

TRIBUTE TO NICOLE ROBBINS

HON. JIM GIBBONS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2005

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Nicole Robbins of Nevada: mother, concerned citizen, and modern-day crime-fighter. On July 13th, Ms. Robbins observed a series of events unfold outside her apartment complex involving what appeared to be an attempted kidnapping of a five year old girl by an intoxicated, convicted Tier 2 sex offender. The man, calling himself "Pastor Tree", attempted to lure the girl away with him, promising to take her to a store. Thankfully the little girl was smart enough to alert her mother, who subsequently called the police, after the man went to retrieve his car. The boyfriend of the mother confronted the man upon his return for the girl. During this confrontation, the man started to drive away.

Although police were en route, this man had already begun to flee. Realizing the potential getaway, Ms. Robbins claimed that "something made her go inside her home and grab her car keys and cell phone." A mother of two young sons herself, Ms. Robbins bravely followed this attempted kidnapper for four miles, in contact with police the entire way providing details to help in his apprehension. When stopped by police, the man was found to be driving with a blood-alcohol limit more than twice the legal limit, and was subsequently arrested on suspicion of first-degree kidnapping and child luring.

Ms. Robbins' actions should be commended in that not only did she aid local authorities by providing accurate and detailed information on a fleeing suspect, but she was wise enough in exercising restraint by not interfering before his capture. For her efforts, Ms. Robbins was honored by Reno police by receiving a citizen commendation certificate and medal, a prestigious award presented only once a year.

Ms. Robbins stands as an example to all future kidnapers and child molesters that the people of Nevada are serious about protecting their children. I would like to conclude by addressing the next child molester or kidnapper that comes to Nevada with an intention to commit a crime against a child. Know that we are watching our children with you, protecting our children from you, and in cases like Ms. Robbins, even helping local authorities arrest you.

TRIBUTE TO SHAWN RICHARD TALLANT

HON. HAROLD E. FORD, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2005

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Shawn Richard Tallant who has served our country with bravery and distinction as a member of the United States Navy. A graduate of the United States Naval Academy, Captain Tallant retired from the Navy on July 15, 2005 after 27 years of distinguished service.

Captain Tallant was Commanding Officer of the USS *Nashville*, which participated in Oper-

ation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. In addition, the USS *Nashville*, under Captain Tallant's command, was one of three ships sent to conduct humanitarian operations under Joint Task Force Liberia.

Like all citizens of Tennessee, I am proud of the historical importance of these events and how one of our namesake ships was critical to the success of this Nation's peacekeeping efforts in Iraq, Afghanistan and Liberia. Captain Tallant's leadership was integral to the *Nashville's* contributions.

Prior to his service on the *Nashville*, Captain Tallant was the Executive Officer on the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS *Dwight D. Eisenhower*. Today, Captain Tallant has joined the private sector involved in the design of future nuclear aircraft carriers.

Captain Tallant is an example of the courage and commitment of our military and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Captain Tallant for his meritorious and distinguished service to his fellow sailors and our Nation.

THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S RIGHTS HISTORY PROJECT ACT

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2005

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to celebrate the accomplishments of our foremothers by introducing the National Women's Rights History Project Act.

In contemporary American society, women enjoy rights to education, wages, and property ownership. However, it was only 85 years ago that women were finally granted the right to vote. Yet few Americans have any real knowledge of the long struggle to obtain the rights that we take for granted today. The National Women's Rights History Project Act will provide Americans with the opportunity to learn more about the female heroes that fought tirelessly to secure these rights.

On July 19, 1848, a group of activists including Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, and Mary Ann M'Clintock convened the first Women's Rights Convention at Wesleyan Chapel in Seneca Falls, New York. The Women's Rights Convention heralded the beginning of a 72-year struggle for suffrage. During the Convention, 68 women and 32 men signed the Declaration of Sentiments, which was drafted to mirror the Declaration of Independence and set out such radical notions like women's freedom to own property, receive an education, and file for divorce.

In 1851, a second women's rights convention was held in Akron, Ohio. It was at this convention that Sojourner Truth delivered the famous "Ain't I A Woman?" speech. The woman's suffrage movement, however, was not solely limited to organized conventions. Under the leadership of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony the National American Women Suffrage Association (NAWSA) was formed.

Susan B. Anthony also established the Equal Rights Association to refute ideas that women were inferior to men and fight for a woman's right to vote. In 1872, Susan B. Anthony and other women voted in the presidential election, and were arrested and fined for illegal voting. At her trial, which attracted

nationwide attention, Susan B. Anthony made a speech that ended with the slogan "Resistance to Tyranny Is Obedience to God". She also campaigned for the rights of women to own property, to keep their own earnings, and to have custody of their children. I am especially proud that it was in Rochester, New York that Susan B. Anthony fought so hard for the rights that women throughout this country rely on today. In fact, in 1900, she persuaded the University of Rochester, in my Congressional District, to admit women.

In the early 1900s, a new generation of leaders joined the women's suffrage movement, including Carrie Chapman Catt, Maud Wood Park, Lucy Burns, Alice Paul, and Harriot E. Blatch. During this era, the Women's Rights movement increased its momentum by organizing marches, pickets and other protests. Suffragette Alice Paul and other activists began chaining themselves to the White House fence and participating in hunger strikes to gain the attention of Congress.

The struggle for women's suffrage was not easy, and oftentimes it was made more difficult as a consequence of public misinformation and fear. Consider these remarks which, in 1912, appeared in the New York Times under the title, "The Uprising of Women":

"The vote will secure to woman no new privilege that she either deserves or requires . . . Women will get the vote and play havoc with it for themselves and society, if men are not wise and firm enough and it may as well be said, masculine enough, to prevent them."

If by playing havoc, the New York Times meant becoming the single most sought after voting block in the country that often determines the outcome of elections, I guess they were right.

Because of the persistent dedication of Susan B. Anthony and other remarkable leaders, women persevered. Although Susan B. Anthony was not alive to see it, the efforts of the women's rights struggle came to fruition when the Nineteenth amendment to the U.S. Constitution, giving women the right to vote, was finally passed by Congress on June 4, 1919, and ratified on August 18, 1920.

We have clearly come a long way in 85 years—and we still have a long way to go. We must work to continue the momentum that started in Seneca Falls, by not only ensuring that all women vote, but that they do so with an understanding of the long fight to obtain this right and with a sense of responsibility to do their part in the struggle for women's equality.

To honor these important women, the National Women's Rights History Project Act will establish a trail route linking sites significant to the struggle for women's suffrage and civil rights. It also will expand the current National Register travel itinerary website, "Places Where Women Made History," to include additional historic sites. Finally, this bill will require the Department of Interior to establish a partnership-based network to offer financial and technical assistance for interpretive and educational program development of national women's rights history.

The women of this country have fought tirelessly to achieve equitable rights for our grandmothers, our mothers, ourselves, and our daughters. It is my hope that this bill will provide Americans with the opportunity to learn more about the female leaders who struggled to secure these rights.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all Members to join me in celebrating their accomplishments by National Women's Rights History Project Act today.

HONORING THE INTERNATIONAL
CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2005

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 35th year of the International Children's Festival, held in Fairfax County, Virginia.

The International Children's Festival is produced by the Arts Council of Fairfax County in cooperation with the Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts and the National Park Service. Since 1971, the Festival has allowed children from all over the world to come together and share cultural traditions through the international language of the arts. The inaugural event attracted 7,000 spectators, volunteers and performers. In two years the event became the International Children's Festival, which was extended to a two day event and nearly doubled its audience.

Many celebrities have served to make the event a success, and to bring attention to a worthy cause. Past participants include First Lady Nancy Reagan and Bob McGrath, also known as "Bob of Sesame Street". Some previous highlights have included the twentieth annual International Children's Festival themed, "The Americas, a Rainbow of Colors". This festival featured performers from North, South, and Central America. In the following years, performers from Europe, Jordan, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Siberia, Taiwan, and the Republic of Uzbekistan attended the festival giving the children an even wider appreciation of the arts from around the globe. Since 1971, groups from over 35 countries have participated in the festival. This year's event features international youth performers from Georgia, India, Mexico, and Nigeria. While many have traveled far to contribute, it has also remained close to its roots showcasing a variety of cultural arts performed by student groups from throughout the Washington metropolitan area.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to commend and congratulate the International Children's Festival on its 35th year. The Festival has enriched many lives, truly meriting recognition. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding the International Children's Festival's past accomplishments and in wishing it continued success in the many years to come.

COMMENDING JUDY AND ALAN
ROOTH

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2005

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to commend two of Northwest Indiana's distinguished citizens, Judy and Alan

Rooth. On Sunday, September 25, 2005, Judy and Alan will be honored for their exemplary and dedicated service to our community and to the State of Israel. Their praiseworthy efforts will be recognized at the Northwest Indiana-Israel Dinner of State, as they receive the Jerusalem Medal. The Special Guest speaker is Dr. Mitchell Bard, executive director of the American-Israeli Cooperative Enterprise.

Judy Rooth is completing her fourth year as president of the Jewish Federation. She previously served as the Federation's Women's Division Campaign co-chair for 3 years, and she also chaired the Jewish Community Services of the Federation. Judy is a lifetime member of Hadassah and has served as board secretary for Congregation Beth Israel. She also served on the boards of Kneseth Israel and CBI. Judy is also active in the Kneseth Israel Sisterhood.

Alan Rooth has served on various committees and also as an officer of several organizations. He was vice president of the Jewish Federation and also served as vice president and co-president of Kneseth Israel. Alan served as the chairman of the Annual Walks for Israel. He has also served on the Kneseth Israel Board and Congregation Beth Israel for a total of 20 years. Alan is the School Board chairman of both Kneseth Israel and Congregation Beth Israel.

The Jerusalem Medal is given each year to worthy recipients who demonstrate their dedication and service to Israel, the State of Israel Bonds, and the Jewish community, and their own community at large. The Rooths are most certainly worthy recipients of this year's award. The Jewish Federation Community Building will be filled Sunday night with friends and family who have been blessed with the opportunity to know and work with Judy and Alan Rooth and who wish to celebrate with them as they receive the Jerusalem Medal.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating Judy and Alan Rooth for receiving the 2005 Jerusalem Medal. Their dedicated service to both the State of Israel and our Northwest Indiana community is commendable and admirable. No government, leader, or military can safeguard the twin blessings of freedom and opportunity without the labors of dedicated, conscientious citizens. Their service and devotion to Indiana's First Congressional District deserves the highest commendation, and I am proud to represent them in Congress.

HONORING HERSHA ARNOLD

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2005

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of a friend and fellow West Virginian, Hersha Arnold, who recently was given the prestigious Jerry Maldavir Award by the American Cancer Society.

Hersha has been a tireless advocate for public awareness about the risks of cancer, prevention, serving cancer survivors, and many other activities. She has been a leader

in her local community, the State of West Virginia and the South Atlantic region for the American Cancer Society.

In addition to her efforts for the American Cancer Society, Hersha has been a diligent volunteer for several causes including running a camp for children with cancer and serving as a strong leader for other State initiatives.

Hersha is a wonderful leader in her community and an invaluable asset to the efforts of improving cancer awareness in the State of West Virginia. We need more people like Hersha to attain the goal of eradicating cancer by 2015. It is with great pride that I am able to recognize my friend and fellow West Virginian for her significant contributions.

RECOGNIZING AND HONORING
100TH BOMB GROUP OF THE 8TH
AIR CORPS

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2005

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the 100th Bomb Group of the 8th Air Corps. Having a history filled with grand achievements, it is with great pride that I commend these brave soldiers for their service and sacrifice during America's greatest war in history, World War II.

Flying its first mission in June 1943, the 100th Bomb Group concentrated its military efforts against airfields, submarine facilities, and aircraft industries in both France and Germany. During this time, the coalition was active in many valiant air raids including the bombing of Rjukan, Norway, which delayed the completion of heavy water for the German atomic bomb. Throughout eight noble missions to Germany, the troop experienced their heaviest losses, earning them the nickname, "The Bloody Hundredth." The 100th Bomb Group of the 8th Air Corps, however, did not lose hope. The group went on to fight in many renowned battles of World War II, including the Battle of the Bulge and the allied invasion of Normandy, which came to be known as D-day. Overall, this courageous troop flew 306 missions, lost 229 planes and sacrificed 785 men which were either killed or deemed Missing in Action, MIA. On April 20, 1945, the group flew its last combat mission to Oranienburg, Berlin, with no losses.

The freedom of the United States of America has depended upon the courage of men and women like the 100th Bomb Group, 8th Air Corps, for over 200 years. As members of the greatest military in the world, their time and efforts did not go unnoticed. The 100th Bomb Group received two Presidential Unit Citations for their efforts in Regensburg and Berlin, Germany, as well as the French Croix de Guerre with Palm for their distinguished service in France during World War II.

On October 1, the 100th Bomb Group of the 8th Air Corps will meet in Pittsburgh, PA, to celebrate its 60th anniversary and renew relationships of its members.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in celebrating the 100th Bomb Group of the 8th Air Corps on its 60th anniversary of the year of their final combat mission.