

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO JAMES A. MONTOYA

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2001

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise today to express gratitude and congratulations to one of Colorado's outstanding public servants, Trinidad Police Chief James A. Montoya, who recently announced his retirement. Chief Montoya is a true professional who has performed his duties with the highest degree of excellence. His leadership as Chief of Police will be greatly missed.

For 23 years James Montoya served as a distinguished public servant carrying out both his personal and professional life with dignity, respect and dedication. His reflections in a recent edition of *The Pueblo Chieftain* convey the gratefulness James has for being Police Chief. "I want to express my genuine gratitude for the opportunities afforded me during my career with the city of Trinidad. I am proud of the department's many accomplishments and the advancements we've made. I leave a staff genuinely dedicated to the mission, ethics and ideas of policing. I will always consider it a privilege to have served this community," Chief Montoya said.

A constituent of the Fourth Congressional District in Colorado, Chief Montoya not only makes his community proud but also his State and country. He has taken the responsibilities and standards of his job to a higher level and I applaud him. On behalf of the citizens of Colorado, I ask the House to join me in extending congratulations to Chief Montoya on his commendable accomplishments.

BOB BIRD: GENTLEMAN,
ADVOCATE, AND FRIEND

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2001

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, our friends at the other cereal company may think they have something that's "Grrreat", but for nearly 25 years, true greatness has been present at General Mills in the form of one outstanding gentleman, Mr. Bob Bird. Bob is retiring after more heart-felt skirmishes than some of our greatest generals, and is being feted by friends and colleagues this evening for a career that is worthy of admiration.

From his early days as a copyboy at The New York Post through his years with the Baltimore Sun and then writing for Jack Anderson and Drew Pearson, Bob Bird has had a keen appreciation for news. He went from reporting it to creating it during his days with Sargent Shriver at the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity, then director of governmental relations for the National Center for Resource Recovery, and then with the Senate Subcommittee

on Executive Reorganization under Senator Abraham Ribicoff.

Many of our colleagues know Bob Bird from his stellar days with General Mills, where he has worked to represent one of our Nation's finest food companies in a most responsible and successful fashion. In particular, Bob's efforts on behalf of General Mills to support food assistance programs to critically at risk women, infants, and children, have earned him the respect and praise of colleagues, of food program advocates, and respected members of the nutrition community. Acting always as a true professional, no one could doubt that this gentleman of good humor was always acting in an honorable and forthright fashion.

Bob likes to mention that a lesson he learned early in his career is that it is most important to listen, to hear the ideas of others, and to evaluate all information that may be at hand. This method of operation has allowed him to act as a well-informed advocate for General Mills who is welcomed by those who agree with him, as well as those who may have other views. A man of honor who knows how to operate in an honorable fashion is a precious commodity, so I assure you that he will be truly missed by all of us who have come to depend on him as an advisor. And those of us who may be fortunate enough to call him a friend will look forward to more contacts with him in the years to come, but will still miss having him come by as frequently as he had in the past.

With his wonderful wife Lillian, and his family, perhaps Bob will have a better chance to continue his love of jazz, his voracious reading, or his skilled appreciation for thoroughbred horse racing. These relaxations are well earned. But I am also certain that this man of skills and commitment will have many more opportunities to leave his impression on important policy matters.

So from one member who represents the Cheerios Capitol of the World, Toledo, OH, let me say to the man who helped make this Capitol cheerier on many days, Bob, thank you. We are blessed to have known and worked with you. We wish you the best and look forward to seeing your smiling self for many days to come.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JIM GOLDSMITH

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2001

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Jim Goldsmith on his new position as National Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

After he was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1965, Jim served his country with distinction for eighteen months in Vietnam as a member of the 84th Engineering Battalion, returning home in 1967. Since that time no job has

been too small for Jim at his local VFW Post 5666, from holding public office to working evening fish fries. In his new position as National Commander, Jim will likely travel more than 300 days per year working on behalf of veterans.

Jim's lasting commitment to his country and his fellow veterans must not go unrecognized. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Jim Goldsmith for his continued devotion to those who sacrificed their lives protecting all our freedoms.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2001

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast votes on September 10 due to important district business, and I was out of the country on September 11, 12, and 13, 2001. If I was present for rollcall votes for the following bills:

336 on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1766—To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4270 John Marr Drive in Annandale, Virginia, as the "Stan Parris Post Office Building";

337 on motion to suspend the rules and pass as amended H.R. 1761—To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 8588 Richmond Highway in Alexandria, Virginia, as the "Herb E. Harris Post Office Building";

338 on passage of H.J. Res. 61—Expressing the sense of the Senate and House of Representatives regarding the terrorist attacks launched against the United States on September 11, 2001;

339 on passage of H.R. 2882—To provide for the expedited payment of certain benefits for a public safety officer who was killed or suffered a catastrophic injury as a direct result of a personal injury sustained in the line of duty in connection with the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001;

340 on passage of H.R. 2884—Victims of Terrorism Relief Act of 2001; and

341 on passage of H.R. 2888—Emergency Supplemental Appropriations for FY 2001.

I would have voted "yea" to all of these bills.

TRIBUTE TO NATIONAL CENTER FOR INDIGENOUS AMERICAN CULTURES IN KANSAS CITY, MO

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2001

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the National Center for Indigenous

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

American Cultures at Line Creek in Frank Vaydik Park in Kansas City, Missouri.

Frank Vaydik Park lies within an area that has been recognized as sacred ground by Native Americans. It contains a large number of American Indian archeological artifacts, many of which date back more than 1,000 years. The National Center for Indigenous American Cultures at Line Creek, an organization created to preserving the site, is working hard to ensure that future generations will be able to learn about the different cultures that have inhabited that sacred land. Additionally, the Center intends to establish an education center to promote and protect this important archeological site.

On September 21st, 22nd, and 23rd, there will be a meeting of Spiritual Leaders from all over the nation at the site to perform a Healing Ceremony. It will be an opportunity for people from both the American Indian and the Kansas City communities to come together to celebrate as the plans for the construction of an educational center and protection of the archeological site progress.

I would like to commend the National Center for Indigenous American Cultures for their work to preserve the past, and I wish them many blessings as they partake in this important sacred ritual that will provide a wonderful beginning for their future education and preservation endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO PARKER AGRICULTURAL SERVICE

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2001

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise today to express gratitude and congratulations to Parker Agricultural Services of Limon, Colorado, a recent recipient of the Environmental Achievement Award from the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The Environmental Achievement Award is one of the highest awards given by the Environmental Protection Agency and recognizes Parker Ag's success of using biosolids as a fertilizer and soil enhancement product in Prowers County.

The biosolid program performance by Parker Agricultural Service has made monumental changes in the environmental makeup of Prowers County. Through this program New York and Boston biosolids are used as fertilizer for farmland. Not only has this program been successful for farmland but has also transformed marginal lands once again into rich producing ground. As reported by The Limon Leader, a 250-acre plot of land was transformed from bare sand to being completely covered by vegetation. Other instances have shown that using this program has increased the amount of protein content in certain plants as well as increasing yield per acre.

Parker Ag has been a shining example of what every company must strive for, achieving the delicate balance between production and environmental protection. I applaud the company for its courageous and noble efforts to preserve and enhance the environment in its community.

As a company located in Colorado's Fourth Congressional District, Parker Ag not only

makes its community proud but also those of its state and country. It is a true honor to have such an extraordinary company reside in Colorado and we owe it a debt of gratitude for its service. I ask the House to join me in extending wholehearted congratulations to Parker Agricultural Services.

HONORING DR. HRAYR "HAGOP" HOVAGUIMIAN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Hrayr "Hagop" Hovaguimian for his contributions to the improvement of health care in Armenia. He started the Nork Marash Medical Center, which provides cardiac surgery, free of cost, in Armenia.

Decades of under-the-table, behind-closed-door payments have plagued the health care system in Armenia. Armenian citizens tell stories of bribing nurses, doctors and other health care staff just to get the medical attention they require. Dr. Hovaguimian, a Syrian-born specialist in complex pediatric surgery, made his first trip to Armenia in 1991 to see the corrupt medical practices first-hand. Since then he has been actively committed to providing affordable cardiac surgery in Armenia and abolishing corrupt medical practices prevalent in that country.

Dr. Hovaguimian left behind a lucrative career in Portland, Oregon to establish Nork Marash Medical Center in Yerevan, Armenia. With the help of a pediatric cardiologist from Spokane, Washington, Dr. Hrayr Garabedian, Hagop is running Armenia's first medical facility that is free of the corruptive influences that are crippling the country's health care system. In June of 1994, the first pediatric heart surgery was performed at the hospital. In 1996, the first adult surgery was performed. Nork Marash Medical Center operates at standards equivalent to those of United States hospitals. These standards also include noncorrupt business practices indicated by a zero-tolerance policy against gratuities. Led by the efforts of Dr. Hovaguimian, the Nork Marash Medical Center has brought a breath of fresh air to a health care system marked by bribes, kickbacks and payoffs.

Nork Marash has struggled to achieve financial self-sufficiency without government subsidies. Many surgeries on pediatric patients who cannot afford the cost of cardiac surgery are performed at no charge. Dr. Hovaguimian has a guiding principle: no patient is denied care because of inability to pay. Although the hospital has faced several financial obstacles, they have been able to achieve financial self-sufficiency.

Mr. Speaker, I honor Dr. Hovaguimian for his efforts to bring high standards and professionalism to the health care system in Armenia. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Dr. Hrayr "Hagop" Hovaguimian many more years of continued success.

2001 EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR RECOVERY FROM AND RESPONSE TO TERRORIST ATTACKS ON THE UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2001

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2888, the emergency supplemental appropriations bill providing essential funds for recovery from and response to the terrorist attacks on New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania.

I want to thank our distinguished Chairman, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, and our ranking member, Mr. OBEY, for their hard work in negotiating this essential package with the leadership of both bodies and the President. The mettle of a nation is tested at trying times, and the response before us today demonstrates that America, her people, and her leaders, are ready for this test.

Today we provide \$40 billion to start beginning to pay for the damage caused by the attack, to assist the victims who were impacted by it, to upgrade our security, and to begin the military preparations necessary for an appropriate response. \$10 billion is available immediately for the President to use as he sees fit. Another \$10 billion is available after the President specifies how he wishes to use the funding provided that the Congress concurs within fifteen days of that plan. Congress as part of our work on regular appropriations bills will expend the final \$20 billion based upon a submission of a budget request by the President and further action in the weeks ahead.

Mr. Speaker, there have been so many times when America has committed her resources to the causes of peace and in support of freedom. There can be no more appropriate time than when our homeland has been attacked and our citizens killed.

I am one who believes that we should celebrate the victory that we had in the thousands of people who survived, and in the outpouring of the American spirit in support of the victims of the attack.

No one will forget the devotion of the firefighters, police, and emergency medical technicians who braved the danger presented by the destruction.

No one can ignore the determination of the iron, steel and construction workers who felt an obligation to donate their professional skills to the rescue effort.

No one can doubt the conviction of the men and women of America's military who moved swiftly to safeguard our nation, or the thousands of Americans on reserve duty who stood ready for the call to action.

The entire world is in awe of the outpouring of support of people, from the youngest children to our senior citizens who looked for things or money to donate, wrote encouraging messages to the workers, and supported friends, neighbors and even strangers in any way they could during a traumatic time.

But that is what America is. America is resilient. America is resourceful. America is at her very best when challenged and when angered. Others around the world often misunderstand America's resolve. Now the execution of that resolve will leave no questions.