

COMMENDING DICK STRAHM

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 2004

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend to the attention of the U.S. House of Representatives the achievements of Dick Strahm, a great football coach, civic figure, and role model for our young people.

Dick Strahm's accomplishments as the head football coach at the University of Findlay were formally recognized in August when he was inducted into the National Football Foundation College Hall of Fame in South Bend, Indiana.

Simply put, Dick Strahm is Findlay football. In his 24 years as head coach for the Findlay Oilers, he compiled a record of 183–64–5 that included four National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) championships. His fourth and final national title came in 1997 when the Oilers were a perfect 14–0. During one remarkable ten-year run, his teams won nine Hoosier-Buckeye Conference championships. The team's record in the 1990s was the best in the country for NAIA schools.

Dick is a 12-time NAIA District 22 Coach of the Year and four-time National Coach of the Year. With his induction into the National Football Foundation Hall of Fame, he joins such coaching legends as Woody Hayes, Knute Rockne, and Amos Alonzo Stagg.

But while my hometown of Findlay is proud of Dick Strahm's record on the football field, it has even greater respect for the influence that he has had on the lives of the young men in his program and in his community.

Because they do not receive athletic scholarships, those who attend NAIA schools truly are students first and athletes second. Dick Strahm always recognized that. He insisted that his players be as diligent in the classroom as they were on the field. By teaching the importance of commitment, discipline, and perseverance, Dick Strahm has prepared countless young men to become successful businessmen, public servants, and husbands and fathers.

Dick Strahm will be honored at a dinner at the University of Findlay on Saturday, September 25. Findlay continues to look to Coach Strahm for advice and guidance. We are glad that the nation now knows what we've known all along: our community is blessed to have such a great teacher and leader in our midst.

RECOGNIZING DR. LINDA
PENDERGAST

HON. CHRISTOPHER JOHN

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 2004

Mr. JOHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Linda Pendergast from Baton Rouge, Louisiana—my nominee for the 2004 Angels in Adoption Award.

Dr. Pendergast is a reunited birthmother who has devoted a large part of her life in volunteer service to the adoption community of Louisiana. As a member of the Catholic Community Services Adoption Advisory Board, she has provided prenatal education and support

to pregnant teens in residence at Sanctuary House, a ministry of Catholic Services in Baton Rouge. She also has conducted behavioral/temperament assessments of infants placed for adoption through Catholic Community Services as a post-adoption strategy to foster family cohesiveness, parental satisfaction with the parenting role and optimal infant development.

Dr. Pendergast is a coordinator and facilitator of a search and support group for adult adoptees, birthparents, and adoptive parents. She also serves as an advisor to Louisiana Adoption Advocates—a legislative group dedicated to adoption reform. A member of the Louisiana Adoption Advisory Bd. Inc., Dr. Pendergast has served 4 years as Board secretary and is in her second term as Vice Chair in addition to numerous other involvements in scholarship and volunteer programs.

Her fight for Louisiana's children is a personal one. The happiness of her reunited family is a bright example of her commitment. It is individuals like Dr. Pendergast and her colleagues on the Louisiana Adoption Advisory Board who are truly making a difference in our communities.

This week the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute is honoring Linda and hundreds of devoted volunteers like her in ceremonies in Washington, DC. I am proud to honor Dr. Pendergast as one of Louisiana's Angels in Adoption.

HONORING HAWTHORNE POLICE
CHIEF JOHN L. SHANNON, JR.

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 2004

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Police Chief John L. Shannon, Jr. of Hawthorne, New Jersey. Chief Shannon retires at the end of September, concluding a nearly 36 year career in law enforcement. In fact, Chief Shannon has spent much of his life bravely serving our country—first as a decorated soldier in the United States Air Force stationed in Vietnam and later as a committed member and leader of Hawthorne's Police Force. I commend Chief Shannon for his dedication to our nation and its ideals of justice and freedom, both at home and abroad; Chief Shannon's lifetime of service is befitting a true patriot.

Since first joining the Hawthorne Police Department in 1968, and with each position he has held between Patrolman and Police Chief, Chief Shannon has continually worked to improve the safety and quality of life for Hawthorne residents by involving them in Police Department decisions and programs. Chief Shannon was a leader in the development of the Cops in Schools program in Hawthorne to ensure that, while in school, students can concentrate on achievement and not be distracted by concerns for their safety. He established a School Emergency Response Plan, implemented a Junior Police Academy, created a traffic unit to focus on motorcycles and drunk and aggressive driving, and worked with seniors and business owners to create targeted crime prevention programs. Chief Shannon introduced the community policing concept to

Hawthorne and thus encouraged residents and police to work together to improve their shared community.

Judging by the unanimous vote that allowed Chief Shannon to serve for 3 terms as the President of the Passaic County Chiefs Association, his Vice Presidency and role as State Delegate of the Hawthorne PBA Local 200, and his membership in the New Jersey, National and International Police Chiefs Associations, Chief Shannon is clearly admired and respected by his peers. The impact of his leadership will be seen for years to come in Hawthorne and Passaic County.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chief Shannon for his estimable service and wish him well in his much deserved retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF CAROLE
WOOD, A 2004 RECIPIENT OF THE
MARY PHILBROOK PUBLIC IN-
TEREST AWARD

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 2004

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Carole Wood as a 2004 recipient of the Mary Philbrook Public Interest Award. This award is given annually by the Women's Law Caucus and the Association for Public Interest Law, in cooperation with the Rutgers University Law School and its Alumni Association, to acknowledge gifted, dedicated individuals who contribute outstanding work on behalf of social justice and equality.

Ms. Wood currently serves as the Immigration Coordinator at the Camden Center for Law and Social Justice. She has spent much of her career as a devoted advocate for indigent immigrants, beginning first with her work as a VISTA volunteer following her graduation from Chicago-Kent College of Law. From there, she went on to serve as supervising immigration attorney at Community Legal Services in Philadelphia, where she not only represented clients, but also trained attorneys and assisted community groups in their efforts. In addition to her current role at the Camden Center, which includes working with clients, training attorneys, and supervising students at the Rutgers Immigration Pro Bono Project, Ms. Wood is the Southern Regional Coordinator for the New Jersey Immigration Policy Network and the regional representative on statewide committees, a Lead Trainer for the Immigrant Legal Resource Center, an extremely active member in the National Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC), and a member of the Diocese of Camden's Racial Justice Committee.

I have also had the honor and privilege of working with Ms. Wood personally. She has proved extremely responsive in the context of emergency constituent cases with which my district office has dealt and has been more than willing to share her vast knowledge of immigration law with my staff in their efforts to aid my constituents. Additionally, over the past several years, she has proved invaluable in her efforts to assist my district office with the process of restructuring our immigration case-work system. She has devoted considerable time to reviewing our existing system and meeting with the relevant staff in my office to

modify the casework procedures to meet the new standards of the United States Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services. Her suggestions and expertise were also instrumental in assisting my efforts to dramatically expand the BCIS presence in South Jersey; now, individuals needing the agency's services do not have to travel long distances to other parts of the state to have access to them. It is this dedication and assistance on the part of Ms. Wood that demonstrated to me why she was worthy of my personal nomination for this award.

Mary Philbrook, for whom the award is named, was the first woman admitted to the New Jersey Bar and a founder of the state's first statewide legal aid society, as well as an eminent leader in the efforts for women's suffrage and the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment. It is in this tradition that the award is given each year, and it is clear that Ms. Woods' work has made her more than worthy of this recognition. She truly has demonstrated the difference that one person can make in the lives of others, and I offer her my congratulations and best wishes in her future endeavors.

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING
WILLIAM DAVID THARP

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 2004

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, William David Tharp has devoted himself to serving others through his membership in the Boy Scouts of America; and

Whereas, William David Tharp has shared his time and talent with the community in which he resides; and

Whereas, William David Tharp has demonstrated a commitment to meet challenges with enthusiasm, confidence and outstanding service; and

Whereas, William David Tharp must be commended for the hard work and dedication he put forth in earning the Eagle Scout Award;

Therefore, I join with William's Boy Scout Troup and his family and friends in congratulating William David Tharp as he receives the Eagle Scout Award.

HONORING SISTER M. SAMUEL
CONLAN

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 2004

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sister M. Samuel Conlan, who died July 11, 2004, at the age of 77. Sister Samuel served Dominican University of California in San Rafael in many capacities, including president, for many years. Her association with the school dates back to 1944 when she enrolled as a freshman.

Sister Samuel was born Patricia Conlan in 1927 and took the name of her father, Samuel Leo Conlan Jr., when she entered the religious life with the Dominican Sisters of San Rafael in 1949. She taught for five years while

earning a master's degree in English literature from Catholic University of America, then joined the faculty as an English professor. In 1963, she earned her doctorate from Stanford University.

From 1968 to 1980 she served Dominican University as dean of students, academic dean, and eventually president. She is remembered for admitting male undergraduates to the all-girls college during her tenure, but to all who knew her, her contributions were so much greater. She inspired by bringing out the best in people, teaching by her example of faith and service. Her community work, which earned her an induction into the Marin County Women's Hall of Fame in 1995, included championing the needs of children in special education.

Retired from teaching in 1997, Sister Samuel continued to serve Dominican University in various capacities until her death, including fundraising for a new chapel to be built on the campus.

Mr. Speaker, Sister Samuel was a mentor and role model to generations of students and friends. Her guiding light will be missed in our community even as we know her spirit lives on in so many around the world.

RECOGNIZING MARILYN HURT

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 2004

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the good works of Marilyn Hurt, who has served as supervisor of the School Nutrition Program for the school district of La Crosse, Wisconsin for 27 years. Mrs. Hurt has been dedicated to improving the lives of children and child nutrition, and I would like to thank her for all her hard work upon her retirement.

Over the years, Marilyn has been an active member on numerous community boards, including the American School Food Service Association and the Wisconsin School Food Service Association. Marilyn has found good public policy to be her passion, which she has illustrated by serving as a legislative chair on Wisconsin's executive board, six times, and, in 1984, she was appointed as regional Representative on ASFSA's public policy and legislative committee. Further, in July of 2000, Marilyn was installed as president of ASFSA. To better serve her community, she was mayor of Dakota, Minnesota for two terms, participates in rotary international, and is part of the La Crosse area hunger task force.

Her relentless commitment to improving the lives of those around her has earned Marilyn several honors. In 1994, she was the first recipient of the WSFSA Director of the year award. The Massachusetts school food service association selected Marilyn to receive the Thomas O'Hearn award, and most recently, she was the recipient of the prestigious silver plate award, bestowed by the International Food Service Manufacturers Association in 2000.

Marilyn has nourished the lives of countless children, and I am proud to have had the opportunity to have worked with such a committed and devoted person. Marilyn's dedication has satisfied more than the grumbling

stomachs of young children. Her efforts have improved the food service program in numerous schools across Wisconsin.

Marilyn has played an instrumental role in the lives of children and their families and her selfless desire to improve the nutrition of children will be remembered not only by the children who walked through the lunch line every day, but by the entire La Crosse community. She will be missed, and we are grateful for the work she has done over the past 27 years.

PILOT POINT SELECTED AS A
PRESERVE AMERICA COMMUNITY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 2004

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to rise today to recognize the Town of Pilot Point, Texas as a Preserve America Community. Pilot Point, located in my North Texas District, was one of 26 Texas cities to receive this prestigious designation.

The Preserve America Community program recognizes communities for their dedication to protecting and celebrating America's cultural heritage; for using their historic assets for increased economic growth and community revitalization; and for promoting history education and historical tourism.

The Preserve America Community program is part of the White House's Preserve America Initiative. This initiative is dedicated to preserving our country's heritage, increasing awareness of what as well as who we are as a nation, and keeping our legacy enhanced, and intact, for future generations. Since the formation of the program, First Lady Laura Bush has recognized more than 100 communities with the Preserve America honor.

Other components of the program include a History Teacher of the Year Award, educational outreach, and grants to assist communities in preserving their cultural and natural resources.

I would like to commend Mayor Jerry Alford and the City Council, as well as all those who participated in the Main Street project, for this distinction.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 2004

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday September 21, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall votes that day.

Had I been present I would have voted the following:

Rollcall 457, on the Van Hollen amendment prohibiting any funds in H.R. 5025—Transportation, Treasury, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act for FY 2005, from being used to implement the administration's "OMB Circular A-76" contracting out/privatization initiative, I would have voted "yea", rollcall 458, on the Sanders-Miller amendment prohibiting funds in H.R. 5025 from being used to overturn a 2003 judicial ruling, which held that cash-balance pension conversions violate anti-