

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

DR. DAVID SATCHER, THE
PEOPLE'S SURGEON GENERAL

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, during this month long recognition of Black History Month it is a privilege for me to honor the second African-American to serve as this country's U.S. Surgeon General, Dr. David Satcher. Tomorrow, Dr. Satcher will conclude his term. I rise in recognition of the leadership, compassion, dedication and vision that he has exhibited during his tenure as the 16th Surgeon General of the United States.

A native Alabaman and graduate of Morehouse College, Dr. Satcher received both his M.D. and Ph.D. from Case Western Reserve University in 1970. After years of study, Dr. Satcher put his expertise into practice first as a faculty member at the UCLA School of Medicine and Public Health and later as Chairman of the Department of Family Medicine at the King-Drew Medical Center in Los Angeles, where he also directed the King-Drew Sickle Cell Research Center for 6 years. Returning to his alma mater in 1977, Dr. Satcher then went on to serve as professor and Chairman of the Department of Community Medicine and Family Practice at Morehouse School of Medicine before being elected President of Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee, a post he held from 1982 to 1993.

A learned, well-educated professional and a father of four, Dr. Satcher entered public service in 1993 as the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Administrator of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, posts he held until 1998 when he assumed his current position as Surgeon General. During the period of February 1998 to January 2001, Dr. Satcher served simultaneously in the positions of Surgeon General and Assistant Secretary for Health.

As Surgeon General, Dr. Satcher advocated for and worked towards the promotion of healthy lifestyles, the improvement of the mental health system, and the elimination of disparities in health. Mr. Speaker, The National Center for Health Statistics reports that 60 percent of Americans more than 20 years of age are overweight or clinically obese and that weight-related conditions are the second leading cause of death in the United States, resulting in about 300,000 preventable deaths each year. What is so sad is that most of these deaths can and should be prevented. Realizing this, Dr. Satcher used his office to focus national attention on nutrition; he educated Americans about the value of maintaining a balanced diet with more vegetables and less sugar, and he stressed the necessity of regular exercise. Recognizing the fact that obesity can substantially increase a person's risk of illnesses such as breast, colon, ovarian, and prostate cancers, as well as type 2 diabetes and heart disease, I would like to personally

thank the Surgeon General on behalf of all Americans who have undoubtedly benefited from the preventative efforts he initiated and oversaw during his tenure.

Believing in the importance of mental as well as physical health, Dr. Satcher also worked to improve the mental health system to one of caring and support—not blame and stigmatization—and towards the developing of sound strategies for suicide and violence prevention. When Congress called for the development of a national strategy for suicide prevention, Dr. Satcher wholeheartedly embraced the challenge and responded with the dynamic leadership that has become his trademark. The National Strategy for Suicide Prevention was published in May 2001 and I am proud to say that we now have a unified, governing text to guide our national effort to prevent the loss of the nearly 30,000 lives claimed annually by suicide.

In addition to his efforts to promote healthier American lifestyles and to better the condition of the mental health system, Dr. Satcher also acted in an effort to eliminate socio-economic based disparities that remain prevalent in the U.S. healthcare system. He was not afraid to address controversial issues, like needle exchange, when he felt that a change in public policy would save lives. Using the best available science, and operating under the belief that the entire nation benefits from the protection of the health of the most vulnerable, Dr. Satcher and his team focused on six key issues, infant mortality, child and adult immunizations, HIV/AIDS, cardiovascular disease, cancer screening and management, and diabetes, all of which have an especially large impact on minority populations.

Dr. Satcher's goal while in office was to be remembered as the Surgeon General who listened to the people and who always responded to their needs and concerns. Looking back on the last 4 years from the vantage point of this last day of Dr. Satcher's term, it is abundantly clear that he more than accomplished that goal, and that indeed he far exceeded it. Dr. Satcher not only lent an ear to those with a voice, but spoke up for those whose voice could not be heard. In all that he did as the 16th Surgeon General of the United States, Dr. Satcher always acted as a true and honest servant of the people. And for this, for his dedicated service to American healthcare, his country commends him.

RECOGNIZING CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the annual celebration of Catholic Schools' Week.

Each year, over 3,500 Catholic schools across our nation celebrate Catholic Schools'

Week to recognize the educational and social contributions of America's Catholic schools. This year's 28th Catholic Schools' Week theme, "Catholic Schools Where Faith and Knowledge Meet," exemplifies a major benefit of receiving a Catholic School education.

Catholic schools foster their students with a strong sense of faith, spirit, and Christian service. These are important values which we must promote, especially in light of the events of September 11th. Catholic schools teach a diverse student body from all faiths and races. In fact, 25.6 percent of Catholic school students are minorities. In some inner-city schools, a majority of students are non-Catholic.

It is important that we continue our strong support for Catholic Schools. Catholic education is internationally recognized for its academic excellence and emphasis on the development of the heart, mind and soul. We must promote the growth and continued success of Catholic schools by ensuring they have Internet access, abundant libraries and safe learning environments.

I have worked closely with the Catholic schools in my district, such as helping provide Internet services to the St. Charles Borromeo Catholic School in Houston, visiting Catholic school facilities, and reading to students.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of the contributions made by our nation's Catholic Schools. I would like to especially recognize the dedicated teachers, principals, school administrators and parents in my Texas Congressional district for their hard work and devotion.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MAHLON "BUTCH" WHITE

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize an outstanding individual from Pueblo, Colorado. Over the years, Mahlon "Butch" White has distinguished himself as a business executive, a community leader, and a vital participant in the funding of civic organizations and activities throughout the region. Butch's achievements are impressive and it is my honor to recognize several of those accomplishments today. Butch is a generous soul whose good deeds and generous acts certainly deserve the recognition of this body of Congress, and this nation.

Butch was the former owner and operator of Minnequa Bank in Pueblo, a successful business operation he has run since his late twenties. He has carried on a long line of tradition in the banking industry, dating back to his great-grandfather, Mahlon, of whom he owes his namesake. As such, the White family has served the Pueblo community throughout the last century with professionalism and high standards and continues to serve as a model

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family for Pueblo as well as the State of Colorado.

Throughout his life, Butch and his wife Maylan, have ensured that the White family remain true to its roots and give back to a community that has provided his business the resources to prosper throughout the bank's long history. The family charity, known as the Mahlon Thatcher White Foundation, has provided funds to charitable and community organizations in Pueblo for decades. The organization is a proud supporter of the YMCA, Pueblo Library District, the Sangre de Cristo Arts center, and the Pueblo Zoo, and a handful of other organizations in the area. Through these donations, the City of Pueblo has enjoyed a prosperous history and high culture rating that has elevated the area as a top destination in Southern Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, Butch White's list of achievements have not been overlooked during his career and his efforts have been repeatedly awarded over the years. It is now my honor to congratulate Butch on his most recent and well-deserved award from his own community, the Citizen of the Year Award, provided by the Greater Pueblo Chamber of Commerce. On receipt of his award, Butch remained true to his philanthropic standards while a member of the chamber announced a further \$50 million will be additionally donated to the community from the foundation. Butch has been a model citizen for the community and I extend my thanks to his charitable efforts. Keep up the good work Butch, and good luck to you and your wife Maylan in your future endeavors.

HONORING THE CITY OF SUN VALLEY, IDAHO, ON ITS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE OLYMPICS

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a place I'm proud to represent. It's a place with rolling hills and snow-capped mountains, dazzling celebrities and home to a world class ski resort: Sun Valley, Idaho. On Friday the 19th Winter Olympics will begin in Utah. For three weeks, we'll see skating, skiing, curling, bobsledding and high jumping. For many of the athletes the trip to Salt Lake City will only be a few hours in the car, because they've been training in Idaho for weeks.

I'd like to honor Sun Valley Co. for hosting these tremendous athletes and for their contribution to the Winter Olympics. Sun Valley has opened its doors to these athletes and given them the opportunity to not only adjust to the altitude of the West and Mountain Time Zone, but to America. More than 200 athletes have trained in Sun Valley from countries as far away as the Ukraine and Sweden to as close as Canada. I'm also proud of the Wood River Valley's three Olympiads that will take part in the winter Olympics: Sondra Van Ert, Muffy Davis and Tessa Benoit.

Thank you Sun Valley for hosting the Olympiads and for your continuing support of the Winter Games. Your contribution is noticed and appreciated.

NATIONAL TRIO DAY

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of a wonderful program that has helped and encouraged young people in my District and all over this country to complete their education. I am speaking of the TRIO Program.

In the 15th Congressional District, we are plagued with high drop out rates among our youth. In fact, the recent figures published by the U.S. Census Bureau show that 78% of Texans do not have a college degree. This is a tremendous waste of human capital and talent, and we must continue to find innovative ways to tap into this underdeveloped potential.

One program that is making inroads into this problem is the TRIO program. TRIO is made up of several programs including Upward Bound, Upward Bound Math Science, Talent Search, and Student Support Services. These programs promote educational excellence in at-risk students through mentoring, counseling, and support. The goal is to make sure that these students stay in school so they can complete their education and become part of the American dream.

I especially want to bring to your attention the work that is being done by the TRIO programs run by the University of Texas Pan American, Texas A&M Kingsville, South Texas Community College, and Coastal Bend Community College. These dedicated schools in my District are committed to seeing that every student has the opportunity to receive a higher education.

February 23, 2002 has been designated National TRIO Day. I urge my colleagues to take this opportunity to visit their local TRIO programs and encourage these students and the teachers and counselors who are dedicated to their success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, on February 5, 2002, I was attending the funeral of my good friend Darlene Luther in Minnesota and missed roll call votes 6 and 7. Had I been present, I would have voted in support of H.R. 577 (roll call vote 6) and in support of S. 970 (roll call vote 7).

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MEL COLEMAN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I pay tribute today to Mr. Mel Coleman, a man whose dedication to his profession, his customers, and his loved ones, is both extraordinary and inspirational. Mel

was not only an incredible rancher and businessman, but, more importantly, a man of unquestioned integrity and of unparalleled morality. He will be sorely missed by each and every person whose life he touched. As his family mourns his loss, I believe it is appropriate to remember Mel and pay tribute to him for his contributions to his city, his state and his country.

Mel Coleman, the great-grandson of pioneers who settled in the San Luis Valley of Colorado in 1870, created a cattle ranching empire by employing a novel and often overlooked practice—listening to his customers. By responding to complaints that there was no good source for hormone-and-stimulant-free beef in the marketplace, Mel turned an unprofitable ranching business into Coleman Natural Products, a \$70 million-per-year empire, which controls 50 percent of the natural beef market and sells to 2,500 retail outlets throughout the United States and Japan. His beef is now preferred by an ever-growing population of people who prefer its taste, which results from the cattle never being given any hormones, antibiotics or growth promotants, and which graze on ground that is never fertilized.

Mel's vision and dedication to his cause is truly remarkable. He was bold enough to venture into an untested market and talented enough to become extraordinarily successful in this endeavor. In 1981, he was the first to receive permission from the United States Department of Agriculture to label his beef "hormone and stimulant free," which subsequently led to an influx of competition into the marketplace that continues to be dominated by Coleman Natural Products. Mel is survived by his wife, Polly, who was always at her husband's side in both business and in life, his two sons, Mel Jr. and Greg, and his daughter Dianne.

Mr. Speaker, we are all terribly saddened by the loss of Mel Coleman, but take comfort in the knowledge that our grief is overshadowed only by the legacy of courage, success and love that Mel left with all of us. Mel Coleman's life is the very embodiment of all that makes this country great, and I am deeply honored to be able to bring his life to the attention of this body of Congress.

TRIBUTE TO HELEN C. HITZ

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Helen C. Hitz, a former employee here on Capitol Hill. Mrs. Hitz recently passed away, on January 15, 2002, at the age of 80.

In 1960, Mrs. Hitz moved to the Washington, D.C. area and began her employment on Capitol Hill in February of 1961 as a secretary and receptionist to the Honorable Frank Moss of Utah. In September of 1961, Mrs. Hitz accepted the position as Secretary to the General Counsel at the House of Representatives Committee on Small Business. In April of 1965, she transferred to the House Committee on Banking and Currency where she was a staff director and supervised several Committee caseworkers. She was also the confidential and personal Secretary to Dr. Paul Nelson, Administrative Assistant to the committee chairman. In July of 1965, Mrs. Hitz accepted the position of Personal Secretary to