacy of Leadership." Funds generated by business partners and vendors for this event will be returned to Texoma's private sector and donated to the Texoma Senior Citizens Foundation. This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate TCOG's many accomplishments and legacy of service during the past 40 years. I want to commend current and past members who have contributed their time, talent and resources to make TCOG one of the most effective Councils of Government in the State.

I am confident that the Texoma Council of Governments will continue to meet the challenges of the future and continue to provide outstanding services for those it represents,

and I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating TCOG on its 40th Anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO OLD GLORY

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the journey of remembrance our Nation's flag has made over the past 6 months, which culminated on Memorial Day when it flew over the Capitol and specifically the National Moment of Remembrance at 3 p.m. that day.

The flag's journey started December 7, 2007, in Hawaii to mark the 66th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. The flag made a stop on Christmas Eve in Washington's Eighth District, at Tahoma National Cemetery in Kent, Washington. During its journey, Old Glory traveled to 28 different locations in 20 States, being flown over a significant memorial site at every stop. The journey of our Nation's flag is a wonderful way for this body and for citizens throughout this country to remember the sacrifices of millions of men and women in service to our great Nation.

Ordinary men and women have done extraordinary things time and again to preserve the values and beliefs that make the United States a wonderful country. Their brave sacrifices will never be forgotten or overlooked. As we speak, men and women are fighting for freedom and justice and helping to preserve peace in foreign lands throughout the world. Their remarkable sacrifices are being made not for personal gain or fame, but because of deep-seeded patriotism. That American spirit is alive and well and will preserve this Nation for years to come.

On behalf of my constituents in the Eighth District of Washington, I want to take this moment to honor the service of our many soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen. Their sacrifices allow Old Glory to fly. On Memorial Day, citizens throughout this country united to reflect on the valor and sacrifice we honor, and it is my hope that we carry that spirit every day of the year.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL PASCHELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. PASCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise to offer a personal explanation. I was unavoidably detained last Thursday, June 5, during the rollcall votes for the following bills: H.R. 5540, Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network Continuing Authorization Act; H.R. 3058, Public Land Communities Transition Act of 2007.

Had I been present, I would have voted:

"No" on rollcall vote 384, on the Bishop of Utah amendment to H.R. 5540, the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network Continuing Authorization Act;

"No" on rollcall vote 385, on Motion To Recommit With Instructions, H.R. 5540, the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network Continuing Authorization Act;

"Yes" on rollcall vote 386, on Passage of H.R. 5540, the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network Continuing Authorization Act;

"Yes" on rollcall vote 387, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as amended, the Public Land Communities Transition Act of 2007, H.R. 3058.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF CALN
TOWNSHIP CHIEF OF POLICE
JOHN BENNETT

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a dedicated public servant from Chester County, Pennsylvania, who is leaving after a nearly six-year career with the Caln Township Police Department to accept the position of Chief of Police with Paradise Valley, Arizona.

Chief of Police John Bennett joined the Caln Township Police Department as Chief of Police in June 30, 2002, replacing the retiring Chief James Franciscus. Prior to his time as Chief of Police in Caln Township, Chief Bennett served as Deputy Chief of Police of Marple Township in Delaware County, Pennsylvania, and has served in law enforcement for over 36 years in Delaware and Chester Counties.

As Chief of Police, John oversaw a department of 20 officers, with a lieutenant, four sergeants, and two investigators. John's leadership has helped make the Cain Township Police Department a first class law enforcement agency. During his six-year tenure as Chief of Police, Chief Bennett was instrumental in establishing an investigative division, creating a bicycle patrol unit and the Youth Aid Panel. Also during this time, John was responsible for sending two officers to the FBI National Academy.

In addition to his duties as Chief of Police, Chief Bennett also served on several executive boards and committees, notably on the Executive Board of the Chester County Chiefs of Police, the Civil Rights Committee for the International Chiefs of Police, the Legislative Committee for the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police, and as Committee Chair of the Chester County Major Incident Response Team. Chief Bennett's service and accomplishments will be celebrated on Thursday, June 12, 2008 at the Caln Township Municipal Building.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in praising the outstanding service of Chief of Police John Bennett, and all those who take an oath to serve and protect their communities.

HONORING DEBORAH A. YOW

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate the University of Maryland's Deborah A. Yow on her selection as the next President of the Division 1A Athletic Directors'

Association. Ms. Yow is the first woman to fill this national leadership role, responsible for coordinating the efforts of collegiate athletic directors at 1,600 colleges and universities across the United States and Canada.

The Association's Executive Director, Dutch Baughman, praised Ms. Yow as "an extremely capable and effective leader." He added that "She has not only influenced the lives of over 450 athletics administrators over the past seven years, but she has been evaluated by those [fellow administrators] as the best."

After 14 years of success at the University of Maryland, her national role is well-earned. Overseeing 27 sports and more than 700 student-athletes, Debbie Yow has built a reputation as one of America's most accomplished athletic leaders. Under her leadership, Maryland teams have won 17 national championships, while maintaining balanced budgets and a high graduation rate of 85 percent. In fact, last year's graduation rate was the highest in the history of Maryland athletics and the best of any public institution in the Atlantic Coast Conference. Ms. Yow has excelled as an educator, an administrator, and a fundraiser, and has repeatedly been ranked among the 20 most influential people in collegiate athletics. At the same time, she has served in public life as an advocate for women's sports and the protection of Title IX.

Her new position is the capstone on a career dedicated to the highest purposes of college athletics: Debbie Yow's work shows that "student-athlete" is far from an empty expression. I thank her for all that she has done for our State, its flagship university, and its students. And I wish her the best of luck, both in her continuing duties as University of Maryland Athletic Director and as a voice for athletic directors throughout North America.

IN HONOR OF REVEREND DR. OTIS
MOSS JR.

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Reverend Dr. Otis Moss Jr. A profoundly respected and influential member of the Greater Cleveland community and a leader of greater Cleveland's civic culture, Dr. Otis Moss Jr. is this year's recipient of Cleveland's NAACP's Freedom Award.

The Freedom Award is the highest form of recognition awarded by Cleveland's NAACP and is awarded to members of the community who have dedicated their lives to fostering social change and building a society based on the ideals of equality and justice. Dr. Otis Moss Jr., a resident of the Cleveland area for over thirty years, carries with him a rich history of public service and advocacy, especially in the African-American community. Born in rural Georgia and a graduate of Morehouse College in Atlanta, he worked along side Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., leading sit-ins and advocating for desegregation during the civil rights era.

He became a pastor in 1954, serving in various Baptist Churches throughout Georgia until 1961, when he moved to Mount Zion Baptist Church in Cincinnati. In this capacity, he continued fighting for equality locally by challenging discrimination in the workplace. Dr.

Otis Moss Jr. left his position at Mount Zion Baptist Church to march once again alongside Martin Luther King Jr. in Alabama and Washington and to serve as Co-Pastor with Martin Luther King Sr. at Alabama's Ebenezer Baptist Church. He later returned to Ohio in 1974, to lead one of Cleveland's largest and most prominent churches, Olivet Institutional Baptist Church. He has served as Senior Pastor of Olivet Institutional Baptist Church for over thirty years, working closely with the greater Cleveland community in continuing the fight for civil rights and access to quality medical care. In the late 1990's, he worked with University Hospitals to create the Otis Moss Jr. Medical Center in the Fairfax neighborhood of Cleveland, bringing desperately needed resources and access to quality health care to its residents.

Dr. Otis Moss Jr.'s ability to mobilize the community and to advocate for the social welfare of others has been manifested in the various leadership roles he has played. His leadership has served as an undeniable source of inspiration to many who want social justice.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognition of Reverend Dr. Otis Moss Jr., who has dedicated his life to serving his Church and the Greater Cleveland community. Let his advocacy on behalf of the welfare of others serve as inspiration for all those in pursuit of social justice.

TRIBUTE TO BILL KIBBY

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Bill Kibby and to congratulate him on being inducted into the Iowa Athletic Directors Hall of Fame.

Bill Kibby has been a teacher and coach for 44 years, 40 of which he has been an athletic director. His educational career began as a teacher at Bayard Consolidated School. At Bayard he was involved in coaching football, basketball, cross country, and track. He then began his tenure at Johnston High School where, in 1967, he became the school's athletic director. After his service in Johnston, Mr. Kibby moved to Fort Dodge where he was St. Edmond Catholic High School's football coach and athletic director for 21 years. For 16 of those years he also helped coach track, but resigned when he accepted the position of principal at Sacred Heart Junior High School. During his time at St. Edmond and Sacred Heart he also made time to coach basketball and softball.

In 1988, Mr. Kibby took his final position in his stellar educational career at Jefferson-Scranton. Upon his retirement in 2006, Mr. Kibby continued to coach football at Jefferson-Scranton.

In his long and illustrious career Mr. Kibby can boast of many exemplary achievements. During his time as a coach, his football teams combined have claimed over 200 victories, including more than 100 wins at two different schools, and 11 state football play-off contests.

Mr. Kibby has also been bestowed with many noteworthy individual awards. In 2006 he was named IFCA Coach of the Year and