

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO ATKINSON HIGH SCHOOL REBELS

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 1995

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, the Atkinson High School Rebels, of Pearson, GA, captured their first Georgia State Basketball Championship in school history, 71 to 64, over Decatur in the 1995 Class A boys title game on Sunday, March 11. The Rebels played inspired basketball despite the loss of someone very dear to the team and community. Ralph Foster, former pastor of Pearson Methodist Church, was a tremendous influence on a team destined to win the State title. The Rebels rallied around the loss of Foster as they dedicated the season and State championship to the late pastor and presented Mrs. Velma Foster with the trophy following the championship game. Coach Mike Putman has helped to build the character and work ethic necessary for these young athletes to succeed in life as well as the basketball court. Tough defense along with a balanced scoring attack were key ingredients as this group exemplified commitment to the team effort. The good people of the Eighth District are proud of these young athletes and their ability to set and stay focused on their goals during a time of great adversity. We salute their efforts and congratulate their accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO MARY CREWS KORNEGAY

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 1995

Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the accomplishments of a talented and dedicated professional, Mary Crews Kornegay, who is retiring after many years of outstanding public service to the city of Newark, NJ.

Ms. Kornegay, embarked on her career with the city on November 22, 1960, during the administration of Mayor Leo P. Carlin, when she assumed the position of clerk stenographer. Her ability was quickly recognized, resulting in a series of promotions to other positions: Principal stenographer, deputy municipal court clerk; private secretary to the corporation counsel, chief clerk, office supervisor; and her present position, executive assistant, law department. In addition, she serves as the secretary to the city of Newark Insurance Fund Commission. Ms. Kornegay has served as chairwoman on the City's Employees Recognition Awards Committee since its inception. In addition, she serves on the Safety Committee, the Americans with Disabilities Act Committee and the Fleet Safety Board.

In addition, Ms. Kornegay continues her appointment to the New Jersey Supreme Court's Attorney Ethics Committee, as well as her elected position as secretary to the New Jersey Risk Management Association and serves on its executive board. She is also a member of the board of trustees of the Ensemble Theatre Company.

A graduate of Rutgers University, she received a Bachelor of Arts Degree with high honors in political science and urban studies. A member of the alumni association of Rutgers University College and Alpha Sigma Lambda-Beta Zeta Chapter Honor Society, she remains actively involved with Rutgers Alumni projects. She has the distinction of being the first student at Rutgers to receive a certificate in public Administration.

She received her certification from the certified manager's program through the New Jersey Department of Personnel and Rutgers University. She also completed the associate in risk management courses at Seton Hall University.

A lifetime resident of Newark, Ms. Kornegay has two children, Janine and Michael.

I know that my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives join me in congratulating Ms. Kornegay and wishing her all the best as she moves on to the next phase of her life. May she enjoy new pursuits in the many fulfilling and happy years ahead.

INTRODUCTION OF THE UNITED STATES-MEXICO BORDER WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ACT AND A BILL TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE FOR U.S. COLONIAS

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 1995

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to amend the Clean Water Act to provide a basic level of protection to human health and the environment for millions of United States citizens who live along our border with Mexico.

Specifically, the bill authorizes the Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] to provide financial and other assistance to the Border Environmental Cooperation Commission [BECC], the International Boundary and Water Commission [IBWC], and other appropriate State, Federal, or local governmental agencies for the construction of waste water treatment facilities in the vicinity of the United States-Mexico border.

Simply put, Mr. Speaker, this legislation will save lives.

More than 9 million people live within 65 miles of the 2,000-mile-long United States-Mexico border. Rapid population growth on both sides of the border in conjunction with relatively unplanned development in Mexico, have overwhelmed the existing wastewater infrastructure in the region. The net result is raw sewage flowing into the United States and

contaminating our surface and ground water. It is an environmental and human health debacle of Third World proportions that threatens the health of millions of people.

In Nogales, AZ, as well as in many of the border regions of Texas, California, and New Mexico, the geography is such that the rivers and streams flow north. Many times, these "rivers" are nothing more than dry washes that run with water only during storms or when effluent is discharged. The Nogales Wash, which runs through the center of the town, is typical of these bodies of water. Nogales, AZ is a small town of approximately 25,000 people. It's sister city in Mexico, Nogales, Sonora, contains between 250,000 to 300,000 persons. The two cities are linked by family ties, a common heritage and language, and a shared environment. Unfortunately, a lack of infrastructure in Nogales, Sonora has turned the Nogales Wash into what the Arizona Republic described in a February 1994 article as "an open drainage ditch that carries industrial runoff and sewage right through the downtown" of Nogales, AZ.

While an international waste water treatment plant, operated through a binational agreement between the Mexico and United States sections of the International Boundary and Water Commission [IBWC], treats sewage from both Nogales, Sonora and Nogales, Mexico, the plant is near capacity and often exceeds capacity during storms. Since 1990, for 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, chlorine has been added to the wastewater in the Nogales Wash to kill the fecal bacteria. Yet, petroleum products and other industrial chemicals continue to pollute the wash. In 1991, the wash, which runs by homes, businesses, and school bus stops, actually caught fire. Once again, Mr. Speaker, I am not describing some impoverished developing nation, but a thriving city in the United States.

Recent studies by the University of Arizona and the Arizona Department of Health Services found that rates of lupus in Nogales, AZ are 4.5 times the national average. The rates of leukemia and multiple myeloma cancer were also found to be several times higher than the national average. While no evidence directly linking these abnormally high rates of disease to the pollution problems of Nogales has been found, there is a strong suspicion that such is the case. The report by the University of Arizona found that the incidence of lupus increased among residents living near the Nogales Wash, and the Department of Health Services stated that there is "strong evidence" that the high rate of lupus is a result "complex environmental exposures."

The problems of Nogales, AZ are, unfortunately, not unique to that city. Towns and municipalities along the border, from San Diego, CA to Brownsville, TX are experiencing similar environmental nightmares that demand attention from the Federal Government. Clearly, it is the Federal Government's responsibility to ensure that a U.S. city is not adversely impacted by waste products emanating from a

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

foreign national. Let me be clear, Mr. Speaker, in stating that the purpose of this legislation is to solve environmental crises that, while binational in nature, are adversely impacting communities in the United States. This is not public works legislation for Mexico, but a public health bill for the United States.

With the creation of the North American Development Bank [NADBANK] and the Border Environmental Cooperation Commission, we have begun the process of solving transboundary environmental problems in a binational manner. As the Federal agency with the primary responsibility for protecting human health and the environment, it is only proper that the EPA be able to commit its funds and resources to improving one of the most environmentally damaged areas of our country.

This bill is a Federal solution to a Federal problem, and I urge my colleagues to support its inclusion in the reauthorization of the Clean Water Act.

Mr. Speaker, I am also introducing, at the request of the administration, a bill to protect the environment and human health of those persons living in colonias along the border in the United States. These unincorporated communities lack basic waste water infrastructure and are being severely polluted by raw or partially treated sewage. Surface and groundwater contamination is rampant and these areas are fast becoming human health disasters.

The bill would authorize the EPA to make grants for the construction of wastewater treatment works to service these colonias. Under the provisions of the legislation, the States are required to provide 50 percent of the funding for these projects. There is desperate need for this assistance along our border with Mexico, especially in the State of Texas. Once again, Mr. Speaker, I want to make it clear that these monies are for waste water treatment works to benefit communities in the United States that are in desperate need of infrastructure most of us would consider rudimentary.

I want to acknowledge the leadership of Congressmen RON COLEMAN and KIKI DE LA GARZA in providing for colonias. Both members have introduced legislation to meet the needs of these communities, and I look forward to working with them to ensure that colonias all along the border become safe and healthy places in which to live.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank EPA Administrator Carol Browner for her leadership on these matters. Finally, after years of neglect under previous administrations, the United States-Mexico border is beginning to receive the attention it desperately needs. I commend Administrator Browner for her fine work and look forward to our continued efforts to improve the environment and health of our border communities.

TRIBUTE HONORING THE DELPHOS HERALD ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 125TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 1995

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today and pay tribute to one of the great newspapers of Ohio. This

year the Delphos Herald in Delphos, OH, celebrates its 125th year of publication. The city of Delphos is a community renowned for its civic pride and commitment to service. The paper has through the years epitomized this outstanding quality.

For the first quarter century, the Herald was a weekly paper. Its first editor in 1869 was David H. Tolan, and it was independent in its politics until 1877. After that, historical records indicate the Courant, a Herald rival, was considered the Republican newspaper while the Herald the Democrats'. Later both became nonpartisan and both served the community until 1961. In that year, the Herald was sold to its present owners and the Courant was discontinued.

Over the years, the Herald has been the chronicle of change. Marriage, births, and funeral announcements are dutifully reported to the area, as well as national news including the exploits of those of us in Congress. This hometown newspaper has consistently benefited from a high caliber personnel, including my chief of staff Mark Wellman, who in high school was a sports reporter for the Herald. In all this time, the Herald has distinguished itself as a quality newspaper. Under the leadership of its longtime editor, Esther Bielawski, I am confident it will continue to prosper.

Mr. Speaker, anniversaries are a time to reflect upon a steadfast tradition of service. They are also a time to look toward new horizons. It is obvious that the city of Delphos and the surrounding area have greatly benefited from the effort that was started in 1869. I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the achievements of the Delphos Herald and encourage the staff to continue to uphold what has become the standard for excellence in Ohio.

LEON P. KLEMENTOWICZ HONORED AS 1995 PULASKIAN OF THE YEAR

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 1995

Mrs. MALONEY. I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues an outstanding constituent of mine in Greenpoint, Brooklyn. Leon P. Klementowicz represents the best of what Brooklyn is all about: Community, public service, and love for family. In recognition of his accomplishments, the Pulaski Association has selected Leon P. Klementowicz as its 1995 Pulaskian of the Year.

In order to truly appreciate Leon's long list of achievements, it helps to know a little bit about his upbringing. Leon is the youngest of three children born to Joseph Klementowicz and Stophie Sokolowska who had emigrated from Poland to the Melrose section of the Bronx, New York. After Leon's graduation from high school, he was drafted into the U.S. Army and served proudly during World War II. Rising to the rank of Combat Sergeant in the Third Infantry Division, Leon served on the front lines in Italy at (Anzio), France, Germany and Austria. During that time his bravery earned him the Silver Star, the Bronze Star and the Combat Infantry Badge.

After returning home from the war, he entered the funeral profession and married Irene Nieminski. Together they raised four wonderful

children: Joanne, Claudia Marie, Monica and Paul Leon. In 1958, they purchased the John Smolenski Funeral Home in Greenpoint, Brooklyn and became active members of the SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish.

Leon is also an active member of many other organizations, including the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, the Polish legion of American Veterans, the Fidelity Council of the Nights of Columbus, the Kosciuszko Foundation, the Smolenski Democratic Club and the Green Oaks Citizen's Club. He is also a director of the Polish and Slavic Center, an organization of over 35,000 members located in his beloved Greenpoint.

His work with Polish immigrants newly arrived in Greenpoint is well known throughout the community. His work earned Leon recognition by the Polish Government, which presented him with a medal at their consulate in Manhattan.

One of the most important community activities Leon takes part in every year is the Pulaski Day Parade. He took part in the very first Pulaski Day Parade in 1987 and has been an active member of the parade committee for over 35 years. He currently serves as a vice president on the committee and has been involved for many years in the coordination of the Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral on Parade Day. Leon has also helped to reorganize the Greenpoint Parade Committee which has become one of the largest and well prepared groups in the parade.

Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to help Leon Klementowicz celebrate his selection as 1995's Pulaskian of the Year. He exemplifies what is best about America, and I ask that my colleagues join me in saluting Leon for his years of service to New York City and the Polish-America Community at-large.

174 YEARS OF GREEK NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 1995

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 174th anniversary of Greek national independence, and to call for support here in the U.S. Congress for the rights of Greek nationals worldwide.

As we celebrate Greece's successful struggle for independence from the Ottoman Empire in 1821, let us not forget the continuing struggles of Greek people today—for basic religious and linguistic rights in Albania and Turkey, for peaceful coexistence and freedom in Cyprus, and for greater recognition of Greek sovereignty by its neighbors in Macedonia. The Greek people deserve our strong support as they strive for the very same rights and values we Americans hold so dear.

In my district, California's 50th Congressional District, I have the privilege of working with the George Pollos San Diego Chapter No. 505 of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association [AHEPA]. These Greek-Americans promote educational opportunities in the community, and are actively involved in international humanitarian issues. I am honored to join with them today to pay tribute to the Republic of Greece on its 174th birthday, and to call for congressional attention