

May 10, 2001

I am sure that we will be celebrating a full century of their contributions fifty years from now.

HONORING DAN GERNATT, SR.
UPON HIS RECEIPT OF THE
DEWITT CLINTON MASONIC
AWARD

HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2001

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor both an extraordinary man and a dear friend. On Saturday, May 12, 2001, Dan Gernatt, Sr., will be honored with the prestigious DeWitt Clinton Masonic Award from the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

Named in honor of former New York Governor DeWitt Clinton, this award recognizes those who have given "distinguished or outstanding community service," and "whose actions exemplify a shared concern for the well-being of mankind."

A dairy farmer who built the largest sand and gravel business in New York State, which today employs more than 200 people in seven plants, Dan Gernatt, Sr., has always worked to improve the quality of life in his community. He was not content simply to build a successful business, and believed strongly in giving back to those less fortunate. As the Dunkirk Observer noted, "Gernatt is a philanthropist by definition: one who practices good will to fellow men; one who is active in the effort to promote human welfare; a humanitarian."

Mr. Speaker, in "Song of Myself," Walt Whitman wrote "I do not give lectures on a little charity. When I give, I give myself." Throughout his life, Dan Gernatt, Sr. has given of himself time and time again, and I ask that this Congress join me in saluting those philanthropic works upon his receipt of the DeWitt Clinton Masonic Award.

INTRODUCTION OF THE INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR DETERMINATION ACT OF 2001

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2001

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the Small Business Committee, I rise today to introduce a bill, the Independent Contractor Determination Act of 2001, to clarify and simplify the determination of whether an individual worker is an employee or an independent contractor. The current definition of independent contractors is so complex that many small businesses face inconsistent Internal Revenue Service (IRS) worker reclassifications and potentially crippling back taxes, penalties and fines. Today's tax law hinders our dynamic economy, which includes millions of independent contractors now used by roughly 60 percent of all businesses and many diverse industries.

The Independent Contractor Determination Act of 2001 would provide a new safe harbor

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

to help small business owners use independent contractors with more confidence, and to minimize IRS reclassifications of their legitimate business relationships. New objective criteria would protect both employees and independent contractors. These criteria include economic and workplace independence, a written contract, and the ability to realize a profit or loss. In addition, to protect employees further, the bill includes an effective anti-abuse provision that would limit the ability of corporations to treat former employees as independent contractors.

As important as this bill is to protecting all workers by providing an objective test for the determination of worker classification, the bill also limits the ability of the IRS to reclassify workers retroactively. Most small businesses operating as or hiring independent contractors do so in good faith and, therefore, face unfairly imposed back taxes, penalties and fines. Consequently, the bill allows only prospective IRS reclassifications of good faith independent contractor determinations, and shifts the burden of proof to the IRS.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to offer this bill as an identical, companion bill to one introduced earlier this week by Senator KIT BOND, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business, and recommend its passage in this Congress.

RECOGNIZING VETERANS OF
OHIO'S 8TH DISTRICT

HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2001

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize 20 veterans of the United States Armed Forces who will be honored at a special ceremony on, May 11, at Lakota East High School in my congressional district. These men and women have made sacrifices that most of us cannot fathom. They left their homes, their schools, their families, and their friends to travel to far-away lands for a single purpose: the defense of freedom.

On May 11, these exceptional men and women will be receiving honorary diplomas at this very special ceremony. They are:

John L. Burden, Sr., who served in the Army from 1943 through 1945 and was stationed in Europe.

Henderson Caudill, who served in the Navy from 1942 to 1965 and was stationed in both Europe and the Pacific.

Everett Cole, who served in the Army and the Air Force from 1944 through 1946 and was stationed in the United States and the Philippines.

Lorenzo Denson, Sr., who served in the Army from 1943 to 1945 and was stationed in the United States and Europe.

LaMar G. Douthaz, who served in the Navy from 1943 to 1945 and was stationed aboard the U.S.S. Doherty.

Harry Thomas Falck, who served in the Army from 1945 to 1946, when he was stationed in Europe, and from 1950 to 1953, when he fought in the Korean War and was held as a Prisoner of War.

Sam Fishman, who served in the Army from 1943 through 1946 and was stationed in the Philippines.

Uell Flagg, who served in the Army from 1943 to 1945, when he was stationed in Europe, and from 1951 to 1955, when he fought in the Korean War with the Air Force.

Louis E. Fox, who served in the Navy from 1943 to 1946 and was stationed aboard the U.S.S. Sage.

Wesley P. Gaunce, who served in the Marine Corps from 1942 to 1945 and was stationed in the Pacific.

Ralph Grothjan, who served in the Army from 1950 to 1952 and fought in the Korean War.

Robert H. Hale, who served in the Army from 1951 to 1953 and was stationed in Germany and Korea.

Charles E. Hall, who served in the Army from 1952 through 1957 and was stationed in Korea.

Andrea F. Hangbers, who served in the Army from 1979 through 1982 and was stationed at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Carl C. Hess, who served in the Air Force from 1958 to 1959 and was stationed in Korea.

James McGonigle, who served in the Marine Corps from 1967 through 1970 and was involved in the Vietnam War.

Wilson W. Smith, who served in the Army from 1944 through 1946 and was stationed in Europe.

David Thomas, who served in the Navy from 1943 to 1946 and was stationed in the Pacific.

Also receiving honorary diplomas will be James Johnson and John Wilson, but they will be unable to attend the special ceremony.

What these veterans have achieved in their lives is truly among the greatest feats in American history. Whether fighting against Nazi Germany, Imperialist Japan, or the communist forces in Korea and Vietnam, these brave men and women are to be commended for their strength, their commitment, and their patriotism. We owe them a debt of gratitude that can never be repaid. It is our responsibility to remember their courage, not just in ceremonies like the one being held on May 11, but everyday. They are Americans who have made it possible for us to enjoy the freedoms that we so often take for granted. For that, and for the special recognition by Lakota East High School, I congratulate and thank them.

HIGH-LEVEL NUCLEAR WASTE
STORAGE AT YUCCA MOUNTAIN,
NV

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2001

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I include my testimony concerning nuclear waste storage at your Mountain for the RECORD.

I would like to thank the Chairman for allowing me the opportunity to comment on the proposed FY02 Appropriations for Energy Department, Nuclear Waste Management and Disposal relating to the Department of Energy's (DOE) proposal to store high-level nuclear waste at Yucca Mountain in Nevada. This issue is critical to me because my district is located 90 miles southeast of Yucca Mountain, and it is my constituents who would be the most affected by the Yucca Mountain Plan.

More than a decade has gone by since the 1987 amendments to the Nuclear Waste Policy Act designated Yucca Mountain as the