

RECOGNIZING PAUL JENSON FOR
ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE
SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 21, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Paul Jenson, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 495, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Paul has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Paul has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Paul Jenson for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN HONOR OF THE 112TH ANNUAL
BALL OF THE MONDAY CLUB

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 21, 2006

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Monday Club as it celebrates its 112th anniversary of serving the Delaware community. The Club was incorporated in 1893 for the promotion of the moral and intellectual welfare of its members.

The Monday Club is a male leisure organization, and the oldest chartered African American organization in the State. Early members of the Club consisted of butlers, waiters, coachmen, cooks, and janitors who encompassed the economic, social and religious life in the community. Later, the Club expanded to include businessmen, politicians, men working in industry, as well as workers and laborers of all skills in every area of Delaware's economy.

Through the years, the Monday Club has developed into more than just a social club. In fact, due to its members' strong community ties, the Monday Club has contributed to many local churches, individuals and charities. In doing so, the Monday Club provides support for numerous charitable organizations in Delaware and has established scholarship funds for students, such as the Dr. Woodrow Wilson/Senator Herman H. Holloway Scholarship Fund, which awards four \$1,000 scholarships to graduating high school seniors planning to attend college each year.

I congratulate the Monday Club for reaching this extraordinary milestone. The dedication of its members to the community enhances the quality of life for many Delawareans and provides opportunities for children across the State. I would like to thank the Monday Club for their valuable impact on Delaware.

IN MEMORY OF PFC STEPHEN M.
LASHINSKY (UNITED STATES
ARMY) AND SGT JAMES F.
FORDYCE (UNITED STATES MA-
RINES)

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 21, 2006

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, without exception, each of us who has the honor of serving in Congress does not have to look far from home for our American heroes. In my 7th Congressional District, the Newtown Township Supervisors recently hosted a ceremony at their June 12 meeting to recognize the sacrifice of two mothers whose sons were killed in action. The fallen soldiers come from different generations but are forever united in spirit as they join all who have given their lives serving in our Armed Forces to preserve our rights and freedoms. Every person who dies in the line of duty commands the eternal gratitude of the American people.

PFC Stephen M. Lashinsky was killed while serving in Vietnam and SGT Jimmy Fordyce died along with ten other marines in a helicopter crash off the east coast of Africa in February 2006. Both PFC Stephen Lashinsky and SGT Fordyce joined the military with a strong desire to serve and protect our country. In doing so, they made that incredible commitment, putting their lives on the line to accomplish their mission. It is because of soldiers like PFC Stephen M. Lashinsky and SGT Jimmy Fordyce that our country remains free today. We must commit to remembering forever their lives and valiant sacrifices.

Our thoughts and prayers are with our fallen service men and women and their families. May God bless them and all Americans serving with honor today.

IT'S TIME FOR CONGRESS TO
OPEN ITS DOORS TO MORE DI-
VERSITY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 21, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a column in the Stirring the Pot segment of the June 20, 2006 edition of the Rollcall periodical newspaper and an article from the June 2006 edition of DiversityInc.

The column, entitled "It's Time for Congress To Open Its Doors to More Diversity" is authored by Donna Brazile, political strategist, former congressional chief-of-staff, and Chair of the Democratic National Committee's Voting Rights Institute (VRI). The article, entitled, "Who Is Worst for Diversity? The United States Senate", is authored by C. Stone Brown and Mark Lowery.

Donna Brazile captures your attention by stating that "one of the hottest and most illuminating stories to hit the newsstands last week discussed the lack of diversity in the Senate." She goes on to address the content of that news story written by C. Stone Brown and Mark Lowery of DiversityInc. Brown and Lowery reported that equal opportunity is sorely missing in action in the Senate.

The articles point out that there is one black, three Hispanic, two Asian Americans and fourteen women Senators. This membership does not represent a good cross-section of the Country.

While Ms. Brazile's article encourages the Senate to establish a process to open doors to qualified candidates of colors and women it does not exclude the House of Representatives. Take a look at the number of minority chiefs-of-staff and legislative directors for members outside of the Congressional Black Caucus or the Congressional Hispanic Caucus.

Brown, Lowery and Brazile reveal thought provoking data and information that relates to the issue of diversity in staffing in the Senate and the House. They cleverly summarize the issue by quoting a leading diversity consultant who states if change is to come to diversity in placement of key Congressional positions . . . "It has to start at the top, with the CEO (Senator), and be made a priority with some accountability."

Mr. Speaker, I enter this article with the hope that it will impress upon the legislative body the need for sensitivity in including people of color and women in the "pool" from which future personnel is chosen.

[From the Rollcall, June 20, 2006]

IT'S TIME FOR CONGRESS TO OPEN ITS DOORS
TO MORE DIVERSITY

(By Donna Brazile)

One of the hottest and most illuminating stories to hit the newsstands last week discussed the lack of diversity in the Senate. In their cover story, DiversityInc writers C. Stone Brown and Mark Lowery discovered that when it comes to "equal opportunity," the Senate is sorely missing in action.

With only one black, three Hispanic, two Asian Americans and 14 women Senators, the chamber's membership isn't exactly a good cross-section of the Nation. And furthering that problem, the reporters write, their review of "people of color" serving in Senate offices and committees found that senior positions such as chief of staff, legislative director, counsel and even communications director are "practically reserves for white men and women."

As a former chief of staff and press secretary for Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-D.C.), I believe it's time the Senate makes diversity in its ranks a major priority.

This investigative report is worth reading because it takes on both major political parties for their lack of significant progress in bringing more diversity to one of the most powerful institutions in America. According to DiversityInc's investigation, of the 1,000 senior-level staffers, about "7.6 percent are people of color." The report then breaks that down even further: "2.9 percent are Black, 2.8 percent are Asian American and 1.9 percent are Latino." Given the multitude of issues and concerns the Senate addresses each year, it's time every Member take a look inside his or her own office to see if any changes should be made and to figure out a process to open the doors to qualified candidates.

(And the House of Representatives should do so, as well. How many minorities are chiefs of staff or legislative directors for Members outside of the Congressional Black Caucus or the Congressional Hispanic Caucus?)

When the reporters tried to obtain this important data from some Senate offices, they were greeted with no responses. (The report indicated that repeated calls were made to the Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.), Majority Leader Bill Frist (R-Tenn.) and even Sen.

Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-N.Y.), but to no avail.) Since most Senators refuse to acknowledge or even discuss this matter, I am sure out of embarrassment, let me do what any former Congressional staffer would do and offer some useful advice in correcting this problem and perception.

First, I would take Paul Thornell's advice to urge Senators to "widen their networks." Thornell, a one-time colleague from my days working with Al Gore and a former Senate staffer, said he believes Senators "can start by committing to interview at least one qualified minority candidate anytime there is an opening at mid and senior level." He stated that "this is the same approach used by the National Football League to hiring head coaches. If they aren't interviewing qualified minority candidates, that guarantees they won't hire them."

Bottom line, as a leading diversity consultant who works with Fortune 500 companies explained to me: It has to start at the top, with the CEO (Senator), and be made a priority with some accountability.

Thornell also suggests that the Senate should hire a diversity consultant to advise them on how best to remedy this problem. When Texaco, Coca Cola, Wal-Mart, Denny's or any of the countless other companies that have had problems with diversity issues tried to solve them, did their CEOs just call their peers and ask what to do? No, they hired someone with expertise to give them counsel based on their experience to help them improve on issues surrounding diversity.

When I first came to Capitol Hill right out of college, I started as an intern in the office of the late Rep. Gillis Long (D-La.). I so enjoyed being on the Hill and didn't mind sitting at the front desk or running errands (delivering "Dear Colleague" letters, etc.) for months because I knew once I was in the door, I could move up the ladder. Today, there is such a gap in the Senate between entry-level positions and senior-level slots (legislative assistant up to chief of staff) that even a strong and competent person who starts as a staff assistant realistically is not going to be considered for a LA position for years and rarely, if ever, for chief of staff.

Such evidence suggests that promoting internships as the sole solution is not going to attack the problem. The difference in the House is you can begin as a staff assistant right out of college, the offices are smaller and there are more opportunities in the House. So, you can get on a track that accelerates your career path. Some Senate offices will tell their entry-level staff right away that they won't get promoted to LA from the position of staff assistant.

Senators, it's time for some introspection and a deep look at the picture you're sending to others you tell to "clean up their act." It's time for a little bit of humility and some sensitivity to make sure that people of color and women are included in the "pool" from which future personnel are chosen. Just remember: We, too, are Americans. We bring a different, and often unique, perspective to the debate, whether it's on privatizing Social Security or predatory lending practices and their impact on communities of color. And many of us would like to have a seat—or even a folding chair—at the table when policies that impact our communities, as well as our Nation, are being brought up on the floor.

Just remember, like that of former President Bill Clinton, President Bush's Cabinet looks like America. Why should Senate offices look or behave differently?

RECOGNIZING ALEX DAVENPORT FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 21, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Alex Davenport, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Alex has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Alex has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Alex Davenport for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO RAY SUTHERLAND

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 21, 2006

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that a long and exceptionally distinguished career in education has come to a close. Ray Sutherland retired from his position after 31 years last spring.

A graduate from Central Missouri State University, Mr. Sutherland has been highly respected in his many years of teaching and administrative duties.

Mr. Sutherland is well known for his sense of humor and ability to maintain good relationships with all of his students. During his career, he was admired by his students and has treated all before him with the same sense of justice and respect.

In 1971, Mr. Sutherland graduated from Higginsville High School. After graduating from Central Missouri State University in 1975, he began teaching Industrial Arts at Higginsville High School. In 1990, he was named Principal of Lafayette County C-1 Middle School.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Ray Sutherland all the best as he moves on to the next step in his life. I know the Members of the House will join me in wishing him all the best in the days ahead.

COMMEMORATING THE LAUNCHING OF THE WORLD HARMONY FOUNDATION'S GLOBAL RECYCLING FOR PEACE AND HARMONY PROGRAM TO CREATE HARMONY BELLS FOR PEACE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 21, 2006

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the World Harmony Founda-

tion and the launching of their Global Recycling for Peace and Harmony program to create Harmony Bells for Peace.

The World Harmony Foundation is dedicated to building cultures of peace with sustainable environments. Through their Global Leadership Initiatives with Global Recycling for Peace and Harmony program they will bring together heads of state, parliamentarians, mayors, and community leaders with students and educators worldwide to work in partnership in building cultures of peace for generations to come.

The first Harmony Bell for Peace, which is here today on Capitol Hill to be rung for peace, was at the United Nations for its 60th anniversary ceremony and celebration on October 24, 2005, in honor of the theme "A Time for Renewal." Secretary General Kofi Annan was the first person to officially ring the Harmony Bell during the ceremony followed by His Excellency Mr. Jan Eliasson. The Harmony Bell for Peace can be rung by all people from all walks of life that make their commitments to building cultures of peace with sustainable environments for all. A moment of silence will be held today when the bell is rung.

The World Harmony Foundation designed the Harmony Bell for Peace with the word "Harmony" appearing around the center in the six official languages of the United Nations with elements of nature. This first Harmony Bell was made with ammunition donated by the Chinese military and recycled scrap metal collected and donated by school children.

Future Harmony Bells for Peace will be made from metal and decommissioned shredded guns donated by heads of state, parliamentarians, mayors, and community leaders who are making their own commitments to peace. These materials will be combined with the recycled scrap metal collected and donated by students in schools around the world that also have curriculums on peace and environmental studies to the Global Recycling for Peace and Harmony program of the World Harmony Foundation.

The Harmony Bells for Peace created from this program will travel as Ambassadors of Peace and inspire people in communities around the world. Later, they will be donated to schools, civic centers, and hospitals.

I thank Mr. Frank Liu, President of the World Harmony Foundation and Ms. Margo LaZaro, CEO of the World Harmony Foundation, for creating this program. I also want to thank all of their sponsors and supporters for encouraging and supporting this important organization and the valuable contributions that they are making to the global community for peace and Harmony for all people.

I congratulate the World Harmony Foundation on this Global Leadership Initiative for Peace and Harmony. Today, as we ring the Harmony Bell for Peace to launch the World Harmony Foundation's Global Recycling for Peace and Harmony program, I encourage my colleagues to work for peace and celebrate this remarkable effort. I would like to thank all those responsible for bringing the Harmony Bell for Peace to Capitol Hill today.

Generations to come will have Harmony Bells for Peace in their communities because of the contributions the World Harmony Foundation is making to the world.