

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO BILL EMERSON

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 1996

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say goodbye to a friend. Although many Members of this body have risen and recounted what kind of man, legislator, and public servant Bill Emerson was, I believe it certainly cannot be said enough.

I always thought that one of Bill's most outstanding qualities was that he held passionate beliefs about how to improve the lives of our Nation's citizens, while at the same time possessing the innate quality to debate divisive issues in an honest and straightforward manner. Bill was one of the driving forces behind the formation of the Alliance, a group of Republicans who believe that we must return civility and respect to the debates in the House of Representatives.

Unfortunately, we did not serve on the same committees in Congress, in fact, our congressional districts were in very different parts of this country. I was, however, pleased to have the opportunity to serve as a member of the Alliance with Bill, and to see him working at our weekly meetings. I also was able to work with Bill several years ago as cochairs of the House Task Force on Fair Trade and Open Markets.

There is no question that he served the Eighth District of Missouri and the citizens of our country very well. I know he will be missed by all those who were fortunate to come into contact with him over the years.

We were all heartened at the way Bill remained strong during his last days in this institution which he loved so much. Whenever I walked on the floor and saw him following the debate, even though it was obvious that lesser men would have been unable to do so, I realized just what kind of devotion and commitment he had for his service to his constituents and to his country.

Mr. Speaker, we will all miss Bill Emerson. I know, however, that his work in this body will serve as a lasting tribute to a man who devoted his life to public service.

TRIBUTE TO THE LEDFORD HIGH SCHOOL PANTHERS

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 1996

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, the Ledford High School Panthers are State champions once again. On June 9 in Raleigh, the Ledford women's softball team captured the North Carolina State 2A softball championship, defeating the Forbush High School Falcons, 4-1.

For the women of Ledford it was their second consecutive championship and their third in the past 6 years. With the title win, the Panthers capped off an outstanding 25-4 season under head coach John Ralls.

Like much of their season, the Panthers' pitching was the key to victory. The championship game's Most Valuable Player, Melissa Petty, was superb on the mound, holding Forbush to just one run off of five hits. But, Mr. Speaker, defense alone does not win championships. The Panther offense was led by Stacey Hinkle, who knocked two home runs as Ledford rolled to victory.

Mr. Speaker, congratulations must also go to team members Kelly Thomas, Ashley Craven, Molli Patterson, Angie Wesson, Quinn Homesley, Amy Disher, Heather Pitts, Courtney Troutman, Laurie Smith, Paige Koonts, Kim Clodfelter, Amy Wells, Ginger Whitt, Amanda Reece, Lauren Craven, Misty Sharp, Leslie Thomas, Janell Curry, assistant coaches Joe Davis, Danny Thomas, David Smith and manager Tara Bowers.

To Principal Max Cole, Athletic Director Gary Hinkle, and to all of the students, faculty, staff, families, and friends of Ledford High School, congratulations on winning the North Carolina State 2A women's softball championship.

Mr. Speaker, as we honor Ledford High School's season, we must also commend two other Sixth District high schools on their fine seasons on the diamond.

The North Davidson High School Black Knights women's softball team, under Coach Mike Lambros, went undefeated this season and made it all the way to the North Carolina State 3A/4A semifinals.

Congratulations must also be extended to the East Davidson High School men's baseball team, which recently finished a terrific 22-8 season, making the North Carolina State 2A semifinals.

Mr. Speaker, the Sixth District is proud of the winning tradition of its high school athletes and wishes them much success next season.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM INGRAHAM

HON. GERRY E. STUDDS

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 1996

Mr. STUDDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with the people of Provincetown and Truro, MA as they gather this week to honor and pay tribute to Mr. William Ingraham, who is retiring after more than 50 years of years of outstanding public service.

Bill Ingraham came to Provincetown in 1970, after serving off-Cape as a firefighter for more than 25 years. Since then, he has become a fixture in the town halls of Provincetown and Truro, serving as wiring inspector, building inspector, and volunteer firefighter.

His dedication to public safety and his extensive knowledge of construction is

unequaled. Over the years, he served as clerk of works for every major municipal construction project in the town of Provincetown. And his inspection work has significantly reduced the number of fires in the community.

In all his years of public service, Bill was on call every day, literally 24 hours a day. Whether at home or at the office, the radio scanner would always be on in the event of a fire, flood, hurricane, or other emergency.

Former town manager Bill McNulty said in a recent newspaper story "there is no way they will replace Bill. He was always there, always on call. He knew everyone, and everyone knew and liked him."

So today, I seek to bring to the attention of my colleagues the fine work of an outstanding public servant. Bill Ingraham grew up just wanting to fight fires, but has become one of Cape Cod's most respected and beloved citizens.

It is my pleasure to join with the people of Provincetown and Truro as they honor Bill Ingraham to extend to him the best wishes from this Congress on a job exceedingly well done.

TRIBUTE TO CANDACE SHEA

HON. WILLIAM H. ZELIFF, JR.

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 1996

Mr. ZELIFF. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to bring to attention the outstanding accomplishment of Ms. Candace Shea, an eighth grader from Hampstead Middle School, Hampstead, NH. As the author of an inspirational and patriotic essay honoring veterans and her explanation on the importance of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, she has made me very proud to be her Representative. I am pleased to submit a copy of her essay to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on her behalf.

WHAT EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER

(By Candace Shea)

The Unknown Soldier. Those words are like a light, pointing out all those killed in action. All those who fought for our country, and then died for our country.

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is a tomb in which the remains of a soldier whose identity is unknown is ceremonially laid to rest.

The first unknown soldier was a tribute to those who had made the supreme sacrifice in World War I. It was placed in Arlington National Cemetery on November 11, 1921. The tomb is a white marble structure that has "Here rests in honored glory an American soldier known but to God" carved indelibly on it.

In Memorial Day of 1958, two more unknown soldiers were buried in full tribute—one from the Korean War and one from World War II. On Memorial Day of 1984, a soldier from the Vietnam War was laid to rest at the monument.

• 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.

The Unknown Soldier is silently speaking to us all, saying we must never forget those who had full lives ahead—and those whose lives were quickly shattered, perhaps by a bullet, a grenade, and other such weapons. He is saying, "Never let it happen again—never." He is a voice that shall never be silenced by anyone or anything.

And forget him no one does. The President of the United States and other such people pay their respects the unknown soldier. It is truly a great honor to lay a wreath at the unknown soldier's tomb. You are saying, "I honor and respect those who served for our country, who served for me. I will never forget those who died for our country, who died for me."

The unknown soldier—a common soldier whose identity is never known, but his presence and voice is always there.

CONGRATULATIONS DAVID
MCNEILL

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 1996

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, one of the greatest inspirations for people is knowing that their friends and neighbors have been able to deal with unfortunate happenings in their lives. Even more inspiring is seeing how people can turn these unfortunate occurrences into new opportunities for greatness. I am pleased to tell our colleagues that one of my constituents, David McNeill, has done exactly that: He has taken what was a terrible moment in his life and turned it into an accomplishment for all to hail.

In 1992, David McNeill was the victim of a car accident that left him confined to a wheel chair and forced him to find new employment because his accident would not allow him to continue to his profession as a tool and die-maker. Instead of becoming overcome with anxiety, David accepted his challenge head-on. He and his wife, Deborah, refinanced their home, sold his motorcycle, and other prized possessions to use money for their expenses. At Deborah's urging, he entered Delta College at the age of 46 where he has excelled academically, maintaining a 3.8 average and being named to the 1996 Community College All-State Academic Second Team.

His tremendous effort earned for him a competitive 6-week internship from Phi Theta Kappa at the U.S. Department of Education, which he is currently serving. I have had the pleasure of meeting with David McNeill, and I must tell you that we would all do much better if we had his spirit and his determination.

Education is a never-ending process, and in our ever-changing world, we all need to keep learning new information and skills. David's efforts to expand his education is an inspiration to everyone. I am sure that it has been an exciting and challenging experience, and at times somewhat daunting. But to carry on in the outstanding fashion that he has at Delta is a clear demonstration of the value of focus and commitment.

His internship at the Department of Education will help develop the cutting edge of future education programs. If our Nation is to remain a world leader, it will be because we took the time to educate our people and to provide opportunities for continuing education.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and all of our colleagues to join me in wishing David McNeill the very best as he continues to show each use that the only limit to hold us back is ourselves.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL D. CRAPO

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 1996

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. Speaker on June 5, 1996, I was unavoidably detained due to my daughters graduation. I missed rollcall votes: 210, 211, 212, and 213. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on all.

Additionally, Mr. Speaker on June 10, 1996 I was unavoidably detained due to illness. I missed rollcall votes: 222, 223, and 224. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on all.

CLINTON WON'T LET WELFARE
CHANGE

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 1996

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member highly commends to his colleagues this editorial which appeared in the Omaha World-Herald on June 24, 1996.

CLINTON WON'T LET WELFARE CHANGE

People keep trying to help President Clinton accomplish his stated goal of "end(ing) welfare as we know it," but he won't let them do it.

Congress presented him a welfare-reform bill in 1995 that seemed destined for presidential approval. But liberal groups criticized the legislation and persuaded Clinton to veto it.

In February this year, the National Governors' Association produced a bipartisan plan to reform welfare and Medicaid, a plan endorsed by Nebraska Gov. Ben Nelson. Clinton, too, spoke favorably of the plan, but officials of his administration have been fighting it in congressional hearings.

Two months ago Gov. Tommy Thompson of Wisconsin signed his state's welfare reform plan. It would end welfare as an entitlement program. People could be denied benefits without recourse to hearings. Welfare assistance would be conditioned on work. Jobs, child care and health care would not be guaranteed.

Three weeks after the Wisconsin plan was completed, the president called it "a solid, bold welfare reform plan" in his weekly radio address. Bob Dole was scheduled to give a major speech on welfare reform three days later. It was a preemptive political strike by a president who lately has talked, but not acted, like a Republican.

Now that the president has exploited the opportunity to upstage Dole by patting the Republican Thompson on the back and appearing to be the champion of welfare reform, his administration is challenging the Wisconsin plan.

For proof of its welfare-reform credentials, the Clinton administration cites waivers it has granted to 39 states to implement welfare programs that don't conform to federal requirements. But in this case the Washing-

ton penchant for centralized bureaucratic control may prevail. Wisconsin may not get the federal waiver it needs to proceed.

In 1993, first lady Hillary Clinton's proposal to reduce the growth of Medicare spending from 10 percent to 7 percent was touted by the administration as responsible reform. Two years later, when congressional Republicans proposed the same spending growth rate reduction, the president decried a 7 percent growth cap as an attempt to "cut" and "destroy" Medicare.

Governor Thompson's once "solid" and "bold" welfare plan may face the same fate that befell Mrs. Clinton's 7 percent growth cap once it was expropriated by Republicans.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
AMERICAN-ITALIAN PROFES-
SIONAL AND BUSINESS WOMEN'S
CLUB

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 1996

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, July 21, the American Italian Professional and Business Women's Club will celebrate its 40th anniversary. AMIT, as it is known, was established in 1956 by Maria Lalli and Maria Giuliano to further cultural, charitable, and social functions, with an emphasis on Italian culture whenever the opportunity arises. The club derives its membership from women who are of Italian descent or are married to a man of Italian descent.

AMIT's list of beneficiaries includes a broad range of organizations around the world. Missions and health care institutions in Burma, India, and Detroit, MI, children and orphans in the United States and Italy, Italian earthquake and flood relief efforts, public television, symphony orchestras, and Orchestra Hall in Detroit, all have been assisted by their interest and generosity. A special focus of their support is those places which celebrate Italian culture: The Italian American Cultural and Community Center, the Italian Heritage Room at Wayne State University, and the Church of San Francisco.

Social functions arranged around artistic and cultural presentations provide the funds for AMIT's charitable work. The club is proud to have presented lectures by the daughters of distinguished Italian scientists Guglielmo Marconi and Enrico Fermi. They have sponsored book and author luncheons featuring Italian-American authors or writers on Italian subjects, and have promoted events at the Detroit Institute of Arts when Italian artists were on special exhibition. Italian musicians, both established artists and prodigies, have been presented in recital.

Now at the close of its fourth decade of activity, AMIT boasts several families with multiple generations of membership and leadership. The Giuliano-Baker family takes great pride in its four successive generations of women who have served the club as president, beginning with the first president and co-founder, Maria Giuliano.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the American Italian Professional and Business Women's Club on achieving 40 years of outstanding service to the community, and I wish them many more years of successful endeavor. Our Nation's strength lies, in part, in groups such