

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF DR.
EDGAR WAYBURN

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay final tribute to a great champion of the environment, Dr. Edgar Wayburn. At age 103, Dr. Wayburn passed away on March 5th surrounded by his beloved family. His accomplishments on behalf of our planet are unsurpassed.

Joining me in tribute today is Congressman GEORGE MILLER.

Working for five decades as a physician, Dr. Wayburn understood that the human condition is inextricably linked to the environment. When Dr. Wayburn first arrived in the San Francisco Bay Area in 1933, he was stunned by the uninterrupted expanse of green beginning in San Francisco and crossing the Bay to Marin. He made a lifelong commitment to ensuring that it remained protected.

He had the same experience when he first visited Alaska fifty years ago with his wife Peggy. They were captivated by the unique beauty of the Alaskan landscape. The national campaign that flowed from that first visit resulted in the Alaska Lands Act: the largest public lands legislation in the history of the U.S. Congress. Today, more than a million acres remain wild largely because of Dr. Wayburn's first trip to what he called "the last frontier."

Dr. Wayburn simultaneously fought to preserve and expand one of America's pristine ancient forests, Redwood National Park in Northern California. Today, these giant redwoods have a permanent home and are listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site and Biosphere Preserve.

In San Francisco he orchestrated the creation of Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA), an almost continuous greenbelt stretching down the Pacific Coast from Point Reyes Seashore to the Peninsula. In the 1960s, the idea of an urban national park was an alien concept to Congress and the National Park Service. Thanks to the tireless labors of Congressman Philip Burton and Dr. Wayburn, along with the support of the local community and local environmentalists, GGNRA is today the most visited national park and one of our nation's great natural treasures. Within its boundaries are redwood forests, beaches, dramatic headlands, marshes, abundant wildlife, historic forts, islands in the Bay, and a world-famous prison—and all of this incredible diversity lies within easy reach of one of the largest metropolitan populations in the United States. It is a living testament to the tenacity of Dr. Edgar Wayburn.

Many of us were fortunate to work with Dr. Wayburn on the monumental achievement of

transferring the Presidio of San Francisco in 1994 from a military post to an urban national park. He helped craft a model for the nation in a place which respected the stewardship and traditions of the military Presidio's tradition as a military base, while enhancing the opportunities for volunteerism and environmental education for youth.

Dr. Wayburn received many awards to honor his accomplishments: the Albert Schweitzer Prize for Humanitarianism from Johns Hopkins University, the Starker Leopold Award by the Nature Conservancy, the John Muir Award by the Sierra Club, and in 1999 Dr. Wayburn's life work was recognized with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian honor that our country can bestow. As President Clinton said at the time, Dr. Wayburn "saved more of our wilderness than any other person alive."

Dr. Wayburn, the honorary president-for-life of the Sierra Club, was the stealth force behind so many environmental movements to save the world's wild lands, forests and waters for the benefit of future generations. The magnificent landscapes that he preserved for future generations will stand as a lasting monument to him.

Above all, Dr. Wayburn was devoted to his family: his beloved late wife Peggy who was his partner in preserving the environment, his children Diane, Laurie, Cynthia and William and three grandchildren. We celebrate his life and we honor his memory.

TCU WOMEN'S RIFLE TEAM

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to the TCU Women's Rifle Team. Last month the team won the 2010 NCAA National Championship. This is the first National Championship win since 1983 for TCU, so this is a huge victory for both the team and the school.

In addition to the accomplishment of the entire TCU Women's Rifle Team, several of the ladies on the team received individual distinctions. Freshman Sarah Scherer won the individual National Championship in the smallbore rifle portion of the competition. Senior Erin Lorenzen was honored as the Most Outstanding Athlete of the championship. These two TCU ladies were also honored as All-American athletes. Sarah Beard, Caitlin Morrissey, and Simone Riford received All-American athlete honors as well.

It is evident that the TCU Women's Rifle Team is a very skilled and accomplished group. Head coach Karen Monez has done an excellent job of leading the team. This National Championship is the height of achieve-

ment for the team, which has had phenomenal success for the past several years under the leadership of Coach Monez. I am confident that their success will continue.

Again, I congratulate the entire TCU Women's Rifle Team on their National Championship win. They have made their entire school and all of Fort Worth proud.

IN HONOR OF THE MONTEREY BAY
BLUES FESTIVAL

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Monterey Bay Blues Festival on the occasion of its twenty-fifth anniversary. For a quarter of a century, the Festival has been dedicated to the stewardship and celebration of this uniquely American musical legacy here on the Monterey Peninsula.

Six years ago the Festival started its Blues in the Schools (BITS) program, which has spread to five school districts in Monterey County and keeps on growing. As part of the regular music program, BITS introduces the blues to young people who hope to find their own expressions in music. Scholarships and grants help to keep students focused on and developing passion for their art. BITS clinicians support choirs, guitar classes, combos, and school bands.

In the words of my friend and former staff member, Doris M. Jones, chair of the anniversary committee: ". . . the (festival) began with a few local men and women who had a desire to preserve the rich heritage of blues music, as well as continue to perpetuate the heartfelt sounds created out of times of sorrow, pain, jubilation and joy. . . . 'The Blues' have a way of touching that place in each of us that brings out a deep emotion and understanding that, regardless of how difficult the times, things will get better. Whether it is our economy, our health, our relationships, times of love or times of war, the expression of the blues reminds us that we are more alike than we are different."

The mission of the Monterey Bay Blues Festival is to give back to the community and spread this distinctively American art form through the Festival and by supporting youth and the arts. In this way, they expand the appreciation of their evolving artistic legacy and inspire a passion for music, especially the Blues.

Madam Speaker, I want to hold up the Festival as a cultural institution, an expression of what makes our nation a worldwide leader in the music that is unique to our land. May their continued success inspire many more generations to celebrate our nation's musical heritage and participate in its future.

On behalf of the whole House, I am honored to extend to the Monterey Bay Blues

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