

kind you want in this public life who will tell you when he thinks you're right and when he is convinced you are wrong. He sets the example for all of us to follow.

Madam Speaker, Denny Jones came from humble beginnings to distinguish himself as a successful Oregon cattle rancher and 26-year state legislator. Denzil Eugene Jones was born on a wheat ranch between Heppner and lone in Morrow County, Oregon on September 21, 1910. His mother passed away when he was five. Denny's father remarried, but his stepmother made him and his brother sleep outside in a tent, even in the winter. The family moved frequently through the years, as they made their way to Montana, back to Wheeler County, and then on to Crook County, where he finished 10th grade in Prineville.

Honest labor and hard work have marked Denny's life. Learning how to ride horses from his father, he spent a short time as a jockey, traveling by boxcar from Vancouver and Victoria, B.C., to Tijuana, Mexico. But when his 106 pounds exceeded the weight limit, his three-year contract was cut short and he was never paid for the job he did. He then worked for a sheep outfit, moving to Juntura in Malheur County when he was 18. There, he earned \$50 a month plus room. After that, ranching became his focus throughout the 1930s. In 1939, his relative, Jim Jones, offered him a 10-year opportunity to share in running a cattle ranch. At the end of those years, he signed over his share of the cattle as a down payment on his ranch. Two years later, Denny owned it free and clear with 400 head of cattle. Life was particularly hard in the 1940s, when he broke his leg and dislocated his knee when he was thrown from a horse. He later broke his back slipping on a frozen cow pie.

Ranch life continued until the 1970s, when the family moved to Ontario, Oregon. One year after the move, the local business community asked him to run for Oregon's 60th District House seat. Denny was elected in 1972, and served for 13 terms, the second-longest serving member of the Oregon Legislature. During those 26 years, he served on the Emergency Board, the Committees on Agriculture, Transportation, and Education, and was co-chair of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means. He brought his own brand of eastern Oregon conservatism to Salem and quickly earned a reputation as a fiscal hawk with a kind heart. The experience he gained as a high desert cattle rancher served him and Oregon taxpayers well.

It was the values he learned in his youth to which he credits his success in the Legislature. "It's the most important thing that you keep your word and that you're honest with everybody," he said.

Madam Speaker, Denny truly has done a lot of good in his 100 years. In addition to serving in the Oregon Legislature, Denny became a charter member of the Public Lands Council; was director, lobbyist, and two-time president of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association; a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America, and the Freemasons; received the Malheur County Cattleman of the Year Award and was the Malheur County Livestock Association's president; received the Harney County Livestock Association Citizenship Award; received the Ontario Jaycees' Citizenship Award; was president of the Malheur Pioneer Association;

was Director of the Pacific International Livestock Exposition; and was a board member of the Malheur County Budget Board, Ontario Chamber of Commerce, the Juntura School District, the Malheur County Juvenile Council, and the Agri-Business Council of Oregon. And, at the age of 97 he was still considered one of the best ropers at Fred Otley's branding.

Colleagues, Denny Jones is loved and revered in his community and in our State. He is the type of individual who understands the potential of this great Nation and has worked tirelessly to build a State and country that lives up to its promise. In celebration of his 100 years, there will be a display honoring Denny and his many accomplishments. Long after the display is gone, Denny's accomplishments and contributions will remain. I am honored to call him my good friend, and invite all of you to join me in honoring his 100th birthday.

RECOGNIZING CORPORAL EVAN S. RINKENBERG, RECIPIENT OF THE PURPLE HEART AWARD

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Corporal Evan S. Rinkenberg, recipient of the Purple Heart award.

On June 6th, Cpl. Rinkenberg and his infantry company came under attack from the Taliban after performing security checkpoints in the Helmand province of Afghanistan. While providing cover fire for his company as they fled to safety, Cpl. Rinkenberg was shot by enemy fire in his right hand. Despite his injury, Cpl. Rinkenberg continued to provide cover fire for his fellow soldiers until he looked down; only then did he become aware of his injury.

Now back in the United States, Cpl. Rinkenberg, a native of Woodbridge, VA, has undergone four surgeries to repair the bones and ligaments in his hand in an effort to improve mobility. His lack of dexterity has made even simple tasks, such as maneuvering his infant daughter's pacifier, difficult for him. Cpl. Rinkenberg's future as a Marine remains uncertain as his hand continues to heal. He is faced with a worst case scenario of obtaining a medical release from the Marines, which would provide him with disability pay, something the Corporal identified as the "only certainty in his now cloudy future." Despite his slow recovery, Cpl. Rinkenberg hopes to return to Woodbridge by 2012 where he plans to continue to serve his country as a rifle range instructor at Officer Candidate School in Quantico, Va.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Corporal Evan Rinkenberg for his service to his fellow soldiers and our nation. It is important to recognize the sacrifices that Cpl. Rinkenberg and all of our nation's service members make on a daily basis in order to preserve our freedoms.

CELEBRATING THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF ELAM BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 2010

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate an institution in Charles City County, Virginia. On Friday, September 24, 2010, Elam Baptist Church will celebrate its 200th anniversary, and I would like to highlight some moments from the history of the church and its contributions to our community.

The seeds of Elam Baptist were originally planted prior to 1810, when groups of African-Americans who worshipped at First Church Petersburg (now Gilfield Baptist) would meet together in canoes on the James River, holding prayer services and singing songs of praise. The father of the church, Abram Brown, donated a parcel of land where the first log hut was built and used as both a church and meeting house. The actual construction date has been lost to history, but it is known that the church was standing in 1810. This date leads historians to consider Elam Baptist to be one of the oldest regular organized churches for people of color in Virginia.

The church applied for admission into the Dover Association of churches and received it in 1813, the same year that the Rev. William Clopton was appointed the first pastor of Elam. The Church's congregation was a mix of both slaves and freed African-Americans worshipping together. While this was initially accepted, as tensions in the country grew, most of the slaves were barred by their masters from worshipping at Elam and were carried to Old Mt. Zion church, the first of many churches Elam Baptist was mother to.

Rev. James Clopton succeeded his father William. Rev. James Christian succeeded the second Rev. Clopton from 1850 to 1865. During this time, Church associations required the presence of a white pastor to lead the congregation; however, the majority of the preaching was left to Rev. Christian's black assistant, Rev. James Brown.

After the war, when there was no longer a requirement for a white pastor to lead the congregation, Rev. Samuel Brown, son of the original church father Abram Brown, assumed the pastorate as Elam Baptist's first African American pastor. He served until his death in 1881. Elam Baptist continued to grow, and by its centennial in 1910, under the direction of pastor Rev. Wesley Curl, the church was either directly or indirectly responsible for the establishment of the 12 other colored Baptist churches in Charles City County, and one in neighboring New Kent County.

This growth demanded a new worship house. The original church site became the church cemetery, and the church began erecting a new building at its current location on The Glebe Lane under Rev. John Kemp. Sadly, shortly before construction was slated to be completed in 1919, a fire destroyed the building before it could be inhabited. However the spirit of the church was not extinguished, and the church was rebuilt. A second fire in 1922 once again consumed the worship house, but the church was not daunted and rebuilt again.