

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DALE
SHERFEY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize an outstanding individual from Penrose, Colorado. Over the years, Dale Sherfey has distinguished himself as a businessman, a community leader, and a vital participant in maintaining civic responsibilities throughout the region. Dale's achievements are impressive, and it is my honor to recognize several of those accomplishments today. Dale is a generous soul whose good deeds and actions certainly deserve the recognition he has recently received.

Dale is the owner and operator of a local feed store in Penrose, a successful business he has run for many years. He has carried on a long tradition of quality guidance and service to his many clients in the area, resulting in an operation dedicated to remaining true to high standards of honesty and integrity. His success in the industry has led to several honors including a recent tribute presented by the Colorado House of Representatives.

Throughout his success, Dale and wife Kathy, have remained active in their community. They have actively volunteered their time and energies to many local community organizations and Dale is frequently seen about the area lecturing to 4-H groups and farmers.

Mr. Speaker, Dale Sherfey's achievements have also recently been rewarded by his community through the Penrose Chamber. The chamber named Dale the Penrose Chamber Distinguished Citizen of the Year, an award given to an outstanding and well deserving individual who has selflessly given of themselves to directly benefit their community. It is now my honor to congratulate Dale on his most recent and well-deserved award from this organization by bringing his good deeds to the attention of this body of Congress, and this nation. Dale, you have been a model citizen for Penrose and Colorado and I extend my thanks for your efforts. Keep up the good work and good luck to you and your wife Kathy in your future endeavors.

CELEBRATING AS AFGHAN GIRLS
RETURN TO SCHOOL

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the end of a five-year ban on girls attending school in Afghanistan.

On Saturday, for the first time since the oppressive Taliban regime usurped control of Afghanistan, young women will finally be able to return to the process of learning without fear of punishment, violence or even death.

It is fitting that we celebrate this new beginning today—March 21st, New Year's Day in Afghanistan—for today is truly a new day for this desert nation in central Asia.

Today, home schools that were deemed illegal under Taliban rule are moving out from beneath the cloak of secrecy and into the light of legitimacy.

Today, girls who once shared a few outdated books and a handful of pens and notebooks now have access to some of the 40,000 stationary kits, 10,000 School-in-a-Box kits, 7.8 million, textbooks and 18,000 chalkboards provided by the UNICEF Back-to-School Campaign.

Today, women and girls who once hid their instruments of learning under their shawls as they cautiously made their way home after a lesson can now carry books through the streets without fear.

Prior to the civil war that propelled the Taliban to power, women in Afghanistan, and especially the capital of Kabul, were highly educated and employed.

Seventy percent of school teachers, 50 percent of civilian government workers and 40 percent of doctors in Kabul were women.

And at Kabul University, females comprised half of the student body and 60 percent of the faculty.

In fact, the Afghani Constitution, which was ratified in 1964, had an equal rights provision for women contained within it.

It is clear that in order for women in Afghanistan to regain a position of equality, quality education programs must be made available to the girls in Afghanistan.

I commend UNICEF and the Interim Afghan Government for the Back-to-School effort and look forward to seeing more than 1.5 million children on the school-house steps on Saturday.

NO—TO REVIVING MILITARY
CONSCRIPTION

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce legislation expressing the sense of Congress that the United States government should not revive military conscription. Supporters of conscription have taken advantage of the events of September 11 to renew efforts to reinstate the military draft. However, reviving the draft may actually weaken America's military. Furthermore, a military draft violates the very principles of individual liberty this country was founded upon. It is no exaggeration to state that military conscription is better suited for a totalitarian government, such as the recently dethroned Taliban regime, than a free society.

Since military conscription ended over 30 years ago, voluntary armed services have successfully fulfilled the military needs of the United States. The recent success of the military campaign in Afghanistan once again demonstrates the ability of the volunteer military to respond to threats to the lives, liberty, and property of the people of the United States.

A draft weakens the military by introducing tensions and rivalries between those who volunteer for military service and those who have been conscripted. This undermines the cohesiveness of military units, which is a vital element of military effectiveness. Conscripts are also unlikely to choose the military as a career; thus, a draft will do little to address problems with retention. With today's high-tech military, retention is the most important personnel issue and it seems counter-productive to adopt any policy that will not address this important issue.

If conscription helps promote an effective military, then why did General Vladisova Putilin, Chief of the Russian General Staff, react to plans to end the military draft in Russia, by saying "This is the great dream of all servicemen, when our army will become completely professional . . . ?"

Instead of reinstating a military draft, Congress should make military service attractive by finally living up to its responsibility to provide good benefits and pay to members of the Armed Forces and our nation's veterans. It is an outrage that American military personnel and veterans are given a lower priority in the federal budget than spending to benefit politically powerful special interests. Until this is changed, we will never have a military which reflects our nation's highest ideals.

Mr. Speaker, the most important reason to oppose reinstatement of a military draft is that conscription violates the very principles upon which this country was founded. The basic premise underlying conscription is that the individual belongs to the state, individual rights are granted by the state, and therefore politicians can abridge individual rights at will. In contrast, the philosophy which inspired America's founders, expressed in the Declaration of Independence, is that individuals possess natural, God-given rights which cannot be abridged by the government. Forcing people into military service against their will thus directly contradicts the philosophy of the Founding Fathers. A military draft also appears to contradict the constitutional prohibition of involuntary servitude.

During the War of 1812, Daniel Webster eloquently made the case that a military draft was unconstitutional: "Where is it written in the Constitution, in what article or section is it contained that you may take children from their parents, and parents from their children, and compel them to fight the battles of any war, in which the folly or the wickedness of Government may engage it? Under what concealment has this power lain hidden, which now for the first time comes forth, with a tremendous and baleful aspect, to trample down and destroy the dearest rights of personal liberty? Sir, I almost disdain to go to quotations and references to prove that such an abominable doctrine had no foundation in the Constitution of the country. It is enough to know that the instrument was intended as the basis of a free government, and that the power contended for is incompatible with any notion of personal liberty. An attempt to maintain this doctrine upon the provisions of the Constitution is an exercise of perverse ingenuity to extract slavery from the substance of a free government. It is an attempt to show, by proof and argument, that we ourselves are subjects of despotism, and that we have a right to chains and bondage, firmly secured to us and our children, by the provisions of our government."

Another eloquent opponent of the draft was former President Ronald Reagan who in a 1979 column on conscription said: ". . . it rests on the assumption that your kids belong to the state. If we buy that assumption then it is for the state—not for parents, the community, the religious institutions or teachers—to decide who shall have what values and who shall do what work, when, where and how in our society. That assumption isn't a new one. The Nazis thought it was a great idea."

President Reagan and Daniel Webster are not the only prominent Americans to oppose

conscription. In fact, throughout American history the draft has been opposed by Americans from across the political spectrum, from Henry David Thoreau to Barry Goldwater to Bill Bradley to Jesse Ventura. Organizations opposed to conscription range from the American Civil Liberties Union to the United Methodist Church General Board of Church and Society, and from the National Taxpayers Union to the Conservative Caucus. Other major figures opposing conscription include current Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan and Nobel Laureate Milton Friedman.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to stand up for the long-term military interests of the United States, individual liberty, and values of the Declaration of Independence by cosponsoring my sense of Congress resolution opposing reinstatement of the military draft.

A.D. AND SHIRLEY MCGREGOR: A GIFT OF LOVE AND GENEROSITY

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a very special couple, A.D. and Shirley McGregor of Spaulding Township, Michigan, as they prepare to celebrate fifty years of marriage and a loving commitment to each other and their community. They have not only shared their tremendous capacity for love and giving with their son, Allen, his wife, Nancy, and granddaughter, Nicole, but they have both literally and figuratively played Santa Claus and Mr. Claus for much of the citizenry of Saginaw County.

The list of the many volunteer organizations graced by the McGregors' efforts over the years is long and impressive, including the Michigan Avenue Baptist Church in Saginaw, the Salvation Army, various rescue missions, the Saginaw County Historical Society, CROP Walk for the Hungry, the Saginaw Fair and a host of other non-profits.

Of particular note is their involvement with Saginaw Community Hospital, where they have spent untold hours entertaining and helping patients. Elderly patients and others have derived much pleasure from the McGregors' musical interludes, with A.D. leading the sing-along and Shirley at the piano playing "God Bless America" or "Let Me Call You Sweetheart." During the Christmas holiday season, the McGregors have become synonymous with the Yuletide spirit as they have donned red coats and white-furred hats to dress as Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus for visits to area hospital and charitable events.

Those familiar with volunteer work in Saginaw can hardly remember a time when the McGregors were not involved in one or another activity. A.D. and Shirley have volunteered for various organizations since before they were married at Fordney Avenue Baptist Church in 1952. In fact, as a young girl, Shirley used to accompany her father, Elmer Hopkins, when he sang and played the organ for local organizations. Both A.D. and Shirley learned at an early age that they had a responsibility to return some of their blessings to the wider community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating A.D. and Shirley for fifty

years of marital happiness and for a lifetime of loving and giving. I am confident their kind hearted generosity will continue to know no bounds.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOE JESIK

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Mr. Joe Jesik and recognize his contributions to this nation. A resident of Pueblo, Colorado, Joe began his service as a sailor during World War II when he joined the Navy and served in the Pacific Theatre. During his tour, Joe was stationed on the light cruiser USS *Honolulu*, which was involved in numerous engagements and battles throughout the South Pacific. He was recently awarded several decorations for his service over fifty years ago, and it is my pleasure to recognize his awards and service before this body of Congress and this nation today.

The USS *Honolulu* was involved numerous engagements throughout the war and is credited with the sinking of a Japanese cruiser, four destroyers, and four enemy aircraft. Joe's exploits and service to his country were recently brought to light by his immediate family through a surprise ceremony attended by almost two hundred relatives. At the ceremony, Joe was presented with several long overdue decorations for his service to his nation during the war. Among the decorations awarded at the ceremony are the Navy Good Conduct Medal, the American Campaign Medal, the World War II Victory Medal, the Navy Presidential Unit Citation Ribbon, the Navy Unit Commendation Medal, and the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation Ribbon. Thanks to his loving family of twelve sons and daughters, and his dedicated wife Lucille, Joe is now properly recognized by his nation for his service to our armed forces and commitment to his nation.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege that I recognize Joe Jesik and his selfless sacrifice to this nation. Many men and women of his generation gave their lives long ago so that today we can enjoy the right and privilege of freedom. Joe Jesik served selflessly in a time of great need, bringing credit to himself, to his family, and a grateful nation. It is an honor to recognize the service of this veteran before this body of Congress today, as he certainly deserves the thanks of this grateful nation. Thanks Joe for your service, and good luck in your future endeavors.

HONORING ELAINE CARDONICK

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Elaine Cardonick, a devoted teacher who gave the last days of her life to her students at the Loesche Elementary School in Northeast Philadelphia. Mrs. Cardonick, despite being very ill, would not allow her class

of autistic children to be disturbed and upset by her absence. She was with her class when the tragic events of September 11th occurred, and finally went to the emergency room following the subsequent early closing of schools. Mrs. Cardonick passed away in the hospital the following day.

Elaine Cardonick began teaching in 1964 and was a special education teacher for most of her long and distinguished career. Over the course of thirty-seven years, she was an inspiration to hundreds of young children who are challenged daily to achieve their best in school and in life.

Mrs. Cardonick's actions in putting her students' welfare before her own are a shining example of what love and duty really mean. She was an inspiration to the students and faculty at the Loesche Elementary School and will be remembered as a hero.

On March 22, 2002, a plaque will be dedicated by the faculty at the Loesche Elementary School, in memory of Elaine Cardonick. Each year, the plaque will be engraved with the name of a "special" child who, despite having a disability or handicap, made every effort to achieve their best. This award was created to commemorate the courage and determination that Mrs. Cardonick exemplified throughout her career, and especially in September of 2001.

Elaine's love and kindness touched the lives of so many: her students, her colleagues, and her family. She is survived by her husband, three children, and three grandchildren. She will be missed by all who knew her.

Mr. Speaker, I salute Mrs. Elaine Cardonick and the ideals she represented and inspired in all of her students at the Loesche Elementary School in Philadelphia.

HONORING ANNE CONSIDINE FOR TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE TO CYHA

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a very special person from my district. Special, because she embodies the characteristics of a special place. Anne Considine is an extra-ordinary person who has demonstrated how an individual can impact their corner of the world in very ordinary ways. Her corner of the world is Charlestown, Massachusetts, where she is being honored this Saturday evening for her twenty-five years of dedicated service to the Charlestown Youth Hockey Association (CYHA).

Plain and simple, Anne Considine is a "hockey mom". Long before the political pundits of the 1990's realized the power soccer moms have in impacting political change, Anne Considine was improving her community through youth hockey. Piling the children into the family car for early morning ice time is an expected duty of a hockey parent in Boston. However, twenty-five years ago in most families, and in most neighborhoods, that would have been dad's job alone. Long before women reached Olympic and World Cup glory through hockey and soccer, Anne Considine was known as someone who could tighten a mean skate. Anne's influence in her community did not stop at the rink or at the doorstep