

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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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

agencies to use their salary and expense accounts to help low-income federal employees pay for child care. Balancing work and family has become increasingly difficult for families, and federal employees are no exception.

My legislation will provide opportunities for federal agencies to help offer quality child care for their employees' children by allowing federal agencies to use their salary and expense accounts to help executive employees pay for child care. In each of the 2 years, this legislation has been included in the Treasury, Postal Service and General Government Appropriations Bill. It is my hope that we can now make this much needed service for our federal employees permanent. Evidence has already begun to mount about the success of the program and OPM will be coming out with a report in March which will further elaborate on its usefulness for federal agencies.

The Child Care Affordability for Federal Employees Act, developed with the help of OPM, would allow agencies to pay a portion of the providers' operating costs, thus enabling the centers to reduce the fees charged to lower income federal employees. It would be up to individual agencies to determine whether or not to use funds from their salary and expense accounts to help provide child care. Agencies—not employees—would make payments to child care providers to help lower income federal employees pay for their child care.

One of the greatest challenges families face is finding safe, affordable day care. Having raised nine children and now watching them struggle with their own child care dilemmas, I am well acquainted with the problems associated with finding quality day care. America's lack of safe, affordable day care is not a new problem, but its consequences are becoming more dire, and it does require new, innovative solutions. In 1995, 62 percent of women with children younger than 6 and 77 percent of women with children between the ages of 6 and 17 were in the labor force.

Approximately one-quarter of all federal workers have children under the age of 6 needing care at some time during the work day. In some federal child care facilities, families are charged up to \$10,000 or more per child per year. Many federal employees simply cannot afford quality child care. By allowing agencies the flexibility to help workers meet their child care needs, we will be encouraging family-friendly workplaces and higher productivity. It is clear that we need more child care, we need affordable child care, and we need quality child care. And unless child care becomes a priority in the private sector and the public sector, families, including those of federal employees, aren't going to find it.

Mr. Speaker, as a nation, we must and we can do better for our children, and this legislation, making federal services permanent, is an important first step.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING THE 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF GENE AND EILEEN DOSSON

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2001

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following article to my colleagues:

Whereas, Gene and Eileen Dosson were united in marriage on February 24th, 1951, and will be celebrating their 50th year as man and wife;

Whereas, Gene and Eileen declared their love before God, family and friends;

Whereas, Gene and Eileen have had 50 years of sharing, loving and working together;

Whereas, Gene and Eileen may be blessed with all the happiness and love that two can share and may their love grow with each passing year;

Whereas, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate Gene and Eileen on their 50th anniversary. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing Gene and Eileen Dosson many more years of happiness together.

MICHAEL J. NADON: A TRIBUTE

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2001

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a truly great American, Michael Nadon, whom the Lord claimed for eternal life earlier this month.

Michael J. Nadon, a certificated aircraft dispatcher and a decorated veteran of the conflict in Viet Nam, passed away unexpectedly on February 3rd, 2001.

Winner of the Bronze Star and recipient of three Purple Hearts, Mike displayed quiet courage in the face of all of life's challenges. On January 13th, 1967, as a member of the First Infantry Division, severely wounded, he refused medical treatment and continued to assist others while under heavy fire. Certainly, some of this courage and character came from his father, Joe, a World War II fighter pilot.

As a charter member and past president of the Airline Dispatchers Federation (ADF), Mike was instrumental in changing regulations to improve aviation safety in the National Airspace System. Thanks to Mike, the safest form of mass transportation in the world is safer still. His contributions were numerous, his spirit was unbroken, his intellect was great and his heart was huge. Mike Nadon will be missed by his family, by his friends, and by his country.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH N. KREMONAS

HON. RIC KELLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2001

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor one of my constituents, Joseph N. Kremonas. After over 45 years of dedicated service in the United States Defense Industry, Mr. Joseph N. Kremonas has recently retired from the Lockheed Martin Corporation. Mr. Kremonas has served the United States defense community by leading in the development of numerous systems for the United States Department of Defense to support our nation's warfighter.

Several professional associations have benefited from his membership such as the Association of the Army, The American Defense Preparedness Association, National Security Industrial Association and the National Aeronautic Association.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my fellow Members of Congress to join me in expressing thanks to Mr. Kremonas for his service.

TRIBUTE TO ASSEMBLYWOMAN GLORIA DAVIS

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2001

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and to wish a very happy birthday to Assemblywoman Gloria Davis, an outstanding individual who has devoted here life to her family and to serving the community. Ms. Davis turned 63 on Friday, February 9 and celebrated at a party given by her family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, Assemblywoman Davis has represented the 79th Assembly District of Bronx County, which includes the neighborhoods of Morrisania, Claremont, Crotona-Mapes, Longwood, Charlotte Gardens, Concourse village, and Belmont, since 1980. Prior to her election, she served six years as district leader. She is a vibrant, dynamic, caring woman who has dedicated the past twenty years to the improvement of conditions for families and children. She was a co-founder of the City-Wide Parents for Day Care, and national coordinator for the National Welfare Rights Organization, and has served as a member of the steering committee of the Women's State Democratic Committee. Active in the revitalization of her district, Ms. Davis has been instrumental in securing funds for the redevelopment of the Boston Road corridor, fighting to have an Educational Opportunity Center (EOC) built and continuously supported in the district, insisting that Settlement Houses continues to have a mission today, and challenging the community to recognize their dependence upon each other.

Her seniority and dedication to coalition building were recognized when former Speaker Saul Weprin appointed her Assistant Majority Whip in January 1993. She was appointed