

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE KIMBERTON FIRE COMPANY ON THEIR 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 2004

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Kimberton Fire Company of Kimberton, Pennsylvania on the occasion of their 75th Anniversary.

The Kimberton Fire Company began back in 1929 when a group of community leaders came together to discuss the need for a local fire company to protect the community and its vicinity from the inherent danger of fire. On February 5, 1929, the first officers were elected by the newly formed membership. At that time, they also voted to purchase one 1917 Brockway Combination Chemical and Hose Car for \$300. These steps led to the Kimberton Fire Company's official incorporation three months later in May of 1929.

In May 1936, right after the Company purchased their first new fire apparatus, the Hale Pumper, fire broke out in the Kimberton firehouse. While the firehouse was completely destroyed, firefighters were able to save the pumper and were able to utilize their new equipment to extinguish the fire.

Today, the Kimberton Fire Company has a fleet of twelve emergency vehicles. This fleet has the capability to meet the needs of the Kimberton community that is comprised of six municipalities and covers over 32 square miles. The area protected by the Kimberton Fire Company ranges from the farmland to small towns and suburban developments.

Not only does the Kimberton Fire Company provide outstanding rescue and fire services, they also provide exemplary community service. The members of the Kimberton Fire Company serve as members of the Tanker Task Force and the State Forest Fire Crew. The Kimberton Fire Company is also the area's Emergency Operations Center and an evacuation center. Meeting space is provided at the firehouse for the Boy Scouts and for other groups such as Exploring and Venture group. The firehouse also opens its doors and hosts fundraisers and other community events. The Kimberton Fire Company believes strongly in investing in the youth of the community because they believe that today's youth will provide for a more improved community in the future. The Kimberton Fire Company is well-known for its fire and rescue teams, and also for being actively responsive to the unique needs of the Kimberton community. Lifelong friendships and solid community partnerships have been made and the Kimberton Fire Company is prominent in establishing and maintaining these local bonds.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today is congratulating the Kimberton Fire Company for its dedication and service to the Kimberton area community. It is an honor to recognize the Kimberton Fire Company for its 75 years of tremendous service to the people.

CONGRATULATING RECIPIENTS OF THE 2004 HENRY B. GONZALEZ AWARDS

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 2004

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Hispanic citizens from the 9th District of Texas being honored September 25, 2004 for their work in the community. While the dedication of Hispanic leaders is well-known throughout the United States, local citizens, right here in the Southeast Gulf Coast region, are just as important to ensuring equal rights and economic progress for all Texans.

Each year, I ask members of the communities in the 9th District to nominate individuals for the Henry B. Gonzalez Latino Leadership Award. This award, named in honor of the late Congressman Henry B. Gonzalez, gives special recognition to those who have worked selflessly, often without recognition, and made contributions both in the Hispanic community and the broader community as well. Recipients were chosen because their spirit of giving and sharing spirit makes a substantial contribution to our community and inspires others to do the same.

While their efforts may not make the headlines every day, the recipients' service and dedication to our country is nevertheless vital to our entire region. Southeast Texas is not successful in spite of our diversity, but rather successful because of it.

Please join me in recognizing and congratulating these leaders for their work an commitment to their communities and to southeast Texas. It is leaders like these men and women that continue to be a source of pride for Texas. The winners of this years Henry B. Gonzalez Latino Leadership Award are: Mrs. Sabrina Vrooman, Mr. Joe Hernandez, Mr. Albert Seguin, Mr. Manuel Escontrias, Mr. Hipolito Acosta, Mr. Carlos Lopez, and Mrs. Maria Barrios de Estrello.

Mr. Speaker, the recipients of the Henry B. Gonzalez Award are dedicated and hard-working individuals who have done so much for their neighbors and for this Nation as a whole. Today, I stand to recognize their spirit and to say that I am honored to be their Representative.

HONORING JOHN W. ROWE

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 2004

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to John W. Rowe of Chicago on being honored by the American Jewish Committee for his continued civic leadership in our city.

For almost 100 years the American Jewish Committee has maintained its mission of pro-

moting a world in which all are accorded the same civic treatment, promoting minority protection in democratic societies, and fighting against anti-Semitism.

Chairman and CEO of the Exelon Corporation, John W. Rowe is a person of great leadership who shares this same mission. By establishing the Exelon Corporation as one of Chicago's premier philanthropic and civically mindful corporations, he has consistently displayed excellent leadership and humanitarianism.

Mr. Rowe is chairman and CEO of the Exelon Corporation which was formed October 2000 by way of a corporate merging of the Unicorn Corporation and PECO Energy. Exelon, with some 5 million customers and annual revenues more than \$15 billion, is one of the Nation's largest electric utilities.

Mr. Rowe also has a history of exemplifying great leadership through his previous work as chairman president, and CEO of the Unicom Corporation and Commonwealth Edison, as well as president and CEO of NEES, and president and CEO of Central Maine Power Company.

The past recognition Mr. Rowe has received is a testimony to his continued commitment to human rights. In 2002, Mr. Rowe was honored as the Citizen of the Year by the City Club of Chicago for his active responses to important environmental issues. In 2003, Mr. Rowe was awarded El Valor Corporation's Corporate Visionary Award, which honors corporate leaders for their vision and resolution for providing opportunities to all people. In May 2002, he was honored with the Corporate Leadership Award from the Spanish Coalition for Jobs for his outstanding civic commitment and contributions to the Latino community. In 2000, he was also the recipient of the Anti-Defamation League's "A World of Difference" award for his commitment to the promotion of civil rights through fighting discrimination, prejudice, and bigotry.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend John W. Rowe for his great leadership in our community and congratulate him on his well deserved Civic Leadership Award.

HONORING BARBARA VOLPE

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 2004

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the distinguished service of Ms. Barbara Volpe, President of the Public Education & Business Coalition (PEBC) in Denver, Colorado.

Ms. Volpe has been working with the PEBC for 15 years. Under her leadership the organization has tripled its size and developed an outstanding national reputation. With Ms. Volpe's steady guidance the PEBC has successfully completed a merger between two

• 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.

non-profits, assembled a high-caliber, professional staff, and created extraordinary initiatives such as the Boettcher Teachers Program.

Sadly, Ms. Volpe has decided that the time has come for her to leave the PEBC. Her dedication and commitment to her community serve as an inspiration to others in the field.

I ask my colleagues today to join me in thanking Ms. Barbara Volpe for her outstanding leadership and service. She certainly deserves our utmost appreciation. Her presence at PEBC will surely be missed.

TRIBUTE TO PRIVATE FIRST
CLASS RYAN MARTIN

HON. RALPH REGULA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 2004

Mr. REGULA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a committed soldier and citizen from the 16th District of Ohio who died protecting our Nation. Private First Class Ryan Martin died when a bomb exploded while he was on a mine clearing mission with the 216th Engineering Battalion of the Ohio National Guard.

A graduate of Mount Vernon High School and of the carpentry program at the Knox County Career Center in Mount Vernon, Ohio, Pfc. Martin enjoyed fishing and working on cars and had a tremendous sense of humor. After his tour, he planned to either operate heavy equipment or help his father on the family farm.

Pfc. Ryan acted as vital part of his unit in Iraq, often volunteering for dangerous missions. His bravery and service were an inspiration to his fellow soldiers and to us all. Ryan embodied all that is great about our Nation. Without young men and women like him, our Nation would fall.

I send my most heartfelt prayers and sympathies to his family and friends. I pray for the homecoming of all of our service men and women and remember them as they continue to defend our freedom at home and abroad.

IN HONOR OF PVT RYAN MICHAEL
MCCAULEY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 2004

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Pvt Ryan Michael McCauley, who was killed while defending our Nation on September 5, 2004 in Sadr City, Iraq.

For the past year, Private McCauley has rendered faithful, conscientious, and valuable services to the U.S. Army and to the United States of America. Private McCauley will be remembered for his commendable service and dedication to this great Nation.

Private McCauley was a native of Lewisville, TX and a recent graduate of Lewisville High School. At Lewisville High the future soldier was an amiable and trustworthy student, who left behind many close friends. On September 11, family, friends, students, and school administration attended a ceremony at the school in tribute to their former classmate and fallen soldier.

Private McCauley joined the Army after graduating in 2002 where he faithfully served our Nation in the 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry regiment, 1st Cavalry Division.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family and friends of this young American hero.

HONORING HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
OF CHESTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 2004

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Habitat for Humanity of Chester County, Pennsylvania's 15th Anniversary. For fifteen years, they have provided basic, well-built, affordable housing for low-income families and for those in need. Habitat for Humanity has made countless contributions to our community and, for that, they should be commended.

Habitat for Humanity is an organization that not only builds homes, but it also builds hope for those less fortunate. In turn, it gives those people in need a sense of dignity and of independence. This program is known for developing partnerships within the community and for its involvement in the promotion of Christian values. This great organization is led and sustained by volunteers of all faiths and it prides itself on serving all low-income families regardless of race, religion, culture, or gender.

Habitat for Humanity of Chester County began operations in 1986 as a part of the Greater Philadelphia Habitat for Humanity. Shortly afterwards in 1988, Chester County became a separate affiliate after completing its first home. Today, Habitat for Humanity of Chester County is one of six affiliates in the Delaware Valley and one of 1,600 United States affiliates of Habitat for Humanity International.

Since 1988, Habitat for Humanity Chester County has built 58 homes and refurbished an additional seven properties in the area. In 2003, the organization began construction on eleven new homes in Chester County. Eight of these homes will be located in the city of Coatesville and three in the borough of Phoenixville, Pennsylvania.

Volunteers from the community are a vitally important part of Habitat for Humanity. In 2000 alone, community volunteers in Chester County, Pennsylvania contributed more than 25,000 hours of work on the homes for those less fortunate. Habitat for Humanity brings volunteers and future homeowners in the community together in a positive and productive fashion, putting a face and a name on the issue of affordable housing.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing the outstanding contributions that Habitat for Humanity has made not only in Chester County, Pennsylvania, but for their service to the needy throughout the world.

TRIBUTE TO MARTHA PENNINO

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 2004

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, on September 17, Fairfax County, Virginia lost one of its most important and influential citizens when Martha Pennino, known as "Mother Fairfax", passed away. Through her leadership, Mrs. Pennino helped oversee the development of Fairfax County into one of the most successful jurisdictions in the Nation.

From 1968 to 1991 Martha Pennino served on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, including 17 years as the Vice Chairman. As the representative of the Centreville District, Mrs. Pennino worked tirelessly for her constituents. During her tenure she was involved in most of the major decisions affecting the County, and was instrumental in seeing Reston develop into a successful planned community. Her work also saw the development of projects including the Dulles Toll Road, South Lakes High School, and the Reston Regional Library. She helped create a sense of community for all those living in her district.

Martha Pennino will best be remembered by the citizens of Fairfax County for her commitment to the poor and homeless in her community. She opened her office at night for people without a home and provided them a bed and a warm place to rest. She created a homeless shelter in her district and ensured that with the enormous development occurring in Fairfax County there would be low-cost housing options for those who needed it. Martha Pennino also helped establish the Fairfax County Human Rights Commission to help fight discrimination throughout the County. While Fairfax County grew, she wanted to ensure that every person could be a part of this vibrant community.

In honor of her work to help all the residents of Fairfax County and for being an instrumental part in the growth of the County, I ask that the Reston Post Office be named after Martha Pennino. It is imperative that we honor and remember this remarkable woman.

HONORING CONTINENTAL NATIONAL BANK FOR 30 YEARS OF
FINANCIAL SERVICE TO THE
SOUTH FLORIDA COMMUNITY

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 2004

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Continental National Bank of Miami on their 30th anniversary of operations. Continental National Bank is an established and trusted institution that serves the financial needs of my community.

Continental National Bank was established in 1974 and was the first Cuban-American owned national bank chartered in the United States. It is a full service community bank with six branches in Miami, Hialeah and Sweetwater. The bank offers a variety of personal and commercial services, including residential mortgage lending, small builder construction financing, and online banking services.