

cases involving 136 American children abducted or wrongfully retained in Japan. One of those cases is that of Melissa Braden, the daughter of one of my constituents, Patrick Braden.

In the midst of a custody dispute in 2006, Melissa was taken to Japan by her mother in violation of a court order giving both parents access to the child and prohibiting either parent from taking Melissa outside of the United States. Melissa has been in Japan ever since. Despite an arrest warrant issued by the FBI for her mother, Japanese authorities have refused to act on this case. Japanese courts give no recognition to the parental rights of the non-Japanese parent, and the Japanese government refuses to enforce U.S. court orders related to child custody or visitation.

I have tried for the past 3 years to help secure the return of Melissa or at the very least reunite Mr. Braden with his daughter in Japan. Unfortunately, Japan is not a signatory to the 1980 Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction. Parties to the Hague Abduction Convention agree to promptly return a child who is living in one Convention country and who has been removed to or retained in another Convention country in violation of a left-behind parent's custodial rights. I spoke about Melissa's case before this body last year, but it is important that I continue to speak about her case so that other parents do not have to live through what Mr. Braden is still experiencing today.

As my mother once told me: there is nothing worse than losing your own child, especially when your child is still alive. I thank Chairman BERMAN for his support of this issue and Mr. MORAN of Virginia and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey for standing up for America's parents and children.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this resolution to secure action on behalf of our American families with children retained in Japan.

TRIBUTE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA WOMEN'S ROWING TEAM

HON. THOMAS S.P. PERRIELLO

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. PERRIELLO. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the University of Virginia Women's Rowing Team for their victory at the 2010 NCAA Championships on May 30, 2010. This victory gives the University of Virginia its 20th National Championship in school history.

I commend Head Coach Kevin Sauer and Associate Head Coach Steve Pritzker for their leadership. I also wish to recognize the members of the First Varsity Eight, Coxswain Sidney Thorsten, Jennifer Cromwell, Katrin Reinert, Desiree Burns, Kristine O'Brien, Martha Kuzzy, Helen Tompkins, Nora Phillips, and Summers Nelson, and the members of the Second Varsity Eight, Coxswain Cristine Candland, Victoria Burke, Marie Long, Lauren Hutchins, Sarah Borchelt, Caroline Sweeny, Christine Roper, Claudia Blandford, and Lauren Shook. These young women exemplify the best tradition of the student-athlete: hard work, dedication, and commitment to excellence in sport, in academics, and in teamwork.

The Cavaliers' Varsity Four, Ruth Retzinger, Hunter Terry, Chelsea Simpson, Inge

Janssen, and Coxswain Sarah Pichardo, were also victorious in their own event, finishing more than a boat's length ahead of their closest competitor. Their NCAA Championship marks the final victory in an undefeated season. They are the seventh crew team in Virginia history to win the award, and the first since 2007. I congratulate these dynamic young women for their tremendous hard work, and for the leadership and inspiration they brought to the entire Women's Rowing Team.

I congratulate the women of the rowing team for their exciting victory. Their hard work, determination, and competitive spirit are a credit to the University of Virginia and the Commonwealth. I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating these impressive student-athletes on their accomplishment.

RECOGNIZING THE AUBURN ALL-STARS LITTLE LEAGUE TEAM FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE WORLD SERIES

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Auburn, Washington's Little League Baseball team, the Auburn All-Stars, for their performance in the Little League World Series.

The 646th Little League World Series began August 20, 2010 and the Auburn All-Stars advanced to within one game of the United States Championships. The tournament hosts 16 national teams comprised of our country's top young baseball players. The Auburn All-Stars achieved a great accomplishment by reaching the Little League World Series, and even more so for coming so close to advancing to the United States Championships.

Mayor Peter Lewis of Auburn has recognized the team's success in the 2010 tournament. Mayor Lewis has also praised the Auburn All-Stars for bringing the Auburn community together. During the tournament, the Auburn Avenue Theater opened its doors to the public and showed the game free of charge. Many other local businesses supported the team in several ways such as contributing to the players' travel and other expenses. It is clear that the entire community embraced their team through immense pride.

Together, the Auburn All-Stars advanced further than any other team from Washington State since 1982. They should be extremely proud of what they have accomplished through each team member's hard work and dedication.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to please join me in congratulating the Auburn Little League Baseball team and their outstanding success in the Little League World Series.

HONORING JANE McLAUGHLIN

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share with you and my colleagues my pride

in an incredible woman who has the distinction of being the oldest active paramedic in Oregon. Jane McLaughlin is 74 years of age and is completing service as the Emergency Medical Services Chief for the Chiloquin Volunteer Ambulance Service, capping off a long and distinguished career.

Jane began her EMS career almost three decades ago when her youngest son suffered an accidental wound and was treated and transported by Chiloquin Volunteer Ambulance Service. From that day on, she knew that her calling was to meaningfully serve and comfort those in need of emergency medical assistance.

Since accepting this calling, Jane has served her community for over 28 years in a variety of emergency response functions. She has held every level of EMS certification the State of Oregon authorizes and has volunteered thousands of hours of service. Jane has never stopped learning and she has never stopped growing. At 61, she completed her fire fighting academy training.

The many awards and accolades presented to Jane are a strong testimony to how much her community and others value her service to her fellow man. The Klamath County United Way has recognized Jane both with their Accommodation for Excellence and Volunteer of the Year Award. The State of Oregon Department of EMS and Trauma Systems awarded her the Meritorious Service award as paramedic of the year. Jane was chosen by the mayor of Chiloquin to be the grand marshal in the 2009 Fourth of July Parade for her outstanding service.

Madam Speaker, however noteworthy Jane's age, years of service, and many awards are, the real story is the good that she has done for almost three decades of service. Jane's neighbors and local citizens are familiar with her accomplishments, but they know her best for her kindness, her compassion, her dedication, and her unselfishness. In the community, when people think about the Chiloquin Volunteer Ambulance Service, Jane McLaughlin comes immediately to mind.

Jane has demonstrated heroism when she has on many occasions risked her own life to save the lives of others. Jane's comforting ways as a first responder have helped the injured and sick cope with their emergency situation with reduced fear and confidence that their condition will improve. Jane has an incredible gift of healing that goes far beyond the administering of basic medical attention. She not only relieves pain, she delivers comfort and peace to people in distressed situations. The service that Jane has given to others comes from an acute sense of duty and the sincere goodwill of an unselfish, engaged, and compassionate person.

As my esteemed colleagues well know, an impact player like Jane McLaughlin sets the tone of a successful operation, provides a shining example for others to follow in a relentless path to excellence, and engages others to join her in serving their fellow man. Jane will be missed, but her good work will continue in the hands and hearts of those she has inspired and trained to deliver the best in emergency medical service.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, I invite you to join me in honoring Jane McLaughlin, the kind of person who improves our world and restores our faith in our fellow man. Her goodness is contagious, and she sets an example for all of us to follow.