

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO MARGO  
FENSTERMAKER OF JEROME,  
MICHIGAN, EXCEPTIONAL  
TEACHER

**HON. NICK SMITH**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 18, 2003*

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, education is the key for our Nation's future prosperity and security. The formidable responsibility of molding and inspiring young minds to the avenues of hope, opportunity and achievement rests partly in the hands of our teachers. Today I would like to recognize a teacher from Jerome, MI, that most influenced and motivated exceptional students in academics and leadership that were winners of the LeGrand Smith scholarship.

Margo Fenstermaker teaches English at Hanover Horton High School in Horton, MI. She is credited for instilling in students an enthusiasm for the subject and for life itself. In one student's own words, "Mrs. Fenstermaker is an inspiring, encouraging and optimistic woman who instills a sense of respect for others." The respect and gratitude of her students speaks well of Mrs. Fenstermaker's ability to challenge young minds to stretch the mental muscles and strive to achieve the best that is in them.

Mrs. Fenstermaker's excellence in teaching challenges and inspires students to move beyond the teen-age tendency toward surface study and encourage deeper thought and connections to the real world. No profession is more important in its influence and daily interaction with the future leaders of our community and our country, and Margo Fenstermaker's impact on her students is certainly deserving of recognition.

On behalf of the Congress of the United States of America, I am proud to extend our highest praise to Mrs. Margo Fenstermaker as a master teacher. We thank her for her continuing dedication to teaching and her willingness and ability to challenge and inspire students for leadership and success.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CHRIS BELL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 18, 2003*

Mr. BELL. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 276, I was unavoidably detained in the air. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

RECOGNIZING PHI MU ALPHA  
SINFONIA

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 18, 2003*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity, one of the most distinguished music fraternities in the nation, as they gather in Washington for their triennial convention. Founded in 1898 at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, Massachusetts, there are currently 212 collegiate chapters, colonies, and alumni associations in the United States.

The President of Phi Mu Alpha Fraternity, Dr. Darhyl Ramsey, is a distinguished citizen of the twenty-sixth District of Texas, and I congratulate him on his leadership of this prominent and effective music organization. Dedicated to the development of musicians as well as to the music itself, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity has significantly furthered the education and advancement of music in the United States of America.

Once again, I articulate my gratitude to Phi Mu Alpha Fraternity and to Dr. Ramsey for their dedication to the music of our nation.

## DISCHARGE PETITION ON H.R. 303

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 18, 2003*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, on June 17, I signed onto the discharge petition H.R. 303, and I rise today to express my continued support of the efforts to release this bill from committee. Concurrent receipt is an issue that warrants the attention of this House, the Senate and the President of the United States.

Currently, veterans who have served our country nobly and suffered a service-connected disability receive a retirement check reduced by the amount of their disability compensation. With that reduction, the disability compensation becomes negated as it simply fills the hole left by the federal government in the veterans' retirement checks. American men and women who served in our Armed Services need not be slighted anymore after putting their lives in harm's way for the survival of this great democracy. This discharge petition will draw out those that believe the codes of valor and honor outrank fiscal tightfistedness.

By releasing H.R. 303 from committee and allowing debate on the bill, we can begin to address the issue of concurrent receipt. The bill was introduced with bipartisan support, but the discharge petition lacks that same support. You and I both know, Mr. Speaker, that there are bills introduced everyday that are never intended to reach the House floor. This should not be one of those bills. This should not be one of those issues.

In these times when we ask so much of our military community, the women and men of our Armed Forces need our help. The rising costs of prescription drugs and VA enrollment fees and a struggling economy only hamper the efforts of our veterans trying to continue their lives in the nation they spent their careers defending. Disabled veterans have paid their price, and I would urge this body to not make them pay twice.

## TRIBUTE TO JUDY LOWE

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 18, 2003*

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a leader and a friend in my district who has shown what one person can achieve through selfless dedication to her community. Judy Lowe, of Alexandria, Virginia, is an inspiration to all of us who wish to better the lives of the people around us.

This year, Judy was recognized by the Alexandria Commission on Women by honoring her with the Marguerite Payez Award. This lifetime achievement award is given to a woman who has devoted her life to benefit the City of Alexandria. I can not think of a person more deserving of this than Judy.

Judy Lowe has served as the "Mayor" of Del Ray, a working class and diverse section of the City of Alexandria where I have spent most of my adult life. She has worked tirelessly to improve the Del Ray area through her volunteer work. Her service on the civic association executive board for 10 years helped shape Del Ray into the vibrant neighborhood that we know today. Judy authored the community newsletter during her time bringing the news to her friends and neighbors in a way that pulled the community together.

"Art on the Avenue" is one of the most impressive and valuable events that the City of Alexandria hosts, and it would never have been possible without the assistance and dedication of Judy. This annual event helps showcase the diversity of the city through multicultural art and music. Judy has ensured that this event improves each year and she should be commended for her commitment to showcasing the arts of our area.

Judy's involvement in a range of civic activities in Alexandria has endeared her to countless individuals and organizations throughout the area. Her passion for her community has never faded and she has always been one of the first people to step up and volunteer for an activity or an event.

Most importantly, Judy Lowe is a true leader whose magnanimous spirit is infectious. The words most often used to describe Judy are cheerful, dedicated, and role model. She is known not only for her dedication to Alexandria, but also her devotion to the Washington Redskins. She is the only person I know to wear black after every game the Redskins

• 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.

lose or to drive a maroon vehicle made to look like a Redskins helmet. She is passionate about everything in her life and we should all be fortunate to have a tenth of the energy she exerts.

Judy Lowe is the kind of person that makes our civil society function in a truly "all-American way". She spent her professional career in service to her country with the Department of Defense. She will continue to serve our society in every positive way for the rest of what I trust will be a very long life.

TRIBUTE TO MR. JOHN IRELAN OF  
PITTSFORD, MICHIGAN, EXCEP-  
TIONAL TEACHER

**HON. NICK SMITH**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 18, 2003*

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, education is the key for our Nation's future prosperity and security. The formidable responsibility of molding and inspiring young minds to the avenues of hope, opportunity and achievement rests partly in the hands of our teachers. Today I would like to recognize a teacher from Pittsford, Michigan that most influenced and motivated exceptional students in academics and leadership that were winners of the LeGrand Smith scholarship.

Mr. John Irelan teaches social studies at Pittsford High School in Pittsford, Michigan. He is credited for instilling in students an enthusiasm for the subject and for life itself. In one student's own words, "Mr. Irelan is not the type of teacher to sit in the lounge during his free time; he is in his room or the hallway to have contact with the students. As my psychology, sociology, economics and government teacher, he always relates course material to 'real-life' situations." The respect and gratitude of his students speaks well of Mr. Irelan's ability to challenge young minds to stretch the mental muscles and strive to achieve the best that is in them.

John Irelan's excellence in teaching challenges and inspires students to move beyond the teen-age tendency toward surface study and encourage deeper thought and connections to the real world. No profession is more important in its influence and daily interaction with the future leaders of our community and our country, and Mr. John Irelan's impact on his students is certainly deserving of recognition.

On behalf of the Congress of the United States of America, I am proud to extend our highest praise to Mr. John Irelan as a master teacher. We thank him for his continuing dedication to teaching and his willingness and ability to challenge and inspire students for leadership and success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CHRIS BELL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 18, 2003*

Mr. BELL. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 277, I was unavoidably detained in the air. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING MR. MIKE BROWN

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 18, 2003*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Mike Brown of Flower Mound, Texas for his peer-recognized honor of "Outstanding Young Bandmaster in Texas."

Mr. Brown has succeeded in music education for four notable years at Flower Mound High School, and previously for six years at Lewisville High School. He currently holds the illustrious position of Chairman of the Fine Arts Department at Flower Mound High School. With a promising career before him and his dedicated colleagues behind him, Mr. Brown will afford the students of Flower Mound High School a tremendous opportunity to learn from a truly distinguished talent.

Once again, I articulate my sincere congratulations to Mr. Brown for his dedication to music education and for his commitment to fostering the musical gifts of the youth of North Texas.

HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY, BERT  
MUHLY

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 18, 2003*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 80th birthday of the legendary Bert Muhly. Bert is the quintessential professorial type of guy: articulate, caring and wonderful in his style and manner. It is safe to say that Santa Cruz, California would not be the Santa Cruz it is without the Herculean efforts and goodwill of Bert.

His fingerprints are all around Santa Cruz. As a member of the Santa Cruz City Council, his activities have included the following: member of the State Democratic Central Committee; Co-chair of the California 16th Senatorial District Committee; and Santa Cruz County Chair. He has also contributed to presidential, gubernatorial and congressional campaigns, such as those of yours truly.

Bert and his family are well-fed people because they host more issue-oriented, potluck dinners than any other family I know. He always has a place for you at his table to talk about issues such as global warming, social injustice, globalization and corporate imperialism. I don't believe that anyone in Santa Cruz County has housed, clothed and fed more Democrats than Bert, and on his birthday, that total will only continue to rise.

Bert is the personification of the phrase "think globally, act locally." He believes firmly in the effectiveness of petitioning government when a citizen wants to register a complaint with local elected officials. He has made Santa Cruz a sanctuary for the establishment of sanctuaries and has filed more petitions to the local, State and Federal governments than is humanly imaginable. They probably had to build an extra wing onto the Library of Congress simply to accommodate his prodigious works. While a voluminous petitioner, Bert is also a fantastic and extensive speaker. When Bert was mayor of Santa Cruz, the clerk of the

city council changed the meeting's "minutes" to "hours." A humble man, he always downplays the fact that he was mayor by saying that "half the people on Pacific Avenue Mall are former mayors."

But his efforts have never been confined to Santa Cruz, and he has accumulated a generous amount of frequent flyer miles traveling back and forth from Central and South America. Bert has not been elected governor of California yet, but he certainly is a viable candidate in Nicaragua, El Salvador and Colombia. He has devoted an enormous amount of time spreading his own and America's goodwill to the impoverished and less fortunate, and without a doubt, he has changed the lives of many.

An incredible wit and humor, Bert has been the smiles and strength behind the voice of the good fight in Santa Cruz for many years, and he has taken that fight to other countries. On behalf of this House, I wish Bert Muhly a happy birthday: a scholar, a father, a husband, a visionary, a friend and always young at heart.

HONORING COLONEL THOMAS  
ASHMAN

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 18, 2003*

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my constituents, Colonel Thomas Ashman in recognition of his thirty years of distinguished service to the United States.

After receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Akron in Ohio, Thomas Ashman was commissioned into the United States Air Force through the Reserve Training Corps in 1973. He was first assigned to McChord Air Force Base in Washington as Chief, Base Fuels Management Branch. In 1976, his service took him to Korea, and in 1977 he transferred to Andrews Air Force Base where his responsibilities included support for the Presidential fleet.

Through his initiative, Col. Ashman developed the petroleum engineering program for the Air Force Institute of Technology in 1979. After receiving his Master of Science degree from the University of Texas, Austin in 1981, he was assigned to the Defense Fuels Supply Center in Cameron Station, Virginia. During his tenure, in what is now known as the Defense Energy Support Center, Col. Ashman served as the Quality Assurance Officer for crude oil purchases supporting the United States Strategic Petroleum Reserve, and then as Center Programs Officer, among other positions.

In 1984, Col. Ashman was sent to the United States Pacific Command and served as the Chief, Sub-Area Petroleum Office within Headquarters United States Forces Korea. Due to his expertise, in 1986 he was selected for the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Energy Directorate, Professional Enhancement Program. A year later, Col. Ashman served as Chief, Allied Supply and Energy Assessment for the United States Air Force Combat Operations Staff, then as Supply Management Staff Officer within the Directorate of Logistics,