

TRIBUTE TO A NEWSPAPER
LEGEND, CLAUD EASTERLY

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 9, 1999

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, with the passing of Claud Easterly, editor of the Denison Herald for 30 years and one of his hometown's foremost historians, comes the end of a generation of old-fashioned newspapermen who learned their trade on the job, not in the classroom, and who preferred their old typewriters to computers. Such a man was Claud Easterly of Denison, TX, who died this year at the age of 91.

During Mr. Easterly's career, he interviewed five U.S. Presidents, several Vice Presidents, Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn, my predecessor in the fourth district, bandleader John Phillip Sousa, magician Harry Houdini, Father Flanagan of Boys Town, New York Mayor LaGuardia and heavyweight boxing champion Joe Louis, among many other State and national dignitaries.

Yet he said that his greatest experiences were "in helping record the more routine events that reflected the failures and successes, joys and sorrows of the folks here at home," according to the Herald Democrat, the newspaper that succeeded the Denison Herald and to which he continued to contribute articles and serve as a reliable source until shortly before his death.

Claud Easterly knew his community well and served it well through 30 years as editor of the city newspaper. Inspired by his high school English teacher, he proved adept at writing. He was named the first editor of his high school newspaper and upon graduation from high school approached the editor of the Denison Herald, who agreed to hire him at no pay until he learned the job. Three months later, he was put on the payroll at a salary of \$12.50 per week, and as they say, the rest is history. In addition to his famous interviews, he covered many historical events, including the Red River Bridge war in 1931, the construction of Denison Dam in the 1940's and the local perspective of World War II.

In addition to his newspaper responsibilities, Mr. Easterly also was active in the civic life of Denison. He served as president of the Lions Club, a director of the Chamber of Commerce and a board member of the Public Library. Following his retirement in 1972 as editor of the newspaper, he campaigned for and was elected to the Denison City Council. He also was a member of Waples Memorial United Methodist Church.

Claud Easterly was born in Denison in 1907, the son of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Easterly. In 1931 he married his high school sweetheart, Ruth Davis. Following her death in 1967, he married Mrs. Ophelia Taylor, who survives him. Also surviving are his son David Easterly and daughter-in-law Judy, stepson Richard Taylor and wife Carol; stepdaughter Carolyn Arnett and husband Butch, a brother Doug, 10 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild.

Claud Easterly was proud that his son, David, followed him in the newspaper business, getting his start alongside his father at the Denison Herald. David is now president of Cox Enterprises, which owns and operates a

number of newspapers, including the Atlantic Journal & Constitution.

Mr. Speaker, Claud Easterly lived during the tenure of three representatives of the Fourth District of Texas—Speaker Sam Rayburn, Ray Roberts, and myself. He knew our district as well as we did, and so it is both an honor—and fitting—to ask my colleagues to join me in paying our last respects to this great newspaperman from Denison, TX—Claud Easterly. His memory will be preserved in the archives of his newspaper—and in the hearts and minds of those who knew him.

TRIBUTE TO ADMIRAL ARCHIE
CLEMINS

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 9, 1999

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to express my gratitude and admiration for Admiral Archie Clemins, commander of the United States Pacific Fleet.

His leadership and courage during his thirty-four years of military service was outstanding. Since his retirement on October eighth, he has been greatly missed.

I would also like to take this time to show my appreciation for the time he has spent with Scott Wagner's fifth-grade class at Horace Mann School in Mt. Vernon, Illinois. Admiral Clemins has found the time to share his skills and knowledge with these impressionable students. Utilizing stories and souvenirs from his travels, he has both educated and entertained these pupils. In addition, he has funded trips for them to the Great Lakes Navy Base as well as the base in San Diego, California.

I would like to again express my sincere appreciation for Admiral Clemins' generosity and commitment to our country and its future.

MEDICARE, MEDICAID, AND SCHIP
BALANCED BUDGET REFINEMENT ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 1999

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to HR 3075. When the BBA of 1997 was enacted, it wrought havoc with a sea of unintended consequences in Medicare cuts.

Mr. Speaker, in my state alone, the BBA will reduce Medicare hospital payments by \$4.8 billion dollars over five years—these cuts are mostly permanent.

They will cripple the delivery of healthcare to seniors and to the under-served far beyond 2002.

While this bill begins to fix some of the devastating cuts, it does not go far enough. The bill before us today provides restorations equaling only 15.6 percent of the BBA Medicare reductions and these are only temporary fixes.

Where does the money for the fixes come from? The restorations come at the expense of direct- graduate- medical- education fund-

ing. This means that teaching hospitals in my state will be deprived of \$100 to \$130 million dollars over 5 years.

The situation of the teaching hospitals is already dire. Because of the BBA, many of these hospitals are close to financial ruin. These institutions are not only the academic centers that train our future healthcare providers—they are the hotbeds of medical research that produces life-saving treatments.

The teaching hospitals are the "safety net" hospitals that care for the nation's low-income and uninsured patients when they are sick and have nowhere else to turn.

Mr. Speaker, let me walk you through how this will hurt each off the teaching hospitals in my district.

Because of the teaching hospital provisions included in this bill, Mt. Sinai hospital will lost \$14.4 million over 5 years; Lenox Hill hospital will lost \$4.5 million over 5 years; Memorial Sloan Kettering hospital will lose \$180,00 over 5 years; Beth Israel hospital will lose \$33.9 million over 5 years; the hospital for Special Surgery will lose \$3.6 million over 5 years; the Hospital for Joint Diseases will lose \$1.9 million over 5 years.

The bill before us today neglects to adequately address the crisis in the teaching hospitals. While the bill's restoration of funding to skilled nursing facilities is favorable, only a band-aid, temporary remedy is provided for outpatient hospital departments.

Mr. Speaker, let's go back and do this right. Give us the change to offer amendments and let's have a real debate. While there are some provisions in this bill that I support, I believe that we can do a better job at protecting our Medicare beneficiaries, providers and teaching hospitals. I urge a "no" vote.

ASIAN-AMERICAN MEDICAL
SOCIETY

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 9, 1999

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to announce that the Asian-American Medical Society will be hosting its 23rd Annual Asian-American Medical Society Charity Gala on Saturday, November 13, 1999, at the Radisson Hotel in Merrillville, Indiana. Each year, the Asian-American Medical Society honors prominent, extraordinary residents of Northwest Indiana for their contributions to the community. In recognition of their tremendous efforts for the betterment of Northwest Indiana, they are honored at a banquet and awarded the prestigious Crystal Globe Award. This year, four outstanding citizens from Northwest Indiana will be presented with the Crystal Globe Award for their dedication and devotion to the community.

This year's Arts and Humanities recipient, Maestro Tsung Yeh, is one of the most talented citizens of Northwest Indiana. Tsung Yeh is the Music Director and conductor of the Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra, a position he officially began with his acclaimed debut at the 1997 Holiday Pops concert. This season also marks Mr. Yeh's twelfth highly successful season as Music Director and Conductor of the South Bend Symphony Orchestra, and his second season as Principal Conductor of the Hong Kong Sinfonietta. In July

1997, Maestro Yeh conducted at the reunification ceremonies in Hong Kong. Although his work and community service often constrains his free time, Tsung Yeh has never limited the time he gives to his most important interest, his family. He and his wife Saulan reside in Grainger, Indiana with their three children, Mona, Melina, and Joseph.

Mayor Scott King is this year's Civic Leadership recipient. Scott King was elected Mayor of the City of Gary in 1995, and entered into his official capacity in January of 1996. Before becoming Mayor, King served as a public defender, deputy prosecutor, and assistant U.S. Attorney of the Northern District of Indiana. As Mayor, King serves as not only a respected member of the professional community, but also as a mentor and a community leader. He offers his services and time to many professional organizations and has accepted numerous appointments, including serving as co-chairman of the United States Conference Mayors' Drug Policy Taskforce.

This year's Healthcare recipient, Dr. Mridula Prasaad, is one of the most caring dedicated, and selfless citizens of Indiana's First Congressional District. Dr. Prasaad is a Board Certified neurologist who has been in private practice since 1988. She offers her services and time to many professional organizations as the Associate Medical Director of the Rehabilitation Unit of Community Hospital, the Associate Program Director of the Multiple Sclerosis Clinic of the Neuroscience Institute of Methodist Hospital, and a Clinical Assistant Professor of Neurology at the Northwest Center for Medical Education, Indiana School of Medicine in Gary. She most recently became the Executive Director of People Helping People, a nonprofit organization she founded to help those with Multiple Sclerosis find assisted and independent living.

Valparaiso University's President, Dr. Alan Harre is this year's Academic Excellence recipient. Dr. Harre became the 17th President of Valparaiso University in October of 1988. Before coming to Valparaiso University, Dr. Harre served as President of Concordia University in St. Paul, Minnesota. As President, Dr. Harre serves as a teacher, mentor, and community volunteer. He offers his services and time to many professional organizations including serving on the board of directors for numerous organizations throughout Northwest Indiana including the Northwest Indiana Forum, the Valparaiso Community Development Corporation, Munster Community Hospital, and the Quality of Life Council. Though Dr. Harre is dedicated to his career and community, he has never limited the love of his family. Dr. Harre and his wife Diane have three children, Andrea, Jennifer, and Eric, as well as four grandchildren, all of whom they are immensely proud.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating the Asian-American Medical Society's 1999 Crystal Globe Award winners. The service, dedication, and altruism displayed by Tsung Yeh, Mayor Scott King, Dr. Mridula Prasaad, and Dr. Alan Harre inspire us all to greater deeds.

TRIBUTE TO BILLY AND ALICE NIX ON THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 9, 1999

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to two people who I am proud to call my friends, Billy and Alice Nix, on the celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary.

I have had the pleasure of knowing Billy and Alice Nix for 4 years. When I'm in Sidney or Ash Flat for parades, Billy drives me in one of his antique cars. Billy and Alice are always ready to do their part for the community, school, church or business. The Nixes have been active members of the community of Ash Flat, Arkansas for over 40 years, where they own and run the Ash Flat Livestock Auction. Billy has served on the Sharp County Fair Board and the Northeast Arkansas District Fair Board. Alice gives her time at the Ash Flat Historical Society where she helped the organization publish a book about the history of Ash Flat. The Nix family is also involved in the Church of Christ.

The Nixes cherish their family including their three wonderful children Mike, Jan, and Beverly; and their 10 grandchildren and five great grand-children. They are perfect examples of good neighbors, friends, parents and grandparents. The integrity and dedication of the Nixes is a living example to all that know them, especially to institutions like marriage. Our community is a better place to live and work and raise a family because of their efforts and the care and the dedication of Billy and Alice Nix.

CALIFORNIA RAISIN MARKETING BOARD

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 9, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the debut of the California Raisin Marketing Board, CRMB. The CRMB has taken the place of CALRAB, the California Raisin Advisory Board.

CRMB is planting its first roots in tomorrow's raisin sales with restaurant projects, back-to-school campaigns, food service and produce marketing trade show participation, retail and trade advertising, website development, health and nutrition research and promotions, and the rebirth of the California Raisin, a new character replacing all previous Dancing Raisin Art.

The new character will bring life to raisins and CRMB will launch California raisins into the twenty first century with new ways to promote their product. One of the first major outings for the new character will be a Denny's Restaurant promotion, debuting in January 2000.

The California raisin industry has come far as the world raisin leader. CRMB will bring true glory to the raisin industry in the years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the California Raisin Marketing Board for their new innovative plan

and character to bring us into the new millennium. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing CRMB a bright future and many years of success.

HONORING JOHN JORDAN "BUCK" O'NEIL ON HIS 88TH BIRTHDAY

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 9, 1999

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a fellow Kansas Citian, and a man who has come to embody the ideals we share as a nation. As a player and coach for the Negro League's Kansas City Monarchs baseball team, as coach and scout for the present day Kansas City Royals, and as a community activist promoting reading and education to children, John Jordan "Buck" O'Neil has come to represent some of our most noble values: determination and dignity, humility and excellence. "Buck" has been a pioneer and trailblazer throughout his life and illustrious career, and demonstrates in his everyday actions and words that determination is the pathway to success. He is a role model for our children and a champion for our country.

As a player, Buck had a career batting average of .288, including four .300-plus seasons at the plate, and led the Kansas City Monarchs to victory in the 1942 Negro World Series. After 12 years as a player, Buck changed hats and managed the Monarchs to four more league titles in six years. Following his career with the Kansas City Monarchs, Buck joined the major leagues as a scout for the Chicago Cubs. In 1962 the Chicago Cubs made him the first African-American to coach in the major Leagues. Buck is credited with signing hall of Fame Baseball greats Ernie Banks and Lou Brock to their first pro contracts, and is acknowledged to have sent more Negro League athletes to the all-white major leagues than any other man in baseball history.

Buck is currently the Chairman for the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in Kansas City and spends his time promoting the achievements of African-American baseball players who played for love of the game, despite being shut out of the majors because of the color of their skin. As a member of the 18-person Baseball Hall of Fame Veterans Committee, he continues to tear down racial barriers by advancing deserving Negro Leaguers for induction to the Hall. In addition to his duties in Cooperstown and at the museum in Kansas City, Buck is finding new ways to enjoy life and share his wonderful exuberance. As a player, coach, scout, writer, and volunteer Buck represents a magnificent example to our generation and the next.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in saluting John Jordan "Buck" O'Neil, a distinguished ambassador for baseball and symbol of African-American pride, a true hero for all of America, and a favorite son of Kansas City. Congratulations, Buck on the 1999 John Stanford Education Heroes Award. It is an honor to help celebrate your 88th birthday and demonstrate the Negro League's commitment to education through "Reading Around the Bases." I salute you for your lifetime of achievement, and am both proud and honored to call you my friend. Thank you, Buck, for all