

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CHRISTINA DEMARIS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate a young student from my district whose hard work and dedication has been rewarded with a great opportunity from the Governor of Colorado. Christina DeMaris of Alamosa, Colorado, was recently awarded the Governor's Opportunity Scholarship, and as she celebrates her achievement, I would like to commend her for her determination and self-sacrifice in achieving this honor.

Christina is a sophomore at Northeastern Junior College located in the city of Sterling. After a long, and no doubt difficult process, Christina was selected as a recipient of the Governor's Scholarship. This scholarship will provide her with free tuition to the Colorado college of her choice, allowing her the opportunity to pursue a higher education degree within five years. This is a great program provided by my state's chief executive to promote higher education throughout the state.

Mr. Speaker, the diligence and commitment demonstrated by Christina DeMaris certainly deserves the recognition of this body of Congress, and this nation. Christina's achievement serves as a symbol to aspiring college bound students throughout Colorado, and indeed the entire nation. Her reward is proof that hard work and attention to your studies can lead to assistance in achieving your goals. This scholarship program is one of the many ways that we, as legislators, can ensure that our future generations are guaranteed the opportunity to improve their lives through the resources of education. Congratulations Christina, and good luck in your future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF GRAMERCY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATES, INC.

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2002

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Gramercy Neighborhood Associates in New York City. Committed to neighborhood improvement and preservation, this organization is celebrating its 90th anniversary this year.

Founded in 1912, Gramercy Neighborhood Associates, Inc., is one of the oldest community groups in New York City. Located in a neighborhood celebrated for its rich history and well-preserved architectural treasures, Gramercy Neighborhood Associates came together to ensure a grand future for a truly remarkable area. It is dedicated to the enhancement of its neighborhood and the preservation

of historic buildings. It is also committed to ensuring safe streets and the protection of the residential character of the neighborhood.

To accomplish this mission, Gramercy Neighborhood Associates works closely with the 13th Police Precinct as well as local Community Boards 5 and 6. It also works with elected officials, and the East Side Rezoning Alliance. Gramercy Neighborhood Associates also provides a permanent presence on the Historic Districts Council.

Gramercy Neighborhood Associates plants and maintains trees alongside neighborhood sidewalks and also works vigorously to preserve and enhance the neighborhood's architectural and historical treasures. For its successes in fostering the creation of the East 17th Street/Irving Place Historic District, they were honored with receipt of the New York Landmarks Conservancy's prestigious Lucy G. Moses Preservation Award. In 1984, the association sponsored the production of Gramercy Park: An Illustrated History of a New York Neighborhood, by Stehen Garney, which won the 1985 Annual Book Award of the New York Chapter of the Victorian Society of America. This association's ambitious publication program also supports a newsletter, The Gramercy Gazette.

The organization sponsors a number of events which encourage community involvement, including Clean and Green Day each spring and a Canine Comedy Day in October. They come together each year to celebrate the annual lighting of the Menorah at the beginning of Chanukah, and on Christmas Eve for caroling around the Christmas tree in Gramercy Park.

Throughout its 90 year history, Gramercy Neighborhood Associates has played a crucial role in community efforts to improve and maintain the quality of life in their neighborhood. In recognition of these outstanding achievements, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the great contributions of this tremendously dedicated community group.

A PROCLAMATION CONGRATULATING CRAVAT COAL COMPANY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2002

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, the Cravat Coal Company celebrated 50 years of successful business in the year 2001; and,

Whereas, the Cravat Coal Company was built through the sacrifice, vision, and hard work of the Puskarich brothers, the miners and their investors; and,

Whereas, Cravat Coal has served markets in Ohio, the United States, Taiwan, Greece, and the Philippines; and,

Whereas, Cravat Coal has brought employment and progress to the Ohio valley; and,

Whereas, the founders and employees must be commended for their long hours and com-

mitment to excellence which allowed Cravat Coal to succeed;

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in celebrating Cravat Coal's 50 years of exceptional service.

HONORING JACK ABERNATHY

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2002

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man that has become an institution in the city of Davison, MI, Mr. Jack Abernathy. Jack recently retired after being the city manager for the past 28 years. He was honored at a community gala on January 19 in the city of Davison.

I have known Jack for many years. Jack was a teacher prior to running for public office. He was elected to the Davison City Council in 1969, the same year that Davison earned its nickname as the "City of Flags." After serving as a councilman and as mayor, Jack was appointed the city manager in 1974. In this capacity he was accountable for the police, fire, parks, community development, building and zoning, and public services departments; and the offices of Assessor, City Clerk and City Treasurer. Jack was the liaison between the City Council, city government employees, and residents. It was his responsibility to keep informed about developments in local government, to respond quickly to problems, and seek solutions within and if necessary outside the community. It is a tribute to his personality that he performed his job with grace, forbearance and finesse.

During this time Jack was the moving force behind several organizations and services. He helped to start the Davison-Richfield Area Fire Authority, Genesee County Small Cities Association, the Davison Area Ambulance Authority, the Davison Senior Center Authority, Davison Area Recycling, Davison Area Parks and Recreation Commission, Davison Area Economic Development Authority, the Davison Skatepark, and the Genesee County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority. He was instrumental in initiating the first public transportation system Dial-a-Ride program in a small city, and keeping the Secretary of State's office in Davison. Jack helped build the Senior Centers, and worked with Genesee County on the Waste and Water program, the 911 program and organizing countywide recycling.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the epitome of a public servant, Jack Abernathy. His service to his community and fellow citizens is an inspiration to everyone aspiring to make this a better world. His selfless commitment to service has benefited persons far beyond the Davison community.

• 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.

TRIBUTE TO HADASSAH

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2002

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 90th anniversary of an outstanding organization: Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America.

Many Americans recognize Hadassah as the premier organization for Jewish women. Others know of its many achievements in health care and social justice. But few realize that Hadassah is both the largest women's and the largest Jewish organization in the United States, with over 300,000 members. Every single Member of Congress represents members of Hadassah.

It has been my distinct pleasure and privilege to have had a long and fruitful professional relationship with Hadassah. When I first began working on genetic discrimination issues in 1995, Hadassah stepped forward to pledge its support. At my first press conference, Hadassah was one of just four organizations that endorsed that first genetic non-discrimination bill. Today, this initiative has the support of over 200 organizations—but Hadassah is still leading the way as a key player.

Indeed, I have found Hadassah to be among the most consistent and persistent allies any legislator could ever hope for. When Hadassah decides that an issue is a priority, it will work ceaselessly until its goal is achieved. Its members are well educated, savvy, and tenacious. Its leadership is focused, smart, and sophisticated. Few organizations are as effective.

Through our partnership on issues including genetic discrimination, women's health, and colorectal cancer, my respect and admiration for Hadassah has only grown. In 1998, I was proud to receive the Hadassah Nassau Region's Myrtle Wreath Achievement Award for "outstanding achievement in all areas of public service and . . . dedication to improving the health and well being of all Americans." This award hangs in a place of honor in my office. I was equally proud to be named a Lifetime Member of Hadassah for my work on issues important to their members.

Perhaps Hadassah's greatest achievement is the Hadassah Medical Organization, a network of 2 hospitals, 90 outpatient clinics, and numerous community health centers throughout Israel. These facilities provide state-of-the-art health care to 600,000 patients each year, regardless of race, religion, or creed. They often treat the most critically wounded victims of the region's ongoing conflicts.

I would like to invite my colleagues to join me in saluting the 90th anniversary of Hadassah. May Hadassah and its members enjoy another 90 years of activism.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LEONARD GREGORY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Leonard

Gregory and thank him for his extraordinary contributions to both the Pueblo Chieftain and the greater community of Pueblo, Colorado. Len's life-long dedication to the pursuit of excellence as a columnist and editor at the Pueblo Chieftain is matched only by the level of integrity and honesty with which he has conducted himself each and every day in that pursuit. He will always be remembered as an employee with the utmost dedication and talent, and will continue to be known as a leader in his community. As he celebrates his retirement, let it be known that it is a great loss not only for the paper, but also for a town that has relied on him for his wisdom and insight throughout his extraordinary tenure.

As a 38-year employee at the Pueblo Chieftain, Len's dedication, work ethic and unparalleled skill as a newsman ensured his unfettered rise through the ranks of the organization. He began his career in 1964 as a composing room employee, and then transferred to the newsroom in 1972 as a courthouse and general assignment reporter. In 1988, he was promoted from city editor to managing editor, and in 1999 was promoted to executive editor, where he oversaw the newsroom operation, served on the editorial board and represented the newspaper in the Pueblo community.

Since he began writing for the Chieftain, Len has distinguished himself as much more than an average employee. He has received numerous awards from the Colorado Press Association and the Colorado Associated Press Editors and Reporters for his column, which he began writing in 1979. He was named outstanding Alumnus by the University of Southern Colorado Alumni Association, and Newspaper Person of the Year by the Southern Colorado Press Club. Len's distinguished service and dedication is not limited to his professional endeavors, as he has proven himself an active leader within the community as well. He is currently a member of a number of organizations, including the Pueblo School District 60 Foundation Board, the University of Southern Colorado's Foundation Board and President's Advisory Council, and the Holy Family Parish Finance Council.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Len Gregory is a man of unparalleled dedication and commitment to both his professional and philanthropic endeavors. It is his unrelenting passion for each and every thing he does, as well as his spirit of honesty and integrity with which he has always conducted himself, that I wish to bring before this body of Congress. Len Gregory is a remarkable man, who has achieved extraordinary things in his career and in his community, and I would like to extend to him my congratulations on his retirement and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

PROCLAMATION FOR GARY GRETARSSON

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2002

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize one of New York's outstanding young men, Gary Gretarsson. The Boy Scouts of his troop honored him as they recognized his achievements by giving him the Eagle Scout honor on Friday, December 7, 2001.

Since the beginning of this century, the Boy Scouts of America have provided thousands of boys and young men each year with the opportunity to make friends, explore new ideas, and develop leadership skills while learning self-reliance and teamwork.

This award is presented only to those who possess the qualities that make our nation great: commitment to excellence, hard work, and genuine love of community service. Becoming an Eagle Scout is an extraordinary award with which only the finest Boy Scouts are honored. To earn the award—the highest advancement rank in Scouting—a Boy Scout must demonstrate proficiency in the rigorous areas of leadership, service, and outdoor skills.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipients of these awards, as their activities are indeed worthy of praise. Their leadership benefits our community and they serve as role models for their peers.

Also, we must not forget the unsung heroes, who continue to devote a large part of their lives to make all this possible. Therefore, I salute the families, scout leaders, and countless others who have given generously of their time and energy in support of scouting.

It is with great pride that I recognize the achievements of Mr. Gretarsson, and bring the attention of Congress to this successful young man on his day of recognition. Congratulations to Gary and his family.

IN HONOR OF NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY STUDENTS AT CONNER HIGH SCHOOL, HEBRON, KY

HON. KEN LUCAS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2002

Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of some outstanding students at Conner High School in Hebron, in Kentucky's Fourth Congressional District. Specifically, I salute members of the school's chapter of the National Honor Society for their award-winning community service projects in recent years.

Most recently, Conner's honor students tackled an issue that we have addressed here in the House as well—the needs of America's homeless veterans. The honor students worked with a grocery bag manufacturer, Duro Standard Products; a local grocer, Flick's Foods; and Wal-Mart Stores, Incorporated; to have information about the Heather Renee French Foundation for Veterans printed on 21 million grocery bags.

You may recall that as Miss America 2000, Kentucky's Heather Renee French Henry made increasing our awareness of the needs of America's homeless veterans her mission, and came to Washington to campaign for the homeless veterans legislation we passed last month.

Now, thanks to the efforts of the National Honor Society members at Conner High School and some civic-minded business people, many people are learning about the needs of homeless veterans and Heather Renee French Henry's organization. Specifically, I'd like to recognize the students—Ashley Tepe, Jennifer Golatzki, Amanda Kordenbrock, McKenzie Ryle, and Katie Stacy, their National