

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS
AND LEADERSHIP OF P. MI-
CHAEL SAINT

HON. BILL DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

Mr. DELAHUNT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize P. Michael Saint of Franklin, Tennessee—the Chairman, and Chief Executive Officer of The Saint Consulting Group.

In 1983, following a long and dedicated career working in government and media, Mr. Saint founded The Saint Consulting Group. It started in a one-bedroom condominium in Hingham, Massachusetts—which is in my district—and has since blossomed into a successful international firm with offices across the United States and Europe. From its humble beginnings, his pioneering company has grown to be a recognized international leader in the field of “land use politics.”

From conferences and speeches at distinguished institutions around the world, Mr. Saint has generously shared his unique perspective and extensive professional experiences with colleagues, peers, and younger generations of philanthropists. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Association of Management Consulting Firms and is a trustee on the board of The Foundation for Excellence in Consulting and Management, and also contributes locally serving on the advisory board of the Civic Bank and Trust in Nashville and the executive board of the Nashville District Council of the Urban Land Institute. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Nashville Opera and on the Board of Trustees of the George Street Playhouse in New Brunswick, New Jersey. His active support for the Vanderbilt Children’s Hospital and the Heritage Foundation of Williamson County, Tennessee, as well as innumerable other associations and charitable endeavors, has sparked hope in the hearts of children and families across the country.

In 2009, Mr. Saint added the title of ‘author’ to his impressive resume as he co-authored the groundbreaking book on land use politics, “Nimby Wars—The Politics of Land Use”.

To the people who work for and with Mr. Saint, and to the people who know him best, it is not just his entrepreneurial spirit, or his charitable work that makes him an enduring leader. It is the genuine care and compassion that he exhibits for others that will always be his legacy. Whether it was offering domestic partner benefits long before it was fashionable or a legal requirement, or fully funding family health insurance costs for all his employees, or promoting continuing education for his employees by fully funding Master of Business Arts degrees—Mike Saint has created a dynamic and innovative company, one that puts people first.

It is my honor to recognize P. Michael Saint for his innovation, his philanthropic endeavors and, most importantly, for his exemplary leadership.

LILLIE MAE SEARCY

HON. GREGG HARPER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

Mr. HARPER. Madam Speaker, on June 6, 2010, Lillie Mae Searcy of Natchez, Mississippi passed away at the age of 80. Born to Eliza and Charles Gaylor and married to Argenter Searcy, Searcy leaves behind an inspiring legacy that we honor here today.

A fine and caring woman, Lillie Searcy came to know Christ at a young age. Her character, strength, and her faith in the Lord provided an instrument for her desire to help those in need. Through her church she reached out to people, aiding them both physically and spiritually. Searcy did so by not only cooking for the disadvantaged at both the Stewpot Ministries and with the Southwest Mississippi Planning and Development for Senior Citizens, but also through her life and her testimony. Before cooking for Stewpot and for seniors, Searcy achieved fame as one of the best chefs in the South.

Despite her large family and many careers, she always had time to help those less fortunate than herself. Searcy was a member of the choir at each church she attended, a member of the Mother’s Board, and a member of the Board of Directors for WORD. Helping others was her joy, and she was a blessing to everyone around her. Her caring temperament inspired friends and family to become involved in the community.

In addition to serving others, Lillie Searcy was a devoted and loving mother of 11. She cared for her 38 grandchildren, 28 great grandchildren, and four great-great grandchildren. The happiness of her family and of those around her was her top priority.

Lillie Searcy lived by a motto in which we should all take note. “Live your life to the fullest, don’t wait for happiness to come to you, follow your passion, and create your own joy.” Searcy brightened the lives of all around her and her selflessness should serve as inspiration to us all. Let us honor Lillie Mae Searcy today.

IN RECOGNITION OF WORLD
TRADE CENTER RESPONDER DAY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, along with my colleague and good friend Congressman NADLER, I rise to recognize World Trade Center Responder Day, which will be held in lower Manhattan on the afternoon of Saturday, June 5th. World Trade Center (WTC) Responder Day is organized by the Mount Sinai World Trade Center Medical Monitoring and Treatment Program Clinical Center, the New York State AFL–CIO, and the New York City Central Labor Council to honor the men and women who rushed to lower Manhattan to rescue and recover others following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

The collapse of the World Trade Center towers took thousands of lives in a matter of seconds and released a massive cloud of as-

bestos, pulverized concrete, and other poisons that sickened thousands more in the days and months after the attacks. The first responders who participated in search, rescue, and recovery operations at Ground Zero toiled in this toxic environment, often for weeks at a time. As a result of their service, many of these heroes and heroines now suffer from a host of illnesses, including severe respiratory and gastrointestinal diseases and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder—as do many survivors of the attacks.

For many, 9/11 has receded into memory, but the nightmare of that day continues for Americans sickened as a direct result of these attacks on our country, and are not getting the help they need and deserve from the federal government. In addition to honoring their service, WTC Responder Day also serves as a reminder that we must do more to provide proper health care and compensation to first responders and survivors of the attacks who are suffering.

The federal government has a moral obligation to care for those who respond to an attack on our country, just as we did more than 65 years ago in the aftermath of the Pearl Harbor attacks. At that time, American civilians helped recover the dead and salvage what remained of our Pacific fleet. Many of these civilians also were killed, injured or made sick as a consequence of their heroic service to our nation. In passing the War Hazards Compensation Act of 1942, Congress wisely and compassionately extended health care and financial relief to civilian responders in need. It is time that this Congress did the same for those who lost their health as a result of 9/11. More than 100 colleagues serving in this House, from all across the nation, have joined with Congressman NADLER and me in a bipartisan coalition to co-sponsor the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act. It will provide medical monitoring for everyone who was exposed to World Trade Center toxins, treatment for anyone who is sick as a result, and compensation for economic losses by reopening the 9/11 Victim Compensation Fund.

Though WTC Responder Day is held in Manhattan, caring for the heroes of Ground Zero Americans is an issue that extends far beyond the borders of the Empire State. According to the federally-funded World Trade Center Health Registry, citizens from all 50 states and nearly every Congressional district in the country ventured to lower Manhattan to volunteer their services on or after 9/11, and now harbor serious concerns about their health. In all, more than 10,000 people enrolled in the Registry live outside the greater New York tri-state metropolitan area that also encompasses northern New Jersey and southwestern Connecticut.

New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg has proclaimed June 5th to be World Trade Center Responders Day in the Big Apple. The organizers of Responder Day plan to make this a recurring, nationally-recognized event, one that will continue to inspire other communities around the country to host their own Responder Day gatherings in the years to come.

Madam Speaker, Congressman NADLER and I ask that our colleagues join us in applauding the Mount Sinai World Trade Center Medical Monitoring and Treatment Program Clinical Center, the New York State AFL–CIO, and the New York City Central Labor Council for organizing World Trade Center Responder Day.

We commend these fine organizations for their patriotism and dedication to caring for the heroes of 9/11.

TAX EXTENDERS ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 28, 2010

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, when I am home in Missouri, the folks I talk to frequently express their concerns about the economy and jobs. According to the most recent data, 27,630 people in the Fourth District are without work. Families whose breadwinners have lost work and others who fear unemployment must continue to be a priority of this Congress.

Jobs allow for American families to feel secure in their homes. Jobs stimulate economic activity in our home towns and throughout our country. Jobs generate tax revenue for city, state, and federal governments, which help policy makers pay the bills and reduce the deficit. Jobs are essential to breaking out of the Great Recession.

This year, Congress has been working on several jobs bills. One bill known as the HIRE Act, which is now the law of the land, provides tax relief to small businesses and expands important highway projects. Other legislation on which Congress has been working include bills to provide additional small business tax relief, to expand lending opportunities for small businesses, and to stimulate small business growth and expansion.

Today, the House of Representatives is considering H.R. 4213, a bill that would create additional jobs in our country by cutting taxes for American families and businesses and by spurring new infrastructure improvements. It would also take care of American veterans by eliminating the so-called disabled veterans tax for two years, would provide American farmers with tax relief and emergency disaster assistance, and would extend emergency assistance to American families.

H.R. 4213 is supported by Farm Bureau, by veterans, by small businesses, and by AARP.

For Missouri farmers, H.R. 4213 would extend the five-year depreciation for farming machinery and equipment, would extend the charitable tax deduction for donated food, and would extend the tax deduction for donating conservation easements. H.R. 4213 would also extend critical tax incentives for biodiesel and renewable diesel fuel. The biodiesel tax credit is very important to the development and sustainability of America's renewable fuel industry. H.R. 4213 would also provide emergency financial assistance to farmers for qualifying 2009 agricultural losses. For these reasons, today's legislation has been endorsed by the Farm Bureau and the National Biodiesel Board.

For America's veterans, H.R. 4213 would allow many military retirees who are also disabled veterans to receive both Department of Defense military retirement pay and VA military disability pay for the next two years. Often referred to as the disabled veterans tax, finding a legislative solution to the concurrent receipt issue has been a top priority of our nation's veterans and of Congress. I have

worked on the House Armed Services Committee to end the disabled veterans tax and am pleased that H.R. 4213 will provide full retirement and disability benefits to 77,000 of these disabled service members for two years. Its passage is a critical first step toward extending concurrent receipt to all 136,000 medically retired veterans over four years. Because of the bill's positive impact on veterans, it has been endorsed by the Military Officers Association of America, MOAA.

For Missouri businesses, H.R. 4213 would allow credit to flow more easily to small businesses through popular and effective SBA lending programs, would extend the research and development, R&D, tax credit that encourages financial investment and job creation in America's high tech sector, would allow corporations to receive a refund of a portion of their alternative minimum tax credits if they invest during 2010 in capital equipment for use in the United States, would extend the 15-year cost recovery for qualified improvements to restaurants and retail space, and would extend benefits for investments in economically distressed areas of our country. Because the business provisions included in H.R. 4213 are so very important, the bill is supported by the National Restaurant Association, the Independent Community Bankers Association, and the National Retail Federation.

For Missouri families, H.R. 4213 would provide important tax relief. The bill would extend for one year tax deductions for qualified college education expenses. It would extend a special deduction for teachers and other school professionals who use personal funds to buy school supplies for their classrooms. And, the legislation would ensure activated military reservists do not suffer a pay reduction by providing a tax credit for small businesses that continue to pay National Guard and Reserve employees when they are called to active duty.

For Missouri's senior citizens, military personnel, military retirees, and people with disabilities, H.R. 4213 would ensure they are able to continue seeing the doctor of their choice by preventing a 21 percent reduction in Medicare and TRICARE physician fees. Without making these changes, doctors in Missouri and elsewhere would likely not continue to see Medicare and TRICARE patients. That is why H.R. 4213 is supported by AARP and MOAA.

H.R. 4213 would extend other valuable provisions of the U.S. tax code, including deductions for charitable contributions by individuals and businesses, would provide for important pension relief sought after by the Missouri Rural Electric Cooperatives, would provide emergency assistance for American families who are impacted by unemployment, would create summer jobs for American youth, and would allow for state and local governments to finance the reconstruction of schools, sewer systems, and hospitals through Build America Bonds and Recovery Zone Bonds—work that would create thousands of jobs across our country. Because infrastructure improvements are so vital to jobs, H.R. 4213 has been endorsed by our nation's mayors and county governments.

The non-emergency spending associated with H.R. 4213 is compliant with the PAYGO law enacted earlier this year. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4213 so that we can provide tax relief to American families, farmers, and businesses, can take care of Amer-

ica's veterans and senior citizens, and can create small business jobs.

RECOGNIZING TRAILBLAZER AND EDUCATIONAL PIONEER MRS. EMMA BRANDON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, it gives me immense pleasure to rise today in honor of trailblazer, educator and pioneer, Mrs. Emma Brandon.

Mrs. Brandon began teaching right out of high school in 1946 for a wage of \$36/month. She walked three miles one way to school and seven miles if weather made the road conditions too difficult to travel.

As a woman, of much wisdom and vision, Mrs. Brandon realized that education required a deep devotion and a substantial amount of hard work from both student and teacher.

Mrs. Brandon began her career at a two-room school on a dirt road next door to Beechland Church where she taught first through fourth grades. Three years later, she became principal and sole teacher at Egypt School in Russum, which was later consolidated into another school.

Mrs. Brandon understood that the task of educating is an enduring and tedious process; one that empowers and benefits individuals, communities and countries, alike.

After years of serving students in Claiborne County, as both an educator and an administrator, Mrs. Brandon earned her bachelor's degree from Alcorn State University. After completing her education at Alcorn, Mrs. Brandon returned to complete her educational career in Claiborne County, MS.

For the last 42 years, Mrs. Brandon has been educating generations of families at A.W. Watson Elementary in Port Gibson, MS where her enthusiasm for learning is abundant. She implemented programs that have strengthened the learning capabilities of her students and challenged them to think critically.

Mrs. Brandon has yielded the guiding principles of education and knowledge to all of whom she has encountered. She believes that each child can enjoy today's promises of a rewarding life if they possess a strong foundation in education.

Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I ask my colleagues to rise and join me in expressing my gratitude and appreciation to Mrs. Emma Brandon of Port Gibson, Mississippi, for her many contributions to education and her dedication to its principles.

MILITARY SPOUSE APPRECIATION DAY

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

Mrs. MYRICK. Madam Speaker, on May 7, 2010, we recognized Military Spouse Appreciation Day. On this day, I received a letter from Mrs. Anthony Massey, the wife of a diver in the United States Navy. Her letter is attached, and it very eloquently talks about the