

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING JESSIE MAVITY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Mrs. Jessie Mavity, a resident of my hometown of Tarkio, Missouri. Jessie will turn 100 on April 30, and I am honored to be able to share her story with this esteemed House.

Mrs. Mavity was born Jessie May Mather in Tarkio on April 30, 1905 to James Lewis Mather and Ida Jane Lyons Mather. In addition to Jessie, James and Ida Mather had eight surviving children. Jessie graduated from my alma mater, Tarkio High School, in 1924 and then went on to earn a teaching certificate.

In September 1925, Jessie married James Henry Frohn. James passed away in 1971, but he and Jessie had four wonderful children: Marilyn Frohn Graves—a cousin of mine—Jackie Frohn Uptergrove, Carolyn Frohn Doleshal, and Gary Frohn. In addition to her children, Jessie has seven grandchildren who reside throughout our great nation: Nicci Wheeler, Bryan Frohn, and Jason Frohn of Fairfax, Missouri; Dawn Myers of Dallas, Texas; Sheila Graves of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Jim Doleshal of Sacramento, California; and Rob Doleshal of Oakland, California. Jessie also has five great grandchildren: Dustin and Kellen Myers, Cody Doleshal, and McKenzie and Cody Frohn.

In October 1982, Jessie married William Mavity, and while William passed away in 1986, Jessie and William shared a great deal during their four years of marriage. They made their home in Bentonville, Arkansas and Forsyth, Missouri and enjoyed many trips together, both here in the United States and abroad.

Throughout her life, Jessie has always been an active member of the community. She worked in the cafeteria at Fairfax High School and at the Fairfax Community Hospital.

In addition, Jessie was an active member of the Extension Club, the Fairfax High School Band Mother's Club, and was a founding and active member of the BZN Neighborhood Club. She also spent numerous years as a 4H Leader and was an avid gardener.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in honoring Mrs. Jessie Mavity. Her tireless work as a mother and dedicated citizen is truly an inspiration. I wish Mrs. Mavity all the best on her 100th birthday and am proud to represent her in the United States Congress.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF KAREN QUINNEY VOGEL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the many accomplishments of Karen Quinney, Vogel Elementary School Teacher of the Year.

Karen Quinney is a graduate of the University of Houston at Victoria, from which she received her Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies. Four of her 5 years of experience have been spent teaching in the Seguin School District.

She moved into Seguin with her husband over 4 years ago, and has since dedicated her time toward teaching third graders. As a firm believer in the value of keeping high expectations, Karen Quinney understands that students need nurturing and encouragement to succeed. She believes in teaching our youth the value of setting and reaching goals. These skills are important, not only in school, but also for success in later life.

Karen Quinney is a strong believer in the potential of our children. She helps to insure that our children not only attain their goals, but that they reach their full potential. She is currently being honored as the Vogel Elementary School Teacher of the Year.

I am proud to have the chance to recognize the accomplishments of Karen Quinney of Vogel Elementary School. Her passion for teaching is a blessing to the community.

IN HONOR OF DR. SCHLEGAL

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man, like so many others in our Nation, who are truly American: Dr. Harold Schlegal.

Harold and Glenna Schlegal were married on December 9, 1944 after a chance meeting in Dallas, Texas. Dr. Schlegal had been serving his country by flying fighter planes over China and had recently returned from his tour of duty. Within a few years, the Schlegals moved to Lewisville where Dr. Schlegal opened his family practice.

Dr. Schlegal has become something of an icon in Lewisville due to his caring heart, matter-of-fact manner, and involvement in the community. He has delivered countless babies over the years and almost every citizen can speak of a time when he has come to their rescue. As a fellow doctor in Denton County, Harold Schlegal was always to be admired and imitate.

The Schlegals have three children and seven grandchildren. Success is a family tradition with three of the grandchildren receiving full scholarships to college. All members of the family play musical instruments; one of them even studied with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra.

Dr. Schlegal is retired now, choosing to spend his time traveling and with family. The memories of his service to the community will undoubtedly last through the ages. Today, I honor this man for his dedication to his profession and to the people whose lives he touched.

THE PREVENTION FIRST ACT

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I was proud to introduce the Prevention First Act. While our conservative leaders continue to limit a women's right to choose, they are doing very little to ensure that millions of unintended pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases (STD) are prevented. If they are opposed to abortion, they should be for preventing unintended pregnancies. By emphasizing prevention first, my bill will help protect women's reproductive health, reduce unintended pregnancies, decrease the spread of STDs, and give women the tools they need to make the best decisions possible for themselves.

For most women, including women who want to have children, contraception is not an option; it is a basic health care necessity. Contraceptive use saves scarce public health dollars. For every \$1 spent on providing family planning services, an estimated \$3 is saved in Medicare expenditures for pregnancy-related and newborn care.

Many poor and low-income women cannot afford to purchase contraceptive services and supplies on their own. About 1 in 5 women of reproductive age were uninsured in 2003, and that proportion has increased by 10 percent since 2001. Half of all women who are sexually active, but do not want to get pregnant, need publicly funded services to help them access public health programs like Medicaid and Title X, the national family planning program. These programs provide high-quality family planning services and other preventive health care to underinsured or uninsured individuals who may otherwise lack access to health care and alternative options for birth control. Each year, publicly funded family planning services help women to prevent an estimated 1.3 million unplanned pregnancies and 630,000 abortions. Yet these programs are struggling to meet the growing demand for subsidized family planning services without corresponding increases in funding. The Prevention First Act authorizes funding for Title X clinics and allows States to expand Medicaid family planning services.

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

Improved access to emergency contraception (EC) can further reduce the staggering rates of unintended pregnancy and abortion in this country. EC prevents pregnancy after unprotected sex or a contraceptive failure. The Alan Guttmacher Institute estimates that increased use of EC accounted for up to 43 percent of the total decline in abortion rates between 1994 and 2000. In addition, EC is often the only contraceptive option for the 300,000 women who are reported to be raped each year. Unfortunately, many women do not know about EC and many face insurmountable barriers in accessing this important product. The Prevention First Act mandates that the Secretary of Health and Human Services implement an education campaign about EC and requires that hospitals receiving Federal funds provide victims of sexual assault with information and access to EC.

Contraceptives have a proven track record of enhancing the health of women and children, preventing unintended pregnancy, and reducing the need for abortion. However far too many insurance policies exclude this vital coverage. While most employment-related insurance policies in the United States cover prescription drugs in general, the many do not include equitable coverage for prescription contraceptive drugs and devices. Although 21 States now have laws in place requiring insurers to provide contraceptive coverage if they cover other prescription drugs, 29 states still do not have any laws. Out of pocket expenses for contraception can be costly. Women of reproductive age currently spend 68 percent more in out-of-pocket health care costs than men, much of which is due to reproductive health-related supplies and services. The Prevention First Act requires that private health plans to cover FDA-approved prescription contraceptives and related medical services.

Teens face additional barriers regarding access to services and information. Sixty percent of teens have sex before graduating high school. Efforts by conservatives to restrict access to family planning services and promote abstinence-only education programs that are prohibited from discussing the benefits of contraception, actually jeopardize adolescent health and run counter to the views of many mainstream medical groups.

Nearly 50 percent of new cases of STDs occur among people ages 15 to 24, even though this age bracket makes up just a quarter of the sexually active population. Clearly, teens have the most to lose when faced with an unintended pregnancy or an STD infection.

Moreover, 1 in 3 girls becomes pregnant before the age of 20, and 80 percent of these pregnancies are unintended. Teen mothers are less likely to complete high school. Furthermore, children of teenage mothers have lower birth weights, are more likely to perform poorly in school, and are at greater risk of abuse and neglect. Improving access to contraceptive services and information does not cause non-sexually active teens to start having sex. Instead, teens need information to help them both postpone sexual activity and to protect themselves, if they become sexually active. The Prevention First Act provides funding to public and private entities to establish or expand their teenage pregnancy prevention programs, and my bill requires federally funded programs that provide information on the use of contraceptives to ensure that the information is medically accurate and includes health benefits and failure rates.

Reducing unintended pregnancy and infection with STDs are important public health goals. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention included family planning in their published list of the “Ten Great Public Health Achievements in the 20th Century.” My bill, the Prevention First Act, will improve access to family planning services for all women in need and will go a long way in fulfilling the promise of this important public health achievement.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to cosponsor my bill today.

RECOGNIZING GRACEMOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND “OPERATION BUBBLE GUM BUDDIES”

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize the students at Gracemor Elementary School’s S.A.G.E. program. S.A.G.E. is the acronym for Students in Academically Gifted Education, and the S.A.G.E. students at Gracemor have been participating in a great program to support our troops called “Operation Bubble Gum Buddies.”

The S.A.G.E. students at Gracemor have been supporting our brave soldiers and their important mission by collecting bubble gum and other items to send to our troops currently serving in Iraq. Our brave soldiers will not only enjoy these gifts themselves, but they will also share the bubble gum with the children of Iraq. This small, selfless gesture spreads goodwill and establishes an important bond between the future leaders of America—like the students at Gracemor—and the future leaders of a free and democratic Iraq.

It was also an inspiration to learn that each student in the program included a personal note along with the bubble gum in each individual care package. I know that the soldiers greatly appreciate hearing from the students, and I would encourage the students to continue with this important task; it is a true testament to the patriotic spirit of the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in thanking the students of Gracemor Elementary who have been participating in “Operation Bubble Gum Buddies.” Their dedication to our troops and the children of Iraq are a credit to our Nation, and I am proud to represent them in the United States Congress.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF HECTOR BOLAÑOS CALZADO

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the accomplished career of Hector Bolaños Calzado, Junior Achievement of Laredo Business Hall of Fame Laureate.

Mr. Bolaños Calzado has had a tremendously successful career as a customs broker. He is the first customs broker from Nuevo Laredo to receive this award, and the first award

recipient to operate offices on both sides of the border.

In 1953, Mr. Bolaños Calzado joined his family’s brokerage firm at the age of 22. The firm was founded in 1928 by Don Fulgencio Bolaños Garcia, who saw tremendous potential for growth in the border region. The Bolaños firm persevered through a period of great change in Laredo, and has adapted to new technology, new laws and regulations, and the new economic situation created by the growth in trade between Mexico and the United States.

Under Mr. Bolaños Calzado’s care, the business has grown by almost 80 percent. He has expanded operations into Laredo, beginning with a 12,000 square-foot warehouse in 1964. He has become involved in the local banking industry, and has served on the board of directors for the International Bank of Commerce for the last 35 years.

Mr. Bolaños Calzado continues to be a major force for growth and trade in the Laredo region. His work has helped bring prosperity to his native city, and I am proud to have the opportunity to recognize him here today.

ROSE BARGAS MYERS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, today to honor a constituent who lived in my district and has overcome incredible obstacles to grasp the opportunities America holds, Rose Bargas Myers.

She came to the U.S. as an infant accompanied by her mother. Her biological father had died and her mother later abandoned her to be raised by her grandparents.

This individual was nurtured in the loving home of Alberto and Pauline Bargas who understood all too well the cost of America’s freedom. A deep love of country ran deep with her grandparents who were immigrants themselves.

In addition, her grandfather served in the Army during WWII, the Korean War and in Vietnam. He was a Prisoner of War survivor having lived through what is called the “Death March of Bataan.” This Death March has been described as one of the most tragic and irresponsible episodes in the entire war, for which her grandfather simply commented, “Thank God, I survive.”

Life was spent growing up in Killeen, Texas and believing that her grandparents were her birth parents until she was legally adopted in 1973.

She also believed that she was a United States Citizen because the adoption judge had declared her a citizen. It was only last year that she discovered the judge did not have authority to grant her citizenship.

Today, I want to recognize Rose Bargas Myers and present to her an American Flag that has waved in her honor over the U.S. Capitol Building in Washington, D.C. and to be among the first to congratulate and welcome her into the family of Americans.