

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

MICHAEL D. O'CONNOR

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 18, 2009*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Michael D. O'Connor, a heroic veteran from Blue Springs, Missouri. Michael has an incredible history of service and honor to his country, and it is my pleasure to highlight just a few of his stories.

Michael was born in Oconto, Wisconsin on June 6, 1918. He is a veteran of World War II who was in the 1st Marine Division and served at the Battle of Midway in 1943. He also served in the Battles of Peleliu and Cape Gloucester, serving a total of four Southwest Pacific campaigns, as well as six months of service in Australia. Michael has witnessed many historical moments in his life, including when he was stationed in Honolulu when Martial Law was declared following the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941. He even served as an MP at President Franklin Roosevelt's funeral.

Michael has received three purple hearts for his sacrifice to his country. Aside from this, he lives quietly in Blue Springs and rarely receives recognition for his service, like so many other veterans across the nation. It is an honor to have someone like Mr. O'Connor in the Sixth Congressional District, who like so many others has dedicated his life to defending our freedom. His courage and dedication should serve as an example to the rest of us on how we can better serve each other and our great nation.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in commending Michael D. O'Connor for his dedication to his country. I know Michael's family and friends join with me in congratulating him on his graduation and wishing him best of luck on all of his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF SOKKA GAKKAI INTERNATIONAL ON THE OCCASION OF ITS FOUNDING COMMEMORATIVE GATHERING IN NEW YORK CITY

### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 18, 2009*

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Sokka Gakkai International, whose founding commemorative gathering is being celebrated at its Manhattan Cultural Center this month. Sokka Gakkai International, or SGI, is a worldwide Buddhist organization with 12 million members. SGI is dedicated to the universal principles of peace, culture, and education and thus encourages its members to assert responsibility for their lives to contribute to the building of a world in which people of different faiths and backgrounds can live together in peace and harmony.

Sokka Gakkai International, whose name can be translated as the "Value Creation Society," has expanded its reach around the world since its founding 34 years ago on the island of Guam. Under the influence of its founding and current President, Dr. Daisaku Ikeda, the Buddhist philosopher, educator, writer and poet, SGI has grown to span 192 countries across the globe, and counts 12 million adherents worldwide. More than 10,000 members live in New York City.

On January 26, 2009, more than 500 representatives gathered at SGI's New York Cultural Center, which is located in New York State's 14th Congressional District that I am privileged to represent. They convened in order to celebrate world peace, culture, and the value of education. Through its dedication to tolerance for all citizens of the world, respect for human rights, and the pursuit of peace through strict adherence to the principle of non-violence, Sokka Gakkai International has provided worshipers of the Buddhist faith with an organizational vehicle with transformative potential and a creed of harmony and understanding.

Madam Speaker, I am deeply honored to represent the Sokka Gakkai International's New York Cultural Center. I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing the tremendous contributions to our educational and civic life made by the Sokka Gakkai International, its visionary President Dr. Daisaku Ikeda, and its dedicated members.

### SUPPORTING NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

SPEECH OF

### HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 17, 2009*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Resolution 211, Supporting the Goals and Ideals of National Women's History Month. I am proud to be a cosponsor of this resolution.

Throughout the month of March, we pause to celebrate the rich achievements women have made in every aspect of life—whether in arts, government, science, sports, or family life. We stand here to champion these contributions and honor those taking the lead to save our planet.

Before the 1970s women's history was largely overlooked, but today we cannot ignore the significant contributions women have made in shaping our country and building for a brighter, more peaceful future.

Recognizing these accomplishments through Women's History Month will no doubt greatly impact the self-esteem of young women and girls.

Emphasizing the wide range of educational and career opportunities, and introducing them to positive role models of all backgrounds, will leave a lasting impression on the future women leaders of our country.

Mr. Speaker, I call on my colleagues to support House Resolution 211, recognizing the unique role of women and working to increase awareness of women's involvement in our history.

### HONORING SISTER PATRICE COOLICK, C.S.J.

### HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 18, 2009*

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Sister Patrice Coolick, Sisters of St. Joseph Carondelet, as she celebrates the Golden Jubilee of taking her vows. Her family and friends will celebrate this anniversary with her on March 21st.

Since taking her vows on March 19, 1959, Sister Patrice moved from Flushing, Michigan to Missouri and attended Fontbonne University. She received her Bachelor Degree in Nursing from the College of St. Catherine in 1967 and one year later began working in Lima, Peru at the Military Hospital. She came back to the United States and completed a physician's assistant program at Saint Louis University. Upon receiving her degree she returned to Peru. In 1983 she became part of a medical team working in refugee camps in Thailand and Sudan.

Sister Patrice returned to the United States and earned a Master's Degree in Marriage and Family Counseling from the Santa Clara University-California. She joined the O'Connor Hospital staff working in the oncology department and she became a member of the staff at Santa Clara Catholic Charities.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me and applaud the life of Sister Patrice Coolick. Throughout her life she has worked to bring physical and spiritual healing to the destitute, the displaced and the discouraged. She has taken her God-given gifts of nursing and empathy and given back to the disheartened of our world. Above all Sister Patrice demonstrates in small everyday acts of love, her commitment to following the words of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, contained in Matthew 25:40, "Whatsoever you do to the least of my people, that you do unto me." May God continue to bless Sister Patrice and inspire her in her work.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 1ST BATTALION, 69TH INFANTRY OF THE NEW YORK NATIONAL GUARD

### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 18, 2009*

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment of the New York National Guard who are being honored on St.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Patrick's Day in New York City. I know that my distinguished colleagues will join me in extending our appreciation and gratitude to all of the brave members of the armed forces serving in the National Guard and the Reserve, who are so courageously and selflessly dedicated to their fellow Americans.

The National Guard is an integral part of a great American military tradition that began during the American Revolution. At that time, our Founding Fathers placed the country's security in the hands of citizen-soldiers who trained and organized into militias in their home colonies. To this day, members of the National Guard must be ready to serve their state and their country, often at a moment's notice.

Headquartered in the historic Armory on Lexington Avenue—one of a dwindling number of armories remaining in our nation's greatest city—the members of the 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry continue to uphold a distinguished tradition in both battle and disaster response. As part of the famous Irish Brigade during the Civil War, the members of the 69th Infantry were renowned for their tenacity on the battlefield, leading Confederate General Robert E. Lee to bestow upon them the nickname of "The Fighting 69th." In acknowledgment of its proud heritage, the Fighting 69th participates each year in New York's world-renowned St. Patrick's Day Parade.

The Fighting 69th are infantry soldiers—the "boots on the ground"—whose mission is to engage and destroy enemy forces in close combat. In addition to the Civil War, its members have also fought in the Spanish-American War, World War I and World War II, when its soldiers served valiantly in the battles of Makin, Saipan and Okinawa. Its members completed a tour of duty in Iraq, returning to the U.S. after serving with distinction. The battalion mobilized more than 300 soldiers to support Task Force Phoenix VII during its deployment to Afghanistan in 2008 and 2009, when four of its members paid the ultimate sacrifice for their country and were killed in action.

During the current conflict in Iraq, 19 members of the Fighting 69th were killed in action, including a member who was one of the New York firefighters who first raised the American flag above Ground Zero, Christian Engledrum. Six members of the 69th Regiment were awarded Purple Hearts in April, 2006 after being wounded by roadside bombs in Iraq. The unit patrolled the infamous road to the Baghdad airport and was stationed primarily in the Sunni Triangle, where many insurgent attacks have taken place.

The members of the Regiment also have mobilized during times of emergency in their home state of New York. The Fighting 69th was the first National Guard unit to arrive on the scene following the devastating terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. In the hours after the attacks, the Battalion assisted medical teams treating the wounded and provided significant assistance to rescue and recovery operations, continuing in this mission for nearly a year. For several months following the attacks, the members of the Fighting 69th guarded the bridges and tunnels that ring New York City.

Madam Speaker, in recognition of its tremendous contributions to civic and public life, I request that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to the Fighting 69th Regiment of the

New York State National Guard, whose members are great New Yorkers and great Americans. All patriots should be grateful for the dedication demonstrated every day by the men and women of the Fighting 69th as well as all of the brave individuals serving in National Guard and Reserve units throughout our great country. The Fighting 69th Regiment's service to our country inspires us all.

HONORING TRUMAN ALLEN AND  
SUSAN L. MOORE

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 18, 2009*

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Truman Allen and Susan L. Moore for their contributions to the Young Men's Christian Association.

Truman Allen Moore was born to Truman E. and Margaret Allen Moore with three siblings. Truman married the love of his life Susan L. Lacy at the beginning of his post-graduate education on August 19, 1967. They have a daughter and a son, Amanda and Mark. Truman obtained a Bachelor of Science in Business in 1967 and a Master of Science in Education from Eastern Illinois University in 1971.

Truman's first job for the YMCA was an Assistant Physical Director in Danville while in his post-graduate education. From this position, he rose to Program Director in Paris then to Kewanee. Truman was promoted to Executive Director of YMCA Youth and Government at Kewanee in 1974. He then served this position at Knox County from 1978–2001 and Champaign County for two years before becoming President of YMCA Youth and Government.

Lester Y. and Luella C. Lacy had a daughter named Susan L. Moore on October 16, 1944. She grew up with a brother and a sister. Susan graduated from Kansas High School in 1962 as the Valedictorian. She went on to obtain a Bachelor of Arts in Education from DePauw University in Indiana in 1966 and a Master of Science in Education from Eastern Illinois University in 1971.

She began her professional life by becoming a teacher at the grade school level. Susan served Illinois in towns Flossmoor, Danville, and Charleston while pursuing her Master's. She worked at the Wethersfield School in Kewanee as a reading specialist for second graders while volunteering with the YMCA Youth and Government. She became its secretary in 1979 before becoming the Program Director in 2001.

I hope all of you will join me in recognizing Truman and Susan Moore for their contributions to the YMCA and their communities.

HONORING RODOLFO SANTAYANA

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 18, 2009*

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the extraordinary life and work of Rodolfo Santayana, a Cuban refugee turned entrepre-

neurial pioneer who recently had the intersection of SW 8th St. and SW 122nd Ave. in Miami named in his honor.

Mr. Santayana arrived in the United States after fleeing the despotic Castro regime of his beloved Cuba. He was only seventeen, but managed to help provide for his family by holding two jobs as a paperboy and a gas station attendant.

However, it would not take him long to discover his calling in the family business. His father, Rodolfo Santayana, Sr. sold jewelry door-to-door in Cuba and beseeched Rodolfo Jr. to seek out his old customers in Cuba who also found refuge from the tyranny of Castro in South Florida.

After studying jewelry design at Miami's Lindsey Hopkins Technical Education Center, he took on his father's request, opening his own store on the street that now bears his name.

He was highly regarded in South Florida not only for the beauty of his work but also for his ability to honor the Cuban heritage with his jewelry. He incorporated some of the symbols of his lost, but far from forgotten, Cuba: palm trees, ox pulled carts full of sugar cane and Cuban silver coins.

It is a testament to the greatness of our country that a man driven from his home to America with only a suitcase full of hopes could use his talent and drive to forge a remarkable life for himself. Now, he is remembered as one of Miami's most prominent businessman and jewelry artisans, even after his death.

May he be remembered, not only on his street in Miami, but by the entire nation for his beautiful portrayals of a free Cuba.

IN HONOR OF JIM WINESTOCK

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 18, 2009*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jim Winestock, an outstanding Atlanta, GA, citizen who in February retired from a 40-year career with the United Parcel Service (UPS). In his most recent role as the Senior Vice President of U.S. Operations, Mr. Winestock was responsible for all package operations in the United States, including the pick up and delivery of more than 15.8 million packages each day. Mr. Winestock leaves a tremendous legacy of leadership, not only within the UPS organization, but in the business world in general.

A Greenville, SC, native, Mr. Winestock joined UPS in 1969 as a part-time package loader while attending Massey College in Jacksonville, FL. After graduation, he was promoted into management and worked in a broad range of jobs with increasing responsibility across Florida and Georgia. In 1992, he was promoted to vice president and Chief Operating Officer of the Northeast Texas District, then in 1996 he assumed responsibility for the Missouri District. Mr. Winestock was promoted again in 1998 to president of the Midwest Region, then became president of the North Central Region in 2000. In 2004, he was named Senior Vice President of U.S. Operations, the position he would hold for the duration of his UPS career.