

HARRIET TUBMAN, FREEDOM FIGHTER, UNION SPY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Harriet Tubman and her hard work and dedication to social justice. Harriet Tubman is credited with freeing many African-Americans from slavery. She is remembered for her work with the Underground Railroad, her life and commitment to helping others gain their freedom.

Mrs. Tubman was born a slave, in Bucktown, Maryland. The date of her birth is unsure, but it is believed to be March 10, 1820. She was born Araminta, but decided later to take on her mother's first name instead. Starting life on a plantation, she grew up doing hard labor in the fields and suffered repeated beatings. At the age of 13, she was struck in the head by an overseer with a heavy weight that fractured her skull and subjected her to continuous blackouts.

After her owner died in 1849, Mrs. Tubman was able to escape to Philadelphia on the Underground Railroad. In 1850, the Fugitive Slave Law was passed. The law criminalized providing assistance to runaway slaves. This new law did not stop Mrs. Tubman, however, from repeatedly making trips back into the southern states where she eventually freed about 3,000 slaves, including her elderly parents using the Underground Railroad. Since she freed so many people from slavery, Harriet Tubman became known as the "Moses of her people".

Despite these achievements, Harriet Tubman's role as a member of the Union Army's forces, during the Civil War, is not widely recognized. She later reported to General David Hunter at Hilton Head, South Carolina in 1863 where she worked as a nurse, scout, spy and cook for the Union Army. During the War, Harriet led a bold raid in South Carolina that freed over 800 slaves.

In 1884, after the Civil War, Harriet Tubman married John Tubman a freed slave. Four years later, her husband died leaving her to live the latter portion of her life in poverty. Nevertheless, Mrs. Tubman campaigned to raise funds for black schools. She also created the Harriet Tubman Home for Indignant Aged Negroes in her own home.

As we end our celebration of Women's History Month, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mrs. Harriet Tubman for her hard work, extraordinarily contributions toward social justice and her service with the Union forces by supporting my legislation to posthumously award her veteran status.

“FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS ACT OF 2001”

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2001

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Fallen Firefighters Act of 2001." This legislation serves as a remembrance to the heroic men and women who have died in

the line of duty by requiring the American flag on all federal buildings be lowered to half-staff one day each year on the observance of the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service.

Nearly 1.2 million men and women serve our country as fire and emergency services personnel. Approximately one-third suffer debilitating injuries each year making it one of the most dangerous jobs in America. Furthermore approximately 100 men and women die in the line of duty every year—many are volunteers. Since 1981 every state in America, as well as the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, have lost firefighters serving in the line of duty.

In 1990, Congress designated the national monument in Emmitsburg, Maryland to serve as the official memorial to all fallen firefighters. Since 1981, the names of 2,077 fallen fire heroes have been added to the Roll of Honor. This year, the name of Arnold Blakenship, Jr., of Greenwood Delaware, will be placed on the 2000 memorial plaque along with 85 other firefighters. Sadly Mr. Blakenship is not the first firefighter in Delaware to be memorialized.

Lowering the flag on federal buildings one day a year will remind all Americans of the patriotic service and dedicated efforts of our fire and emergency services personnel. These men and women work tirelessly to protect and preserve the lives and property of their fellow citizens. Through this legislation, we can show our support and respect for America's fire heroes and those who carry on the noble tradition of service.

We must always remember the contributions of all of our public safety officers. In 1962, Congress passed a Joint Resolution honoring America's peace officers who died in the line of duty in recognition of their dedicated service to their communities. Today, we take the first step in bestowing the same respect on the 1.2 million fire and emergency services personnel who also serve as public safety officers. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this legislation and recognize these heroic men and women.

IN HONOR OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF HARD ROCK CAFE INTERNATIONAL

HON. JOE SCARBOROUGH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2001

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Hard Rock Café International. June 14th will mark the 30th anniversary of the Hard Rock Café's service to numerous communities throughout the United States. Chartered in 1971, the popular theme restaurant has remained a stronghold in the community throughout the cultural and economic changes that have occurred since it opened its doors.

For the past 30 years, Hard Rock Café has embodied the spirit of rock music; and as the originator of theme-restaurant dining, it continues to be a rock connection for music enthusiasts worldwide. Hard Rock Café is one of the most globally recognized brands known for rock music memorabilia as showcased throughout its many ventures. Hard Rock Café has provided a venue for new and legendary performers through their live café performances and concerts.

Another top priority for Hard Rock Café is a dedication to a wide variety of philanthropic causes around the world. Their pioneering mission to give something back to the community has not only served as a catalyst to raise funds, but it has enhanced the very profile of corporate charity work and served as an example of the good that can be done when local businesses become community partners. Hard Rock Café has also used their visibility to increase awareness of world issues including AIDS, homelessness, environmental conservation, and the care and nurturing of children.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in celebrating the 30th Anniversary of Hard Rock Café International. As a musician and music enthusiast, I thank them for their outstanding support of the musical art form and the many artists across the world. As a father and a public official, I commend their service to communities throughout the United States and the world.

COAST GUARDSMEN FROM STATION NIAGARA

HON. FRANK A. LOBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2001

Mr. LOBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness and profound regret that I rise today. I rise to address the House about two heroes who died on Saturday morning.

While patrolling the waters of Lake Ontario on Friday night, four Coast Guardsmen from Station Niagara were hit by a wave that capsized their boat. All the men were thrown into the frigid water of the Great Lakes where, even in their survival suits, they could not last longer than a few hours. Their fellow Coast Guardsmen, joined by members of the Lewiston Fire Department, Erie County Sheriff's office, and Canadian Coast Guard, searched for these men during the night and all four were eventually recovered. However, despite hours of intensive medical care, Boatswain's Mate Second Class Scott Chism of Lakeside, California and Seaman Chris Ferreby of Morristown New Jersey, both passed away on Saturday morning. The remaining two crewmen are recovering from their ordeal.

Petty Officer Chism is survived by his wife Attalissa, his five-year old daughter Kelsey and his one-year old son Caleb. Seaman Ferreby is survived by his wife Amy and their seven-month-old son Tyler.

As the chairman of the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, I want to extend our sympathies to these men's families, their "shipmates" at Station Niagara who sought them so valiantly through the dark night and to the entire Coast Guard community who shares our grief at their loss. Our thoughts and our prayers are with them at this difficult time.

This tragedy underscores the hazardous nature of even routine operations of the Coast Guard and should serve as a stark reminder to all of us here in Congress that the watch our brave Coast Guard men and women stand each day in service to our nation is a dangerous one.

Mr. Speaker, two heroes died Saturday morning but their lives exemplified the Coast

Guard's core values of Honor, Respect and Devotion to Duty and their example lives on in the works of their fellow Guardsmen who risk their lives each day to protect each of us.

A TRIBUTE TO BETTY COLEMAN-LONG

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Betty Coleman-Long of Brooklyn, New York for her commitment to her community and her joy of life.

Mrs. Coleman-Long is one of four siblings, two brothers, Michael and Charles Coleman and one sister, Mozelle Wickham. She is married and the proud mother of two, Paige L. Long, MD, and Courtney Long, a published author.

Mrs. Coleman-Long owns and operates Gospel Den in Bedford Stuyvesant and is an active member and worshiper of Brown Memorial Baptist Church. She is also the former president of the Floral Club.

Betty takes advantage of the many opportunities to celebrate the culture of New York as she is an avid theater and moviegoer, jazz aficionado, and she enjoys dining out. There is no greater joy in Betty's life than her religious beliefs.

Mr. Speaker, Betty Coleman-Long is a parent, a business owner, and a strong believer in living life to its fullest, yet she never loses sight of her deep religious convictions and the importance of her community. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today, and I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring this truly remarkable woman.

HONORING VIRGINIA "GINNY" EUBANKS

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2001

Mrs. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Women's History Month, I asked New Mexicans to send me nominations of women in New Mexico who have given special service to our community, but may have never received recognition for their good deeds.

I received twenty-eight worthy nominations describing sacrifices and contributions these women have made for our community. I was particularly moved by the more than 100 nominations received for Mrs. Virginia "Ginny" Eubanks, Principal of Eisenhower Middle School in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The nominations came from current students, former students, teachers and parents all describing Mrs. Eubanks' caring, professional, and enthusiastic style of leadership.

I would like to share with you quotes from the people who appreciate the job she has done at Eisenhower Middle School and love her for the contributions she has made to the thousands of lives she has touched.

Teachers and parents say:

I am thoroughly impressed with the dedication, professionalism and enthusiasm of

Mrs. Eubanks. She consistently commends the students, stating that they impressed and inspired her daily.

I believe she is the driving force at Eisenhower which has resulted in the school being rated exemplary status—one of only two middle schools in New Mexico to receive this ranking. She has high standards and has assembled an excellent team.

Mrs. Eubanks is a good example of what it takes to live an honest and productive life. She has proven to be of great benefit for our children. Her door was always open to everyone.

She is the reason I continue to teach. She created an environment that had high expectations for students and staff, while at the same time allowing all to experience the joy of learning and the safety of belonging.

In their nominations, students told me:

I think Mrs. Eubanks is really cool. She is nice and doesn't get me in trouble. She supports kids, she is very involved in her school and does not sit around when something happens, she acts on it.

Mrs. Eubanks will always try things that will stand out. Like if we sold a lot of magazine orders she would do something crazy like have a pie thrown at her or she would offer to be in the dunk tank. Just an all around great person.

She is very helpful in time of need. She would talk it through and find away to make it better. If a student came to her with an idea she would help make it work. She's always been there for the students.

Mrs. Eubanks is always there for people. She is open-minded and never turned anyone away from their goals. I find that my middle school experience has well prepared me for high school, and Mrs. Eubanks as the head principal of the school set the tone for that good experience.

She always has something positive to say to the students and has inspired me to do my best. Mrs. Eubanks has led us to have better test scores. She turned the school into a better place.

Mrs. Eubanks is very sweet and considerate. I remember once in 6th grade that she let me put my purse in her office. It was at a dance and I couldn't fit it in my locker. So I was just carrying it around when she said "Would you like me to put your purse in my office?" She is so nice.

Mrs. Eubanks has changed my life for the best. She has taught me how to let people feel good about the best of their abilities. She taught us how to care for each other.

This school is nice and at times fun. She gives a zest to the school. She helps keep the school in line and keeps it at the top of its rank. She keeps us motivated.

Ginny Eubanks has made a positive impact on the people she has taught—young and old alike. She is a role model for education and leadership. Mrs. Eubanks is on a leave of absence due to illness and as one student said, "she is always there for students when we are in need, so it's now our turn to help her."

Virginia Eubanks is a woman of courage and vision, an exemplar of what an educator should be. She knows it takes the best education to give children the tools they need to build wings for their dreams. She inspires students, by her own example, to care for one another and be supportive, values that would benefit every classroom in America.

Please join me in thanking a distinguished educator, Virginia Eubanks, for her faithful service to our children and the nation.

HONORING THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO—125 YEARS OF EDUCATING

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2001

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of an institution that has improved the lives of thousands of people, the University of Colorado. The university is celebrating 125 years of providing a superior education to the people of Colorado, the Nation, and individuals from around the world.

The university, which was established in 1876, opened its doors on September 5, 1877, with just one building, 2 instructors, and 44 students. Since its founding, the University of Colorado has grown from one building in Boulder to four different campuses throughout the State. The Boulder campus alone has nearly 200 buildings and includes 10 colleges and schools. Over the course of the university's proud history, more than 200,000 degrees have been earned. It is this continued commitment to education and improving people's lives that we celebrate today.

America has been built on the ideas and intellect of an educated society. CU has played an important role as a catalyst—helping minds grow and providing students with opportunities to learn about subjects as diverse as space flight dynamics and African-American history. The inspiration and knowledge that CU's students gain today will change the way we all will live tomorrow.

CU has helped countless students find their paths in life. Many of them went on to make important contributions to our country. Although it's not possible to name them all, I'd like to acknowledge a few of CU's most outstanding alumni:

Byron White—Not only was he CU's first all-American football player, but after an outstanding career at the Justice Department, he was appointed as a Supreme Court Justice.

Scott Carpenter—As one of just thirteen CU graduates to travel to outer space, Scott was one of the original seven Mercury Astronauts and flew the second American manned orbital flight.

Cynthia Lawrence Calkins—the world-renowned opera star.

Three-term Colorado Governor Roy Romer and former U.S. Senator Hank Brown.

CU played a significant role in helping these alumni become leaders in their fields.

In addition to training young minds, the University of Colorado is also a leading research institution. As one of just 34 public research universities invited to join the prestigious Association of American Universities, CU has more than 900 separate research investigations in progress—in such areas as biotechnology, superconductivity, information technologies, telecommunications, and environmental and space sciences. The University of Colorado also ranks eleventh among public universities in the country in Federal research support.

CU's research programs are at the cutting edge of scientific inquiry, producing award-winning science that is transforming the way we live. The discoveries of CU biochemistry professor Thomas Cech, for instance, have helped us understand the catalytic properties