

TRIBUTE TO THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S DEPARTMENT OF PLANT PATHOLOGY

HON. TIMOTHY J. WALZ

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2007

Mr. WALZ of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Department of Plant Pathology at the University of Minnesota.

I would like to applaud the University of Minnesota's Department of Plant Pathology for its dedication to furthering knowledge of plant pathology and its work in developing genetic and biological controls that have helped increase crop production in Minnesota and across the world. The contributions of this Department to ecological plant genetics, and the work done by the Department's researchers to improve plant resistance to diseases and weather conditions, have been profoundly important to world's ability to raise higher quality crops and feed a growing population.

For well over a century, multi-national food companies have originated in Minnesota. Because of the importance of the grain milling industry to the economy of our then-young state, the threat of disease to the wheat, barley or oat crop was cause for great concern. Early members of this Department helped ensure that these key crops remained healthy, with research that stabilized crop production and prevented losses from disease.

Today, the Department is recognized as a national and global leader in Plant Pathology and its research continues to improve the production capabilities and practices of farmers across the nation and around the world. For example, the Department's work on Soybean Aphids has led to the use of Asian Wasps as a biological control, a research breakthrough that may save soybean producers millions of dollars each year in reduced input costs and prevented crop losses.

The impact of this Department is also measured through the success of its alumni. Dr. Norman Borlaug earned his bachelor's degree from this Department in 1937, his master's degree in 1939 and his doctorate in 1942. But that was only the start of the recognition that this remarkable alumni would receive. In 1970, he won the Nobel Peace Prize, and in July, he received the Congressional Gold Medal.

A plant pathologist by training, he has spent the better part of six decades fighting hunger in Africa, Asia and Mexico. With his tireless work in breeding high-yielding, disease-resistant varieties of wheat, he has saved—by some estimates—as many as one billion lives from malnutrition and starvation.

For their 100 years of service to the farmers, businesses and citizens of Minnesota and the world, I commend the faculty, staff, students and alumni of the University of Minnesota's Department of Plant Pathology and I look forward to many more years of their continued success.

ELEANOR MCGOVERN POST OFFICE BUILDING

SPEECH OF

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in honoring the life of Eleanor McGovern and in support of H.R. 2654, a bill to name a post office in South Dakota, in tribute to her legacy.

Eleanor was a great advocate for children and families, both through volunteering and personally helping underprivileged families and by addressing these issues through public policy. Most people know her as the wife of Senator George McGovern—but she was an influential and outspoken figure in her own right. While her husband was running for president, she traveled across the country displaying her impressive rhetorical skills and changing traditional perceptions of a woman's role in public life.

She was also a key advisor to her husband, one of our most distinguished American statesmen and humanitarians, and a very principled anti-war leader. Eleanor believed wholeheartedly in the causes they championed, in the battles they won and those they lost. She contributed her time and efforts to a number of organizations over the years, serving on the boards of directors for the Psychiatric Institute Foundation, the Child Study Association, the Erickson Institute of Chicago, and the Odyssey House of New York. Following her daughter's death, she also helped found the McGovern Family Foundation dedicated to research into alcoholism, and established the Martha Movement, which championed the rights of homemakers.

I pay tribute to the legacy she leaves behind and the tremendous good work she did. She was truly a force for change. I'm so thankful for the life, the service, and the good will of Eleanor McGovern.

CELEBRATING CULTURAL DIVERSITY IN NEW YORK CITY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce an article entitled "Promises of More To Come," published in the New York CARIB News on July 27, 2007. This article highlights the National Association of Barbados Organization's (NABO) Annual gathering in Queens, NY where 200-plus Bajans, people from Barbadian descent, were present.

The NABO convention in Queens is a prime example of the rich diversity of cultures and people in New York City where a multiplicity of peoples from all over the world have come to live. It is exciting for me to know that events such as the NABO convention take place in New York City because I believe that the city benefits from the richness of cultures and exchange of ideas. The NABO convention is a fine example of this type of cultural exchange.

[From CaribNews, July 27, 2007]

PROMISES OF MORE TO COME

(By Tony Best)

The spacious hotel overlooking La Guardia Airport may not be in the heart of busy New York City but it is far from a drab, unexciting place to hold a convention.

The Crowne Plaza's large ballroom, its theater-style meeting room, and the quiet Queens neighborhood may not offer the atmosphere of a City that never sleeps but it offered its own charm that grabbed and held the attention of the 200-plus Bajans who attended the National Association of Barbados Organization's annual gathering.

The Bajans came from the across the U.S., the Caribbean, Canada and Britain.

"It turned out quite well for us," said Mike Cummings, Chairman of the NABO, an umbrella organization that brings together more than 20 associations of Barbadians in the U.S. and the Caribbean. "The convention was one of the largest and among the best we have had so far."

Pat Sobers-Fergusson, President of the Barbados-American Organization of Philadelphia, shared Cummings' assessments.

"It was my first NABO convention and I enjoyed it," she said.

The convention, which began with an opening reception and a launching of a three-day EXPO, organized by the Barbados Investment and Development Corporation, BIDC, ended with a church service at the hotel.

And with eyes focused on Barbados where NABO plans to hold its 2008 convention, the meeting with its emphasis on youth may have set the stage for an interesting gathering on "the rock," as Bajans often call their birthplace.

"I look forward to welcoming the membership of NABO, together with counterparts from Canada and the United Kingdom when you hold your joint homecoming conference in Barbados in 2008," said Dame Billie Miller, Barbados' Foreign Minister and Minister of Foreign Trade during a feature address at the awards banquet.

"The New York convention may have set the stage, the appropriate tone and atmosphere for what's to follow next year," said Jessica Odle, Consul-General in New York.

The workshops, breakfast sessions, luncheon meeting, the EXPO, a dance in Brooklyn and other events were followed by the highlight of the convention, the awards banquet.

Dame Billie took the opportunity to bring the Bajans up-to-speed on the recent U.S. Caribbean Conference in Washington, which she described as "an unprecedented event on the landscape of Caribbean-United States relations."

The Minister pointed out that the region's leaders, the West Indian Diaspora and the top officials of the Bush Administration, including President George Bush, senior members of Congress, the private sector, "eminent scholars and entrepreneurs" came together "to build out a work program for interaction between the Caribbean community and the Caribbean Diaspora in the United States of America."

Focusing on the Convention's theme of "Rekindling Pride and Industry by mentoring our youth."

Dame Billie said that with the 18-35 year olds accounting for about 30 per cent of the region's "productive labor capacity," the youth in and out of the Caribbean and the Diaspora "must be encouraged to contribute and produce."

She cited the work being done by the "Young Barbadian Professional Society as an example of what could be done, explaining that the "mission of this Society is to use the intellectual capital of its members to further advance positive transformations in the Barbadian and Caribbean communities."

Five Bajans were honored, some of them in their absence for their work at home and abroad. Rupert "Rupe" Clarke, the well-known entertainer was presented with the "Pride of Barbados Award" and Jonathan Ethelbert Graham, who has devoted "a lifetime of service to cricket in Barbados" was given a special recognition award. Community citations were presented to the Rev. Dr. Hamilton Taitt, a prominent pastor in the Wesleyan Holiness Church in Florida; Martin Ervin Greenidge, a "role model" in the California community where he lives and works; and the Rev. Canon Dr. Llewellyn Armstrong, Rector of Calvary/St. Cyprian's Church in Brooklyn.

"We all left New York with a feeling of satisfaction," said Ed Bushell, Consul-General in Miami who chaired many of the sessions during the convention. "We all are looking forward to Barbados next year."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2007

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, I was not able to be present for the following rollcall votes on September 10, 2007, and would like the record to reflect that I would have voted as follows: rollcall No. 865: "yea," rollcall No. 866: "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2007

Mr. REYNOLDS. Madam Speaker, while I was unavoidably absent during the final passage of the Conference Report to H.R. 2669, had I been present, I would have voted in support of the Conference Report. The College Cost Reduction Act will add nearly \$11.5 billion for Pell Grants, which will directly help 5.5 million low-income students attend college. While I had serious concerns about much of the runaway spending included in the legislation, I supported this legislation because it is important that higher education become more accessible and affordable for working families. The Conference Report included measures to achieve this goal. I have long supported and was pleased to see substantial funding increases in particular for Pell Grants and TRIO/Upward Bound. As a parent and a grandparent, I understand the need to ensure students are afforded every opportunity to attend college.

HONORING KYLE JOSEPH CODAY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kyle Joseph Coday, 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 214, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Kyle has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Kyle's Eagle Scout project involved the construction of a pergola in the outdoor classroom of St. James Catholic Church and School. Over the many years Kyle has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Kyle Joseph Coday for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TULLAHOMA AMERICANS CAPTURE STATE TITLE

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2007

Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the "Tullahoma Americans," a little league baseball team of 11- and 12-year-olds from Coffee County, Tennessee, that captured the State title this month. Tullahoma American has had remarkable success in the past but has not held this title for many years. For all their hard work and dedication, these young little-leaguers have achieved an incredible feat in reclaiming the championship for Tullahoma, and I could not be prouder of them.

My sincere congratulations go out to the players: Josh Brandon, Justin Brandon, Justin Brown, Trey Burks, Alex Butaud, Reed Gabriel, Marquel Hickerson, Zach Lampkin, Ryan Lawson, Brad Roepke, Sam Tomes, and Caleb Zidan, as well as their coaches, Warner Tomes, Troy Shelton, and Mike Thompson, for a championship well-earned. Head Coach Mike Thompson also deserves congratulations not only for shepherding the boys to a winning season, but for dedicating 9 years of service to the Little League institution.

Little League baseball has a long history in America. As early as the late 19th century, young American children played baseball in groups affiliated with adult club teams, but it was not until the late 1930s that Carl Stotz founded and named the "Little League" we are all familiar with today. Since then, young baseball players have honed their skills as well as their character on baseball diamonds across the country. Little League teaches teamwork, sportsmanship, and the value of hard work.

Our Tullahoma State Champions exemplify all of these qualities, and I am proud today to stand and congratulate the team, their coaches, and families for their extraordinary effort. It is my sincere hope that this tradition will continue for young people across the State for years to come.

TAIWAN

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2007

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge and support Taiwan's ef-

orts to gain membership in the United Nations, U.N. Communist China's persistent and pervasive intimidation has spurred the U.N.'s refusal to grant Taiwan membership and meaningful participation in the international organization; thus, notwithstanding Taiwan's democratic government, market economy, inherent sovereignty, and respect of human rights, Taiwan is the only democracy in the world banned from U.N. membership.

To rectify this abject inequity, on July 19, 2007, Taiwan's democratically-elected President, Chen Shui-bian, appealed to U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon to accept the nation's application for U.N. membership. Instead of forwarding the application to the U.N. Security Council, Mr. Ban unilaterally dismissed Taiwan's application; consequently, Mr. Ban cavalierly violated U.N. Security Council Rule 59. In explaining Mr. Ban's violation, the U.N. Secretary General's office alleged the application was rejected because Taiwan is an integral part of communist China. In making this factually unfounded determination, Mr. Ban subverted the authority of the U.N. Security Council and diminished the little credibility the U.N. retains. Further, as the U.N. Secretary General is acting as a dupe for communist China, the U.N. will rightly and ultimately be viewed as a wholly owned subsidiary of communist China.

If, in addition to its innumerable instances of corruption and incompetence, the U.N. continues such arbitrary and capricious actions in relation to the sovereign democracy of Taiwan, this international organization will one day mirror the League of Nations—of which, if I may point out, no country remains a member.

Madam Speaker, I strongly regret Mr. Ban's unilateral rejection of Taiwan's sovereignty and application to join the U.N. As the United States is the Leader of the Free World we must continue to support Taiwan's efforts to gain membership in the U.N.

RECOGNIZING MR. CLAUDE RUNDLE AND THE CREW OF THE LST-460

HON. TIM MAHONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2007

Mr. MAHONEY of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Claude Rundle of Port Charlotte, FL, and the other exceptional crew members of the LST-460 ship during its service in World War II.

The LST-460 was commissioned on February 15, 1943 and was assigned to the Asiatic-Pacific theatre between 1943 and 1944. The LST-460 and its crew participated in over a half dozen operations including the consolidation of the Southern Solomons and the Mindoro Landing. On December 21, 1944, the LST-460 was lost in action when it was attacked by enemy aircraft while sailing off the coast of the Philippines. The LST-460 and its crew earned six battle stars and the Navy Unit Commendation for World War II service.

For the last 25 years, the survivors of the LST-460 have hosted a reunion to commemorate their service and bravery. Mr. Rundle is one of these survivors and I am honored to be able to recognize him today. Beyond our