RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BLUE WATER MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, June 21, 2000

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Blue Water Mental Health Clinic. For the last half a century, the residents of St. Clair County have been well served by the area’s most professional social workers and psychologists. The Blue Water Mental Health Clinic has provided outpatient care to assist tens of thousands of adults, children and families in dealing with the emotional issues and difficulties of substance abuse.

Reputation is key to the success of any medical facility. Whether it is a hospital, a surgical center, or a clinic, one always seeks the best possible care based on what they have read and heard. The Blue Water Mental Health Clinic has been a respected top notch facility for as long as it has been in operation. They have a tradition of assembling a strong and diverse Board of Directors representing the best of the Blue Water area.

I would like to salute all those who have been associated with building and maintaining the quality service and reputation of the Blue Water Mental Health Clinic as it begins its fifty-first year of offering the best available care to our citizens and neighborhoods. From their preventative educational programs to their operation of Big Brothers Big Sisters of St. Clair County, the Clinic has always reached out to the community and help make it a better place to live, work and raise a family. I am proud to have such a cooperative, community-oriented institution serving us, and wish them many more years of inspired leadership and quality care.

HONORING STAFF SERGEANT RUDOLPH B. DAVILA

HON. RON PACKARD
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, June 21, 2000

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor Staff Sergeant Rudolph B. Davila of the United States Army from my congressional district in California. Staff Sergeant Davila was awarded The Congressional Medal of Honor today for extraordinary heroism in action on May 28, 1944 near Artena, Italy.

During an offensive which broke through the German mountain strongholds surrounding the Anzio beachhead, Staff Sergeant Davila managed to provide the enemy to abandon their prepared positions.

Staff Sergeant Davila bravely, and thank him for fighting to preserve and protect our nation. Staff Sergeant Davila’s extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and bring great honor to himself and his country.

TRIBUTE TO WALTER F. “BUS” BERGMAN HONORING HIM ON HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, June 21, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege and an honor to have this opportunity to pay tribute to one of Colorado’s most distinguished citizens and favorite sons, Mr. Walter F. “Bus” Bergman, as he celebrates his 80th birthday.

Bus has been the embodiment of service, success and sacrifice during his remarkably accomplished life. He clearly deserves the praise and recognition of this body as he, his friends and family celebrate his 80th birthday.

If ever there were a person who embodied the spirit and values that make Colorado great, it is Bus Bergman. Born in Denver on June 11, 1920, Bus’ athletic credentials are formidable. A three-sport star at Denver North High School, Bus was a three-sport star who propelled each of his respective teams to greatness. In fact, Bergman made the winning basket to clinch North’s first state basketball championship.

Following a prodigious high school career, Bus went on to excel as a student-athlete at Colorado A&M, where he earned 10 varsity letters in three sports. Beyond athletics, Bus excelled both academically and in an array of extra-curricular pursuits. He was the sophomore class president, a four year member of the student council, a four year member of Sigma Pi Epsilon, and was named to the select list of Who’s Who in American Colleges and Universities.

Although Bus had a range of professional athletic opportunities at his disposal after his great college career—including an offer from the Philadelphia Eagles—he chose instead to commit himself to the great cause of freedom during World War II, where Bus displayed great valor and distinction. Bus was involved in numerous marine operations in the Pacific and was awarded the prestigious Bronze Star for his extraordinary heroism in action against enemy Japanese during the assault and capture of Okinawa. In 1948, he was discharged as a Captain and was later upgraded to the status of Major.

Upon his return from WWII, Bus returned to Colorado A&M to pursue higher learning. After completing his studies, he was named the football and baseball coach at Fort Lewis College where he served until 1950, when he accepted the top jobs in the football and baseball programs at then Mesa College. At Mesa, Bus’ football teams went 102–63–9, winning three conference championships, while his baseball teams were 378–201, winning twenty conference championships and finishing second three times at the JUCO World Series.

While it would be impossible to list the litany of awards and achievements garnered during his remarkable career, it is safe to say that Bus has achieved beyond what most could ever dream. Throughout his career as a player and coach, Bus was the very symbol of greatness.

For those who know Bus, it is clear that, above all else, Bus is a family man. Bus and his lovely wife Elinor Pitman were married in 1946, later giving birth to three children: Judy Black, Walter Bergman, Jr., and Jane Norton. Bus and Elinor are also the proud grandparents of six grandchildren. While his athletic and professional accomplishments are many, Bus’ enduring legacy will be his family.

As you can see, Mr. Speaker, Bus Bergman has achieved beyond measure in his distinguished life. He is a model citizen who represents all of the best that Colorado and America has to offer.

As he celebrates his 80th birthday, Mr. Speaker, I wanted to take this opportunity to say thank you and congratulations on behalf of his family, friends, and the United States Congress. In every sense, Bus Bergman is a great American who deserves the praise and admiration of us all.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Staff Sergeant Davila’s bravery, and thank him for fighting to preserve and protecting our nation. Staff Sergeant Davila’s extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and bring great honor to himself and his country.