

HONORING SPECIAL AGENT MICHAEL WOLF FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 3, 2005

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Special Agent Michael Wolf who has served the Federal Bureau of Investigation for over 30 years. Just last month we learned that Special Agent Wolf would be leaving the New Haven Field Office to a new position at the Washington Headquarters. It was with great excitement that we heard Special Agent Wolf had been selected by FBI Director Robert Mueller, III to serve as Special Agent in Charge of the Critical Incident Response Group.

Throughout his career, Special Agent Wolf has demonstrated a unique commitment to public service and has dedicated a lifetime to ensuring the safety and security of our communities and our Nation. He has exhibited a deep commitment to public safety not only in joining the Federal Bureau of Investigation, but in successfully combating crime in a myriad of forms.

Joining the Bureau in 1973 as a physical science technician, Agent Wolf was soon appointed to the position of Special Agent. His first assignment took him to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania where he worked on applicant, white collar crime, organized crime, and narcotics matters. Just 5 years later, Agent Wolf was selected as a member of the Bureau's Hostage Rescue Team where he served for 3 years until his promotion to FBIHQ Supervisor, responsible for domestic terrorism matters. Transferred to the New Haven Field Office as a Field Supervisor, Agent Wolf headed the Crime/Drug Squad in Connecticut and supervised the successful development of a case against organized crime. He then went on to be promoted to the position of Inspector which brought him back to FBI headquarters.

For the last 6 years, Agent Wolf has served as Special Agent in Charge of the FBI in Connecticut. I am so pleased to have this opportunity to express my deepest thanks and appreciation to Special Agent Wolf for his gracious assistance to both myself and my staff during his tenure in New Haven. His door has always been open to us, always available to answer our questions or assist in any way that he could. It gives me piece of mind to know that Special Agent Wolf will be next serving as the Special Agent in Charge of the Critical Incident Response Group. Through the myriad of positions he has held and variety of responsibilities he has been charged with, Agent Wolf has developed a distinguished reputation and an impressive resume. With his knowledge, expertise, and strong work ethic, I have no doubt that this new division of the Bureau will be successful in their mission.

For his invaluable service and continued commitment to public service, I am proud to stand today to pay tribute to Special Agent Michael Wolf. I extend my very best wishes to Agent Wolf; his wife, Francine; and his daughters, Danielle and Lindsay as he accepts this new post in Washington, DC. I have no doubt that he will excel in this position and work dili-

gently to ensure the safety and security of our communities and our Nation. Good Luck and God Bless.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 3, 2005

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from votes in the House on Wednesday, November 2, due to a previous and unavoidable commitment. Therefore, I was unable to vote on H.R. 1606, the Online Freedom of Speech Act, rollcall No. 559; H.R. 4061, the Department of Veterans Affairs Information Technology Management Improvement Act, rollcall No. 560; and H.R. 1691, the John H. Bradley Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic Designation Act, rollcall No. 561. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall 559 and "yea" on rollcalls 560 and 561.

TRIBUTE TO THE 29TH ANNUAL ASIAN-AMERICAN CHARITY BALL

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 3, 2005

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to announce that the Asian-American Medical Association will be hosting the 29th Annual Asian-American Charity Ball on Saturday, November 5, 2005, at the Avalon Manor in Hobart, Indiana. Each year, the Asian-American Medical Association honors prominent, extraordinary citizens for their contributions to the community. In recognition of their tremendous efforts, these individuals are honored at the banquet and awarded the prestigious Crystal Globe Award.

The Asian American Medical Association is a great asset to Northwest Indiana. This organization has dedicated itself to providing quality service to the residents of Indiana's First Congressional District and has demonstrated exemplary service in its cultural, scholastic, and charitable endeavors.

At this year's annual charity gala, the Asian-American Medical Association will present Mr. Gus Olympidis with the Crystal Globe award. Gus is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Family Express Corporation based in Valparaiso, Indiana. He currently serves as a Director and a member of the Executive Committee of Centier Bank. He is also a Director of the Valparaiso Community Development Corporation, Director of the Northwest Indiana Forum, and Director of Valparaiso University's College of Business Administration Advisory Council. He also serves on the Porter County Foundation Board.

Amongst Gus's many positive accomplishments throughout his civic and convenience store industry engagements, he has also taken on the role of President of the Valparaiso Parks and Recreation Foundation, Chairman of the Valparaiso Chamber of Commerce, and was a member of the Valparaiso University Town and Gown committee and a Board member on the Regional Development

Authority Committee. I am honored to commend Gus for his commitment and dedication to the well being of those who seek his knowledge and leadership. His efforts and hard work are worthy of the highest recognition.

Although Gus's career consumes much of his time, Gus has never limited the time he gives to his most important interest, his family. He and his wife, Beth, have three children and two grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending the Asian American Medical Society and Gus Olympidis for their outstanding contributions to the community. Their commitment to improving the quality of life for the people of Northwest Indiana and throughout the world is truly inspirational and should be recognized and commended.

TRIBUTE TO COLORADO'S 137TH SPACE WARNING SQUADRON

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 3, 2005

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a truly outstanding component of this Nation's defense—the 137th Space Warning Squadron based in Greeley, Colorado. For the fourth time in five years that squadron has won the Distinguished Mission Support Plaque. This coveted award is sponsored by the National Guard Association of the United States and is presented by Lt. General Daniel James, Director of the Air National Guard. Only five units from the entire Air National Guard are selected to receive this prestigious award recognizing superlative performance in the defense of our nation.

In congratulating the unit for its outstanding performance, I would like to give special recognition to the former commander of the 137th Space Warning Squadron, Brigadier General Select William E. Hudson, Air National Guard. During his nearly 10 years of service, from 1996 to 2005, Colonel Hudson served as Director of Operations and then as Commander of the unit. He led the unit through numerous real world and exercise operational programs. On September 11, 2001 and afterwards, Colonel Hudson ensured that the 137th Space Warning Squadron would meet and exceed its mission responsibilities to Air Force Space Command. I would also like to recognize Brigadier General Mike Edwards of the 140th Wing at Buckley Air Force Base and Major General Mason Whitney, the Colorado Adjutant General, for their superlative support of the 137th Space Warning Squadron.

In 2003 the squadron was rated "Excellent" by USAF Space Command's Operational Readiness Inspection Team for exceptional performance and outstanding leadership. In addition, the unit has received ratings of Excellent to Outstanding at countless inspections since its stand-up in 1996. The National Guard Association's Distinguished Mission Support Plaque showcases the outstanding leadership, operational ability, and professional competence of Colorado Air National Guardsmen and women at the 137th Space Warning Squadron.

I am so proud that this unit constantly goes above and beyond in its defense of Colorado

and the United States of America. I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking the men and women of the 137th Space Warning Squadron for their unparalleled service to our community and our Nation.

KENTUCKY VICTIMS OF HOMICIDE
MEMORIAL

HON. BEN CHANDLER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 3, 2005

Mr. CHANDLER. Mr. Speaker, November 10, 2005 is going to be a very special, yet bittersweet day in Kentucky. After years of hard work and planning, the Kentucky Victims of Homicide Memorial is going to be brought to fruition. As former Attorney General I distinctly remember the beginnings of this project, and I regret that I must be voting in Washington during the memorial dedication.

I personally want to extend my heartfelt appreciation to the KY Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), the Kentuckians' Voice for Crime Victims (KVCV), Resthaven Memorial Park, Muldoon Memorials, and Dignity Memorial for their enormous efforts in seeing that this memorial became a reality.

This memorial will serve as a remembrance of all victims, a place of comfort for those who have lost loved ones and an ongoing tribute to the fight against crime. We must maintain hope in our struggle against violence. We must continue to raise public awareness. And we must always honor the tragic deaths of innocent homicide victims.

The Kentucky Victims of Homicide Memorial will send a powerful message to the citizens of Kentucky. It is the largest memorial and only memorial of its kind in all of the United States. It will serve as a place of inspiration, a place of hope and a place of peace. I thank those who made this memorial a reality, and I hope it will provide a small sense of comfort to those who have been affected by violent crimes.

HONORING THE REVEREND DR.
CALVIN E. OWENS, SR.

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 3, 2005

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate and honor Reverend Dr. Calvin E. Owens, Sr. as he marks his 29th Pastoral Anniversary. But 29 years is only one milestone in a life dedicated to the community, to others, and to God.

After 38 years as a preacher and a lifetime as a teacher, Reverend Dr. Calvin Owens has inspired and lifted so many to recognize the potential that God has invested in each one of us.

Reverend Owens's career has seen him travel through so many institutions, and like the Good Samaritan, leave his mark every step of the way.

His pastoral journey began at Unity of Tabernacle Baptist Church in Mt. Vernon and, in 1968 after being ordained as a minister of the Gospel, he went to First Corinthian Baptist

Church. It was there he served for six years as Director of Youth Development before moving on to the New Community Baptist Church of New York City as Pastor.

He served there honorably before being called to serve the Lord as Pastor of the Community Protestant Church in 1976, the place he still calls home.

But he has inspired and educated not only from the pulpit, but out in the community spreading the word of forgiveness, mercy, love and tolerance as part of the New York City Police Department's Police Clergy Liaison Committee; as the Second Vice President of the Riverbay Board of Directors of Co-op City; Treasurer of the Baptist Ministers Conference of Greater New York; and for eight years now as a member of Community Board #10. He is always serving his flock.

The good works of Reverend Dr. Owens have not gone unnoticed. A certificate of Award for Faithful Service from the New York Baptist Educational Center; the New York Baptist Educational Center Certificate of Appreciation for Outstanding Service and Contributions to the Department of Pastoral Care; the Bronx Ministers Evening Conference Scholarship Award; the Harlem Hospital Center Certificate of Appreciation for Outstanding Service and Contributions to the Department of Pastoral Care; as well as numerous other awards for Christian leadership and service.

But the awards most important to highlight are the one's provided by God—his three sons and three daughters. They are a living tribute to you, Reverend.

Therefore, on behalf of United States House of Representatives, I am honored to acknowledge and honor the life and contributions of Reverend Dr. Calvin E. Owens, Sr. as he celebrates his 29th Pastoral Anniversary.

H.R. 4179: JAPANESE BAN ON
AMERICAN BEEF

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 3, 2005

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 4179. This legislation would impose trade sanctions on Japan if the ban on American beef is not lifted by a reasonable date. For decades, Japan has been a friend and reliable trading partner with the United States, and I anticipate that relationship will prosper. However, in spite of our best efforts, our fine relationship has been strained by Japan's continued ban on imports of U.S. beef.

There is reason to be optimistic that this legislation will not be enacted if Japan takes reasonable action. Japan's Food Safety Commission gave a favorable report on Monday, October 31, 2005, and will continue to review the ban for a mandatory one-month comment period. After the one-month waiting period, the Japanese government may drop the ban and resume beef imports. However, should the Japanese not take favorable action, the trade sanctions would go into effect on December 15, 2005.

The December 15 date is not arbitrary. In fact, I believe it is a well-timed and necessary mechanism to encourage the ban to be lifted. The U.S. beef industry and the federal government have not only assured the Japanese

government of our stringent safety standards, but have also made every effort to exceed the requirements set forth by Japan's Food Safety Commission.

American beef continues to be the safest and the highest quality beef in the world. The American beef producers deserve the full benefit of our bilateral trade agreement. This legislation reserves our right to respond forcefully should Japan prolong this shortsighted ban. I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this legislation.

WELCOMING SOUTH KOREAN
AMBASSADOR TAE-SIK LEE

HON. VITO FOSSELLA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 3, 2005

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, as cochair of the Congressional Caucus on Korea, I would like to take the opportunity to formally welcome the Honorable Tae-Sik Lee as ambassador of the Republic of Korea to the United States and to congratulate him on his appointment.

Ambassador Lee's diplomatic credentials and legacy are entrenched in a life-long devotion to promoting, enlarging and broadening South Korea's stature and prominence at home and around the globe. He most recently served as vice foreign minister at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, MOFAT. His other notable diplomatic assignments include ambassador to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, ambassador to Israel and deputy executive director of the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization, KEDO.

It is clear that Ambassador Lee brings tremendous depth of experience and expertise to Washington. I was pleased to learn that, upon his arrival on Friday, October 14, he stated, according to the South Korean Embassy, that he "looks forward to working together to strengthen the U.S.-Korea alliance and improving Korean-American relations."

It is important to note that Ambassador Lee has the distinct honor of representing one of America's closest allies. For over 50 years, the United States and South Korea have enjoyed a broad and comprehensive alliance, a partnership dedicated to peace and stability, economic growth and prosperity through free enterprise, and democracy with respect for human rights and the rule of law.

South Korea has undergone a fundamental transformation within the past 50 years, having emerged from a worn-torn and impoverished nation into a full and mature democracy that has generated the world's 11th largest economy. South Korea now ranks as the seventh largest trading partner of the United States with over \$72 billion in trade volume annually and is also the fifth largest market for U.S. agricultural products. In this regard, South Korea would make an excellent candidate for a Free Trade Agreement, FTA with the United States.

South Korea remains an indispensable security partner to the United States, having stood alongside our troops in all four major conflicts that we have faced since the Korean War. Most recently, in the U.S.-led war on terror, South Korea has deployed more than