

Perimeter. The now famous Inchon Landing further turned the tide by enveloping North Korean forces and forcing them to retreat. Ultimately, China entered the war, a stalemate developed, and the war ended much where it began at the 38th Parallel.

The timeline of the Korean War itself does little to capture the individual stories of heroism and sacrifice. Our soldiers endured the harshest of conditions and the coldest of winters. Ultimately, 36,000 lost their lives and many thousand more were wounded or captured. Their sacrifice was not in vain and their defense of our ideals bore fruit that can be seen today. The clearest evidence is that South Korea has emerged as a democratic and economic powerhouse while North Korea languishes in an isolated morass of its own making.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to take the time today to reassure our heroes of the Korean War that they are not forgotten. Instead, they remain an inspiration to us and to all who have worn the uniform and who will volunteer to do so in the future. Only they have the firsthand knowledge of the hardship and challenges faced on that distant battlefield but they can rest assured that they have the heartfelt thanks and grateful appreciation of our nation for their service half a world away.

RECOGNIZING JUNETEENTH  
INDEPENDENCE DAY

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 22, 2010*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to recognize Juneteenth Independence Day which we observe with Resolution 546, sponsored by Rep. DANNY DAVIS of Illinois. The House of Representatives notes the importance of effectively understanding our past as the foundation of a progressive and egalitarian future.

We remember June 19, 1865, "Juneteenth," as the day of the announcement of the Emancipation Proclamation in the last of the States in the Union. Though President Abraham Lincoln intended the Emancipation Proclamation to go into effect on January 1, 1863, slaves in the last of the slaveholding territories, namely Texas, did not hear of their freedom until 1865. Galveston, Texas is recognized as the birthplace of Juneteenth and as of this March, 36 states have recognized the day for observance. Now, 145 years later, we remember Juneteenth as a turning point in the history of Black Americans.

This celebration of freedom and equality is an important patriotic symbol in the history of the Nation. Juneteenth is an opportunity for us to pause and remember the difficult road to advancement and to reflect on the importance of that political organizing in Galveston by former slaves to celebrate their freedom and new status. Juneteenth is one of the earliest landmarks of the active political involvement of Black Americans following the sacrifices made by the more than 200,000 people who fought and died in the Civil War.

We are also reminded of the many achievements and contributions Black Americans

have made to the country in all fields. We highlight the work done by civil rights leaders and activists who have carried on the spirit and legacy of emancipation. In particular, we salute those men and women serving in our armed forces, who could not serve today without the rights afforded them by the work of previous generations of Black Americans who fought in every conflict since the Nation's founding. Culturally, we must recognize the magnanimous impact of Black artists, performers and academics in shaping American identity well beyond the 21st century.

While Juneteenth started in Texas, its impact and importance to the United States' commitment to independence and liberty is felt nationwide. Freedom is at the core of the legacy of the United States and of all its citizens, regardless of race or personal background. I am proud to celebrate and recognize the significance of Juneteenth today and forever in our Nation's history.

HONORING STAFF SERGEANT  
BRYAN HOOVER

**HON. KATHLEEN A. DAHLKEMPER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 24, 2010*

Mrs. DAHLKEMPER. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life of a fallen hero from Western Pennsylvania. Staff Sergeant Bryan Hoover of Lyndora, Pennsylvania was only 29 years old when he made the ultimate sacrifice defending our nation in Afghanistan.

On June 11th, a suicide bomber detonated an explosive near the Bullard Bazaar in Zabul Province in southern Afghanistan where Staff Sergeant Hoover and his fellow soldier, Sergeant First Class Robert Fike, also of Western Pennsylvania, were on foot patrol. Both these brave men were killed in the explosion. They were members of the Pennsylvania Army National Guard's Company C, 1st Battalion, 110th Infantry, based in Connellsville.

Staff Sergeant Hoover was passionate about his service to his country, and dreamt of joining the military even as a child. He enlisted in the Army National Guard in 2005 and previously served in the Marines. Bryan served a total of four tours overseas, two in Afghanistan, one in Iraq and one in Kuwait. He truly lived to serve our nation.

To his fellow soldiers, he was one of them, but to the students of Elizabeth Forward High School in Elizabeth, Pennsylvania, he was known as Coach Hoover. Bryan was the assistant cross country and track coach at his alma mater, where he graduated in 2000. Bryan loved sports, and was a talented athlete himself who particularly enjoyed hockey. He earned a degree in sports management from California University of Pennsylvania.

For his brave service and sacrifice, Staff Sergeant Bryan Hoover was awarded the Purple Heart.

Bryan is survived by his father, Melvin Hoover; his brothers, Richard and Ben; his sister, Samantha; his grandfather, Ray Bradford; his stepmother, Elaina Evans, and his fiancé, Ashley Tack. His mother, Debra Jean, preceded Bryan in death.

It is my sad duty to enter the name of Staff Sergeant Bryan Hoover in the RECORD of the

United States House of Representatives for service, sacrifice, commitment to his country and to our freedom.

While we struggle to express our sorrow over this loss, we can take pride in the example Bryan set as a soldier. Today and always, he will be remembered by family and friends as a true American hero, and we cherish the legacy of his service and his life.

As I search for words to do justice to this valiant fallen soldier, I recall President Abraham Lincoln's words as he addressed the families of soldiers who died at Gettysburg:

We cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here.

May God grant strength and peace to those who mourn, and may God be with all of you, as I know He is with Bryan.

MRS. LUCILLE ROCHS' 95TH  
BIRTHDAY

**HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 24, 2010*

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an extraordinary woman, Mrs. Lucille Rochs, who has devoted her life to the service of her friends and neighbors in Texas.

In life, it is rare to come across an individual who is so dedicated and so driven that one can follow the path of their life. Most of us leave our marks, but only the exceptional, few leave their footprints. I am humbled and honored to share Lucille's story and to be able to brag on her today, because she is one of those rare individuals.

Lucille makes her home in the city of Fredericksburg, Texas. Although she began her career as a teacher and educator, she has continued in her retirement as an advocate, philanthropist, fundraiser, and mentor for the vulnerable and less fortunate. Mrs. Rochs has focused her time serving seniors and abused children in numerous organizations throughout Gillespie County.

She has worked tirelessly for community organizations like the Gillespie County Child Services board, the Region 8 Texas Department of Child Protection Council, and the Gillespie County Committee on Aging. In addition she has served on organizations like the Hill Country Community Needs Council, Texas Retired Teachers, the Gillespie County Cancer Society, and the Hill Country Higher Education Initiative.

What makes this lengthy record of service all the more impressive is that Sunday is Mrs. Rochs 95th Birthday. To this day, she continues her active community service and keeps a schedule that puts mine to shame. It is my great honor to represent Lucille in this House. She is a treasure to her community and an inspiration to those of us who have followed behind her.

I wish Lucille a happy and healthy birthday and hope that she is able to continue her public service for many more years. I know that I join with everyone in Fredericksburg when I