

time to contribute to her community. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

WELCOMING KING MOHAMMED VI

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 8, 2004

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, Mr. PAYNE and I welcome King Mohammed VI of Morocco to the United States and wish him well during his visit. We strongly urge His Majesty to uphold and implement his nation's agreements regarding the conflict over the Western Sahara. In addition, we urge His Majesty to uphold UN Security Council Resolution 1541 as a tribute to former Secretary of State James A. Baker III, who promoted international legality and justice while responding to the true long-term interests of both parties concerned in this conflict. His Majesty's support for the former U.N. Special Envoy Baker's Peace Plan would be the best contribution to peace and stability in the region. In addition, upholding the Peace Plan would demonstrate the effectiveness of the pursuit of national aspirations through non-violence in the greater Middle East, a region that has been the target of much violence.

Mr. Speaker, last week, a number of Members sent a letter to President Bush requesting that during his meeting with the King, he strongly encourage His Majesty to implement the United Nations Settlement Plan in order to achieve a just, peaceful, and lasting resolution to the conflict over Western Sahara. The letter welcomed United Nations Security Council Resolution No. 1541 adopted April 29, 2004, which reaffirmed support for the Peace Plan for Self-Determination of the People of Western Sahara devised by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan's Special Envoy, James Baker, and shared deep regret over the departure of Mr. Baker and the circumstances that led to his resignation.

In addition, the letter welcomed the confidence-building measures taken by the Polisario Front which released a further 643 Moroccan POWs since July 2003; the number of POWs the Polisario has liberated since 1991 now totals 1,760. However, the Members of Congress expressed their regret that the Government of King Mohammed VI has not reciprocated in a commensurate way. The fact that the Sahrawis have opted for non-violence in the affirmation of their identity and have respected the terms of the cease-fire signed in 1991 between their representative and Morocco, is telling in terms of who is committed to settlement of the conflict.

Further, the letter expressed great concern that if the conflict between these two parties is left unresolved, it has the potential to disrupt peace and stability in the Maghreb region, thus threatening the interests of the United States. The Members expressed that the United States should use its unique influence in that region to press the Moroccan Government and the Polisario Front to agree to the Peace Plan and to implement it under the supervision of the United Nations. Although U.S. attention is primarily focused, as it should be, on Iraq and on the war against terrorism, the

letter underscores the concern of the Members that the Western Sahara conflict needs to be addressed urgently and fairly to the benefit of the peoples of the region and in the interest of the United States. A peaceful, successful resolution of the conflict over Western Sahara will provide a signal to the Broader Middle East and North African region that in the 21st century there are successful alternatives to violence in the pursuit of national aspirations.

Mr. Speaker, we again extend our welcome to His Majesty and strongly urge him not to stand in the way of progress towards the peaceful resolution of the conflict over Western Sahara.

TRIBUTE TO THE WHITE HOUSE COMMISSION ON REMEMBRANCE AND THE "SANDS OF REMEMBRANCE" MEMORIAL AT NORMANDY BEACH

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 8, 2004

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the White House Commission on Remembrance and the Sands of Remembrance Memorial constructed this past Memorial Day at Normandy beach during the 60th anniversary of D-Day.

The White House Commission on Remembrance was established by Congress (PL 106-579) in 2000 and is an independent government agency honoring America's fallen, recognizing our men and women who have served our nation, and recognizing the veterans who have made the ultimate sacrifice as well as those who continue to serve our country.

The Commission also promotes the values of Memorial Day throughout the year.

In 2002, Carmella LaSpada, the Director of the White House Commission on Remembrance and sand sculptors John Gowdy (American), and Dale Murdock (Canadian) discussed an idea: to create, from the very sand on which blood was shed for freedom, a life-size and historically accurate sand sculpture on the Normandy Beach to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of D-Day. Thus, the "Sands of Remembrance" was born.

So from May 25 through May 29 a team of award-winning sand sculptors from the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom began an effort to create one of the most memorable and beautiful artistic memorials dedicated to one of the most heroic events in our history. To honor D-Day's fallen heroes in a symbolic and tangible way, this sand sculpture was an act of remembrance. This sculpted sand served as a touching and unique reminder of the sacrifices made for freedom to those who visited the memorial.

The team of award-winning sand sculptors created a 30 x 30 life-size sand sculpture of the D-Day landing commemorating the 60th Anniversary of that historic event. Dear Abby and Home Box Office (HBO) partnered with the White House Commission on Remembrance for the "Sands of Remembrance" memorial, initiated by the Commission.

Some of the reactions of those who witnessed the sculpture were:

"It brought tears to my eyes."

"So inspiring."

"It makes you feel gratitude."

"It makes you think."

"Spectacular!"

"Superb!"

"Stupendous!"

"Awesome!"

"Astonishing!"

"Incredible!"

"I've never seen anything like it!"

"Magnificent."

"Marvelous."

"How could this have been done? It's unbelievable."

"What a tribute!"

"It's so personal and emotional."

"It touches the mind and the heart."

"No other commemoration for those who died has so much meaning."

"I feel the presence of those who died."

For the sculpture, fifty tons of sand from the five landing beaches: Gold, Juno, Omaha, Sword, and Utah, depicted soldiers landing on the Normandy Beaches.

For the first time in history sand sculptors John Gowdy and Matthew Deibert (United States); Mark Anderson and Edward Dudley (United Kingdom); and Dale Murdock (Canada) created a historically accurate sand sculpture. These sculptors worked for six days, putting in approximately 10 hours each day to create the sculpture. Throngs of thousands from many countries viewed the sculpture as they attended ceremonies marking the 60th Anniversary of D-Day. Of the international community of visitors that visited the "Sands of Remembrance", a Russian woman said emotionally, "It brought tears to my eyes."

The sand sculpture, located in Vierville-sur-Mer on Omaha Beach in Normandy, France, was dedicated on May 30 and remained on exhibit through June 8.

I want to thank the White House Commission on Remembrance, the sculptors who made the Sands of Remembrance a reality, and of course, the men and women who made freedom a reality on the shores of Normandy 60 years ago.

TRIBUTE TO EDWARD J. PHILBIN SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS CLINTON, MASSACHUSETTS

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 8, 2004

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, a little more than a week ago, Edward J. Philbin retired as Superintendent of Schools for the Town of Clinton, Massachusetts marking the end of an extraordinary thirty-five year career in public education. As a foreign language teacher, department chair, high school principal and administrator, Ed Philbin earned a well-deserved reputation for passionate and tireless devotion to the education and development of children and young people. On June 24, 2004, a reception attended by more than 200 of his colleagues, family members, former students and friends was held at the Clinton Town Hall to honor his lasting contributions to the communities of Clinton and Worcester. Due to votes scheduled here in the House of Representatives, I was unable to attend that reception to personally express my great respect, deep

gratitude and best wishes to Ed Philbin for a happy and healthy retirement. However, I would like to submit for the record the remarks delivered at that tribute by his son Chris, a member of my congressional staff, which I think capture the essence of this remarkable man.

REMARKS BY CHRISTOPHER R. PHILBIN ON BEHALF OF THE PHILBIN FAMILY HONORING EDWARD J. PHILBIN ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT JUNE 24, 2004, FALLON MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM, CLINTON, MASSACHUSETTS

It has been alluded to earlier tonight, but I think it bears repeating. The only thing our Father has done longer and with more success than work in public education, is to be married to our Mother for nearly 36 years, his closest friend and most loyal supporter. So on behalf of our Mom, my brother Ed and his wife Lynn; my sister Cara, a high school English teacher in New Jersey, and her husband Tim who couldn't be here tonight; my brother Matthew and his longtime girlfriend Christie Mullin; and the rest of our family, we would like to thank all of you for being here to pay tribute to a guy that we happen to think very highly of. We are especially pleased that our Grandmother, Dorothy Philbin, is here tonight for this special occasion.

As many of you know, this retirement party was originally supposed to be a surprise because our Dad would have much preferred come June 30th to leave the keys on the desk with a kind note for Mr. Gaw and quietly slip out the side door. But that was not to be, and so when our Father found out about this party it required some persuasion from the gang of four that he affectionately refers to as the 'girls'—you all know them as Mary Neeley-Winkler, Marilyn Tierney, Maureen Weatherell and Christine Bonci—to convince him to allow this party to go forward. It was a closed-door meeting from which no minutes will be released but I'm guessing that when our Dad protested he was told something like "shut up, smile and be gracious!"

Our family would like to thank the four of them for the work they've put into planning and organizing this party and for being so good to our Dad these last five years; for putting a smile on his face; and for educating him on the finer points of KENO. We would especially like to thank Mary Neeley-Winkler who in addition to being our Dad's right hand these last several years has helped my brother and his wife find a house, plan my sister's wedding and given my brother Matt a part-time summer job. In short, we are all indebted to Mary and without saying much more, as far as we're concerned, you can't put a price on what Mary Neeley means to this family.

I'm not sure Matt and Cara will remember this, but Tripp certainly will. Growing up, one of the many summer rituals in our house was to accompany our Dad to the old high school in early August to help him unpack and date stamp the new foreign language text books for the upcoming school year. We would follow him down the long promenade into the school, past the trophy cases in the lobby, and down the hall to the second door on the left marked "STORAGE". At the time, that storage closet doubled as the chairman of the foreign language department's office and inside there were makeshift shelves filled with books toppling in on his desk with barely enough room to turn around. Our Dad would lead us out of his office into the language lab where we would fool around with the tape recorders and earphones for awhile before he put us to work unpacking the boxes of books. During the rather mundane process of unpacking the

books, what quickly became apparent to us even at that early age, was the excitement and enthusiasm our Dad had for the coming school year. His passion was palpable. This is a man who clearly loved to teach.

It wasn't long after each school year started, that our parents would have scores of students parading through our house to videotape an installment of the long-running French Soap Opera or French Newscast that he had his students both script and act in as a way to learn the language. Each of us were granted a cameo appearance in those productions but I think Cara set the record by appearing in twelve consecutive editions of the French Soap Opera. When his students weren't shooting a movie in our house, they were there sampling foreign cuisine our Mother prepared for members of the International Club which our Dad founded or compiling photographs for the yearbook when he served as the faculty advisor to that activity. Our Dad never suffered from that notion that teachers had to keep their students at a safe distance; that you had to erect a firewall between what you did for work and what you did at home. He wanted to know all of his students and wanted his students to know him. Some of his students were actually granted the unique privilege of babysitting his children and many of them bear the physical and emotional scars to prove it. Others are still in therapy from the experience and were advised by their counselors not to come tonight.

When our Dad wasn't inviting students into our home, he was inviting them to travel around the world with him to London and Paris, to Quebec and to Rome, and he bears the physical and emotional scars from those trips. Our Dad sought to do more than just teach a language, he tried to introduce his students to another culture and he thought to do that best you often times had to go and meet those cultures where they are. His approach also included assigning his students novels by French authors and philosophers. In fact, he may be the only French teacher in the world who assigned Camus and Satre to high school students. In hindsight, I'm not sure that *No Exit* and *The Stranger* were the best choices for 16-year-old kids worried about finding a date for the prom. That may have been a little too much existential angst for them at that age but he assigned them nonetheless.

The one book that our Dad insisted every one of his students read and actually memorize parts of is his favorite book, the children's story, *Le Petit Prince*. Over the years, as I've grown to be friends with many of my Dad's former students, a number of them after inquiring about my Dad have spontaneously quoted a passage from that book to me: "Il faut exiger de chacun, ce que chacun peut donner," which loosely translated means "Ask of a person only that which they can give."

I think anyone who had our Dad as a student would agree that he certainly gave all of himself to teaching. He seemed to believe that just about anyone can instruct students on conjugating verbs or using the proper accent but it takes something extra, something special, to actually inspire them. He managed to do that—to inspire them—and perhaps the best evidence of that are the postcards and letters he continues to receive from former students that have traveled all around the world. A few have even become foreign language teachers which is something that I know gives him a tremendous amount of pride and satisfaction.

When the time came for our Dad to move from teaching into administration, I think we were all more than a little surprised because he never seemed to be inclined in that direction. Believe it or not, he is not an espe-

cially ambitious person. But, sometimes circumstances tap you on the shoulder and life pulls you in a certain direction. Or, to put it another way, the cream has a way of always rising to the top. As a principal, quadrant manager and superintendent, our Dad brought the same level of energy and passion he displayed in the classroom to the oftentimes dispassionate duties that those positions require. And, just as he used to bring his students into our home, he also brought the demands of those positions home with him. Particularly as a principal, I distinctly remember him being completely exasperated by his inability to help one child who was trapped in a terrible home situation. But he never gave up on that kid or any other for that matter. With an unrivaled work ethic he never stopped trying to find new and innovative ways to help children, improve the curriculum and expand and enrich the opportunities available to students. He resisted mediocrity at every turn and categorically rejected the suggestion that a student's academic success is based largely on socio-economic status or ethnicity. He rejected that idea because he knew otherwise. He had been a teacher and some of his best students were the children of immigrants and themselves first-generation Americans. The real difference, he would often tell us at the dinner table, is expectations. As a teacher and as an administrator he constantly tried to raise them and that, more than anything else will likely be remembered as the hallmark of his career.

I know it will not come as a surprise to any of you that in addition to being very dedicated to his job, our Dad has always been very devoted to his family. So much so, that we can scarcely remember a soccer game, a dance recital or an academic awards banquet, not mine by the way, where our Dad was not present. You could usually find him in the last row of the bleachers, or up against the wall in the back of the auditorium or along the fence at the soccer field but he was always there—a constant reassuring presence. Many years ago a friend of mine spotted my Dad at some event that one of my siblings was participating in and remarked to me without realizing how profound a statement he was making, "Boy, your Dad is always where he is supposed to be." And, it struck me then as it does tonight as being so absolutely true. Our Dad is always where he is supposed to be.

Growing up, our Dad encouraged each of us to seek our own interests and he was content to let us find our way without trying to live his own life vicariously through us. He was always just one step behind, providing a nudge when needed, or sometimes a whisper and less frequently a bark but always right there. In fact, growing up there were two things we knew were important to our Dad without him ever having told us: (1) that we were expected to be educated; and (2) that we vote democrat. I think he thought that if we did the first, the second would follow naturally.

When the time came for us to apply to college, our parents made it abundantly clear that it was our job to get in to the best school we could and their obligation to pay for it. We would be expected to help but it was made plain to us that we would never be denied an opportunity based on the cost of tuition. For as far as we wanted to go, for as long as it took and whatever it took, they would be there to help us. And to that end, they did what many parents in this room have done. My Mom took a second job at the walk-in medical center in downtown Clinton and our Dad joined many of his fellow administrators, some of whom are here tonight, working nights and weekends as a security guard for the William Polack Security Agency, an elite, top-flight force of

highly-trained professionals. Sometimes, our Dad even worked a third part-time job tutoring inmates at MCI-Shirley which was another job he loved.

You see, for our Dad, supporting education was not just a bumper sticker you slapped on the back of your car, or a slogan you repeated at PTA meetings. For him, education has been more than a career; it has been a way of life.

For all of our Dad's native intelligence and his worldly sophistication, he is really a very simple man with very simple tastes. He likes a cheap glass of wine and a good glass of scotch. He likes an all-you-can-eat buffet or any restaurant he has a coupon to. He likes a good long walk, preferably by the ocean. He likes short sermons at Mass. He likes 60 Minutes on Sunday nights. He likes a good book, the Boston Sunday Globe and anything Tom Farragher writes he believes is the best thing he has ever read. He also likes his so-called off-site construction meetings with Phil Bailey and pizza with Carol Ann Hamilton and Joan Strang. And, he likes family vacations or any other occasion, with the possible exception of tonight, that brings his children and grandchildren together.

In addition to these simple tastes, there are a handful of institutions that our Dad holds dear and the only one that rivals his affection for the Clinton Public Schools is his alma-matter, the University of Notre Dame, which he shares with both of his brothers, two of his four children, and his friend and former colleague Pat Burke.

About 12 years ago, my older brother came across a letter to the editor in the Notre Dame Student Newspaper, The Observer, which he shared with me. I saved it because it is as near-perfect description of our Dad that I have ever seen reduced to writing and if you'll indulge me a little bit longer, I'd like to read a portion of it for you now.

"A man is someone who cares passionately about things that need caring about. Someone who refuses to accept things that are wrong, even though accepting them would be easier. Someone who yells sometimes and fights sometimes and cries sometimes and is not afraid to do any of those things when he feels a need to. Someone who doesn't always win or even come close, but who know instinctively that trying is what counts. Someone Notre Dame is proud of."

For fully thirty-five years, our Dad has tried and succeeded in making the students in his care and the schools systems in his charge the very best they could be. And so, by that standard, or any other for that matter, I think tonight it is fair to say:

Dad, the University of Notre Dame is proud of you. Your profession is proud of you. The Town of Clinton is proud of you. And, most especially, your children are, as we have always been, so very proud of you.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ROCKY FORD DAILY GAZETTE

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 8, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to rise today and pay tribute to the Rocky Ford Daily Gazette and its hard working staff in Rocky Ford, Colorado. The Daily Gazette has long been the source of local news for the community and year after year has demonstrated excellence in reporting. As they celebrate their one-hundredth Anniversary, let it be known that it is my pleasure to honor the

Daily Gazette and their dedicated staff before this body of Congress and this nation today.

The paper was initially started in 1887 by Harry V. Alexander under the name of the Rocky Ford Enterprise. In 1904 the name was changed to the Rocky Ford Daily Gazette. Reaching its first centennial as the Daily Gazette demonstrates the staying power that results from the hard work and dedication the staff has shown. Fifty years ago, the Daily Gazette changed ownership when Ross and Anne Thompson purchased the town's newspaper, and it has remained in the family ever since. They have passed the responsibility of managing editor on to their son, J.R. Thompson.

As a result of their hard work and dedication serving the community, they have received several honors. Ross and Anne were awarded the 1979 honor of publisher of the year by the Colorado Press Association. In 1984, Anne won the Emma McKinney Award for her demonstration of distinguished service to the community. The Gazette now serves thousands of readers in two counties.

Mr. Speaker, the staff of the Rocky Ford Daily Gazette have committed to the betterment of their community by using the free press to inform their fellow citizens. The dissemination of information plays an important role in maintaining the tight knit society characteristic of our country's smaller towns. I congratulate the Gazette for one-hundred years of success and wish its staff all the best in their future endeavors.

HONORING PATRICIA McCUNIFF REGAN

HON. KAREN McCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 8, 2004

Ms. McCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a notable Kansas City resident, Patricia McCuniff Regan, on her 79th birthday. Patty, as she is affectionately called by all who know her, has devoted her life to being a spirit of friendliness and benevolence wherever she goes. With her late husband, Bob, and friends and neighbors, she created "Westports of the World," an assembly of Westport sister cities stretching across our great nation and the globe from New Zealand to Ireland. Global Westport residents have been meeting in a sister city since the assembly's inception. Westport in Kansas City hosted a pioneer meeting in 1985 and a worldwide convention in 1995.

Throughout her life, Patty has focused on creating positive change in the community around her by participating in campaigns and exercising her rights as a citizen. She assists those in need and is a model of exemplary public service. Patty and Bob worked for civil rights and fair housing in the 1960's while raising their children. As she approaches her eighth decade, Patty continues to make our community and country a better place.

Patty and Bob welcomed nine children into this world. Without doubt, their children and grandchildren are a tribute and a great source of pride. Despite e.g., losing son Timothy at age seven in 1961 and husband Bob in 1986, Patty maintains her "joie de vivre." Terry Leager, Amy Schulz, Danny Regan, Becky

Regan, Peggy Regan, Jenny Krizman, Patrick Regan, and Carol Braun are fortunate, indeed, as are their children. They exemplify the generosity of character and fun loving spirit of Patty and Bob.

Patty truly lives the axiom she taught her children—to think of others before oneself. She demonstrates selfless optimism and generosity through her community activities, by her service as a Eucharistic minister in the Guardian Angels parish, and in giving blood every eight weeks for most of her adult life. I have personally benefited from her loving generosity on numerous occasions in the more than quarter century we Irish lassies have depended upon each other. What would Christmas be without Regan cookies and luminarias created at their Roanoke abode?

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Patty Regan on her 79th birthday. I am grateful for her friendship and am honored to recognize her for a lifetime of giving back to her community. Westport is a better place for her being in it, as are all the lives she has touched in her 79 years of extraordinary good works.

A TRIBUTE TO ANTHONY JOSEPH

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 8, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Anthony Joseph in recognition of his entrepreneurial success in the marketing and communications field.

As a product of New York City public school system, Anthony parlayed his academic achievement and his experience as an All-City championship football player into a walk-on position on the Boston University squad. Anthony promoted campus parties and events to subsidize his tuition. After graduation, he quickly turned a temp job in The New York Times' finance department into a staff position in the paper's marketing department.

With just one experience as an employee with the New York Times, Anthony combined his knowledge of urban landscape with his marketing expertise to incorporate the fastest rising marketing/communication company in the urban field. Anthony laid the foundation for his urban success by moonlighting with Vital Marketing Group VMG while still at the Times. Through contacts at a major apparel and an advertising agency, Anthony was able to participate in business meetings where he was able to present strategies, which, over time, turned into contracts with Tommy Hilfiger, Hush Puppies, and Wolverine Boots.

Eventually, Anthony's growing client base necessitated his departure from the Times. He partnered with the African-American media company that established the billboard beachhead on Harlem's 125th Street, utilized by so many entertainment companies at the time. Together they formed VMG, with Anthony leading the charge. After merely four years of business, its roster counts big-timers such as the U.S. Army, Nike, Tommy Hilfiger, Coca Cola, Remy Martin, Foot Action, Posner Cosmetics and Universal Records to name a few. It has an income of over \$7 million in annual revenue.

Vital Marketing's unusual methodology and its consistent success can be credited in great