

“Over the course of the past two decades, no person has done more to honor the history and reputation of the United States Marine Corps on Guam than John Gerber. His Pacific War Museum remains a sole outpost of Marine Corps heritage in the vast Mid-Pacific. Visited by commandants, generals, congressmen, Marines, history enthusiasts, tourists, children and citizens of various nations alike, John’s museum both inspires and brings contemplative reflection. For his tireless devotion to depicting the legacy, service and history of the United States Marine Corps in the Pacific, I can think of no finer recipient of the “Colonel John H. Magruder III Award” than John Gerber.”

I have high hopes that this award will come true. But in my mind, there was no greater local recognition of John’s devotion than to see him and Mel sitting next to BGen Ben Blaz as Guests of Honor for the performance of the storied Marine Corps Battle Color Detachment at Asan Beach this past March—a first ever performance on Guam that could not have been a success, without, once again, John Gerber’s legendary passion, love, devotion and work-ethic. John single-handedly prepared the Asan Park for a performance befitting the Marines from 8th and I. And because of that—they will be back. And I know they will be playing a tune for John.

Rudyard Kipling once wrote:

“If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds’ worth of distance run
Yours is the Earth and everything that’s in it,
And—which is more—you’ll be a Man my son!”

Well, from May 31st, 1951 until May 4th 2010, the Man—John Vincent Pangelinan Gerber—ran the distance everyday and filled every unforgiving, unyielding minute of his life with action, passion and commitment. John nurtured his earth and everyone who was in it, and today we Marines extend our collective devotion and gratitude to John for having been one of us—our friend, our standard-bearer and Guam’s most devoted Marine.

Now, it’s a tragic misunderstanding that some may think that Marines aren’t prone to poetry (and don’t worry—I didn’t write one), but John Gerber was a fan of poetry—his favorite poem being one of the greatest ever written—“The Marines Hymn.” And we Marines will be coming to attention for that later today in John’s honor. But I do want to end with a beautiful sonnet written by the Anglo-American Poet John Gillespie Magee that eulogized the laying to rest of the famous World War I English poet Rupert Brooke, who died on his way to the Battle of Gallipoli. As I read it, please think of John Gerber, all that he is, and all that he has achieved in his wonderfully productive life on earth.

“We laid him in a cool and shadowed grove
One evening in the dreamy scent of thyme
Where leaves were green, and whispered high above—

A grave as humble as it was sublime;
There, dreaming in the fading deeps of light—

The hands that thrilled to touch a woman’s hair;

Brown eyes, that loved the Day, and looked on Night,

A soul that found at last its answered Prayer. . .

There daylight, as a dust, slips through the trees.

And drifting, gilds the fern around his grave—

Where even now, perhaps, the evening breeze
Steals shyly past the tomb of him who gave
New sight to blinded eyes; who sometimes wept—

A short time dearly loved; and after,—slept.”

Rest in Peace, John. Mission Accomplished.

Semper Fidelis Marine.

IN RECOGNITION OF WALT L.
HANLINE, ED.D.

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 26, 2010

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished career and service of Dr. Walt L. Hanline upon his retirement as the Superintendent of the Ceres Unified School District.

Throughout his 35-year career, Dr. Hanline has demonstrated an ongoing commitment to the development of the highest standards for the education of all children, modeling through his daily interactions with staff and the community his passion for doing what is right, including the creation of smaller learning communities for Ceres students through an unprecedented school facility building project valued at over \$166 million and resulting in five new elementary schools and a new high school campus. His dedication to the highest level of integrity and service resulted in his distinguished recognition as the 2007 State Superintendent of the Year by the Association of California School Administrators for his positive influences and successes in education, in proving that all students can succeed when high standards are set. In addition, Dr. Hanline’s commitment to the community in which he serves, is evidenced by his award as the 2008 Citizen of the Year by the Ceres Chamber of Commerce, as a result of his successes in building positive working relationships between the City of Ceres and the Ceres Unified School District, co-founding the CUSD Foundation to provide supplemental educational opportunities to Ceres students and teachers, and actively serving in the Ceres community through the Ceres Community Collaborative. He has served as a mentor to future educational leaders through his position as adjunct professor at the California State University, Stanislaus, presenting at numerous education summits and workshops throughout the United States.

Dr. Hanline has dedicated himself for over 35 years to education, as a teacher, a principal, and a superintendent, serving the past 9 years as superintendent of the Ceres Unified School District. He has shown himself to be a leader who has vision and determination to achieve the goals he sets for both the District and the community for which he serves. It is my distinguished pleasure to recognize Dr. Walt Hanline for his achievements and to honor him as my friend. I wish both he and his wife, Edith, the best as they embark on this new chapter in their lives.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ST. DAVID’S SOCIETY OF LACKAWANNA COUNTY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 26, 2010

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to the 100-year anniversary of the St. David’s Society of Lackawanna County.

The St. David’s Society of Lackawanna County was founded in 1910 to promote, preserve and hold sacred the Welsh traditions of Lackawanna County in northeastern Pennsylvania and foster friendship among all ethnic groups in the region.

The Society is a non-profit, non-sectarian and non-political organization.

Northeastern Pennsylvania has a strong Welsh tradition dating back to the 18th century when Welsh made up about one-third of Pennsylvania’s colonial population.

After the discovery of coal in the region during the 1800s, a new wave of Welsh immigrants descended on northeastern Pennsylvania. By the early 20th century, Welsh-born immigrants were heavily settled in the city of Scranton.

Today, Pennsylvania maintains one of the highest populations of Welsh ancestry in the country.

Over the past 100 years, the St. David’s Society of Lackawanna County has worked to preserve Welsh history throughout the region.

Last year, the Society commemorated the 140th anniversary of the 1869 Avondale coal mine disaster by completing a restoration project at the Washburn Street Cemetery in Scranton where 60 Welsh miners were buried.

Each year, the Society celebrates St. David’s Day on March 1 with an annual dinner in honor of the patron saint of Wales and as a yearly celebration of Welsh heritage in the region.

This year’s centennial celebration began on March 1 with flag raisings in Carbondale and Clarks Summit, PA.

To commemorate this historic anniversary, the Society has also organized a special Welsh Heritage Exhibit at the Anthracite Heritage Museum in Scranton to promote the Welsh influence in the coal industry in northeastern Pennsylvania.

On May 29, 2010, the Society will celebrate its 100th anniversary with a dinner and concert in Dickson City, PA.

This year’s dinner and concert will feature the Ystradgynlais Male Voice Choir who will be traveling from Wales to take part in the festivities. Catrin Brace of the Welsh Assembly Government in New York will serve as the keynote speaker.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the St. David’s Society of Lackawanna County on this historic occasion. In the years to come, I am confident they will continue to foster a rich ethnic appreciation for the next generation of northeastern Pennsylvania residents.

TRIBUTE TO CLAFLIN UNIVERSITY

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 26, 2010

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a distinguished higher education institution in South Carolina's Sixth Congressional District that is celebrating its 140th anniversary. Claflin University, a Methodist affiliated institution, was founded in 1869 and is the oldest historically black college in South Carolina.

In 1869, Dr. Alonzo Webster, a minister and educator from Vermont, secured a charter for Claflin University. This charter was unique in that it forbade the discrimination of any sort among faculty, staff and students, making the college the first in South Carolina to open its doors to students regardless of race, class or gender. The school took its name from Boston philanthropist Lee Claflin and his son, Massachusetts Governor William Claflin, who provided the financing for the purchase of the Orangeburg campus.

Dr. Webster served as Claflin's first president. He was a trained theologian, who originally came to South Carolina to teach at the Baker Biblical Institute in Charleston, which was established by the South Carolina Mission Conference of 1866 for the Methodist Episcopal Church to educate African American ministers. In 1870, the Baker Biblical Institute merged with Claflin and moved to Orangeburg.

Two years later, the South Carolina General Assembly designated the South Carolina State Agricultural and Mechanical Institute as part of Claflin University. Then in 1896, the General Assembly voted to separate the two institutions, and South Carolina State became a separate land-grant institution on property donated by Claflin adjacent to its campus.

In its 140-year history, Claflin University has been served by only eight presidents. Following Dr. Webster were Dr. Edward Cooke (1872-1884); Dr. Lewis M. Dunton (1884-1922); Dr. Joseph B. Randolph (1922-1944); Dr. John J. Seabrook (1945-1955); Dr. Hubert V. Manning (1956-1984); Dr. Oscar A. Rogers, Jr. (1984-1994); and Dr. Henry N. Tisdale (1994-present).

During Dr. Cooke's administration, a fire destroyed the Fisk Building, which was designed by Robert Bates, who was the first certified Black Architect in the United States.

The first college class graduated in 1879 under Dr. Cooke's administration. Dr. Cooke was succeeded by his vice president and development officer, the Reverend Dr. Lewis Dunton. He established a law department under the tutelage of the Honorable J.J. Wright, a former Associate Justice of the S.C. Supreme Court. The program's graduates were admitted to the South Carolina Bar. Dr. Dunton also increased the campus from 6 to 21 acres. He even deeded his home and 6 acres of land to Claflin after his retirement.

Claflin's fourth president, Dr. Joseph Randolph, emphasized a liberal arts education. He sought to inspire students intellectually, culturally, and spiritually to prepare them for a variety of professions. Under his direction, the

high school and upper grades were discontinued. The first four years of elementary school were retained for the teacher education program; however, they were later discontinued as well.

Dr. Seabrook, who became the fifth president, persuaded the South Carolina Annual Conference to substantially increase its annual giving to Claflin. He also renewed the interest of the New England Conference of the Methodist Church in the institution. The increased funding enabled the college to expand its programs, and in 1948 it became accredited for the first time by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

The tenure of the sixth president, Dr. Manning, was most noticeably marked by the significant increase in Claflin's physical plant. He also strengthened the faculty and increased the endowment. It was during Dr. Manning's tenure that I was first associated with the University.

Under Dr. Rogers' administration, two capital campaigns were completed. This increased the endowment and improved the college's financial base. Student enrollment grew and the Grace Thomas Kennedy building was constructed. He also commissioned a master plan to guide campus development into the 21st century.

In 1994, the current president, Dr. Henry Tisdale took the helm of Claflin. He was a former senior vice president and chief academic officer at Delaware State University. His dedication to scholarly achievement led him to declare academic excellence was the number one priority of the institution. Dr. Tisdale established the Claflin Honors College and the Center for Excellence in Science and Mathematics, and gained the national accreditation of more than a dozen academic programs. Under his leadership, Masters programs in Business Administration, Biotechnology and Education were established. He also oversaw construction of the Living and Learning Center, Legacy Plaza, the Student Residential Center, the Music Center and the new University Chapel.

Claflin University has been recognized as one of the nation's Top Tier higher education institutions by publications including U.S. News and World Report, Forbes.com, Consumers Digest, Chronicle of Higher Education, and the Journal of Blacks in Higher Education.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating Claflin University on its rich 140-year history. Claflin began as a mission to educate African American ministers and today has become one of our country's premier higher education institutions. I commend Dr. Tisdale and Claflin University for their tremendous contributions to South Carolina and its students.

**HONORING DALLAS POLICE CHIEF
DAVID BROWN**
HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 26, 2010

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and

congratulate Dallas Police Department's new Chief of Police, David Brown. A 27-year veteran of the Dallas Police Department, Chief Brown was sworn in to his new role earlier this month.

A graduate of Dallas Baptist University and Amberton University, Chief Brown has spent his entire police career with the Dallas Police Department. He has served as police Lieutenant, Sergeant, Senior Corporal, Officer, Deputy Chief, First Assistant Chief, Interim Dallas Assistant City Manager, and First Assistant Chief. His expanse of experience within the police department will certainly serve him well in his role as chief.

Chief Brown is a strong and dedicated manager who is extremely knowledgeable about and dedicated to the Dallas community. A native of Oak Cliff, Chief Brown has deep connections to the community he protects. He is known in the department for leading innovative projects to reduce crime, and plans to continue to explore new methods of crime prevention.

I look forward to working with Chief Brown as he seeks to increase the visibility of the Dallas Police Department and reduce crime. He has an important job ahead of him and I am confident that the dedication that has dictated his career will continue in his new role as chief.

**RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN DON
GRIGG FOR HIS SERVICE TO OUR
COUNTRY**
HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 26, 2010

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Captain Don Grigg, who lived a life of service to his country.

Grigg proudly served in the Vietnam War where his selflessness earned him the Silver Star, a Bronze Star and two Purple Hearts.

He was a veteran who always remembered what an honor it was to fight for freedom and defend liberty. He continued his fight off the battlefield as a strong supporter of veterans and worked to get them the benefits they earned.

Grigg's hard work on behalf of our nation's veterans was noticed by people across Arkansas. In 2008 Governor Mike Beebe appointed him to the Governor's Commission on Veterans Affairs.

As a man who devoted his life to the United States and our veterans, it is fitting that Captain Grigg will be laid to rest with his comrades at Arlington National Cemetery.

We appreciate his service to our country and our veterans appreciate his work on their behalf.