

CONGRATULATING SISTER ADRIAN BARRETT FOR A LIFETIME OF SERVICE TO THOSE IN NEED AND EXTENDING TO HER BEST WISHES FOR A WELL DESERVED RETIREMENT

**HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 13, 2009*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Sister Adrian Barrett, IHM, an extraordinary woman whose capacity for caring for the poor is exceeded only by her selflessness and humility.

Sister Adrian's remarkable career of service began in 1949 when she became a sister of the Congregation of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

After her early years teaching at schools in Pennsylvania, Maryland, and New York and working summers in Scranton ministering to poor children, Sister Adrian and an old acquaintance, Monsignor Joseph P. Kelly, created Project Hope, a summer camp for underprivileged youths, first at Pius X Seminary at Dalton and later at Camp St. Andrew in Tunkhannock.

Sister Adrian returned to Scranton permanently in 1976 to work full time with low income families at United Neighborhood Center's Progressive Center. She developed an annual Thanksgiving Dinner for the needy of the community, at first with 24 guests, now with more than 2,000.

In 1985, she established Friends of the Poor with the stated objective of bringing together "those who can give with those who have a need to receive."

Over the years, Sister Adrian has become a hero in the Scranton area, providing food, clothing, furniture and healthcare education and assistance to those in need and sponsoring an annual educational trip to Washington, DC, for underprivileged children.

Mrs. Mary Lou Burne, one who has worked with and knows Sister Adrian well, observed recently that "She's the heart of the poor in Scranton. She feels what they feel. She cries when they cry."

Retired local banking executive David Tressler, who has done volunteer work with Sister Adrian for more than 25 years, said she inspires with her unflinching, round-the-clock commitment to the poor and is not bashful about asking those with means to assist those without.

"She is a unique individual," Mr. Tressler said. "She has time for anybody and everybody."

Now, as she approaches the age of 80, she has decided it is time to retire and hand her incredible work to a successor, Sister Maryalice Jacquinet, IHM.

Sister Adrian once observed that the highest compliment anyone could pay her is to acknowledge that she tried to love and serve the poor and, in so doing, loved and served God.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Sister Adrian Barrett who truly has loved and served the poor and, in so doing, has improved the quality of life for countless souls and has inspired all of us to a heightened awareness of our calling to help our fellow man.

IN HONOR OF THE SOUTH COBB HIGH SCHOOL BLUE EAGLE MARCHING BAND

**HON. DAVID SCOTT**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 13, 2009*

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and honor members of the South Cobb High School Blue Eagle Marching Band. Under the direction of Band Director Zachary Cogdill and with the support of Principal Dr. Grant Rivera, the faculty and students at South Cobb High School, these students were chosen to represent the great State of Georgia during the 56th Presidential Inaugural Parade next Tuesday. I am immensely proud of their dedication and diligent preparation for this occasion, as President-Elect Barack Obama is sworn in as the 44th President. Madam Speaker, I would like to submit for the record a copy of the official letter I submitted to the Armed Forces Inaugural Committee recommending South Cobb High School for participation in the parade:

To Members of the Committee:

I would like to recommend the South Cobb High School Blue Eagle Marching Band for participation in the 2009 Presidential Inaugural Parade.

South Cobb's marching band continues a long tradition of exemplary musical groups at the school. Under the outstanding leadership of Mr. Zachary Cogdill, the marching band program has increased to 60 students. This year, the Blue Eagle Marching Band has won 11 trophies at two competitions, including Best in Class and Grand Champion in Class.

This band also features a young man who suffers from leukodystrophy—a rare, progressive genetic disorder that affects the nervous system. Although he cannot march, he walks in front of the band and plays a single drum-beat throughout the band's entire performance. His special role is the basis for the band's theme—"Heartbeat."

Lastly, most students have never been to Washington, DC and this would be an excellent for them to visit our Nation's Capital. I look forward to meeting members of the marching band should they be selected for your events. I know they certainly have earned the opportunity to perform, and hope you will feel the same.

Again, I encourage you to grant the South Cobb High School Blue Eagle Marching Band the opportunity to perform in January. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

DAVID SCOTT

Member of Congress

This fall, the Blue Eagle Marching Band won 11 trophies at two competitions, including Best in Class and Grand Champion in Class. They also performed at the Georgia Dome in Downtown Atlanta. With the support of the Atlanta community, the high school was able to raise \$70,000 in five days for their trip. I am thankful for the generosity of my hometown and each individual who supported our students, financially and otherwise.

On Friday night, the Blue Eagle Marching Band will depart Austell, Georgia for Washington, DC. For many, this will be a first visit to our Nation's Capital. I wish them a safe journey and congratulations on this out-

standing achievement. I am honored to represent such talented constituents.

TRANS-ATLANTIC LEGISLATORS' DIALOGUE HOLDS 65TH MEETING UNDER LEADERSHIP OF THE HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

**HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 13, 2009*

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I would like to call the attention of my colleagues in the Congress to a successful meeting of the Transatlantic Legislators' Dialogue, TLD, that was held in Miami, FL from December 6–8, 2008. Chairwoman SHELLEY BERKLEY, the gentlelady from Nevada, has consistently provided dynamic and capable guidance to this important interparliamentary exchange. The TLD vice-chairmen, Representative JIM COSTA from California and Representative CLIFF STEARNS from Florida, should be commended for their leadership in helping to strengthen American relationships with our European colleagues. I also wish to thank the ranking member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Representative ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, for being a gracious hostess of this meeting in her sunny district and ably assisting the delegation.

Representatives BERKLEY, COSTA and STEARNS were joined by six other members at the Miami session. This bipartisan delegation—which also included Representative SHEILA JACKSON-LEE (D–TX), Representative LORETTA SANCHEZ (D–CA), Representative SUSAN DAVIS (D–CA), Representative PHIL GINGREY (R–GA), Representative VIRGINIA FOXX (R–NC), and Representative RON KLEIN (D–FL)—ensured an informed and productive exchange of views with members of the European Parliament.

The TLD serves as the formal response of the European Parliament and the U.S. Congress to the commitment in the New Transatlantic Agenda, NTA, of 1995 to enhance legislative ties between the European Union and the United States. Building on the existing interparliamentary relationship, the TLD involves bi-annual meetings between American and European legislators in order to discuss topics of mutual interest and foster transatlantic discourse.

During this time of transition in the United States Government, it is particularly important that legislators continue to collaborate on the many important issues facing citizens on both sides of the Atlantic. The TLD discussions in Miami addressed a wide range of foreign policy challenges, focusing on the recent terrorist attacks in Mumbai as well as international efforts to address the ongoing challenges in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Members also discussed the current status of diplomatic initiatives regarding the Iranian nuclear threat and the repercussions of the Georgia-Russia conflict. American members responded to European concerns about data protection and the complexity of application procedures as part of the visa waiver program. During the discussion of regulatory initiatives being undertaken by the Transatlantic Economic Council, TEC, American members encouraged their European counterparts to address the EU ban on