

RECOGNIZING STEPHANIE McCONNELL FOR HER COMMITMENT TO STUDENTS AND EDUCATION IN THE STATE OF ARKANSAS

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Stephanie McConnell, for her achievement of being named the Arkansas Middle School Assistant Principal of the Year for her work at Helen Tyson Middle School in Springdale.

A graduate of the University of Arkansas with a master's degree from Harding University, McConnell is never far from the classroom even after work hours are over because she's working towards a specialist's degree from Harding.

McConnell's hard work and leadership has been an inspiration at the school and for the entire Springdale School District. She attributes her success at Tyson Middle School to her colleagues and her students. Her passion, dedication and enthusiasm for seeing our students succeed is something we can all learn from.

I am proud of Stephanie McConnell for her commitment to education and her efforts to improve the lives of students in Arkansas. This recognition is a well deserved honor.

HONORING MR. RICHARD SLAWSON

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the years of service given to the people of Chautauqua County by Mr. Richard Slawson. Mr. Slawson served his constituency faithfully and justly during his tenure as a member of the Hannover Town Council.

Public service is a difficult and fulfilling career. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Mr. Slawson served his term with his head held high and a smile on his face the entire way. I have no doubt that his kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the people of Chautauqua County.

We are truly blessed to have such strong individuals with a desire to make this county the wonderful place that we all know it can be. Mr. Slawson is one of those people and that is why, Madam Speaker, I rise in tribute to him today.

THE OLD BRICK PLAYHOUSE

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor The Old Brick Playhouse of Elkins, West Virginia for the tremendous service they

provide to the youth of Randolph, Upshur, and surrounding counties through its Apprentice program.

Founded in 1992 by Executive Director Missy Armentrout McCollam, the Old Brick's Apprentice program utilizes arts education to foster confidence, leadership and team building skills through a student-acted and produced play or musical.

One needs only to look at the numbers to see the strength of this program. From an initial cast of a mere 20 high school students, the Apprentices today overflow the theater doors with an enrollment of more than 100 students, spanning grades 6-12.

Instilling a commitment to continuing education and expanding one's horizons, the Apprentice program's legacy is unmistakable. Some of the more than 2,000 Apprentice alumni have gone on to attend some of our nation's most prestigious colleges and universities. Others have gone on to act professionally. Many have achieved distinguished careers in business, law, medicine, or teaching; and, nearly all have become model citizens worthy of emulation.

Truly one of those small, local treasures to all in the community it enriches, I commend the Old Brick Playhouse of Elkins, West Virginia for its outstanding leadership and commitment over the past 18 years. Having been recently recognized at the highest state and national levels, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this wonderful organization.

CONGRATULATING WESTLAKE ACADEMY'S INAUGURAL GRADUATING CLASS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise today to congratulate the Town of Westlake with the high school matriculation of the first graduating class of the Westlake Academy.

Founded as a public charter school in 2003, Westlake Academy is the first and only municipality in Texas to receive a charter designation. It has a mission to achieve academic excellence and develop life-long learners who will become well-balanced responsible citizens.

Westlake Academy promotes intercultural understanding, respect, independent thought and prepares their students to become active participants and agents of positive change through its International Baccalaureate curriculum. Westlake Academy is the fifth school of only ten schools in the United States, and the only public school, to offer the full International Baccalaureate curriculum for grades K-12.

I'm honored to celebrate this first graduation with Mayor Laura Wheat, the Town Council/Trustees, former Board of Alderman/Trustees, former Mayor Scott Bradley, the parents, graduates and Community of Westlake. I appreciate the opportunity to speak at their first commencement and to represent the Town of Westlake and Westlake Academy in the United States House of Representatives.

I'd like to submit the names of the First Graduating Class for the RECORD. These 24 graduating seniors have been offered over \$3.7 million in scholarships/grants, and 100 percent have been accepted to colleges and universities.

Brooke Awtry, Kent Bordelon, Elena Ceballos, Alexandra Champagne, Anisha Chandra, Bailey Cockrum, Chelsea Cooper, Ryan Degant.

Tim Drews, Olivia Flowers, Josh Frey, James Grover, Erik Herbst, Viky Kalyta, Sean Kennedy, Christina Kolokotroni.

Connor Lenio, Corey Lenkiewicz, Samantha Moon, Shivam Purohit, Stephanie Schultz, Kali Spates, Tyler Spronger, Yasya Vasyutynska.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF CHARLES NUNZIO DELPIZZO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Charles Nunzio DelPizzo, a Veteran, a baker, a business owner and a locomotive engineer. Most importantly, he was a beloved husband, father, grandfather and friend.

Mr. DelPizzo was the sixth of nine children born to Guisepppe and Angelina DelPizzo. As a young man, Mr. DelPizzo and his siblings were raised with the values of faith, family and hard work. He and his four brothers served in the military during World War II. Mr. DelPizzo earned the rank of Corporal in the United States Army, where he served as a baker in the 107th Quartermaster Bakery Company.

Following his honorable discharge, Mr. DelPizzo combined his talent for baking with his entrepreneurial spirit. He and his young bride, Palma Antonia Santoro DelPizzo, started their own bakery in Garfield Heights. In addition to running his bakery, he also worked as a locomotive conductor and engineer with the Nickel Plate and Norfolk & Western Railroads.

Mr. and Mrs. DelPizzo were married for 63 years before her passing in 2006. Together, they raised their daughter, Paula, and welcomed their son-in-law, Andrew, into the family. Mr. DelPizzo was a loving grandfather to Angela, Melissa and Andrew, and was the great "grumpy" to Anthony, Talia and Larissa.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing Charles Nunzio DelPizzo, a man whose joyous life was framed by a love for family and a love of life. I offer my deepest condolences to his family and friends. He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, unfortunately last night, Monday May 24th, I was unable to cast my votes on H. Con. Res.

278, H.R. 1017, and H.R. 5330 as I was conducting a townhall meeting at the Tolono Public Library and wish the RECORD to reflect my intentions had I been able to vote.

Had I been present on rollcall No. 291 on suspending the rules and passing H. Con. Res. 278, Expressing the sense of Congress that a grateful Nation supports and salutes Sons and Daughters in Touch on its 20th Anniversary that is being held on Father's Day, 2010, at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, the District of Columbia, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present on rollcall No. 292 on suspending the rules and passing H.R. 1017, the Chiropractic Care Available to All Veterans Act, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present on rollcall No. 293 on suspending the rules and passing H.R. 5330, to amend the Antitrust Criminal Penalty Enhancement and Reform Act of 2004 to extend the operation of such Act for a 5-year period ending June 22, 2015, I would have voted "aye."

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF VFW POST NO. 8352

HON. JOHN H. ADLER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Mr. ADLER of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the members of the Silver Ridge Park Westerly Memorial Post No. 8352 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Toms River, New Jersey as they celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Post's founding.

The VFW's support for our Nation's Armed Forces has been exemplary throughout its history, but it is their with our Nation's veterans that has been most impressive. VFW Post No. 8352 is an active community organization and has served as a local institution in the Toms River community for more than 25 years.

Upon this Memorial Day, we as Americans, should never forget the men and women who served our Nation with such dedication and patriotism. Our Nation owes a debt of gratitude and support for all the achievements performed by the Veterans of Foreign Wars and for the 25 years of service that the Silver Ridge Post No. 8352 has provided to the Toms River community.

That is why, Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me on this 25th anniversary in saluting Silver Ridge Park Westerly Memorial Post No. 8352 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and all of its members for all they do for our veterans and for all they've done for America.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE COUNCIL ON AMERICAN-ISLAMIC RELATIONS EIGHTH ANNUAL CIVIL RIGHTS BANQUET

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) Ohio Chapter on the occasion of their Eighth Annual Civil Rights Banquet entitled "A New Era of Hope."

CAIR is a nationwide, nonprofit organization whose mission is to "enhance the understanding of Islam, encourage dialogue, protect civil liberties, empower American Muslims and build coalitions that promote justice and mutual understanding." For the past eight years, CAIR Ohio has played an instrumental role in helping to bridge the divides between Greater Cleveland's diverse communities. CAIR Ohio's Eighth Annual Banquet will provide a platform for vibrant discourse led by this year's distinguished speakers: Shahid Buttar, Esq. of the Bill of Rights Committee; Imam Mahdi Bray of the Muslim American Society Freedom Foundation; and Nihad Awad, National Executive Director of CAIR. I commend these speakers for their efforts to promote civil liberties and social justice.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing the Council on American-Islamic Relations Ohio Chapter for their eight years of outstanding achievement. May their efforts to promote dialogue and create a more inclusive world continue to endure.

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CALIFORNIA SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the 150th anniversary of the California School for the Blind, CSB, located in Fremont, California. CSB has educated and provided services to thousands of blind and visually impaired students throughout the state.

CSB began in 1860 in San Francisco with an original enrollment of one blind and three deaf students. For a time, the school was the sole provider of educational services for the blind in California. Today, CSB is entirely state-funded, and has an enrollment of approximately 82 Californians from ages 5-22.

CSB students participate in vast array of extra-curricular activities, including swimming, karate, tandem bicycling, music and dance, international pen pals on tape, art, cooking and roller-skating. CSB student athletes take part in the Alameda County Special Olympics and are members of the United States Association of Blind Athletes. The school also offers its students lessons in social and living skills, career development, concept development, and orientation and mobility skills. The school recently opened its Rocket Café, which is a student run business on campus.

Among CSB's most notable alumni is Dr. Newel Perry. Dr. Perry was the first blind person to attend regular classes at Berkeley High School and was the first blind person accepted for enrollment at the University of California. He received his doctorate at the University of Munich, and was the first Director of Advanced Studies for the Blind in California. Dr. Perry is the author of California's Aid to the Blind Laws, and founder of the California Council for the Blind.

It is my honor to join in congratulating the California School for the Blind for reaching this milestone anniversary of 150 years of service to the visually impaired. I send best wishes for continued success to the current CSB Superintendent, Dr. Stuart Wittenstein, and all who contribute to provide quality educational services for the blind students of California at CSB.

"WHERE IS THE BUDGET?"

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, for quite some time now, many Members have come to the floor to ask "Where are the Jobs?"

In addition to asking "Where are the Jobs", I am also asking where is the budget? With our national debt standing at almost thirteen trillion dollars, we cannot simply ignore our fiscal woes and hope that they will solve themselves. More than a month has passed since the April 15 deadline set by the Budget Act, and no committee or floor actions have been scheduled to address this missing budget.

I call on the Majority to produce a budget so that we can have a debate on improving our fiscal condition. We must not continue to saddle our children and grandchildren with massive debts. Where is the Budget?

HAKALAU FOREST NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE EXPANSION ACT OF 2010

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge Expansion Act of 2010, which authorizes the expansion of this Refuge on the island of Hawaii to encompass adjacent parcels containing native forest habitat that supports some of the most endangered forest birds in the Nation and the world. Both the 2009 and 2010 U.S. State of the Birds reports call for particular attention to Hawaii, where more bird species are vulnerable to extinction than anywhere else in the United States.

The Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge consists of two major units: the 32,733-acre Hakalau Forest Unit on the windward, eastern, slopes of Mauna Kea volcano and the 2,604-