

A TRIBUTE TO MAGGIE STEWART
FOR 50 YEARS OF COMMUNITY
SERVICE

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure today to pay tribute to a dear friend, Margaret Stewart of Upland, California, who has spent more than 50 years improving the lives of everyone around her as a selfless volunteer and inspirational community activist in San Bernardino County.

Born and raised in Ontario, CA, Margaret married citrus rancher Walter E. Stewart, and raised three daughters in and near their hometown. She began her civic volunteering in 1949 with the Upland Junior Welfare League, and has been seemingly working harder every year since that time.

Maggie Stewart got her start in local politics in 1950, when she and Walt chartered the Chaffey District Young Republicans. That same year, they helped organize a sewer bond election, and two years later she helped organize a door-to-door campaign for a school bond election. Since that time, she has served as a campaign worker every 2 years for candidates for mayor, Assembly, Congress, governor and president.

Her stature within our local Republican Party has grown to such an extent that she is often identified as the driving force in keeping the party growing and strong. She has been a member of the California State central committee since 1980 and served twice as the chairman of the county Republican Party. She has been president of the local Republican Women and has served as a Regent for the National Federation of Republican Women. And she was a delegate to three Republican National Conventions.

Maggie has also spent nearly 50 years working with the Girl Scouts, representing U.S. Scouts in New Zealand, serving as Girl Scout Council president serving 26,000 Scouts, and organizing a national conference to help scouts learn public relations. She has been almost as active in the Parent-Teacher Association, serving as local president and in many other roles. The West End United Way presented Maggie with its leadership award for more than two decades of service in a variety of top positions.

Mr. Speaker, as you can imagine, Maggie Stewart's awards and public recognition are numerous and substantial. She has been Scout of the Year, Woman of the Year, Senior Citizen of the Year, and a Woman Achiever. She received many justly deserved awards in 1983 for co-chairing the year-and-a-half-long Centennial Celebration for the City of Ontario. For her latest tribute, she will be honored for 30 years of service to the San Antonio Community Hospital Auxiliary.

There is little doubt, Mr. Speaker, that Maggie Stewart is the epitome of social service and volunteer activism. She has registered thousands of new voters, contributed many thousands of hours of time, and helped create a real spirit of community in one of the fastest-growing areas of our nation. Please join me in saluting Maggie Stewart for her years of service, and wishing her well in all of her future endeavors.

HONORING TIMOTHY M. VETERE
OF MORGANTOWN, WEST VIRGINIA

HON. ALAN B. MOLLOHAN

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. MOLLOHAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate Mr. Timothy M. Vetere of Morgantown, West Virginia for his award-winning entry in the Veterans of Foreign Wars' Voice of Democracy contest. His script is entitled "My Commitment to America's Future." I submit for the RECORD the text of his entry and commend the VFW for making the Voice of Democracy scholarship program available to students across our Nation.

MY COMMITMENT TO AMERICA'S FUTURE

I was walking along the sidewalk downtown one day and I passed by a large storefront window and caught a quick glimpse of myself. I have to admit that the first thing I thought was, "Hey, I look pretty good." I even stopped to take a second look. And as I stared into my gorgeous baby-blue eyes, I began to realize that my reflection was superimposed on an American flag, which was hanging in the display case.

As I looked closer, I realized that the edges were frayed and its colors faded and I thought, hmmm, I wonder how it got that worn? What stories would it have to tell if it could talk?

I began to envision it in battle somewhere or draping the coffin of a Vietnam War veteran, or, it looked pretty old, maybe even a World War II veteran. What if someone's grandfather had passed it down to his son and that man passed it to his son who was now honoring the memory of his grandpa by hanging that flag in his storefront window. Or did this flag fly outside of an elementary school where children of the SOs lined up in the courtyard to pledge their allegiance to the flag and sing "My Country 'Tis of Thee."

My eyes drifted to the 50 stars and I began to realize how hard each state must have fought to gain a spot on this symbol of American Unity.

As a person, I'm one among millions, but as an American I am an integral part of the greatest nation on earth. The stripes of the flag represent the purity in the American heart and sacrifices made by men just like me. I look back on the giants of history and feel my own insignificance. I am humbled knowing my own inability to measure up to their achievements.

I may never command American men in battle on foreign soil and, I pray to God I never command them on American soil. I may never land on the moon. I may never discover a cure for cancer. My name may never be used to inspire school-children to greater heights.

I may do nothing more than mean it when I say the pledge, sing the words of the National Anthem at a ball game, or feel the country's collective sadness when a soldier's flag-draped coffin is shown on the evening news.

But when I say the pledge maybe one other of my classmates may see my sincerity and share in it as well. When I sing the anthem at a ball game, those around me may hear the words clearly and be inspired to believe in the power behind the lyrics.

I may never become a giant in American history, but if I can in some small way influence others to feel the love I feel for America . . . if I can live my life as an example of heartfelt patriotism . . .

If I can raise my children with strong American values, then I will have made

America stronger. When you are the one looking at your own reflection in a store window, or in a mirror, who will look back at you? Will you be able to say, "Yes, I am an American citizen."

We are all united under the American flag and its symbolic colors. We can be separate individuals or we can work together to make America stronger, one citizen at a time.

REMEMBER AND HONOR LIEUTENANT
COLONEL FRANK H.
SIMONDS, SR., USMC (RET)

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to remember and honor a loyal patriot, neighbor, and friend. Lieutenant Colonel Frank H. Simonds, Sr., USMC (Ret), of Oakton, Virginia. Following a lifetime of dedication and service to his family and our nation, LtCol Simonds passed away on March 31, 2004, at the age of 85.

Frank was born October 1, 1918, in Sparta, Illinois. His parents, Thomas and Zuma Etta Simonds, owned and operated a grocery store while raising a family of six boys and two girls.

Frank attended Sparta Township High School and, in 1941, graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Education.

In August of that same year, he joined the United States Marine Corps. While in service, he flew the SBD, SB2C, F4U, F7F-3N, and the F9F-8P. Stationed in the Pacific Theater during World War II, he flew out of such places as Guadalcanal, Bougainville, and Munda while serving with VMSBs-144/454.

Mr. Speaker, Frank also served in the Korean War with VMF (N)'s-531/513. After the war, he flew VMCJ-3 in the late 1950's. He had over 5,000 flight hours and was the Commanding Officer of VMF (N)-513, VMCJ-3, MCAS-4 and MWSG-27. For his remarkable service to the United States, he received the Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross with Gold Star, and Air Medal with four gold stars before he retired from the Marine Corps in December 1966.

Upon retirement from the Marine Corps, Frank began a career with Control Data Corporation, where he worked from 1966 until his retirement in 1988. At the time of his retirement, he was the Eastern and Southeastern Regional Administration Manager and had enjoyed a 22-year career with the corporation.

He is survived by his lovely wife, Bobbie; his son, Lt. Col. Frank H. Simonds, Jr., USMC; his daughter, Kelley Simonds Hardison; his grandchildren, Michael, Lindsey and Hayley Hardison; his brother, Robert J. Simonds; and his sister, Millicent Simonds Bates.

Mr. Speaker, on a personal note, my family had the great opportunity of becoming acquainted with Frank and Bobbie when we moved to Oakton several years ago. More than just neighbors, they became very close friends. In fact, they even took on a role like unto family, and seemingly helped raise our son and daughter. For the blessing of having them come into our lives, we shall always be grateful.

Today, I join with Frank H. Simonds, Sr.'s family, friends, and community to commemorate his life of hard work, good citizenship, and

family commitment. As his friend and neighbor, I will miss him. Yet, I am confident that Frank today is happy where he is, waiting for the eventual return of his loved ones.

RECOGNIZING CONTRIBUTIONS OF
PEOPLE OF INDIAN ORIGIN TO
UNITED STATES AND BENEFITS
OF WORKING TOGETHER WITH
INDIA

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2004

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support much of what H. Con. Res. 352 has to say about the valuable contributions people of Indian origin have made to the United States. As the resolution notes, people of Indian origin have made contributions in a wide variety of disciplines, including science, technology, the arts and public service.

However, I am concerned that H. Con. Res. 352 presents a uniformly positive view of U.S. trade relations with India that is unjustified. While the resolution mentions the export of U.S. goods to India, it fails to acknowledge the rampant export of American jobs to India.

U.S. trade policies, including our policies toward India, have failed American workers. The U.S. has lost millions of high-paying manufacturing jobs. Now, service sector jobs are increasingly shifting overseas. Around 400,000 service jobs, including 27,000 technology jobs, were siphoned off to India, China and other low-wage havens last year.

Morgan Stanley estimates the number of U.S. jobs exported to India will double to about 150,000 in the next three years. A University of California-Berkeley study found U.S. firms exported 30,000 service sector jobs to India while eliminating 226,000 jobs in the U.S.

It's not hard to see why: computer programming jobs in the U.S. that pay \$60,000–\$80,000 a year go for as little as \$8,952 in China, \$5,880 in India, or \$5,000 in Russia.

The U.S. economy will never be on sound footing, and workers will never enjoy job security, as long as Congress and the Administration perpetuate the discredited dogma of “free” trade. The Bush Administration argues in its latest Economic Report of the President that, “When a good or service is produced more cheaply abroad, it makes more sense to import it than make or provide it domestically.” I disagree with the Bush Administration's argument that “it makes more sense” to flood the U.S. market with goods and services from low-wage havens like India just because it's cheaper.

I am disappointed that H. Con. Res. 352 does not present a more balanced view of U.S. trade relations with India.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF
JOSHUA BOWMAN ON HIS AP-
POINTMENT TO ATTEND THE
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
ACADEMY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Joshua Bowman of Crestline, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Air Force Academy.

Mr. Speaker, Joshua's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Air Force Academy with the incoming cadet class of 2008. Attending one of our Nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education and demands the very best that these young men and women have to offer. Truly, it is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

Joshua brings a special mix of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming class of Air Force Academy cadets. While attending Crestline High School, Joshua has attained a grade point average of 4.0, which ranks first out of sixty-two students in his class. During his time at Crestline High School, Joshua has received several commendations for his superior scholastic efforts. During his first year, Joshua was named to the Honor Roll and received an Academic Team Award. His second year was again marked by his being named to the Honor Roll, receiving yet another Academic Team Award and also being named “Bulldog of the Month”. Joshua maintained this high level achievement throughout his tenure at Crestline High School.

Outside the classroom, Joshua has distinguished himself as an excellent student-athlete and dedicated citizen of Crestline, Ohio. On the fields of friendly strife, Joshua has participated in Varsity Cross Country, Varsity Basketball, and Varsity Baseball. He is a four-time Cross Country letter recipient. Joshua also received the “Middle of the Pack” award as well as the “2nd Man Coaches Award” during his participation in athletics at Crestline High School. In addition to his athletic accomplishments, Joshua is an active member in his community by participating in Key Club, National Honor Society, Teen Institute, Church youth group, and a local prayer group.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to Joshua Bowman. Our service academies offer the finest education and military training available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Joshua will do very well during his career at Air Force and I wish him the very best in all of his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING ROCKWALL COUNTY
LIBRARY'S READING FOR
ADULTS PROGRAM

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to recognize the Rockwall County Library's Reading for Adults program.

Three years ago, the library began a literacy program to help community adults develop essential skills through reading. The Reading for Adults program is affiliated with the “Dallas Reads” initiative and “Literacy Pro,” a worldwide venture. What started with two students and five tutors has grown into a program that instructs 158 students and relies on the services of 75 volunteer tutors. Classes, which are held at the Rockwall County Library and in nearby Royse City, range from one-on-one instruction to small classes of 15–20 students.

The Reading for Adults program has already been a big success. Students have earned their GED and some have completed citizenship requirements. Students also report that they are able to function more effectively from day to day. For example, after working with tutors, parents can more clearly express their concerns to teachers and doctors. The program offers us a wonderful example of how innovative, caring, and committed people can help positively shape communities throughout America.

The Reading for Adults initiative relies on the generosity of the entire community. The Friends of the Library donate their time and money. The library also organizes an annual Rock and Read event to raise money to buy books and materials. Recently, IBM awarded the library four computers with sound recognition software to help students learn to speak and read. Without these valuable resources, programs like Reading for Adults simply wouldn't exist.

On behalf of the students, tutors, organizers, and community of Rockwall, I want to take this opportunity in the House of Representatives to salute the Reading for Adults program.

INTRODUCING THE MEDICARE
EARLY ACCESS ACT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, in honor of “Cover the Uninsured Week,” I am pleased today to join with my colleague Rep. SHERROD BROWN and more than 80 additional cosponsors in introducing the “Medicare Early Access Act.” This important legislation would provide an affordable health insurance option for the fastest growing segment of the nearly 44 million uninsured Americans—those ages 55–64.

In 2002, 43.6 million Americans were uninsured. There are many approaches to how we should address this growing problem. As most of my colleagues know, I am an advocate of a universal health care system in which each and every American would have health coverage. That is the most fair, affordable, and