

presentations, shows, educational programming, and—most importantly—proud displays by 4-H members. I regret that I cannot be with these honored guests today as their 4-H colleagues demonstrate their extraordinary gratitude for the humble, yet outstanding public service of this Sussex County couple.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1,
IMPLEMENTING RECOMMENDATIONS
OF THE 9/11 COMMISSION
ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 27, 2007

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support H.R. 1, the Implementation of the 9/11 Commissions Act of 2007, which would enact the recommendations of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States.

This legislation provides funding that is critical to protect our Nation and improve our preparedness capabilities. It will give us the necessary tools to secure our country by increasing rail and transit safety, improving communication for first responders, and implementing programs to prevent terrorist organizations from acquiring weapons of mass destruction.

This bill is especially critical to New York, which is still recovering from the terrorist attacks on 9/11, because it will award homeland security grants based on risk assessment. Enactment of this proposal will further protect our country by requiring scanning of all cargo containers originating from foreign ports, increasing funding for baggage and checkpoint screening, and requiring scanning of all cargo on passenger flights.

H.R. 1 will help to address the many challenges that the United States faces in the wake of 9/11, and I am proud to support it.

IN CELEBRATION OF HOUSE OF
TRICKS TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2007

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of House of Tricks, a historic landmark restaurant in my hometown of Tempe, Arizona.

House of Tricks was established in 1987 and has since become an important and lively part of downtown Tempe. It has served innovative cuisine and fine wines for twenty years and continually attracts patrons; this is true for both those just discovering House of Tricks, as well as those who return time after time. The success of the restaurant is due to its owners, Bob and Robin Trick. Their dedication to Tempe and to their patrons has made House of Tricks a highly acclaimed destination.

The success of House of Tricks can be attributed to Robin and Bob's desire to make their restaurant a lasting part of the historical landscape. The Tricks bought a small 1920's

cottage in 1987 and expanded their restaurant in 1994 to an additional cottage. The Tricks then restored this building to its original turn of the century splendor. The gardens that connect the two cottages add to its charm and make it a peaceful and beautiful place away from the hustle and bustle of busy city life.

The success and longevity of this local restaurant is a model for independent businesses. It is for these reasons and more that I join in congratulating the Tricks on this accomplishment and wish them many more years of prosperous business.

LOWER ALSACE FIRE COMPANY

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2007

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Lower Alsace Fire Company on the occasion of its 80th anniversary.

On September 24, 1927, local citizens met at the Pleasant View Hotel to form the Community Volunteer Fire Company of Lower Alsace Township. In April 1928, the Company broke ground for the original building and, in September 1928, the building was dedicated. Soon after, the Company created the Ladies' Auxiliary, which faithfully served the community until 2001. The Company and the Auxiliary worked together to raise funds for the needed start-up firefighting equipment and continue to work hard to raise funds to maintain and acquire equipment necessary to protect the public.

This fire company serves an area of six square miles with over 2,500 residents. Currently, there are over 30 active firemen and five well-maintained pieces of equipment that protect and serve the local community. This Company is equipped and trained to fight fires, respond to hazardous material incidents, provide advanced life support emergency medical services, participate in vehicle rescues, and partake in search and rescue missions.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring the members of the Community Volunteer Fire Company of Lower Alsace Township, Pennsylvania as they celebrate their 80th anniversary. We all extend our best wishes and heartfelt congratulations for the Company's years of exemplary community service and outstanding dedication to protecting the lives and property of area citizens.

CONGRATULATING THE EBUSUA
CLUB OF SAN BRUNO FOR ITS
EXTRAORDINARY GENEROSITY
TOWARD THE PEOPLE OF GHANA
AND ITS DEEP COMMITMENT TO
BUILDING COMMUNITY IN THE
BAY AREA

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2007

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an exceptional organization based in San Bruno, California. The Ebusua Club is a truly unique and outstanding group,

made up of 18 Ghanaian-American families. Together, they work to improve lives in the Republic of Ghana, which was once their home, while building community in the San Francisco Bay Area where they have put down roots. Ebusua's annual events and charitable activities set a singular example for the people of both countries. By sponsoring projects that range from micro-enterprise in Ghana to soccer teams in the Bay Area, Ebusua has created a truly global community of compassion and generosity.

Among many other important projects, the members of the Ebusua Club have dedicated themselves to anti-malaria initiatives aimed at eradicating a disease that tragically kills 3,000 children each day, the majority in sub-Saharan Africa, despite the availability of prevention and treatment options.

Additionally, the club annually participates in the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation's Race for Research to honor a member lost to this terrible disease, Chaka Impraim. To honor his memory, the Ebusua team runs every year under the name "Chaka's Champions."

And the members of this group truly are champions, Madam Speaker, as they have also worked with Rotary International to train about 100 Ghanaian farmers in agriculture, food preservation and nutrition; organized materials, equipment and medical assistance to rehabilitate street children; dispensed polio vaccines to over two million infants and children; supported literacy programs by providing much-needed books for rural schools; and developed a low cost solar oven industry to efficiently replace chopped firewood.

This month, the Ebusua Club will hold a very special event—the Jubilee Ball, which not only marks the 10th anniversary of this successful organization, but also the 50th anniversary of the independence of Ghana, the first African country south of the Sahara to gain independence from colonial rule. This event promises to be a celebration of family, community and culture, and to live up to the primary purpose of the Ebusua Club—promoting Ghanaian culture and fostering an appreciation of how small contributions can make a tremendous impact on the well-being of others. In keeping with the group's charitable character, proceeds from the Jubilee Ball will be donated to help fight malaria in Ghana.

The name "Ebusua" itself is informative of the spirit of this marvelous organization. Among the Akan people of Ghana, the extended family, or "Ebusua," is the foundation of society. The members of this San Bruno group constitute a social network, collectively responsible for the material and spiritual welfare, physical protection, and the social security of each other. They exemplify the old adage that "it takes a village," and the village this group has created is nothing short of extraordinary. It is my pleasure to recognize their accomplishments, and wish them all the best as they prepare for their 2007 Jubilee Ball.

TRIBUTE TO AAAG

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2007

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, in the Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, there are many organizations that strive to make a difference in the lives of youth.

The African American Association of Georgia, AAAG, gives the opportunity for our youth to work with positive professional athletes in an up close and personal setting. The AAAG has demonstrated a spirit of giving, service and leadership to our district. Our district, families and community have benefited from the AAAG working to build a strong foundation in the lives of our youth mentally and physically.

The AAAG has worked tirelessly to give their best to preserve integrity, mentor our children and to build our future. The AAAG is currently sponsoring the 2007 Sports Festival Track and Field Meet and I was pleased to proclaim July 21, 2007 and July 22, 2007 as African American Association of Georgia Days in the Fourth Congressional District.

WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2007

Mr. MACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about a bill that is critical to improving our country's water quality and infrastructure, the Water Resources Development Act.

I am glad we're finally able to pass a WRDA conference report. For far too long, Congress has stalled on moving this critical legislation, creating a backlog of projects in the country, including many in Southwest Florida.

This legislation is vital to protecting our environment and improving water quality in Florida and the rest of the country. The bill will help to restore the Everglades and parts of coastal Louisiana affected by hurricanes. It will also assist in protecting our beaches and coastal areas from floods and storms and is vital in facilitating commerce at our Nation's waterways and ports.

Mr. Speaker, this bill will pay untold dividends in the years to come. We all agree that our children and grandchildren deserve to inherit a fiscally responsible government, but we also agree that they deserve to inherit clean water, clean air and a healthy environment.

I hope that the President won't act on his veto threat and instead will sign WRDA into law. We need this legislation to protect our environment for future generations. We can't delay in moving forward on these critical infrastructure projects.

TRIBUTE TO CONTINENTAL AIR SERVICE, INC.

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2007

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a group of Americans who should have been honored years ago for their service and sacrifice to the United States during the Vietnam war. For a period of 10 dangerous years, between 1965 and 1975, over 260 pilots and ground crew members flew over regions in Southeast Asia. They were the Continental Air Service Inc., CASI, personnel.

CASI was a subsidiary of Continental Airlines created at the request of the CIA to back up air service in Southeast Asia for another CIA airline, Air America. CASI personnel flew support missions for U.S. Agency for International Development, U.S. Operations Mission, the CIA, and other government agencies. The countries CASI covered include Laos, Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia, and Singapore.

CASI pilots deserve to be recognized by our Government. These pilots played a vital role during the Vietnam war delivering hard rice, food, medicine, and other supplies. Moreover, CASI pilots were sent on many secret missions to rescue American troops. Madam Speaker, I would like to point out these were not easy missions. CASI pilots flew for 10 years in the most unfavorable conditions: there were limited air traffic controllers in most regions, the unpredictable weather made flying dangerous, and their planes were constantly under enemy fire. As most of their flights were covert operations, the pilots could not even talk about their experiences with their own families.

CASI pilots flew the same missions, shared the same airstrips, and sacrificed their lives in America's war effort as did Air America pilots. In fact, CASI and Air America operated side by side for U.S. AID during the war. On June 2, 2001, the CIA honored Air America and Civil Air Transport for their part in the war effort: however, the CASI pilots and crew did not receive the same recognition. Many CASI pilots have passed away and some air crews are still missing in action in Laos.

After 32 years, the time has come to honor these individuals who sacrificed their own safety for the safety of our American soldiers and for our country.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the gallant pilots and crew members of Continental Air Service Inc.

TRIBUTE TO THE ASIAN CULTURAL EXPERIENCE

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2007

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, in the Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, many organizations strive to bring awareness and enlightenment to our community.

The Asian Cultural Experience has been a unique showcase for different Asian cultures in the Metro Atlanta area.

The past 14 years have been and continue to be a great gift of music, dance, food, art, native crafts, and fashion of the many different Asian countries from around the world.

We have found a jewel in this annual event that touches the minds and hearts of so many. Our community has been strengthened, our lives have been touched, and our spirits uplifted.

The 2007 Asian Cultural Experience is being presented at the Atlanta Botanical Garden on July 14–15, 2007. I was pleased to proclaim July 14, 2007, and July 15, 2007, as the Asian Cultural Experience Days in the 4th Congressional District.

TRIBUTE TO WALTER HART UPON EARNING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2007

Mr. MACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Walter Hart of Lehigh Acres, Florida upon earning the rank of Eagle Scout in the Boys Scouts of America.

Mr. Hart's honor is truly significant because he earned the rank 70 years after completing the requirements for the award. Before he could collect his award, Mr. Hart joined the Navy and served for 2 years aboard the USS *Alfred A. Cunningham* during World War II.

Mr. Hart earned 23 merit badges during his time as a Boy Scout, fulfilling requirements in the areas of leadership, service, and outdoor skills. As only 5 percent of Boy Scouts earn the rank of Eagle Scout, Mr. Hart's accomplishment is quite notable and worthy of distinction.

Mr. Hart's service didn't end with the Boy Scouts. He fought for our country overseas during World War II and continued to serve his community at home when he returned from the war—no doubt in part because of the skills and values he learned as a member of the Boy Scouts. Mr. Hart is part of a prestigious group of accomplished men who have served our country well.

Madam Speaker, I know the people of Southwest Florida join me in offering our heartiest congratulations to Mr. Hart upon this great honor. We're proud of him and all of his accomplishments. I wish Mr. Hart and his family all the best as he continues to serve our community as an official Eagle Scout.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND MEDICARE PROTECTION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2007

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Children's Health and Medicare Protection Act. This is a landmark measure which touches on many aspects of our national health care system. It forestalls a potentially devastating cut to physician payments through Medicare that would imperil our senior's access to their doctors. It also expands assistance to our lowest income seniors so they get the help they need to afford life-saving medication.

But most important, the bill we are debating today will extend the life changing benefit of health insurance to five million more American children. That means five million parents who won't have to bring their child to the emergency room because they're running a fever. Five million parents who can take their child to a dentist if their teeth hurt. Five million parents who can take care of their children in a way we all take for granted—that when they're sick, they can go to the doctor.

SCHIP has been an incredible success story, extending the benefits of health care to six million children, about 750,000 in California