

SALUTE TO COLLIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE FOR AWARD WINNING NATIONAL NIGHT OUT FOR 2008

**HON. SAM JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Collin County Sheriff's Office for placing as a "National Award Winner" for its outstanding participation in the 25th annual National Night Out Crime, Drug, and Violence Prevention program for a 5th consecutive year. They placed 10th in the Nation for those with populations over 300,000. Over 10,000 communities participated in 2007.

I've spent time with these folks and they run a top-notch event dedicated to improving the quality of life in North Texas.

Thank you to every person in the Sheriff's Office who makes Collin County a great and safe place to live, work and play.

National Night Out aims to bring neighbors together with block parties, cookouts, visits from local police and sheriff departments, parades, exhibits, flashlight walks, contests and youth programs.

National Night Out heightens crime and drug prevention awareness, generates support for local anti-crime initiatives, and fosters neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships. National Night Out sends a message to criminals to let them know that neighbors are united together to protect their communities and will fight back.

It was an honor to participate in National Night Out this year. The Collin County Sheriffs Office received a well-deserved award. Congratulations to everyone on that team.

God bless you and I salute you.

**TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL  
ARTHUR M. BARTELL**

**HON. ROBIN HAYES**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. HAYES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to Major General Arthur M. Bartell, United States Army, Deputy Commanding General of the XVIII Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg on the occasion of his promotion and new command assignment. Major General Bartell has served our great Nation for more than 31 years as a truly exceptional officer, and I am proud to call him my friend. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Art on his well-deserved promotion to Major General and his new assignment as Commanding General, United States Army Cadet Command. Since his assignment as Deputy Commanding General of the XVIII Airborne Corps in June 2007, I have had the honor of working closely with him on behalf of our warfighters here at Fort Bragg. With the deployment of Corps Headquarters in January, he has been an outstanding leader as Commander of Task Force Bragg. Major General Bartell has also been a great ambassador in his outreach to the local community, and it is much appreciated. Most importantly, Art's con-

cern for his troops is evident, and he leads by example. Soldier, leader, scholar, gentleman—Major General Art Bartell truly personifies what a warrior should be.

His career accomplishments speak for themselves: Major General Arthur M. Bartell was commissioned as a Field Artillery officer in 1977 through ROTC at the University of Michigan. He began his career as a Forward Observer and Battery Fire Direction Officer with B Battery 2nd BN, 17th FA in the Republic of Korea. Duty with the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) followed. There he served as a Battery Executive Officer, Battalion Fire Support Officer, Battalion Fire Direction Officer and Battery Commander in the 2nd Bn, 320th FA. He next served at Fort Wainwright with the 172nd Light Infantry Brigade (Sep) as both Battalion Fire Support Officer and Battery Commander in the 1st Bn, 37th FA. Following a tour at the U.S. Army Military Personnel Center as the Field Artillery Personnel Systems Manager and attendance at the Army Command and General Staff College, Major General Bartell moved to Germany where he served as the Deputy G3 and G3 of VII Corps Artillery during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm in the Persian Gulf. Returning to Germany, he served as the Battalion Executive Officer for the 4th Bn, 27th FA (MLRS) and as the Brigade S3 for the 41st FA Bde. Major General Bartell then moved to the 10th Mountain Division (LI) for duty as the Division Artillery Executive Officer and as the Battalion Commander of the 1st Bn, 7th FA (which reflagged to 3rd Bn, 6th FA during his tenure), both at Fort Drum and Port-au-Prince, Haiti during Operation Uphold Democracy. After completion of the U.S. Naval War College in Rhode Island, Art served as the Senior Fire Support Observer/Controller at the Joint Readiness Training Center, Fort Polk. He then returned to Fort Drum as the Commander of the 10th Mountain Division Artillery. After completing his command tour, he assumed duties as the Chief, Joint Interoperability Training Division, and then as Deputy J7/Deputy Commander, Joint Warfighting Center, U.S. Joint Forces Command in Virginia. Following that Joint assignment, he returned, once again, to the 10th Mountain Division (LI) to be the Chief of Staff and deployed to Afghanistan with the Division Command Group and Staff as part of Operation Enduring Freedom where he assumed duties as the Chief of Staff for Combined Joint Task Force 180. Upon re-deployment from Afghanistan, Major General Bartell served as Deputy Commanding General, Support, 10th Mountain Division (LI). Following that assignment he was sent to the Pentagon where he served on the Joint Staff as Vice Director for Operational Plans and Joint Force Development. Major General Bartell's awards and decorations include: the Defense Superior Service Medal (w/OLC), Legion of Merit (w/OLC), Bronze Star Medal (w/OLC), Meritorious Service Medal (w/7 OLC), Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal (w/OLC), Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal (w/3 BSS), Humanitarian Service Medal, Korean Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Saudi Arabia Kuwait Liberation Medal, Kuwaiti Kuwait Liberation Medal, Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, Joint Meritorious Unit Award (w/OLC), Meritorious Unit Award, and Joint Staff Identification Badge.

On behalf of Congress, the United States of America, and the greater Fort Bragg community, I express our appreciation for Art's tireless service, expertise, patriotism, and dedication to our soldiers. No doubt he will prove a great role model for the cadets under his new command, though it will be a under loss for Fort Bragg and the XVIII Airborne Corps. I want to personally thank Major General Bartell, his wife Karen, and his sons for their commitment, sacrifice, and the contributions they have made throughout his honorable and distinguished military career. I congratulate Art on completing an exceptional tenure here at Fort Bragg and wish him many blessings and much success as he begins this new endeavor.

**HONORING VETERANS OF THE  
BATTLE OF THE BULGE**

**HON. CHARLES W. DENT**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 20, 2008*

Mr. DENT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor American veterans who fought in the most pivotal conflict of World War II; the Battle of the Ardennes, more commonly referred to as the Battle of the Bulge. Specifically, I rise to pay tribute to the service and sacrifice of the many courageous veterans, family members and supporters of the Lehigh Valley Chapter of Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, based in my district.

Next month marks the 64th anniversary of the start of the Battle of the Bulge. At 5:30 a.m. on December 16, 1944, over 250,000 German troops launched a massive offensive against Allied forces along an 85 mile stretch of Europe's Western Front in the Ardennes region of Belgium, Luxembourg and France. Initially, German forces were able to advance approximately 50 miles into terrain controlled by Allied armies, but by late January 1945, American units had reclaimed the lost territory and effectively crippled the German Army.

While the Battle of the Bulge was the largest and most pivotal land battle of World War II involving American soldiers, it also proved to be the bloodiest. When the conflict ended on January 25, 1945, roughly 75,000 American troops had lost their lives defending the vital Western Front and thousands more were left terribly injured. The sacrifices of these servicemen and all those who fought in the Battle of the Bulge were not made in vain, as the U.S. Army's expulsion of German forces from Ardennes damaged the German Army to the extent that its full defeat became inevitable.

Ten years ago, a group of motivated veterans in my district established the Lehigh Valley Chapter of Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge. Today, the membership of this group extends far beyond veterans of the Battle of the Bulge to include veterans of more recent conflicts like the Vietnam war, spouses, family members, friends and even local residents who share the group's interest in American military history. The Chapter meets the third Tuesday of every month at the Terrace Restaurant in Walnutport, Pennsylvania, to socialize, share memories and discuss upcoming community events. Typically, these meetings attract anywhere from 75 to 100 enthusiasts.

One of the primary functions of the organization is to educate local students and residents. Members routinely visit schools