

IN RECOGNITION OF THE FORT TICONDEROGA ASSOCIATION ON THE OCCASION OF THE GRAND OPENING OF THE DEBORAH CLARKE MARS EDUCATION CENTER

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 2008

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, the Honorable KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND to pay tribute to the Fort Ticonderoga Association, the non-profit organization chartered by the State University of New York Regents to administer the great National Historic Landmark at Fort Ticonderoga. This July, the Association will open the Deborah Clarke Mars Education Center, which will house an authentic re-creation of the *magasin du Roi*, or "King's Warehouse", that stood on the Fort's parade ground from 1756 to 1759, as well as facilities for educational programs, lectures, and symposia. This month, the Fort Ticonderoga Association also observed the 250th anniversary of one of the bloodiest conflicts of the French and Indian War, the Battle of Carillon, by staging a two-day re-enactment of the conflict.

The Fort Ticonderoga Association was organized in 1931. It has carried on the stewardship of the historic site by the Pell family, whose members have maintained the Fort since the early 19th century. William Ferris Pell, a noted businessman and preservationist, originally purchased Fort Ticonderoga and the surrounding lands to prevent the stripping of precious materials from the legendary stone forts that rest on the site. He established his summer home-turned-hotel, the Pavillion, on the beautiful grounds, offering affordable accommodations to travelers visiting the historic ruins for nearly six decades. Stephen Pell, his great-grandson, began restoration of the Fort and the Pavillion in 1908; subsequently, the site became a popular tourist destination and was added to the National Register of Historic Places.

Fort Ticonderoga and the surrounding grounds have a rich history. Its site was originally chosen for its strategic location on the Ticonderoga peninsula on the shore of Lake Champlain that protected the portage to nearby Lake George. At the time, it was the French Empire's southernmost fort in the New World and a sensitive and strategic military installation coveted by the world's two largest empires, the British and the French. This July will mark the 250th anniversary of the Battle of Carillon, a major battle in the French and Indian War in which outnumbered French troops led by Louis-Joseph le Marquis de Montcalm successfully and valiantly defeated a British attacking force. On July 8, 1758, British General James Abercromby led a British and colonial army of 16,000 men against a small French force of 3,200 entrenched at Fort Carillon (the original name of Fort Ticonderoga). Despite being outnumbered by more than 4 to 1, the French forces prevailed and forced the British to retreat. In honor of their victory, the French erected a cross on the battle site, of which a reproduction still stands at the "French Lines" even today. A year later, British forces under Lord Jefferey Amherst successfully conquered the Fort.

Fort Ticonderoga retained its strategic significance during the American Revolution. On May 10, 1775, American soldiers won their first victory in the Revolution when they captured Fort Ticonderoga in a surprise attack at dawn. The cannons from Ticonderoga were then hauled all the way across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts by troops led by Henry Knox, and used to successfully prosecute the Siege of Boston, driving the Redcoats away from the Massachusetts Bay.

Today, the Fort Ticonderoga Association strives to engage, educate, and entertain visitors by sharing the authentic stories of diverse cultures that met at the Ticonderoga peninsula in war and peace over the last 250 years. Its members achieve this goal through accurate historical interpretations, high standards of preservation, and able management of the Fort's world-class collections of scholarly works, through innovative educational offerings, and with operational excellence.

Under the diligent care of the Association, Fort Ticonderoga has earned numerous awards, including the Upstate History Alliance Award of Excellence, the Adirondack Architectural Heritage Award of Excellence for the Kings' Garden Restoration, and the Preservation League of New York State Award of Excellence. Fort Ticonderoga also received a State and Local History Certificate of Commendation from the American Association for "America's First Victory." Clearly, its role in American history left an important legacy for Fort Ticonderoga that resonates even today.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing the enormous contributions to the preservation and stewardship of American history performed by the Fort Ticonderoga Association.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO FATHER
JOSEPH P. ANNESE

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 2008

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to rise today to honor my friend Father Joseph P. Annese by entering his name in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, the official record of the proceedings and debates of the United States Congress since 1873. Today I pay tribute to Father Joseph P. Annese for his years of dedicated service to the Boulder City community.

Father Joe has dedicated himself to the St. Andrew Catholic Community for thirty years. His passion for helping the community and his dedication to his calling has made Father Joe an essential part of the community.

Father Joe started his seminary years in the Divine World Seminary and was ordained in 1962. He then taught high school seminary in Erie, Pa., then in Bordertown, New Jersey, and finally in Verbum Dei High School in Watts, California. Before coming to Boulder City, Father Joe joined the Diocese of Reno/Las Vegas in 1971. He then became an associate pastor at St. James Parish in Las Vegas in 1971, where he served for one year, and was named an associate pastor at St. Christopher's Parish in North Las Vegas for five years. In 1978, Bishop McFarland assigned Father Joe as Pastor of the St. Andrew Catho-

lic Community in Boulder City, Nevada to build an entirely new complex of church offices, parish halls, multi-purpose classrooms, and a pastor's residence. The entire parish center was built and dedicated in 1981.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Father Joe for his thirty years of service. Words cannot express how much Father Joe has done for the people and the city of Boulder City. His quest to touch the lives of and help as many people as possible, his devotion to his work, and his zeal to better the community are truly commendable and I applaud all his efforts.

FAIRFAX COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION MARKS ITS 70TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 2008

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Fairfax County Planning Commission.

The Fairfax County Planning Commission's goal has been to advise the Board of Supervisors on all matters related to the orderly growth and development of Fairfax County. This includes the preparation of a comprehensive plan for the physical development of the county in addition to amending zoning and subdivision ordinances. The Commission provides citizens with an opportunity to voice their support for or opinion on developments in and around their community.

The Fairfax County Planning Commission was founded on Wednesday, July 6, 1938. Throughout the past 70 years, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has appointed a total of 121 citizens to serve as commissioners. The Planning Commission consists of two standing committees, the Personnel and Budget Committee and Policy and Procedure Committee. Additionally, there are seven subcommittees honing their focus towards capital improvement, the environment, parks, redevelopment and housing, land use process review, school facilities, transportation, and Fort Belvoir. The Planning Commission and staff have held thousands of public hearings, hundreds of committee meetings, and have forwarded thousands of recommendations to promote orderly, balanced and equitable growth.

Fairfax County is a thriving, urban county with a population that exceeds that of seven States. The median household income is one of the highest in the Nation. Over half of the adult population has at least a bachelor's degree. His also home to George Mason University. With an enrollment of over 30,000 students, GMU is a leader in science, technology and a variety of other fields. These are all signs of the county's strength. This strength has been nurtured and spurred along by the Planning Commission's foresight and vision.

Their work is not done, however; they have set an ambitious 2009 agenda. This year they will address green building, recycling and issues related to Fort Belvoir in addition to their regular duties. The actions this group takes today will continue to shape and direct this county in the years to come.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to thank and send appreciation to the Fairfax