

CONGRATULATIONS TO COLLEEN CROSBY FOR A LIFETIME OF ACTIVISM

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2006

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend one of my constituents, Ms. Colleen Crosby, of Santa Cruz, California who, on Sunday, March 5, will receive the "Lifetime Achievement Award" from the International Women in Coffee Alliance (IWCA). I cannot imagine another person more deserving than Colleen to receive this award. Colleen is one of those rare individuals that has combined a deep compassion for others with the intelligence and drive to make a true difference in the world. Colleen has been a true leader in raising awareness of, and offering effective solutions to, the International Coffee Crisis—a crisis that affected 25 million people in some of the poorest countries in the world.

Colleen co-founded Santa Cruz Coffee Roasting Company in 1978 and in 1979 became the first Roastmistress on California's Central Coast. In her travels to coffee producing countries in Central and South America and Africa she encountered abject poverty and an economic system that kept small coffee farmers in a vicious cycle of poverty. Being the "active activist," Colleen jumped headfirst into finding ways to help coffee farmers and cooperatives throughout the world. Colleen found that fair trade certification—a certification process that guarantees farmers a fair price for their coffee beans—was the most effective way of improving the lives of coffee farmers.

Colleen's record for helping coffee farmers and promoting fair trade coffee is extremely impressive. Colleen has worked with small farmers and cooperatives around the world and helped them gain better market access for their coffee, thus ensuring a better livelihood for themselves and their children. I asked Colleen to testify before the House International Relations Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere on the coffee crisis, where she educated Members of Congress on the importance of helping coffee farmers.

Besides the Lifetime Achievement Award from IWCA, Colleen has also received a variety of commendations, including a letter of "Special Thanks and Commendation" for "the extraordinary warmth and spirit on behalf of the people of Ethiopia," presented by His Excellency Teruheh Zenna, Acting Permanent Representative of Ethiopia to the United Nations in October, 2005; being named Santa Cruz Chamber of Commerce Woman of the Year 2005; being presented with the Gold Medallion of Brotherhood by the small coffee farmers of Nicaragua's Prodecoop; and most recently, she is the recipient of the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Women in Coffee Alliance.

I congratulate Colleen on a lifetime of dedication to others. She truly has made the world a better place and it has been an absolute pleasure and honor to know her.

SILVIO BERLUSCONI'S APPEARANCE BEFORE CONGRESS

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2006

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to enter into the RECORD a letter that I delivered to your office today regarding an event that took place on the House floor yesterday.

MARCH 2, 2006.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House, Office of the Speaker,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. HASTERT, I am writing to express my dismay about yesterday's appearance of Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi of the Republic of Italy on the floor of the House of Representatives. I believe that Mr. Berlusconi's mode of address was unprecedented.

I came to the House floor expecting to hear significant words from the head of state of a major ally of our country. Instead, I had the feeling that perhaps I and the other Members in attendance were being used as extras in a campaign appearance for Mr. Berlusconi's difficult upcoming election. I can draw no other conclusion considering he addressed Congress in Italian without an interpreter, a language that I and most other Members do not speak. Though we were given the text to read, who in the Chamber was able to correlate the words delivered and lead the applause that burst forth from the audience? The address was not even broadcast by C-SPAN, presumably because it took place in a language in which most C-SPAN viewers are not fluent. My discomfort increased this morning when I read in the Financial Times that the appearance was broadcast by stations owned by Mr. Berlusconi in Italy. This has raised concerns that the Prime Minister was improperly bending Italian equal-airtime regulations during election campaigns.

I would appreciate to hear your thoughts on this unusual use of the House Chamber, and whether it is expected to recur.

Sincerely,

JIM McDERMOTT,
Member of Congress.

WELCOME HOME FORT KNOX 703RD EOD

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2006

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome home the 703rd Explosive Ordnance Disposal Detachment of Fort Knox, Kentucky, and pay public tribute to their courageous service during their six-month deployment in Iraq.

This was the second deployment to Operation Iraqi Freedom for the 703rd. As most of us know, EOD units have one of the most dangerous jobs in Iraq. The 703rd worked with Army and Marine Brigades to recover and dispose of explosive devices throughout a large portion of northern Iraq. The entire unit returned safely home last week, reuniting with family and comrades at a 3 a.m. welcome home ceremony held at Fort Knox.

Tragically, two soldiers, Staff Sgt. Kimberly Voelz and Staff Sgt. Richard Ramey, paid the

ultimate sacrifice for freedom during the unit's first deployment to Iraq.

I would like to take this opportunity to honor these returning soldiers and the memory of those who have passed, all who have selflessly stood in harm's way as the guardians of our freedom and way of life. Their distinguished service epitomizes values—duty, honor, country—that make our Nation an example of freedom and prosperity for the rest of the world.

In the spirit of Fort Knox soldiers of generations past, their courage and sacrifice significantly contributed to a supreme level of safety and readiness during uncertain times. They were selfless in their sacrifice, taking time away from their families to keep others safe. For that they deserve the admiration and thanks of a grateful nation.

It is my great privilege to recognize the 703rd EOD today, before the entire U.S. House of Representatives, for their generous service and unflinching duty to our great country. Welcome home!

TRIBUTE TO KATHRYN ELIZABETH "BETH" SHIELDS

HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2006

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Kathryn Elizabeth "Beth" Shields who dedicated her life to improving opportunities for Hillsborough County's school children.

Beth spent 44 years in the Hillsborough County school system, working both as a teacher and administrator. A graduate of Hillsborough High School and the University of Tampa, with a Master's Degree from the University of South Florida, Beth launched her career as a math teacher at Memorial Junior High School, then at H.B. Plant High School.

Beth worked hard throughout her career, and as she rose through the school district's ranks, she paved the way for other women working in Hillsborough County schools. She served as dean and assistant principal at Robinson High School, principal of Coleman Junior High School and principal of H.B. Plant High School. Beth then served as district-wide assistant superintendent of personnel and assistant superintendent of instruction until she became the first female deputy superintendent in Hillsborough County schools.

During her tenure, Beth pushed for more rigorous curriculum and academic standards; she spearheaded a successful initiative to improve school attendance and helped smooth the transition when magnet schools were integrated into the school system. Beth will be remembered for her commitment to helping young people, her impressive work ethic and the many ways that she changed Hillsborough County School District for the better. Beth Shields Middle School in Ruskin stands witness to her lifetime of dedication.

At home, Beth was active in her church and in a number of community and charitable organizations, including the Southwest Florida Blood Bank, the United Way, the Tampa Coalition and the Hillsborough County Anti-Drug Abuse Advisory Council, SERVE and Athena.

On behalf of the Hillsborough County community and the countless young people she

worked for, I would like to thank Beth for all her work and extend my deepest sympathies to her family.

ON THE AMENDMENT PROCESS
FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R.
2829—OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG
CONTROL POLICY REAUTHORIZA-
TION ACT OF 2005

HON. DAVID DREIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2006

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House for one minute for the purpose of making an announcement.

The Committee on Rules may meet the week of March 6th to grant a rule which could limit the amendment process for floor consideration of H.R. 2829, the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 2005. The Committee on Government Reform filed its report with the House on November 18, 2005. The Committee on the Judiciary ordered the bill reported today and is expected

to file its report with the House tomorrow, March 3rd.

Any Member wishing to offer an amendment should submit 55 copies of the amendment and one copy of a brief explanation of the amendment to the Rules Committee in room H-312 of the Capitol by 10 a.m. on Wednesday, March 8, 2006. Members should draft their amendments to the bill as reported by the Committee on the Judiciary, which should be available on the websites of the Committee on Rules, Government Reform, and the Judiciary by tomorrow, March 3rd.

Members should use the Office of Legislative Counsel to ensure that their amendments are drafted in the most appropriate format and should check with the Office of the Parliamentarian to be certain their amendments comply with the rules of the House.

HONORING MICHAEL R. SMITH

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2006

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give well deserved recognition to an

extraordinary law enforcement professional serving in my district. Officer Michael R. Smith, an honorable U.S. Army Veteran, is continuing his spirit of public service as a civilian police officer in Radcliff, Kentucky. Radcliff is home to the legendary Fort Knox military installation.

Officer Smith's actions, on duty and off, demonstrate a genuine concern and personal involvement in protecting safety and improving quality of life in his community. His abiding friendship with many of Radcliff's elderly citizens and attention to their needs is especially noteworthy.

I would like to publicly thank Officer Smith, on behalf of his colleagues and the citizens of Radcliff, for the example he sets in performing his job far beyond the call of duty. His sense of public service and altruistic spirit personify the term "Peace Officer."