

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. NUNES. Madam Speaker, on the legislative day of Friday, June 22, 2007, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to cast a vote on a number of rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted: rollcall 543, "nay"; rollcall 544, "nay"; rollcall 545, "aye"; rollcall 546, "aye"; rollcall 547, "aye"; and rollcall 548, "nay."

CONGRATULATING THE CHESTNUT LOG MIDDLE SCHOOL READING TEAM

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor a great accomplishment by students in my Congressional district. I offer my congratulations to members of the Chestnut Log Middle School Reading Team of Douglasville, GA, for winning the Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl. This competition was held at the University of Georgia in Athens on April 21, 2007.

Students read from a statewide book list and answered questions from the novels in order to earn points and win the contest. To be eligible for the State competition, Chestnut Log students first won the Douglas County Reading Bowl in February, then a regional competition at West Georgia University in Carrollton in March. In April, they became State champions.

I want to recognize the members and coaches of the Chestnut Log Middle School Reading Team. These individuals are Seth Blair, Isaac Carter, Zachary Fowler, Will Gay, Patrick Ray, and Caroline Wesson. Special recognition goes to coaches Jan Easterwood, Margaret Robbins, and Susan Bissell for their guidance of this team and devotion to fostering good reading habits among youth.

In closing, Madam Speaker, I want to commend these students for their great accomplishment. As an avid reader, I wish to persuade all of my constituents, no matter young or old, to read and to encourage reading within their communities.

RECOGNITION OF MARGO PELLEGRINO'S 2,000-MILE JOURNEY FROM MIAMI TO MAINE

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise today to pay tribute to Margo Pellegrino for her remarkable Journey from Miami, FL to Camden, ME. On Monday, May 7, 2007 Margo Pellegrino, a 40-year-old mother of two, with limited training, began paddling her 20-foot outrigger canoe up the Intracoastal Waterway, ICW, and along the Atlantic coast. Her

reason? To highlight the importance of coastal issues up and down the coast.

Ms. Pellegrino's efforts are an inspiration to us all. During her 11 week trip she will make 74 stops along the East Coast in her personal quest to help save our oceans from pollution, overfishing, and habitat destruction.

She understands that we need responsible management of our rich coastal resources. Margo Pellegrino is doing her part to ensure that our Nation's coastal beauty can continue to be enjoyed by both present and future generations. She shares my commitment of improving the quality of our coastal environment while enhancing the interests of those who live and work in America's coastal communities. Her efforts will help achieve those goals.

As Ms. Pellegrino paddles her 40 miles a day she has encountered endangered reefs and dredged beaches—problems that she wants to bring to light throughout her journey. One of Margo's major concerns is dwindling fish populations. Overfishing is largely responsible for the rapid decrease in fish populations and has put our oceans in peril.

It is important to note that Ms. Pellegrino is not a professional athlete. She is a mother and an environmentalist who is showing her children how to make a difference in the world and inspire others to take an active role in the stewardship of our oceans.

This week, she paddles along the coast of New Jersey. As she continues her journey up through New England to Maine, I wish her the best. And I once again ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Margo Pellegrino for her exceptional journey from Miami to Maine to bring attention to our coastal environment.

MARKING THE CENTENNIAL OF THE LIMA CHAPTER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I am honored to pay special tribute to the outstanding women of the Lima Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The chapter marked its 100th anniversary with a special reception on June 3, 2007.

Chartered on April 10, 1907, the Lima Chapter has served the people of Lima in countless ways through the years. From their work in support of servicemembers and veterans to their committed work with the youth of Allen County, Ohio, the women of the Lima DAR have compiled a long and distinguished record of service in times of war and peace.

Fifty-two women have served the Lima Chapter as Regent, starting with Mrs. Clara Paine Ohler. The chapter's membership through the years has included women from all walks of life who have distinguished themselves in numerous ways through their service.

The Lima DAR is especially noted for its work in local schools to promote civic education, reflecting the group's love of country and its high regard for the gift of freedom that we all enjoy. They are true examples of the DAR's high calling to "cherish, maintain, and extend the institutions of American freedom."

Madam Speaker, I invite all of my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the Lima Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Our Nation is better served through their hard work and diligence. We wish them all the best at their centennial celebration.

IN TRIBUTE TO FRANCES SWIGART

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding citizen, community leader, and world traveler of the 4th Congressional District, Frances Swigart. Fran Swigart passed away on June 17, 2007.

Fran served in leadership roles on many non-profit boards: Interchange, UWM Board of Visitors, the Volunteer Center of Greater Milwaukee, League of Women Voters, MATA Community Media, Future Milwaukee, Discovery World at Pier Wisconsin, and the City of Milwaukee Ethics Committee. She was the Executive Director of Future Milwaukee for 9 years, preparing community leaders. Fran was president of the MacMurray College (Jacksonville, IL) Alumni Board, serving two terms.

Fran was a member and leader in the League of Women Voters organization and believed strongly in people's right to exercise their franchise. She proudly served as an election site supervisor for 6 years. Fran facilitated numerous political candidate debates for the League of Women Voters throughout Milwaukee County. She also helped eliminate the bureaucratic barriers that prevented the League of Women Voters from registering new citizens to vote immediately following their swearing in ceremonies. Fran was a candidate for Wisconsin State Representative in the 22nd Assembly District, in 1992. Fran served as a panelist at my "Citizenship Day" events explaining why it was important to register and vote.

In her spare time, Fran loved traveling; in fact, she reached every continent but Australia. She was also a 30-year member of a gourmet cooking group. Fran devotedly served her church, Immanuel Presbyterian, as an elder, deacon, trustee, and mission worker.

Madam Speaker, Milwaukee has suffered a great loss with the passing of Fran Swigart, and we celebrate her life and her many contributions to the life of our community.

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill—(H.R. 2764) making appropriations for the Department of State,

foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes:

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the Payne amendment and thank my colleague for working with Chairwoman LOWEY in drafting this amendment.

Over the last month the entire country has awakened to the threat of XDR-TB (Extensively Drug Resistant Tuberculosis). The simple fact of the matter is that we can prevent XDR-TB and the less dangerous MDR-TB (Multi-drug resistant TB) with better TB control programs that ensure that people who are taking drugs for TB stay on their medicines, and avoid developing drug resistance.

XDR-TB has already been found in over 37 countries around the world. However, due to inadequate lab facilities around the world we don't truly know how far XDR-TB has spread.

Additional funding provided by the Payne amendment would help us address some of these issues. I want to again thank my colleague Representative PAYNE for offering this amendment and for working with Chairwoman LOWEY to ensure that we increase funding for Tuberculosis programs in the State-Foreign Ops bill this year.

I look forward to continuing to work with both of my colleagues and the committee to ensure that TB continues to get the funding and attention it deserves.

KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION FEDERAL CHARTER

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, today on the 22nd anniversary of its founding, I rise to offer legislation that would grant the Korean War Veterans Association a Federal Charter, enabling the Association to expand its mission and further its charitable and benevolent causes. The Association, comprised exclusively of Korean War veterans, has over 25,000 members and is one of the few such organizations of its size without a Federal Charter.

Being awarded such a charter will afford the Korean War Veterans Association the same status as other major veterans' organizations and allow it to participate as part of select committees with other congressionally chartered veterans and military groups. A Federal Charter—at no cost to the government—will also accelerate the Association's accreditation with the Department of Veterans Affairs, enabling its members to assist in processing veterans' claims.

More than 50 years have passed since the war-weary men and women who served in Korea returned home. Half a century later, history has revealed that the sacrifices made by these brave soldiers stemmed the expansion of communism and effectively contributed to a more peaceful world.

Granting this Federal Charter is a small expression of our appreciation for the extraordinary courage and sacrifice of our forces in Korea. This bipartisan legislation is an opportunity to express our gratitude and respect for our military, past and present, and to give Korean War veterans the long-awaited recogni-

tion they deserve to ensure that the "forgotten war" is forgotten no more.

TRIBUTE TO SOLDIERS OF THE KOREAN WAR

HON. TIMOTHY J. WALZ

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. WALZ of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, 57 years ago today, on June 25, 1950, the Korean war began when North Korean forces invaded South Korea. Two days later, President Truman sent U.S. forces to support South Korea and the United Nations followed suit. This initial conflict led to a 3-year war in which American forces defended South Korean territory against Communist invaders from North Korea and China. The United States and our allies suffered numerous successes and setbacks, engaging in a difficult struggle for terrain on the Korean peninsula. In the end, over 54,000 American service members died during the Korean War and over 100,000 were wounded.

We are still living with the legacy of the Korean war today. Thousands of American servicemembers remain on guard on the Korean peninsula along the Demilitarized Zone. While the Korean war is sometimes called the "Forgotten War," it is certainly not forgotten in the 110th Congress. I am proud to honor the commitment and service of those soldiers who fought in Korea and those who continue to stand watch at their posts on the peninsula today. On this day, the 57th anniversary of the start of the Korean war, we honor the sacrifice and service of America's Armed Forces and pledge to continue to work on their behalf in this Congress and beyond.

TURNING THE BATTLE AROUND

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to proudly honor, but sadly send away, one of Baltimore's finest citizens and leaders: Dr. Stanley F. Battle, who recently left his post as the President of Coppin State University, located in my district.

Dr. Battle is a man of vision—and true to his name, he turned the battle around to achieve victory for thousands of college students, faculty and the entire Baltimore community.

When Dr. Battle took the helm of this great historically black liberal arts institution in March 2003, Coppin was at a different place than it is today.

Then classified as a college, Coppin was severely underfunded—a situation further escalated by budget cuts to higher education institutions, and a slow economy.

Yet, where critics saw dark clouds—Dr. Battle saw sunlight.

One of his most notable accomplishments was to establish the campus as the first completely wireless campus in the University System of Maryland.

Through Dr. Battle's leadership, Coppin pioneered the Tegrity Campus, which combines

digital audio and video recording of the class lectures with electronic note-taking and computer usage. These technological innovations were noticed by the prestigious U.S. News & World Report magazine, which ranked Coppin as one of the top 50 U.S. colleges and universities with absolute wireless capacity.

Then, within 1 year and 1 month of Dr. Battle's tenure as president, Coppin received university status for the first time in its history.

The following academic year, enrollment increased by 11 percent.

Dr. Battle's innovation reached beyond the campus—as he created several initiatives to uplift children in Baltimore City Schools, and empower them to attend college. One such initiative was the Academic Enrichment Academy that offers a free SAT Camp.

Another project he spearheaded was the Talented Ten African American Male Mentoring Program. He also collaborated with Baltimore Public Schools to create several programs to uplift children.

He continued building strong relationships with Baltimore's faith-based community.

Joining with the Coppin Heights Community Development Corporation, Dr. Battle also helped bring together members of the university and the neighbors of the campus to redevelop and revitalize the area surrounding Coppin. He further facilitated the campus's growth from 38 to 52 acres.

In terms of research expansion, Dr. Battle facilitated increased external research grants and established the Raymond V. Haysbert Research Center.

As the Congressman representing Coppin, I was proud to work with Dr. Battle as I helped secure a grant for a major research project, and other funding for educational and transportation programs.

On July 1, 2007, Dr. Battle will begin his role as the Chancellor at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical University in Greensboro, NC.

It is a great loss for the Baltimore community and for Coppin State University.

However, he leaves behind a legacy that has forever changed us—and made an impact on the future leaders of America.

Nevertheless, as a strong believer in expanding high quality education to all Americans, I am joyful that the community of North Carolina A&T University is receiving a great gift as Dr. Battle as its chancellor.

Dr. Battle's legacy of turning around battles will continue to reverberate throughout Maryland for years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE ADA, OKLAHOMA CEMENT PLANT FOR A CENTURY OF CONTINUOUS OPERATION, AND CONGRATULATING THE HOLCIM (US) ADA PLANT FOR ITS USE OF RECYCLED MATERIALS, AND DIRECTING DISTRIBUTION

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. COLE of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the Holcim (US) cement plant in Ada, OK, for ensuring a century of continuous cement operations, for its use of