

United States Armed Forces. My fellow Members of Congress, please join me in recognizing Major Ewald and all of the Armed Service members for their continued service to the American people!

IN HONOR OF THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 2003

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the leaders and residents—past and present—of the City of Rocky River, as they celebrate one hundred years as an established community—from farming hamlet, to village, to the City of Rocky River.

With foresight, vision and planning, the City of Rocky River has remained focused on the welfare of its residents. Community leaders have continuously displayed a sincere dedication to providing the highest level of services for people of all ages in Rocky River—from children, to senior citizens, to civic organizations.

Native Americans inhabited the land that follows the Rocky River north to Lake Erie for centuries before the arrival of permanent settlers in 1810. Their history is documented within the displays and exhibits found within the Metroparks Systems. This vital park system winds its way through the City of Rocky River—preserving not only the history of the land—but the land itself, as acres of nature's woodlands, teeming with native flora and fauna, abound within the City of the Rocky River. Amid its thriving parklands, Rocky River offers an array of recreational and civic amenities for all ages and groups—without compromising the natural beauty of the land.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of the residents and leaders of the City of Rocky River, as they celebrate one hundred years as a viable community. We especially note the contributions of all elected officials—past and present—who have contributed to the development and preservation of this beautiful land that follows the waters of the Rocky River. Most notably, current Mayor William F. Knoble, and the late Mayor Don Umerley. The City of Rocky River serves as a significant example and importance of the successful balance between progress and preservation.

TRIBUTE TO DEIRDRE L. BAILEY

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 2003

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of one of Philadelphia's true rising stars, Deirdre L. Bailey. A graduate of Spelman College and Villanova University School of Law, she was a licensed attorney and a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association.

I first met Deirdre shortly after my joining this body. At the time, she was a senior staffer

for my good friend and constituent State Representative Dwight Evans. Her responsibilities included handling his appropriations work, with a particular eye to redeveloping the Ogontz/ West Oak Lane community Mr. Evans and I are honored to represent. She was a tireless and forceful advocate for the community. Her assistance was vital to our successful efforts to win Federal funding for the Ogontz Avenue Revitalization Corporation.

In 2002, Keystone Mercy/AmeriHealth Mercy Health Plan was able to lure her away from Pennsylvania's capitol in 2002. In her new capacity of Associate Vice President of External Affairs, Deirdre worked with my staff and those of other Members and state officials in Pennsylvania, Kentucky, South Carolina and other states to provide critically needed health insurance for low income and working people. Her knowledge of the health care delivery and insurance systems were of great value to me as I weighed the complex issues surrounding them.

Mr. Speaker, Deirdre Bailey might have been content to pursue excellence in her government and corporate careers. Instead, she choose to devote her near limitless energy to serve those less blessed. She worked with dedication and generosity for charitable causes, including the Children's Scholarship Fund, Listen Inc., and the Philadelphia Chapter Black Alliance for Educational Options. She was a contributing author on School Choice: The Option of Success, The State of Black America 2001. She also was a Fellow of the 2001 Next Generation Leadership Program of the Rockefeller Foundation and served as an advisor for the Villanova University Law School Minority Advisor Society.

She possessed all the attributes that we all admire in others. There was no limit to what she might have accomplished in this world and we are all worse off for her passing.

Mr. Speaker, Deirdre Bailey's light was extinguished on July 6th, giving her just a little more than thirty years to light our lives. Her family, friends, colleagues and community will miss her very much. But, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing the condolences of the House to her family. I hope that they find comfort in the knowledge that her time on Earth was well spent and that she left the world a better place than the one she found.

TRIBUTE TO ARMY AIRBORNE RANGER SGT. TIMOTHY MICHAEL CONNEWAY OF ENTERPRISE, ALABAMA

HON. TERRY EVERETT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 2003

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, it is with sadness that I offer tribute today to a fallen American soldier in the battle to free the people of Iraq and secure the safety and liberty of Americans here on the homefront.

On June 28, while on patrol in Baghdad, Army Airborne Ranger Tim Conneway of Enterprise, Alabama lost his life. He died as the result of a terrorist attack on his vehicle, an attack which killed another Alabamian, Army Spc. Andrew Chris, age 25, of Florence.

Despite his young years, Sgt. Conneway, age 22, was no stranger to battle conditions

having been in Iraq on a previous combat assignment as well as having served twice in Afghanistan. As noted in press coverage of his funeral service Tuesday in Enterprise, Sgt. Conneway was proud to follow in the family tradition of military service like his father and grandfather before him. His brother, Army Staff Sgt. Mark Conneway noted that Tim "wanted to be a hero, and he was."

Sgt. Conneway leaves behind a wife, Catherine, and an unborn child, as well as a whole community of friends in Enterprise. I share their sadness at the loss of such a fine and dedicated young American. America was built upon and continues to be protected by the sacrifice of such heroes. We must never ever lose sight of the fact that freedom isn't free and we shall be forever indebted to patriots like Sgt. Tim Conneway.

My heartfelt condolences go out to his wife and family.

HONORING THE STUDENTS OF MARIPOSA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S GATE PROGRAM

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 2003

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the efforts of the students of Mariposa Elementary School's Gifted and Talented Education, GATE, program in Mariposa, California. For the past two years, the students involved in the GATE program have researched and photographed the historic storefronts of Mariposa. They have used their research to produce postcards that storekeepers give out free to tourists.

Not only have these students educated themselves about Mariposa, they have become stewards of the town's history. Their work ensures that the history of Mariposa will live for yet another generation, just as it has for over 150 years. The students have engaged local historians who have passed on their expertise and extensive knowledge of local history. They are even taking their project worldwide by hosting their photographs on the school's Web site. The students of Mariposa Elementary have taught us all an important lesson: to value and protect your local history.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the students of Mariposa Elementary valuing and protecting their local history.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING CLARENCE R. SMITH, JR.

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 2003

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, Clarence R. Smith, Jr. was born on July 10, 1928 and is celebrating his 75th birthday; and

Whereas, Clarence R. Smith, Jr. is active in the Youngstown community with his work at the Diamond Steel Construction Company and through his involvement in the Boy Scouts of America, the Elks Club, the Rotary Club, and the United Methodist Church; and

Whereas, Clarence R. Smith, Jr. must be commended for his years of dedicated service to his friends and his community; and

Whereas, Clarence R. Smith, Jr. is a devoted husband, father, and grandfather;

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District in congratulating Clarence R. Smith, Jr. as he celebrates his 75th Birthday.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL J. HOGAN

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 2003

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Michael J. Hogan whose selfless service and contributions to the St. Vincent de Paul Society of Holy Eucharist Parish in Tabernacle, New Jersey are worthy of recognition.

Mr. Hogan, one of ten children, was born in 1938 in New York. He began serving those in need during his high school and college years through the St. Vincent de Paul Society of his parish.

Mike and his wife, Elizabeth, have three children and one grandchild. He has always been a devoted husband, father and grandfather. He has a great passion for and dedication to children which is demonstrated through his generous volunteer hours as guest lecturer of astronomy in grammar schools through the Star Lab program, and his volunteer work as a teacher of religious education classes.

Involved in the construction of the St. Vincent de Paul Society Food Pantry, Mike volunteers as its Coordinator, working with the USDA Food Bank to ensure that there is an adequate food supply at all times. When there is a need in the community, Mr. Hogan ensures that food and other services are given with dignity and respect. He provides a critical blend of self-help encouragement with monetary assistance.

As Regional Coordinator of the NJ Shares Program, Mike acts as liaison between utility companies and statewide energy assistance funds. As Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Salt and Light Company, Inc., Mike helps to provide affordable housing to low-income individuals and families in Burlington County.

As one of the most valued, dependable and respected volunteers of the Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Burlington County, Mike is heading up the Master Gardener Donation Garden in which vegetables will be grown for donation to local food banks.

As you see, Mike Hogan is a volunteer without equal in our area, and it is with gratitude and respect that I honor him today.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2658) making ap-

propriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004 and for other purposes:

Mr. KIND. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to promote the continued work of the Congress and the Department of Defense to make sure our reserve troops are medically ready to deploy when called upon.

In meeting the global challenges of the post-cold-war era, our military reserve forces have become more important than ever. In fact the role of the Reserve and National Guard in the total force has transformed over the past decade from manpower replacements to essential operators in the daily missions of our armed forces. This is now more apparent than ever as over 200,000 Reservists are serving on active duty related to our military action in Iraq, in peacekeeping and counter-terrorism operations around the globe, and domestic security operations here at home. The increased use of the reserve component seems likely only to increase given our current military force structure and current and future obligations around the world.

Given this trend, the ability for reserve units to timely deploy when called upon is critical. To be effective, our reserve troops need to be medically ready and able to perform their mission. Members not able to deploy when called up limit the ability of units to perform, cause delay, and demand costly changes in operation plans.

The medical and dental readiness of the reserve components has continually been an issue of concern for the Department of Defense. According to the U.S. Army Medical Command, a "significant number" of Army Reservists could not be deployed during mobilization for Persian Gulf War in 1990-91 due to medical reasons. Further, a study by the Uniformed Services University found that an estimated 25 percent of Army Reservists mobilized in response to the attacks of September 11, 2001, were not deployable due to dental problems.

Recently, the government accounting office completed a report on the ability of the Army Reserve to meet medical and dental readiness requirements, as directed by the National Defense Authorization Act for FY02.

The GAO found that periodic physical and dental exams for early-deploying reservists are valuable for the Army and that the Army should seek to consistently meet the statutory requirements for monitoring the medical and dental status of Army Reservists.

However, the GAO report only reaffirmed what the Army already knew, and starting in March 2001, the Army made a fundamental shift to ensure the readiness of its reserve forces. By coordinating and contracting with the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the private sector, the Army is able to address readiness needs through an innovative, efficient, and cost-effective program called the Federal Strategic Health Alliance, or FEDS-HEAL.

The FEDS-HEAL program won the Hammer Award created by former Vice President Gore to recognize outstanding Federal organizations that significantly improve how the Government operates. The FEDS-HEAL program fixes the logistical problems that hampered the Army's ability to get Reservists into the limited number of Army medical treatment facilities for required exams and screenings.

FEDS-HEAL works with VA medical facilities, HHS Federal occupational health facilities, and over 2,000 approved private medical and dental providers throughout the Nation to get Reservists the attention they require nearby and in a timely manner. In addition, the FEDS-HEAL program office reviews and maintains records on individual Reservists, a factor that the GAO noted as key to success in efficiently fulfilling medical readiness requirements.

The problems in fulfilling readiness requirements are not unique to the Army Reserve, and the remedy pursued by the Army is applicable to other services. Noting the tested success of the FEDS-HEAL program within the Army Reserve, I encourage the other reserve components to thoroughly examine their ability to meet reserve readiness requirements and look to the FEDS-HEAL program as a model. In coordinating the entire reserve component into a reserve medical and dental readiness program, we may be able to reduce costs further through increased volume while boosting benefits to the DOD in terms of efficiency and to the VA and private providers through increased reimbursements.

The other major factor in attaining compliance with readiness requirements is adequate funding. I, and other Members of Congress, want to ensure that readiness is a top priority among the reserve components, and we will continue to work with the military to assess readiness needs.

Again, I commend the Army Reserve for implementing the FEDS-HEAL program and encourage expanded use of the program for other reserve forces to meet readiness requirements.

HONORING JIM REDMAN

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 2003

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jim Redman, a man who has taught many people the meaning of courage, perseverance, and integrity.

Mr. Redman is an icon in Plant City, FL, which is located in my congressional district. He captained the high school football team there before attending my alma mater, the University of Florida, and studying business administration and law. After graduation he returned home and married his wife, Ruby Jean, a former Florida Strawberry Festival queen.

He founded and ran a successful law practice in Plant City before getting elected to the Florida House of Representatives. During his 12 years in the legislature, Jim fought public corruption and was named Legislator of the Year in 1975. He was a proud Democrat, and when local Republicans tried to get him to switch parties, he boasted that the Republicans were "too liberal" for him.

He also became very involved in the community and ultimately left the legislature to spend more time with his family. A section of State Road 39 in Plant City was named the James L. Redman Parkway in honor of his work in the legislature and his contributions to the community.

In 1978, at age 46, Jim found out he had cancer. Though doctors said he had likely less