

HONORING THE VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF THE JANUARY 12, 2010 EARTHQUAKE IN HAITI

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 23, 2012

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of the quarter of a million Haitians who lost their lives during the devastating earthquake that occurred on January 12, 2010. As we reflect on the two years that have passed since this tragedy, it is important to express our gratitude to those who have helped rebuild Haiti and renew our commitment to further assist survivors.

In the aftermath of the earthquake, over 50 percent of American households donated to earthquake victims, and the United States dispatched 20,000 civilian and military personnel to Haiti. These Americans put into operation the largest urban food distribution in history to 3.5 million people, provided emergency shelter to 1.5 million people, and implemented a vaccination campaign for more than 1 million people. Within the past two years, aid has shifted from rescue efforts to innovative reconstruction and development strategies. Still, there remains much more work to be done. The generosity of millions of people around the globe gives us hope that Haiti will be rebuilt.

The South Florida community displayed its continued commitment to the reconstruction of Haiti at a special event recognizing the two year anniversary of the earthquake on January 8th, 2012. Arranged by the Democratic Haitian American Caucus of Florida, the event included a Catholic Mass at St. John the Evangelist Church, a memorial service at Parish Hall, and a donation drive in partnership with a church group to collect supplies for victims.

I am proud to represent so many men and women in South Florida who in these past two years have supported our vibrant Haitian community in a myriad of ways, from housing displaced victims to donating supplies for reconstruction. As we remember those lost in this devastating natural disaster two years ago, we must reaffirm our commitment to helping Haiti rebuild their nation and forge a better future for themselves and their families.

HONORING THE NATIONAL INTEL SCIENCE COMPETITION SEMIFINALISTS OF LONG ISLAND

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 23, 2012

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor 58 Long Island high school seniors named as semifinalists in the National Intel Science competition. With 300 semifinalists nationwide, the Intel Science Talent Search gives high school seniors the opportunity to engage in ambitious science based research projects. I am especially proud of the constituents from my Congressional District on Long Island who were selected as semifinalists in this prestigious competition.

This next generation is continuing Long Island's strong legacy of pushing new innova-

tions and scientific breakthroughs. Using math and science as a foundation, the seniors approached their respective projects from a variety of angles. By gaining access to professional laboratories at local universities, participants were given the opportunity to bring their creative aspirations to fruition. In doing so, they have begun to tackle some of our nation's most difficult challenges.

From working on a possible cure for Alzheimer's disease to creating a flame resistant plastic, our Long Island contestants embody the true American spirit of innovation and problem solving. Their sacrifice, patience and determination are instrumental in keeping America's competitive edge in a global economy.

Coupled with the effort of exceptional students, our Long Island science teachers played a pivotal role in this accomplishment. By pushing the boundaries and setting high expectations, these excellent teachers have helped their students succeed. Long Island's strong placement in the Intel Science competition semifinals reflects their dedication and commitment to their students' success. Moving forward, it is critical that our schools have the resources they need to cultivate robust math and science programs.

At the end of this month, forty finalists will be selected and invited to Washington, D.C. to meet leading scientists and researchers in a variety of fields. I am optimistic that some of our Long Island seniors have the privilege to attend. For all of the Intel Science Talent semifinalists, I wish them continued success as they pursue their college educations and future careers. I would now like to formally submit their names to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD: Rebecca Alford, Austin Lee and Savina Kim of Commack High School; Juliana Coraor of Huntington High School; Malini Desai of Half Hollow Hills High School West; Jill Dolowich, Neil Mehta, Anuja Shah, Anirudh Chandrashekar, April Pun, Sagar Rambhia and Christine Kim of Jericho High School; Parsa Erfani, Samantha Fradkin, Sherylly Gould and Mariam Makram of Plainview-Old Bethpage John F. Kennedy High School; Samantha Garvey of Brentwood High School; Hannah Kenagy of Half Hollow Hills High School East; Amelia Morales, Shannon Wetzler and Eric Parigoris of Kings Park High School; Garima Yadav of Sachem North High School.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 23, 2012

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 2, Adoption of H.J. Res. 98, relating to the disapproval of the President's exercise of authority to increase the debt limit, I was unavoidably detained and unable to vote.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

THE MEMORY OF ROSCOE R. NIX

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 23, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, it is with sadness that I advise my colleagues of the death on January 4, 2012 of my constituent, civil rights leader and education activist, Roscoe R. Nix. Roscoe Nix was an inspirational giant in the Montgomery County, Maryland community where he was known for his wisdom, his kind and caring manner, and his fierce dedication to social and educational equality for all Americans. Mr. Nix worked passionately for decades as a leading civil rights activist, drawing attention to racial inequalities throughout our country.

Roscoe Russa Nix was born June 22, 1921, in Greenville, Alabama, the second of nine children and the son of the only black postman in town. Mr. Nix attended Alabama A&M University but left to serve in the Army in Europe during World War II. After his military service, he settled in the Washington area and graduated from Howard University. He moved to Montgomery County in 1968 where he resided until 2010 when, for health reasons, he moved near his daughter in Riverdale, Georgia.

Growing up in segregated Alabama, Roscoe Nix had firsthand experience with Jim Crow laws and the injustice of institutionalized racism. After moving to the Washington, DC area, Mr. Nix observed that northern states were more likely to have simply overlooked their own records of discrimination. He recalled being refused service at a Silver Spring, Maryland restaurant in 1962 and the demonstration he staged in response. Moments like this defined his career and inspired him to work for change.

During our Nation's post-segregation era, Mr. Nix worked for the U.S. Justice Department's Community Relations Service, traveling around the country as a "peacemaker" to work with local leaders on conflict resolution in cities experiencing civil unrest.

For decades, Mr. Nix was a leader in public education in Montgomery County. In 1974, he was the second African American elected to the Montgomery County Board of Education where he fought against de facto school segregation. As a member of the Board until 1978 and then afterwards, he pushed for greater resources for schools in poorer neighborhoods and spoke out about racial disparities in the schools. Mr. Nix was a champion for early childhood initiatives and fought for increased funding of Head Start and Title 1 and for lower class size in the elementary grades. In 2006, the Montgomery County Board of Education dedicated the Roscoe R. Nix Elementary School in Silver Spring in recognition of his contributions to the public education of the children in the county.

In 1989, Mr. Nix co-founded the Montgomery County African American Festival of Academic Excellence. This annual event recognizes, encourages and celebrates African American students for their academic achievements and reinforces the idea that it is "cool" to be smart.

Serving as President of the Montgomery County chapter of the NAACP from 1980-90, Roscoe Nix spoke out against police mistreatment of minorities and worked to increase the

number of African American officers on the police force.

In 2001, Mr. Nix was inducted into the Montgomery County Human Rights Hall of Fame. After receiving the honor, he said, "So much of what Montgomery County is today is because of struggle. . . . It's hard, especially for young people, to remember how we got where we are today." He noted, "Blessings come to people through someone else's help or through some unknown entity. Because of that, it is our obligation to use whatever it is that one of us has to help those who are less fortunate or who may be afraid to speak for themselves." These guiding words and the legacy and achievements of Roscoe R. Nix will live on in Montgomery County, in Maryland, and across our Nation.

I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this extraordinary American and in offering our condolences to Mr. Nix's wife of 59 years, Emma Coble Nix; his two daughters, Veretta Nix and Susan Webster; his sister, Anita Jackson; his three brothers, Crispus Carey Nix, Pettis Nix and Comer Nix; and his three grandchildren.

RECOGNIZING THE TUSKEGEE
AIRMEN

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 23, 2012

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the Tuskegee Airmen for their excellence in aviation, their courage, and their role as trailblazers for equality. On January 20, 2012, the movie "Red Tails," which depicts the story of the Tuskegee Airmen, debuted nationwide.

The story of the Tuskegee Airmen, as they would become known as, begins long before they fought in World War II. Their first fight began at home, against racial discrimination. Prior to WW II, the U.S. Army Air Corps prohibited African Americans from serving as pilots, because the U.S. government believed that African Americans were incapable of flying an airplane. In October 1940, President Franklin Roosevelt ended the ban on African Americans serving as pilots in the Air Corps. However, it was not until January 1941, in response to pressure from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Chicago Defender and other African American newspapers, and only one day after Howard University student Yancey Williams threatened to sue the Secretary of War because the Air Corps still had not accepted any African Americans pilots, that the War Department created an all-black squadron in Tuskegee, Alabama, the U.S. Military was racially segregated at the time. Soon thereafter, the Airmen received a visit from First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt. During the visit, she asked Charles "Chief" Anderson, the head of the program, "Can Negroes really fly airplanes?" Chief Anderson replied: "Certainly we can; as a matter of fact, would you like to take an airplane ride?" Mrs. Roosevelt accepted and upon landing, she turned to Chief Anderson and said, "I guess Negroes can fly."

By the spring of 1941, the training of the first group of Tuskegee Airmen, the 99th

Fighter Squadron, commenced. The squadron consisted of 13 African American men, all of whom were college graduates and had earned their pilot licenses prior to serving in the Air Corps. The Airmen trained under difficult conditions, from overcrowded classrooms and airstrips to racist officers. In 1943, the Airmen were sent to North Africa, and Europe to fight. In their first mission, they managed to shoot down six German aircraft.

The Tuskegee Airmen were known as the "Red Tailed Angels" because of the red paint on the propeller and tail of their planes. In all, approximately 990 men graduated from Tuskegee's pilot training program but only 450 of them were sent overseas for combat assignments. These heroes managed to destroy over 409 German airplanes and 950 railcars, trucks, and other vehicles. The Airmen flew, 1,578 missions over Europe and North Africa, escorted more than 200 bombing missions, and were the first to sink a battleship using only machine guns, remarkable accomplishments for a group of men whom the military thought could not fly. In total, the Red Tails were awarded 150 Distinguished Flying Crosses, 744 Air Medals, 8 Purple Hearts, and 14 Bronze Stars. The accomplishments of these brave soldiers helped pave the way for President Harry Truman's decision to integrate the military in 1948. In 2007, several decades after they completed their last mission, President George W. Bush presented the Congressional Medal of Honor to the Tuskegee Airmen, a well-deserved recognition for a group of men who had to fight two battles, one at home and another abroad.

Not surprisingly, there are currently 31 Airmen living in the D.C. Area. Residents from the District of Columbia, particularly students from Dunbar High School, the-then segregated public high school for black students here, were selected in a disproportionate number as Tuskegee Airmen.

I ask the House to join me in honoring the accomplishments of the Tuskegee Airmen and in thanking them for their service.

HONORING DONALD SCHNEIDER

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 23, 2012

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to rise today to recognize Mr. Donald Schneider, a pioneer who transformed the transportation industry as we know it. I am pleased to have the opportunity to call attention to his service and his remarkable story of American entrepreneurship and ingenuity.

Mr. Schneider, chairman emeritus and former president of Schneider National, Inc., ran one of the nation's largest truckload carriers with nearly 12,500 tractors and 35,000 trailers, all painted in a distinct shade of orange. You may have seen his trucks driving down our great national highways, hauling goods from coast to coast. Behind these trucks was a stellar businessman who leveraged new technologies and innovations to grow his company into one of the most successful, recognizable, and respected transportation and logistics companies in North America. In the process, an industry was transformed and millions of Americans benefited

from his life's work without them even realizing.

Mr. Schneider was a hard working man who began as a mechanic's assistant and truck driver at the age of 18. He graduated from St. Norbert College with an undergraduate degree in business and married his wife Pat in 1957. After serving a 13 month military tour of duty in Korea, Schneider graduated from the University of Pennsylvania Wharton Business School, then began to work in his father's trucking business in 1961, fusing his passion for trucking with a keen business sense.

Over the next three decades, Mr. Schneider expanded his fleet substantially, using modern management techniques and acquisition of regional trucking companies to grow his business. Under Mr. Schneider's leadership, Schneider National was one of only a few pre-deregulation truckload carriers that survived and flourished after the Motor Carrier Act of 1980.

Later in that same decade, his company even began to install satellite communication in trucks. By allowing companies to track their trucks in real time, consumers benefitted from faster package deliveries and just-in-time inventory management.

His company's entrance into the logistics business in 1993 heralded a new frontier in trucking by enhancing the ability of companies to manage time-sensitive deliveries and inventories. Meanwhile, his use of standard-sized trailers that could run over the road and ride on railroad flatcars—known as intermodal transportation—established partnerships with the railroads and was followed by all others in the industry.

Now, it is unimaginable how the trucking industry ever fared without Mr. Schneider's visionary ways.

Though Mr. Schneider was a great man, he never lost his common touch. He insisted on being called by his first name, and was a community philanthropist who was active in several charities. In a 1997 interview, he was quoted as saying, "My job is important, but it's no more important than the driver or the people in the service center."

Mr. Schneider was a man who had a true servant's heart, and America has been enriched by his service to this country. His entrepreneurial spirit will endure not only in his company's orange trucks and trailers, but in the homes of countless Americans who have benefitted from his innovations. I invite the American people to join me in celebrating his life.

HONORING THE CARROLL SENIOR
HIGH SCHOOL DRAGON CROSS
COUNTRY TEAMS

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 23, 2012

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise to recognize the Carroll Senior High School Dragon cross country boys and girls teams for winning their respective 2011 Texas state championship titles.

Carroll Senior High School competes in the University Interscholastic League Class 5A, the most competitive athletic class composed of the largest schools in Texas. For the girls