

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 9, 2004*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, on September 8, 2004, I was unable to be present for rollcall vote No. 428, on agreeing to the Rep. Joel Hefley Amendment to H.R. 5006, the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2005; for rollcall vote No. 429, on agreeing to the Rep. George Miller Amendment to H.R. 5006, the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2005; and, for rollcall vote No. 430, on the Motion that the Committee Rise. Had I been present I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote No. 428, "yes" on rollcall vote No. 429, and "yes" on rollcall vote No. 430.

## IN HONOR OF THE OPENING OF TEXANS CAN! AT PAUL QUINN COLLEGE

### HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 9, 2004*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the opening of Texans Can! at Paul Quinn College on September 17, 2004. I am very delighted to join my fellow colleagues in highlighting the tremendous public service that this organization has provided to the local community and praise its current expansion.

In almost 20 years of service, *Texans Can!* have provided educational opportunities to more than thirty thousand academically at-risk students who may have never finished high school. *Texans Cans* currently operates three campus locations in the greater Dallas community, and the new location at Paul Quinn College will provide additional capacity to enroll more students that otherwise might not receive a quality educational experience.

The new campus at Paul Quinn College will serve as an outreach to students from neighborhoods in Duncanville, DeSoto, Grand Prairie, Lancaster and other surrounding communities. I congratulate the first year's class of students at this new location, as they christen the new school and help pave the way for all of the students that will follow them in the future.

I wish *Texans Cans* continued success in their service to the future of our community, and I thank Mr. Grant East the founder of *Texans Can!*, the teachers, administrators, and staff of *Texans Can!* for their unswerving commitment to education.

## HONORING KERN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA'S OLYMPIC MEDALISTS

### HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 9, 2004*

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I wish to commend four Olympic medalists from Kern County, California, which I am privileged to represent, on their outstanding performances at the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, Greece. I am proud to recognize and praise these athletes for their dedication, resolve, and extraordinary talent that so perfectly epitomize the American spirit.

Joey Hansen of Bakersfield helped power the eight-man rowing crew to a gold medal—the first victory in 40 years for the United States in that event. In the kayak slalom, Rebecca Giddens, demonstrating expert skills honed in relentless practice on the Kern River, came from behind to win the silver medal. Swimmer Larsen Jensen, also of Bakersfield, shattered his own American record by eleven seconds in the 1,500 meter freestyle. Finally, Bakersfield's Gabe Woodward also made Kern County proud when he helped guide the 4x 100-meter freestyle relay team to a bronze medal.

Each of these four champions reflects the spirit of hard work and perseverance that is cherished in Kern County, and each resident of Kern County takes great pride in their achievements in Athens. We congratulate Joey, Rebecca, Larsen, and Gabe for making us proud. While I want to especially salute Kern County's Olympians, I also want to laud the achievements of each of the men and women who admirably and honorably represented the United States at the Olympics this summer. They made an entire Nation proud.

## HONORING DAVID CREQUE

### HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 9, 2004*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and achievements of an extraordinary man, David Creque of Oakland, California. David was an instrumental figure in East Bay politics and government for over three decades, and will be missed greatly by those who knew him, as well as by those whose lives have been touched by his work. David passed away on July 15, 2004, and is survived by his wife Sandy and their two children, as well as six grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

David was born in Hayward, California on September 20, 1932. After growing up and at-

tending school in Oakland, he went on to serve in the Korean War and obtain his Masters Degree from the University of Oregon. Upon the completion of his education, David returned to Oakland and began teaching high school biology. Active in local government affairs, David would not only become the longest serving member of the Alameda Civil Service Commission, serving from 1977 until 2003, but would also serve extensively as foreman of the Alameda County Grand Jury during the late 1970s, and on the Oakland Port Commission from 1979 until 1983.

In addition, David was an active and dedicated member of the local labor movement for several decades. As a teacher, he was a member of his local union, and was later elected president of AFT Local 771. He would go on to become a member of the Executive Committee of the Central Labor Council of Alameda County, where he served with dedication until 1999, after which he remained a Council Delegate.

On September 11, 2004, David's friends and family will gather to honor his extraordinary life, and the impact that his tireless efforts to better the Oakland and East Bay communities had on the lives of those around him. David was a unique and distinguished individual not only because of his outstanding accomplishments, but also because of his generous spirit and commitment to helping others. He will be greatly missed by his family, his friends, and the people of the 9th Congressional District.

## MOURNING THE PASSAGE OF THE LATE JAMES ELLIOTT WEEKS

### HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 9, 2004*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the passage of James Elliott Weeks. Mr. Weeks passed away on September 8, 2004.

James Weeks was born in March 1917 in Claude, Texas. James served as a Captain in the Army during World War II. He then served as an Assistant Attorney General of Texas, and was elected County Attorney of Lubbock, Texas. He was later elected to the Abilene School Board and the Texas Board of Education. Captain Weeks was a member of the Texas and Supreme Court bar.

James Weeks is survived by his wife Inez, three sons, and eight grandchildren. I urge the House to join me in mourning his passing and remembering him for his life of public service.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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

CELEBRATING THE VIENNA CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FEDERAL EMPLOYEES (NARFE)

### HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 9, 2004*

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 35th anniversary of Chapter 1116 of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees (NARFE), located in Vienna, Virginia.

Founded in 1921, NARFE is a multi-tiered, political, nonpartisan organization dedicated to preserving the earned retirement benefits of all federal civilians. Membership eligibility includes current, former, and retired federal civilians, as well as their spouses and survivor annuitants. Chapter 1116 is one of over 1600 NARFE chapters nationwide.

The Vienna chapter hosts speeches from state and local officials as well as those running for specific offices. NARFE officers from state and national organizations address issues of interest to those retired as well as the general public. Musical programs, talks and discussions about home and garden maintenance as well as historical and cultural issues add variety to the meetings.

Currently, the Vienna chapter has 668 members under the leadership of president Ginger King and first vice-president "Van" Van Huizen. The chapter prides itself on approaching all issues in a realistic and humanitarian manner. Its members have worked tirelessly for the benefits of federal retirees and all elderly, cooperating with local, state, and federal agencies to do so. Members assist shut-in seniors and provide convenience items and comfort to those in retirement homes. On a national level, NARFE contributes to Alzheimer's research and sponsors a college scholarship program.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to congratulate NARFE Chapter 1116 on 35 years of success. They have become a strong organization committed to serving the interests of their members and their community. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding the chapter members' past accomplishments and in wishing Chapter 1116 the best of luck in the many years to come.

### TRIBUTE TO JEREMY WARINER

### HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 9, 2004*

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and celebrate Jeremy Wariner, of Grand Prairie, Texas, in his success in these past Olympic Games in Athens, Greece. Jeremy won the Gold in the Men's 400 meter run with a time of 44.00, the fastest time in the world this year. He also captured a gold medal in the 4x400 relay competition. At the 2004 NCAA Indoor Championships, Wariner, a junior at Baylor University, won the 400m with a time of 45.39 seconds and won an NCAA title with the 4x400m relay team. His remarkable performance brought tremendous accolade to America, and we thank him.

Jeremy exemplifies the spirit of an Olympic champion, and I am so proud to recognize him here today, as a Texan, an American and a gold medal champion.

### GARRETT LEE SMITH MEMORIAL ACT

SPEECH OF

### HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 8, 2004*

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, today I will vote against legislation that would create federally funded youth suicide early intervention, prevention, and treatment programs authorized at \$82 million over three years.

At a time when we have the largest deficit spending in history, I'm reluctant to start yet another federal program. Additionally, the states that are having problems, rather than the federal government, should be making the decisions of how much help and what kind of help should be initiated to reduce the problem of youth suicide.

### FREEDOM FOR FÉLIX NAVARRO RODRÍGUEZ

### HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 9, 2004*

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Félix Navarro Rodríguez, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Navarro Rodríguez is a member of the Democratic Solidarity Party and an independent journalist. He was also a school headmaster before he was fired by the totalitarian regime that mandates propaganda in place of truth. As a teacher who was trained to mold young minds, Mr. Navarro Rodríguez could no longer abide the practice of teaching lies and spreading deceit. After being fired for his beliefs, Mr. Navarro Rodríguez became a peaceful pro-democracy activist, focusing his energies on writing and reporting on the true nature of the totalitarian dictatorship.

According to Amnesty International, Mr. Navarro Rodríguez has been subjected to harassment and detention for his pro-democracy activities since at least 1992. In November 1996 he was questioned by regime thugs for allegedly not paying union dues and having a copy of the newspaper "El Nuevo Herald" at his work. It has also been reported that he was detained in November 1999 and September 2001 for participating in a commemoration for two political prisoners who perished in Castro's gulag.

In March 2003, as part of the tyrant's crack-down on peaceful pro-democracy activists, Mr. Navarro Rodríguez was arrested. In a sham trial, he was convicted on activities that included, "among other things, leaflets and literature; the latter was proved by the confiscation of aggressive and corrosive writings and printed material from his house." This sham trial resulted in Mr. Navarro Rodríguez being sentenced to 25 years in the abhorrent totalitarian gulag.

Just a few weeks ago, Mr. Navarro Rodríguez was able to send a message of strong support for President Bush's Cuba policy initiatives from his cell in the totalitarian gulag. In that cell, Félix Navarro Rodríguez personifies the heroism and perseverance of the Cuban people and their admirable commitment to see freedom reign in Cuba.

Let me be clear, Mr. Navarro Rodríguez is locked in sub-human conditions for writing and owning printed materials that contain facts and truth. Simply because he does not subscribe to the lies and propaganda forced upon the nation of Cuba by the communist tyrant, he is locked in a dank dungeon.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Navarro Rodríguez is languishing in the repulsive squalor of the tyrant's gulag because he believes in truth and freedom. It is detestable that at the dawn of the 21st century, and a mere 90 miles from our shore, honorable men and women are imprisoned in repugnant gulags for believing that all men have an inherent right to live in freedom. My Colleagues, we must demand the immediate release of Félix Navarro Rodríguez and every prisoner of conscience in totalitarian Cuba.

### IN RECOGNITION OF ALEXANDER CITY ALL-STARS

### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 9, 2004*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to a group of young people in my Congressional district from Alexander City, Alabama.

On July 19, 2004, the Alexander City All-Stars traveled to Atmore and won their second straight state baseball championship. I am particularly proud of these talented young people for their accomplishments, and especially proud to note the team's unique accomplishment of winning back-to-back state titles.

The names of the youths who earned this achievement are as follows: Trey Bennett, Griff Gordon, Dylan Johnson, Larry Kemp, Douglas Kimbrough, Thomas Lutz, Elliot Mahan, Clay Phillips, Timothy Phurrough, Luke Smith, Gage Whiteard, and Levi Wilson. Their coach is Marlin Smith.

As the House goes about its business today, let us remember these gifted young people for their accomplishments, and congratulate them on this remarkable and memorable occasion. They are indeed All Stars for our community, and I am proud to acknowledge them in the House today.

### IN REMEMBRANCE OF JOHN WALKER

### HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 9, 2004*

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I want to take a moment to express my sorrow for the passing of a dear personal friend and pillar of the community in southeast Texas and Gulf Coast, Mr. John Walker. John passed away suddenly this past weekend, leaving many of