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Thursday, July 18, 2001

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a solemn heart that I take this opportunity to remember the wonderful life of Mr. Charles Teed. At the age of 87, Mr. Teed passed away on Friday, June 29 in Grand Junction, Colorado.

A talented writer and reporter, Charles spent much of his life working for The Daily Sentinel, the local newspaper in Grand Junction. He served as a reporter and a photographer from 1964 to 1974. In addition, he acted as the editor of the weekly church page and wrote the "Slope Action" consumer-complaint column.

Perhaps Charles's most notable work began in 1983 when he started writing the "Philately" column. This column allowed him to highlight the stamps which he collected from all corners of the world. The column ran every Sunday for ten years. Teed's travels to Iceland, England, France and Canada were never complete unless he obtained stamps from these locations to augment his collection. "Philately" was a weekly column on his personal collection that was initiated with the purchase of a stamp from Mozambique. His collection included stamps of mainly cars, railroads and famous writers.

Charles is survived by his wife Lois, their three children, 13 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren. The Teed's moved to Colorado during Charles' college years in New York state, where he was born and raised, and where Lois and Charles met. Their 65th wedding anniversary would have been on July 14.

I would like to extend my deepest sympathy and prayers to his family as we mourn his loss. It is through his past works and columns that we will all forever recognize his contributions to The Daily Sentinel, the Grand Junction area, and stamp collectors everywhere.

Wednesday, July 18, 2001

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 50th Charter Night anniversary of the Caseville, Illinois Lions Club.

Lions Club International is the world's largest service club association. The Lions Clubs organization has 1.4 million members in more than 44,500 clubs in 185 countries and geographical areas. The Lions are men and women who volunteer their time to humanitarian causes. The International Association of Lions Clubs began as a dream of Chicago businessman, Melvin Jones. He believed that local business clubs should expand their horizons from purely professional concerns to the betterment of their communities and the world at large. Jones' own group, the Business Circle of Chicago, agreed. After contacting similar groups around the country, an organizational meeting was held on June 7, 1917 at the LaSalle Hotel in Chicago. The new group took the name of one of the groups invited, the "Association of Lions Clubs", and a national convention was held in October of that year in Dallas, Texas. A constitution, bylaws, objects and a code of ethics were approved.

Just three years after its formation, the organization became international, when the first club in Canada was established in 1920.

Major extensions of the clubs were established, particularly throughout Europe, Asia and Africa during the 50's and 60's. Perhaps the single event having the greatest impact on the Lions Club occurred in 1925 when Helen Keller addressed the Lions at their international convention in Cedar Point, Ohio. It was there that she challenged the Lions Club to become "the blind club in the crusade against darkness". They responded, and now the Lions Club organization is best known for their sight-related programs, including SightFirst, the world's largest blindness prevention program.

The sector of the Lions' commitment in aiding the blind and the visually impaired, is a strong dedication to serving young people. The Lions Youth Outreach Program challenges young people to learn, to achieve and to serve. By focusing on volunteerism, young people are steered away from harmful behaviors and become involved in youth activities. The Leo Clubs program, International Youth Exchange, International Youth Camps and the Lions International Peace Poster Contest are all youth activities sponsored by Lions Club International that promote international cooperation, peace and understanding.

The Lions Club International conducts its official business in 11 languages, including English, Spanish, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian and Swedish.

The emblem of the Lions Club consists of a circular gold area with two Lions profiles facing away from the center. The word "Lion" and "International" appear at the top and bottom. The Lions are meant to face both a proud past and a confident future. This emblem was adopted at the 1919 convention and today Lions throughout the world are recognized by it. The Lions motto, "We Serve" precisely explains their mission and their slogan, "Liberity, Intelligence and Our Nation's Safety" means LIONS.

The Caseville Lions Club is part of an organization that not only helps those in need, but offers its members opportunities to develop personal friendships and gain valuable leadership skills. They share a common spirit and have been united in a single cause; helping those less fortunate. The Caseville Lions Club helps tackle tough problems like blindness and combating drug abuse, as well as diabetes awareness programs and finding help and training for the deaf, disabled, underprivileged and the elderly. In fact, wherever the community needs help, the Caseville Lions Club, like the entire Lions Club organization, is there to serve.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 50th Charter Anniversary of the Caseville Lions Club and to honor its members both past, present and future.

Wednesday, July 18, 2001

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Eloise Whittington Rogers of Marion, South Carolina, who is retiring after thirty-eight years in public service. She is a greatly admired member of her community, and in her invaluable role as Veterans Affairs Officer has touched countless lives. Ms. Rogers was born in Florence, South Carolina. After graduating from Marion High School in 1956, she earned an Associate Degree in Business from Carolina College of Commerce in 1966, followed by a second degree in 1968 from the same College. Before entering public service, Ms. Rogers worked as a bookkeeper in Belks Department Store for five years.

Ms. Rogers began her career in public service as a secretary at the Marion County Tax Collector's Office, where she worked for ten years. Ms. Rogers then moved to the Marion County Veterans Affair's Office. She devoted 28 years of her life to this office, working fourteen years as a secretary and fourteen as the Veterans Affairs Officer. During her tenure, Ms. Rogers developed close bonds with many of the veterans of Marion County, and became passionate about ensuring they got the benefits they were entitled to.

In addition to the unselfish labor she has provided to the veterans of Marion County for almost three decades, Ms. Rogers has been giving to her community on a variety of different levels throughout her illustrious life. In 1991, she received the Citizen of the Year Award from the Woodman of the World organization. She has been honored with an Outstanding Service award from the Swamp Fox Chapter No. 87. Ms. Rogers is also a member of the Marion County Historical Commission, the Shannon Wilkinson Scholarship Fund, and is Clerk to Springville Community Poll. A devoted forty-five year member of the Shiloh United Methodist Church, Ms. Rogers serves as the church organist, Missionary Circle President, and on the administrative board, among numerous other roles within the church.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me today in honoring Eloise Whittington Rogers for the incredible service she has provided for the veterans and citizens of her community. The world is a better place because of her service, and I wish her happy days in a well-deserved retirement.