

HONORING DAVE JARRETT FOR LIFETIME SERVICE TO VETERANS

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, November 20, 2004

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay public tribute to a remarkable individual from my home state of Kentucky. Dave Jarrett has been a longtime unsung hero in my congressional district as an advocate for veterans and mentor to countless young men and women considering enrollment in our Nation's military academies.

Dave demonstrated unusual courage and a selfless instinct to help others from an early age, graduating with distinction from the Naval Academy and serving our country honorably in the Vietnam war. This keen sense of duty and sacrifice was an early indication of his character, qualities that have made him a brilliant public servant in the years that have followed.

A disabled veteran himself, Dave volunteers generous amounts of time as District Commander of Disabled American Veterans, attending meetings and advising fellow veterans on benefit issues. He meets with veterans at the Hardin County Courthouse every Thursday to help them with the process of filing for veteran benefits. He also serves as a member of the Second Congressional District Military Academy Nomination Board and as a Blue and Gold officer for the U.S. Naval Academy.

As we pay tribute to our nation's veterans this week, I would like to recognize Mr. Jarrett, before the entire U.S. House of Representatives, for his lifelong example of leadership and service. His efforts, from Annapolis to Southeast Asia to Hardin County, make him an outstanding American, worthy of our collective respect and honor.

GERALD "SUBIYAY" MILLER RECEIVES HERITAGE FELLOWSHIP

HON. NORMAN D. DICKS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, November 20, 2004

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Speaker, on September 30, in the Cannon Caucus Room, I was privileged to present the National Endowment for the Arts' National Heritage Fellowship to my constituent, Gerald "Subiyay" Miller, from Shelton, Washington. The Heritage Fellowship is the highest honor our country gives to folk and traditional artists.

I could not be prouder of Subiyay. I am also proud of the National Endowment for the Arts for starting this program 25 years ago. And I am proud to live in perhaps the only country where such awards could be given—honoring traditions from our First Americans to cultures from every region of the world.

Mr. Speaker, in the night before the ceremony, Subiyay, gave a noble and moving closing to the banquet for the 2004 Heritage Fellows and their families. Just as he weaves his "story baskets", he wove some of the creation story of his people into his observations about the role of art in civilization. I would like to share his story with my colleagues.

AT THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS' NATIONAL HERITAGE FELLOWSHIP BANQUET IN THE GREAT HALL OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS—SEPTEMBER 29, 2004

Barry Bergey (NEA Director of Folk and Traditional Arts): I've asked Gerald Miller to go last. I think it's appropriate that we're in this Library, this great repository of learning, surrounded by so much knowledge. So many of the Native Americans Elders have retained that knowledge. You know the African proverb that "When an elder dies, it's like a library burning down."

We actually have two elders here. We have a previous National Heritage Fellowship recipient, Vi (Violet) Hilbert, sitting next to Gerald. [Applause] She received the award about 10 years ago for retaining her language and her stories.

Gerald, Subiyay as he is known in his language, Skokomish (Twana), was the last living speaker of that language. Now he has taught many young people. He hasn't taught them just the language. He has taught them the crafts, the music, the ceremonials, the use of regalia, the making of regalia.

I have asked him to come up and say a few words and, if he would, to sing a song—a blessing song—for us to end the evening.

Please make welcome Subiyay. [Applause]

Gerald (Subiyay) Miller [Strong, measured, gravely voice]: In the beginning of time the humans were given the first gift. It was gifted to us before language. It was a gift before all other things. It was the gift of the drum. And its sound was the heartbeat of our mother. As unborn infants, we heard it as we grew in her body; giving us all the rhythm of life, the rhythm of the teachings and the beliefs that we would follow. The drum is an important part of most cultures of the world. We have many phrases that have to do with the rhythm of the drum. We for instance might walk to the beat of a different drum. The drum excites us. The drum soothes us. The drum puts us in step with one another with its beat.

The second gift to the human beings was the gift of song. And the song came before the spoken languages that we have as people on this earth. It was given to us by the bird people. It was given to us to express ourselves in the truest form of expression that we as human beings would ever have, the expression of song. Song allowed us to express every emotion that we as human beings would feel. Song is so important that many of our early cultures used it as a tool in teaching, because it causes something called subliminal implanting. If we sing a teaching, it will stay with for our entire life.

Long ago we sang the teachings of our ancestors. We are all born with a song—Our Spirit Song. From the moment we leave the womb of our Mothers our song is within us. We have songs that we call mood music. How many nations are there without a song or anthem? How many religions use song to express their hopes and convictions? We have songs to honor another year of life. We have songs for weddings. We express ourselves through song. And all of us, although we might acknowledge or not acknowledge ourselves as singers, when something wonderful happens, we feel like singing. It's the spirit of the songs that lives within all of us.

My elders say we are all born with a spirit song. Our children will prove it to us. As they learn to speak, they all sing little songs about their world; regardless of what culture we come from. If a song expresses our true emotions, we sing it.

The next gift that came was dance. We were also given dance before language. We were given dance to "tell the story"—to tell the story of our people. Song and dance are probably the oldest forms of art that we as

human beings have to this day. In my language the word dance means more than "get up and boogie." Dance is non-verbal. It is communication by gesticulation.

There's one dance that we can do with one finger and we all know what that gesture/dance means. We don't have to express it with words. We dance with the expressions of our faces. We dance with the gestures of our hands. We dance with the posture of our bodies. We dance with the tilt of our head. Children, even before they learn to speak, understand these dances. They see it in us as parents and as teachers. The power of dance will forever be with us.

Then came the spoken language. With language came the story of our People. With language came the gift of long memory. We were given language to carry the knowledge of our ancestors from the beginning of time to this very moment, in this room, and on into the future. The power of language contains the power of the story. We see in this room all the races of mankind represented. All of us started from a different trail at the beginning of time, we have conjoined here at a common spot, sharing this moment in time together. We sit here, our hearts beat together. We breathe the same air and we are enjoying each other's company. We eat together.

History would not exist if it were not for the artists. There are cultures all over the world that no longer exist. The important thing that they left behind was their art—writings on the rocks, artifacts, beautiful songs from the beginning of time. Some dances are thousands of years old. They are still alive, giving testimony to those who created these forms of art. All of us who are artists have had our mentors. We have our ancestors to thank for the gifts that we as humans were given—given to express our soul, and our hearts to the people. Art is a powerful form of expression. Our art tells our stories. And we, the artists, who are here can appreciate one another from that mutual understanding.

I want to extend my gratitude on receiving this award to all of our ancestors who left with us the gifts that we exhibit today; the gift of the song, the gift of the dance, the gift of the story and the gift of creativity. As long as we keep these traditional arts alive, we speak for our people.

I look at our sister artist Koko (blues musician Koko Taylor from Chicago) and know how her blues music moves me. I look at the family of puppeteers (Yuin Wang and Zhengli Xu from Aloha, Oregon) who carry on an art form over two thousand years old. I look at our sister here from India (Kathak dance Anjani Abegokar from Diamond Bar, California), carrying on an art form known to be at least four thousand years old. And because of her it lives and flourishes. Because there was someone who cared. There was someone who listened. There was someone who had a teacher.

For all of us who live, for all of us who are being recognized in this room, we honor those who had an influence on our life. Because now through our art form we speak for them.

Einstein said there are two kinds of knowledge, stored knowledge and living knowledge. Stored knowledge can be put in a book and set aside, and looked at later. But living knowledge has to be expressed, felt, spoken and demonstrated. There is no replacement for living knowledge. My grandfather told me that I could be anything that I wanted; and I believed him. He said our people became lazy when they learned how to write because they no longer relied on their memory and their personal discipline. They think that they can look it up in a book or listen to a tape recording. But the written word is

only a shadow of the spoken word. The written word can't facilitate the same feeling as the spoken word can.

To my first teacher I owe my beginning. My first teacher was my great grandmother who was born in 1861 and began my instruction in 1948. My most recent mentor is still living and that is taqH3blu (pron. tak say blue, Violet Hilbert) who I carry high in my heart. I know that the generations yet to come will be able to hear the knowledge that she has passed on to me.

We have a term in our language called gW3dZadad (pron. ha ku sadad). To us it is a form of wealth. It has nothing to do with monetary currency or material things. It's the wealth of the knowledge of our culture. It's something that cannot be bought. Something that many governments have tried to destroy within the various nations of the world. They burned libraries. Tortured and killed artists. But still we survive and speak for those original ancestors of our cultures. I want to thank the people who nominated me for this award. I never expected any acknowledgment for what I do in life. I merely look upon the things that I do as a personal responsibility to keep what I have alive for future generations.

Thank You.

At this time I would like a couple of my singers to come up. We are going to sing a song from our people called P3t ti scHalal (pron. put tee sha lal)

Way La Hey La
Wo oh ho oh hey

Way La Hey La
Wo oh ho oh hey

Way La Hey La
Wo oh ho oh hey

Way La Hey La
Wo oh ho oh hey

P3t ti scHalal tulasab3d d3xW (pron. put tee sha lal tu la saba du) (From the time of the first people down to this moment)

P3t ti scHalal tulasab3d d3xW (pron. put tee sha lal tu la saba du) (From the time of the first people down to this moment)

P3t ti scHalal tulasab3d d3xW (pron. put tee sha lal tu la saba du) (From the time of the first people down to this moment)

P3t ti scHalal tid shabu (pron. put tee sha lal tich shabu) (From the time of our ancestors comes our story)

We all live our own story. We all come from a different walk of life. But right here, tonight and right here in these next few days we will share the same story. For this moment in time we are brothers and sisters.

Thank you. [Applause]

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1350, INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 19, 2004

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Conference Report on H.R. 1350, the Improving Education Results for Children with Disabilities Act, IDEA, because it continues to protect the right of students with disabilities to receive a free and appropriate education. The very purpose of IDEA is to protect the civil rights of disabled students and I am pleased to see that my colleagues were able to remove the provisions in the House bill that undermined that purpose.

I have received many letters and phone calls from my constituents letting me know about the difference that IDEA has made for their children. One constituent wrote to me about her son, who has a form of autism, and how IDEA rights are helping him thrive for the first time in his life. Two other constituents of mine shared a story with me regarding their 12-year-old granddaughter, Veronica, and how IDEA allowed her to receive the proper attention she needed at an early stage in her schooling. Veronica has improved greatly since then and her needs are now met with minimal intervention.

This agreement goes a long way towards ensuring that IDEA will continue to benefit children with disabilities. For example, unlike in the House version of this bill, students will not be moved indefinitely to "alternative placements" for any violation of a school code of conduct—even if a child's disability is the cause of the specific behavior.

However, I would like to express my disappointment that this agreement still does not force us to live up to our funding promises for IDEA. Ever since IDEA's initial enactment in 1975, the law has included a commitment to pay 40 percent of the average per student cost for every special education student. The federal government currently pays for about 19 percent of the cost of educating a child with disabilities and at the current rate of increase we will never reach that promised level of funding.

The lack of funding for IDEA hurts students and it hurts schools. I urge my colleagues to join with me in voting for this conference report today, and then I urge them to join with me in fighting to make sure that we live up to our funding promises.

TRIBUTE TO HACKETTSTOWN COMMUNITY HOSPITAL IN HACKETTSTOWN, NJ

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, November 20, 2004

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for the opportunity to pay tribute to Hackettstown Community Hospital as a model of an exceptional healthcare resource serving the rapidly growing, multigenerational population of Warren County and the city of Hackettstown, NJ for over 30 years.

Hackettstown Community Hospital is taking steps to make the transition into a Regional Hospital Center in response to evolving health care needs of northwest New Jersey residents. Investments have been made to provide additional state-of-the-art technology and services essential in diagnosing and treating the two leading causes of death: cancer and heart disease.

Recent statistics show, the residents of Warren and Sussex counties have a higher cancer incidence rate than the rate for the entire state of New Jersey. Hackettstown Community Hospital's new Cancer Center will meet this critical demand for specialized cancer services, offering the area's first radiation oncology program and a new chemotherapy/infusion therapy center.

And with a substantial increase in the number of patients seeking cardiac care,

Hackettstown Community Hospital plans a new Low-Risk Cardiac Catheterization (Angiography) Laboratory offering its patients extensive diagnostic, treatment and rehabilitation services for patients with cardiac distress to long-term cardiovascular and cardiopulmonary illnesses.

I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in paying tribute to Hackettstown Community Hospital for the excellent care it provides for the citizens of northwest New Jersey and for its continued success in its efforts to become a leading Regional Hospital Center.

IN MEMORY OF CORPORAL NICHOLAS DIERUF

HON. BEN CHANDLER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, November 20, 2004

Mr. CHANDLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Corporal Nicholas J. Dieruf. On April 8, 2004, Corporal Dieruf made the ultimate sacrifice for his country while serving in Iraq. The work of our young men and women in the armed services is vital for the safety and security of our nation. The death of Corporal Dieruf is a true loss to the United States. I salute his dedication while serving in the 1st Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, a unit in the 1st Marine Division. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Emily Duncan Dieruf, his parents, and all those who loved him.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, November 20, 2004

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, on this Saturday, National Adoption Day, courts across the country will be finalizing the adoptions of approximately 3,000 former foster care children, including several dozen children in my home state of Tennessee. I rise today in celebration of National Adoption Day and in honor of these newly-adopted children and their families.

This year marks the fifth National Adoption Day, which was founded in part by the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute. I am proud to be a member of the Congressional Coalition on Adoption, and I have made it one of my priorities in Congress to ensure that all children in foster care are placed in loving, permanent homes.

Many children in foster care face long odds for adoption. In 2001, only about 50,000 children were adopted out of foster care, while as many as 129,000 children were left waiting. While the number of children being adopted out of foster care has been increasing, it is obvious that we have a long way to go.

I believe that our churches and communities must come together with government to help end this crisis, and that is why I've introduced H.R. 4431, the One Church, One Child Act of 2004.

This bill is based on a highly successful adoption ministry begun by a Catholic priest in