

A TRIBUTE TO THE PEOPLE THAT  
ASSISTED PENNSAUKEN TOWN-  
SHIP

**HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 16, 2000*

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the people that assisted Pennsauken Township in their goal of reducing substandard housing in the Township. I would like to recognize Matt Franklin, United States Department of Housing and Urban Development; Nancy Kay, First Preston Contract Manager; Richard Watts, First Preston Assistant Contract Manager; Nancy McConnell, First Preston Direct Sales Administrator; and Pete Spina, First Preston Governmental Technical Reporter for all of their hard work and dedication. Their combined effort has enabled Pennsauken Township to purchase and rehabilitate homes that were abandoned and/or boarded up.

A TRIBUTE TO RENAN BECKMAN

**HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 16, 2000*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, today I commemorate the life of Dr. Renan Beckman, who on February 29, 2000, died of multiple gun shot wounds at the age of 45. I had the bittersweet pleasure of meeting Renan's mother and children, who were here in Washington, DC for the Million Mom March.

As a young woman, Renan was a model student, graduating Phi Beta Kappa from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology before receiving her medical degree from Johns Hopkins Medical School. After completing her education, Renan married Robert Wills. She was a loving mother to two children, while at the same time she worked as an anesthesiologist and primary care physician at Calkins Health Commons in Henrietta, New York.

Sadly Renan and her husband began having marital difficulties, and they moved toward divorcing. Dr. Robert Wills, who had no criminal record, purchased a 12-gauge shotgun on February 7 from a local sporting goods store. On February 29, Renan called 911 and in response to the operator's questioning said, "No, there is no gun in the house." Renan died three minutes later of multiple shot gun blasts fired at close range by her husband.

This kind of domestic violence is unfortunately not unique in my district or elsewhere in our country. However, Renan's death also highlights the fact that domestic violence can cross all class, race, and age boundaries. I hope Renan's death will serve as an inspiration to us all on why further gun control is needed in this country.

The unexpected passing of Renan Beckman has left a void in her family and the community. We will miss her greatly. My thoughts and prayers are with her family and all her friends. Mr. Speaker, and colleagues, I ask that you join me in paying tribute to the life of Renan Beckman.

NATIONAL PEACE OFFICERS WEEK

**HON. ERNIE FLETCHER**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 17, 2000*

Mr. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, today I make a few comments regarding the law enforcement officers in the 6th Congressional District of Kentucky and across America who put their lives on the line to protect our homes, streets and overall safety. They are the men and women who dedicate each and every day of their life to ensure safety in our communities, schools and lives.

It's only fitting that we reserve one week out of the year to recognize the heroic efforts of America's law enforcement officers. National Peace Officers Week provides every American man, woman and child with the unique opportunity to take a few moments out of their day to thank our peace officers for the countless hours they put in each and every week, protecting our lives and neighborhoods.

Too often we hear stories of fallen officers who have put themselves in danger to protect their fellow citizens. We must never forget the sacrifice of our fallen law enforcement officers and their families.

Specifically, I want to recognize a very important event that will be taking place in my District. Today, the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Police and surrounding community will come together to rededicate the Police Officer Memorial in downtown Lexington. This event will honor those law enforcement officers who served so bravely, falling in the line of duty—given the ultimate sacrifice to protect and serve.

Unfortunately, I am unable to be back home for this important ceremony. However, I strongly believe it is only fitting that our communities take the time to honor those lives that were taken in the line of duty. May their memories be forever strong and never forgotten.

I salute America's law enforcement officers for their dedicated service and willingness to do whatever it takes to keep America safe and free from crime, drugs and violence. It is the result of their work that allows each of us to enjoy a better quality of life.

NAPLES COMMUNITY SCHOOL  
MOCK TRIAL TEAM

**HON. PORTER J. GOSS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 17, 2000*

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, congratulations are in order for the mock trial team from the Community School in Naples, FL, who recently represented the State of Florida at the National Mock Trial Competition.

These young constituents of mine reached this distinction after contending on the county, circuit and State levels. In their advance to the national competition, the students were tenacious, resourceful and creative. Their performance combined professionalism and dignity. By participating in mock trial, the students cooperated to reach a goal. Honing their research and debate skills, the students attained invaluable knowledge that they will use in all

of their endeavors. Perhaps even more importantly, they gained a better understanding of law, which will help their growth as informed and participatory citizens.

I applaud the team for their dedication and salute them for their outstanding success.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR MATTHEW M.  
MODLESKI

**HON. JAMES T. WALSH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 17, 2000*

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, on 31 August 2000, Maj. Matthew M. Modleski is retiring as the Air Force Advisor for the 174th Fighter Wing, New York Air National Guard in Syracuse, NY. He assumed this position in February 1998. In this capacity, he serves as the active duty personnel representative for the 9th Air Force Commander, as well as assisting the 174th Fighter Wing in preparing for mobilization, while attaining the highest possible level of combat readiness.

Major Modleski was born on 22 September 1962 in Hudson, NY. He graduated from West Seneca High School, West Seneca, NY in 1980 and enlisted in the Air Force in July of that same year. He was a Jet Engine Technician until 1983 when he crosstrained into Air Traffic Control. He served as a controller at Dover AFB, DE from April 1984 until September 1987, and was awarded Controller of the Year honors in 1986.

Major Modleski earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Wilmington College, DE in May of 1987 and went on to earn a Masters of Aeronautical Science Degree from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University in Florida. Major Modleski attended Officer Training School in 1987 and was the Honor Graduate for his class. He completed Undergraduate Pilot Training at Williams AFB, AZ and went on to fly the A-10 Warthog at RAF Bentwaters/Woodbridge, UK.

He was an instructor Pilot in the 78th TFS and a Flight Examiner in the 81st TFW. Major Modleski was then assigned to the 355th Wing, 357th FS at Davis Monthan AFB, AZ as the Chief of Standardization and Evaluation and a Flight Commander. In 1993 Major Modleski was the 355th Wing Instructor Pilot of the Year and in 1995 he was selected to be a member of the United States Air Force Air Demonstration Squadron, The Thunderbirds. Major Modleski flew as the Opposing Solo during the 1996 Show Season and then as the Lead Solo during the Air Forces 50th Anniversary celebration during the 1997 Show Season. He then began his current assignment as the 174th Fighter Wing Air Force Advisor.

Major Modleski is a senior pilot with more than 2,850 flying hours in the F-16, A-10, T-38, and T-37.

His military awards and decorations include the Distinguished Flying Cross, Meritorious Service Medal, Aerial Achievement Medal with 1 device, Air Force Commendation Medal with 1 device, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, AF Outstanding Unit Award with 3 devices, Combat Readiness Medal, Air Force Good Conduct Medal with 1 device, National Defense Service Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal with 1 device, Humanitarian Service Medal, Air Force Overseas Long Tour Ribbon, AF Longevity Service Award Ribbon with 3 devices,

NCO Professional Military Education Graduation Ribbon, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon with 1 device, and the Air Force Training Ribbon with 1 device.

Major Modleski is a member of the Air Force Association as well as the Air Force Daedalians. He is also a member of the Experimental Aircraft Association, and the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association.

Major Modleski resides in Baldwinsville, NY, and is married to the former Dianne Reilly of Schaumburg, Illinois.

#### RECOGNITION OF COBB FAMILY RESOURCES 40TH ANNIVERSARY

##### HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 17, 2000*

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, forty years ago Cobb County, Georgia, witnessed the beginning of an exemplary non-profit organization. The original idea, conceived by its three founders, Fred Bentley Sr., Howard Ector, and Harry Holliday, was the formation of an entity that would unite the social service efforts of six existing emergency aid agencies into one effective unit to be more cost effective and efficient.

In its humble beginnings, with a part-time director and three staff members, the organization was incorporated as Cobb County Emergency Aid Association, Inc. on May 17, 1960, and offered, as its name suggests, help of a short-term nature.

Supported by donations from the community, aided by volunteer efforts, and a board of dedicated local citizens, the organization continued to grow, expanding its assistance to the needy of Cobb County. The agency offered financial aid, food, clothing, and medical supplies to help low income people with temporary setbacks. This emergency aid allowed families and individuals to address the immediate need in their lives.

Even greater assistance was ahead for the needy of Cobb County. In the mid 1980's, Cobb Family Resources, as the organization was later renamed, was fortunate to work with the federal government on programs offering family self-sufficiency and emergency housing for homeless families. With the federal government's policy direction and funding assistance, the agency adopted an effective case-management philosophy which continues today to be the successful core for each of its many programs. Also, with the federal government's assistance in the 1980's, Cobb Family Resources was able to buy its own facility and to expand its housing program for homeless families to include transitional housing and supportive services for long-term help.

Now, after 40 years of service to the community, through the partnership of public, private, and government efforts, Cobb Family Resources is a universally-recognized leader in serving the needs of low-income and homeless individuals and families in Cobb County, and in changing dependency into self-sufficiency. The housing program, for example, requires clients to have a job or be a full-time student. Residents are required to take Life skills classes, Budget courses, and open a savings account. Tutoring programs are offered for youth, and, for adults, GED training

and employment skills, such as resume writing and interviewing techniques.

Let me leave you with the words of a former Cobb Family Resources' client who received help with housing, resume writing, and employment skills; she said:

Having an organization such as Cobb Family Resources really gives single mothers such as myself an opportunity for growth and improvement. When I came to know this agency, I really did not have any idea the relationship that was about to develop. I was simply seeking help to pay my rent due to a sudden lay-off.

I am no stranger to hard work. I am no stranger to hard times. I grew up in one of Atlanta's largest public housing projects . . . but I always strived for better things in my life. Sometimes it seemed as if my hard work was in vain, and then came [Cobb Family Resources].

What Cobb Family Resources has that most organizations of its kind does not, is the help you receive to become self-sufficient. My income that was once poverty level has increased dramatically in the past year. I have better transportation and I no longer receive any public assistance. I do not need it anymore because my job allows me to meet the needs of my family.

Cobb Family Resources provides the comprehensive, organized approach to working with both generations in a family to provide them the tools and skills to take responsibility for themselves, to become—and, more importantly, to remain—self-sufficient and productive members of our community.

#### HONORING THE EVERETT ALVAREZ, JR. POST OFFICE

##### HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 17, 2000*

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing legislation honoring one of our Nation's heroes. This bill will designate a post office in my district the Everett Alvarez, Jr. Post Office Building.

During his life, Mr. Alvarez has faithfully served his nation as a distinguished military officer and public servant. He joined the Navy in 1960 after earning a bachelor of science in electrical engineering from the University of Santa Clara. He also holds a master's degree in operations research and systems analysis as well as juris doctorate.

He served in program management at the Naval Air Systems Command before leaving the Navy in 1980. He was appointed Deputy Director of the Peace Corps in 1981 and was appointed by President Reagan to be Deputy Administrator of the Veterans Administration in 1982 where he stayed until 1986.

After leaving the Veterans Administration, Mr. Alvarez served as vice president for government services for the Hospital Corporation of America before forming his own consulting company, Conwal, Inc.

A dedicated civil servant, Mr. Alvarez is best known to the public as the first American aviator shot down over North Vietnam. He was taken prisoner of war on August 5, 1964, and held in North Vietnam for 8½ years, until the general release of prisoners on February 12, 1973.

Mr. Alvarez holds numerous military decorations for his courageous service. He has been

honored with the Silver Star, two Legions of Merit (with combat "V"), two Bronze Stars (with combat "V"), the Distinguished Flying Cross, and two Purple Heart medals.

He continues to serve America and America's future by serving on the Board of Regents of the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences [USUHS], the Board of Directors of the National Graduate University, and the Board of Fellows of Santa Clara University. He has also served on the White House Fellows Selection Committee and on the Board of Directors of the Armed Services YMCA of the USA.

Mr. Alvarez's life stands as a testament to patriotism, courage, and perseverance. His story is an inspiration and it is with humility that I introduce this bill to honor him so.

#### CONGRATULATING THOMAS C. NORRIS ON HIS RETIREMENT

##### HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 17, 2000*

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, in September of 1952 I began my teaching, coaching and counseling career at Kennard Dale Junior Senior High School in Fawn Grove, PA. Besides teaching and counseling, I coached basketball, football, and baseball. On my football team was a tall, skinny lad from Stewartstown. He was my quarterback on the JV Football team that trounced Red Lion 56-6. He was a forward on the basketball team and first baseman on the baseball team. He will be always considered the all-American boy—a lad every parent could wish was their own.

Of course I expected big things from this young man, because his aunt was my wonderful, wonderful teacher in grades 1, 2, 3, and 4 in a one-room setting where she was the reading, writing, and arithmetic teacher as well as the music, art, special education teacher, counselor, psychologist and yes, she was also the custodian.

When I moved into the counseling position, one of the first people I helped with their effort to get scholarship money was this same all-American young man. The scholarship that was available was the first P.H. Glatfelter Company scholarship. The winner was this same young, all-American lad.

Now as Paul Harvey would say, "That was the rest of the story." You know the story of this lad's adult life. The first P.H. Glatfelter scholarship recipient became the CEO of the P.H. Glatfelter Company and a very active member of the community.

This skinny lad, who has now filled-out quite a bit since the tenth grade, is none other than the man of the hour you are honoring this evening. He was "Tommy Norris" who is now reverently known as "Thomas C. Norris." This remarkable gentleman has come a long, long way since his days as a small town boy from Stewartstown, PA.

I wish only the best for him and his family as he enjoys his retirement years.