

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE TELFAIR COUNTY LADY TROJANS GIRLS SOFTBALL TEAM, 1999 CLASS A STATE CHAMPIONS

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 4, 1999

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the Lady Trojans Girls Softball Team of Telfair County High School in McRae, GA for recently capturing the Class A State Championship title in girls softball. This fine group of young women and their coaches from Georgia's 8th district deserve great recognition for their hard work and success.

This is not only a victory for these fine young women, but for their school as well, as it is the first State Championship for Telfair County in over 30 years and the first ever in softball. The Lady Trojans have won four straight area titles and have advanced to the playoffs three times in the last 4 years.

I want to congratulate Telfair County Head Coach Colby Taylor, Coach Becky Hamilton, and Coach Randy Pope for their leadership and dedication to the team. Coaches spend every day of their lives building character, integrity, and determination in our young people and I want to commend each of them for their commitment and service.

I also want to take this time to recognize the Lady Trojans individually. The 1999 players are Falon Wooten, Kamika Collins, Haley Clarke, Cameo Cooper, Karla Hamilton, Jodi Burress, Heather McGowan, Davitta Jones, Kaycee Pope, Judy McRae, Sam Wilmouth, Danyelle Williams, Melonie Wilcox, Latoria Mathis, and Paige Froug. This is an outstanding group of athletes.

Mr. Speaker, victory cannot be achieved without the hard work, talent, and perseverance of every single athlete and the strong leadership and direction of the coaches. The Lady Trojans truly are a team to be proud of, and it is an honor for me to represent Telfair County, GA in the People's House. The Lady Trojans made history this year, and I look forward to many more victories from this outstanding team in the years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RONNIE SHOWS

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 4, 1999

Mr. SHOWS. Mr. Speaker, I was away from the floor of the House on Tuesday, November 2, 1999, on official business and was unable to cast recorded votes on rollcalls 553, 554, 555 and 556.

Had I been present for rollcall 553, I would have voted "yea" to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 213, a concurrent resolution encouraging the Secretary of Education to promote, and State and local educational agencies to incorporate in their education programs, financial literacy training.

On rollcall 554, I would have voted "yea" to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 59, a resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States remains committed to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

On rollcall 555, I would have voted "yea" to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3164, a bill to provide for the imposition of economic sanctions on certain foreign persons engaging in, or otherwise involved in, international narcotics trafficking.

On rollcall 556, I would have voted "yea" to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 349, a resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the President should immediately transmit to Congress the President's recommendations for emergency response actions, including appropriate offsets, to provide relief and assistance to the victims of Hurricane Floyd.

COMMENDING ROBERT GRANATO FOR HIS SERVICE TO STONINGTON, CT

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 4, 1999

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Robert Granato for his years of service to citizens in Stonington, CT. Bob's life-long dedication to public service is a model for all Americans.

Bob Granato began serving his country and community in the Army during the Korean War. After graduating from Boston University, Bob began a career as a counselor at Thames Valley Technical College in Norwich, CT. Over the next two decades, Bob helped thousands of students of all ages to determine their career path and to improve their skills in order to remain competitive in a changing economy.

After his retirement in 1989, Bob was appointed to the Planning and Zoning Commission in Stonington. For the next eight and one-half years, Bob served the community as a member and Chairman of the Commission. During this period, he helped the community to address and, ultimately overcome, significant economic changes which gripped all of southeastern Connecticut as the defense industry down-sized after the cold war. In a recent article in the Westerly Sun, Bob spoke about the challenges and responsibilities associated with leadership as Chairman of the Commission. He spoke of the mundane, but essential responsibility of maintaining order during a crowded hearing as well as the more weighty issue of bearing ultimate responsibility for the Commission's decisions. Bob recognized these responsibilities and confronted them head on.

Over the years, Bob and his wife, Carol, have been strong supporters of the Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center, a multi-faceted social service agency that provides humanitarian services to residents of the region. This effort is another example of Bob's commitment to the community.

Mr. Speaker, Bob Granato is a public servant in every sense of the world. I know he will continue to serve long after his recent "retirement."

CONGRATULATING MAUDE HARRIS, OF SIKESTON, MISSOURI, ON HER RECOGNITION BY THE "DAUGHTERS OF SUNSET"

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 4, 1999

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, November 13, 1999, Maude Harris is being honored by the Sikeston, MO "Daughters of Sunset" at their 15th Annual Recognition Program. I would like to extend my congratulations to Maude who is being recognized on this day for her involvement in her community.

Maude is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bankhead of Wyatt, MO. Maude has six brothers and a sister. Maude attended Charleston Elementary School and graduated from Charleston High School.

Maude's educational achievements include a bachelors degree of science from Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau, MO as well as a master of arts in home economics-option II (food and nutrition emphasis). Maude published her masters program thesis, "Nutrition Practices of Rural Elderly Scott County African Americans in the Missouri Bootheel."

Maude is very active in her church, Cornerstone Baptist, working as church announcer and chairperson of the Church Newsletter. Her community activities include memberships with Daughters of Sunset, Historian, Altrusa International, Inc. of Sikeston—Astra Advisors, Sikeston Community Credit Union-supervisory chairperson, past Girl Scout leader of Troop 158, board member of Regional Arthritis Center at St. Francis Hospital and the Missouri Department of Health-Diabetes Control Project Advisory Committee, Bootheel Healthy Start Consortium Secretary, Southeast Missouri Cancer Control Coalition, past secretary and member of Southeastern Minority Health Alliance, and is the current president of Scott County Interagency Council.

Maude is employed with University Outreach and Extension as a nutrition/health specialist. She is married to Reverend Michael K. Harris, Sr., associate minister of Cornerstone Baptist Church. They are the parents of three children, Brenda, Sloan, and Kellar.

Congratulations, Maude, on your recognition by the "Daughters of Sunset." Your dedication to family, church and community is truly inspiring. May the people of Sikeston continue to be blessed with your thoughtful contributions.

IN HONOR OF THE OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 4, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Ohio Environmental Council on their 30th Anniversary. I am honored to join them in their anniversary celebration being held on December 4, 1999.

The Ohio Environmental Council is a non-profit advocacy organization committed to solving the ecological problems in the state of Ohio. They have dedicated the last 30 years

to advocating for clean air, safe water and conservation of our natural resources in Ohio. They have truly carried out their mission “to inform, unite and empower all Ohio citizens to protect the environment and conserve natural resources.”

The OEC has made tremendous efforts to be a leader in some recent environmental issues. The organization is helping the effort to correct a terrible situation of a public school that was built upon a toxic-laced former Army dump. Several graduates have leukemia and others have been diagnosed with other forms of cancer. The state health department acknowledged that the number of graduates with leukemia was statistically significant. The Ohio Environmental Council most recently has led the effort to save the Wayne National Forest and the plethora of benefits it offers.

The OEC has spent the last 30 years informing communities about environmental threats and uniting them around opportunities to help protect Ohio's natural environment. They have made tremendous improvements to better the air we breathe and water we drink.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in honoring the Ohio Environmental Council for their tremendous efforts to improve the environment for the state of Ohio.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. FRANK MASCARA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 4, 1999

Mr. MASCARA. Mr. Speaker, from October 25 to October 29, 1999 I was unavoidably absent and missed rollcall votes number 533-549. For the record I would have voted “aye” on the following rollcall votes numbers 533 and 545, Journal votes; number 534, H.R. 754, the Made in America Information Act; number 535, H.R. 2303, the History of the House Awareness and Preservation Act to which I am a cosponsor; number 536, H. Con. Res. 194, on Recognizing the contributions of 4-H Clubs and their members to voluntary community service; number 537, H. Con. Res. 190, urging the United States to seek a global consensus supporting a moratorium on tariffs; number 538, H. Con. Res. 208, expressing the sense of the Congress against tax increases in order to fund additional government spending; number 539, H. Con. Res. 102, celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Geneva Conventions; number 540, H. Con. Res. 188, commending Greece and Turkey for their response to the recent earthquakes in those countries; number 541, H.R. 1175, to locate and secure the return of Zachary Baumel; number 544, H.R. 2260, the Pain Relief Promotion Act, to which I am a cosponsor; and number 546, H.J. Res. 73, the Continuing Resolution;

For the record, I would have voted “no” on the following rollcall votes: number 542, the Scott Amendment to H.R. 2260; number 543, the Johnson of Connecticut Amendment to H.R. 2260; number 547, H. Res. 345, waiving points of order against the D.C. Appropriations Conference Report; number 548, the motion to recommit the D.C. Appropriations Act, 2000; and number 549, on agreeing to the Conference Report for the D.C. Appropriations Act, 2000.

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY AT CRESSKILL JUNIOR SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 4, 1999

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call attention to a Holocaust remembrance ceremony that will take place tomorrow at Cresskill Junior-Senior High School in Cresskill, NJ, and to commend those involved in organizing this event.

Definitively, the Holocaust was one of the darkest chapters in the history of our world. However, words cannot begin to express the horror and inhumanity of this unforgivable crime against humanity. It is vitally important that we remember the Holocaust, no matter how painful and horrifying those memories may be. Remembering the Holocaust is the best way to ensure that it never happens again. To quote George Santayana, “Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.”

At Cresskill Junior-Senior High School tomorrow, students and faculty will gather to remember the Holocaust, passing on the memories to a new generation who will, in turn, pass them on to their children and grandchildren. This will not be a mere academic exercise or a lesson in distant history, however. Approximately 20 survivors of the Nazi Holocaust—along with survivors of some more recent genocides around the world—will be on hand to tell their stories firsthand.

Tomorrow's event was organized at the urging of Lara Pomerantz, a 15-year-old sophomore at Cresskill. Lara is an outstanding young woman who led the efforts that resulted in Governor Whitman declaring the first week of November as Holocaust Education Week in New Jersey. She then worked with former principal Henry McNally and current principal Wayne Merckling to organize the school event.

Why does a 15-year-old from New Jersey have such a strong interest in events that occurred half a world away 40 years before she was born? Lara has a close personal link to the Holocaust and good reason to remember. As Jews in Nazi-occupied Poland, her maternal grandparents—Abraham and Regina Tauber—narrowly escaped the Holocaust. After spending the war years on the run, in hiding and as members of the Resistance, they returned to their hometown of Chodel, Poland, to find only 11 Jewish members of that entire community alive—11 individuals out of 950.

Mr. and Mrs. Tauber will be at Cresskill Junior-Senior High tomorrow to support their granddaughter and tell their story to her classmates. In a letter to me, Lara said, “My life is a living testament to their will to survive.” No words could be more inspiring to each generation—present and future.

By telling their stories to this gathering of teenagers, the Taubers and other Holocaust survivors will keep the memory alive for another generation—not just as words on a textbook page but as the story of someone these young people have actually met. Their efforts will show another generation that the victims of the Holocaust were not just abstract numbers or strangers—they are members of our

families, the parents and grandparents of our friends.

We all know the famous words of Martin Niemoeller, the Lutheran minister who resisted Hitler. “I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Communist . . . I wasn't a Jew . . . I wasn't a trade unionist.” If the world does not remember the Holocaust, there could come a time for each of us when we would be faced with Reverend Niemoeller's final line: “Then they came for me and no one was left to speak up for me.”

I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the students and faculty of Cresskill Junior-Senior High School—and the Holocaust survivors who are joining them—on this effort to see that history does not repeat itself.

CONGRATULATING DAVID SPAINHOUR

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 4, 1999

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to bring to the attention of my colleagues the outstanding work of David W. Spainhour. On Sunday, November 7, David will receive the Distinguished Community Service Award from the Anti-Defamation League and the Santa Barbara B'nai Brith Lodge.

As someone who has worked closely with the ADL in its efforts to promote tolerance and combat hatred and prejudice, I am pleased that this prominent organization has chosen to honor David. They could not have made a wiser selection.

David is one of Santa Barbara's preeminent business leaders. He serves as President of Capital Bancorp and Chairman of the Board of Santa Barbara Bank & Trust. Throughout his thirty-three year career at the Bank, David has dedicated himself to improving all facets of life in our community.

David has worked tirelessly in the areas of education, business development, health care, and assisting the neediest in our society. Among other positions, he serves on the boards of Westmont College, Santa Barbara Industry Education Council, and the United Way of Santa Barbara County. David and his wife Carolyn are shining examples of individuals who believe passionately in serving the common good. I am proud of their accomplishments and I am pleased to announce David's award on the floor of the House.

CONGRATULATING MINISTER ARTHUR E. CASSELL, OF SIKESTON, MO, ON HIS RECOGNITION BY THE “DAUGHTERS OF SUNSET”

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 4, 1999

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, November 13, 1999, Minister Arthur E. Cassell is being honored by the Sikeston, MO “Daughters of Sunset” at their 15th Annual Recognition Program. I would like to extend my congratulations to Minister Cassell who is