

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM B.
SWANBECK

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 1995

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize an exceptional young man from my district who has recently accepted his appointment as a member of the class of 1999 at the U.S. Naval Academy.

William B. Swanbeck will soon graduate Huron High School after 4 years of outstanding academic achievement as well as extra-curricular involvement. While in high school William has distinguished himself as a leader among his peers. He is an outstanding student and patriot.

Mr. Speaker, one of the most important responsibilities of Members of Congress is to identify outstanding young men and women and to nominate them for admission to the U.S. service academies. While at the Academy, they will be the beneficiaries of one of the finest educations available, so that in the future, they might be entrusted with the very security of our Nation.

I am confident that William Swanbeck has both the ability and the desire to meet this challenge. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating him for his accomplishments to date and to wish him the best of luck as he begins his career in the service to our country.

TRIBUTE TO BRANCH 1111

HON. BILL BAKER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 1995

Mr. BAKER of California. Mr. Speaker, voluntarism has long been vital to our society. When ordinary Americans show care for one another in direct and tangible ways, we see our country at its best.

In my own 10th District of California, this tradition is being continued by the Greater East Bay Branch 1111 of the National Association of Letter Carriers. Branch 1111 has been conducting its annual food drive since 1992, and each year has collected canned goods to help hurting people.

The plan is very simple: on Saturday, May 13, Americans are being asked to leave canned foods by their mail boxes. Postal carriers will pick up the donations, which will be given to local food banks, charities, and food pantries.

The effectiveness of this effort goes beyond the East Bay. Last year, the letter carriers collected 32 million pounds of food nationwide. This remarkable generosity was sparked by the letter carriers' work to inform the public of its food drive and its commitment to helping the needy.

I am pleased to recognize Maria Arzate and the other men and women of branch 1111 for their terrific work. They are a reminder that compassion and giving are alive and well in the United States.

HONORING THE CONSELYEA
STREET BLOCK ASSOCIATION
DAY CARE CENTER

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 1995

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues an important event that took place in my district on Saturday, April 29th. On that day, the Conselyea Street Block Association held a dinner dance to honor their distinguished officers.

The Conselyea Street Block Association was formed within the community to provide needed child care services and a senior citizen program. The day care program began in 1975 providing pre-school and after-school programs for children in the Greenpoint community. Parents who are working, looking for work, attending school, or have a need for child preventative services are fortunate to have this residential day care center within their community.

The board of directors, Ms. Agnes DiGrucchio and Ms. Angela Federico, work together with the parents and staff to formulate goals and objectives for the school programs and develop activities and curriculum for each age group.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the members of the Conselyea Street Block Association for their continued dedication and service in the Greenpoint community. Their work with the children and seniors are so vital to the continued growth and development of their neighborhood.

It is comforting for a parent to know that their child is being cared for and receiving a valuable education within their own community. I would like to personally thank the officers who are being honored on this occasion: Mr. Thomas Guidice, president; Ms. Elizabeth Speranza, vice-president; Ms. Marion Ambrosino, secretary; Mr. Vincent Martello, treasurer; Ms. Tillie Tarantino and Ms. Agnes DiGrucchio.

I ask that my colleagues join me in saluting the Conselyea Street Block Association for all of the exemplary work they do. Their tremendous community spirit and efforts to improve the lives of those in need is an inspiration to us all.

A PROCLAMATION CONGRATULATING
PHYLLIS RICCADONNA

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 1995

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following article to my colleagues:

Whereas, Phyllis Riccadonna, Director of the Jefferson County Victim-Assistance program, received the Outstanding Victim's Services Practitioner Award at the seventh annual Ohio Victims of Crime Compensation Program's Recognition Awards Ceremony that was held in Columbus, Ohio on April 20, 1995; and

Whereas, Phyllis Riccadonna received this award for having consistently demonstrated foresight, caring and sensitivity for crime victims; and

Whereas, Phyllis Riccadonna, working with judges, prosecutors, and offenders, served more than 500 victims in 1994; and

Whereas, Phyllis Riccadonna developed the Ohio Valley Chapter of the Compassionate Friends, serves as aboard member of a local women's shelter and is now working to form a domestic-violence task force; and

Whereas, Jefferson County is a better place in which to live because of the work of Phyllis Riccadonna; and

Whereas, the residents of Jefferson County and the surrounding areas of Ohio, with a real sense of pleasure, join me in commending Mrs. Riccadonna as an outstanding Victims' Advocate.

HONORING THE WINNERS OF THE
18TH ANNUAL FAIRFAX COUNTY
HUMAN RIGHTS AWARDS

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 1995

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today and pay tribute to the winners of the 18th Annual Fairfax County Human Rights Awards. These awards, presented annually, recognize outstanding accomplishments in the area of human rights in Fairfax County. Accomplishments may represent a single significant activity or long-term commitment displayed through various activities. The winners are selected from nominees representing three categories: individual citizens, nonprofit organizations, and businesses. This year's awardees are:

The Honorable Gerald Bruce Lee, judge, 19th Judicial Circuit Court, serves as a mentor providing community awareness concerning social justice by participating in various volunteer programs such as Kamp Kappa, Early Identification, and professional programs aiding minorities. His ability to listen, lead, and inspire have done much to expand human rights concerns by fostering greater communication between the court system and our community.

Ms. Brenda V. Plum, advocate for the disabled, has set an example by giving her time and talents in an effort to provide social awareness concerning the rights of disabled persons. Her tireless efforts to alleviate unfair practices include countless hours of community service to local area boards, authorities, and commissions, including various programs and projects.

Ms. Lillie G. Morarity, is the third vice president of the Fairfax County branch of the NAACP and chairperson of the annual Martin Luther King, Jr., Day program. Ms. Morarity is a community organizer who has exhibited unselfish and untiring efforts to enhance the pride, dignity, and sense of accomplishment of the minority community in general, and African-Americans in particular. Her various accomplishments at both local and national level have rallied the community at large and thus reaffirm commitment and respect for the human rights of all.

Ms. Laura Soonkee Lee Falkenstrom, serves as liaison, mentor, and bridge between Asian-American students and the Fairfax County public schools. She has been instrumental in assuring that the English as a Second Language Program meets the evolving culturally diverse needs of non-English-speaking students. She has been a strong leader in

the development of cross-cultural awareness for our schools and community, including mentoring which has resulted in the employment of over 25 minority educators for the Fairfax County schools.

The 1994 Human Rights Award winner in the organization category is: Koinonia, a volunteer organization supported by local churches and civic organizations in the Franconia area. In addition, Koinonia functions as a liaison between the immediate needs of individuals and the help that may be received from local, State, or Federal agencies.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in honoring these awardees for their outstanding achievements in the area of human rights.

TRIBUTE TO VIDAL RIVERA
MALDONADO

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 1995

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I want to highlight the many accomplishments of Vidal Rivera Maldonado. Vidal was born in Ponce, PR on September 6, 1946, to the late Natividad and Isabel Maldonado. He is the fourth of nine children. Vidal and his family arrived in New York in 1955.

Vidal is a product of the New York City Public School System, where he attended P.S. 180 and graduated in 1965 from Benjamin Franklin High School. From 1967 to 1970 he served in the U.S. Marines, spending 13 months in the Republic of Vietnam. When he returned, he met and married Adalisa Padilla; they are the proud parents of three boys and two girls. Vidal received a liberal arts degree from New York Technical College in 1978.

In his varied career, Vidal has worked for various Supreme Court judges. Vidal is affectionately known as the beverage man because of his work with beverage companies. He is the district sales manager with the Good-O-Beverage Co.

Vidal spends much of his free time devoted to the game of baseball. Every weekend during the baseball season, Vidal can be found at the East New York/Transit Tech baseball field coaching semi-professional teams.

Vidal and his family have lived in the East New York section of Brooklyn for the past 26 years, and are members of St. Fortunata Roman Catholic Church.

LOYALTY DAY PARADE
COMMEMORATION

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 1995

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise proudly to salute all the men and women who are serving, or who have served, in the defense of the United States of America.

Ever since President Eisenhower established May 1 as Loyalty Day, Americans have gathered around the Nation to affirm their commitment to our great Nation. I also salute the many people who commemorated this Loyalty Day back in my home district.

The Macomb County Council of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, along with its ladies auxiliary, has sponsored loyalty parades throughout the county for many years. Last evening, many of my friends and constituents participated in a parade in Fraser, MI.

The people who gathered in Fraser and around the Nation celebrated democracy, freedom, and our faith and pride in America. We all share the responsibility of defending and preserving these American values and I salute all who joined to demonstrate their commitment to these ideals.

Since the national tragedy in Oklahoma City, this Loyalty Day is especially important. In times of crises, Americans have always pulled together. We salute the men and women who have tirelessly worked through the rubble in hopes of finding survivors and we pray for the victims and their families. May we all find ways to prevent and discourage further tragedy.

I am both proud and privileged to serve the people who gathered at the Fraser Loyalty Day Parade. As members of the oldest constitutional Republic in the world, I ask all my colleagues to join with me and share in the faith of those in Fraser and around the Nation, as we reflect on Loyalty Day, 1995.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES J. ADAMS

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 1995

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize an exceptional young man from my District who has recently accepted his appointment as a member of the class of 1999 at the U.S. Military Academy.

James J. Adams will soon graduate Hicksville High School after 4 years of outstanding academic achievement as well as extra-curricular involvement. While in high school James has distinguished himself as a leader among his peers. He is an outstanding student and patriot.

Mr. Speaker, one of the most important responsibilities of Members of Congress is to identify outstanding young men and women and to nominate them for admission to the United States service academies. While at the Academy, they will be the beneficiaries of one of the finest educations available, so that in the future, they might be entrusted with the very security of our Nation.

I am confident that James J. Adams has both the ability and the desire to meet this challenge. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating him for his accomplishments to date and to wish him the best of luck as he begins his career in service to our country.

UNITED STATES POLICY TOWARD
SAUDI ARABIA

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 1995

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, for many years Saudi Arabia has been a key partner of

the United States in the strategic gulf region. Saudi Arabia is a major oil supplier and trading partner of the United States, and it played an essential role as our coalition ally in the gulf war. Since that war, however, there have been a number of credible reports that the Saudi economy is in difficulty, whether as a result of low oil prices and the cost of supporting the gulf war or as a result of mismanagement. There are also questions about the Kingdom's handling of domestic political discontent, its human rights record and its treatment of some U.S. citizens. I wrote to the Secretary of State on January 23, 1995, and on March 28, 1995, I received a reply on these issues.

Given the tremendous importance of Saudi Arabia to United States interests, I request that my exchange of letters on Saudi Arabia with the Department of State be entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS,

Washington, DC, January 23, 1995.

Hon. WARREN CHRISTOPHER,
Secretary of State,

U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SECRETARY: I write to seek clarification of U.S. policy toward Saudi Arabia.

First, it appears to me that Saudi Arabia is not responding effectively to the economic and political challenges it now faces, and I am concerned that U.S. policies may be contributing to Saudi economic difficulties.

Second, I am concerned about whether the U.S. government has a full appreciation of the internal political dynamics of Saudi Arabia and about whether we are in a position to respond effectively to internal events.

Third, I am concerned that important U.S. values, such as respect for the human rights of all Saudi citizens and fair treatment of American citizens abroad, are not advanced as effectively as they should be in our relations with Saudi Arabia.

I would appreciate your responses to the following questions.

1. Do you see low oil prices and the costs of financing the Gulf War as the cause of Saudi Arabia's current economic difficulties?

Are these problems compounded by domestic economic mismanagement, including a failure to institute taxes or cut subsidies?

How do you assess reports of corruption and kickbacks as a source of economic mismanagement and popular discontent?

How do you assess King Fahd's efforts of the past year to cut spending and address Saudi Arabia's economic problems?

2. How would you describe the stake of the United States in the Saudi economy?

Have U.S. efforts to boost sales of advanced weaponry and commercial aircraft to Saudi Arabia contributed to the economic dilemmas the Saudis now face?

Does the burden of payments for these purchases contribute to anti-American sentiment in the Saudi military and government?

3. What is current U.S. policy on arms sales to Saudi Arabia, and the status of U.S. efforts to restructure Saudi payments for previous military purchases?

What is the status of the \$6 billion Saudi contract with Boeing and McDonnell-Douglas for the purchase of civilian airliners?

4. What is the policy of the U.S. embassy in Riyadh with respect to routine political contacts with a broad range of Saudi citizens, and to reporting on the internal situation in that country?

What limitations, unwritten or written, govern the contacts and reporting of U.S. embassy officers in Saudi Arabia?