

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO THE CREWS OF THE USS REGISTER AND THE USS INDIANAPOLIS

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 1998

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize that on September 15–21, 1998, survivors of the USS Register and Indianapolis will be having their reunion in El Paso, Texas at the Howard Johnson Lodge.

The USS Indianapolis (CA-35) was commissioned at the Philadelphia Navy Yard on November 15, 1932. The ship served with honor from Pearl Harbor through the last campaign of World War II, sinking in action two weeks before the end of the war. On July 30, 1945, while sailing from Guam to Leyte, the USS Indianapolis was torpedoed by Japanese submarine I-58. The ship capsized and sank in twelve minutes. Survivors were spotted by a patrol aircraft on August 2nd. All air and surface units capable of rescue operations were dispatched to the scene at once. The USS Register was among the several ships involved in the rescue. Upon completion of the day and night search on August 8th, 316 men were rescued out of a crew of 1,199.

The USS Register (APD-92/DE233) served in the Pacific Theater of operation as an attack personnel destroyer during World War II. On May 20, 1945, the ship survived a hit by a Japanese kamikaze plane off the island of Okinawa, sustaining casualties and heavy hull damages, after shooting down three enemy suicide planes. On August 3rd, the USS Register was among eight ships that rescued some survivors of the ill-fated USS Indianapolis.

After distinguished service, the USS Register was decommissioned March 31, 1946 at Green Cove Springs, Florida on the Saint Johns River. In the Spring of 1966 it was struck from the Naval Reserve Fleet and subsequently transferred to the Republic of China Navy and renamed the Tai Shan.

"We the surviving shipmates of the USS Register and the survivors of the USS Indianapolis value the memories of their service in the United States Navy and our shipmates who are no longer with us and are not forgotten for their distinguished service and eternal brotherhood. Rest in peace shipmates. On their behalf, we honor them and Paul James Register, for whom our ship was named for, who was killed in action while serving aboard the ill-fated USS Arizona, December 7, 1941 at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii."

SERVICE MEMBERS OF THE USS REGISTER AND
INDIANAPOLIS

The sailors of the USS Register and Indianapolis served the United States of America with honor and distinction. These veterans of WWII contributed to end the war in the Pacific and the war as a whole. They deserve a page in history, for their story is a reminder of all the servicemen and women who gave their

lives to preserve the freedoms that we take for granted today.

HONORING BRIAN WEIDEL

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 1998

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Brian Weidel, a junior at Loveland High School, who recently joined an elite group of Boy Scouts when he earned the Eagle Scout Award. Weidel, a Boy Scout since 1992, joined the 2 percent of all Boy Scouts who attain this high honor. During Weidel's involvement with the Scout Troop 182 in Loveland, he participated in many local community service projects including gathering food for the needy, planting trees and collecting litter.

To reach the rank of Eagle Scout Weidel devised an individual project to construct bird and bat houses and place them along the Loveland Bike Trail. He chose this particular project because he uses the bike trail frequently and realized the impact for everyone who enjoys outdoor recreation along the path.

Weidel plans to continue his involvement with the Eagle Scouts and one day become a troop leader. As a Member of Congress representing the Fourth District of the State of Colorado where Brian Weidel has devoted so much of his time and energy, I am proud to congratulate him for this tremendous honor and wish him future success in any endeavor he seeks to pursue.

I hereby submit for the RECORD a copy of an article from the Loveland Reporter Herald describing Brian's accomplishment.

[From the Loveland (CO) Reporter-Herald,
June 10, 1998]

TRAIL BIRD HOUSES EARN EAGLE SCOUT
(By Richelle Kerns)

Brian Weidel, a junior at Loveland High School, recently joined an elite group of Boy Scouts when he earned the Eagle Scout award.

Weidel, a Boy Scout since 1992, is one of 2 percent of all Boy Scouts who become Eagle Scouts.

"I've seen a lot of Eagles, and they get a lot of respect," Weidel said. "They get looked up to."

Weidel's favorite part about being a Scout is being able to participate in a wide variety of outdoor activities. He has been canoeing in the boundary waters of northern Minnesota and Canada, and backpacking at Philmont Scout Ranch in Arizona.

"(Being in Scouts) I've gotten to do a lot of things that I wouldn't have gotten to do if I wasn't in the group," he said.

This summer, Weidel is taking another trip with his troop to Arches National Park and Havasu Falls in the Grand Canyon.

During Weidel's involvement with Scout Troop 182 in Loveland, he has participated in many local community service projects, including gathering food for the needy, planting trees and collecting litter.

For his Eagle Scout project, Weidel constructed bird and bat houses that have been placed along the Loveland Bike Trail.

"I was looking to do something for the Loveland bike trail," Weidel said. "I use it a lot, and I wanted to make it nicer."

Weidel plans to continue with his involvement in Eagle Scouts and become a troop leader.

"I plan to stay on and teach what I've learned to others," he said.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CASS BALLENGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 1998

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, had I been present on June 16 for rollcall votes 232 and 233, I would have voted "yea." As a member of the Education and the Workforce Committee, I was glad that the House voted overwhelmingly in favor of House Resolution 401, putting the House on record against social promotion in America's schools.

HONORING MINNESOTA'S SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AWARD WINNERS

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 1998

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Small Business Administration's award winners from Minnesota. The accomplishments of these ten individuals are impressive, and they deserve recognition for their hard work and dedication.

There is nothing small about starting or owning a small business. In fact, small businesses are what fuel the economy of our nation. In the United States, small businesses employ 53 percent of the private workforce, contribute 47 percent of all sales, are responsible for 50 percent of the gross domestic product and are the principle source of new jobs.

The Small Business Administration has chosen ten Minnesotans whom they recognize as having excelled in various areas of endeavor. I applaud and acknowledge their achievements.

The Welfare to Work Award winner is Dr. Timothy Childs, President of TLC Precision Wafer Technology. This company is one of only a handful of firms worldwide that have perfected the technology to commercially produce gallium arsenide wafers. Besides being a leader in his industry, Dr. Childs established his business in the inner city with the goal of employing local residents. As a result of his dedication, numerous under-employed individuals have developed job skills and now have the means to support their families.

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