

HONORING HERB ALSUP'S 25
YEARS OF SERVICE TO HIS
CHURCH

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Herb Alsup for his 25 years of ministering the Woodbury Church of Christ. On Sunday, October 26, the church will celebrate Family Day, a day to celebrate Herb's service and for the church to open its new addition.

I've known Herb and his family most of my life. He is the type of person who would give you the shirt off his back if he thought you needed it. For example, Herb's brother, Lynn, was serving in Vietnam and had to send Herb and his wife, Ann, some money. But Herb didn't need the money for himself or his wife. He needed the money before payday to buy clothes for a family he knew was in need.

Herschel Mullins, Herb's uncle, remembers him as "an unusually good boy, always real sociable with people, even when he was a kid." Herb used to visit Herschel for Sunday dinners and family reunions. Herschel recalls, "It was always a joy to have him in my home. He's always been one of my favorite nephews." Herschel also notes that the Woodbury Church of Christ grew considerably during Herb's tenure.

Herb was born in Blackman, TN, just outside of my hometown of Murfreesboro. While we were growing up, Herb excelled in the classroom and on the playing field. While attending David Lipscomb University, he played baseball and was considered a fantastic tennis player. Herb's enthusiasm for life has been and continues to be a positive influence and an inspiration to his family and friends. Herb, thank you for your service to the Woodbury Church of Christ and to everyone in the community.

HONORING RUTHERFORD
COUNTY'S BICENTENNIAL

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 200th birthday of Rutherford County, Tennessee. Rutherford County is located in the heart of Middle Tennessee, and I am proud to call this beautiful county my home.

The people of Rutherford County are truly blessed to live in a region with such rich history and such a promising future. Murfreesboro, now the county seat, served as the capital of Tennessee from 1819 to 1826. Nearly 40 years later, Union and Confederate soldiers fought and died on the county's soil during the Civil War. Stones River National Battlefield is a solemn memorial to those who lost their lives during the battle.

Today, residents and visitors can catch a glimpse of the county's promising future by looking to the county's successful industrial areas, quality schools and beautiful parks.

It is easy to see why Rutherford County is the fastest growing county in the state and

one of the fastest growing counties in the nation. The warmth of its residents and beauty of its landscapes will continue to attract new members to the community. And those new residents will have the opportunity to visit numerous historic sites, purchase a variety of quality goods manufactured in the county, and enjoy leisurely drives through the scenic countryside.

The residents of Rutherford County have much to be proud of. I congratulate the county on its success, and I am sure the next 200 years will be just as steeped in friendship and tradition as the first 200 years.

AMENDING TITLE XXI OF THE
SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 20, 2003

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3288 is a technical corrections bill that will allow New Mexico to use \$14 million of its unused State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) funds for low-income children's health. Currently New Mexico has approximately \$70 million in unused SCHIP funds which the state cannot access. This bill will allow New Mexico to use 20 percent of these funds, or \$14 million, on low-income children in the Medicaid program. This bill keeps these vital health care dollars in New Mexico. It also assures that these dollars are used for children's health, for which they were originally intended.

Earlier this year we passed a similar bill signed into law that would allow states, like New Mexico, who had expanded their Medicaid programs for children before the passage of the SCHIP program to use some SCHIP dollars on low-income children eligible for Medicaid. The prior policy essentially penalized states that had done the right thing by expanding coverage for children under Medicaid.

Because of a miscalculation in the legislation passed earlier this year, New Mexico may be ineligible to use the SCHIP funds in the manner intended. This bill would correct that mistake and allow low-income children in New Mexico access to important health care dollars they deserve.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I was not able to be present for the following rollcall votes and would like the RECORD to reflect that I would have voted as follows: Rollcall No. 562—"no"; rollcall No. 563—"yes"; rollcall No. 564—"yes"; rollcall No. 565—"yes."

DETROIT CATHOLIC CENTRAL
MEN'S GOLF TEAM, 2003

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my alma mater Detroit Catholic Central Men's Golf Team, the 2003 Michigan High School Athletic Association Division I Champions.

In conditions unfavorable to competitive golf, Catholic Central fired a two-round total of 636, six shots ahead of their nearest competitor.

Led by seniors Chris Eliason, Mike King, and Jimmy Burns sophomores David Denyer and Adam Hogue, and Coach Bill Hayes, the Shamrocks easily captured the Catholic League Championship and State Regional Championship while posting an 11-1 dual meet record.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my warmest congratulations to the Shamrocks of Detroit Catholic Central for capturing the MHSAA Golf Championship.

FOUR OUTSTANDING SENIORS

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, you know, Texas is home to great schools, great teachers, and great students.

Today I would like to spotlight four outstanding seniors from Plano Independent School District who made perfect scores on their college entrance exams.

It is estimated that they are in the top one-tenth of the highest one percent of all of the students taking these exams.

Brent Flynn of the Plano Star Courier detailed these amazing students in the September 29, 2003 edition.

Greg Bussell of Plano East Senior High School, Jennifer Wu of Plano West Senior High School, and Brian Young of Plano Senior High School all scored 1600 on their S.A.T.'s, while Jeffrey Lin of Plano West Senior High School received a 36, the highest possible on the A.C.T.

In addition to smarts and savvy, they all shine outside the classroom. Both Jennifer and Jeffrey play the violin in the orchestra. Greg stars in a school play and Brian's on the school's academic decathlon team.

Each principal had wonderful words for these students.

Plano Senior High principal Dr. Doyle Dean said, "Brian Young is an outstanding student. We at Plano Senior High are very proud of his many academic and personal accomplishments, including his perfect score on the S.A.T."

"These are among some of the most extraordinary students in our State," said Dr. Michael McClellan, principal at Plano East Senior High.

Phil Saviano, principal for Plano West Senior High School stated, "It's an exceptional achievement. It's rewarding to see their hard work pay off after their amazing public school careers."

These students are shining examples of the best and brightest in Texas and America. They deserve a Lone Star size applause. Congratulations. We are proud of you.

COMMEMORATING THE INTRODUCTION OF "MEDAL OF HONOR"

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the upcoming introduction of the book, "Medal of Honor," at the National Boy Scout Museum in Irving, Texas. The book honors the more than 3,400 Medal of Honor recipients that have served our Nation so valiantly in time of war or crisis and will be introduced on November 8, 2003. Mr. Speaker, this event is being coordinated by the North Trail District of the Boy Scouts of America under the direction of Chairman Gary V. Hill and Mr. Rob Kyker, the Friends of Scouting Chairman and host of this event.

Mr. Speaker, during the introduction of the book, seven (7) of the living 138 Medal of Honor recipients will be presented and honored along with Mr. Michael E. Thornton, U.S. Navy—retired, who is the spokesman for all Medal of Honor recipients. These individuals embody the virtues of sacrifice, courage, and leadership, which the Boy Scouts work to instill. Since 1861, the Congressional Medal of Honor has been awarded to our Nation's bravest Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen. This book, by Mr. Peter Collier, honors them for their courage, character, and leadership and will serve as a wonderful example to future generations, especially the Boy Scouts of the future.

The introduction of this book, affords a new generation the opportunity to once again learn of the leadership and courage of those service men and women who have received the Congressional Medal of Honor. This presentation at the Boy Scout National Museum is a great moment to honor and remember all the Medal of Honor recipients and I count it an honor to be involved and to be present at this wonderful ceremony.

AMENDING TITLE XXI OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 20, 2003

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my support for passage of H.R. 3288, but do so with disappointment that the House did not take up S. 1547, thereby failing to expedite the process of ensuring that New Mexico does not lose their unused SCHIP funds.

My New Mexico delegation colleagues in the other chamber were able to secure passage of S. 1547 on July 31, 2003 by unanimous consent. This legislation allows states, including New Mexico, to keep unused allotments under the SCHIP Program.

Prior to recessing for the August District Work Period, we in the House passed H.R.

2854—what was supposed to be a final compromise covering \$2.7 billion in SCHIP funds, about half of which technically expired September 30, 2002, and the rest of which was scheduled to expire September 30, 2003. Without this action, the funds would have reverted back to the Federal treasury, consequently depriving New Mexico and other states of sorely needed health care funds.

However, because of a technical error in H.R. 2854 that excluded New Mexico from retaining their SCHIP funds, S. 1547 was passed to ensure that New Mexico was rightfully included. Now, with passage of this legislation today, New Mexico and other states will again be required to wait for their much-needed SCHIP funds since this bill will now have to be referred back to the Senate, passed once again, and then sent to the President for his signature.

While I by no means seek to diminish the importance of the other states now included under H.R. 3822 for a similar fix that was required for New Mexico, I am nevertheless disappointed that S. 1547 could not be passed as a lean technical fix to expedite New Mexico's funds. New Mexico is ranked second in the Nation for uninsured individuals, which makes the SCHIP program that much more important so that children can have health coverage.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3288, but do so in the hope that this legislation can be expeditiously passed in the other chamber. The sooner we can get this legislation into law, the sooner the funding can go to its intended purpose—providing health insurance coverage for the children in our respective states.

FIVE TRUE HEROES IN AMERICAN LIFE

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, if we were to believe the television and radio and even the newspapers, we would think that the most important figures in America are professional athletes, movie stars, rock performers, and financial tycoons.

But we all know that this is not true. There are millions of Americans who do heroic work every day. Some are teachers, some nurses, some work in day care. Some prepare meals for the elderly; others take care of their elderly parents or of spouses or children who are ill or disabled. Men and women all over America go off to work each day, sometimes at two or even three jobs, to make sure that there is food on the table for their families, and money to send their children to college.

Today, I want to recognize five citizens of Vermont who are heroes: Mary Jean Inglee, Emma Katherine Ely, Bev Priest, Theresa Emmons, and Christina Crawford. They come from every corner of Vermont, and each has been tireless in advocating for the needs of the low-income citizens of our state.

Mary Jean Inglee was born in Whitehall, New York and raised in an Irish Catholic Democratic family. She graduated from Whitehall High School, Class of 1968, and married Harold Inglee in November of that same year.

She and her husband now live in Rutland; they have two daughters and three granddaughters.

Mary Jean Inglee's interest in low-income issues started when she was a child, when a poor family lived in a shack on the rocky area above her house. To Mary Jean's own family, it was a natural thing to share what they had with that family. Her parents provided them with rides to doctors and food and clothing whenever they could.

Mary Jean at times got in trouble at school because she believed it was her duty to advocate for classmates that were being treated unfairly. She remembers those classmates as the kids who experienced the cruel realities of poverty.

Mary Jean worked in the public school system for 10 years in a special education classroom. She had a first-hand look at how state systems worked—and how they didn't work for kids that had the least going for them. Once again some saw her as a troublemaker, for she took advocacy for families who needed extra consideration, very seriously. She says this kind of work brought her to know BROC (the community action agency in southern Vermont), which was a worksite for some of the students she worked with. Going there on a weekly basis, she was able to observe the difficult situation facing clients and workers.

Mary Jean has worked for the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation for the past 15 years, an agency charged with removing barriers to employment for people with disabilities. Most of the people she works with have no income or the minimal benefits of Supplemental Security Income or Social Security Disability payments. This translates into poverty. She advocates every day for programs, training, and dollars to help people improve their lives.

A new opportunity to help came in 1992 when she was asked to join the BROC Board of Directors as a low-income representative. The timing was perfect for Mary Jean to be called into service. Her husband was ill and not able to work. This gave her an instant "reminder course" in what it was like to owe rent and wonder how it would be paid. In their 35 years together, they have been there a few times, but unlike many of the people BROC serves, there was usually someone in the family who could help out.

Mary Jean has worked tirelessly for others, but she has also pursued a path of learning for herself. She received a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Services from Springfield College in 2002. She is currently a Masters Candidate and expects to receive her Masters in Human Services with a concentration in Community Psychology in the spring of 2004.

Emma Katherine Ely is another outstanding advocate for low-income people. During the past 15 years (and probably longer than that!) Ms. Ely has served the low-income community of northeastern Vermont. While being a parent in the program—she is the mother of ten children—Ms. Ely served on the Champlain Valley OEO Head Start Policy Council. That interest in parent advocacy led to seats on the New England Regional Head Start Board and also on the Vermont State Head Start Parents Association. For the past 10 years, Ms. Ely has played a central role organizing the Vermont Early Childhood Conference. In addition to this work, Ms. Ely has been active in many roles