

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the citizens of Raritan and the John Basilone Parade participants for celebrating the life of a fine man and true American hero.

RECOGNIZING CHRISTOPHER MARTELL OF LAKEWOOD, COLORADO

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2006

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Christopher Martell of Lakewood, Colorado, an Army 2nd Lieutenant currently serving in Iraq.

Lieutenant Martell served in the ROTC while at Gonzaga University, stating that his ROTC service was the most rewarding part of his entire college experience. Following his graduation with a bachelors degree in Communications, Lieutenant Martell reported to the Army's 82nd Airborne Division where he was assigned to military intelligence.

Lieutenant Martell has remarked that he has found a strong sense of patriotism and brotherhood in the Army. The history and camaraderie among his fellow soldiers is truly a sight to behold and has made his experience a rewarding one.

Coming from a proud family history of military service, Lieutenant Martell's grandmother, Florence McCann, served in the U.S. Navy WAVES, or Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service, during World War II. Mrs. McCann currently resides in Inverness, Florida.

Mr. Speaker, it is soldiers like Christopher Martell who volunteered to protect the freedoms that all Americans hold dear to their hearts. While brave men and women like Christopher serve in the name of freedom and liberty, his family, friends and loved ones should know that this Congress will never forget his sacrifice and commitment.

IN MEMORY OF DR. STERLING SMITH

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give tribute to Dr. Sterling Smith, of Denton, Texas, for his lifelong commitment and contributions to his community and to education.

A native of Denton, Texas, Dr. Smith received his undergraduate degree from the University of North Texas in 1963. He also received a Master of Secondary Education degree from the University of Arizona and a Ph.D. in Science and Mathematics Education from the University of Texas at Austin. A 40-year veteran of public education and an avid mountain-climber, Dr. Smith died August 21 as the result of a fall while descending South Macon Peak near Aspen, Colorado.

Dr. Smith began as a product of the Denton public school system and spent 30 of his 40

years as an educator teaching at the Texas Women's University in Denton. He worked closely for years with science teachers in North Texas and served for 2 years as president of the Denton High School Band Booster Club. He was active in the Boy Scouts for more than 40 years and volunteered as a teacher in the men's Sunday school class at First Baptist Church.

Most recently, Dr. Smith had been elected as the newest member of the Denton school board, his first elected office, and fellow members said he was already hard at work getting caught up on the complex issues associated with a modern public school system.

Dr. Smith was a lifelong champion of education and service to his community. I join in mourning the loss of Dr. Smith and extend my deepest sympathies to his friends and family. He will be deeply missed and his service and dedication will always be greatly appreciated.

APPOINTMENT OF ROGER GODELL AS COMMISSIONER OF THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2006

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Roger Godell on his appointment as the new Commissioner of the National Football League (NFL). Godell's longtime dedication to the league and his genuine love for the game will assure him a long and successful tenure as league commissioner.

I was especially excited to see a Western New York native succeed Commissioner Tagliabue. As a lifelong Western New York resident and Representative from the 27th District of New York, I am pleased to know that as the new commissioner, Godell can relate to the small-market environment in his hometown region and to the great impact the presence of the Buffalo Bills has on our community.

The Buffalo Bills are one of the most respected franchises in the NFL, and our fans are extremely loyal. However, I am concerned that under the current collective bargaining agreement, the existence of the Bills in Buffalo may be in danger. The departure of the Bills would have a devastating impact in the area.

Without consideration of the unique economic situation concerning this storied franchise, and the great city that has enthusiastically supported the Bills for almost 50 years, the loss of this team to this city would, in effect, rip the heart and soul out of the NFL, and out of this great American city.

Provisions in the CBA that greatly affect Buffalo include stipulations regarding ticket sales falling below a certain level before revenue sharing participation kicks in. While the Bills have great community support, ticket prices are low because we are not a wealthy community; but under the stipulations, the Bills could sell-out all home games and still lose money and not be eligible for revenue sharing.

Additionally, including state and county monetary support in establishing franchise revenue would be extremely detrimental to the

Bills and similar teams. For example, in Buffalo all game day stadium expenses are picked up by Erie County—the County reimburses the Bills for the cost of security, ticket takers, ushers, among other services—counting these contributions against the team could mean that the CBA is a de facto plan to annihilate small market franchises.

Finally, I am also highly concerned about the possibility that new team ownership would not be eligible for revenue sharing. The Bills have been lucky enough to remain under the stewardship of their owner, Ralph C. Wilson, but should Mr. Wilson pass, or should he ever decide to sell the team, a new owner would have no alternative but to look to move the team.

I appreciate the hard work of former Commissioner Tagliabue in helping resolve some of these issues by placing Mr. Wilson and other small-market owners on the Qualifier Committee responsible for final interpretation of these and other issues. With Godell's help, I am hopeful that the league can resolve the revenue sharing issue and help its small-market teams remain in their respective cities.

I wish Commissioner Godell the best of luck and success in his new position and I look forward to working with him in the future.

IN HONOR OF WILLIAM OSKAR GROGGINS

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2006

Mr. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor William Oskar Goggins for the kindness and influence he showed the world during his 43 years here.

Billy was born at St. Mary's Hospital in San Francisco, CA on Sunday, May 10, 1963—on Mother's Day. He was the first child of Patrick and Ute Goggins, both very well-known and respected individuals in the Bay Area and beyond.

From the hospital he was carried right into a civil rights demonstration in Golden Gate Park. Billy took his first trip to Ireland at 4 years old to meet his family relatives in the west of Ireland in County Mayo. Annual family trips by car to Montana and Dakota included reunions in the Bear's Paw Mountains, hi-balling on the Iron Road, the old Great Northern Railway and running brave with Chippewa, Cree, Blackfoot and Sioux Indian friends. The Goggins' adventured on 2-month road trips to Baja and the Pacific Coast of Mexico where mother Ute painted, and sisters Cathy and Aimee followed in Bill's energetic footsteps. Billy toiled in family vineyards in Germany with equally embracing relatives. These things were the soul of his education.

Over the years Bill played soccer, drew cartoons, tutored younger students from Mill Valley and Marin City, played volleyball at Stinson Beach, surfed in Bolinas, and much much more. He graduated from Tamalpais High School as a National Merit Scholar and Salutatorian.

Summer jobs were at Bancroft-Whitney legal publishers, San Francisco and Wausau

Paper Mill, Wisconsin. He worked at numerous restaurants including the Book Depot Café; and Avenue Grill in Mill Valley, and Embarko in San Francisco. He also volunteered at St. Anthony Dining Room in the Tenderloin, providing free meals for the homeless.

Bill attended Georgetown University School of Foreign Service and San Francisco State University, Departments of Communication and Philosophy. He began his vital journalism career with Frisko Kids, KALW radio, and then moved on to the old SF Weekly.

Former SF Weekly editor and colleague Andrew O'Hehir remembers, "Of course he worked harder than anyone and became essential, and in 3 years moved from all-purpose intern to copy editor to running the Arts and Entertainment section. I can't remember exactly when he became the go-to guy for headline copy, but I'd say that by the time he'd been there a year, he was writing half the heads in the paper."

Bill thrived at Wired for 10 years. He started as a freelance copy editor and rose to become deputy editor. Bill served as a special link between the digital industry's pace-setting magazine in the center of San Francisco's media gulch and an eager, educated national and international readership. His colleagues admired him tremendously.

"Bill was that rarest of things: a true original," says Chris Anderson, the magazine's editor in chief. "He was brilliant, witty and culturally omnivorous, all of which combined in his signature headlines. They usually worked on at least three levels of meaning, from some remixed cultural reference to at least one pun. In many ways his winking style and clever turns of phrase became Wired house style for nearly a decade, and to look at our covers and headlines over those years is to hear Bill's voice again."

Bill's voice also made its mark through the alternative dot-com generation's website Suck.com where he wrote under the name 'Bartelby'. Bill recently enjoyed writing and editing with the new magazine Todo, and they remember him not just as a logophile, a wordsmith, a gifted editor, a true friend; but also as "one who tirelessly pursues perfection, fraternity and goodness."

A real linguist (German, Spanish and Bill-English) and traveler—Bill visited Tunisia, the Philippines, Bahamas, Mexico, Canada, and all over the United States and Europe. He was a dual citizen of the U.S. and Ireland. Bill was a citizen of the world.

Bill was a San Franciscan through and through. He openly embraced and explored all of the city's neighborhoods. He was an avid supporter of the arts, with active memberships to many museums and regular attendance at the symphony, opera, ballet, varied theatres and clubs.

Bill participated with his family and compatriots in the antiwar demonstrations from the Vietnam era to Iraq of today.

My daughter, Amy Critchett, had the good fortune to be a friend with and to work with Bill at Wired for many years. "Bill Goggins made work seem like work—because it was and he was so incredibly good at what he did—but with him around there was always a twist of irony and a splash of curly-haired, smiling-cheeked sunshine not far away," according to Amy. "Get ready to laugh all you up there."

Bill inexplicably collapsed and passed away suddenly during mile 24 of the San Francisco Marathon Benefit for Cancer on Sunday, July 30, 2006. He was in fit condition and many knew him as a wonderful, companionable runner, reconciled, strong and happy.

An outpouring of hundreds from around the globe, representing family, friends, colleagues, public officials on local, state and national levels, ambassadors, the Irish and British governments, the Democratic party, and diverse cultural non-profit organizations attended a memorial mass held at our Lady of Mount Carmel Church and a life celebration at the Outdoor Art Club in Mill Valley on August 4, 2006.

Billy was a deeply loved member of a very close family. He supported all of them individually and together—helping hang his mother Ute's art shows, assisting his father Pat with community outreach via organizations such as the Irish Forum, Irish Mexican Association, and Irish Literary and Historical Society to name a few, being the proud uncle to sister Cathy's two children, Lina Rose & Dominic Chester, and showing up for sister Aimee's various work events or helping edit her writing.

Bill believed in justice, peace and humanity. He connected with people everywhere he went. No one and nothing escaped his keen eye and warm words. His sense of community was broad and all-encompassing. Bill was a man of grace. He chipped in for everyone.

He had old-fashioned manners, was a staunch listener and he gave of himself enormously. His roughish grin, sparkle in his eye and love of discussion and opinion will live on with us forever.

Mr. Speaker, Bill had enormous integrity and loyalty, and taught us all how to be total human beings. To be fearless, to be bold, to be true to yourself. To be both gracious and outspoken. To pursue what matters in life and cherish each other. Bill knew all of these things and helped us be them too. Bill lived his life and made all of us proud. He will be deeply missed by many.

COMMEMORATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MOSS LANDING MARINE LABORATORIES, MOSS LANDING, CALIFORNIA

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2006

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a national treasure located in my district and commemorate an auspicious occasion: the 40th anniversary of the California State University's Moss Landing Marine Laboratories at the heart of Monterey Bay.

Founded in 1966, Moss Landing Marine Laboratories (MLML) is the second oldest marine lab on the Monterey Bay. The founders were a small group of strong-minded faculty and forward-thinking administrators at California State University (CSU) who were dedicated to the pursuit of marine science, research and education at the highest possible level. Currently, MLML is operated by a consortium of seven CSU campuses (Fresno, East Bay, Monterey Bay, Sacramento, San

Francisco, San Jose, and Stanislaus), with undergraduate and graduate students pursuing their Masters of Science degrees in marine biology and oceanography. From its grass roots conception and its humble beginnings in an old cannery building, MLML has grown into an institution of international reputation for excellence and has trained generations of students.

The current director, Dr. Kenneth Coale, 9 full-time faculty and a complement of adjunct professors and affiliated researchers dutifully cultivate the mission, which is to "Provision the Pioneers of the Future in Marine Sciences" through a hands-on, field-oriented approach to their curriculum, placing their students at the frontiers of marine science where discoveries are being made. Since MLML is associated with the California State University system, the primary responsibility of the faculty is teaching. Despite their emphasis on well-taught courses and mentoring of graduate students, the MLML faculty and associated researchers are regional leaders within their research disciplines. Their research has been critical to the creation of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary and the Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve, and has shaped the development of new programs throughout CSU. Findings by the faculty have been acknowledged as some of the most significant in the field of oceanography over the last 50 years by the National Research Council, and MLML has received the Environmental Heroes Award bestowed by the head of NOAA and former Vice President Al Gore.

The Moss Landing Marine Laboratories are a testament to the power of academic freedom and the commitment to Science-Based Earth Stewardship. MLML has educated over 1000 marine scientists who now hold positions in the federal government, the most prestigious academic and research institutions nationwide, regulatory and resource agencies, and teaching institutions throughout the country. The great wealth of nearby marine resources, the faculty emphasis on mentoring and teaching with integrated research, and the excellent facilities, staff, and marine operations contribute to making this one of the best programs for a Master of Science in Marine Science in the United States. I celebrate the pioneers that founded this institution and those who continue to lead the way in maintaining excellence.

HISPANIC HERITAGE FOUNDATION

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 2006

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding non-profit organization: the Hispanic Heritage Foundation.

The Hispanic Heritage Foundation promotes and celebrates Hispanic culture, education, and accomplishment through year-round national and regional inspirational leadership programs by sponsoring a number of educational and cultural programs including the Hispanic Heritage Awards, Youth Awards, and the LOFT (Latinos on Fast Track) Initiative.