

and industrial ventures in our Nation's illustrious history.

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF CUB SCOUT PACK 596 FROM ST. ALPHONSUS PARISH

HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2003

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in recognition of the 50th anniversary of Cub Scout Pack 596 from St. Alphonsus Parish in Greendale, Wisconsin. For the past five decades, the leaders, and members of Cub Scout Pack 596 have made invaluable contributions to their community, to Wisconsin, and to our country.

Since 1930, the Cub Scout have helped young boys learn new skills and civic responsibility. Character development, good citizenship, and personal achievement are among the ten purposes of cub scouting. Other goals include spiritual growth, family understanding, respectful relationships, sportsmanship and fitness, friendly service, and fun and adventure. Cub scouts earn merit badges in recognition for physical fitness and talent-building activities. As a former cub scout, I believe that the values I was taught as a member—respect for nature, for other people, and for ourselves—have helped to shape who I am today.

Pack 596 makes a difference in their community every year through programs such as Scouting for Food. In this program, scouts leave empty bags at homes in their neighborhood for the families to fill. The scouts then return the following weekend to take the food-filled bags to the local food pantry. Pack 596 also participates in a toy drive for needy children every Christmas. These boys have consistently worked to make the world a better place and steadfastly honored their motto to do their best.

Mr. Speaker, Cub Scout Pack 596 has served as a model for all cub scout packs for 50 years. They have set a high standard for cub scouts everywhere through their commitment to God and country and their dedication to helping develop the future leaders of our Nation.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE SYSTEM

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2003

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, one hundred years ago, President Theodore Roosevelt displayed historic vision and took a bold step forward in his quest to protect our Nation's natural wonders. He decided that the plight of one group of birds on a scant five acres in Florida was important enough to warrant the protection of the Federal government. Roosevelt made this decision on March 14, 1903, continuing his commitment to protect American public lands. In creating a National Wildlife Refuge, however, Roosevelt brought the American public

on a great ideological departure from the principles underlying our National Park System: While those lands are set aside for the enjoyment and appreciation of people, wildlife refuges are for the sole benefit of wildlife. This ideological leap was truly historic, and I commend President Roosevelt and celebrate his enduring legacy.

Since the first refuge was established in our State in 1912, the Wisconsin refuge system has become an integral part of life for our citizens. Our five wildlife refuges and two wetlands management districts attract nearly two million visitors each year. They provide critical habitat for our State's world-renowned wildlife resources, as well as opportunities for recreation and groundbreaking research.

Horicon Marsh, covering 32,000 acres, is the largest fresh water cattail marsh in the United States and is designated as a "wetland of national importance." Tremplealeau, The Upper Mississippi River, and Horicon National Wildlife Refuges are designated as "globally important bird areas." And Necedah National Wildlife Refuge serves as the summer home for research experiments with the migration of highly endangered whooping cranes.

I wonder whether the President knew what he was setting in motion when he set aside those five seemingly inconsequential acres. Could he possibly have dreamed that such humble beginnings would flourish into the grand national wildlife refuge system that we boast today? That system now consists of more than 575 individual units and encompasses over 95 million acres. Refuges can be found in every State in the Union, protecting more than 250 threatened or endangered plants and animals, including such beloved and symbolic species as the manatee, bald eagle, and California jewelflower. These figures far exceed any expectations that President Roosevelt may have had. Our refuge system is truly a triumph of American vision and commitment to responsible stewardship of our unparalleled natural heritage.

I am proud to support the National Fish and Wildlife Service in its vital mission and grateful to be able to pass this legacy on to future generations of Americans.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO: MR. BRIAN BRADY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today in order to recognize Brian Brady of Grand Junction, Colorado. Brian is a gifted young man whose dedication and entrepreneurship are a credit to his community. Today, I would like to pay tribute to his efforts before this body of Congress and this nation.

As an active member of the Grand Junction community, Brian serves on a variety of local boards and works with many organizations including three of the largest and most active organizations in Mesa County: the Rotary, United Way and the Mesa County Crime Stoppers. Brian's company, Brady MicroTech, creates and maintains websites and is currently the Webmaster of the Gene Taylor's Sporting Goods website, in charge of everything from

the creation of their online catalogue, to taking the photos of the store and maintaining customer relations. Brian has a lot on his plate, especially for a young man who is currently a senior at Central High School in Grand Junction.

A few years ago, Brian and few other young men, Ryan and Rob Cook, and Daniel Davis, approached a local radio station about a teen issues program. The radio station gave the boys an opportunity to broadcast their show, which became an amazing success. Currently, the show airs every Tuesday night from nine until ten o'clock and gives local teens a platform to discuss everything from local issues to the concerns on the mind of today's teenagers.

Brian is a true asset to the people of the Grand Valley, not only for his work with teens, but also for his contribution to local organizations and businesses. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize this capable and gifted young man before this body of Congress and this nation. His dedication to community service is a credit to Mesa County and the entire State of Colorado.

COMMENDING THE 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2003

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize the honorable service of the men and women of the 101st Airborne Division of the United States Army, who are again answering this nation's call to duty. They have already been deployed to the Persian Gulf in preparation for whatever conflict may lie ahead.

While international debate continues over the appropriate course of action, Mr. Speaker, it is easy for us to forget about the men and women who are already on the front line, preparing for the unknown, ready to accept the orders that are handed down.

There are almost 20,000 men and women stationed at Fort Campbell, which sits on the border between Tennessee and Kentucky. Fort Campbell is home to the 101st Airborne Division "Screaming Eagles," under the command of Maj. Gen. David Petraeus. The 101st Airborne Division has a long history of outstanding military service, playing key roles in World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam and Desert Storm.

From an Apache fighter-helicopter, the "Screaming Eagles" fired the very first shots in the Gulf War, taking out Iraqi communications and paving the way for the ground attack. In the ground war, the 101st made the longest and largest air assault in world history into enemy territory. About 4,500 "Rakkasans" from the division's 3rd Brigade also spent six months in Afghanistan, fighting in Operation Anaconda, one of the toughest fronts in this nation's war on terrorism.

Now, the men and women of the 101st are again answering the call to duty. The "Screaming Eagles" have left behind their families and their homes to set up camp in the desert. These brave soldiers know that their country may need them, and they are ready to serve.

Mr. Speaker, I hope you will join me in applauding the dedication and duty demonstrated by the courageous men and women of the 101st Airborne Division of the United States Army. Their love for our country, the safety of its people and the protection of its liberties, is what makes this nation free and great.

TRIBUTE TO JOY BRYSON

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2003

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a wonderful person and former member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee staff who passed away a few weeks ago, Mrs. Joy Bryson. Just one year ago, I rose to congratulate Joy on her retirement. Her retirement was all too short. As Joy's family returns from taking her home to North Carolina, I rise to honor Joy once again.

Joy was a much-loved member of the T&I Committee Staff, and we all miss her very deeply. All of us, Member and staff alike, suffered with her through her long ordeal with breast cancer and its permutations, a struggle that I know all too well from my own experience, losing my late wife, Jo, after an eight-and-a-half year battle with the same disease.

When in remission, Joy worked as an active advocate for breast cancer research and for cancer research and treatment. Joy was a very strong advocate for the work of the Breast Cancer Research, Treatment, and Education Center at George Washington University Hospital. She actively supported efforts in the private sector community to raise funds for the "mammavan" project of G.W. Hospital that helps provide mammograms for women in underserved areas of Washington, D.C., and the international community of the city.

Joy dealt with her long struggle with cancer privately. She did not want attention brought to her, which, in a way, was unfortunate, because many of us wanted to comfort, support, and console her. But, she carried on, with her loving family by her side, a very private campaign that she ultimately lost.

I ask all of you to keep her and her family—her husband, Lit, and her two children, Chris

and Jeni—in your prayers. Keep those who are left behind in your prayers. They are the ones who need it most. Joy will be where her name suggests, in the joy of eternity, in the hands of our loving Father.

COMMEMORATION OF TIBETAN
UPRISING DAY

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2003

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite all my Colleagues to commemorate during this week the 44th anniversary of one of the most tragic events in Tibetan history. During the bloody "Lhasa Uprising" in 1959, courageous people were killed while standing up for the religious, political and cultural rights of all Tibetans. Throughout this uprising, many large Tibetan cities were destroyed by Chinese artillery, His Holiness the Dalai Lama was forced into exile for fear of his life and, according to Chinese statistics, nearly 87,000 Tibetans were killed, arrested or deported to labor camps.

The brutal crushing of the Lhasa Uprising tragically only further highlights the brutal suppression of the Tibetan people, which began with the Chinese invasion in 1948 and continues to this very day. Facing brave resistance after the invasion of Tibet, the People's Republic of China forced the Tibetan Government to accept a 17 point agreement in 1951 by threatening Tibet with further military force. The agreement made Tibet a part of China, but assured the people of Tibet that all political, cultural and religious institutions, including that of the Dalai Lama would be preserved. China has yet to stand by these promises. After systematic and ongoing violations of the agreement, a growing Tibetan rebellion began to reach a national scale.

The Chinese blamed His Holiness the Dalai Lama for the resistance and rumors began to stir of plans to kill or kidnap him in reaction to this rebellion. On March 10th, 1959 the people of Lhasa surrounded the Dalai Lama's Norbulingka compound in hopes to protect their leader from an almost certain death, and the also demanded that the Chinese leave

Tibet. This day is remembered by the Tibetan Community around the world as "Tibetan Uprising Day." One week later, on March 17th, 1959, as feared by many, the People's Liberation Army began shelling the Dalai Lama's complex. Unbeknownst to the PLA the Dalai Lama had fled to India only a short 48 hours before the attack.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Tibet have faced persistent brutal oppression for nothing more than the crime of having different beliefs than those of the Chinese government. Since China's occupation of Tibet, the PRC has enforced its despotic rule with violence such as military occupation, population transfers and the destruction of Tibetan cultural and religious institutions. The people of Tibet have had almost every human right possible violated over the past 50 years. To this day, the PRC continues to violate the 17 point agreement and commit horrifying human rights abuses in Tibet. The citizens of this country suffer through arbitrary arrests, detention without trial, torture and persecution for speaking out peacefully on political and religious views.

As an American, I am proud to defend the Tibetan right to self-determination and recognize today as "Tibetan Uprising Day." In 2002, under the Tibetan Policy act, which I authorized, the US Congress articulated our support for the Dalai Lama's attempt to attain a negotiated settlement through means of dialogue and not violence. The fact that this atrocity has gone on for so long is completely outrageous and unacceptable. The people of Tibet had their lives stripped from them; everything they knew and loved was taken in a appalling manner. These people not only fought and died for their own freedom, but for the freedom of their children and all future Tibetans. In 1989, the international community recognized the tremendous contributions his Holiness has made to a negotiated settlement through non-violent means by awarding him the Nobel Peace Prize. I commend the Dalai Lama and his people for their determination and strength throughout this ordeal. On this day of remembrance I hope everyone will take a moment to reflect on the situation to Tibet, and also consider what we have done and what we can still do in the future to further assist this country in their struggle for a peaceful resolution.