

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE FOX CHASE CANCER CENTER

HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 6, 2004

Mr. HOFFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the Fox Chase Cancer Center for its 100 years of outstanding effort and achievement in the fields of cancer treatment and research.

Chartered in 1904, the Fox Chase Cancer Center was the Nation's first cancer hospital. Since its inception, the hospital has provided quality care for patients and has developed and refined methods of cancer treatment. The Fox Chase Cancer Center has been recognized for integrating strong basic and clinical research programs with programs of cancer treatment and detection, cancer control and community outreach efforts, and cancer prevention research and services. These efforts have earned the center various honors including a Nobel Prize for medicine, a Lasker Clinical Research Award, memberships in the National Academy of Sciences, and American Cancer Society Medals of Honor.

Founded on a spirit of optimism and determination, the center remains a national leader in cancer care. I congratulate the Fox Chase Cancer Center on its 100 years of dedicated service to the community.

H.R. 2264 CONGO BASIN FOREST PARTNERSHIP ACT OF 2003

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 6, 2004

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2264, the Congo Basin Forest Partnership Act of 2003, that the House passed on October 7, 2003. As I said in my statement on that day, I have personally visited some of the areas that this bill will help to protect, and I highly recommend it to the House and hope that we adopt it again today with the other body's changes.

The International Conservation Caucus, of which I am a founding member and cochair, was formed in order to build support for the Congo Basin Forest Partnership initiative and to help with other international conservation efforts around the world. As members, we share a conviction that the United States has the opportunity and the obligation to advance the protection of the worldwide environment for current and future generations. The mission of the caucus is to act on this conviction

by providing the strong U.S. leadership necessary to conserve the world's most biologically rich and diverse places. The Congo Basin Forest Partnership Act is one of the first steps in achieving our mission.

Our contribution under the act will focus on providing field-based conservation activities within 25 million acres in Cameroon, the Central African Republic, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, and the Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Burundi, and Sao Tome/Principe. It is estimated that forest areas in the Congo basin are being depleted at a rate twice the size of Rhode Island every year.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 2264, the Congo Basin Forest Partnership Act.

HONORING RON YANKE

HON. C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 6, 2004

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great personal sadness to note the passing of Ron Yanke, a dear friend who left us too soon and whose life and contributions truly made the world a better place.

Ron was a brilliant businessman with boundless energy and passion. He was a visionary philanthropist with unending kindness and generosity. He was a community leader who deflected attention from his many civic achievements. And he was a role model whose honesty, integrity, humility, and positive disposition set the standard for everyone he met.

But more than anything, Ron Yanke was a warm and loving husband, father, grandfather, and friend. I had the joy and privilege of knowing Ron well for much of my life and will forever miss his friendship and counsel. There are few men more deserving of recognition for their accomplishments and few less disposed than Ron was to seek or accept it.

His entrepreneurial talents helped create jobs for thousands of people in Idaho and throughout the Intermountain West with companies like Micron Technology, Yanke Machine Shop, RY Timber, Boise Mobile Equipment, YMC Inc., and Nashua Homes.

His selfless nature advanced such worthy causes as the Peregrine Fund, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, the Boys and Girls Clubs, and Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center.

His personal charm and compassion enriched the lives of everyone fortunate enough to have known him. Mr. Speaker, I am blessed to be counted in that number, and Idaho is

blessed to have been home to Ron Yanke. I hope you will join me in extending the sympathies of the House of Representatives to his wife, Linda, and his family.

TRIBUTE TO ANDY DIVINCENZO

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 6, 2004

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a great man who will be sorely missed: Andy DiVincenzo of Buffalo, New York.

Some people seem to have a special talent for success, a kind of Midas touch. Andy DiVincenzo was one of those people. Whether in his business and culinary endeavors, his charitable work, or his family life, Andy imbued everything he did with a special charm, energy, and passion.

Andy was the founder, head chef, and owner of the famed restaurant Billy Ogden's, which opened in the Lovejoy area of Buffalo in 1989. Since opening, both Andy and Billy Ogden's have received numerous four-star reviews. For 10 years running, Andy was selected to represent the Buffalo Bills at the Super Bowl's famous Taste of the NFL, where the Nation's finest chefs, as well as NFL legends, volunteer their time in support of hunger relief efforts throughout the country. Though busy with his restaurant and catering business, Andy also dedicated himself to numerous charitable causes. He devoted time to the Kids Escaping Drugs program and served on the board of the famous Camp Good Days and Special Times, which serves children with cancer and other life-threatening illnesses.

Within the local community, Andy was adored, known for his big heart and willingness to help people. He believed everyone deserved a second chance and worked to help provide it. Buffalo, Western New York, and, indeed, the world are better places for having had Andy DiVincenzo among us.

Tragically, Andy has been taken from us too soon and too young. He passed away in his sleep on January 25 at the age of 52. He left behind a loving family, including his wife, Eleanor, daughters Tara and Adriana, and mother, Viola. These were the women in his life to whom he could never deny anything and for whom he would do anything to please. His siblings, Frank and Donna, as well as cousins, nieces, nephews, and others all join in mourning his death.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the remarkable life of Andy DiVincenzo and in extending our sincere condolences to his family.

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.