

Corporal Leland Whitehorn arrived on the islands on the first day of the fight and was wounded on his third day.

Private First Class James Knighton also served honorably during the Battle of Iwo Jima.

On behalf of Mississippi's First District, I am honored to offer our deepest appreciation to these brave men. During the current time of war it is most appropriate to recognize both today's troops and their forefathers. Our community is proud to be home to veterans who have defended our freedom in the past and to our soldiers who continue to fight for freedom today. I know that my colleagues will join me in welcoming these courageous warriors to our Nation's capital and thanking them, these soldiers of the greatest generation, for their invaluable service to our country.

THE DAILY 45: 2 LITTLE GIRLS KILLED IN A SMALL OKLAHOMA TOWN

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, the Department of Justice tells us that, every day, 45 people, on average, are fatally shot in the United States. I grieve, daily, in solidarity with those I serve in Chicago over the senseless loss of life from guns, especially among our children. There are thousands of other communities across our Nation that, likewise, see their children cut down by perpetrators wielding the merciless barrel of a gun.

Today, it's my sad responsibility to extend my condolences to the family and friends of 13-year-old Taylor Paschal-Placker and her 11-year-old best friend, Skyla Whitaker, who lost their lives on Sunday, June 8. Both were shot while walking not far from their homes in the small, rural town of Weleetka, Oklahoma. As law enforcement officials continue to investigate this crime, these children's families and their close knit community of 1,000 are grieving and frightened while a murderer remains at large.

Americans of conscience must come together to stop the senseless death of "The Daily 45." When will we say "enough is enough, stop the killing!"

RECOGNIZING DR. ROBERT DIXON—SCOTTSDALE HEALTHCARE'S "SALUTE TO MILITARY" HONOREE

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Robert Dixon, Scottsdale Healthcare's "Salute to Military" Honoree for June 2008. Scottsdale Healthcare is recognizing Dr. Dixon and other physicians with a connection to the Armed Services for their dedication to saving lives and securing our freedom.

Since the program's inauguration in 2004, Scottsdale Healthcare has provided over 300 medical personnel with outstanding trauma skill training. The program is offered in partnership with Maricopa Integrated Health System and has focused on the Air National Guard, Luke Air Force Base, and Davis Monthan Air Force Base.

Dr. Robert Dixon is a deserving recipient of Scottsdale Healthcare's tribute. He is a Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Air Force, stationed at the 56th Medical Group of Luke Air Force Base in Arizona since 2004. Dr. Dixon will be deployed to Iraq in May of 2008, which will be his fourth deployment to the Middle East and Southwest Asia.

He was the first surgeon to participate in Scottsdale Healthcare's Military Training Program in preparation for deployment to the Gulf. The Military Training Program is designed to maintain trauma skills and integrates trauma surgery, neurosurgery, burn trauma, and other critical skills. He played a prominent role in the development and testing of the pilot project at Scottsdale Healthcare, in conjunction with Dr. Michael Foley and Dr. Ken Ransom.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Dr. Robert Dixon's tireless service and sacrifice to this country.

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF DEPUTY DENNIS POLLEY

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the diligent and steadfast service by Chief Deputy Dennis Polley and congratulate him on his retirement from the Marshall County Police department. During Dennis's tenure as Chief Deputy he has consistently demonstrated commitment to his position, his co-workers and his community.

For the last 32 years, Chief Deputy Polley served Marshall County faithfully and honorably. Chief Deputy Polley's daily courage goes above and beyond what we are asked of as citizens of this country. His service in providing safety to his community earns him respect and honor and for this I offer him my utmost respect, congratulations and thanks.

I commend Officer Dennis Polley for his many years of loyal service in protecting Iowans. It is an immense honor to represent Officer Polley in the United States Congress, and I know that my colleagues join me in wishing him a long, happy, and healthy retirement.

SAINT CATHERINE HOSPITAL 80TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great sincerity and appreciation that I stand

today to recognize the 80th anniversary of Saint Catherine Hospital in East Chicago, Indiana. For the past 80 years, Saint Catherine Hospital has served the city of East Chicago and the citizens of northwest Indiana by offering quality care to those in need.

In the 1920s, recognizing the need for a healthcare facility in the heavily industrialized city of East Chicago, Indiana, community and business leaders began investigating the possibility of building a hospital within city limits. With the guidance of the Manufacturers Association of East Chicago and the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ (Ancilla Domini Sisters), a committee was appointed, led by Colonel Walter J. Riley. Due to the tireless efforts of these community and business leaders to formulate plans and raise money, Saint Catherine Hospital opened its doors on May 17, 1928.

Over the years, with the continued support of the Riley family and the Inland Steel Ryerson Foundation, the hospital flourished, increasing not only the number of beds but also the depth of its services. The medical staff at this time became well-known for their innovation and medical advancements, eventually creating the first school of x-ray technology in 1936. In addition, Saint Catherine Hospital became a very important location in the fight against polio, and in 1963, was the venue for the first open-heart operation. Expansion of the hospital continued through the years with new wings and remodeling, a new patient tower in 1987, and the Family Birthing Center in 1997.

In 2001, Donald S. Powers, a true visionary and one of northwest Indiana's finest citizens, brought together Saint Catherine Hospital, Community Hospital in Munster, and the Saint Mary Medical Center in Hobart to create the Community Healthcare System. From this vision emerged a partnership that would allow these outstanding hospitals to work together instead of competing with each other, resulting in one of America's best integrated healthcare delivery systems.

Subsequently, a \$2.5 million MRI system was added at Saint Catherine Hospital and in 2002, a \$2.2 million renovation of the emergency room was completed. In 2005, the CyberKnife Center opened, which brought the Community Healthcare System its most impressive piece of technology to date. Recently, Saint Catherine Hospital was awarded the 2008 HealthGrades Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence, making it the third consecutive year that the hospital has received this award.

In honor of the 80th anniversary celebration, Saint Catherine Hospital will recognize the companies and individuals who have aided in the construction and enhancement of the hospital. These honorees are: Donald S. Powers, ArcelorMittal Steel, ASF Keystone, BP, NIPSCO, the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ (Ancilla Domini Sisters), the Block family, and the Riley family.

Madam Speaker, at this time I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating these honorees, as well as the staff and administration of Saint Catherine Hospital, past and present, who have spent the past 80 years providing quality healthcare services to the people of northwest Indiana.

Through their efforts and their standards of excellence, many in the northwest Indiana community have had the opportunity to enhance their lives. It is the compassion and commitment of facilities like Saint Catherine Hospital that make northwest Indiana such a great community, and they are to be commended for their selflessness and dedication.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF MR.
DENNIS MIDDLETON

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to the memory of an exceptional leader, longtime Scoutmaster, and dedicated family man, Mr. Dennis Middleton.

Dennis owned and operated E. L. Middleton and Son Garage in Loxley, Alabama, for the past 40 years. Dennis, along with his wife, Jean, took in and raised several foster children. He also served as an assistant minister of the First Christian Church of Robertsdale for 30 years. As a member of the church, he worked with the Outreach Minister Program "Life Connection" which focused on helping ex-offenders. However, the title for which he was most proud was Scoutmaster of Troop 45 in Robertsdale.

For 33 years, Dennis served as a Scoutmaster of Troop 45. He was recently asked what Scouting meant to him, and his answer was "everything." Dennis never expected his life to revolve around Scouting. When asked by the previous Scoutmaster to take charge of Troop 45, he decided to serve until a replacement could be found. Three decades later, he positively influenced countless young lives and was once described as, "the backbone of Scouting" in his area.

Dennis was a selfless individual, always eager to help anyone in need. For example, a few years ago during a Cub Scout campout, Dennis spent an entire day working on a broken water well. The Cub Scouts later found out that it was his birthday, and instead of being home celebrating with friends and family, he was at the campground making sure the Cub Scouts had water. In recognition of his tireless efforts on behalf of the Scouts, a Scout lodge at the Silver Creek Campground was recently dedicated in his honor. Humbly, Dennis requested the new building not be named for him and instead follow the Scout tradition of honoring American Indian cultures. Today, the lodge is named Toknaawa Pahn, meaning "Silver Creek" in Muscogee, the native tribal group.

The great contributions made by Dennis as Scoutmaster did not go unnoticed. He was honored with several Scout awards, such as the Silver Beaver and the Order of the Arrow Vigil Honor. He also received the Who's Who Gulf Coast Award in 1989. Dennis was a member of the Order of the Arrow WOA Cholena Lodge No. 322. He attended the Wood Badge SR 550 and was a member of the respectable "Bob White" patrol.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated community

leader and friend to many throughout south Alabama. Dennis Middleton will be deeply missed by his family—his wife of 43 years, Jean Middleton; his daughters, Sabrina Middleton and Beverly Middleton; his son, Dennis Wayne Middleton; his foster son, Allen Kittrell; his sister, Mary Sue Archer and her husband David; his brother, Charles David Middleton and his wife Lillie; his 13 grandchildren—as well as the countless friends and fellow Scouts he leaves behind.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them all during this difficult time.

HONORING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TEXOMA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS AND THE SERVICE OF VOLUNTEERS IN THE TEXOMA FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the legacy of leadership within the Texoma Council of Governments, as well as the service of dedicated volunteers in the Texoma Foster Grandparent Program.

The Texoma Council of Governments (TCOG) was formed by the Legislature in 1968, and was designated under the authority of Chapter 391, Local Texas State Government Code, along with 23 other State Planning Regions, to review and comment on Federal and State financial assistance requests. It is a voluntary organization comprised of city and county governments, colleges, school districts, and chambers of commerce, determined to build strength through regional cooperation. TCOG is responsible for evaluating any project that would have an impact on the three-county area of Cooke, Fannin and Grayson Counties, and works to continually improve the economic, social, and educational opportunities for the citizens in these regions.

Due to the large number of senior community servants in the area, TCOG founded the Texoma Foster Grandparent Program. This program is part of a national organization focused on utilizing area seniors, ages 60 or older, to mentor and tutor "at risk" youths. These volunteers serve approximately 40,000 hours per year in public settings such as Texoma schools, day care, and community centers. On April 24th, the Program's Advisory Council recognized its dedicated senior volunteers with a 50s themed recognition, fittingly entitled, "Volunteers Rock," at the Sherman First United Methodist Church. Several area businesses donated food, door prizes, and funds to help make the event a success, as all volunteers received awards for hours served during the year. The Texoma Foster Grandparent Program Advisory Council and the program's volunteers are wonderful role models for the community at large, and I wholeheartedly applaud them for utilizing their experience, talents, and energy to serve as a positive influence for special needs children and "at risk" youths.

But Texoma's celebration doesn't end there because on June 19, 2008, TCOG will cele-

brate its 40th Anniversary at Austin College with an event entitled "Legacy of Leadership." Funds generated by business partners and vendors for this event will be returned to Texoma's private sector and donated to the Texoma Senior Citizens Foundation. This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate TCOG's many accomplishments and legacy of service during the past 40 years. I want to commend current and past members who have contributed their time, talent and resources to make TCOG one of the most effective Councils of Government in the State.

I am confident that the Texoma Council of Governments will continue to meet the challenges of the future and continue to provide outstanding services for those it represents, and I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating TCOG on its 40th Anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO OLD GLORY

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the journey of remembrance our Nation's flag has made over the past 6 months, which culminated on Memorial Day when it flew over the Capitol and specifically the National Moment of Remembrance at 3 p.m. that day.

The flag's journey started December 7, 2007, in Hawaii to mark the 66th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. The flag made a stop on Christmas Eve in Washington's Eighth District, at Tahoma National Cemetery in Kent, Washington. During its journey, Old Glory traveled to 28 different locations in 20 States, being flown over a significant memorial site at every stop. The journey of our Nation's flag is a wonderful way for this body and for citizens throughout this country to remember the sacrifices of millions of men and women in service to our great Nation.

Ordinary men and women have done extraordinary things time and again to preserve the values and beliefs that make the United States a wonderful country. Their brave sacrifices will never be forgotten or overlooked. As we speak, men and women are fighting for freedom and justice and helping to preserve peace in foreign lands throughout the world. Their remarkable sacrifices are being made not for personal gain or fame, but because of deep-seeded patriotism. That American spirit is alive and well and will preserve this Nation for years to come.

On behalf of my constituents in the Eighth District of Washington, I want to take this moment to honor the service of our many soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen. Their sacrifices allow Old Glory to fly. On Memorial Day, citizens throughout this country united to reflect on the valor and sacrifice we honor, and it is my hope that we carry that spirit every day of the year.