

THE CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL: A LEGACY OF SERVICE

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2010

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in congratulating the 2009–2010 Congressional Youth Advisory Council. This year 45 students from public, private, and home schools in grades 9 through 12 made their voices heard and made a difference in their communities, their country and their Congress. These students volunteered their time, effort, and talent to inform me about the important issues facing their generation. As young leaders within their communities and their schools, these students boldly represent the promise and the hope we all have for their very bright future.

President Ronald Reagan said, “Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn’t pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children’s children what it was once like in the United States where men were free.

To ensure that the blessing of freedom is passed from one generation to the next, the members of the CYAC spent time interviewing a veteran and documenting the experience for the “Preserving History Project.” Today I’m proud to submit the brief summaries provided so the patriotic service of our dedicated veterans and the thoughtful work of the CYAC may be preserved for antiquity in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. A copy of each submitted student summary follows.

To each member of the Congressional Youth Advisory Council, thank you for making this year and this group a success. It is not a coincidence that this congressional tribute celebrates two generations of service. Each of you is trusted with the precious gift of freedom.

You are the voices of the future and I salute you. God bless you and God bless America.

The summary follows:

The interview I have had with Tony Cashiola was extremely beneficial for me. I am certain that I will pursue a military career, and listening to Tony speak about his experience in the Army has given me much insight on the military from a different perspective. He helped provide me with a path on which I could approach the military in a way I had yet to think of. So, all-in-all, this interview was amazing. I got to know one of our country’s heroes, tell his story, and receive valuable insight. I wish Tony the best; he is a very honorable man.—Michael Roberto

CHELSEA ABBOT

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Chelsea

Abbot who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Chelsea Abbot is a student at Wayne Carle Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Chelsea Abbot is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Chelsea Abbot for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character to all her future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO ART ISGAR

HON. JOHN T. SALAZAR

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2010

Mr. SALAZAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Art Isgar, a respected leader in his community of southwest Colorado. Arthur Richard Isgar died in Durango on March 17th, 2010. It was a privilege to know Art Isgar and his wonderful family and I offer my condolences to them at this time of loss.

Art Isgar was born in Oxford, Colorado, on October 6th, 1915. One of seven boys, he spent his childhood in rural La Plata County. At times, he lived with members of the Southern Ute Tribe which was an experience that left him with a deep appreciation of other cultures. As a child he also spent time in the mining camps of the San Juan Mountains near Silverton and Telluride. Supporting himself from the age of 13, Art Isgar learned to make his way in the world by working on farms and delivering mail on horseback.

In 1946 he got married to Ann Wise. They took the train from Durango to Silverton and returned home in time to milk the cows. Art went on to become a defender of the Durango and Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad in its time of need.

With their hard work, the Isgars’ ranch grew into one of the largest in La Plata County. Art was president of the La Plata County Cattleman’s Association and helped lead the fight to create the Animas-La Plata Project. He was also instrumental in the effort to bring Fort Lewis College to its current site in Durango. Art Isgar was also deeply involved in politics working with the Democratic Party to bring the State convention to Durango in 1960, a convention that presidential hopeful John F. Kennedy attended. Art’s life was a life of service to his family and his community.

The legacy of Art Isgar continues in his amazing family. Art Isgar’s son, Jim Isgar, continues the proud tradition of public service established by his father, serving as a State Senator and now as the State Director for the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development.

At the end of the day, after all of his community service, Art Isgar still had his feet on the ground. He was always a farmer who found his greatest joy out irrigating his fields. Even at the age of 93 that is where he could be found.

Madam Speaker southwest Colorado has lost a great leader. I wish his family well in this time of loss. Art Isgar will be missed but his legacy will live on through his amazing family and all the lives that he touched in his time in southwest Colorado.

IN HONOR OF THOMAS J. VANCE,
SR.

HON. JOHN H. ADLER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2010

Mr. ADLER of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to take a moment to remember the legacy of TSgt Thomas J. Vance, Sr., who passed away last year following a courageous battle with cancer. Sergeant Vance honorably served the people of our Nation and my home State of New Jersey in the United States for a combined 51 years of service with the Air Force.

Born in Philadelphia, PA, Technical Sergeant Vance attended Bartram High School. After he graduated he enlisted in the Army Air Corps in 1947. Sergeant Vance fought both in the Korea and Vietnam Wars, and served at nine different bases including McGuire Air Force Base, which is located in New Jersey’s Third Congressional District. During his 20 years of active duty in the service, he was awarded the Air Force Longevity Service Award, National Defense Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Outstanding Unit Award, Korean Service Medal and the U.N. Service Medal.

In 1978, Technical Sergeant Vance became an original member of the Retiree Affairs Office at McGuire Air Force Base, where he became an expert on an array of military family issues. During his 31 years of service in this role, he served countless hours assisting our military families.

Technical Sergeant Vance is survived by his beloved wife of 57 years, Elsie, whom he met while serving at Langley Air Base and his three children, Thomas Jr., Sandra, and Richard.

In recognition of his life and service to our Nation, I ask that the House of Representatives and all Americans join me to honor the legacy of TSgt Thomas J. Vance, Sr.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF DR.
DOROTHY IRENE HEIGHT

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to support the resolution commemorating and celebrating the life of Dorothy Height, a woman of petite stature but enormous presence, and the only woman included among the “Big Six” most renowned civil rights leaders: the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., James Farmer, our own esteemed colleague JOHN LEWIS, A. Philip Randolph, Roy Wilkins, Whitney Young, and Dorothy Height.

Dorothy Height exemplified the spirit of democracy like perhaps no one else. The daughter of a building contractor, James Edward