

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING JACKIE
THOMAS ON HER 50TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Jackie Thomas, of San Jose, California, on her 50th birthday, which was Saturday, September 29, 2001.

Mrs. Thomas was born in 1951 in Little Rock, Arkansas. When she was three, her family moved to California, where they settled in the Bay Area. A member of a single-parent family, Mrs. Thomas helped to take care of her working father and raise her two younger brothers. After marrying and having two children of her own, Mrs. Thomas continued to devote herself to her family. Her selfless dedication to family has been a hallmark of her life.

The achievements of Mrs. Thomas' life include more than her success as a mother and wife. She was the first in her family to achieve a college degree. She also maintained her own career as a customer service and inside sales representative in the electronics industry, while supporting her husband's career goals and caring for two small children.

I extend to Mrs. Thomas the happiest birthday wishes on her 50th birthday and wish her many more in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO FEDEX

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize FedEx for its work and sacrifice in honor of all the people who both survived and who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks on September 11th, 2001, their families and their friends.

These terrorist attacks mark a solemn moment in America's history. American men and women, civilians and soldiers, firefighters and police, mothers and fathers, were slain for a cause so terrible, so heinous, and so despicable that we find it unimaginable and indescribable. United, Americans seek to find meaning and hope in a seemingly hopeless and meaningless act. In the days since these terrible terrorist attacks, America has been shoulder-to-shoulder in a struggle to meet the challenges of a world that is a little less safe, a little scarier, and far less predictable. The efforts of businesses like FedEx signify the commitment and concern of Americans everywhere. Our nation's strength does not lie in her military might but rather in the collective compassion of its people.

Since the September 11th terrorist attacks, FedEx has assisted UPOCO and their customers nationwide providing the costs of mail-

ing and distribution of dog supplies to the New York/New Jersey German Shepherd Rescue. The patriotism and persistence of FedEx is a lasting memorial to the thousands of victims who perished in New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania.

Through the days, weeks, and months ahead, all Americans must come together and do what they can to assist the nation's war effort. Whether it is giving blood, sending donations, praying for the thousands of grieving families, or simply saying thanks to the brave men and women who put their lives on the line each and every day so that we may be free, it is important that the American people are vigilant in their efforts to overcome this evil. Though our nation has witnessed unspeakable horror, America's virtues, determination, and faith continues to shine brightly on the world.

I am confident that the United States will seek out those that harbor hatred, terror, and depravity in their hearts; and we will defeat them. This is a war that we must, can, and will win. May God bless the families and children grieving across this great nation and may God bless America.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "RUSSIAN RIVER LAND ACT"

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to introduce the proposed legislation titled "Russian River Land Act" on behalf of Cook Inlet Region, Incorporated. The purpose of this legislation is to ratify an agreement that settles a land ownership issue at Russian River on the Kenai Peninsula in Alaska.

The agreement that this legislation ratifies was reached on July 26th of this year, after three years of negotiations between the Alaska Native regional corporation, Cook Inlet Region, Inc. and the United States Forest Service and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. The agreement covers lands at the confluence of the Kenai and Russian Rivers.

The area surrounding the confluence of the Russian and Kenai is rich in archeological cultural features. It is also the site of perhaps the most heavily used public sports fishery in Alaska. Because of the archeological resources at Russian River, Cook Inlet Region, Inc. made selections at Russian River under the section of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act that allowed for selections of historical places and cemetery sites. The lands at the confluence are managed in part by the U.S. Forest Service and in part by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Seeking to protect the public's access to the sports fishery at Russian River, the two federal agencies and Cook Inlet Region, Inc. have reached agreement that requires federal

legislation in order to become effective. Because this agreement provides for the continuing ownership and management by the two federal agencies of the vast majority of lands at Russian River, the public's right to continue fishing remains unchanged from its current status.

Through negotiation and agreement, the two federal agencies and Cook Inlet Region, Inc. have found a way to fulfill the intent of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act in a way that fully protects the interests of the public. I congratulate all three parties on reaching final accord on the long-standing unresolved issue of land ownership at Russian River. I urge passage of the Russian River Land Act.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH CELEBRATES ITS 95TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate St. John Lutheran Church in Cudahy, Wisconsin on its 95th anniversary as a congregation.

St. John was founded by a small group of area Slovak immigrants, and received its charter on October 7, 1906 as a member of the Slovak Evangelical Lutheran Church (SELC). Later, that synod merged with the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and St. John became a member of the Missouri Synod's SELC district.

Over the years, St. John has grown and prospered, adding programs like its Day Care Ministry and a second ministry and workshop site called the Life Enrichment Center along the way. In 1999, the church's renovation project expanded the sanctuary and fellowship hall, and added new office space.

St. John's theme for its 95th anniversary year is "Heritage of Faith; Foundation for the Future." What a fitting statement for a church that has played such an integral part in the spiritual life of the community for so many years, and continues to be a very special place to worship and grow in service to God and to His people.

The congregation is blessed with two gifted and devoted pastors, Reverend Carl H. Krueger, Jr., who also serves as president of the SELC District, and Reverend Richard Schauer. Other dedicated members of the St. John ministry team are the church's current vicar, Rodger Williams, parish nurse Marcia Isherwood, and Karen Erickson, who serves as the day care director.

The members and staff of St. John Lutheran are actively involved in many community activities, such as Project Concern and Cudahy/St. Francis Interfaith for the Elderly, Pastor Kreuger is also the chaplain at Wisconsin Air National Guard's 128th Air Refueling Wing in Milwaukee, the unit where I once proudly

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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

served as a medic. An attitude of service is certainly evident in every aspect of the life of the congregation.

Congratulations to St. John Lutheran Church on this very special day in the history of the congregation. May God continue to bless its ministry with His presence and His love.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO THE TIFFIN COUNCIL 608 OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, on October 6, 2001 the Tiffin Knights of Columbus Council 608 will celebrate their 100th anniversary. For the past 100 years, this fraternal organization has worked to promote charity for those who are less fortunate, to promote unity and brotherhood among Catholic men, and to promote patriotism in our country.

More than 120 years ago, a small group of men met in the basement of St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Connecticut. These men formed a fraternal society that would one day become one of the world's largest Catholic family fraternal service organizations. Their purpose was to bring men together under the banner of fraternity and philanthropy. These men bound themselves together by the ideals of Christopher Columbus, the discoverer of the Americas, the one whose hand brought Catholicism to America.

For the last 100 years, the Tiffin Council has carried on the principles of their founding fathers. Their services to the Tiffin community are profound. The Tiffin Council provides religious education and activities for students and those with mental and physical disabilities. Their efforts at the Ecumenical Sharing Kitchen ensure that those who are less fortunate have a hot meal. Through their charitable efforts, the Tiffin Council raises funds for the Firefighters' Projects for Children, St. Rita School for the Deaf, and Catholic Guild for the Blind.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all the members of the 107th Congress to join me in applauding the efforts of the Tiffin Knights of Columbus Council 608. Their selfless acts of volunteerism and brotherhood over the past century are truly an example for future generations.

COLONEL JAMES A. MCMURRAY RETIRES AS COMMANDER

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, on October 26, 2001, Colonel James A. McMurry will retire as Commander of Volk Field Combat Readiness Training Center, Camp Douglas, Wisconsin. After a distinguished career in the U.S. Air Force as an instructor pilot, Colonel McMurry joined the Wisconsin Air National Guard where he served as an instructor pilot, flight examiner and squadron standardization officer with

the 128th Tactical Fighter Wing. During that time, he participated in three overseas deployments. In 1989 he was assigned to lead the installation of a \$31 million Air Combat Maneuvering Instrumentation system at Volk Field. He became Commander in November, 1993. In 1997, he was assigned the additional duty of Air National Guard liaison to the Air Force Command and Control Battle Lab.

Colonel McMurry is a command pilot with over 3800 hours in a variety of aircraft. His awards and commendations include the Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Joint Service Achievement Medal, the Outstanding Unit Award and the Organizational Excellence Award.

Colonel McMurry represents the very best in leadership in the Wisconsin National Guard. He is considered one of the most accomplished and respected senior officers in the Air National Guard. He has led in the area of new technologies to train the men and women of the future Total Force.

In addition to his distinguished military career, Colonel McMurry has served in a number of community leadership roles including the American Legion, Lions Club, County Wisconsin Workers Steering Committee and the Greater Mauston Wisconsin Development Corporation.

Colonel McMurry resides in Mauston with his wife, Sue, and their three children, April, Sara and Mike.

I have considered it an honor and a privilege to have worked with Colonel McMurry since his arrival at Volk Field, which is located within the 6th Congressional District that I represent. It is fitting that he receives full recognition and praise for the service he has rendered to his community, his state and his nation along with the thanks and best wishes of his fellow citizens in Wisconsin.

ON INTRODUCTION OF FIRST RESPONDERS HOMELAND DEFENSE LAW

HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to introduce legislation that will help our local law enforcement agencies and public safety personnel prepare for and respond to terrorist attacks.

As the horrific attacks upon our Nation on September 11th have proven, our local police, fire, and rescue personnel are our first line of response to acts of terrorism. While our federal law enforcement officers have a very important role to play in our homeland defense, the role of their state and local counterparts is still more critical. They are the first on the scene, the first to assess the damages and circumstances, the first to attend to victims.

But, they are not now well equipped or prepared for dealing with these situations. They must deal on a day-to-day basis with the more mundane tasks of keeping the peace on the streets and bringing common criminals to justice. They need access to the knowledge and equipment that our federal law enforcement and military personnel freely have, but now lie outside their routine training.

As our Nation sought to prosecute the long, hard war on drugs, we came to similarly realize the value of fully integrating beat cops, state troopers, and other law enforcement officials into the fight. But those officers needed access to the equipment and the knowledge of our military personnel in order to fully realize their capabilities. As a result, there are two programs through which state and local agencies fighting drugs can acquire defense personnel property to conduct counter-drug operations.

One of those two programs, found at 10 U.S.C. 2576a, was already amended by Congress to allow these same resources to be used for counter-terrorism. Through that program, local law enforcement can get free access personnel property no longer needed by the Department of Defense. It is time to bring the second program into the Twenty-First Century as well, and that is what my bill does.

This second program, found at 10 U.S.C. 381, simply provides state and local enforcement officers access to the catalog of equipment and knowledge currently available to the Department of Justice, the Department of Defense, and the General Services Administration.

No new funds are needed to expand this program. The local agencies pay for the items they purchase with their own dollars. But, by purchasing these items through this program, the communities may be able to leverage the buying power of the federal government and pay lower prices.

There is no cost to making this change in law, but there is a great cost to not providing our local public safety workers with the tools they need to respond to future potential terrorist attacks. As we begin to prepare our Nation to fight what could be a long, hard war against terrorism, we must arm our front-line soldiers—the police, fire, and rescue personnel of our local communities. The First Responders Homeland Defense Act is one right step in that direction.

TRIBUTE TO THE SOUTHSIDE FALL FESTIVAL

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the patrons and organizers of the Southside Fall Festival for their work and sacrifice in honor of all the people who both survived and who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks on September 11th, 2001 their families and their friends.

These terrorist attacks mark a solemn moment in America's history. American men and women, civilians and soldiers, firefighters and police, mothers and fathers, were slain for a cause so terrible, so heinous, and so despicable that we find it unimaginable and indescribable. United, Americans seeks to find meaning and hope in a seemingly hopeless and meaningless act. In the days since these terrible terrorist attacks, America has been shoulder-to-shoulder in a struggle to meet the challenges of a world that is a little less safe, a little scarier, and far less predictable. The efforts of the patrons and organizers of the Southside Fall Festival signify the commitment