

HONORING THE BEST TEACHERS OF ACADIANA

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2005

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a special group of individuals from the Seventh Congressional District of Louisiana. I am proud to represent this distinguished group from my district. They are teachers, who have dedicated their lives to educating our leaders of tomorrow. Recently, Regent Broadcasting Corporation held a banquet to honor the best teachers in the Acadiana area. I join them in this endeavor and enter into the official CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of each one of these educators. I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking them for their service to our children.

They are: Cassie Arceneaux, Rosemary Arnold, Stephen Arnold, Kristi Barker, Monica Batiste, Rachelle Beasley, Mary Benjamin, John Bliss, Phyllis Bonhagen, Diedra Bossier, Katie Botts, Sarah Boudreaux, Marcy Boudreaux-Johnson, Dina Bourque, Kerry Ann Breau, Phyllis Breau, Maria Brodie, Amanda Buteau, Russell Cailler, Carmen Cain, Carolyn Campos, Sera Centanni, Beth Chambers, Jim Chambers, Ashley Charpentier, Jackie Chaote, Patricia Clement, Shann Comeaux, Misti Darby, Carla Darcey, Dene Dauzat, Vianne Dawkins, Nicole Delahoussaye, Rachel Delcambre, Laura Delcambre, Nicole Duhon, Doug Duhon, Denise Ferguson, Keela Folsom, Cathy Frame, Denise Frederick, Donna Gilbert, Delia Girouard, William Greig, Brandi Gonzalea, Donna Goulas, Tiffani Granger, Patrice Grieg, Deany Guidry, Alanna Guillot, Mona Hahn, Renee Harelson, Callie Hardy, Erica Hargrave, Billy Hargroder, Dianne Hebert, Penny Hebert, Amy Hebert, Teres Johnson, Jan Johnson, Lacy Kibodeaux, Tori Kristicevich, Lea Lahasky, Amy Landry, Ginger Landry, Kim Landry, Rebecca Landry, Laurie LaPorte, Denette Latilais, Camille Lavigne, Hedi LeBlanc, Stephanie Leger, Hayley Lejeaune, Kim LeMaire, Carey Lemoine, Denise Lotief, Angie Louviere, Brenna Mahoney, Vanessa Mayon, Rebekah McGee, Susan Merritt, Dura Minix, Allison Moore, Claire Myers, Kelly Neel, Denise Nugent, Desmond O'Conner, Dori Perez, Tonya Perry, Rosanne Plagens, Rebekah Prudhomme, Rachael Rachel, Rachelle Rachal, Debie Rebert, Nancy Reeves, LaToya Rideau, Ashlyn Roger, Damon Romero, Jonathon Royer, Kristen Royer, Sherry Rude, Tina Sapienza, Rhonda Schwarzenburg, Ros Siebold, Jennifer Semien, Donna Shotwell, Christine Simon, Lisa Stokes, Eric Stromer, Tina Stutes, Monique Taylor, Shawne Taylor, Krystal Theriot, Lyndelle Theriot, Nikki Thevis, Patricia Thibodeaux, Charlene Trahan, Kathy Verrette, Gwen Vice, Melanie Voison, Margaret Walet, Leslie Willis, and Wendy Wisdom.

CONDOLENCES TO PEOPLE OF JORDAN

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2005

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, I want to offer my deepest condolences to the people of Jordan

in the wake of the deadly suicide bombings which occurred on November 9. Jordan has been a leader of peace and stability in the Middle East, and a strong ally and friend to the United States. King Abdullah stood firmly with the United States following the terrorist acts of September 11, and today the United States stands with him and his country.

Jordan, formerly led by the late King Hussein and now King Abdullah, has worked tirelessly towards the goal of finding a peaceful resolution to the Arab-Israeli conflict and promoting stability throughout the region. Jordan is a country of strength and tolerance. From the rubble of these attacks, I am confident Jordan will remain more committed than ever to the eradication of terrorism worldwide.

The heinous acts are the work of cowards. I am confident that Americans and Jordanians will come together in these tragic times to work together towards a safer and more peaceful world.

RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING CONTINUING DEDICATION AND COMMITMENT OF EMPLOYERS OF MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD AND THE OTHER RE- SERVE COMPONENTS

SPEECH OF

HON. RICHARD W. POMBO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to relate the experience of Major Jeff Williamson, an employee of General Mills who serves in the Marine Forces Reserve. He was called to duty in February 2002 and sent to Camp Pendleton for anti-terrorism operations training. In March 2003, Major Williamson was sent to Iraq for initial operations, and remained until June 2003. During his service abroad, General Mills made up the difference to match what his regular salary had been while employed with the company back home. He and his family's medical and dental benefits remained unchanged during this time as well. When asked if he had any comments on how he felt about General Mills treatment of him during that time, he said he had not given that question much thought, adding that, that in itself, says a lot. Major Williamson commented that he did not have to worry about a thing as he and his family were well taken care of. In January, he will be considered for the position of Lt. Colonel. He is married to Tanja and they have two lovely little girls.

TRIBUTE TO DENNIS UNDERWOOD

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2005

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor a man who will long be remembered for his extraordinary leadership and the significant contributions he made to the western states of our Nation. Dennis Underwood served his country in many capacities and dedicated the better part of the past 35 years as an influential leader of water pol-

icy in the West. On November 2, 2005, Dennis passed away following a long battle with cancer. Our region collectively mourns his passing, while remembering his lifelong contributions.

Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation from 1989 until 1993, Dennis most recently served as the chief executive officer and general manager of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, which serves 18 million people. Dennis also served as the Executive Director of the Colorado River Board of California. He worked tirelessly with the seven Basin States, the International Boundary and Water Commission, and various Federal agencies to develop and manage Colorado River water resources.

The greatest challenge facing the West today and for the foreseeable future is meeting water supply needs in an atmosphere of growing population, conflicting state and international claims, and demands of environmental protection. Although Dennis most recently represented water consumers in Southern California, his leadership, ingenuity, fairness, and perseverance yielded important dividends for water users throughout California, Nevada, Arizona, and other states that draw water from the over-allocated Colorado River.

Mark Twain famously stated that "whiskey is for drinking and water is for fighting." While the West has undoubtedly seen its share of water wars, I can't think of a person who had a better ability to get people to stop fighting and sit down at the bargaining table than Dennis. His wisdom, warm good nature, positive approach and—above all—sterling honesty kept all players in the Western water drama focused on finding solutions instead of persisting in conflict.

Personally, I had the pleasure and honor of working with Dennis on a number of important water issues, including the sometimes tumultuous negotiations of the Quantification Settlement Agreement, which brought California's water use in compliance with its legal apportionment for Colorado River supplies. In each instance, Dennis displayed a tremendous ability to find balanced solutions that satisfied all parties.

Mr. Speaker, the United States has lost a great servant, the West has lost a brilliant leader, and I have lost a dear friend. On behalf of our region, I want to convey our appreciation for all of Dennis's efforts and express our heartfelt condolences to the Underwood family, including his wife, Carmen; daughter and son-in-law, Michelle and Ryan Dejourmet; brothers, Russell, Lawrence, Rory, Kevin, and Jeffrey; and two grandsons.

TRIBUTE TO BOB SANCHO

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2005

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Robert Sancho, an outstanding individual and a dear friend who has dedicated many years of service to empowering the people of my community. Tonight the Citizens Advisory Board will recognize him for his many achievements in the City of New York.

Bob was born and raised in the South Bronx. He is a product of the New York City

Public School system and went on to complete a Bachelor of Arts Degree at the Inter-American University in San German, Puerto Rico specializing in Education and Political Science. As an undergraduate Bob was awarded a Minority Urban Education Scholarship and completed a Teaching Fellowship in both Urban and Rural School Districts on the Island of Puerto Rico. He received a scholarship to the prestigious Graduate School of Urban Affairs at Hunter College where he completed his Masters of Science Degree.

Throughout his career Bob has held positions of great importance in the City of New York and has demonstrated his ability to work extremely well under pressure. As Deputy Superintendent of Schools in Community School District Number 4, he took the district from last place (32nd) in reading and math to 13th among New York City School districts. This feat was achieved over a 7 year period and was considered one of the most successful educational accomplishments in America.

During the 1960s Bob was successful in organizing the East Harlem Community against attempts by the Mayor to close down Metropolitan Hospital Center which provided much needed services to the people of that community.

In 1981 Bob was appointed Vice President of Development and External Affairs at Bronx Lebanon Hospital Center, the second largest medical facility in the Bronx. During his 23 year tenure at the hospital, Bob was an important catalyst in securing over 240 million dollars in New York State guaranteed Bonds. These bond issues financed the construction of three new buildings and provided for the rehabilitation of the existing hospital buildings. In addition his department has raised approximately \$15 million during the last several years for various hospital programs.

Mr. Speaker, what makes Bob such a unique and incredible person is that he is willing to put his knowledge and skills to work for causes that help everyday people. Such selflessness is hard to find in today's world. The great work that Bob does at the Bronx Lebanon Hospital Center inspires me to work harder in Washington for the people of the Bronx. It is my hope that he will continue to work to empower and protect those who need it most.

For his unyielding spirit and selfless dedication to the citizens of New York, I ask that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Mr. Bob Sancho as he is recognized for his many achievements by the board of the Citizens Advice Board.

HONORING MADELINE DUCKLES

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2005

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and work of Madeline Duckles of Berkeley, California. A longtime peace activist and community leader, Ms. Duckles will soon celebrate her 90th birthday, an occasion which will coincide with the 90th Anniversary of a group in which she has been active for several decades, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF).

Born in Loomis, California, Ms. Duckles was the youngest of five children. After her older siblings left for school, Madeline went to live with her school music teacher in a household filled with opportunities to read books, learn music, and explore the outdoors. In this household she was encouraged to attend a university despite the opposition of her father, who felt that sending a girl to college was a waste of money. Ms. Duckles nonetheless went on to attend college, graduating in 1937.

At that time Ms. Duckles also became involved at the local YWCA, which at that time was the only place where she was able to discuss social issues. She received much of her early political education through the time she spent there, which coincided with the Spanish Civil War and a high incidence of labor strikes on the domestic front.

Upon her graduation, Ms. Duckles left California for New York City, where she married Vincent Duckles, who was doing graduate work at Columbia. Over the next several years they moved around to several different states while Vincent completed his studies and they both worked a number of jobs, working at different times as teachers, in retail service and other industries.

Eventually they returned to Berkeley, California, which is where Ms. Duckles became active in WILPF. Still outraged at the Japanese internment and the use of atomic weapons against Japan in World War II, she was part of a group of women who in 1961 went on strike across the country to protest atmospheric nuclear tests. Another issue of growing concern among these women was the increasing involvement of the United States in Vietnam, an issue regarding which Ms. Duckles would become progressively more active in years to come.

Even with five children to care for, Ms. Duckles devoted immeasurable amounts of time and energy into the movement for peace and justice in the years that followed. She attended meetings with the World Council of Peace in Europe and Asia, and even went on a speaking tour through Germany, Austria, Switzerland and Italy. Even following the Vietnam War, Ms. Duckles has remained an outspoken advocate for peace and justice for all people throughout the world, continuing to travel and host international delegations of visitors to the United States as well.

This week Ms. Duckles' friends and family come together to celebrate her many years of activism, and the immeasurable impact she has had on our community. On behalf of the California's 9th U.S. Congressional District, I salute and thank Madeline Duckles for her many years of work toward creating a peaceful world for all.

WINTER OUTDOORS MONTH RESOLUTION

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2005

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, as obesity and the associated health risks continue to increase it is important to encourage American's of all ages to participate in physical activity all year long.

To help spread this message, today I am introducing with my colleague from New York,

Rep. JOHN SWEENEY, a resolution urging the President to declare January 2006 Winter Sports Month.

This resolution notes the increase in adult and childhood obesity along with the negative consequences of extremely overweight and obese people, including a decrease in the average life span and rising health care costs stemming from obesity related illness. It also includes the role winter sport activities can play in addressing obesity and the positive effects of participating in physical activity. It resolves that the House of Representatives urge the President to declare January 2006 Winter Sports Month.

Alpine skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing and cross country skiing, not only offer excellent aerobic and anaerobic exercise but they also are activities that allow an entire family to play together in a natural environment. Colder temperatures and snow should not deter outdoor activities.

"Winter Outdoors Month" would remind citizens of the importance to maintain a consistent exercise program and healthy lifestyle all year twelve months out of the year. Winter sports offer unique opportunities to allow all Americans a chance to be together outside, enjoy the season.

CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION OF ORENE SCHWEINLE JORDAN

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2005

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Orene Schweinle Jordan on the occasion of her 100th birthday. Mrs. Jordan is a great example of the determination and dedication the citizens of America possessed in striving to improve their lives and the lives of their family members during the stressful years of the early 1900's. She has seen firsthand this great country develop from the horse-and-buggy era to the age of Internet.

Born in a remote area of rural Texas on December 4, 1905 into a family of seven children, Mrs. Jordan had limited formal education and learned early that hard work and self-improvement were her only avenues to a better life. She developed the philosophy that, "You can do anything if you set your mind to it and never quit." That philosophy has sustained her to age 100 and she has set an example for her children and those around her.

Mrs. Jordan has been an outstanding mother to her children and is the recognized force that molded their lives. Her son, Don D. Jordan, became Chairman & Chief Executive Officer of Houston Lighting & Power Company, Houston Industries, and Reliant Energy in which capacity he served for 23 years. He also served as the International President of the World Energy Council in London, England. Mrs. Jordan's daughter, Shirley A. Jordan Flanagan, perhaps made the biggest contribution as she energized young lives while serving as an elementary school teacher in the public schools of Texas for 35 years.

Married to W.G. Jordan for 60 years, Mrs. Orene Jordan was always a working partner. When the family moved from a small town in south Texas, they opened a small grocery store in La Marque, Texas even though they