

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF THE JUVENILE DIABETES FOUNDATION DURING NATIONAL DIABETES AWARENESS MONTH

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 26, 1999

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of this body an organization that is leading the fight against a disease that debilitates and claims the lives of millions of Americans each year.

The statistics regarding diabetes are appalling. On average, the disease kills one American every three minutes. Sixteen million Americans suffer from the disease; of those, 5.4 million are undiagnosed. And, it should be known that taking insulin does not cure the disease or prevent the development of complications.

Tragically, diabetes strikes people of all ages. And it is a costly medical and financial burden. The average lifetime cost of diabetes care for a person diagnosed at age 3 is calculated at \$600,000.

In this regard, we look to groups such as the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation International (JDF), a non-profit, non-governmental organization founded in 1970 by parents of children with diabetes. JDF's mission is to find a cure for diabetes and its complications through the support of research.

Since its founding, JDF has spent more resources on diabetes research than any other non-profit, non-governmental agency in the world. Volunteers help define research priorities, select grant recipients, lead advocacy efforts, and provide guidance to overall operations.

At least 80 cents of every dollar goes directly to research and education. The Wall Street Journal's Smart Money Magazine name JDF one of the Nation's top 10 charities "you can trust" and one of only two charities in the health field.

This year alone, more than 200 research grants and over 110 fellowship and career development awards were granted to scientists in 17 countries throughout the world. In 28 years, JDF has been instrumental in encouraging the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to increase diabetes research funding from \$18 million to \$415 million annually.

Mr. Speaker, as we recognize November as National Diabetes Awareness Month, I would like to commemorate the outstanding and selfless work of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation International.

RECOGNIZING THE FIFTY YEAR MEMBERS OF THE SERB NATIONAL FEDERATION LODGE NO. 64

HON. RON KLINK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 26, 1999

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Serb National Federation Lodge No. 64 "Napredak" in Biddle, Pennsylvania which will be honoring its fifty year members on Sunday, October 31st, 1999.

Founded in 1907 by Yugoslav immigrants who came to Biddle to work in the coal mines, the lodge became an important way for these new Americans to support and help one another to overcome social obstacles and improve their quality of life. Named "Napredak", meaning "progressive", the members of the lodge strived not only to establish themselves and their families in the community while maintaining their heritage but to create fair and safe working conditions in the mines that employed them. In Biddle, this tie between culture and coal is still represented by the Biddle Serbian Club. Originally a Westmoreland Coal 'company store', lodge members have been meeting and holding picnics there for decades. They eventually purchased the building and turned it into the Biddle Serbian Club, preserving not only their history but that of the coal company.

Like many ethnic groups, American Serbs found security in maintaining their culture by building Serbian Orthodox Churches, establishing dance groups and choirs, and hosting picnics that featured traditional foods. The SNF also gave them the opportunity to purchase insurance policies to protect their families long before employers offered this benefit.

The SNF and the Biddle Serbian Club remain strong foundations for preserving the unique and wonderful culture and history of the Serbian people generations later.

Today, we honor the founders who built and maintain SNF Lodge No. 64. They are the very essence of the story of America. They came to the United States looking for opportunity, freedom, and prosperity. They often struggled to realize these dreams, but they never wavered from the belief that by working hard and living right that they would succeed. American Serbs proudly joined the millions of other immigrants from around the world that make the United States the amazingly diverse and culturally rich nation that it has become.

I salute the fifty year members of the SNF Lodge No. 64 "Napredak" in Biddle, Pennsylvania and congratulate them for their half century commitment to family, community, and tradition.

TRIBUTE TO CARL WILLIAMS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 26, 1999

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, every so often I hear a wonderful story of someone giving of their time and money to contribute to their community. I rise here today to tell you of a man who has done just that. Carl Williams has donated the eighth largest carillon and its shining gold tower to the new Daniel Ritchie Center for Sports and Wellness at the University of Denver.

To reach the new bell tower you have to climb up a twisting 100-step staircase. Once in the tower you realize just how magnificent this feat really is. There is a long keyboard with two rows of levers that operate the sixty-five bell carillon. Crafted in the Netherlands, the bells of the Williams Carillon can be heard up to a mile away. They fill the air with beautiful melodies and classic music.

Mr. Speaker, it is with this that I say thank you to Carl Williams for his donation that has added so much to the atmosphere and tradition of the University of Denver. His legacy of giving is appreciated and deserving of recognition.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CASS BALLENGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 26, 1999

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, had I been present for rollcall votes 533, 534, 535, and 536 last night, I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 26, 1999

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, due to a commitment in my district on Monday, October 25, 1999, I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall numbers 533-536.

The votes I missed include rollcall vote 533 on approving the Journal; rollcall vote 534 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended H.R. 754, Made in America Information Act; rollcall vote 535 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended H.R. 2303, History of the House Awareness and Preservation Act; and rollcall vote 536 on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to House Concurrent Resolution 194, recognizing the contributions of 4-H Clubs and their members to voluntary community service.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes 533, 534, 535, and 536.

● 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.

REPROCESSED SINGLE USE MEDICAL DEVICE PATIENT SAFETY AMENDMENTS OF 1999

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 26, 1999

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my grave concerns about the practice of reprocessing and reusing single-use medical devices. There have been several recent media reports of medical devices intended for one use only being cleaned and used again on a different patient. Delicate devices, such as balloon catheters and biopsy forceps, are being reused on patients and causing infection and injuries.

It's estimated that as many as one in every three hospitals are reprocessing and reusing medical devices intended for single-use only. They are doing it without the consent of the patient and they are charging Medicare and the Federal Government the full price of a new device.

This practice is both deceptive and dangerous. Unsterile, brittle devices are injuring patients. A recent article in U.S. News & World Report told of a 50-year old woman who needed surgery when two reprocessed catheters broke during a brain scan. Premature babies have suffered infections from unsterile sutures. A biopsy patient was contaminated with hepatitis B from reused biopsy forceps.

Mr. Speaker, FDA clearly has the authority to regulate the practice of reusing medical devices yet it has failed to do so. Representative UPTON and I are introducing legislation today to ensure FDA regulation so that patients are protected. Our bill, the Reprocessed Single Use Medical Device Patient Safety Act of 1999, will require reprocessed medical devices to undergo pre-market approval for safety and effectiveness. The bill will also require hospitals to get a patient's informed consent before reusing a single-use medical device on them. Finally, the bill will require hospitals to monitor and report any injuries or infections that occur as a result of using a reprocessed medical device.

I understand the fiscal constraints hospitals are under. Managed health care has cut their payments so drastically that they feel pressured to cut costs wherever possible. However, we can't continue putting patients at risk in order to save a few dollars. We must put patients before profits. I urge my colleagues' support for the Reprocessed Single Use Medical Device Patient Safety Act of 1999.

TRIBUTE TO SETH RITCHIE, A
"NATIONAL CHAMP"

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 26, 1999

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to tell you of a truly remarkable young man. He has seen hardships in his life that no one should ever have to endure. In 1994, he was in a terrible automobile accident that left him paralyzed and took the life of his dear friend Delano Garcia. Despite all this,

Seth Ritchie has risen above his grave personal adversity to win his division at the U.S. Wheelchair Open Tennis Championships.

Although Seth picked up wheelchair tennis just a year and a half ago, already he has excelled beyond anyone's expectations. Three months after his first tennis clinic in Grand Junction, Colorado, he was playing in his first tournament. Although he met some adversity in that tournament, he came right back, showing his true spirit in the next tournament held in Florida. There he was matched up against the best competition on the Eastern Seaboard, but still managed to win his division. Last summer at the Doris Denker Wheelchair Tournament he again ran into some tough competition. This did not slow him down. He traveled to San Diego, California to compete against players from all over the world in the U.S. Wheelchair Open Tennis Championships earlier this month. There he played in two matches a day that each lasted for up to three hours against players that had twenty years of experience on him. He won his division and became national champion.

Rarely do I hear a story like Seth Ritchie's. He is a truly remarkable young man who gives me inspiration to achieve more. I hope that more people can hear his story and gain from it what I have. So, it is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say congratulations to Seth Ritchie for all of his accomplishments. He is a true hero and an inspiration to us all.

HONORING ANGUS C. BULLIS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 26, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Angus C. Bullis, a resident of Mariposa for many years. Angus died on September 19, 1999, he was 74.

Mr. Bullis entered the service in 1941 where he served in the Navy Air Corps as a navigator until 1945. He started his painting contracting business in Fresno in 1956, and continued it for 43 years. Angus moved with his wife Helen and their family to Mariposa in 1968.

Angus Bullis served on the Mariposa County School Board for 12 years. He was also active in many organizations: Oddfellows Lodge #39, Rebekah Lodge #326, Life Member-Mariposa Golden Agers, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Mariposa County Republican Central Committee, Mariposa County Farm Bureau as 4-H Council President, Mariposa Contractors Association, Mariposa Wine and Grape Growers Association and he received the Honorary PTA Service Award.

Angus' hobby for the past seven years had been developing a seven-acre Zinfandel grape vineyard that produced gold medal award wines.

Mr. Bullis is survived by his devoted wife of 48 years, Helen, his children and many family members and friends.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my condolences to the Bullis family. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring Angus Bullis for his devotion to his family, the community and the United States Navy Air Corps.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 26, 1999

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent Monday, October 25, 1999, and as a result, missed rollcall votes 533 through 536. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote 533, "yes" on rollcall vote 534, "yes" on rollcall vote 535, and "yes" on rollcall vote 536.

COMMEMORATING JUDGE DANIEL LEE KONKOL AS THE SOUTHSIDE BUSINESS CLUB MAN OF THE YEAR

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 26, 1999

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Milwaukee Circuit Court Judge Daniel Konkol, named Man of the Year by the Southside Business Club. We celebrate his recognition because it is an affirmation of the American Dream, the story of a hardworking, first generation Polish-American who, by dint of hard work and perseverance, became one of the most respected jurists and community leaders in the Milwaukee area.

Daniel Lee Konkol attended DeSales Prep Seminary High School and graduated in 1969. Later he attended Marquette University where he received his B.A. degree in 1973 and his J.D. degree in 1976. Dan worked his way through high school and college holding many jobs, from a maintenance worker at various schools—and even a convent—to a short order cook at a drive-in run by his neighbor.

It didn't take long for Dan's talent and commitment to catch the eye of those in the legal community. Following graduation from law school, Dan was hired as an assistant district attorney for Racine County. He worked there for eight years under three district attorneys, gaining experience in prosecuting all types of criminal matters including homicides, armed robberies, burglaries, domestic violence, and welfare fraud.

In 1985, Dan was appointed an assistant Milwaukee County court commissioner by Circuit Court Chief Judge Victor Manian. While a commissioner in 1988, Dan published in the Milwaukee Lawyer an article titled "The New Paternity Law: Law and Procedures." In 1990, he received a Wisconsin State Bar Commendation for an article he published in the Wisconsin Lawyer titled "Civil Restraining Orders, Distinguishing Domestic Abuse and Harassment."

In 1992, with extensive help from many friends and relatives, Dan ran a low-budget election campaign and was selected by voters as judge of the newly created Milwaukee County Circuit Court Branch 44. In 1998 he was re-elected without opposition.

He is known for his signature sky blue judicial robes, his excellent judicial record and his involvement in numerous fraternal, business, and civic organizations.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly commend Judge Daniel Konkol, named Man of the Year by the Southside Business Club.