

HONORING THE LIFE OF ESTHER
"KITTY" BUHLER BRADLEY

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2004

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of the late Mrs. Esther "Kitty" Buhler Bradley, widow of General Omar N. Bradley, the last five-star general of the U.S. Army.

Mrs. Bradley was born in New York City and graduated from Manhattan Business College. In the late 1940s, she took a U.S. Government job in Japan and also began freelance writing for the military newspaper Stars & Stripes and the news service United Press. While on an assignment for the United Press in Okinawa, she first met General Bradley. She soon developed a close relationship with General Bradley and secured the rights to his life story, which she hoped to turn into a motion picture.

Upon returning to the United States in the 1950s, Mrs. Bradley found work as a film and television writer under the name Kitty Buhler. Some of her most notable projects were the 1958 Victor Mature film, "China Doll," and two television production series, "The 20th Century Fox Hour" and "My Three Sons."

In 1966, following the death of General Bradley's first wife, Mrs. Bradley and General Bradley were reunited, then married in San Diego.

Although Mrs. Bradley never realized her dream of taking her husband's life story to the big screen, parts of General Bradley's career were chronicled in the 1970 "Patton," starring George C. Scott as General George Patton and Karl Malden as General Bradley. The couple worked closely together, assisting in the making of the film.

For nearly 15 years, the Bradleys lived happily together. Mrs. Bradley not only was a loving wife to the highly respected and admired five-star general but also a successful freelance writer and screenwriter in her own right.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to pay tribute to the life and work of Mrs. Bradley and express my deepest condolences to all who knew and loved her.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
HELIAS HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING
CRUSADERS

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2004

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that the Helias High School Marching Crusaders from Jefferson City, Missouri, have earned first place honors in the SBC/Cotton Bowl's band competition.

Under the direction of Ray Cardwell, the students placed first for middle-sized schools in the field competition, parade and jazz band categories.

Mr. Speaker, the Helias High School Marching Crusaders represented their school and their State with honor and distinction. I am certain that the Members of the House will join me in congratulating them on their fine performance.

TRIBUTE TO BROWNIE TROOP 139
OF SOUTH HAVEN, MICHIGAN

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2004

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the girls of Brownie Troop 139 of South Haven, Michigan, who have over the last few months sent numerous care packages to our troops serving in Iraq. These young ladies have shown remarkable dedication and devotion to our troops, and I am confident that this great project has been received with gratitude and appreciation from those overseas.

Since the troop began their project, they have collected more than \$1,200 worth of items totaling 345 pounds. Some of the items these generous girls have sent include granola bars, playing cards, batteries, hand lotion, boot laces, and of course Girl Scout cookies. Over the holidays, the girls put together special packages to give our troops a sense of home.

Brownie Troop 139 is comprised of Jeanne Lyon, leader of Troop 139; Marilyn Shaefer, co-leader; Stephanie Balke; Maggie Filbrandt; Jessica Overholser; Hannah Lyon; Shelby Murphy; Erin Cooper; and Lauren Montgomery. The magnificent work this troop has done to encourage morale and give support to our troops has been inspiring. It greatly pleases me to honor the great charity these girls have done, and I find their patriotism and selflessness to be deeply moving.

PROTESTING THE U.N. GENERAL
ASSEMBLY'S DECISION TO RULE
ON THE LEGALITY OF ISRAEL'S
SECURITY FENCE

HON. JO ANN DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2004

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to protest the U.N. General Assembly's decision to rule on the legality of Israel's security fence.

I have just recently returned from Israel, where I had the opportunity to see firsthand the issues surrounding the security fence. Simply stated, Mr. Speaker, the purpose behind this temporary fence is to protect the Israeli people from suicide bombers and terrorists in a region marked by violence and instability.

However, the issue here today is not the lawfulness of Israel's security fence. It is the appropriateness of bringing such a complicated and political issue before the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in an unbalanced manner.

I am encouraged by the administration's support for Israel before the court and agree that such proceedings could undermine the negotiations already under way between Israel and the Palestinian Authority. I encourage Congress to join the administration in sending a strong message to the U.N. opposing this anti-Israel decision.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING
BYRON SPENCER PETERSEN

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2004

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, Matt and Wendy Petersen are celebrating the birth of their son, Byron Spencer Petersen; and

Whereas, Byron Spencer was born on the 16th day of February, 2004, and weighed 9 pounds and 6 ounces; and

Whereas, the Petersens have all occasion to celebrate with friends and family as they welcome Byron Spencer into their family;

Therefore, I join with the Members of Congress and their staff in congratulating Matt and Wendy Petersen and wishing Byron Spencer a very happy birthday.

RECOGNIZING JEAN E. SAWITZKY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2004

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jean E. Sawitzky. Jean will have completed 38 years of loyal and productive work for the United States Postal Service on February 29, 2004.

Jean Sawitzky began her outstanding career at the West Sacramento post office soon after graduating from high school. She worked her way up through the administrative ranks and has served as the Postmaster for Courtland and Clarksburg, California. In addition to running an efficient office, Jean's smile and superior customer service have marked her tenure. She will be missed.

Jean has also been a very active member of the West Sacramento and Delta communities, serving as a member and leader of numerous civic, church and community-service organizations.

In recent years she has become widely known for the quality and originality of her handmade quilts, and has been honored at the Yolo County and California State Fairs. Jean now teaches this craft to others in northern California.

We are confident that in her retirement years, Jean will find more time to invest in community service and her artistic endeavors. I want to thank Jean for her years of excellent service and wish her well in the active retirement years ahead.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize Jean E. Sawitzky for her contributions to her community and her service to our Nation.

RECOGNIZING SUE HOLMAN AND
SUSAN WEEKS

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2004

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two extraordinary women who have jointly been named the city

of Sonoma's 2004 Alcaldesas, or honorary mayors.

For more than 10 years, Sue Holman and Susan Weeks have volunteered countless hours to Sonoma Valley's Meals on Wheels program. They work 5 days a week preparing 2 gourmet meals for housebound residents. A typical weekly fare is pork chops in mushroom sauce, spicy lamb logs, linguini and clams, tamale pie and roast beef. Over the past 10 years, they calculate that they have prepared a quarter of a million meals.

In addition to all of the food preparation, they prepare the menus, shop for groceries, do all of the baking, maintain inventory control and supervise the 90 volunteers who package and deliver the food and assist in the kitchen.

They recognize that many of the people they serve live alone and try to make each day special. Each holiday has a theme meal, and each client receives a personalized present or two at Christmas of Hanukkah and on their birthday, plus a split of wine or champagne.

They are able to maintain a high quality of fare and bolster the spirits of the people they serve while running the only all-volunteer Meals on Wheels program in the State of California.

In recognition of their contributions, the city of Sonoma designated them "los dos Alcaldesas," following a 28-year-old tradition of selecting someone in the community who works selflessly on behalf of others. The Alcaldesa/Alcaldesa reflects the town's Spanish and Mexican heritage and the "honorary mayors" will preside at all ceremonial functions on behalf of the city.

Susan Weeks settled in Sonoma 18 years ago following an international career that took her to Jerusalem, South Africa and Washington, D.C. In addition to Meals on Wheels, she has also been active in public safety and infrastructure issues, and working with the Verano Springs Association and the Sonoma Valley Citizens Action Committee.

Sue Holman is a retired investment banker who has been in Sonoma 11 years. An animal lover, she was one of the driving forces in the establishment of Sonoma's only dog park.

Mr. Speaker, Susan Weeks and Sue Holman provide an invaluable service to their community, and it is appropriate that we honor them today as Sonoma, California's 2004 Dos Alcaldesas.

HONORING MR. AND MRS. JEREMY
AND ANN PAVA—SPRINGFIELD
COMMUNITY LEADERS IN SERVICE

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2004

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the contributions made by Mr. Jeremy Pava and Mrs. Ann Pava to the Jewish community. Over the courses of their lives, they have contributed greatly through both their service and generosity to the advancement of Jewish causes in New England.

Ann sits on the boards of both the Association of Modern Orthodox Day Schools at Yeshiva University as well as the Jewish Orthodox Feminist Alliance. She also serves as the

President of the Jewish Federation of Greater Springfield in Massachusetts. In 1999 Ms. Pava received this same Federation's Young Leadership Award.

Jeremy currently sits on the finance committee of the Heritage Academy and continues to serve as a trustee of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, as he has done since its inception. In the past, he has been the president of Congregation Kodimoh and the campaign chair for the Young Men's Division of the Jewish Federation of Greater Springfield. In 1999 he received the Kodimoh Brotherhood Humanitarian Award. At present, he also is a managing partner at Aspen Square Management, a real estate investment company in West Springfield.

Alone their actions are more than noteworthy, however, together they have given even more to the Jewish community. They are a founding family, and generous supporters, of the Hebrew High School of New England in West Hartford, which opened in 1996. Additionally, Ann was the founding President. HHNE is the only Jewish high school between New York and Boston, serving families from different observant backgrounds in Springfield, Hartford, and New Haven regardless of their financial situation.

This school has grown significantly since its inception in 1996. This burgeoning school is now pushing the limits of its current location, thanks in no small part to the work of Mr. and Mrs. Pava. They have both contributed immensely to the school's vitality and growth. As a result, they are to be honored at the Hebrew High School's first Annual Scholarship Dinner. The proceeds will go towards a new building to house the school, so that it may continue to grow and serve more members of the Jewish community in New England.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to pay tribute to two extraordinary people from the Springfield area. Their work for HHNE, Jewish education, and the Springfield community is commendable, and the standard they set for public service is outstanding. People, such as the Pavas, are what make Springfield such a wonderful place to live, and I am personally glad to share this city with them.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION EXTENSION ACT OF 2004
FEBRUARY 11, 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 2004

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, continuing my earlier statement, time is again running out in our effort to reauthorize our Federal highway, public transit, and transportation safety programs. The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA 21) expired on September 30, 2003, and Congress passed a 5-month extension, which expires on February 29. On September 24, during consideration of that extension bill, I stated: "I am afraid . . . we will be back here on this floor once again pleading for another extension of time to keep transportation programs from once again expiring. . . . I do not want to be back on this floor saying again what I said 6 years ago, time is running out."

Well, time is running out and we must again extend the programs. Why? Because ideology, not good policy, is driving this debate.

On November 19, 73 Members of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure introduced H.R. 3550, authorizing \$375 billion for the highway, transit, and transportation safety programs for the next six years. Today, the bill has 137 cosponsors. The Transportation and Infrastructure Committee was poised to mark up this legislation last week, but the Republican Leadership has delayed its consideration.

Despite the fact that the funding levels included in our bill were derived from the Department of Transportation's highway and transit needs report, the Administration strongly opposes additional infrastructure investment. Last week, the President submitted his Budget to Congress and it flat-lined the highway and transit programs, and did not include one additional dollar for highway and transit investment over the next 6 years.

Why? When our country's economic strength, improve business productivity, and our desire to create a safe, efficient transportation system are all dependent upon increasing investment in our Nation's infrastructure, why does the Administration oppose such investment? It cannot be because of any renewed Republican concern about the size of the deficit—the President proposes \$1.2 trillion of new tax breaks that, if enacted, would result in a total of \$3.2 trillion of new tax breaks, primarily targeted at the wealthiest Americans, since assuming office in 2001.

When this Administration and the Republican-led Congress have presided over an economy that has seen the number of unemployed workers increase by 2.4 million workers and the construction industry is suffering under a 9.3 percent unemployment rate, why does this Administration oppose infrastructure investment that its own Department of Transportation estimates will create 47,500 jobs and \$6.2 billion for every \$1 billion of Federal funds invested? I am sure that the 800,000 construction workers who look for work each month would gladly line up for the more than 1.7 million construction jobs this bill will create and sustain over the next six years, including 445,000 jobs this year alone.

Why? Because the Administration and some of the Republican Leadership would rather kneel at the altar of "no new gas taxes" than develop the policy necessary to invest in our Nation's infrastructure. A few days ago, in an interview, President Bush implied that the highway and transit programs were fueling the Federal budget deficit. Nothing could be further from the truth. Nearly all of the expenditures from these programs are funded by the Highway Trust Fund. The Trust Fund is financed by revenues from user fees. It is a "pay-as-you-go" program; outgoing expenditures are tied to incoming revenues; and the revenues may only be used for infrastructure investment.

The Trust Fund is a model of fiscal discipline. The Byrd Amendment serves as an anti-deficiency mechanism that prevents the Trust Fund from over-spending. This system of user fees has been well-tested by decades of experience. It provides a clear and unambiguous way to provide the revenues required to make the necessary improvements to the system.