EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING PHILLIP TORRES

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Phillip Torres of Kansas City, Missouri. Phillip is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1707, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Phillip has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Phillip has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Phillip Torres for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2008

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Church of the Nazarene on its 100th Anniversary for providing a place to worship, learn, and assist those in need.

In honor of this special anniversary, the Church of the Nazarene has declared October 5, 2008, as The Centennial Sunday. On that day, churches of this denomination will gather across the globe as one body united around a common worship, a common message, and a common scripture. The Centennial Sunday is an organized effort by the church to remember their heritage and those that have gone before them, as well as look to the future, as they continue, through the power of the Holy Spirit, to spread the gospel further throughout the world.

This occasion serves to highlight the Church of the Nazarene's history and their continued commitment to the cause of Christ. The sustained growth of this church and their pledge to holiness stands as a lasting testament to the determination of a small group who overcame prejudices and divisions as they devoted themselves to God and unity with their fellow man.

During and shortly after this country's bloody Civil War, our nation found itself bitterly divided. At that same time, the Wesleyan-Holiness Movement likewise splintered into numerous divisions over race, region and several theological issues such as baptism and women's role in the church. For the next 40 years the Holiness Movement was reduced to scattered denominations, divided by their location and ideologies.

The year between October, 1907 and October, 1908 marked a significant turning point for the Holiness Movement. Three of the movement's regional denominations made a commitment to put aside past differences and embrace in unity the mutually held convictions of their faith. The culmination of their efforts came to fruition on October 8, 1908 in Pilot Point, Texas, where the denominations met together to form the Church of the Nazarene. Under the leadership of individuals such as Phineas Bresee and Hiram Reynolds, the church again united as one body and began to spread the gospel throughout the world.

Looking back over the past 100 years, the Church of the Nazarene has experienced significant change. Yet, through these years, their mission has remained fundamentally the same. The Church itself has declared that, their "primary objective . . . is to advance God's Kingdom by the preservation and propagation of Christian holiness as set forth in the Scriptures." The Church of the Nazarene has always taken seriously the call to take the Good News to all nations and to fellowship with one another in love. The church continues to serve as a beacon for holiness and Christian community throughout the world.

Madam Speaker, please join me in applauding the Church of the Nazarene as it celebrates 100 years of dedicated fellowship. Clergy and members of the past and present are to be commended for their service to the church and greater community. It is my hope that the Church of the Nazarene continues to stand as symbol of resolve, inspiration, and worship for many years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF HISPANIC AMERICAN SOLDIERS AND IN CELEBRATION OF HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2008

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Hispanic servicemen and women that have chosen honorable paths of public service and devoted themselves to the cause of defending this great Nation.

Since 1968, the United States has set aside a designated period of time to recognize the contributions of Hispanic Americans and to celebrate Hispanic heritage and culture. Our soldiers put themselves in harm's way and make sacrifices to protect the freedoms we enjoy. The uniform they wear knows no gender, no social status, and no political affiliation. It knows that these brave souls share only one thing—a deep love for America.

Master Sargeant Roy Perez Benavidez and Staff Sargeant Marcario Garcia were two remarkable individuals that proudly served in the U.S. Army. They were awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for their courage and heroic actions; Roy for his service in the Vietnam War and Marcario for his service in Germany during World War II. While these are two notable examples, there are many other Hispanic American soldiers that deserve our gratitude. These are the men and women who leave their loved ones to serve the greater good. They are the ones who put on the uniform everyday knowing that their sacrifices today guarantee us our freedom and safety tomorrow.

Madam Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in expressing heartfelt gratitude to these soldiers.

TRIBUTE TO MARINE CAPTAIN JESSE MELTON, III

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2008

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Marine Captain Jesse Melton, III, who died serving his country on September 9th, 2008. Captain Jesse Melton, 29, of Randallstown, Maryland, died as a result of multiple traumatic injuries sustained while conducting combat operations in Afghanistan. Captain Melton was assigned to Headquarters Battery, 12th Marines, 3rd Marine Division, Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii.

Jesse graduated from Randallstown High School in Baltimore County, Maryland, where he played lacrosse and baseball. He then attended Messiah College in Grantham, Pennsylvania, where he studied communications. After his freshman year, however, Jesse decided to join the Marine Corps Reserve and attended Boot Camp in South Carolina, an experience his family says changed his life. Upon completion of his basic training, Jesse's drill sergeant recommended him for Officer Candidate School, training Jesse completed while earning his degree in communications from Messiah College.

Jesse was commissioned as a second lieutenant in June of 2000 and served two tours in Japan. He was promoted to the rank of captain and deployed for a tour in Iraq. In March, Captain Melton was deployed again, this time to Afghanistan. He was supporting combat operations in the Parwan province at the time of his death.

The Randallstown High and Messiah College alumnus is survived by his mother, Mrs.