

RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF O'FALLON, IL

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, today I'd like my colleagues to join me in honoring the Sesquicentennial of one of the oldest communities in my congressional district, O'Fallon, Illinois.

The City of O'Fallon, Illinois was named in honor of Colonel John O'Fallon. Colonel O'Fallon was a soldier, businessman, real estate owner and public minded citizen. His father, James O'Fallon was a physician who came to this country shortly before the Revolutionary War and served as a surgeon in George Washington's Army. After the war, he went to Louisville, Kentucky where he met and married Frances Clark, a sister of George Rogers Clark and William Clark, army officers, who became famous during the Corps of Discovery exploration of the Louisiana Territory in 1804 and for later development of the Mississippi Valley.

Colonel John O'Fallon's father died when he was a child and he was reared and educated by his mother and uncles. With his army background, he became a soldier. He fought in the War of 1812, where he rose to the rank of Captain. After the war ended, O'Fallon became assistant Indian Agent to his Uncle William Clark of the Lewis and Clark expedition. Later he became a contractor, buying and selling Army supplies. He invested his money and became involved with the expanding railroad industry across the nation. He promoted the Missouri Pacific railroad, as well as the Wabash and B&O railroads. His involvement with railroads and the purchase of lands led him to become the namesake of both O'Fallon, Illinois and O'Fallon, Missouri.

Colonel O'Fallon purchased lands in an area north of St. Louis which lead to the development of the community of O'Fallon Park, Missouri. Always civic-minded, Colonel O'Fallon gave generously to St. Louis University and Washington University and also formed an institute which became the forerunner of today's St. Louis High Schools and the City of St. Louis' public library.

O'Fallon, Illinois was originally platted from lands surrounding the train depot and water tank built for the operation of the B&O railroad. Town lots were platted by Ernest Tiedemann under the direction of Frederick A. Carpenter and Hugh O. Sheerbarth. On May 18, 1854 these lots were sold at a public auction. John and Sarah Distler had erected a log cabin on the site in 1851, but the first house in O'Fallon was built by Anderson Umbarger in 1855. The first post office was established in 1855. O'Fallon was incorporated as a village on January 27, 1874.

A newly replicated depot stands near the site of the beginnings of this community. O'Fallon's early growth was due to the large coal mining industry in the region.

O'Fallon was also home to major businesses like Willard Stove, Tiedeman Milling and the Independent Engineering Company. O'Fallon also had abundant agricultural land which supported large farming operations.

Today, O'Fallon is a community of over 20,000 people. It continues to grow because

of its proximity to Scott Air Force Base and St. Louis. It sits astride I-64 and boasts three interchange exits where large commercial and retail developments are clustered. O'Fallon also is home to the O'Fallon Township High School, which is recognized as one of the top high schools in the region and the state of Illinois. The high school is also home to the Marching Panthers Band, which has won several national awards and is a regular participant in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade in New York City.

The City of O'Fallon continues the growth and development envisioned by Captain O'Fallon. The rail line he developed continues to run through the community delivering vital commerce and supplies to areas to the west.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the founding of the community and the people of the City of O'Fallon on the occasion of its 150th Anniversary.

**HONORING THE CAREER OF JAN
McBRIDE**

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of a woman of our community as she prepares to retire from professional life. Jan McBride has spent a career in the service of health care delivery, and her imprimatur is throughout our region of Northwest Ohio.

Starting as a pediatric nurse, Jan McBride rose through the ranks of Toledo Hospital and its parent ProMedica Health System, and has been the President of Toledo Children's Hospital since 1998. A balance of compassion and business acumen has marked her tenure in the corporate structure. An engaging leader, Jan McBride has developed many people while moving the Toledo Hospital and ProMedica Health System forward.

Even while pursuing an extensive corporate schedule, Jan McBride has never neglected her civic responsibilities as a community citizen. She has gone "above and beyond" in her commitment to a variety of health, community, and business concerns, serving as an active officer of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation's NW Ohio Chapter, the Hospital Council of NW Ohio, Junior Achievement of NW Ohio, the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, Lucas County ARC (Association of Retarded Citizens), the National Youth Sports Program, the Neighborhood Health Association, Ohio Children's Hospital Association, Ronald McDonald House Charities, Rotary Club of Toledo, United Way of Greater Toledo, the University of Toledo Alumni Association, and the Zonta Club of Toledo. Her efforts have earned her awards of recognition including the Tribute to Women in Industry, Women in Communication, Alpha Omicron Pi Fraternity, and Juvenile Diabetes Foundation honoree.

For forty years, Jan McBride has given of herself to her career and the causes in which she believes. She leaves our community richer, stronger, healthier, and kinder. I know my colleagues join me in wishing Jan McBride well as she writes new chapters in her book of life. Onward!

CONGRATULATING ROBERT L. SATCHER—A MEMBER OF NASA'S 2004 ASTRONAUT CANDIDATE CLASS

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the eleven men and women of NASA's 2004 Astronaut Candidate Class. I especially want to congratulate one of the astronauts, Dr. Robert L. Satcher Jr., who is a constituent of mine, the 7th District of Illinois.

Dr. Robert L. Satcher, Jr., was born in Hampton, Virginia to Robert L. Sr. and Marian H. Satcher; in 1965 and currently lives in Oak Park, Illinois with his wife D'Juanna White. He received his Bachelors of Science in Chemical Engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1986. In 1993 and 1994 he received his Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering at MIT and his M.D. at Harvard University respectively. He is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Northwestern University, The Feinberg School of Medicine in Chicago, Illinois.

Today is a proud day for space in the 7th District of Illinois, the United States and the world. These eleven men and women represent the next generation of explorers; they are the ones who will lead us into the future of space exploration, of the Moon, Mars and beyond. They will serve as role models to teach and excite the future generation of explorers.

Mr. Speaker, once again I congratulate these men and women on their hard work, dedication and this great accomplishment and wish them luck as they embark on this journey.

**HONORING WEST NEW YORK
LEONES CUBANOS DE HUDSON**

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the West New York Leones Cubanos de Hudson in celebration of its 25th anniversary. The West New York Leones Cubanos de Hudson commemorated their 25th anniversary on Saturday, April 24, 2004, at the Landmark in East Rutherford, New Jersey.

West New York Leones Cubanos de Hudson is the largest Lions Club in the State of New Jersey, and the fourth largest in the United States. With a membership of 260 dedicated men and women, the West New York Lions Club has been able to take an active role in civic, cultural, and social events. A non-political and non-sectarian group, the Lions Club is renowned for its sight-related programs, providing services to the blind, including guide dogs, walking canes, and vocational training.

Since 1979, the West New York Leones Cubanos de Hudson has done an exceptional service for its community with the help of dedicated individuals. Working with local churches, hospitals, clinics, summer programs, shelters,

and food banks, the Lions Club has given all its support to promoting a better quality of life to the people it touches. It has also been heavily active in youth development. The Lions-Quest program provides youth with a sense of community, as well as tools and assistance for their success in the future.

With a diverse Hispanic community in West New York, the Lions Club has been active in helping in disaster relief and rebuilding efforts to many areas in the Caribbean and Central and South America impacted by natural disasters. It has been a force in gathering necessary supplies and food to help in times of need, and takes tremendous pride in the positive difference it makes in the lives of the people in its community and around the world.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the members and officers, past and present, of the West New York Leones Cubanos de Hudson in recognition of their outstanding contributions and caring dedication to our community over the last 25 years.

TRIBUTE TO STAFF SERGEANT
STACEY CRAIG BRANDON

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, to die for one's country, while tragic, is the ultimate honor. To die for the freedom of others may not carry with it an adequate expression to illustrate the debt it generates. Today, I rise to honor Staff Sergeant Stacey Brandon who was killed during his tour of duty in Taji, Iraq. He was 35 years-old.

Staff Sergeant Brandon joined the National Guard in 1990 and when he was called to active duty for "Iraqi Freedom" on October 12, 2003, he answered the call and served his country with honor. His ability, intelligence and dedication quickly earned him a promotion to the rank of Staff Sergeant in February 2004.

Despite his notable dedication to his country, he was a husband and a father first. A son, a brother, a friend, an athlete and a light of optimism others were drawn to always. Along with the many lives he touched, Staff Sergeant Brandon carried God in his heart. He was a passionate singer of gospel music and he and his wife, April, joined the Hazen First Baptist Church upon their move to Hazen, Arkansas.

We can ask nothing greater from a human being than to anonymously fight to the end to help people they may have never met. Unfortunately for those left behind, this soldier has a name. He has the respect of those whose lives he touched, and, now, grieving family and friends who I offer my deepest sympathies and utmost respect.

Staff Sergeant Brandon will be remembered for his honor, his mettle, his bravery and his commitment to his family, his God and his country. On behalf of the Congress, I extend the utmost respect for a fine American, a loving father, husband and son, and the perfect model of a patriot.

FREEDOM FOR JORGE OLIVERA
CASTILLO

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Jorge Olivera Castillo, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Olivera Castillo worked for 10 years as a national television editor. After being confronted on a daily basis with the blatantly false propaganda mandated by the tyrannical regime, he left his job to join other pro-democracy activists working for freedom and human rights for every Cuban citizen. Using his skills as a journalist, Mr. Olivera Castillo began to report on the brutal policies of the totalitarian regime. He later became the director of the Havana Press agency. Starting in 2001, Mr. Olivera Castillo's articles concerning the state of Cuba under totalitarian rule were published in Spain.

Because of Mr. Olivera Castillo's unrelenting commitment to writing the truth about the totalitarian regime, he has been constantly harassed by the dictator's thugs. According to Amnesty International, Mr. Olivera Castillo has been expelled from his house, arrested, and accused of "counterrevolutionary" activities by the tyrant Castro. During the brutal March 2003 crackdown on peaceful pro-democracy activists and independent journalists, Mr. Olivera Castillo was arrested. In a sham trial, Mr. Olivera Castillo was sentenced to 18 years in the totalitarian gulag because of his commitment to truth over propaganda.

Mr. Olivera Castillo is currently languishing in an infernal cell in the totalitarian gulag. Reporters Without Borders reports that Mr. Olivera Castillo is suffering from numerous medical problems, is confined with common prisoners, and is being forced to drink seriously polluted water. These depraved conditions are truly appalling. It is a crime of the highest order that people who work for freedom are imprisoned in these nightmarish conditions.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Olivera Castillo is suffering in a grotesque, inhumane, totalitarian gulag because he believes in freedom. My colleagues, we can no longer allow peaceful pro-democracy activists to languish in the depraved prisons of tyrants. We must demand immediate freedom for Jorge Olivera Castillo and every prisoner of conscience in totalitarian Cuba.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 2004 National Day of Prayer—a day set aside by millions of people across this country to acknowledge God and give him thanks for all that is truly good. Once again, we are reminded of our need for him in the midst of turmoil and suffering around the world, and we recall our need to listen and hear from the Almighty.

Right now there are thousands of young men and women in uniform who are bravely serving this country in Iraq, Afghanistan and in other foreign countries. We ask God to protect them and grant them favor. We ask God to comfort their families and loved ones who eagerly await their return. Let us continue to pray for peace in these lands and for reconciliation among its people.

Throughout American history—from the earliest settlers to the Continental Congress, from General George Washington to President George W. Bush—the American people have called upon the Providence of God.

In 1775, the Continental Congress issued a proclamation setting aside a day of prayer. In 1952, Congress established an annual day of prayer, and then in 1988, the law was amended designating the National Day of Prayer as the first Thursday in May.

Our country has witnessed the benefits of national prayer and fasting in times past, and I hope citizens from all walks of life will humbly acknowledge God and seek his guidance, strength and resolve.

Let us remember to pray for our President, his Cabinet, military leaders, Members of Congress, Supreme Court Justices, State governors and local officials.

And may we, like our Founding Fathers, earnestly seek to know God's will for us and our country on this national day of prayer.

RECOGNIZING MR. CLYDE
LEHMANN

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise on this day during Teacher Appreciation Week in recognition of a very special person, Clyde Lehmann. Mr. Lehmann has been selected to receive the 2004 Milken National Educator Award.

The Milken National Educator Award is a very prestigious award that acknowledges quality teachers, and highlights how they are required to ensure the academic success of America's students. It is bestowed upon K-12 teachers in recognition of demonstrated excellence in teaching. Awardees are chosen based upon their: Exceptional educational talent as evidenced by outstanding instructional practices in the classroom, school and profession; outstanding accomplishments and strong long-range potential for professional and policy leadership; and engaging and inspiring presence that motivates and impacts students, colleagues and the community.

Mr. Lehmann has certainly earned such an award. As a Latin teacher at Northside Health Careers High School, he uses creativity to keep his students interested in learning. He accomplishes this by using poetry, performance, song, and even travel to pique students' interest in his classes.

His unfaltering dedication to the achievement of his students is reflected in their impressive academic successes—a large number of Mr. Lehmann's students have earned gold and silver medals at National Latin competitions. He has demonstrated his interest in and passion for Latin through his teaching. This passion has seemingly been contagious—four of his former students have become Latin teachers.