

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES EDWARD UHLES

HON. DAN BOREN
OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 3, 2007

Mr. BOREN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Charles Edward Uhles, a strong community leader from Antlers, Oklahoma. He passed away unexpectedly on June 2, 2007, at the age of 65. Charles was the kind of man that everyone was happy to meet, and he will be missed by all who knew him.

Charles' commitment to leadership began at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford, Oklahoma, where he studied pharmacy and was a charter member of Kappa Psi, the pharmacy fraternity. After his graduation, Charles continued this pattern of community service in Antlers, Oklahoma, where he held posts ranging from mayor of Antlers to Cubmaster. He held leadership positions in organizations including the Jaycees, the Lions Club, the Masonic Lodge and the Boy Scouts. Charles' desire to work for the good of his community also led him to be involved in business organizations, serving as president of the Antlers Chamber of Commerce, Chairman of the Board of the Little Dixie Community Action Agency and president of the Deer Capital Tourism Association. The pharmacy that Charles and his wife Jeanette owned for 35 years was selected as the Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year 2006 and the Oklahoma Main Street Business of the Year 2007. In addition, Charles contributed to his community as a member of the First Methodist Church of Antlers.

I stand today to honor the life of Charles Edward Uhles, an outstanding community member with a distinguished record of service. Charles was a good man that I am proud to have known, and his dedication to service inspired those who knew him to follow his lead by reaching out and helping their communities in their own special way.

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

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 27, 2007

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Conference Report on H.R. 1, which implements the findings of the Final Report of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States, also called the 9/11 Commission Recommendations. Passage of this legislation keeps another promise made by the new Democratic Majority and makes clear that the safety and security of our families, our communities and our country is a top priority.

This Conference Report makes critical investments necessary to improve our homeland security. The timing is critical—a recent National Intelligence Estimate stated that al-Qaeda's network has been able to restore their capability to launch another attack on our

country. H.R. 1 will both better protect Americans from terrorism, and improve our ability to combat dangerous threats abroad. It implements the 9/11 Commission recommendations and is supported by the 9/11 families, as well as a vast majority of Americans.

H.R. 1 takes action on issues ignored by previous Congresses. It requires 100 percent scanning of containers bound for the United States and 100 percent screening of cargo on passenger aircraft. Recognizing that not all travel is aviation, the bill also authorizes \$4 billion for security grant programs to improve the safety of mass transit, buses, and freight and passenger rail.

Passage of this legislation will also finally ensure that our firefighters and police officers can communicate with one another in an emergency. H.R. 1 provides the resources necessary to ensure this communication by establishing a communications interoperability grant program. It also includes strengthens state and local intelligence fusion centers—which have been established to make sure state and local responders are receiving security-relevant information from Federal agencies.

Recognizing the importance of prevention, this conference report also includes strong provisions to reduce the proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction, strengthens efforts to prevent terrorists from traveling, and strengthens security measures for the Visa Waiver program. It also includes efforts to improve the reputation of the United States abroad and to reduce the appeal of extremism. This legislation promotes opportunities for educational exchange, invests in diplomacy and promotes long-term strategies to improve democracy and human rights around the world. Restoring America's reputation as a leader and a positive partner in the international community is the most effective tool we have to prevent further terrorist attacks.

This bill makes our Nation safer. I urge my colleagues to support it, and the President to sign it.

RECOGNIZING AMY MUMMA

HON. DOC HASTINGS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 3, 2007

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I wish to recognize Amy Mumma of Ellensburg, Washington for her contributions to the wine industry in Washington state and around the world.

Ms. Mumma is the Founder and Director of Central Washington University's World Wine Program. She was recently selected to serve as President of the professional jury for the second International Wine Women Awards, held in Paris, France. The Wine Women Awards is an international competition honoring female leaders in the wine industry. Ms. Mumma was the only American selected to be on the prestigious jury, comprised of well-known wine experts from around the world.

In 2005, she was herself honored as the International Wine Woman of 2005–2006. Ms. Mumma was selected from over 160 candidates from 20 countries for her extensive technical knowledge and unique personal vision of wine, and her understanding of the global wine industry.

Ms. Mumma has presented both nationally and internationally on the topics of wine faults, marketing, and professional wine analysis. Her extensive wine education includes an Advanced Diploma in Wine and Spirits from the Wine and Spirit Education Trust in London and a Diploma of Wine Studies and Tasting from France's University of Burgundy. She is currently a Master of Wine candidate at the prestigious Institute of Masters of Wine in London, England.

In 2003, Ms. Mumma founded the World Wine Program at Central Washington University and has worked hard to enhance the knowledge of students, professionals, and consumers of wine and the wine industry. The program currently includes a Wine Trade Professional Certificate program, a Wine Trade Tourism minor, consumer courses, and Wine Trade Training Courses for wine industry employees.

Ms. Mumma is dedicated to expanding the World Wine Program by establishing a comprehensive program examining wine faults and methods for wine professionals to identify and reduce the number of faults in wine. The program promises to improve wine quality and ensure the continued vitality of the wine industry in Washington state and the Nation.

I commend Ms. Mumma for her achievements in the global wine industry and her commitment to providing world-renowned wine education opportunities to wine professionals, students, and consumers in Washington state.

THE PASSING OF RICHARD RAUSCH

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 3, 2007

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate the fruitful life of Richard Rausch, who served on the staff here in the House in past years. After Richard Rausch's funeral in June, his friends repaired to the American Legion watering hole on Capitol Hill to celebrate his life in his style. Here in Congress, Richard is remembered for serving on the legislative staff of Rep. Neal Smith of Richard's home state of Iowa and Rep. Phil Burton. Richard's position as national director of the Young Democrats brought him to D.C. and he remained expert in national politics, but local politics became second nature to him. He came to the District from his beloved Iowa, and fell in love with this city and never left. In his home Capitol Hill community, Richard was revered both for his wit, wisdom, and his acumen as a behind the scenes political advisor and serious politician with the good humor not to take himself too seriously. He gave his life to the Democratic Party, attending every Democratic convention for the past 50 years.

A gay activist before most gays dared to come out, Rausch was a founding member and one of only three honorary life members of the Gertrude Stein Club. He was D.C.'s first openly gay member of the Democratic National Committee.

Richard was a quintessentially social animal and volunteer who knew who he was, where he stood and why. At bottom, people and politics were the loves of Richard's delightful and

fully lived life. Although most Americans have yet to commit to a presidential candidate, Richard was making calls for Sen. Barack Obama from his hospital bed during his last days. No doubt, Richard died a happy man, but he left many friends like me, who feel the void of his passing. Long live Richard.

NEW PARTNERSHIP FOR
HEALTHCARE IN IRAQ

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 3, 2007

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the efforts of several of our 7th District constituents who are working to rebuild the shattered healthcare system in Iraq. The collaboration between Dr. Goran Bekhtyar, a Kurdish-American physician from Franklin, Tennessee and Smith & Nephew, a global medical technology company based in Memphis, demonstrates to all of us that individual people can indeed achieve remarkable results.

I came to know Dr. Bekhtyar several years ago through his service in the Tennessee state government. After the fall of the Saddam Hussein regime, Dr. Bekhtyar set aside his medical practice in Franklin, Tennessee to work full-time at rebuilding the medical system in his native Iraq. He founded a non-profit organization, Improved Health Systems for Iraq (IHSI), and has traveled frequently to Iraq to advise health officials. During his brief visits home, he has worked tirelessly to enlist American healthcare providers and companies in his efforts.

Dr. Bekhtyar told me of the primitive conditions and lack of modern equipment that prevents Iraqi doctors from effectively treating their patients. I encouraged him to contact Smith & Nephew, a global medical technology company that specializes in developing Orthopaedic Trauma & Clinical Therapies, Orthopaedic Reconstruction, Endoscopy and Advanced Wound Management products. After meeting with Dr. Bekhtyar, Smith & Nephew leaders such as Dwayne Montgomery, Ken Reali, Zane Wood, and Mark Augusti immediately committed to assisting the efforts of IHSI.

Over the past six months, this team has spearheaded a donation drive through its Project Apollo Program, which will provide nearly half a million dollars of vital and crucial medical devices to orthopaedic surgeons and hospitals in Iraq. The program will provide advanced, world-class products such as non-locking plates and screws, and the Exogen ultrasonic bone healing system. Dr. Bekhtyar will return to Iraq on August 23rd and begin the distribution of the medical devices to Iraqi hospitals and physicians.

Madam Speaker, please join me in commending the passion and perseverance of Dr. Goran Bekhtyar and the initiative and generosity of Smith & Nephew. Together, they are setting an example of selflessness that we would all do well to follow.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SENATOR
KENNETH MYERS

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 3, 2007

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker on behalf of Representatives ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, ALCEE HASTINGS, LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART, MARIO DIAZ-BALART, ROBERT WEXLER, RON KLEIN and myself, I rise to honor the life and memory of former Senator Kenneth Myers.

A tireless advocate for the rights of others, Senator Myers served with distinction in the Florida Legislature for 16 years; 4 years in the House of Representatives, followed by 12 years in the Senate. Senator Myers was truly an outstanding leader in the State of Florida. He honorably served as chair of the Dade Delegation and sponsored more than 200 pieces of legislation and many ground-breaking laws. Throughout his life, Senator Myers was a compassionate and dedicated man who provided consummate service to the community.

Born in Miami in 1933, Senator Myers graduated from Miami High School in 1950. He attended the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, where he earned his bachelor's degree, and went on to earn his law degree at the University of Florida's School of Law.

Coming from a family of compassionate leaders, Senator Myers grew up with a strong sense of commitment and dedication to the community. His father, Stanley Myers, founded the Greater Miami Jewish Federation. His sister, Judy Gilbert-Gould currently serves as the Director of the Jewish Community Relations Council at the Federation. Senator Myers' nephew Robert Gilbert serves as an officer on the Federation's Board, and his nephew Mark Gilbert is active in youth programs at Temple Beth Am in Miami. Senator Myers' niece Carolyn and other family members are following in his footsteps by dedicating their time, talents and service to the community, as well.

Though Senator Myers will be remembered by his former colleagues as an eloquent speaker and fervent debater, his lasting legacy to the people of the State of Florida will be his championing of legislation on behalf of women's rights, the administration of Jackson Memorial Hospital, and his assistance for alcoholics and the mentally ill.

The Jewish prayer for mourning never speaks of death, but often speaks of peace. My colleagues and I extend these words of peace as well as our heartfelt sympathy to the friends and family of Senator Kenneth Myers and to the entire south Florida community during this difficult time.

TRIBUTE TO ONCOLOGY NURSES

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 3, 2007

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the important and essential role that oncology nurses play in providing quality cancer care. Oncology nurses provide clinical, psychosocial and supportive care to patients and their families and are integral to our Nation's cancer care delivery system.

I would like to specifically acknowledge Laura Benson from New Rochelle, New York, for her service on the Oncology Nursing Society Board of Directors, as treasurer, and her role as senior director of medical communications and medical information at OSI Pharmaceuticals. Laura, who received her bachelors, masters, and nurse practitioner degrees from Adelphi University, has served on the ONS Board of Directors for the past 3 years. Laura also served as the patient care consultant for Schering Oncology Biotech. In this capacity, she serviced all of Long Island, New York City, and Westchester County.

The Oncology Nursing Society has 13 chapters in my home State of New York. These chapters serve the oncology nurses in the State and support them in their efforts to provide high-quality cancer care to patients and their families throughout New York. Laura has served as president of her chapter and was awarded ONS' AOCN of the Year award in 1999.

I would like to once again acknowledge and thank Laura Benson for her hard work and leadership on the Oncology Nursing Society Board of Directors. As a nurse and leader in the field, Laura has made it her life's mission to help others, and she should be applauded for her accomplishments.

CELEBRATING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF MR. DAVID DINKINS

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, August 4, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend, my brother, Mr. David Dinkins, for his public service career, and to congratulate him on his 80th birthday. I feel it quite appropriate to honor David by highlighting his accomplishments and the contributions he has made, and continues to make, to the city of New York and this great Nation.

David Dinkins, born July 10, 1927, in Trenton, NJ, moved to Harlem in 1953 and has been an integral part of New York since then. He served his country during World War II in the United States Marine Corps, and later by entering the world of politics.

Mr. Dinkins graduated from Howard University in 1950. With politics on his mind, he decided to further pursue his education at Brooklyn Law School in 1953. Mr. Dinkins went on to start a family, marrying Ms. Joyce Burrows and raising two children, Donna and David Jr., in Harlem.

With the support of his family and friends, Mr. Dinkins became more involved in politics. With friends, including Basil Paterson, Percy Sutton, and myself, we became pioneers in the politics of New York City, eventually being named the "gang of four." David went on to become very influential, swiftly moving up in New York's political structure.

Mr. Dinkins has held numerous positions in New York including: New York State Legislature, and New York city clerk. He was elected Manhattan Borough president in 1985 which was a sign of his determination, as this was his third run for office. Mr. Dinkins later ran for mayor, and was elected on November 7, 1989, becoming the first African American to serve as the mayor of New York City.