

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent on November 14, 2011. Had I been present, I would have voted on the following: rollcall No. 837—S. 1412 (Sen. KERRY), “aye”; rollcall No. 838—H.R. 298 (Rep. CARTER), “aye”; rollcall No. 839—H.R. 2422 (Rep. GRIMM), “aye”.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 855 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

RECOGNIZING MAYOR MARILYN STEPHAN'S LEADERSHIP IN THE CITY OF BERKLEY, MICHIGAN

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend, Mayor Marilyn Stephan, as she retires from her position as Mayor of Berkley, Michigan, after more than a decade of service to her community and region.

A longtime resident of Berkley, Marilyn's record of service long predates her involvement on Berkley's City Council and as Mayor.

In a demonstration of her commitment to building a stronger community, Marilyn dedicated her professional life to educating and nurturing the development of her students. As a teacher, first in Clarenceville and later in the Berkley School District, Marilyn made development of future generations her daily responsibility. Whether it was teaching English or home economics, Marilyn brought with her an unwavering commitment and passion for educating her students in the skills they needed to become successful. As a debate coach, Marilyn helped her students refine their critical thinking and public speaking skills, both of which are required for being an effective leader.

As a passionate educator in her community, Marilyn's work during her tenure did not end in the classroom. In her home, Marilyn raised her children with the same zeal she displayed in her teaching and today is a proud mother and grandmother. As an impassioned leader among her fellow educators, Marilyn also served a decade as President of the Berkley Education Association.

It is no surprise that a quiet retirement was unlikely for Marilyn and in November 1999 she was elected to the Berkley City Council and later as Mayor of Berkley in 2005. In her role as Mayor, Marilyn has been a strong voice of the needs of her community in important regional organizations like the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, the Woodward

Avenue Action Association and the South Oakland County Mayors Association. Under her leadership, Berkley has successfully implemented major road improvements, stabilized its financial outlook and updated its master plan, all of which made Berkley a better place to live for its residents. As a testament to the improvements she oversaw, Forbes Magazine and Business Week named Berkley one of America's best affordable suburbs in 2010.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Marilyn's lifelong career of service to Berkley, Michigan. I know that her dedication, passion and leadership will be greatly missed within Berkley's city administration and by its neighboring communities. I wish Marilyn many happy years with her children and grandchildren in retirement and I know she will continue to be a voice of positive change in her community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, November 16, 2011, I was detained in a meeting and inadvertently missed a vote in a series of recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted “no” on rollcall vote No. 850 (on agreeing to the Cicilline amendment to H.R. 822).

TRIBUTE TO DANIEL “DAN” SISEMORE

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Daniel “Dan” Sisemore who passed away on November 11, 2011 in Newport Beach, California. Dan was a pillar of the community in Corona, California and he will be deeply missed.

Dan Sisemore was born on November 9, 1934, in California. In 1952, Dan and his father began work in the construction industry. With just one truck they founded the company More Truck Lines. The business grew and in 1969 they started All American Asphalt with an asphalt plant in Westminster, California. The company has grown exponentially over the years and now owns an aggregate quarry in Corona, California and six asphalt plants throughout the region. All American Asphalt is not only a material supplier but also a fully integrated road construction firm. All American Asphalt employs 850 employees, all of whom took inspiration from the founder and leader: Dan Sisemore. Dan was a visionary in the industry and the quintessential American entrepreneur.

Dan's hobbies and interests included golf, fishing, hunting and horse racing. He enjoyed the desert and spending time with friends at the beach. The way in which Dan lived his life should serve as reminder to others that the power of an individual with drive, perseverance and a stellar work-ethic can do great things.

Dan was the loving husband to Betty, brother to Cindy, father to Toni, Tracy, Donna and Mark and devoted uncle to Bob and Don. He was affectionately known to his grandchildren as “Papa.”

On Saturday, November 19, 2011, a memorial service celebrating Dan's extraordinary life will be held. Dan will always be remembered for his incredible contributions to business, his work ethic, generosity, and love of family. His dedication to his work, family and community are a testament to a life lived well and a legacy that will continue. I extend my condolences to Dan's family and friends; although Dan may be gone, the light and goodness he brought to the world remains and will never be forgotten.

HONORING THE HUDSON RIVER SCHOOL OF PAINTING

HON. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to represent a district along the Hudson River that is steeped in history and produced the first American school of painting in the mid-nineteenth century, called the Hudson River School of Painting. Its founder and spiritual leader was Thomas Cole, who, in 1825, sailed up the Hudson River to the Catskill Mountains and painted inspiring pictures of New York State sites that attracted instant acclaim. Thomas Cole was born in Bolton, Lancashire in northwest England in 1801. He emigrated to the United States in 1818, and around 1832, rented a small studio in my district called Cedar Grove. This is now known today as the Thomas Cole National Historic Site. Complementing Cedar Grove, and also located in my district, is the home and studio of Frederic Edwin Church, who was a student of Thomas Cole. During the last 40 years of Church's life, he created a 250 acre estate called Olana. Olana is a National Historic Landmark located in Hudson, NY, and I proud to represent this fine marker of our history, which is home to the Hudson River School of Painting. The painters that gathered here, among them Asher B. Durand, Jasper F. Cropsey, John F. Kensett, Sanford R. Gifford, formed the first coherent society of artists in America, and led the fine arts until the end of the Civil War. Today, their major paintings are seen in museums throughout the United States, including major federal buildings in Washington, D.C., such as the White House, State Department, and National Gallery of Art. They depict the landscape of America, and some have said these were the first environmental conservationists, who glorified our land and its contours in the mid-nineteenth century.

I would like to take this opportunity to commend the effort to place creative bronze “Arches” historic markers along the Hudson River, marking where these artists painted. My colleague, Rep. ELIOT ENGEL, recently unveiled a Hudson River School of Painting historic marker at Hastings on Hudson, and others will be placed at Hook Mountain, on the Hudson River near Nyack, with a beautiful view of the Tappan Zee Bride and Haverstraw Bay, as well as at Newburgh, New York. Greg Wyatt, Director of the Academy of Art at the

Newington-Cropsey Foundation, has created these historic markers, and I encourage those that visit our region to view them, as well as the striking landscape and sweeping natural beauty of our Hudson River.

Mr. Speaker, it has been said that the Hudson River School of Painting led not only to the establishment of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, but also to the creation of the National Parks Systems begun under the late President Theodore Roosevelt. I salute the Hudson River School painters, who celebrated the ideals of American democracy, individuality, and illustrated themes such as nature, education, family, and chivalry. I urge my colleagues to take the time to review the influences of this American art movement and to have all Americans understand its impact on our culture. There are two paintings by Albert Bierstadt, a prominent member of the Hudson River School of Painting, that were recently placed on public view in the Capitol Visitors Center of the U.S. Congress. These works, "Discovery of the Hudson River" and "Entrance into Monterey," were purchased by Congress after the Civil War and are beautiful examples of this movement.

HONORING MICHAEL ANTHONY
MASON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Michael Anthony Mason. Michael is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 247, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Michael has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Michael has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Michael has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Michael Anthony Mason for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, on November 16, on rollcall No. 843, I mistakenly cast a "yes" vote in favor of the Woodall amendment to H.R. 822. I am submitting this statement for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to clarify that I am opposed to the Woodall amendment and had intended to vote "no."

I was delayed in reaching the House floor because of a meeting in my office and, as a result, I arrived on the floor just before the

vote was closed. Owing to this, I cast my vote in haste, which led to the resultant errant vote.

HONORING UNION COUNTY KEN-
TUCKY ON THEIR 200TH ANNI-
VERSARY

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Union County in the First Congressional District of Kentucky on their 200th Anniversary. This momentous occasion not only celebrates the rich history of Union County, but the many thousands of residents who over the years have made it a vibrant and thriving community.

Union County was formed on January 15, 1811 and was likely named for the unanimous agreement of Henderson and Webster citizens to create a new county. Union County is rich in soil and farming is one of the industries that thrive in this part of Kentucky. Coal mining is also a large industry that continues to provide good jobs.

During World War II, Camp Breckinridge Training Center was established near Morganfield and between 1942 and 1946 more than 30,000 infantry recruits were trained there. In 1965 the Earle C. Clements Job Corps Center, which teaches vocational courses, was established on eight hundred acres of the original camp land. The Job Corps Center provided a labor pool for Union County industries and is the second largest Job Corps center in the nation.

Today, Union County attracts many tourists through U.S. 60, railroads, and a nine-foot navigation channel on the Ohio River. The county also hosts the annual Corn Festival and the Union County Fair. There are almost 16,000 people who are proud to call Union County their home.

To commemorate the county's 200th anniversary, community leaders and residents of Union County have planned over 16 different events to educate Kentuckians about the history of Union County and celebrate its residents and culture. It is my privilege to represent Union County in the U.S. House of Representatives and I hope my colleagues in Congress will join me in celebrating this community and its residents.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was unable to attend votes on Thursday, November 17, 2011 as I was accompanying Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta on a visit to the Electric Boat shipyard in Groton, Connecticut. Had I been present, I would have voted:

"Nay" on rollcall vote No. 854 (ordering the previous question on H. Res. 466, the rule providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules);

"Nay" on rollcall vote No. 855 (on passage of H. Res. 466, the rule providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules);

"Nay" on rollcall vote No. 856 (on passage of H. Res. 467, the rule providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2112, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes);

"Yea" on rollcall vote No. 857 (on agreeing to the Conference Report for H.R. 2112, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes).

THE WORLD DAY OF REMEM-
BRANCE FOR ROAD TRAFFIC
VICTIMS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2011

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in observance of the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims, which will be observed on Sunday, November 20, 2011. I offer my thoughts and prayers to all those who have lost loved ones to road crashes. All over the world, in every country and locality, traffic accidents remain an ongoing peril and a source of preventable tragedy. As we embark on the Decade of Action for Road Safety, we should pause to remember who it is that we are fighting for.

Road traffic crashes kill nearly 1.3 million people every year and injure or disable as many as 50 million more. The leading cause of death throughout the world for people ages 10 to 29 is not disease or war, but road crashes. Even today, we can expect that 1,000 people under the age of 25 will die on the world's roads.

These numbers are dramatically increasing and place particular strain on developing nations, where crash rates are highest. In developing countries, road crashes have a dramatic impact on their fragile economies, costing an estimated \$100 billion and often exceeding the total amount received by these countries in development assistance. Furthermore, road crashes affect first responder services, health care services, and health insurance services, as many victims require extensive, and expensive, critical care, as well as follow-up care and rehabilitation.

In October 2005, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution which calls for governments to mark the third Sunday in November each year as World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims. The day was created as a means to give recognition both to victims of road traffic crashes and to the plight of their relatives who must cope with the emotional and practical consequences of these tragic events.

This Day of Remembrance also calls attention to the necessary policies needed to improve transportation management, infrastructure, vehicle safety, education, and post-crash care and rehabilitation. Here in the United States it is of the utmost importance that we continue to support public policies designed to reduce key risk factors like speeding, drunk driving, distracted driving, and the failure of