

November 3, 1999

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHARTERING OF UAW LOCAL #599 LOCATED IN FLINT, MICHIGAN

HON. DEBBIE STABENOW

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 3, 1999

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the members of United Auto Workers (UAW) Local #599, located in Flint, Michigan, on the 60th Anniversary of its charter. I would like to commend the 23 members of the local that received the 19th annual Walter P. Reuther Award for Distinguished Service. I will list the recipients at the end of my remarks.

Local #599 was chartered on January 10, 1939, and has been an integral part of the great accomplishments of the labor movement during this century. It is important to remember that not long ago in this country, laborers, including children, toiled in squalid factory conditions for pitiful wages. Within a generation, dramatic strides were made to greatly improve the quality of life of workers. With continued effort, organized labor has secured numerous important rights, including safe workplaces, decent wages, health and life insurance, worker's and unemployment compensation, and continuing education and training. This progress continues to this day, as the UAW recently completed a new round of contract negotiations with the big three automakers. The labor movement in the United States, led by Local #599, has been at the forefront of progress in the area of civil and human rights, representing one of the great social advances in history.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to pay tribute to the great contributions that the members of Local #599 have made to Michigan and the country, and I ask my colleagues to do the same. I would specifically like to acknowledge the leadership of Local President Arthur McGee, and recognize the recipients of the Walter P. Reuther Distinguished Service Award. This award is one of two sanctioned by the International Union UAW, and is given for exceptional meritorious service by UAW members and community leaders. The 19th Annual Walter P. Reuther Award Recipients are: Robert Aidif, David Aiken, Dennis Carl, Russell W. Cook, Harvey "Whitey" DeGroot, Patrick Dolan, Larry Farlin, Maurice "Mo" Felling, Ted Henderson, James Yaklin, Ken Mead, Don Wilson, Frank Molina, Shirley Prater, Gene Ridley, John D. Rogers, Dale Scanlon, G. Jean Garza-Smith, Nick Vuckovich, Jerry J. Ward, Greg Wheeler, Tom Worden, and Dale Bingley. I again congratulate these members for their service to the UAW, their communities and their country. It is an honor to represent the members of UAW Local #599 in the United States Congress.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

FEMA AND CIVIL DEFENSE MONUMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 1, 1999

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, as we have seen in vivid detail in just the last month, Mother Nature can and does visit calamity upon us violently and with brief notice. Hurricane Floyd, with all its might and fury, is proof once again how powerless we are against the forces of nature.

The danger comes not just from hurricanes. In the West and South, the constant threat of wildfires from summer's heat often turns the countryside into a tinderbox. In the South and Midwest, steamy afternoons bring forth devastating tornadoes as this Spring's events in Oklahoma and Kansas have shown us.

When these disasters befall us, we must thank God there are dedicated men and women who answer the call, our nation's emergency management professionals. These dedicated individuals respond day or night in any conditions to protect the lives of their fellow citizens at a moment's notice, many of whom are volunteers. In addition to acts of nature, these brave men and women help protect us against manmade threats of terrorism for which we have become all too aware in recent years.

To honor these brave people Mr. BARTLETT and I introduced H.R. 348. This legislation authorizes the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to place a monument honoring this nation's emergency management and civil defense workers on the grounds of the National Emergency Training Center (NETC) in Emmitsburg, Maryland. The monument has been offered as a gift by the privately-funded, non-profit National Civil Defense Monument Commission to honor their comrades who have devoted their lives and careers to Emergency Management and Civil Defense.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Mr. John Bex, a former Regional Director of the Defense Civil Preparedness Agency, of Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, Chairman of the Monument Commission, Alexander Atzert of Gaithersburg, Maryland and all members of National Civil Defense Monument Commission for their work and dedication on behalf of this legislation and I am pleased to support its passage.

A TRIBUTE TO CHARLIE WALLER

HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 3, 1999

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my constituents, Charlie Waller. As we near Veterans Day, I feel it is appropriate to point out the achievements of one of our fine servicemen—achievements made while dealing with a unique disability.

You see, Charlie may be the most highly decorated man to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces with the sight of only one eye.

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Charlie entered the U.S. Army (Air Corps) as a desk clerk. He was subsequently sent overseas first to Algeria and then to several locations in Europe. He served in the Communications Section of the 725th Squadron, 451st Bomber Group.

While there, it was noted by several of the soldiers in his unit that he was an excellent soldier. He also received several awards, including 10 battle stars, 2 presidential unit citation awards, an Army good Conduct medal, An American Campaign Medal, The European-African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, 2 Oak Leaf Clusters, & the WWII victory Medal. This information has been verified by the National Personnel Records Center. Eventually, his commanding officers realized that he was not eligible to serve in a combat unit and he was promptly sent back to the states.

In 1997-98, Representative Mark Neumann assisted Charlie in having his records officially changed to reflect that he only had his limited vision of one eye prior to entering the service.

Again, Charlie overcame his disability and served his country with courage and honor. It is for his dedication and achievements that I honor him today.

TRIBUTE TO HITCHINER MANUFACTURING COMPANY, INC.

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 3, 1999

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have this opportunity to recognize Hitchiner Manufacturing Company, Inc., of Milford, New Hampshire. Hitchiner Manufacturing tomorrow will receive the Employer Support Freedom Award. This award is granted annually to those select companies that distinguish themselves in support of the National Guard and Reserve. Hitchiner Manufacturing will be one of only five companies to be so recognized this year, and will represent the Northeast Region's twelve states including Washington, DC.

Earlier this year, the New Hampshire Committee for the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Committee submitted Hitchiner Manufacturing as the state's nominee for this award. Hitchiner Manufacturing is a major New Hampshire-based manufacturing firm. It has more than 1200 employees at three New Hampshire plants and employs 22 members of the National Guard and Reserve. It has always encouraged its employees to volunteer their time to support local and civic organizations, and was the 1998 New Hampshire ESGR Pro Patria Award winner.

For almost 50 years, Hitchiner Manufacturing has had employee policies that far exceed the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act. It has extended salary and benefit packages during times of national crisis as well as world conflicts, such as Desert Storm, Somalia, Deny Flight and Bosnia. In fact, it has a specific policy to compensate employees for the difference between an employee's civilian and military pay while performing his or her military training. They have also provided professional counseling to soldiers who are going through difficult times.