

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF DR. RUDY CASTRUITA

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to Dr. Rudy Castruita of California on the occasion of his retirement as San Diego County Superintendent of Schools. I have known Dr. Castruita since 1994 when he became County Superintendent in San Diego and have always been impressed by his tireless commitment to children and the students across the school districts he served. He dedicated his career to furthering the cause of education and to helping our kids learn.

Prior to his appointment as Superintendent in San Diego, he served with great distinction for six years as superintendent of the Santa Ana Unified School District where he was recognized for his tremendous leadership and innovation. Among the recognition his leadership has brought to local schools are several highly coveted California School Boards Association Golden Bell Awards for leading edge efforts to address the educational needs of students, the Federal Blue Ribbon Schools designation and California Distinguished Schools designation. He has also received the prestigious Marcus Foster Award from the Association of California School Administrators and in 1992, he was named California's Superintendent of the Year.

As a San Diegan with deep roots in the public schools there, I took great pride in the role that Dr. Castruita played as Chair of the statewide effort to set standards for high school graduates in the state of California. This endeavor was perhaps the most important state education reform of the past several decades. He also served on the State Superintendent's Advisory Committee for implementing the Public School Accountability Act of 1999, a law that helped to instill rigorous standards into the curriculum and educational delivery system throughout the state.

He also served on the Governance Task Force of the statewide committee to develop a Master Plan for Education, and State Reading First Committee. Dr. Castruita's abiding personal commitment to eradicating illiteracy across our community has made the San Diego County Office of Education a beacon in literacy programs and distinguished him as a prominent leader in this important issue.

I have had the pleasure, along with a number of state leaders including governors from our state and other state constitutional officers to utilize the San Diego County Office of Education's state-of-the-art regional technology center that exists today because of Dr. Castruita's efforts. His enthusiasm and interest in cutting-edge technology to lift student achievement resulted in his being named one of 12 "tech savvy" superintendents in the nation by eSchool News.

In San Diego, we are also proud of Dr. Castruita's notable commitment to national leadership, serving on several national boards including Scholarship America and the prestigious Education Research & Development Institute. He was nominated by the President of the United States and appointed by Donald Rumsfeld, U.S. Secretary of Defense, and Rod Paige, U.S. Secretary of Education, to serve on the President's Advisory for the Department of Defense Schools, which are military-based schools overseas.

He has also built impressive and lasting relationships in the community with our public schools that includes work with the Greater San Diego Chamber of Commerce, the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, San Diego United Way/CHAD, the San Diego YMCA, the Natural History Museum, Laurels for Leaders, and the California Center for the Arts.

His work on behalf of California's children and our schools has made a real difference across our state, and we all owe him a great debt of gratitude for championing these issues. It is hard to imagine substantive discussions of education policy in our state without Dr. Castruita involved. He has provided me with tremendous guidance and advice on these important issues on countless occasions and his wise counsel will be missed. I wish both he and his family well in his retirement. Dr. Castruita continues a lasting and impressive legacy of commitment to public education within California and across the country as he begins other endeavors that will undoubtedly contribute to the well being of children and public education.

Thank you very much Mr. Speaker for allowing me this time to honor such a great leader and important figure to education.

CONGRATULATING EVAN SCOTT GAWLIK

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Evan Scott Gawlik of Denton on his commitment, contribution and success as a finalist in this year's Intel Science Talent Search.

The Intel Science Talent Search is a science competition for high school seniors. Intel is committed to encouraging and developing America's brightest youths so that they may well be on the road to becoming tomorrow's elite scientists. As an Intel STS finalist, Mr. Gawlik is displaying to the world that he has exceptional promise and has the potential to become one of tomorrow's great scientists. Through education programs such as the Intel Science Talent Search, Intel works to inspire and educate children in communities around the world in the areas of science, mathematics and engineering.

One of those finalists was Evan Scott Gawlik, a constituent of the 26th District, who

attends the Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science in Denton. This honor will most certainly serve as a milestone in this young man's career as a scientist.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Evan Scott Gawlik for his efforts and for receiving this commendable award given by the Intel Science Talent Search. His commitment to science and to helping others serves as an inspiration to all.

IN HONOR OF THE 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED SERVICE ORGANIZATION

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor, recognition and celebration of the 65th Anniversary of the United Service Organization (USO), a non-profit, civilian organization established in 1941. Since then, the USO has filled a void in the lives of men and women serving in the U.S. military, by providing them with entertainment, recreation, support services and the priceless sense of connection to home.

In 1941, the USO was incorporated in the State of New York. By 1944, USOs had been established in more than 3,000 locations across the country, held aloft by its volunteer membership. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who initially challenged six non-profit organizations to form a military support organization, became the first USO Honorary Chairperson—a role accepted by every President ever since. The mission of the USO has remained unwavering: To serve the spiritual, social, welfare, educational and entertainment needs of the men and women of the United States Armed Forces.

Over the years, thousands of entertainers, famous and unknown, have volunteered their time and efforts to perform to grateful audiences on U.S. military bases around the world. From the legendary music of Duke Ellington to the manic comedy of Robin Williams, the USO tradition has carried on. The brilliant legacy of volunteerism that illuminates the life of the late Bob Hope, whose name is synonymous with the USO, is carried on through the song, dance and comedy of every volunteer who continues to keep the spirit of hope alive for our men and women serving our country far from home.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of the volunteers, past and present, of the United Service Organization. During times of war and peace, the USO continues to serve as a vital bond of calm and familiarity, uplifting the spirit of men and women in uniform with heartening support and entertainment reminiscent of home. We extend our deepest gratitude to those who have traveled thousands of miles, crossing perilous borders and lands of strife, to uplift

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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.

their morale and reenergize the spirit of countless American soldiers around the world. On behalf of the memory of Bob Hope and the collective service of every volunteer—Thanks for the Memories.

HONORING THE 55TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY CLASS OF 1951

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 55th anniversary of the U.S. Military Academy Class of 1951.

The Class of 1951 has many noteworthy members such as the first black four-star General in the U.S. Army, Roscoe Robinson, a Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army, Edward C. Meyer, David M. Abshire a NATO ambassador and Special Counsel, and Bill Richardson who served as the Commander of the Army's Training and Doctrine Command. Buzz Aldrin, one of the first two men to land on the moon also graduated with this profound group.

The Class of 1951 has produced 3 four-star generals, 7 three-star generals, 12 two-star generals and 4 one-star generals. In addition, the Class of 1951 has earned 5 Distinguished Service Crosses, 6 Distinguished Defense Service Medals, over 100 Purple Hearts, and over 60 Silver Stars. The Class of 1951 also has approximately 200 Combat Infantry Badges, 100 Distinguished Flying Crosses and over 50 Distinguished Service Medals.

The Class of 1951 played a major role in securing the safety and security of the people of the U.S. during a critical period in our history. The class participated in the inaugural parade of President Harry S. Truman, and the funeral processions of General John Pershing and General Henry Arnold. The Class of 1951 also participated in the wars of Korea and Vietnam with direct participation in The Battle of Pork Chop Hill in Korea, the battles connected to the Tet Offensive in Vietnam and the Cambodian operations in mid-1970. Most notably a majority of the class of 1951 saw combat during the Cold War. The class assisted in many new initiatives that were tested and implemented during this period. The class supported efforts during the Cold War, by assisting in the introduction of the nuclear age to the Armed Forces, participating in the activities to secure the Berlin Wall and additional activities involved or related to the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to commend and congratulate the U.S. Military Academy Class of 1951 on all of its contributions and accomplishments. They have served this country well, truly meriting recognition. I call upon my colleagues to join me in the applauding the Class of 1951's past accomplishments and in wishing the class continued success in the years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 67 on the motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 4297, I was on a leave of absence due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT A. FREY

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Robert A. Frey, the 2006 Boy Scouts of America Frontier District Honoree. Robert Frey has dedicated over 30 years of service to Boy Scout Troop 127 and served for 29 years as chairman of the Troop Committee. Robert will be recognized at the Boy Scouts of America Frontier District Annual Fundraising Breakfast for his contributions to the organization and his community.

Robert has dedicated his life to serving his community and his country. He served as a member of the U.S. Army in the Southwest Pacific for nearly 3 years, followed by 31 years of employment at Letterkenny Army Depot in Chambersburg, PA. He has also taken an active role in the Presbyterian Church of Falling Spring, serving as a deacon, ruling elder, Sunday school teacher, and youth group advisor.

In addition to his contributions to the U.S. Army and his church, Robert devoted much of his life to guiding hundreds of Boy Scouts, leading backpacking trips and teaching them about the outdoors. Robert served as chairman of the Troop Committee from 1976 until 2005, an almost unheard of length of service in which he provided direction to Scouts, counseling them through the Eagle Scout process and teaching them life skills.

Known as "Pop" to the hundreds of kids he has led, Robert Frey illustrates the important and rewarding role community members play in the lives of children. He has been recognized for his exceptional service with the Frontier District Award of Merit, the Keystone Area Council Silver Beaver Award, and the National Council/Presbyterian Church USA God and Service Award.

Robert has enthusiastically committed his life to helping others, serving his country, his community, and his church. The citizens of Chambersburg, the Presbyterian Church of Falling Spring, and the hundreds of boys he has guided throughout his service as a Scout leader would like to join me in thanking him for his outstanding service and devotion to his community.

TRIBUTE TO ELI SEGAL

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary American, Eli Segal,

who passed away on February 20, 2006 at the age of 63.

Eli Segal was born in Brooklyn, NY, in 1943. He graduated from Brandeis University in 1964 and received a law degree from the University of Michigan in 1967.

Mr. Segal began his political involvement in 1968 when he joined Senator Eugene McCarthy's presidential campaign. Even though Senator McCarthy lost, Mr. Segal was not deterred. He went on to serve in key positions on several Democratic presidential campaigns, culminating with the 1992 campaign of President Clinton, which was Eli Segal's first presidential campaign victory.

Mr. Segal served as Assistant to the President in the Clinton White House, and within months established the Corporation for National Service, now known as AmeriCorps. Because of his superb skills and management, the once controversial program became an acclaimed success. Four hundred thousand young Americans enrolled in the program and helped to improve their communities and their country. Mr. Segal also took an active interest in City Year, another service program he eventually chaired. At the request of Nelson Mandela, he helped launch City Year in South Africa.

When President Clinton signed welfare reforms into law in 1996, Mr. Segal took on the challenge of creating opportunities for former welfare recipients who were now required to work. He began asking American companies to make commitments to hire former welfare recipients, and his "welfare-to-work partnership" grew from five companies to 20,000. As he did with AmeriCorps, Mr. Segal left a great legacy with the success of welfare reform.

Mr. Segal is survived by his wife Phyllis, his son Jonathan, his daughter Mora, two grandchildren, and his brother Alan.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring an outstanding American and an extraordinary public servant. We extend our deepest sympathy to Eli Segal's family and we pay tribute to a life filled with values and contributions to the country he loved and served so well. He made our Nation stronger and I consider myself blessed to have known him and worked with him.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 64 on the motion to recommit H.R. 4939 with instructions, I was on a leave of absence due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

CONGRATULATING LEON H. BRACHMAN

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Leon H. Brachman, who for his steadfast service on the Baylor All Saints