HONORING MS. DOROTHY PERRY, A CHAMPION OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, July 24, 2001

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Ms. Dorothy Perry, the Parents’ Day Council’s Florida Parent of the Year 2001. Ms. Perry is a worthy honoree for the 7th Annual Congressional Parents’ Day Celebration. One of the unsung heroines of our community, Ms. Perry has been a trailblazer throughout her many years of dedication and service under the aegis of the affordable housing movement.

She has wisely chosen the challenge of ensuring home ownership as an affordable right for ordinary folks, who have done and are doing their fair share in contributing to the good of our community. For many years, long before the dream of affordable housing became a priority on the public agenda, Ms. Perry has been relentless in her passionate commitment to helping countless people in my community fulfill their wish of someday owning their dream house.

Tonight’s honor is yet another recognition of her devotion to the little people. In fact, a few years ago the United Nations honored her as the adoptive mother par excellence of some 2000 children, having literally transformed her home in my district’s James E. Scott Public Housing into a “safe and loving haven” for them.

Indeed, Ms. Perry symbolizes the community activist who genuinely gives credence to the dignity and optimism of the American spirit. She serves as an indelible reminder of what a difference a caring individual can make in the lives of our children in whose hands our future lies.

On behalf of a grateful nation, I salute her and wish her Godspeed in all her endeavors!

RECOGNIZING BLUE AND WHITE SUNDAY

HON. DALE E. KILDEE
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, July 24, 2001

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join Community Baptist Church of Davison, Michigan, in honoring the dedicated men and women of law enforcement throughout Genesee County. This Sunday has been declared by Community Baptist Church as “Blue and White Sunday,” in honor of the members of each police department in Genesee County.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

The Community Baptist Church of Davison recognizes that our police officers should be surrounded with our prayers.

As a Member of Congress, I consider it both my duty and privilege to work to promote, protect, defend, and enhance human dignity. I know that because of Genesee County’s loyal police forces, this task becomes easier. It takes a special kind of person to patrol our streets and ensure our citizens’ safety, and because of their commitment to justice, the cities and townships of Genesee County have collectively become a better place.

I applaud Community Baptist Church for their insight in honoring these valiant people who have made it their life’s work to preserve peace and order, and have served the public trust. In addition, they have become role models, colleagues, and friends to the community.

Mr. Speaker, we owe law enforcement officials throughout the country a debt of gratitude. Every day they put their very lives on the line to shield our loved ones and us from harm, and for that I am more than thankful. I ask my colleagues to please join me in recognizing their efforts.

H.R. 427, THE LITTLE SANDY WATERSHED PROTECTION ACT

HON. DAVID WU
OF OREGON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, July 24, 2001

Mr. WU. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as an original cosponsor in support of H.R. 427, the Little Sandy Watershed Protection Act. I thank my colleague from Oregon, Mr. BLUMENAUER, for spearheading such an important bill for Oregon.

This important legislation will extend the boundary of the Bull Run Management Unit, a bit Northeast of Portland, to include the Little Sandy watershed. By doing this, we will help secure the water quality of potential sources of drinking water for the Portland metro area. Additionally, by securing the Little Sandy watershed, we will protect the water quality and habitat of anadromous fish, including steelhead and Chinook, listed under the Endangered Species Act.

Mr. Speaker, this common sense solution is “Oregonesque.” The bill maintains the integrity of the Association of O&C Counties and authorizes Clackamas County to seek $10 million for watershed restoration projects that relate to the Endangered Species Act listings or water quality improvements. This local and federal partnership is needed to help recover these populations of endangered steelhead and Chinook. By working together to protect watersheds and habitat today, we will avoid the clashes between species protection and other land uses tomorrow.

Thank you again for lending me the time, and I urge all of my colleagues to support this responsible bill. I yield back the balance of my time.

KATIE HENIO WINS NATIONAL VOLUNTEER AWARD

HON. TOM UDALL
OF NEW MEXICO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, July 24, 2001

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to rise today and recognize Katie Henio, a 73-year-old sheepherder and weaver from the Navajo Reservation, who is receiving a national community volunteer award this week.

Katie is receiving the Yoneo Ono award from the Rural Community Assistance Corporation for her work with the Ramah Navajo Weavers Cooperative, a grassroots group made up of over forty traditional weavers who live on the Ramah Navajo Reservation in the pinon pine country of west central New Mexico. Founded by seventeen women in 1984, the non-profit group is working toward two broad goals: to increase family self-reliance on indigenous resources, and to strengthen important and distinctive land-based traditions, values, and spirituality for future generations of Navajo Navajos.

The Ramah Navajo weavers offer high quality traditionally handspun, hand-woven Navajo weavings. Colors are from natural wools or native plants found on or near the Ramah Navajo Reservation, giving a wide range of reds, blues, grays, yellows, tans, and browns. Each weaver raises her own sheep, creates her own designs—many of which have been passed on through generations by family members—spins her own yarns, hand-dyes the yams using vegetal dyes from local plants, and weaves on the traditional Navajo upright loom.

Katie has been the President of the association since 1985 and serves on the planning committee to develop Navajo language and culture curriculum at Pine Hill schools. Katie has also had a children’s book written about her, “Katie Henio, Navajo Sheepherder.” That book has taught children around the country—far from the Navajo reservation—about the ways of her people and celebrates their lifestyle.

The Yoneo Ono award is given each year to a volunteer who has made a contribution to improving the quality of life in his or her community. It is named in honor of one of the founders of the Rural Community Assistance Corporation, a nonprofit group dedicated to improving the lives of rural citizens in 12 western states.

In this day and age, one is hard pressed to find someone so selfless in caring for her community and fellow citizens. Katie epitomizes the values that all of us should strive for: leadership, commitment, dedication, compassion, and self-sacrifice. Mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and pillar of her community, Katie’s devotion to those around her has rightfully earned her the respect and admiration of those she has served and will continue to serve.

Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues are aware, I serve as the ranking member on the Small Business Subcommittee on Rural Enterprise, Agriculture and Technology. As someone who has dedicated himself to raising awareness of