

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO FORMER
CONGRESSMAN EARL LEE HOGAN

HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2007

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, on Sunday night, June 3, 2007, the U.S. House of Representatives lost one of its own, a distinguished gentleman from Southern Indiana. Former Congressman Earl Lee Hogan passed away Sunday evening, leaving behind a notable career of public service to Hoosiers. Born in 1920 in Hope, Indiana, Earl Hogan represented the Ninth District of southern Indiana from 1959 to 1961. As a young man, Congressman Hogan served his country as a bombardier on a B-17 in the Air Force, from 1940 to 1945. During his Air Force career, he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, Purple Heart, and Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters. Congressman Hogan had a long career in law enforcement in Bartholomew County, serving first as deputy sheriff and then sheriff. Following his congressional service, Congressman Hogan took several positions focusing on rural development and agricultural issues. I thank Congressman Hogan and his family for their commitment and dedication to public service and all that they have given to the people of Southern Indiana. Congressman Hogan will be missed, but he leaves behind a record of service that speaks volumes about this honorable man.

BENJAMIN JAMES DUDDY FOR
THE AWARD OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Benjamin Duddy, 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 444, and by earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Benjamin has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the years Benjamin has been involved in Scouting, he has earned 28 merit badges and held numerous leadership positions, serving as Assistant Senior Patrol, Den Chief, and Troop Scribe. Ryan is also a member of the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. His tribal name is Little Silent Stalking Snowy Owl. Ben is also a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow.

For his Eagle Scout project, Benjamin constructed over 160 feet of fencing around a fishing pond. This safety fencing was erected to allow handicapped campers access to enjoy the pond and minimize the danger of accidentally entering the water. The project included distribution of 4 tons of gravel and recon-

structing trail access to the pond. All of Benjamin's hard work took place at the Tall Oaks Youth Camp in Linwood, Kansas.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Benjamin Duddy for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2007

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, last month the House of Representatives voted on important legislation including VA health care bills, lobbying reform legislation, and amendments to the fiscal year 2007 supplemental appropriations bill.

During the consideration of these bills, I was in Minnesota to attend the funeral Mass for my uncle, Frank Oberstar.

Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on the motion to recommit to H.R. 1100 (rollcall vote 408); I would have voted "aye" on H.R. 1100 (rollcall vote 409); I would have voted "aye" on H.R. 67, "Veterans Outreach Improvement Act" (rollcall vote 410); I would have voted "aye" on H.R. 612, "Returning Servicemember VA Healthcare Insurance Act" (rollcall vote 411); I would have voted "aye" on H.R. 1470, "Chiropractic Care Available to All Veterans Act" (rollcall vote 412); I would have voted "aye" on H.R. 2199 "Traumatic Brain Injury Health Enhancement and Long-Term Support Act" (rollcall vote 413); I would have voted "aye" on H.R. 2239, "Early Access to Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Benefits Act" (rollcall vote 414).

I would have voted "aye" to order the previous question on H. Res. 427 (rollcall vote 415); I would have voted "aye" to approve H. Res. 427 (rollcall vote 416). I would have voted "aye" to order the previous question on H. Res. 438 (rollcall vote 417), and I would have voted "aye" on H. Res. 438 (rollcall vote 418).

I would have voted "nay" on the Smith motion to recommit with instructions on H.R. 2317 (rollcall vote 419); I would have voted "aye" on passage on H.R. 2317 (rollcall vote 420); I would have voted "aye" on the Conyers amendment to H.R. 2316 (rollcall vote 421); I would have voted "aye" on the Chabot motion to recommit with instructions on H.R. 2318 (rollcall vote 422); I would have voted "aye" on passage on H.R. 2316 (rollcall vote 423).

Because of my strong support for important and necessary funding for VA health care; necessary assistance for the Gulf region and U.S. farmers, and my support for an increase in the minimum wage, I would have voted "aye" on House Amendment 1 to H.R. 2206, the fiscal year 2007 supplemental appropriations bill (rollcall vote 424). Because House

Amendment 2 to H.R. 2206 failed to provide reasonable accountability provisions to measure the Administration's Iraq policy, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall 425.

TRIBUTE TO MR. KIRTI DESAI

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2007

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I would like to take the time to recognize the most recent achievement of an outstanding member of the New Jersey community, Mr. Kirti Desai. In a ceremony on Ellis Island on Saturday May 12, 2007, NECO presented Mr. Desai with the Ellis Island Medal of Honor.

The Ellis Island Medal of Honor recognizes individuals from diverse ethnic backgrounds who have successfully maintained their cultural heritage and traditions while making outstanding achievements in their communities, personal lives, and professional endeavors. Since 1986 the Ellis Island Medal of Honor has been sponsored by NECO, a non-profit organization with a mission "to honor our diverse Past, to advocate for positive change in the Present, and to build strong leaders for the Future."

For over twenty years U.S. Presidents, artists, athletes, businessmen, entrepreneurs, and humanitarians have been recognized with this prestigious award. In receiving this award, Mr. Desai ranks among an impressive list of past medalist recipients ranging from former President Bill Clinton to famed athlete Muhammad Ali. With his own list of notable achievements, Mr. Desai is well deserved in finding a place among these outstanding Americans.

Mr. Kirti Desai, better known as Kenny, is the President, CEO, and founder of TAK Group of Companies. With a Master's Degree in Civil Engineering from Stevens Institute of Technology, a hard-work ethic, and unstoppable determination, Mr. Desai built his business from the ground up. Mr. Desai continued to expand his business into a conglomerate encompassing an increasing number of markets, eventually forming TAK Construction, TAK International, TAK Realty and Investment Company, and Sycamore Manor.

While it is one thing to establish a business, it is quite another to receive continuous recognition for its quality and success. In this regard, Mr. Desai's companies have been recognized with the New York and New Jersey Port Authority's Construction Company of the Year Award and SBA Construction Award from Washington, D.C. under the Clinton Administration. Successful businesses such as these result from exceptional qualities of the individuals behind them.

As an active member of a number of various philanthropic organizations, Mr. Desai is as relentless in his commitment to his community as he is to his business companies. Somewhere between managing his business

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

enterprises and raising three children, Mr. Desai is a leader in cultural and educational institutions including serving as a Director and Board member of the Bharitya Vidya Bhavan; the Chairman of the Indian Culture Society of Union, New Jersey, and the President of Vraj. He has even been involved in aiding the completion of the Mahatma Gandhi Center and Hindu Temple in Wayne, New Jersey.

The New Jersey State Assembly and the Township of Clark, New Jersey have already written proclamations acknowledging Mr. Desai's remarkable achievements in his life. It is only fitting that I now also acknowledge Mr. Desai's most recent recognition. I would like to thank Mr. Desai for his contributions to the New Jersey community and congratulate him on this Ellis Island Medal of Honor.

A TRIBUTE TO BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS OF PASADENA

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2007

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Boys and Girls Clubs of Pasadena, which will be celebrating its 70th anniversary this year. For the past 70 years, the Boys and Girls Clubs of Pasadena have remained committed to their motto of "Caring for our future, one child at a time."

Incorporated in 1937, the Boys Club of Pasadena, a member of the national organization, Boys Clubs of America, began by serving a Christmas dinner for 200 underprivileged boys in a rented space in Pasadena.

By 1953, the Boys Club membership had reached 4659, a drastic increase from 560 only ten years earlier. In the early 1960s, several milestones were achieved; the Boys Club acquired its own property, joined United Way of Los Angeles and received the National Program Award for Excellence for its Science Series Program.

Continuing to expand its services, the 1970s saw the Boys Club of Pasadena acquiring the Slavic Branch in Pasadena, becoming Pasadena's sponsor of the Summer Hot Lunch Program for Children, which served over 400 meals daily to club members, and the Boys Club Scholarship Program was formally established to aid young people with vocational, educational or fine arts pursuits.

The Boys Club of Pasadena opened the first childcare facility operated for pre-school children by any Boys Club. The Mackenzie/Scott Child Development Center opened in 1989 and was licensed by State of California for 88 preschool children. In 1990, the Center was accepted into the State of California Food Program and was formerly recognized by the City of Pasadena for excellence in child care.

In 1990, after the Boys Clubs of America changed its name to Boys and Girls Clubs of America, the Boys Club of Pasadena changed its name to the Boys and Girls Clubs of Pasadena.

Hilary Crahan became Executive Director of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Pasadena in 2004 and under her leadership the club has continued to emphasize both formal and informal education. Currently, over 7200 children participate at the five sites: Slavik Branch, the Mackenzie-Scott Branch, the Scott Child Care

Center, the Performing Arts Center, and the Orange Grove Learning Center. The more than fifty academically enriching programs include music and arts education, sports, technology training, leadership classes, and tutoring in math, English, and science.

It is my pleasure to honor the Boys and Girls Clubs of Pasadena on their anniversary of 70 years of dedicated service to the youth in the 29th Congressional District. I ask all members to join me in commending their efforts.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN PETER BOYNTON

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2007

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Captain Peter Boynton. Captain Boynton will retire on June 1, 2007 after serving as Commander of Sector for the Long Island Sound, headquartered in New Haven, Connecticut, since June, 2004. Captain Peter Boynton has displayed a stalwart dedication to the safety and well-being of all those who travel on his waters and coastline for years. The Long Island Sound Sector includes 16 field units in Connecticut and on Long Island with 490 active duty military and civilians, 180 reservists and 1,800 volunteers with the Coast Guard Auxiliary. In his position as Captain, Boynton has been responsible for port safety and security, search and rescue, marine inspection and pollution response in Connecticut, Long Island and waters 200 miles offshore.

Captain Boynton has spent 10 years at sea on six Coast Guard cutters including the icebreaker Mackinaw, the cutter Spencer and the tall ship Eagle. He has commanded three cutters; Escanaba in Boston, Ocracoke in Puerto Rico, and Cape Morgan in Portland, Maine. His seagoing service includes spending five winters patrolling Georges Bank in the Gulf of Maine, and his Ocracoke crew seizing 23 tons of marijuana and 2 tons of cocaine in the Caribbean Sea.

Captain Boynton served at the White House as the Director for Global Affairs on the National Security Council staff, coordinating national policy for drug interdiction and migrant smuggling. He was also the senior Coast Guard liaison at the Department of State, coordinating international Coast Guard operations with the diplomatic community. He served as the Chief of Intelligence on a multi-agency drug task force in New York City.

Captain Boynton holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, and an Ocean Engineering degree from the Coast Guard Academy. Captain Boynton holds an unlimited Master's License in the Merchant Marine. His military awards include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal and Presidential Service Badge.

Captain Boynton has always gone above and beyond the call of duty, specifically when it comes to paying the utmost personal attention to the questions and concerns of the community. He has built a reputation for listening to problems, answering questions, and finding solutions. He has done an excellent job pro-

tecting the people who travel on the Long Island Sound by being accessible to hearing and responding to their needs. I applaud Captain Peter Boynton for his contributions and dedication to the United States Coast Guard and the Long Island Sound.

PRAISING LT. GOVERNOR DAVID PATERSON'S COMMITMENT TO MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESSES IN NEW YORK STATE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bestow praise to Lt. Governor David Paterson of the great state of New York for his commitment to empowering Minority and Women-Owned Businesses (MWBE). His initiative to start this dialogue has shown the lack of contracts that MWBEs receive from the major agencies and authorities in the state. Lt. Governor Paterson's leadership in this initiative will help to improve procurement practices in New York State by ensuring that MWBEs receive contracts that they are fully capable of performing.

Lt. Governor David Paterson's commitment to MWBEs will benefit businesses throughout the state just as the Upper Manhattan Empowerment Zone has done for business development, jobs, educational and health programs, and social services in Harlem, East Harlem, Washington Heights and Inwood. Today I enter into the RECORD an article published by the New York CaribNews highlighting the efforts of Lt. Governor Paterson for the advancement of MWBEs in New York State.

[From the New York CaribNews, May 15, 2007]

LT. GOVERNOR PUSHES AGENDA TO BENEFIT MINORITY & WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESSES

ALBANY, NY.—Taking an important step in fulfilling a campaign pledge to usher in a new era of accountability in the area of state government utilization of Minority and Women Owned Businesses, Lt. Governor David Paterson convened a meeting of executives from the state's major agencies and authorities. This historic gathering of state decision makers was part of a mandate issued in an Executive Order signed by Governor Eliot Spitzer on February 18th which, among other things, establishes an executive Leadership Council to examine state procurement practices and increase the utilization of qualified MWBE's.

Lt. Governor Paterson, who is leading the state's efforts to improve its MWBE program told Executive Leadership Council members, "Last year the state spent over \$11 billion in discretionary expenditures and MWBEs only received 3% of state contracts. This administration will reserve the negative inertia of the past 12 years and push to build the capacity of MWBE firms and increase the utilization of qualified MWBEs."

After laying out the vision for the new MWBE initiative, MWBE Development Executive Director Michael Jones-Bey explained the purpose of the Executive Leadership Council sating that, "This will be a forum to discuss best practices for implementation of procurement policies. It is also a means to hold agency executives accountable for compliance with state MWBE procurement laws."