

importance. He has served the House and our country as a true patriot, and we extend our thanks to him for his service, and wish him all the best for continued success.

HONORING MR. DAVID SEIM

HON. LARRY COMBEST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call my colleagues' attention to an honor recently bestowed on my constituent and friend, Mr. David Seim.

Recently, David was awarded the Rita Harmon Volunteer Service Award from the Lubbock Area United Way in recognition of his lifetime of community service. David's work with various organizations such as the South Plains Council of the Boy Scouts of America, the Lubbock Country Club, the Southwest Lubbock Rotary Club, YWCA, Covenant Health System and Trinity Church exemplify his selfless nature and dedication to the public good. Through his hard work and giving nature, the Lubbock community has benefited immensely.

David attended Texas Tech and graduated from the Southern Methodist University's Graduate School of Banking. While he works for Plains Capital Corp. in Dallas, he still lives in Lubbock and continues to serve as a board member of the Lubbock Area United Way.

It is with great pleasure, Mr. Speaker, that I honor this dedicated man for his commitment to give back to his community. David Seim has given much of his life to serving his community, and his efforts are greatly appreciated. I wish to congratulate David on his recent award and thank him for his continuing dedication to the public good.

VACCINE INGREDIENT PROVISIONS

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, the Homeland Security Act of 2002 included provisions related to vaccine injuries that have been misunderstood and misconstrued. I believed then and now that these provisions are good public policy: they clarify that vaccine injury claims involving vaccine ingredients, such as preservatives, are subject to the same no-fault compensation system as other vaccine-related injuries established by the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986. The alternative is needless, time consuming, and expensive litigation that is not in the best interests of those who believe they have been injured.

Congress established the Vaccine Program in 1986 for two reasons. The first was to provide definite, speedy, and generous compensation for those who suffer from vaccine-related injuries. The second was to address litigation and insurance costs that were spiraling out of control, which forced current manufacturers to leave the industry and discouraging others from developing important life-saving vaccines.

Now, of all times, is not the moment to allow the Vaccine Program to be dismantled. When

our enemies are engaged and determined to develop and expand their supply of chemical weapons, when we continue to face a terrorists threat at home, and when more and more of our troops are stationed overseas, we need effective vaccine production. We cannot afford to slow research and development, or experience a critical shortage of vaccines.

But this is precisely what is occurring today. Personal injury lawyers, who would like the larger fee that they might receive through litigation, are chipping away at the Vaccine Act in our Nation's courtrooms. They are trying to distinguish injuries allegedly related to ingredients contained in vaccines, such as preservatives, from the vaccine itself, in order to escape the no-fault system. The courts have done a good job at rejecting these attempts. The provisions in the Homeland Security Act simply sought to codify these decisions, preserve the intent of Congress in establishing the Vaccine Program, and ensure that the injured receive speedy and fair compensation.

I continue to support the vaccine ingredient provisions in the Homeland Security Act. I understand the provisions are being repealed without prejudice and not because of the substance. I am confident that these provisions will proceed through the House and be enacted. By reenacting the provisions, I believe Congress will address the issue in a manner that ensures the broad availability of vaccines for the American people.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO WAYNE HARRISON

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize Major Wayne Harrison of Dolores, Colorado. Recently, Major Harrison was recognized for his years of service in the Civil Air Patrol and awarded a Springfield M-14 rifle. Today, I would like to pay tribute to Major Harrison's career and accomplishments before this body of Congress and this nation.

Major Harrison began his career in the Civil Air Service as a cadet and moved up through the ranks to eventually teach cadets, passing on his knowledge of airplanes and flying. In fact, Wayne Harrison's superiors were so impressed with his abilities that he was promoted to the position of aerospace officer only a short time after joining the Civil Air Patrol. Serving in the position for three years, Wayne was then asked to become the commander of his squadron and he accepted.

Although the new position and added responsibility would be a challenge, Major Harrison also saw the promotion as an opportunity to help his fellow cadets. Over the years, Major Harrison used his position to serve as a role model to his cadets and helped many of them go on to colleges, military academies, and into the armed forces.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize Major Wayne Harrison before this body of Congress and this nation. Major Harrison has served with the diligence, honor and integrity that Americans have come to expect from the Civil Air Patrol, and it is an honor to represent such an outstanding American in this Congress.

RECOGNIZING THE AMERICAN FROZEN FOOD INSTITUTE ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 60TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the American Frozen Food Institute (AFFI) on the occasion of its 60th Anniversary of service to the food industry. AFFI is the only national trade association representing the entire spectrum of frozen food professionals, including processors, suppliers of goods and services, transporters and marketers.

Like other complex enterprises, the frozen food industry benefits not only from competition, but also from cooperative, coordinated action. Launched in 1942 by 19 frozen fruit and vegetable packers, the National Association of Frozen Food Packers went on to become today's American Frozen Food Institute. AFFI's more than 500 member companies account for over 90 percent of the total annual production of frozen food in the United States, valued at more than \$60 billion.

AFFI works to ensure that nourishing and convenient frozen foods are continually abundant, reliable, varied, satisfying and economical. During its years of growing use and popularity, the technology of frozen foods has earned its place among modern America's constructive innovations.

When Clarence Birdseye, one March morning in 1930, optimistically combined an inventor's creativity with a salesman's confidence and arrayed his selection of neatly packaged, quick-frozen foods into a grocery store display case in Springfield, Massachusetts, he inaugurated an industry that would forever change the way the world eats.

The industry's momentum initially was driven by the economy and convenience of frozen foods. However, a further reality ultimately would ensure their enthusiastic endorsement by health experts: frozen foods supply superior nutrition. Following years of scientific studies at the University of Illinois, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration concluded in 1998 that fruits and vegetables picked at peak freshness and immediately frozen contain as many, and often more, nutrients than their raw equivalents. Moreover, for food of all kinds, modern freezing and packaging means unsurpassed food safety, reliable product consistency, and year-round availability anywhere.

In addition, I would invite my colleagues to join Congressman CAL DOOLEY and me on September 25 at the Frozen Food Filibuster, a reception showcasing the variety of frozen foods here in the Cannon Caucus Room. Congressman DOOLEY and I are co-chairmen of the frozen food caucus on Capitol Hill. Caucus participants are Members of Congress who have AFFI member companies' headquarters or plants located within their district, or an interest in the food industry in general. The Institute briefs the membership periodically on issues that affect their constituents who work in the frozen food industry. Our goal is to ensure the caucus is as active and innovative as the nation's frozen food companies.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to the American Frozen Food Institute. Our democratic institutions

are served well by having responsible industry associations, who care about the active participation of their companies in the legislative and regulatory process. I am confident that AFFI will continue to serve the food community for many years, well into the future. We wish them the very best on this special occasion.

TRIBUTE TO UPSTATE NEW YORKERS ON THE 140TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION

HON. SHERWOOD BOEHLERT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 140th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation celebrated on January 1, of this year. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the integral work of Central New Yorkers in the struggle to end slavery.

During the troubled decades just before our Civil War, many citizens of what is now New York's 24th District joined, and led, fellow abolitionists across the nation to help slaves gain the freedom due to all Americans. Whether they offered hounded refugees a place to hide for the night, educated former slaves, published activist newspapers, or spoke out in the chambers of Congress, these men and women live on in the collective memory of our nation as brave champions of basic human rights and dignity.

En route to Canada, houses and churches throughout Central New York formed some of the main lines of the Underground Railroad. One heavily trafficked depot in Madison County was the home of Garrett Smith, a philanthropist who gave much of his time, money, and energy to the anti-slavery cause. I'm glad to have had the opportunity to dedicate Smith's estate as a National Historic Landmark last spring. Thanks to legislation signed by our distinguished Governor of New York, George Pataki, in tandem with the Network to Freedom Act, passed by Congress and signed by the president in 1998, many other stops along the Underground Railroad in Upstate New York have recently been brought to light and preserved.

Garrett Smith, who was born in my own hometown of Utica and lived most of his life in Peterboro, was elected president of the nationally prominent New York State Anti-Slavery Society on October 22, 1835, at the organization's founding convention. A dedicated group successfully launched the Society that day at the Peterboro Presbyterian Church after their meeting had been broken up by a hostile mob the previous day. A few streets away from the convention site in Peterboro lived James Caleb Jackson, the editor of several abolitionist newspapers. Beriah Green, another founding member of the New York Anti-Slavery Society, came from nearby Whitesboro where he served as president of the Oneida Institute, an interracial college. Green's Institute turned out noted abolitionists such as Jermain Loguen, a former slave lauded for his influential autobiography, *To Set the Captives Free*. Loguen was later chosen to act as Stationmaster of Syracuse's Underground Railroad. Another escaped slave who became

a renowned abolitionist, Frederick Douglass, lived in Rochester, New York, where he published his newspaper, *The North Star*.

William Seward, former senator of New York, governor of New York, and Secretary of State, remains one of the best-known abolitionists to hail from New York's 24th Congressional District. Born and raised in the area, Seward gave voice to his constituents' outcry against slavery. He and his wife, Frances, opened their home in Auburn, NY to fugitive slaves moving north along the Underground Railroad, and they became the personal friends of Harriet "Moses" Tubman, the iconic leader of the slave exodus to Canada. As a lawyer, Seward defended fugitive slaves in court. During his early career in Congress he led the anti-slavery wing of the Whig party.

Many credit Seward's radical statement that Congress had to answer to a moral law "higher than the Constitution" as disqualifying him from running for President in 1860. When it became clear that Lincoln would win the ticket of the Grand Old Party, then a grand young party, Seward campaigned tirelessly for Lincoln, and was soon appointed Secretary of State under the new president. In that office, Seward played a crucial role in the formation of Lincoln's anti-slavery policy. He drafted the Emancipation Proclamation alongside the President, and the final document now bears his signature.

Before the Civil War, Harriet Tubman bought a house from Seward in his hometown of Auburn, NY, where she continued to conduct for the Underground Railroad despite the \$40,000 reward posted for her capture. After the Emancipation Proclamation, with the Promised Land a little closer, Ms. Tubman settled down to a quieter life in Auburn.

Those who fought to end slavery and so extend the rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness to truly all Americans won a great victory with the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation, but the struggle did not end there. Amy Post, Martha Wright, Lucretia Mott, Susan B. Anthony, and other abolitionists and women's rights activities, many of them from Upstate New York, organized a petition drive to gain the signatures of hundreds of thousands of women calling for a constitutional amendment to end slavery. When the petition was first presented to the Senate in February of 1864, nearly one-fifth of the signatures came from New York State. By the end of 1865 the Thirteenth Amendment was law.

I hope my colleagues will join me in applauding the historic legacy of freedom and human rights left by the good people of Upstate New York.

I would like to thank Peter A. Wisbey, Executive Director of the William Seward House, Anne M. Derosie, a historian with the Women's Rights National Historical Park, Michael J. Caddy, Jr., historian, and Milton C. Sernett, Professor of History at Syracuse University for the information they provided me for this occasion. I would also like to insert into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD essays about the Emancipation Proclamation and the abolitionist movement in New York's 24th Congressional District written by students from Letizia Magats' class at Owasco Elementary and Jacquelyn Aversa's class at Casey Park Elementary School in Auburn, NY.

While reading the work of these children I was delighted to find that many of the students had been inspired by their history les-

sons to dream of a future America that continues to embrace the values of Upstate New York abolitionists, in new contexts. The hope of Auburn's youngest generation of thinkers reminded me of these words of Abraham Lincoln, spoken in 1865 at his second inaugural address, and still relevant today: "With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds."

A COLLECTIVE ESSAY FROM FIFTH GRADERS AT OWASCO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN AUBURN, NY

The Emancipation Proclamation was a solution to the problem of slavery in the United States. President Abraham Lincoln was influenced to write this document by abolitionists who wanted to see the system of slavery come to an end. This new Law passed during the Civil War. Many of the abolitionists who influenced President Lincoln were from the area that is today a part of the 24th Congressional District of New York State. Several of these abolitionists were William Seward, Harriet Tubman, Emily Howland, Martha Coffin Wright, and Lucretia Coffin Mott.

William Seward helped the cause of the Emancipation Proclamation by persuading President Lincoln to be more involved with abolishing slavery. As Lincoln's Secretary of State, he helped Lincoln write it. Seward was active in his belief that slavery must be abolished, he was a leader of the Anti-slavery wing of the Whig party, used his home on South Street in Auburn, New York, as a way station for the Underground Railroad and as a publishing center for anti-slavery literature. He became a good friend of Harriet Tubman, a conductor on the Underground Railroad. Harriet Tubman, called the "Moses of her people", dedicated her life to the belief that all people were equal and that slavery was evil. As a runaway slave, she showed great courage and dedication to her beliefs by leading more than three hundred slaves to their freedom. Eventually Harriet Tubman bought a home in Auburn, New York and used it to care for the elderly and needy people. The dedication of Quakers to the abolition of slavery was also important in bringing about change. Emily Howland lived in Sherwood, Cayuga County, New York. She was an educator who started schools in the South for freed slaves and used her home as a way station for the Underground Railroad. Her beliefs that all were equal saw her turn to the cause of women's suffrage. She worked closely with Lucretia Mott and Susan B. Anthony in the fight for equality for women.

Lucretia Coffin Mott and her sister Martha Coffin Wright, a resident of Auburn, New York, were also Quakers, who belonged to the American Anti-slavery Society and formed the Female Anti-Slavery Society. After the Civil War they co-founded the American Equal Rights Association and the National Women's Suffrage Association. They made a difference in the abolition of slavery and women getting the right to vote. They were courageous in the fight for civil rights for all people regardless of their color or gender.

As you can see, many citizens of Cayuga County not only believed in equal rights for all people, but also actively worked to bring about the change that resulted in the end of slavery and giving all people their civil rights.

(By Timothy Berry, Ashley King, Jamie Bruno, Marissa Rescott, Christina Granato, S. Michael Watson, Maura Bradley, Kelsey Helinski, Mary Doyle, Colleen Cregg, Olivia Perek, Breanna Handley, Alaina Schoonmaker, and Connor Entenmann.)