

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING WILLIAM "BILL" BALSER

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, William "Bill" Balsar was elected to the high office of Department Commander of Ohio on Sunday, July 10, 2005; and

Whereas, William "Bill" Balsar is a 30 year member of the American Legion Post 85, where he has held many offices including Post Commander and Finance Officer; and

Whereas, William "Bill" Balsar has exemplified the meaning of successful civic duty through his unselfish role to serve the greater good of the Ohio Valley; and

Whereas, William "Bill" Balsar recently celebrated his 50th wedding anniversary with his wife Trudy and is the loving father of 3 children and 3 grandchildren.

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in recognizing William "Bill" Balsar for his longtime dedication to the residents and children of Ohio's 18th district.

CONGRATULATING COOKE COUNTY 4-H DAIRY JUDGING TEAM

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding performance of the Cooke County 4-H dairy judging team. The team consists of Ben Wyrick, Josh Zimmerer, Cletus Fuhrmann and Amber Fuhrmann.

4-H is a community of more than seven million young people across America learning leadership, citizenship and life skills. The four "H"s represent the "Head" which stands for clearer thinking and decision-making; "Heart" which stands for greater loyalty, strong personal values, positive self concept, concern for others; "Hands" which stands for larger service, workforce preparedness, useful skills, science and technology literacy; and "Health" which stands for better living, healthy lifestyles.

After winning the Texas State 4-H dairy judging contest, the team is headed to Wisconsin for the national contest. The challenge before the team is to distinguish between various breeds of dairy cows, with each contestant judging four classes of four cows. After placing the cows, contestants then present their reasoning before a judge.

I am very proud to recognize these 4-H members today, and I wish them great luck. Their persistence and commitment should serve as an inspiration to us all.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREATER MIAMI CHAPTER OF THE LINKS, INC.

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Greater Miami Chapter of the Links, Inc. on their 50th year of outstanding commitment to community service. The ceremonies recognizing this important milestone will be held on Sunday, October 16, 2005 at Florida Memorial University.

The Greater Miami Chapter was chartered on Saturday, November 5, 1955 when founding members Maude Maude K. Reid, Mayme E. Williams, and Susie W. Francis brought together 15 other charter members for an installation ceremony at the Carver Hotel in Liberty City.

During its 50th anniversary celebrations, the chapter will honor seven honorees: charter member Susie W. Francis, Frances J. Chambers, Gwendolyn H. Welters, Dorothy H. Fields, Ph.D., Castell V. Bryant, Ed.D., Regina J. Frazier, and Senator Frederica S. Wilson.

The Greater Miami Chapter lists among its many accomplishments programs that bolster the arts, promote awareness of international issues and multicultural events, and assist young people in reaching their full potential.

Nationally, The Links' organization has grown to 275 chapters and approximately 11,000 members who reside in 42 states, the District of Columbia, the Bahamas, Germany and South Africa.

Mr. Speaker, 50 years after their founding, the members of the Greater Miami Chapters of The Links, Inc. are a powerful force for change in the South Florida Community. I thank them for all of their efforts, and wish them another successful 50 years of making a positive impact in the lives of others.

TRIBUTE TO JEFF CHRISTENSEN

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Jeff Christensen, a National Park Service Ranger who tragically lost his life July 29, 2005, while on a backcountry patrol in the Mummy Range area of the majestic Rocky Mountain National Park in Northern Colorado.

Throughout his four seasons of service as a ranger with the National Park Service, Jeff was undoubtedly at home in the midst of some of our country's most scenic and significant park land. I am very grateful for the dedication

and enthusiasm Jeff displayed while serving our Nation in this capacity. He will be profoundly missed by all those whose lives he touched.

Jeff once remarked to a friend, "You know, if I ever die while at work in the mountains, do not cry for me because you will know that I died doing what I love." I pray that Jeff's family and friends will take solace in Jeff's passion for the job he so deeply loved.

I extend my sincere gratitude for the hundreds of concerned citizens who joined in an exhaustive 8 day search for Jeff. The heroic efforts exhibited by members of the National Park Service and countless volunteers have not gone unnoticed.

To Jeff's parents, Dale and Chris Christensen, and his many friends and family members, I express the heart-felt sympathies of a community that shares in their loss. May my colleagues join in celebrating the life and service of Mr. Jeff Christensen.

HONORING THE 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF ED AND HARRIET NIEMIEC

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ed and Harriet Niemiec on their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

Ed and Harriet both grew up in the Back of the Yards neighborhood in Chicago. They knew each other as kids, even though they attended different schools. Eventually Ed and Harriet became engaged and then married on November 6, 1955. They had their only child, Ed, Jr. in August of 1956.

Following in his parent's footsteps, Ed, Jr. and his wife Maria have been married for twenty-seven years. They have two children, Mark and Christina.

Besides an active involvement with their family, Ed and Harriet have many hobbies. Ed spends a lot of time taking care of his yard and tending to his flowers. According to his son, one would be hard pressed to find a blade of grass out of place or a visible weed. Harriet is a consummate volunteer and organizer. Her philanthropies started while she was working at Dry Storage where running the football pools spilled over into organizing senior trips, church functions and working at Christ Hospital as a "Pink Lady."

Ed and Harriet are fine examples as parents and are wonderful role models as grandparents. I would like to extend my best wishes to Ed and Harriet as they and their family celebrates their 50th anniversary.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN GOLDSTEIN, OUTGOING PRESIDENT OF THE MILWAUKEE COUNTY LABOR COUNCIL

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my constituent, Mr. John Goldstein, in thanks for his distinguished record of leadership of Milwaukee's labor movement. John served as president of the Milwaukee County Labor Council for 8 years, capping off a career of local, national and international labor activism that included stints as secretary/treasurer of the Labor Council and president of the Amalgamated Transit Union. He left the Labor Council in September, 2005, to become the new executive director of Partnership for Working Families.

John's leadership and commitment to advancing workers' causes are well known. In his tenure as president of the Labor Council, he spearheaded several major campaigns, among them brokering a resolution with Milwaukee County that improved the climate for workers attempting to organize new unions. He also worked with Milwaukee's Common Council to pass legislation that ensures uniforms needed for city workers are not sweatshop-produced. More recently, John developed a coalition to advocate for the implementation of economic development policies that would benefit a wide array of workers and neighborhoods.

Throughout these efforts, and many others, John's leadership has been marked by a commitment to building broad coalitions to ensure that labor movement victories brought gains for the wider community. He is widely acknowledged as a pioneer in developing labor-community partnerships designed to address problems created by economic and racial disparities throughout the Milwaukee area. His colleagues included faith leaders, a variety of local union activists, and community organizations.

In his role as Labor Council president and through his career, John has prioritized labor organizing, mobilizing for economic justice, and building a strong member-to-member political organization for the benefit of the working people of Milwaukee County. I know he will continue to demonstrate exemplary leadership in his new position as national program director for the Partnership for Working Families. I am thrilled to know that he will be based in Milwaukee, and that while providing technical assistance and leadership to labor-community coalitions across the country, he will continue to enrich our community.

**3RD ANNUAL LATINO AIDS
AWARENESS DAY**

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in strong support of designating October 15, 2005 the 3rd Annual Latino AIDS Awareness Day.

HIV and AIDS have wrecked havoc on millions of lives across the globe for over two decades, ending lives before their time. Today in America, over a million Americans, or about 1 in 300, have HIV or AIDS—a statistic that this Congress must acknowledge. For every American living with HIV or AIDS, a family is traumatized.

Even more staggering is the distribution of those victims. While Hispanics are roughly 14 percent of the population of the United States, they account for 20 percent of America's HIV/AIDS population. To date, nearly 100,000 Hispanics have died with AIDS. Since Hispanics are the fastest growing minority group in the United States, our challenge is even greater.

Minority groups have been hardest hit by the disease, adding another burden on families struggling to make ends meet. Another troubling fact is that as many as 1 in 2 people with HIV/AIDS don't even know they have the disease.

And the fastest growing group of people contracting HIV is young people, putting a tenuous hold on their young lives and future. The more attention we place on HIV/AIDS, the closer we get to eradicating this vicious disease. We have to talk about it, the causes and the prevention.

I encourage all of my colleagues to support Latino AIDS Awareness Day and work to educate Hispanics and other constituents about HIV and AIDS. Education and facts are the best way to wipe out ignorance about HIV/AIDS in the Hispanic populations, and every other demographic in our Nation.

**CONGRATULATING UNITED FUND
ON 50TH ANNIVERSARY**

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the United Fund on the 50th anniversary of its founding.

This fall, the organization celebrates the 50th year of its foundation in 1955. The United Fund has helped many people in the community over the years, and is continuing to do so by hosting an auction themed "Support the Troops". The event is a project by Lincoln High School senior Erin Hunter. The event commences the organization's 2005 campaign.

Over the years United Fund has subsidized transportation cost for community members to get to work. Last year the organization also donated money to Hurricane Ivan flood victims in September.

The fundraising goal for 2005 is \$50,000, which gives the organization the ability to make a positive impact. Richard Basile Sr., director of the organization, leads the effort to give 98 percent of the money that is donated to the United Fund back to the community. Basile is also dedicated to the goal of the United Fund, which is to make a positive impact locally.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the United Fund and its 50 years of service. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute a principled institution like the United Fund.

**A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING
DONA SMITH**

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Dona Smith has provided outstanding service and contributions while serving at the Ross County Community Improvement Corporation from 1990 to 2005; and

Whereas, Dona Smith served her community by helping existing businesses expand and bringing in additional business; and

Whereas, Dona Smith has worked selflessly and with dignity as an integral part of the economic development of her community through 15 years of public service; and

Whereas, Dona Smith has been a devoted and loving caregiver to her husband, children, and grandchildren.

Therefore, I join with Dona Smith's family, friends, the residents of Ross County, and the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in commending Dona Smith for her exceptional work and years of service, and wish her the very best in her future endeavors.

IN MEMORY OF BARRY BOESCH

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Barry Evans Boesch, the 51-year-old executive editor of the Denton Record-Chronicle, and longtime reporter and editor of the Dallas Morning News.

Barry was born December 5, 1953. He was a graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School in Dallas and the University of Texas in Austin. In 1976, Barry began his newspaper career at the Corpus Christi Caller-Times. Most of his nearly 30-year career was spent with the Dallas Morning News.

In March, Barry was diagnosed with a brain tumor but he continued to work until the summer, when radiation and chemotherapy treatments began taking their toll. He passed away 2005 at Baylor University Medical Center with his wife by his side.

Barry will be remembered for his three passions in life—his wife, Pattie; his daughter, Bailey; and the newspaper business. He will also be remembered for his sense of humor and his love of verbal combat.

Today, I would like to recognize and celebrate Barry Boesch's life. I was honored to have known him over the years. His leadership and charisma will certainly be missed by our hometown paper. Please keep his wife and daughter in your thoughts and prayers.

**HONORING THE LATE AUDREY J.
KING, MIAMI GARDENS COUNCIL-
WOMAN**

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my sad duty to bring to the attention of my colleagues the passing of Miami Gardens City