

HONORING ANTIETAM BOYS
SOCCER

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2004

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Antietam High School Boys Soccer team for winning the Pennsylvania State PIAA Class A Boys Soccer Championship.

The Antietam Mounts played a vigorous game against the Trinity Christian Falcons. The game was extremely competitive with both teams fighting to win. But in the end, the Mounts pulled out a 4–2 win. This win marked their first state title.

During the championship game, the Mounts were without one of their key players, Christopher Dock. Dock, a junior midfielder and a starter for the entire season, injured his left knee during Tuesday's semifinal win. The Mounts were able to overcome the loss of a key player and still turn in a win.

Today, the Mounts are looking ahead to next season and possibly another state championship. However, the team will lose seven seniors, including one of the team's highest scorers, Eric Kleiman, who scored 87 points and several game winning points.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing the players, coaches, and support staff of the Antietam High School Boys Soccer team for their drive, determination, and commitment to excellence that led them to their first Pennsylvania state title. The team is comprised of: Matt Nuding, Ryan Hummel, Tony Furillo, Jared Melot, Vince Baro, Corey Hertzog, Austin Lee, Austin Keller, Seth Cerra, Kyle Cerra, Shawn Troxel, Mitch Weglos, Adam Cubbler, Maarten Koostra, Eric Kleiman, Steve Le, Madison Reece, Dan Pardo, Chris Lavery, Tom Talarico, Matt Stauffer, Pete Smith, Adam Kozlowski, Drew Gilbert, Eric Shank, Tyler Galczyński, Ian Burke, Joseph Stoltz, Scott Kiedeisch, Chris Reed, Coach Milt Scholl, Coach Charlie Weaver, Coach Ralph Hertzog, and Managers Abbey Weaver, Jordan Cunningham, and Dayna Goheen.

THE NEED FOR POSTAL REFORM

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2004

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call my colleagues' attention to an urgent issue that we must address in the opening months of the next Congress.

Early next spring, the Postal Service will file for a rate increase, to be implemented in 2006. Unless Congress acts, that rate increase will be one of the largest in history—at least 15 percent, or 6 cents on a First Class stamp. That will cripple an industry already in trouble, and reverberate through our entire economy.

It would be irresponsible and reckless for us to sit back and do nothing.

The Postal Service is the center of a \$900 billion industry, employing 9 million Americans in such diverse fields as manufacturing, advertising, publishing, and finance. This industry

comprises 8.5 percent of the Gross Domestic Product.

The cost of doing nothing will be steep, for the Postal Service, for the 9 million Americans whose jobs rely on the mail, and for every American who sends a birthday card, pays a bill, or orders something from a catalog or online.

Reforming the Postal Service is a crucial responsibility. The Postal Service operates under a rigid, 30-year-old legal structure that does not take into account the technological advances of the past decades. It is saddled with nearly \$70 billion in retiree health costs, worker's comp claims and pension payments. Each year, the labor and infrastructure costs facing the Postal Service rise, while the volume of mail continues to fall. This is a "death spiral" that can only be reversed by Congressional action.

Let me make clear what will happen if we fail to act.

A failure to act is the equivalent of a backdoor tax on every sector of the American economy.

A small business that now spends \$5,000 a year on postage would be hit with a nearly \$1,000 rate increase. And an industry like financial services would get slammed with an increase of over \$600 million in postage costs annually.

Even though we're trying to postpone Internet taxation, a failure to act would raise the cost of online purchases, because consumers will pay more for shipping and handling.

Overall, the American public and American businesses will waste over \$20 billion in unnecessary payments to the Postal Service over the next decade.

This does not have to happen. We have the framework for responsible, comprehensive Postal Reform in the form of legislation that has been approved unanimously by my committee, the Government Reform Committee, and by the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee.

This legislation will force the Postal Service to act more like a business, while also resolving two issues related to the Postal Civil Service Retirement System Funding Reform Act of 2003. This act placed an unusual burden on the Postal Service, making it the only major agency in the government responsible for funding the military portion of its employee retiree benefits. The Act also required the Postal Service to place into escrow any money saved through the legislation—and I believe we should free this money, to allow the Service to make some cost-reducing and productivity-enhancing capital improvements.

I have worked with the Government Reform Committee's ranking minority member, HENRY WAXMAN, as well as Representatives JOHN MCHUGH and DANNY DAVIS to craft legislation that will allow the Postal Service and the industry that relies on it to survive well into this century.

I urge my colleagues to come back next year ready to pass meaningful Postal Reform. There are critics who will say the bill costs too much. I say the cost of not acting is what we really cannot afford.

CONGRATULATING BONNIE JONES
ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2004

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bonnie Jones on her retirement as the Escambia County Supervisor of Elections.

A fixture in Escambia County politics, Bonnie Jones was appointed Escambia County Supervisor of Elections by Governor Lawton Chiles on August 1, 1994 to fill the vacancy of Mr. Joe Oldmixon. Mrs. Jones was officially elected on November 8, 1994 and was re-elected without opposition in 1996 and 2000.

Born and raised in Pensacola, Florida, Bonnie gained employment with the Elections office at the young age of eighteen. Her love of democracy and Northwest Florida lead the way to her involvement with other community organizations, such as the Rotary Club of Pensacola, the Board of Directors and Secretary for the Ronald McDonald House, the Woodham High School Advisory Board, and the Pensacola Pen Wheels. Currently she is a member of the Florida State Association of Supervisors of Elections, the Elections Center Professional Education Program, the Pensacola North Rotary, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Woman's Board of the Baptist Health Care Foundation.

With a partisan atmosphere surrounding the 2000 elections, Bonnie was a fair and steadfast public servant in Escambia County. She was diligent in ensuring every vote was counted, including the large number of military absentee ballots arriving from overseas. Her foresight and wise choice to use the optical scan prior to the 2000 Elections prevented problems in the county with dimpled and hanging chads, which other Floridians experienced.

Today, I salute a woman who has dedicated her life to ensuring liberty and defending the principles of this country. Her exemplary service has guaranteed that the United States will continue to prosper as the world's greatest democracy.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to congratulate Bonnie Jones on her retirement and wish her many more years of success and happiness.

A TRIBUTE TO JOELLE BAILEY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Joelle Bailey for her accomplishments in the field of business and efforts to improve the manners of all people in our community.

Joelle has over 20 years experience in catering, event planning and the restaurant business. Little did she know that a position at Essence Magazine would serve as the impetus for her to enter the food and hospitality industry. At a very young age, Joelle's mom Marie felt very strongly about manners and etiquette and instilled those values in Joelle and her sister Yves. Joelle has taken these values and

turned them into a lifetime mission not only for herself but to assist and instruct others in these areas.

Joelle has learned through some of the best working positions at the Vista Hilton, Marriot and Plaza Hotels and LSG Sky Chefs. She received her formal training at the French Culinary Institute and Sky Chefs. By 1994, she opened Classic Catering which is a full service event planning and catering business that caught the attention of the New York Times, Daily News, NY Post, 98.7 KISS FM and WOR 710. In June 2004, Joelle was featured in the Daily News' "Spotlight On Great People" by Clem Richardson. Publicity aside, Joelle is pleased that her clients and guests approve of her fabulous catering and cooking skills. Currently, Joelle writes several columns, sharing her knowledge on entertaining, etiquette and menu and recipe suggestions. Some of Joelle's most memorable clients have included: The New York Urban League, Diana Ross, Mt. Sinai Hospital, Russell Simmons, Suzanne Taylor, The United Way, Bill Cosby, Children's Television Network, Jackie Robinson Foundation, New York Bar Association, New York University, Columbia University and many more.

Joelle shares her love for young people by teaching courses in the art of etiquette, table manners, sophistication, food, nutrition and basic "101" cooking skills. She teaches these classes for the community in different schools and also in her home. Each event is sponsored with her own personal finances. Adults are welcome as well. Additionally, her very own etiquette/cookbook will be launched next year and a food show is in the works.

On her son Issiah's 3rd birthday March 27, 2004 Joelle launched a not-for-profit foundation called Issiah W. Simms Foundation to help children improve their etiquette and manners. Eight years ago, Joelle realized that she was not satisfied with the etiquette and manners of today's children, teens and even adults. For her, there was a major state of emergency existing in society that needed to be addressed. This concern led her to form the Issiah W. Simms Foundation.

Joelle is fortunate to have wonderful and insightful parents Hubert and Marie Valbrun, mentors (stepmother, Rosette Wayne), teachers and friends who are supportive of her work. She has a degree in Liberal Arts from Pace University and an MBA from Liberty University. She dreams of opening a finishing school that would be free to her Brooklyn community.

Mr. Speaker, Joelle Bailey has been a leader in our community through her entrepreneurial accomplishments and efforts to create a more civil society. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

HONORING 35 YEARS OF
COMMUNITY SERVICE

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2004

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Martin Luther King Observance Committee of Morristown, NJ, in my con-

gressional district, which this year is celebrating its 35th Anniversary.

The committee, a local public service group, has solicited the involvement of the total Morris County community, and especially its young people, in its annual services commemorating the birth of Martin Luther King, Jr., since 1970. This celebration of faith, endurance, and commitment is a tribute to the rich legacy of the life and works of Dr. King.

The Observance for 2005 marks the 20th year that Dr. King's birthday will be commemorated as a national holiday. As an expression of local unity and in recognition of this important event, the Martin Luther King Observance Committee is inviting the Morris Clergy Council to cooperate with the committee in jointly sponsoring the commemorative services on Monday, January 17, 2005.

The Martin Luther King Observance Committee will use for a theme "The Dream of Peace is Dedicated Wholly to Truth." Each of us still makes a difference. Each of us needs to trust, to hope, to care, and to have the courage to make our democracy work for all of us. Yes, today we face great uncertainty and trepidation. Nevertheless, we will pull together as a community and nation during time of crisis. We are Americans indeed.

From those individuals who spearheaded the initial celebration, the late Rachel Viola Jones and Dr. Felicia B. Jamison, the planning efforts has broadened to include members of the Morris Area Clergy Council, with representatives from all major faith traditions. In addition to the two founders, other volunteers who assisted in the early years included Emma L. Martin, George Dorsey, William "Jack Harris, Reginald and Emanueline Smith, Flora Webb, Norman Jean Matthews, Woody Huff, Elizabeth Lubar, Cecelia Dowdy, Rabbi Z. David Levy, and the Rev. Charles Marks.

The core planning committee is continuing to carry on tradition of excellence for this great program and has grown to include dedicated volunteers. Some of those individuals include Charles Jamison, Jr., James Mack, Janet Bonar, Patricia Johnson, Esq., Barbara Klingsporn, Mae Williams, Ronnie Rogers, Elie Sims, Nadine Alston, Rabbi Donald Rossoff, James Vance, Horace Melton, Marian Sykes Johnson, Gerald Martin, Dorothy C. Parker, Agnes Boyd, Rev. Paul Ratzlaff, and the Rev. Jerry M. Carter, Jr. Pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church, Minister Dr. David Hollowell, Dr. Judy L. Banks.

Mr. Speaker, I am quite certain that the Martin Luther King Observance Committee will continue in the years ahead to promote the cause of equality and educate our community in helping to promote opportunities for our young people to pursue productive, fulfilling lives. I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Martin Luther King Observance Committee of Morristown as they celebrate 35 dedicated years of serving our community, and especially Chairwoman, Dr. Felicia Jamison.

RECOGNIZING THE LINK BETWEEN
CARDIOVASCULAR RISK AND
KIDNEY DISEASE

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2004

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, I call attention to the link between cardiovascular risk and kidney disease. On December 6, 2004, the Congressional Kidney Caucus, in cooperation with the National Kidney Foundation, sponsored a luncheon in which Dr. George Bakris, MD, from Rush University Medical Center in Chicago, spoke on this troubling trend. I submit Dr. Bakris' remarks for the RECORD:

CARDIOVASCULAR RISK AND KIDNEY DISEASE

Kidney disease is a silent killer, in that, there are no signs or symptoms until you lose >70% of your kidney function. A 50% loss of kidney function increases your risk of a cardiovascular event (heart attack, stroke, sudden death, heart failure) to more than double that of the general population. The risk of dying from a cardiovascular event, if you've lost 50% or more of your kidney function, is similar to that of having had a heart attack. Aggressive measures to achieve guideline goals (JNC7, ADA, NCEP) for blood sugar (HbA1c less than 7%), blood pressure (less than 130/80mmHg) and cholesterol levels (less than 200mg/dl) reduce both cardiovascular risk and risk of kidney disease progression. According to the most recent NHANES 1999-2000 data only 7.3% of Americans with diabetes, the most common cause of kidney disease achieve all three of these goals.

The crisis of chronic kidney disease is that it is "under-diagnosed, under-treated," and the relationship of chronic kidney disease to cardiovascular disease, "under-recognized." It is now estimated that 1 in every 9 adults—approximately 20 million Americans—has chronic kidney disease and most don't know it. The morbidity (hospitalizations, disability) associated with cardiovascular events in people with kidney disease is significantly higher than people without kidney disease. This translates into very high expenditures on the part of Medicare as well as lost wages and a reduced work force due to this disease. At the current rate of increase in kidney disease, we can expect a doubling of the number of people with kidney failure by 2010 at a projected cost of 28.3 billion dollars annually. Therefore, reducing risk of cardiovascular disease and development of kidney disease requires a preventive strategy.

SIKH-OWNED GAS STATION
BURNED DOWN

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2004

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, in the early hours of Thanksgiving morning, two Sikh brothers, Sarabjit and Sukhjinder Singh, arrived for work at the gas station they owned, only to find it burned to the ground with racist graffiti scrawled all around the burning rubble.

I am glad to say that this sad incident was immediately reported to the local Chesterfield County police, to the FBI, and to the Civil Rights division of the U.S. Department of Justice, and all are now diligently working to