MINNESOTA'S HISTORIC OLD LOG THEATER MARKS RECORD RUN OF 65 YEARS

HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 24, 2005

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a historic Minnesota and national treasure, the Old Log Theater.

The Old Log is a pioneering lighthouse in the history of theater in our Nation, located on the shores of Lake Minnetonka in Greenwood, next to Excelsior, Minnesota.

Just as Lake Minnetonka for generations has been a powerful attraction for visitors from all over the world trying to escape the summer heat, the rich tradition of the Old Log Theater has been a magnet for theater fans around the globe.

On June 9th, the Old Log Theater will celebrate its 65th anniversary, a truly remarkable accomplishment that is most deserving of special recognition.

Mr. Speaker, the Old Log Theater, under the visionary guidance of Don Stolz, is the Nation's oldest, continuously running professional theater.

Don is largely responsible for the Old Log's legendary 65-year run.

He has worn every hat: producer, artistic director, company member, ticket seller, public address announcer, theater host and many more.

Don's distinguished presence, the great respect he enjoys in the community and the profession, and his wonderful sense of humor have as much to do with the success of the Old Log as any other factor.

The enduring legacy of this great theater is that, at its roots, the Old Log is a family affair. Don, his wife, Joan, and their sons, Tim, Tom, Dony, John and Peter, have acted as a team, filling every role.

And author and public relations manager Bob Williams is really a member of the Stolz family, too.

Originally opened in the spring of 1940 as a summer stock company in a log stable, the Old Log has entertained over 6 million patrons over the past six and a half decades.

In 1960, a new theater opened and the Old Log started running year-round its stable of the best in contemporary comedies from Broadway and London's West End.

Theater buffs can find some of the best comedic talent in the country in the Old Log's resident company of Equity actors.

Famous stars too numerous to mention have started their careers at the Old Log. Radio and TV personalities have graced its stage year after year.

But those of us who have been in the audience—and we come back time and again!—have been graced the most by the continuing excellence of the Old Log.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Don Stolz and the Stolz family on the 65th anniversary of the Old Log Theater.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 24, 2005

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, on the evening of May 23, I missed three rollcall votes. I respectfully request the opportunity to record my position on rollcall votes. It was my intention to vote: yes on H.R. 744—Internet Spyware (I–SPY) Prevention Act of 2005; yes on H.R. 29—Securely Protect Yourself Against Cyber Trespass Act; yes on H. Con. Res. 149—Recognizing the 57th anniversary of the independence of the State of Israel.

At this time I would ask for unanimous consent that my positions be entered into the RECORD following those votes or in the appropriate portion of the RECORD.

NARCO-TERRORISM ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2005

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 24, 2005

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce today the ''Narco-Terrorism Enforcement Act of 2005.'' This legislation will provide yet another tool for our law enforcement agencies in the struggle against global terrorism and illicit drugs, and against those who traffick in the illicit narcotics which help finance terrorism.

In a recent hearing before our International Relations Committee on the heroin crisis in Afghanistan, our excellent and knowledgeable Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) indicated that nearly half of the U.S. Government-designated Foreign Terrorist Organizations (FTOs) around the globe have links to illicit narcotics (18 of 40). The nexus between terrorism and illicit narcotics grows more and more as evidence emerges of their common, supportive links and as the use also increases of drug trafficking routes to move both narcotics and terrorists.

In the case of the Afghan narcotics, which help finance several of the terrorist organizations that are today attacking American troops and the new Afghan democratic government, much of the heroin produced there is supplied to Europe and Asia, not to the United States. In cases where there is not yet any known nexus to U.S. trafficking or any domestic destinations here at home, our DEA agents on the front line often rely on another foreign transiting nation or the producing nation itself to bring indictments of these drug trafficking cases and proceed with difficult and challenging prosecutions.

This bill makes clear that, even without direct U.S. nexus, if these drugs help support or sustain a foreign terrorist organization, the producers and traffickers can, and should be, prosecuted for material support of terrorism, whether or not the illicit narcotics are ever intended for, or enter, the United States. In addition, this bill raises the penalties under the material support-for-terrorism statute to reflect the seriousness of this offense. This bill reflects the new reality, emerging challenges, and ever-clearer drug links on the global terrorism front.

I look forward to enacting this reform as Congress continues its effort to provide our national law enforcement agencies with the tools needed to win the war on global terrorism.

WATER STORAGE

HON. C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 24, 2005

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, If there's one thing Idahoans understand, it's the importance of matching our limited water supplies to what seem to be unlimited demands on the water we have. Every year our water supplies face demands from irrigation, power generation, industrial and municipal users, as well as from environmental groups for fish recovery and other Endangered Species Act requirements.

These demands are constantly growing, yet every spring we watch hundreds of thousands of acre-feet of water pass through our system that could and should be stored for beneficial uses. This is water that could be used for aquifer recharge, expanding municipal systems or even environmental mitigation.

I have been told that the days of building new dams are over. However, I am not that easily convinced. Recently I convened a group of interested water users to look at additional storage opportunities in Idaho. The group is focusing on the Treasure Valley, but we are hopeful that the group can find some success and we can use a similar process in other regions of the state. We are not just talking about building dams; we also are looking at adding to existing structures, off-site storage, recharge and a host of other ideas.

As part of this process, the Bureau of Reclamation in Idaho is undertaking the appraisal level study for the Boise and Payette river systems. The legislation I am introducing today is the next step in the process. It is a broad authorization for the Bureau to conduct feasibility studies on the Snake, Boise, and Payette River systems.

Our communities, our economy and our families all depend on water to survive, grow and prosper. Deciding how to use such a rare commodity in a way that does the greatest good for the greatest number, while hewing to the principles of law and equity on which our society is based, is an enormous challenge. The task is further complicated, and brought into sharp focus, by the continuing drought plaguing Idaho and much of the arid West.

Our energy, our economy and our environment all will depend on the ability to anticipate and prioritize future water needs. Our children, our grandchildren and generations to come all are depending on the choices we make today. Preserving water rights while providing for continued growth are a top priority of mine and I will continue to work to achieve that goal.