

A TRIBUTE TO CAPT. IAN WALSH

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, at 2:08 a.m. Central European time, on June 8, 1995, history was made. With unparalleled perfection that only comes with countless hours of training and preparation, a team of U.S. Marines rescued Air Force Capt. Scott O'Grady from behind enemy lines in Bosnia.

Among the Marines who risked their lives to save Captain O'Grady was Capt. Ian Walsh, whose parents, Laurence and Ellen, live in my congressional district in Providence, RI. Captain Walsh, 28, who piloted the Cobra attack helicopter which led the rescue mission, is no stranger to life-threatening missions. Having flown in Somalia and Haiti, Captain Walsh has made a typical day's work out of flying into hostile territory.

The rescue of Capt. Scott O'Grady, who courageously eluded the enemy for 6 days, was by no means simple. Captain Walsh had to not only fly through dense fog and had to remain extremely low in order to avoid mountain ranges and power lines, but he also encountered missile and gun fire from the Serbians. All this was worth it in once Captain Walsh made the first audio contact with the downed fighter pilot. As Captain Walsh related later to the Providence Journal-Bulletin, "It's one of those things you train and train and train, and you finally execute, and it pays off. I feel like I've actually made a difference—helped pull a guy out and saved his life. And that to me is probably the best feeling anybody could have."

With Captain O'Grady back in friendly hands, there is indeed much to celebrate. In our joy, however, we should not forget that men and women are still putting their lives on the line for our country every day. They are truly heroes and should be recognized as such. I am proud to say that Capt. Ian Walsh is one of them.

As Captain Walsh finishes the remaining 3 months of his tour stationed off the embattled shores of Bosnia, I want to let him know that this country and his friends are behind him. I wish for Ian a safe tour and speedy return home for one of Rhode Island's true heroes. I also offer best wishes to his wife, Charlotte of North Carolina, and his parents, Laurence and Ellen, all of whom must be very proud of Ian's dedication and service to his country.

IN RECOGNITION OF SAN LUIS OBISPO MOZART FESTIVAL—25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ANDREA H. SEASTRAND

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mrs. SEASTRAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleagues to join with the 22d Congressional District of California as we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the San Luis Obispo Mozart Festival. Presented during the weeks of July 21 through August 6, 1995, the festival is a superior salute to the music and life of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

Over the past 25 years, San Luis Obispo residents and tourists from all over the world have enjoyed the festival's performances of works by composers of classical to contemporary. Audiences have a rare privilege to enjoy some of the greatest compositions of all time surrounded by the serenity and beauty of the San Luis Obispo County landscape. From vineyards to music halls and from quaint chapels to the historic Mission of San Luis Obispo de Tolosa, music lovers keep coming back year after year to enjoy the festival.

The San Luis Obispo Mozart Festival is also well known for its educational programs conducted in and around the performances. For adults, there is an Akademie lecture series which features music scholars from throughout the Nation. And for the children, the Akidamie provides an excellent opportunity for young people to gain an appreciation for music.

So, as the 22d Congressional District of California gears up for the 25th anniversary of the San Luis Obispo Mozart Festival, I remind my colleagues that they are all invited to the central coast to enjoy this truly classic event. And to the festival itself, I say congratulations on a successful history and good luck for continued success in the future.

TRIBUTE TO VFW POST NO. 4087
AUXILIARY

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to rise before you today to pay tribute to a very important organization in my district. The Davison Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, Post No. 4087 received its charter on June 24, 1945. I congratulate the auxiliary as it celebrates its 50th anniversary on June 24, 1995, and thank them for their many years of dedicated service to the community. The auxiliary was originally formed around a mutual desire to serve the community.

The auxiliary is known throughout the entire country for their involvement in projects that touch many lives. One of the first projects the auxiliary accomplished was distributing toys to needy children at Christmas. That original gesture of generosity has not only prevailed, it has expanded into many other programs to assist the needy. Individuals, families, and particularly children have benefited as a result of the magnanimity of the auxiliary. Clothing, toys, food, scholarships, and athletic equipment have been provided when and where needed. Various youth groups have been advantaged by the auxiliary's largesse. Essential items, equipment, and extended use of Post No. 4087's building, and other facilities have been made readily available to those groups.

The Davison Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, Post No. 4087 has traveled long distances, and donated many hours of time visiting veterans hospitals. These visits have served as a topic to the veteran who has been hospitalized as a result of illness, or from wounds received as a result of military service. The auxiliary has helped to carry the message of freedom by sponsoring the Voice of Democracy Program, and sponsoring flag presentations to local schools. The auxiliary color guard was formed in 1983, and since

then, has been invited to participate in parades and ceremonies throughout Michigan. The auxiliary color guard has also been the source of pride to the Davison community, as it has been the winner of numerous State and national awards, trophies, and commendations. The accomplishments of the auxiliary are too lengthy to list today. Suffice it to say they are great, and they are many.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I stand before you today, asking you and my fellow Members of Congress to honor the Davison Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, Post No. 4087. For 50 years they have stood firmly behind their commitment to each other, the community, and this Nation. Their steadfast devotion to promoting the human dignity of all Americans serves as inspiration to us all.

CELEBRATING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF BUREAU OF RECLAMATION COMMISSIONER DANIEL P. BEARD

HON. BILL RICHARDSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my high regard and appreciation for the performance and accomplishments of Daniel P. Beard and my sadness at his decision to resign from his position as Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner.

As many of my colleagues may remember, prior to his current service in the Department of Interior, Mr. Beard was a staff member in both the House and Senate, serving as administrative assistant to Senator Max Baucus and staff director for the Subcommittee on Water, Power and Offshore Energy Resources, and the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs. In his 2 years with the Bureau of Reclamation, he has served his country with distinction and unparalleled effectiveness.

As Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation, Dan was instrumental in turning the Bureau around and making it one of the premier agencies of the Department of Interior. In fact, Vice President Gore awarded the Bureau a Reinvention Hammer Award in 1994 for its reduced budget and effective downsizing of employees.

Commissioner Beard should be very proud of how well he has achieved his goal to make the Bureau of Reclamation the preeminent water resource management agency in the world. Dan led the Bureau to establish and support water conservation projects throughout the West, such as projects to bring new, drought-resistant water supplies to communities in arid areas, particularly in southern California. The Bureau also implemented a native American trust asset project policy and substantially expanded technical assistance to native American tribes in the West.

Our Bureau reforms instituted by Dan include a revision of agency operations to delegate greater decisionmaking authority to field personnel and the involvement of headquarters in everyday operating decisions. These changes have resulted in the elimination of several layers of management within the Bureau and the reduction of redtape. It is fair to say that customer service is now the foundation for the Bureau's operations.

I would like to congratulate and commend Mr. Beard for his outstanding service to the Nation. His achievements are worthy of high praise and appreciation and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

SUPPORT INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR IRELAND AND MACBRIDE PRINCIPLES

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Friends of Ireland, I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the International Fund for Ireland and the MacBride Principles.

The time is right. The current peace process in the North provides a context in which our assistance will be most valued. And our willingness to reward nonviolent problem solving could not be shown more clearly.

Our historical tie to Ireland is a lifeline—not for victory in armed struggle, but for economic success in peacetime.

We have a humanitarian interest at stake, and an economic interest. Because Ireland has a highly skilled, educated work force. It is a gateway to Europe, and a potential market for American companies.

Regarding the MacBride Principles, I personally believe that despite the cease-fire and despite advances in the peace process, systemic prejudice still exists in the North. The MacBride Principles will guarantee that U.S. tax dollars are targeted at unemployment in the areas that will bring the best peace dividend.

Our economic assistance has helped Ireland get this far in its struggle for peace, and will continue to help create an infrastructure of hope.

I urge support for this measure.

IN RECOGNITION OF AMCORE BANK AND THE ZION DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, it is a great pleasure for me to recognize the accomplishments of the partnership between AMCORE Bank and the Zion Development Corporation. These two organizations, acting in unison, have stabilized and redeveloped a major portion of the Rockford community. Their commendable efforts were justifiably included by the Social Compact in their 1995 Outstanding Community Investment Awards program.

AMCORE Bank and the Zion Development Corporations have a long history of working together. AMCORE Bank, a major financial institution in Rockford, had been located for nearly 100 years on Seventh Street, directly across from the church that founded the Zion Development Corporation [ZDC]. The ZDC, established in 1982, has acted as an instrument to revitalize storefront and residential property in an urban neighborhood. Its mission

is to provide affordable housing for low- and moderate-income families of every background, as well as to train the residents of Rockford for worthwhile employment opportunities.

Neither AMCORE, nor the ZDC could have succeeded in creating safe, thriving areas within their neighborhood without the help of the other. Acting as a model for other businesses around the Nation, AMCORE granted generous and flexible loans to the ZDC, often financing close to 100 percent of the cost of the properties acquired by the ZDC. AMCORE went on to donate money directly to its partner, to establish a banking service for the residents of the new properties, and to help form the Seventh Street Area Development Council. The ZDC is, like AMCORE, a model itself. It is a nonprofit institution designed to positively impact citizens' lives directly. It has targeted and purchased the properties around Seventh Street which, in the past, have been infamous because of the prostitution and drug dealing that occurred there.

These two organizations have earned admiration and respect because of their service. They have been deservedly noted by the Social Compact and provide inspiration to the rest of Rockford, as well as the country, to never concede a neighborhood as lost to crime.

BISHOP STUDENT EXCELS IN NATIONAL HISTORY DAY

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention today the fine achievement of Will Baylies and the leadership of his teacher, Mrs. Irene Sorenson, from Home Street Middle School in Bishop, CA. Recently, this remarkable student joined other students from across the country at the University of Maryland to compete in National History Day sponsored by the Constitutional Rights Foundation. The theme for this year's competition was conflict and compromise in history.

Will qualified for the national competition by first winning at the local, regional, and State levels. Will placed first in California for his research paper titled, "A Philosophical Conflict on Civil Rights, Integration or Separatism? Correspondence Between Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X." Will took the original approach of creating a series of letters between these two men that express an understanding of their philosophies. In reality, King and Malcolm X did not correspond so the content of the letters reflect the research done as well as critical analysis by Will.

This outstanding student and Mrs. Sorenson are a tribute to our public school system which remains the finest in the world. Although this student lives in a community of less than 5,000 people located 200 miles from a major library or university, he completed extensive research in his subject area and was highly competitive with students from the large metropolitan areas including Los Angeles County, San Bernardino County, and Riverside County. It is also remarkable that under the guidance of Mrs. Sorenson, a total of 16 students

made it all the way to the final State competition and exhibited their knowledge in 7 of the possible 8 categories.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, and friends in recognizing the fine achievement of these individuals. Their work is a reflection of education at its best. It is fitting and appropriate that the House of Representatives pay tribute to them today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PAT WILLIAMS

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, family difficulties kept me from being here for the vote on the Kasich-Dellums amendment on deleting money from the authorization for additional B-2's.

Had I been in attendance I would have voted "aye".

TRIBUTE TO DELORES BOHANNON-WILKINS

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege and honor for me to rise today and pay tribute to one of Reston, VA's most beloved teachers and community leaders, Delores Bohannon-Wilkins who passed away last month after a long, prolonged battle with cancer. On June 15, 1995 the school where Mrs. Wilkins taught, Langston Hughes Middle School, will dedicate a hall in her memory.

At Langston Hughes Middle School Delores Bohannon-Wilkins served as a middle school mathematics teacher in Reston, VA. She was actively involved in professional educational pursuits. She originated and directed community mentor programs for children-at-risk in Fairfax County. Mrs. Wilkins served as a leader and presenter at professional educational conferences, seminars, and workshops. She also provided counseling for youths and their families in the Reston community.

Among her honors were the Golden Eagle award for outstanding educational contributions and being named Lady Fairfax for the Hunter Mill Magisterial District in Fairfax County [VA], at the Fairfax County Fair in recognition of her leadership contributions to the community. She was a member of several professional and civic organizations. Among these were the Reston Chapter of National Jack and Jill the National Council of Negro Women where she served as president.

Delores graduated from St. Paul's College in Lawrenceville, VA. She pursued additional graduate studies at the University of Maryland, University of the District of Columbia, and the University of Virginia. She was married to Dr. Thomas A. Wilkins and was the mother of three children; Lisa, Thomas, and Mark.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in honoring Delores Bohannon-Wilkins, a woman who served as a role model, mentor, and leader in Reston. She was a woman whose leadership in her community made it a