

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A TRIBUTE TO THE TEACHERS,
PARENTS, ADMINISTRATORS
AND STUDENTS OF POINSETTIA
SCHOOL

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 1, 2003

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the parents, students, faculty and staff whose dedication to excellence has earned Poinsettia School in Ventura, California, recognition as a National Blue Ribbon school.

The National Blue Ribbon award honors excellence in leadership, teaching, curriculum, student achievement and parental involvement. Poinsettia School and two other schools in my district—Brookside School in Oak Park and Pinecrest School in Thousand Oaks—were recognized this year for being among the top 10 percent of schools in California in terms of student achievement.

Mr. Speaker, Poinsettia School is an elementary school and is a model for the limitless educational potential when parents are involved in their children's education. More than 75 percent of the parents volunteer at the school. A new computer lab was funded by parental donations. Parental donations also pay for what is often considered "extras" at schools these days: a librarian, and music, art and physical education instructors.

Poinsettia parents recognize what President George W. Bush said about the importance of a full education: "From music and dance to painting and sculpting, the arts allow us to explore new worlds and to view life from another perspective. They also encourage individuals to sharpen their skills and abilities and to nurture their imagination and intellect."

Of course, when teachers and administrators see parents energized about their children's education, it energizes them as well.

I am a product of the public school system, and I put my four children through Ventura County's public schools. One of my children is now a public school teacher. I am acutely aware that the most important tool we can give our children is a good education. Our students are the elected officials, businessmen, artists, scientists, parents and teachers of tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, as our nation works in concert to better our education system, it would serve us well to study the successes of our National Blue Ribbon schools. They are the best of the best and a key to our future. I know my colleagues will join me in applauding Poinsettia Principal Cynthia Dillon, her entire staff, and the parents and students of Poinsettia for raising the bar and setting a strong example for others to follow.

REVEREND WON SANG LEE UPON
HIS RETIREMENT

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 1, 2003

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Reverend Won Sang Lee as he retires after 26 years as the Senior Pastor of the Korean Central Presbyterian Church in Vienna, Virginia. He has taken a lead role in providing a spiritual center for the Korean-American community in the 11th district of Virginia.

Reverend Lee has demonstrated the importance of education with his extensive studies, which began at Keimyung University in Korea where he received a Bachelor's degree in Philosophy. He went on to complete three Master's degrees, first in Philosophy from KyungBook University, Korea, next in Theology from Dallas Theological Seminary, and finally in Near Eastern Studies from the University of Pennsylvania. He was also awarded an Honorary Doctor of Philosophy from Keimyung University, Korea.

During Reverend Lee's career, his focus has been community outreach, both local and international. The Reverend has made an impact globally by serving as the President of Seed International, which is a mission agency that provides support for missionary activities both home and abroad, and by holding a leadership position in the Korean World Mission Council for Christ.

On a national scale, Reverend Lee has served as the Moderator for the Coalition of the Korean Churches in the Presbyterian Church in America, and as Chairman of the Korean-American Food for the Hungry. Locally, Reverend Lee has been very involved in providing a bright future for children as Chairman of the Washington Youth Foundation. He also directed the Metro-Washington Council of Korean Churches as its President.

In November 2001, the Reverend's life long commitment to his fellow human beings was recognized when he received the Virginia Governor's Award for Outstanding Religious Institution. This award was granted in honor of his work in the Korean Central Senior Center, where he has served as the Chairman of the Board of Directors since 1994.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to applaud the efforts of Reverend Lee who has provided spiritual guidance to citizens all across the globe, and more importantly right here at home. I ask all my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this great humanitarian.

HONORING COLONEL MICHAEL A.
SHUPP, USMC

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 1, 2003

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give my heartfelt congratulations to Colonel Michael A. Shupp, USMC on the occasion of his promotion to Colonel. Many of my fellow colleagues and I have had the distinct pleasure of knowing and working with Colonel Shupp for the last couple of years in his capacity as the Marine Corps Liaison to the House of Representatives.

Colonel Shupp was raised in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. He attended the Virginia Military Institute and graduated with a Bachelors of Arts Degree in History. He completed the Airborne Course at Fort Benning, Georgia in 1979, and the Marine Officer's Candidate School at Quantico, Virginia, in 1980. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant upon his graduation from VMI and entered the Marine Corps in May 1981.

In the more than twenty years since his original commissioning, Colonel Shupp has led a distinguished career in service to the Marine Corps and the country. In 1985, he reported to the United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland for duty as Southeast Regional Director of Candidate Affairs, Leadership Instructor, Brigade Drill and Ceremonies Officer, and as the Commanding Officer of the Ninth Company of the Brigade of Midshipmen. He was recognized for his performance by President Bush, Secretary of the Navy Webb, and selected by the Brigade of Midshipmen as an Honorary Graduate of the Naval Academy Class of 1989. His personal decorations include the Bronze Star with Combat "V" Distinguished Device, Meritorious Service Medal with gold stars in lieu of third award, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Navy-Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy-Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and the Combat Action Ribbon.

Colonel Shupp has been an outstanding representative of the Marine Corps to the Members and Staff of the House of Representatives. Colonel Shupp regularly accompanies Members on their official delegation trips abroad, and I often call on him for information and analysis of Defense issues.

I am exceptionally proud of Colonel Shupp's career accomplishments, however, I and many of my fellow Members are saddened that he will be leaving the Hill next spring to assume command of one of the most illustrious regiments in the Marine Corps, the 1st Marine Regiment based out of Camp Pendleton, California.

I sincerely wish Colonel Shupp, his wife Sherrye, and daughter Jessica all the best for a nice rest of their stay here in the nation's capital, and salute Colonel Shupp for his proud record of service to the Marine Corps and the country.

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