

LARRY WINN, JR. POST OFFICE
BUILDING

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2006

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of a distinguished Kansan, Edward Lawrence "Larry" Winn, Jr. Congressman Winn honorably represented the residents of the Third Congressional District of Kansas from 1967 until 1985. His career in Congress was marked by his care for the Kansans he represented and accentuated by noteworthy accomplishments.

Kansans are people that know the value of a hard day's work—Congressman Winn included. During his eighteen years of service in Congress, Congressman Winn always worked to ensure taxpayer's dollars were spent wisely. He knew the folks back home had worked hard and expected their taxes to not be wasted. The Treasury Department recognized Congressman Winn's efforts for fiscal responsibility by awarding him the Golden Bulldog Award each year he served.

Congressman Winn also made sure that Kansans were well-informed about what was happening in Washington. As a former radio broadcaster, Congressman Winn taped a weekly radio program that was distributed to local broadcasters in Kansas. His popularity and reputation for excellence in constituent service was evident by frequently seeing "I visited Congressman Larry Winn in Washington" bumper stickers.

During his service in the House, Congressman Winn was a strong supporter of our nation's space program. As a member of the House Committee on Space and Aeronautics, Congressman Winn's support for space exploration and scientific discovery, helped give NASA the resources it needed to achieve the great accomplishments it did.

I am proud to be a sponsor of legislation to recognize this fine Kansan. For his dedication to the people of Kansas and our nation, it is appropriate that Congress honor Congressman Winn by designating the United States Post Office at 6029 Broadmoor Street in Mission, Kansas, as the "Larry Winn, Jr. Post Office Building."

INTRODUCTION OF THE PREVENTIVE MEDICINE FOR A HEALTHIER AMERICA ACT OF 2006

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 21, 2006

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that would improve the long-term health of Americans and reduce the skyrocketing health care costs in our nation. One of the best ways we can accomplish these goals is to encourage companies to implement programs that prevent disease and encourage healthy lifestyles.

Mr. Speaker, that is why I am introducing the Preventive Medicine for a Healthier America Act of 2006. This legislation would in-

crease the number of individuals who pursue preventive medicine careers, encourage businesses to offer wellness programs for their employees, and provide public awareness on the importance of preventive medicine.

Preventive medicine physicians are an important resource in the quest to educate patients and communities of health risks, detect symptoms in the early stages of disease, and encourage preventive action. Unfortunately, the number of preventive medicine residency programs and individuals pursuing preventive medicine degrees has significantly decreased in recent years.

As a result, the Preventive Medicine for a Healthier America Act would offer up to \$20,000 in loan forgiveness for individuals who become board certified in preventive medicine. Medical school is an expensive undertaking and too many medical students are forced to pursue professions that will provide instant financial benefits. They often must do this simply to payoff student loans. By providing up to \$20,000 in loan forgiveness for pursuing preventive medicine, this legislation would help ensure a talented pool of preventive medicine physicians.

Businesses are another important component in the fight to prevent disease among Americans. As businesses realize the financial benefits and productivity improvements involved with the health of their employees, more and more are becoming interested in preventive medicine. Wellness and preventive health programs can be expensive initially. However results over the long-term have saved companies hundreds of thousands of dollars and several have even seen cost savings in the millions.

The Preventive Medicine for a Healthier America Act would provide tax incentives for companies that implement a wellness program for their employees. Qualified businesses that implement wellness programs would be able to claim a tax credit for every employee that participates. A certain percentage of their employees would have to participate for a company to be eligible for the credit, and there are specific requirements to ensure employees benefit. In turn, employees would stay healthier and businesses can see a significant reduction in their health care costs.

Public awareness regarding the importance of preventive medicine is also a key to the prevention of disease. My bill also would require the Department of Health and Human Services to carry out a national education campaign to encourage the use of preventive health screenings. Providing education would encourage individuals to take responsibility for their health and offer information on how to prevent illness for themselves and for their loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to introduce the Preventive Medicine for a Healthier America Act which would reduce the risk of disease, encourage a healthier America, and help curb the rising cost of health care for our businesses. It is important we realize as a Nation that taking care of ourselves today will pay the dividends of tomorrow.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS' 2006 "STAMP OUT HUNGER" NATIONAL FOOD DRIVE

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 21, 2006

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, June 6th was National Hunger Awareness Day, a day when our Nation acknowledged that more than 38 million Americans, including nearly 14 million children, still go hungry every day.

As a Member of Congress and as one of the Co-Chairs of the House Hunger Caucus, I am committed to ending hunger in the United States and around the world. I know we can end hunger once and for all if we only have the political will to do so.

Mr. Speaker, it is with gratitude and pleasure that I rise to specifically acknowledge the efforts of the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) toward feeding the hungry in the United States and its jurisdictions. On Saturday, May 13, the NALC executed its 14th annual "Stamp Out Hunger" national food drive. Millions of American generously left food donations next to their mail slots for pick-up that Saturday. Local letter carriers throughout the country collected, processed and distributed 70,493,150 pounds of donated food along their regular postal routes.

The 70.5 million pounds of food has gone to restock our Nation's food banks, pantries and shelters. This national network of agencies assist our children, elderly, working poor, disabled and unemployed who struggle to obtain nutritious meals for themselves and their families.

Some of this food was donated by residents of the 3rd Congressional District of Massachusetts to the Greater Boston Food Bank and the Worcester County Food bank. Together, they serve 887 soup kitchens, food pantries, shelters and other agencies.

This drive exemplifies the types of partnerships between government, the private sector and civil society that our country needs. The United States Postal Service and Campbell Soup Company teamed up with the NALC to deliver almost 118 million post-cards promoting the drive, and to enable the pick-up and distribution of donations.

I commend the efforts of over 200,000 letter carriers, great American public servants on and off the job, toward helping our needy. Their efforts should serve as an inspiration and as a model to our fellow Americans and to the federal government. I hope that the work of our Nation's letter carriers spurs other Americans to work together toward the achievable goal of ending hunger in this wealthiest of nations.

TRIBUTE TO JUDY JONES

HON. MICHAEL T. McCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 21, 2006

Mr. McCAUL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address this body with a heavy heart. Judy Jones, the mother of my dear friend Melinda Little, passed away on Sunday, June 18, 2006 with her family by her side.

Judy was a proud Texan, a native Houstonian and a staunch Republican. She graduated from the first graduating class of Bellaire High School in 1958, attended the University of Houston, and for the last fifteen years, she worked at the Texas Association of Public Employee Retirement Systems.

Judy was also a founding member of Heritage Republican Women's club and spent years working in grassroots for the Republican Party in Harris County and also statewide. She chaired two successful campaigns to elect her husband Sonny Jones to the Texas House of Representatives as the first Republican to be elected to that body since Reconstruction, and she worked tirelessly to successfully give Harris County and Texas a Republican majority.

Judy loved life. She will always be remembered for the love she gave to her husband Sonny and her three children Melinda, Michael and Maggie. She will also be remembered for the love she received from her family and friends, her wonderful sense of humor and her joy in celebrating the holidays. Judy will truly be missed.

GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 21, 2006

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, in the days after 9/11, the United States took the last action our enemies thought we would take—we took the fight to them. They believed that our partisan bickering would provide them with the protection they needed to continue to operate. They were wrong. Our armed forces struck hard at the very heart of their operation—disrupting their terrorist network and bringing down their leaders.

They are an enemy without borders, and believed they could find sanctuary in any number of countries that would provide safe haven. They operated camps and training grounds half way around the world, far away from any U.S. military presence. Today, we have them on the run. Saddam Hussein has been captured and Zarqawi is dead. In their place stands the very thing our enemies fear the most—democracy. Instead of a fascist dictator is a newly elected Prime Minister, and fear and oppression has been replaced with an emerging economy.

However, our enemies continue to fight . . . but why? Does their resolve stem from some military, political or strategic error on our part? To the contrary, it's our doubt that gives them strength.

Al Qaeda has declared Iraq as the battleground between democracy and their hatred of our way of life . . . but they know that their war cannot be won on the battlefield. Instead, their war is waged in the minds of every American. By definition terrorism is the spreading fear and doubt through violence . . . and that's what they are trying to do.

Since the days immediately following 9/11, solidarity has once again given way to partisanship. Despite our successes, this has given the terrorists the foothold they need. Unlike before 9/11, our forces are at their front door, poised to strike before they can do any more harm. But the terrorists believe the day

is well within their grasp where they can resume operations without fear of intervention by the U.S. and our allies. A day when they can tumble a newborn democracy and another one more than 200 years old. If we let this day come and allow the fight to return to our shores, we have not only failed those who lost their lives on 9/11 and the those who died fighting for our freedom, but our families, friends and everything we hold dear. I look forward to the day when our friends in the Middle East can stand on their own. They have already proven to be dedicated allies, but their future and the future of our friendship still hangs in the balance.

Some would rather abandon our friends and everything we have accomplished, hoping that this act of good faith will somehow appease a foe proven to be without mercy. But I know our borders and our communities should not be our front lines . . . and in our retreat, this would be the next battleground. It's happened before, and it would happen again.

We didn't choose this fight, but we are in it. It is a war of freedom against tyranny. We have to stand together and prove to these killers they can't win. It's our job to keep our nation safe, and we will.

HONORING SCIENTISTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER MEDICAL CENTER

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 21, 2006

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor three champions of medical research and health care innovation in this country, Doctors William Bonnez, Richard Reichman and Robert Rose, virologists in the Infectious Diseases Division of the Department of Medicine at the University of Rochester Medical Center (URMC).

The URMC has a long legacy of medical innovation and groundbreaking research. These three doctors have continued that tradition with their research into the human papillomavirus (HPV), laying the groundwork for the recent FDA approval of a cervical cancer vaccine that will protect against two of the most prevalent cancer-causing strains of HPV.

After years of research and clinical trials during the 1990s, Doctors Bonnez, Reichman, and Rose were able to create a "virus-like particle" that imitated the real papillomavirus. Though it was not infectious, the virus-like particle induced the immune system to respond as if a real virus were launching an attack. This breakthrough at the URMC, created the foundation for other scientists to build upon. The fruits of URMCs basic research were reaped on June 8, 2006, when the Food and Drug Administration approved Gardasil, the vaccine designed to block strains of the sexually transmitted HPV known to cause 70 percent of cervical cancer cases.

Every year approximately 5.5 million people contract sexually transmitted HPV infections from their partners. In fact, three out of every four sexually active people will get an HPV infection at some point during their lifetime. In some age groups, such as sexually active men and women under the age of 30, it is estimated that 40 percent of people are currently

infected. HPV causes about 9,700 new cases of cervical cancer in women annually. In addition, each year, cervical cancer kills nearly 4,000 women in the U.S. and more than 288,000 women worldwide. Through the work of Doctors Bonnez, Reichman, Rose and others, we will see these statistics drop dramatically in the years ahead, and millions of lives worldwide will be saved.

As a microbiologist I understand the critical importance of developing new vaccines to fight the diseases that plague our Nation and countries around the world. And when there are major medical breakthroughs, like the approval of Gardasil, we should celebrate the years of basic research that went into development of this life saving vaccine. That is why it gives me great pleasure to come before the House of Representatives to recognize and pay tribute to the tireless efforts made by three doctors—William Bonnez, Richard Reichman and Robert Rose—at URMC.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF SGT JOSÉ M. VELEZ

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 21, 2006

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Sgt. José M. Velez, a brave young man who made the ultimate sacrifice serving in Iraq.

Sgt. Velez grew up in East Harlem and made the Bronx his home. In 2004, he enlisted in the U.S. Armed Forces in order to serve and protect the country he loved so dearly.

Sgt. Velez was assigned to the 773rd Transportation Company, based in Fort Totten, Queens. Unfortunately, on June 9, 2006, he met an untimely death as he was killed in the line of fire only one month after touching down in Iraq.

A truck driver by profession, Sgt. Velez was described by those who knew him best as honorable, kind, intelligent and fearless. He leaves behind two children, Melody and Christopher Velez. May they read these words that I speak today and be proud of the tremendous sacrifice their father made for his country.

The death of Sgt. Velez once again reminds us of the great cost of war. As I speak before you today, 2,500 American troops have given their lives in this war, which has no end in sight. Like so many other children, Melody and Christopher have lost a father and like so many other parents, Mr. and Mrs. Velez have lost a son. And, sadly, with the falling of another soldier, America has lost more of its potential to become an even greater Nation.

Mr. Speaker, Sgt. Velez has inspired me with his courage and conviction. Learning of his valor in the face of adversity has further motivated me to push relentlessly for peace.

As we mourn the life of this brave soldier, let us remember the sacrifices of all our service members and work to ensure that their heroic deeds are never forgotten.

For his heroism and service to his country, I ask my colleagues to join me in mourning the loss of Sgt. José M. Velez.