

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND DR.
WILLIS T. GOODWIN

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 20, 2001

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Reverend Dr. Willis T. Goodwin, Pastor of Washington United Methodist Church in Charleston, South Carolina, and New Frances Brown United Methodist Church in North Charleston.

On May 15, Reverend Dr. Goodwin was awarded the prestigious "National Service Award" by the Washington Times Foundation. This "Salute to a National Hero" was presented at the third annual National Service Awards Banquet, here in Washington, DC, and I was honored to be present for the occasion.

Reverend Dr. Goodwin was honored for his outstanding record of humanitarian service. Faith-based community leaders from all 50 states were recognized for the wonderful contributions they have made to our society. Reverend Goodwin has spent a lifetime helping the sick, the dispossessed, and the less fortunate of this world, and I am pleased to see that this kind of commitment is recognized and commended.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to Reverend Dr. Willis T. Goodwin for his many years of unselfish service to God and Country.

RECOGNIZING HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF JUNETEENTH INDEPENDENCE DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2001

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Madam Speaker, today marks an important date in our Nation's history. Today, the bells of freedom ring in our consciousness and our hearts as we celebrate Juneteenth, the oldest known celebration of the ending of slavery.

On June 19th, 1865, two years following the Emancipation Proclamation issued by President Abraham Lincoln, Major General Gordon Granger of the Union Army read General Order #3 in Galveston, Texas. This order began most significantly with:

The people of Texas are informed that in accordance with a Proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and free laborer.

This profound news inspired immediate jubilation and happiness. African-Americans, previously bonded to their owners in slavery,

were now united in their freedom and liberty. Juneteenth, celebrated every June 19th, commemorates this day of emancipation in Texas.

Since 1865, Juneteenth celebrations have taken place throughout the United States. Large celebrations on June 19, 1866 marked the first anniversary of African-American independence day. Many of these events mirrored Fourth of July festivities. In these early days, the celebration included a prayer service, speakers with inspirational messages, reading of the Emancipation Proclamation and stories from former slaves.

Juneteenth festivals spread from Texas to neighboring states as freed African-Americans migrated in search of work and to re-unite families separated by the slave trade. Celebration of Juneteenth revived in 1950 at the Texas State Fair Grounds in Dallas. Legislation passed in the 66th Texas legislature declared June 19 Emancipation Day in Texas, beginning January 1, 1980. Since that time, the celebration of Juneteenth continues across the state of Texas.

Laws can set the stage for change, but actual progress can be slow. As Juneteenth takes on a more national and global perspective, the events in 1865 in Texas cannot be forgotten, for on this fertile soil the inalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness which Jefferson so eloquently crafted and championed in the Declaration of Independence were ultimately made possible—in law though not always in fact—for the former slaves. Today, Juneteenth celebrates African-American freedom while encouraging self-development and respect for all cultures. As we continue to move forward as a nation, we must continue to strive for equality. As Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. states on August 28, 1963 on the steps of the Lincoln memorial:

This will be the day when all of God's children will be able to sing with a new meaning, "My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing. Land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrim's pride, from every mountainside, let freedom ring." And if America is to be a great nation, this must become true.

And so today, let us continue to ring the bell of freedom and renew our commitment to the principles of equality and freedom—in fact not just in law—for all.

TRIBUTE TO THE ACADEMIC QUIZ BOWL TEAM FROM NORTHSIDE HIGH SCHOOL IN FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS

HON. ASA HUTCHINSON

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 20, 2001

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Academic Quiz Bowl Team from Northside High School in Fort Smith, Arkansas, who recently earned the title of National Quiz Bowl Champions. The students defeated a field of 64 teams last month to win

the 15th Annual Scholastic Tournament of Champions in Chicago.

The Grizzlies, led by Coach Larry Jones, have dominated the quiz bowl circuit this year—placing first in 10 out of 11 tournament appearances. Bringing home the national title has been a year-long quest for team captain Shawn Standerfer and senior members Colin Drolshagen and my son, Seth Hutchinson; juniors, Ryan Marsh, Willie Reyenga and Jill Hoang.

The team had a special chemistry from the very beginning as Shawn, Colin and Seth have been best friends since junior high school. The whole team has dedicated countless hours to studying everything from the classics to history to the latest developments in DNA.

After the team won the state championship, I asked my son, Seth, what the plan was for the national competition. Seth replied that the team members all decided to give something up in order to concentrate on preparation for the national championship. I thought to myself, "What do these teens value the most and are willing to sacrifice?" Mr. Speaker, it wasn't television. It wasn't sports. My son told me they were going to give up their personal reading time!

Like the members of the team, Coach Jones also sacrificed a great deal to bring home the title. Without extra compensation or recognition, Mr. Jones has gone the extra mile for this team. He has given up his afternoons, evenings, days, and weekends to help them train. He is a career-minded, student-oriented teacher who has made a difference in the lives of these young people. This team came to the table with a great deal of talent—but it was Mr. Jones who brought them together and inspired a team capable of competing at the national level.

Mr. Speaker and fellow colleagues, please join me in congratulating the Northside High School Quiz Bowl team as they enjoy their reign as national champions. They have made their school, their town, their state and, especially their parents, proud.

HONORING TOM STEARNS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 20, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Tom Stearns for his faithful dedication to improving the lives of others. Mr. Stearns died in a Missoula, Montana hospital on Sunday, May 27, 2001 after suffering a major heart attack.

Tom had an extensive career in public service. Mr. Stearns began his career as a member of the Clovis City Council in 1983 and was named Mayor for two years starting in 1988. In addition to his public service, Mr. Stearns was president of the Clovis Rodeo Association, and represented the city of Clovis on he

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San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District. Mr. Stearns also served as president of the San Joaquin Division of the League of California Cities from 1991–1992. While dedicating much of his time to public service and private organizations, Mr. Stearns was employed by Pacific Gas & Electric Co. until his retirement in 1993.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor Tom Stearns for his dedication to improving the lives of others in the local community. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of Mr. Stearns.

TRIBUTE TO DR. DAVID W.
NELSON

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 20, 2001

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend congratulations to Dr. David W. Nelson from Middleton, Wisconsin. On June 30, 2001, Dr. Nelson will be inducted as the 80th president of the American Optometric Association at its 104th Annual Congress in Boston, Massachusetts. Dr. Nelson's commitment and contributions to his profession have earned him this prestigious recognition.

Dr. Nelson has an impressive record of service at the local, state, and national level showing his dedication and leadership in the field of optometry. He was first elected to the American Optometric Association Board in 1994 and held the elective offices of Secretary-Treasurer and Vice President. He also served as chair of the Membership Development Committee and Computer Network Task Force.

Dr. Nelson is also past president of the Wisconsin Optometric Association (WOA) and the Madison Area Optometric Society. His professional leadership began during his optometric doctorate studies as president of the American Optometric Student Association, a national organization of 5,200 members representing optometry students' interest in their four-year post-graduate programs.

Dr. Nelson has been recognized with the Optometric Recognition Award in 1989 and the Legislative Achievement Award in 1989, 1990, and 1994. He also was named Wisconsin Young Optometrist of the Year in 1995.

In looking at Dr. Nelson's past achievements, it is apparent that his devotion and motivation will meet the leadership demands of the American Optometric Association. I join his many friends and professional colleagues in congratulating him and wishing him well as the new president of the American Optometric Association.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE MICHIGAN
STATE UNIVERSITY CLASS
OF 2001

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 20, 2001

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker I rise today to pay tribute to the 2001 graduating class of Michigan State University. Due

to their hard work and dedication, they are now prepared to make significant contributions to the State of Michigan and the United States of America.

As graduates from the first land grant University in the United States, whatever endeavors the Michigan State class of 2001 may pursue, success is certain to follow.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Michigan State University Class of 2001. May this only be the beginning of the great accomplishments they will achieve in their lifetime.

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST
UAW CONTRACT WITH FORD
MOTOR COMPANY

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 20, 2001

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, we are fortunate to live in a country which protects our freedoms and liberties—the right to free speech, freedom of assembly, and free association.

The right to safe working conditions, an 8 hour workday, a 40 hour workweek, the weekend . . . are things prior generations fought, bled and even died for—and we should never forget that.

On the 60th Anniversary of the first United Auto Worker contract with Ford Motor Company, we need to recognize the difference the UAW has made in the lives of working families.

Prior to their UAW contract, Ford workers had no health and safety protections, no sickness and accident benefits, no grievance procedures, and no respect.

When Walter Reuther and Richard Frankensteen led UAW workers in the Battle of the Overpass in 1937, where they were beaten repeatedly, they began the process of bringing Ford Motor Company to the table to recognize the importance of quality union workforce.

The years 1937 to 1940 were full of similar battles where workers fought, and some died, to bring dignity to their workplace and to build a better community.

Back then, every Congress of Industrial Organizations member in the Detroit area was asked to sign up to the Ford worker “who lives next door or goes to the same church or is married to your . . . second cousin.”

On December 30, 1940, 1,000 men organized a strike in the Rouge River tool-and-die department over rest periods. Ford tried to discharge the UAW leaders, but the National Labor Relations Board ordered 22 of them reinstated. When the union members heard the news, they marched triumphantly back into the plant wearing their CIO buttons . . . something they would not have dared to do just a few weeks earlier.

Then in April, 1941, the company refused to meet with any union committees and followed this up by firing eight committeemen. When word of these discharges passed through the River Rouge plant, one worker shouted “strike!” Another voice took up the cry, “strike!” And soon, louder and bolder, the cries rolled through the plants “strike! strike!” There had never been anything like it in Ford history. Workers left their lathes and benches.

Assembly lines ground to a halt. Workers began walking out, first in trickles, then soon in columns, and they marched from the Rouge River plant to a union hall, half a mile away. By nightfall, the hall was filled. The Ford workers couldn't believe what they had done—Ford Motor Company was shut down.

On April 10th, the strike came to an end, as quickly as it had started, it finished. Henry Ford, for the first time in his life, agreed to negotiate with a labor union. On June 20th, the first 24-page contract between the UAW and Ford was signed.

In contract after contract, the UAW has been able to improve upon that original document—in terms of wages, benefits, job protections, pensions, etc.—to the point where the UAW contract with Ford Motor Company ranks among the best in the world.

Today, we should remember those who fought so hard for that first contract 60 years ago . . . and we should draw strength from their perseverance so that 60 years from now our children will look back and see the exponential progress made by current generations.

HONORING ARMY NATIONAL
GUARD COMBAT UNITS DE-
PLOYED IN SUPPORT OF ARMY
OPERATIONS IN BOSNIA

SPEECH OF

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2001

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that we honor the continued commitment of the Army National Guard in supporting peacekeeping operations in Bosnia, as well as recognize the sacrifices made by these brave men and women who so valiantly serve our country. H. Con. Res. 154 commends the gallantry and dedication of these soldiers who have not only restored peace to the Balkans but have facilitated the recent democratization of the former Yugoslavia.

With such distinguished units as the 49th Armored Division, Texas Army National Guard, and the other National Guard combat units deployed to Bosnia in support of the NATO peacekeeping mission, we have met our obligation to our European allies while serving our national interest in maintaining calm and promoting democracy in this part of the world. We must continue our commitment to providing the necessary resources to ensure the continued readiness of the National Guard and Reserve in the future.

The National Guard and Reserve personnel at home and abroad play an instrumental role in the national security of the United States. I am honored to commemorate their efforts with this resolution.

TRIBUTE TO CARRIE SINKLER-
PARKER

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 20, 2001

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dear friend, Carrie Sinkler-