

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

FORT LEONARD WOOD WINS NATIONAL COMMUNITY RELATIONS AWARD

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2001

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this means to congratulate the "Marching Across Missouri" community relations initiative at Fort Leonard Wood. On January 31, 2001, at a ceremony held in Washington, D.C., this outstanding program was recognized as one of the Army's top community relations efforts.

Maj. Gen. Larry D. Gottardi, Chief of Public Affairs, presented this award at the Army's Worldwide Public Affairs Symposium. The "Marching Across Missouri" initiative exceeded the Army's community relations objectives. Those objectives are: to increase public awareness of the Army, inspire patriotism, foster good relations with the various publics, maintain the Army's reputation and support recruiting. Community relations officers at Fort Leonard Wood showed great skill in achieving these objectives.

Mr. Speaker, community relations are vital to the U.S. Armed Services. The superb actions taken by the men and women who serve at Fort Leonard Wood, under the direction of Commanding General Andrew Aadland, promote good relations with civilian communities in Missouri. I know the Members of the House will join me in extending congratulations to the service people at Ft. Leonard Wood.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL DIRECTING THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF INCLUDING CERTAIN LANDS ALONG THE SOUTHEASTERN COAST OF MAUI, HAWAII, IN THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2001

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the feasibility of including a six-mile area of the island of Maui's southeastern shoreline from Keone'ō'io and Kanaloa Point in the National Park System.

The area, which surrounds La Perouse (Keone'ō'io) Bay, is rich in archaeological, cultural, historical, and natural resources. Important sites in the proposed park area contain remnants of dwellings, heiau (places of worship), fishing shrines, platforms, enclosures, shelters, walls, graves, and canoe hale (houses) that date back as early as 1100 A.D.

This portion of the southeast coast is also the home of unique native plants and animals, some of which are endangered.

The County of Maui passed Resolution 00-136 on October 6, 2000, expressing its support for having this area designated as a National Park. The proposal has also been endorsed by the Maui County Cultural Resources Commission of the Department of Planning.

While the State of Hawaii has expressed interest in managing and protecting these important resources, they have been unable to do so due to lack of funds. Operators of four-wheel drive vehicles are unknowingly destroying valuable resources at this site due to lack of supervision, signage, and cultural interpretation materials. This is a site of national significance, which deserves the level of protection only the National Park Service can provide.

A grassroots community effort led by Mary M. Evanson of Makawao, Maui, has gained broad support on the island. Designation of this fragile area as a national park fits with the National Park Service's mission of preserving natural and cultural treasures for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of future generations.

TRIBUTE TO THE SABATHANI COMMUNITY CENTER OF MINNEAPOLIS, MN, IN CELEBRATION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. MARTIN OLAV SABO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2001

Mr. SABO. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate the history and heritage of African-Americans this month, I wish to take the opportunity to recognize a very special organization in Minneapolis, MN, which has provided invaluable services to the African-American community for over three decades: Sabathani Community Center.

Founded in 1966, Sabathani Community Center is one of many grassroots organizations that sprang up in communities across the country in the wake of President Lyndon Baines Johnson's "Great Society" initiative. Focusing first on providing recreational opportunities to African-American youth at the old Minneapolis Bryand Junior High School on 38th Street and 3rd Avenue South, Sabathani's founders soon expanded their "basic needs" mission to address a number of other social and community needs.

At the time Sabathani was created, I was a member of the minority DFL caucus in the Minnesota House of Representatives. It was an era of great expansion of rights and opportunities for people of color, women, and working-class Americans throughout our Nation.

Since the 1960's, much has changed in the south Minneapolis neighborhoods Sabathani serves. The center was one of dozens of grassroots organizations founded then. Today, few of these have survived, but Sabathani is thriving because it has grown and changed with the community and its needs.

Sabathani continues to flourish as the "heart" of a community. The center provides a fine service model where good intentions, sound administration, positive government involvement, and solid community support intersect to provide the opportunities that hundreds of people—of every race, gender, and nationality—need to improve their lives. In fact, several programs and services Sabathani provides have been credited as many people's "lifeline."

Sabathani Community Center has evolved into a meeting place for "one-stop-shopping"—providing beneficial programs and services in one central location. Sabathani sponsors 10 programs of its own to serve the diverse needs of the community, ranging from life skills classes to senior independent living programs to community involvement initiatives. In addition, 40 community agencies and organizations collaborate with Sabathani and conduct their operations in its historic, red brick school building. The center has also received financial support from over 100 foundations, corporations, businesses and other organizations.

Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate African-American History Month, I salute the Sabathani Community Center.

For 34 years, it has served proudly and well to the benefit of the African-American community and the city of Minneapolis as a whole. I also salute all of the dedicated staff and volunteers at Sabathani whose time, energy, and support have kept the center responsive to the changing needs of its surrounding neighborhoods. To name only a few such dedicated people who have worked for years to build Sabathani Community Center and the surrounding neighborhood, I wish to recognize Sabathani's Executive Director, Jim Cook; its Family Resources Director, Clarissa Walker; and Dorothy Woolfork, a Sabathani neighborhood civil rights activist. They deserve great thanks. They have contributed to the unqualified success of Sabathani Community Center as a gathering place where unmet needs are addressed and social change is encouraged.

CHILD CARE AFFORDABILITY FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ACT

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2001

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Child Care Affordability for Federal Employees Act. This bill enables federal

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