

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 9, 2004

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I missed rollcall vote No. 347. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

REMEMBERING SERGEANT BRIAN M. WOOD

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 9, 2004

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, this morning I rise to honor and pay tribute to one of my constituents who recently died serving his Nation in Iraq.

Sergeant Brian M. Wood was killed when his military vehicle pulled off the road and hit a mine while he was on patrol. Sergeant Wood was only 21 years old.

Brian Wood was assigned to the Army's 9th Engineer Battalion, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, which is based in Schweinfurt, Germany.

Mr. Speaker, Brian Wood sent an e-mail to his family less than 24 hours before his death and reported that he felt he was making a difference in the lives of the Iraqi people by locating and disarming land mines.

Mr. Speaker, Brian's family reports that he was a young man with tremendous personality and a great sense of humor.

I would like to extend my condolences to the family and friends of Sergeant Brian Wood, and my thoughts and prayers are with his family during this difficult time. Brian's honorable service to his country will be long remembered.

TRIBUTE TO THE WOLNIAK BROTHERS

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 9, 2004

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a group of extraordinary individuals, the Wolniak brothers of Syracuse, New York. There are five brothers in all, Joseph, Michael, Nicholas, Andrew and Steven. The family migrated from the Ukraine in the early 20th century led by Matthew Wolniak, father of 10. What makes the brother's account so astonishing is the courage and dedication displayed during a time of great peril, World War II.

Joseph Wolniak served in the Illinois National Guard as a Private First Class. Michael Wolniak served five years as Staff Sergeant in the Army Air Corps with the 65th Fgt. Sq. and 57th Fgt. Gp. Nicholas Wolniak served for over five years as a Private First Class in the 33rd Division, 130 Infantry, 1st Company. Andrew Wolniak served five years as a Private First Class in the 33rd Infantry Regimental Combat Team, E Company, 2nd Battalion.

And Steven Wolniak served several years as Corporal in the 125 AACs Sq.

The Wolniak brothers' were active in a variety of theaters ranging from India, New Guinea, the Philippines, the invasion of Japan, to the jungles of Burma. Needless to say, having five members of a family involved in wartime operations creates an atmosphere of stress and tension. Faced with these overwhelming set of circumstances, the Wolniak brothers knew freedom and democracy come at a cost and require sacrifice. Keeping this in mind, the brothers served their country with dignity and honor.

The most enjoyable part of this anecdote was the safe return of all five brothers from the European and Asian theatres. This phenomenon was almost unparalleled as the United States casualties exceeded 400,000 with the majority of American's experiencing a loss of a loved one.

I am proud to state that the Wolniak's are part of our Central New York community, as four of the brothers still reside in the Syracuse area. Nick, Mike, and Steve can still be seen at a local McDonald's for an early morning gathering while Andy remains in his DeWitt home.

Mr. Speaker, I say to those listening today, America owes a great debt to the Wolniak brothers and all who served during World War II. Had it not been for the valor and devotion of the Allied Powers, both Europe and America would be a very different place today.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM SHAFFER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 9, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to pay tribute to William Shaffer and thank him for his work as the Congressional Services Representative with the General Services Administration. His years of commitment and dedication as a public servant is certainly commendable and worthy of recognition before this body of Congress and this Nation today. Along with my fellow Americans, I am grateful for all that he has accomplished during his years of service.

William was born in Pennsylvania and served in the U.S. Air Force in Denver, Colorado, before going on to earn a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Northern Colorado in 1973. He began his federal career with the Veterans Administration hospital in Hot Springs, South Dakota as a Recreation Therapist. After pursuing further training with the Veterans Affairs Personnel Administration Training Program, he worked as a Personnel Specialist in Maryland, Utah, Wyoming, Kentucky and finally Denver, Colorado.

In 1991, William moved to the General Services Administration as the Personnel Liaison at the Denver Federal Center, and later for the entire Rocky Mountain region. He was responsible for the Region's Congressional Support Program working to provide support services to ninety-six U.S. House of Representatives district offices and U.S. Senators State offices in Montana, Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, North Dakota, and South Dakota. These support services included procurement

of office furniture, equipment and supplies, maintenance and rehabilitation; property disposal; storage and relocation. William is also an ordained Pastor with the Presbyterian Church. In his spare time, he enjoys playing softball and volunteers at a Denver intercity food pantry.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that William Shaffer has been an invaluable resource to the General Services Administration and it is my honor to recognize his service and dedication before this body of Congress and this nation. I am grateful for the opportunity to work with devoted public servants like William Shaffer. On behalf of the citizens that have benefited from the hard work and commitment he has given to the General Services Administration and the constituents it serves, I extend my appreciation for his years of enthusiastic service.

A TRIBUTE TO REVEREND GUN HA SONG

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 9, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Reverend Gun Ha Song in recognition of his business accomplishments and spiritual leadership in the community.

Reverend Song came to the United States in 1979. He founded the Good Pickin' store in 1982 and he continues to manage it successfully today. Reverend Song is the president of the Korean Association of Brooklyn.

Reverend Song's passion is his faith. He leads his congregation in Brooklyn. In preparation of his pastoral duties, Reverend Song has studied extensively, earning advanced degrees in the area of religious thought. He has earned a Masters Degree of S.B.E. Christian Education. He received an additional Masters Degree from Chongshin Theological Seminary. Finally, Reverend Song also holds a Doctor of Christian Education from Cumberland University.

Mr. Speaker, Reverend Gun Ha Song came to this country about 25 years ago and has made several contributions to this country through his entrepreneurial spirit and spiritual leadership. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

HONORING THE IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 9, 2004

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege today to recognize the contributions of Chicago's Irish American Heritage Center toward preserving the glorious heritage and culture of Chicago's Irish community, on the occasion of its Annual Irish Fest.

The Irish American Heritage Center continues to be an integral part of the Irish Community in Chicago. The Annual Irish American Heritage Festival on July 9th, 10th, and 11th will showcase many of the great traditions and

talents of Ireland. The festival will feature traditional Irish dancing, numerous musical acts, and the great Irish food we all love.

The Irish American Heritage Center has consistently demonstrated its commitment to keeping the Irish heritage alive and thriving in Chicago. Its museum, library, and festivals all contribute to the success of the organization, and I applaud those who work and volunteer their time to continue this important mission.

But, the Irish American Heritage Center festival is much more than good food and entertainment. It is a chance to remember and honor all of the hard work and accomplishments made by the Irish Community. It is through this awareness by which younger generations can pass on the traditions and values of Ireland.

The museum was officially opened by the President of Ireland, Mrs. Mary Robinson, on October 13, 1991. Museum acquisitions include: a magnificent collection of Belleek Parian China; a historic chair commissioned by the Irish Fellowship Club of Chicago on the occasion of the visit of U.S. President William Howard Taft on St. Patrick's Day 1910; and the first organ from St. Patrick's Church in St. Charles, Illinois.

The Irish American Heritage Centers Library houses many special collections, including a facsimile edition of the world's most famous illuminated manuscript, The Book of Kells, which has been described as the "work of angels, not of men."

Mr. Speaker, I am honored on behalf of the Fifth District, and indeed all of Chicago, to call attention to all of the meaningful work occurring at the Irish American Heritage Center at the time of its Irish American Heritage Festival. I wish the Center continued success and a fantastic Irish fest.

CONGRATULATING LAKEWOOD ON SPORTS ILLUSTRATED AWARD

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 9, 2004

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise proudly today to congratulate the city of Lakewood for being named Sports Illustrated magazine's "Sportstown" for the State of California. This prestigious award recognizes the city in California with the best community sports programs. And since California is Sports Illustrated's No. 1 state, that means Lakewood is the number one sports town in the entire country. Sports and outdoor living are part of the fabric of life in this wonderful city, which I represent, in the 39th District of California.

Every year, Mr. Speaker, more than 13,000 Lakewood citizens participate in sports leagues or volunteer as coaches or referees. Kids of all ages in Lakewood play sports in one of the many city-sponsored leagues. The city's leagues are free of charge so all kids in the city can participate, and learn the values of teamwork and sportsmanship while they are having fun and making friends. The grownups in Lakewood also join in adult basketball, softball, tennis and volleyball leagues.

And if you live in Lakewood and sports leagues aren't your cup of tea you can go to one of the 10 public parks, two public swim-

ming pools, or two public Community Centers and get some exercise or just have a good time.

This prestigious award recognizing Lakewood's community sports programs comes during the same year that Lakewood is celebrating its 50th anniversary.

So, to the people of the City of Lakewood I say, "Congratulations for being the best sports city in America, and Happy 50th Anniversary!"

REMEMBERING SECOND LIEUTENANT ANDRE D. TYSON

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 9, 2004

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to pay tribute to a young man from my district who was killed in action serving in the Iraqi conflict.

Second Lieutenant Andre D. Tyson was charged with patrolling and gathering intelligence on insurgents in the farmlands in Balad. He died, at 33, when enemy forces ambushed his ground patrol.

Called to active duty last fall, Second Lieutenant Tyson was assigned to the 579th Engineer Battalion, Army National Guard, which is based in Petaluma, California.

Mr. Speaker, Andre Tyson told a reporter 10 days before his death, that local people were hospitable to the soldiers, giving them tea and bread that he described as being "almost like homemade tortillas." His cousin said, "All of his e-mails spoke positively about his experiences in Iraq."

Mr. Speaker, Andre's family said he was a man that commanded respect and his peers looked up to him.

It is important to honor and pay tribute to all of the brave men and women across the Nation who have given their lives in defense of the freedoms we enjoy every single day, and all leave behind families who miss their sons and daughters. Too many of our young people have their lives cut way too short, but their sacrifice will be long remembered.

I would like to extend my condolences to the family and friends of Second Lieutenant Andre D. Tyson, and my thoughts and prayers are with his family during this difficult time.

TRIBUTE TO BRISTOL-MYERS SQUIBB COMPANY

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 9, 2004

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the Bristol-Myers Squibb Company's Syracuse, New York facility, which will receive the 2004 Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge Award in the alternative synthetic pathways category presented by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Bristol-Myers Squibb earned this great honor through the development of an environmentally friendly synthesis for the cancer drug Taxol®. The EPA's Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge Program has been promoting

pollution prevention through voluntary partnership with the chemical community since 1996. The annual awards recognize outstanding accomplishments in the development of chemical technologies that incorporate the principles of green chemistry into chemical design, manufacture, and use. To date winning technologies have eliminated over 460 million pounds of chemical and solvent pollutants, saved over 440 million gallons of water, and eliminated over 170 million pounds of atmospheric carbon dioxide emissions.

I express my congratulations to the men and women of the Bristol-Myers Squibb Company in Syracuse for receiving such an outstanding honor. Bristol-Myers Squibb has truly shown itself to be a leader in environmental technology innovation.

TRIBUTE TO BERTRAND SEIDMAN

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 9, 2004

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who spent his entire life devoted to helping working men and women and their families. Bertrand Seidman a constituent of my district and legend in the labor movement, recently passed away after a lifetime of advocating for working people in the United States.

After earning his Master's degree in economics from the University of Wisconsin at Madison, Mr. Seidman began his stellar career at the Bureau of Labor Statistics in Washington, DC. In 1944, he started performing his service as a conscientious objector clearing a path for the Blue Ridge Parkway. During this time he began educating his fellow workers in industrial relations and later led a year-long strike after the government stopped paying conscientious objectors while still having them work.

In 1948 he began his distinguished career with the AFL-CIO as an economist in their research department and later served as the European representative for the AFL-CIO. He continued his service to the nation as a member of the United States delegation to the United Nations' International Labor Organization from 1958 to 1976 and then from 1987 to 1988.

It was after this service that Bert Seidman was appointed to become head of the AFL-CIO's Social Security department. He worked there for twenty four years and ensured that the labor movement would continue to focus on social welfare issues. He was especially interested in health care, pensions and occupational health for all. Mr. Seidman was also active in making sure that Social Security would not be privatized and that all Americans would have health insurance, regardless of their economic status.

Our nation lost an activist when Bert Seidman passed away on June 24th. He will always be remembered for his role in our nation's labor movement. Bert wanted to make sure that when people worked their whole lives, they would be taken care of in their retirement, and if they were ill or injured, they would have ample health care to help their recovery. Most importantly, he was for the most basic right, equality. I am grateful for his vision, his dedication and the many years of