

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF
COOPER L. YATES

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2004

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of Cooper L. Yates, who died unexpectedly April 17, 2004.

Cooper was from Cedartown, Ga., raised in Fort Walton Beach, attended Pensacola Junior College and earned a degree in fine art from the University of West Florida as a member of its charter class. Included among his early jobs in Pensacola were stints with JC Penny Co., WEAR-TV and Gulf Power Company. After experience as creative director of AD/Com Advertising Agency, he opened Creative Workshop, which grew into Hemmer & Yates Inc., where he was a principal and creative director. H&Y was a collection of artists, writers and other talented individuals who formed, during the 1980s, what many considered to be Pensacola's foremost advertising agency. Cooper's work was not limited to the local area; for a time he spread his publicist talents in Texas, California and Australia. For the past few years, he was president of Great Southern Advertising.

He served as president of the Panhandle Tiger Bay Club and the Arts Council of Northwest Florida, was a board member of the Arts Council of Florida, vice-chairman of the Historic Pensacola Preservation Board, a member of the Architectural Review Board, the Committee of 100 and the Medical Education Research Foundation. He was creator and a Charter Master of the Irish Politicians Club, a member of the Pensacola Bicentennial Constitution Commission and an Adjunct Professor at both Pensacola Junior College and the University of West Florida.

Mr. Speaker, Cooper Yates had many talents. He was a brilliant, creative innovator in public relations and advertising and could sit down at a moment's notice and spin a yarn that would make Mark Twain envious. His sense of humor was renowned throughout Northwest Florida. In fact on his most recent business card, he lists Hand Bills, Sandwich Boards, Church Fans and Sky Writing as a few of his many advertising services.

Cooper was a true Renaissance man born 500 years too late. He was a pressman, a philosopher, a politician, a publicist, a pundit, a planner, a performer, a professor, and a poet. He was extremely well read, remarkably resourceful, and was infamous for his insatiable intellect and imaginative insight into intangible incomprehension.

Cooper was captivated by politics—a self-proclaimed Yellow Dog Democrat—and for years community leaders in Pensacola, including politicians—both Democrats and Republicans, sought his counsel and advice. His keen sense of fashion, impeccable taste and eye for what was right aesthetically led to a style all his own. He would often be seen climbing out of his classic Corvette or bright red Land Rover Defender wearing a tropical, button-down shirt and his signature hat, ready to tell an anecdote about a local politician or quote a clever phrase from Hunter S. Thompson.

He was loved and will be missed by his mother, Bessie L. Yates, with whom he regu-

larly attended services at the First Baptist Church in Fort Walton Beach; his daughter, Robin Michelle (Shelley) Yates Boudreau (Josh); his sister, Betty (Bett) L. Yates Adams (Dixon); brothers Lawden H. Yates Jr. (Judy) and Donald N. Yates (Teresa); beloved grandsons, Elliott Aejenour and Samuel Cooper; nephews and nieces Christopher, Amanda, Christian, Paul, Alice, Melissa, Cooper and Nathan; chiliheads Jerry, Mike, Greg, Jim, Caleb, Bob and 6:10 (always late) Don; partner Melanie Brown, and many others far and wide.

Mr. Speaker, Cooper Yates may have left us, but his memory and his spirit will live on throughout Northwest Florida. And I'm sure if they need a Sky Writer in heaven, Cooper's already got the job.

CONGRATULATING THE PEOPLE
OF TAIWAN ON THEIR RECENT
ELECTIONS

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2004

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my heartiest congratulations to the people of Taiwan on the conduct of their recent Presidential elections and to President Chen on his reelection. More than 80 percent of registered voters turned out in a clear demonstration that the people of Taiwan want a free and democratic future.

I continue to be impressed by the growing strength of democratic institutions on Taiwan and by the commitment of the people of Taiwan to freedom, democracy, and human rights. These are values that the people of Taiwan share with the people of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I know that all my colleagues will join me in extending congratulations to the people of Taiwan, to President Chen and Vice President Annette Lu on their re-election, and in hoping that the future of Taiwan will be resolved through peaceful means.

RECOGNIZING THE 5TH YEAR AN-
NIVERSARY OF AMERICAN LEG-
ACY FOUNDATION

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2004

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the American Legacy Foundation on its fifth year of saving lives. The Foundation was established through the settlement agreement between the tobacco industry and state attorneys general. Five years ago, we did not know whether this unique public education and research would bear fruit.

It is now clear that the Legacy Foundation has exceeded all of our expectations. While even getting one child, teenager, or adult to quit smoking is a victory in itself, programs and research supported by the Legacy Foundation have affected thousands of young lives.

The Foundation's innovative "truth" campaign is particularly impressive. This successful campaign has been cited by academic

studies and credited to have helped reduce smoking rates among 8th, 10th, and 12th graders. Programs such as "Circle of Friends," "Great Start," and "Priority Populations" are also making a large impact.

There is still so much more to do. Tobacco still causes more death than alcohol, AIDS, car accidents, illegal drugs, murder and suicides combined. Lung cancer still kills more women than breast and cervical cancer combined. While this Congress and this Administration has largely ignored the dangers of tobacco use, millions of teenagers have become addicted, many of whom will die from entirely preventable diseases.

Unfortunately, at this pivotal time, funding for the American Legacy Foundation is dropping precipitously. It is imperative that a way be found to sustain the Legacy Foundation and its important work.

HONORING CIVIL AIR PATROL
AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2004

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor four cadets from Suffolk County, New York, for their achievements with the Civil Air Patrol, Squadron 7. On April 13, 2004, Cadet 2d Lieutenants Daniel Umpa and Nicholas Calarco were presented with the General Billy Mitchell Award, and Cadet Captains Ryan Elliott and Matthew Cooney were presented with the Amelia Earhart Award.

The Civil Air Patrol has a long history of service to our nation as the official civilian volunteer auxiliary of the United States Air Force. Formed in 1941, just prior to the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, the Civil Air Patrol sank two enemy submarines and rescued hundreds of crash survivors during World War II. Currently, the Civil Air Patrol focuses on cadet programs, aerospace education and emergency services. The four cadets that I honor today are sure to continue that legacy.

The General Billy Mitchell Award is earned by cadets who have completed the first eight achievements of the cadet program, fulfilled physical fitness requirements and passed an exam on leadership theory and aerospace. I commend Cadet 2d Lieutenant Daniel Umpa and Cadet 2d Lieutenant Nicholas Calarco on this great accomplishment.

The Amelia Earhart Award is awarded to recipients of the General Billy Mitchell Award who have completed the first eleven achievements of the cadet program and passed an exam on leadership theory and aerospace. I commend Cadet Captain Ryan Elliott and Cadet Captain Matthew Cooney, who join nearly 10,000 other cadets who have received this prestigious award over the last 30 years.

The Civil Air Patrol is actively involved in protecting America from the threat of terrorism, and I am confident that these four cadets will continue to make important contributions in securing the safety of our nation.