

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING PENNSYLVANIA PARAMEDIC OF THE YEAR BRETT FADGEN

HON. JASON ALTMIRE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 17, 2007

Mr. ALTMIRE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Brett Fadgen, the 2007 Pennsylvania Paramedic of the Year. Not only is Mr. Fadgen an EMS Paramedic Rescue Technician for the Ross and West View communities, he also flies with Stat MedEvac, serves as a trained firefighter for his local fire department, and teaches at the Community College of Allegheny County. He is truly a model representative of the thousands of paramedics who serve in Pennsylvania, and I was pleased to learn that the Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council awarded him with this great honor on August 18.

Mr. Fadgen became an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) at the age of 17 after volunteering with the local emergency medical service. Upon graduating from Gannon University with a Bachelor of Science degree, he attended school to become a paramedic. In 2002, Mr. Fadgen moved with his family to Ross Township, Pennsylvania and has served the community as a paramedic ever since. Recently, Mr. Fadgen obtained his nursing degree from Duquesne University and accepted a position as a Registered Nurse for UPMC Presbyterian. Although he has taken on a new role in the community, Mr. Fadgen remains committed to continuing his work as a paramedic on a part-time basis.

I am honored to recognize Mr. Fadgen's outstanding accomplishment of becoming the 2007 Pennsylvania Paramedic of the Year. His incredible achievements are just one example of the extraordinary work being accomplished by paramedics across the nation. On behalf of my family and the Fourth District of Pennsylvania, I extend our thanks and eternal gratitude to Mr. Brett Fadgen for his continued commitment to our community.

A TRIBUTE TO SAM JOHNSON

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 17, 2007

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to an extraordinary educator from my home district in California. Samuel Johnson Jr. has retired following four decades of service to students. Remarkably, for 39 of those years, Sam Johnson was employed at the San Mateo Union High School District, with the final three years as its Superintendent.

A native of Louisiana, Sam Johnson struggled against and rose above the racial challenges of his generation. His career displays a shining light of perseverance and profes-

sionalism, offering a pioneering example for all races.

Yet let me say, Madame Speaker, that Sam Johnson's legacy is his devotion to young people, his determination that every student should have the ability to excel, to achieve and ultimately to find success in higher education.

His first job as a teacher was in his home state of Louisiana, and his eventual move to the San Mateo Union High School District after that first year began a lengthy tenure of dedication at the district he would call home for four decades.

Beginning his career as a math teacher, Sam Johnson went on to hold nearly every administrative position in the district. His responsibilities ranged through the years from being the Director of Human Relations for the entire San Mateo Union High School District to being Assistant Principal and then Principal of Capuchino High School, where he was successful in acquiring a prestigious Carnegie Grant. He later served as Director of Personnel, Associate Superintendent for Human Resources and Administrative Services and finally, Superintendent of the District, overseeing seven schools.

Madam Speaker, I would like my colleagues to know that Sam Johnson will be remembered for his commitment to the advancement of young people from all walks of life. His innovative pursuit of an Academic Core Curriculum, guaranteeing that every student would be taking classes geared to success in college, was just one example of helping everyone realize educational dreams. He combined that vision with a push for seven periods in the school day, giving students the opportunity to benefit from additional elective classes. He also spearheaded a school year calendar change that more effectively linked the end of academic classes with holiday vacations. These changes, which required political and administrative strength to achieve, highlight much of Sam Johnson's talents and vision. His success at reaching these goals provided more academic opportunities for the students in his care. I am proud to say that the San Mateo Union High School District has reported successively improving student scores in recent years, something universally desired in any educational environment.

Madam Speaker, Samuel Johnson Jr. deserves respect and appreciation for an educational career focused on improving the opportunities and experiences of young people attending public school. He faced many challenges during his tenure, specific to the San Mateo Union High School District as well as relating to society in general. He met those challenges with dignity and what many of his colleagues described as class, while never wavering from the dream he held as a young teacher in Louisiana; a dream of helping students find the path to realizing their own hopes and dreams.

Madam Speaker, I want to wish Samuel Johnson Jr.; his wife, Della; and children Brad and Shana, happiness in his retirement and

congratulations on his four-decade career in education.

JACOB ADAM HENDRICKS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 17, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jacob Adam Hendricks, 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 261, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jacob has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Jacob 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 Jacob Adam Hendricks for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARTIN SAVIDGE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 17, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Martin Savidge for his 27 years of service to the American public, through his role as a news anchor and national correspondent for many prominent news networks.

Martin, who is currently a correspondent with NBC News, does regular reporting for NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams, the Today Show, and MSNBC. Prior to NBC, Martin was a news anchor and a national correspondent for CNN, based at the network's world headquarters in Atlanta.

Martin graduated from Rocky River High School and earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from Ohio University. He began his broadcast career as an anchor and reporter for WCIA-TV in Champaign, IL in 1980. He then moved on to work as the prime-time anchor for WMBD-TV in Peoria, IL. Martin also worked as a reporter for the Associated Press, as well as a special projects reporter and anchor for WJW-TV in Cleveland.

Following the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, Martin reported from New York City's Ground Zero on the search and rescue mission and the ongoing recovery efforts. In 2003, Martin delivered on-the-ground coverage of the crises in Iraq as one of CNN's embedded journalists. Martin most recently served as NBC's primary correspondent in New Orleans,

• 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.

covering Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath along the Gulf Coast.

Martin has been honored with some of broadcast journalism's most prestigious awards, including two Headliner Awards, two Edward R. Murrow Awards, a Peabody Award, a DuPont Award and an Emmy. In October 2002, the National Journalism Education Association named Martin its Media Person of the Year for his support of scholastic journalism.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Martin Savidge for his dedication to informing the public about important national and world issues, and his commitment to educating future journalists.

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF ROBERT E.
KELLEY

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 17, 2007

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chief Robert E. Kelley on his retirement after more than four decades of service to the citizens of Vernon, CT, as a firefighter and first responder.

Bob began his career in 1966 at the Rockville Fire Department, where he ascended to the rank of Battalion Chief of the Rescue Squad. In 1980, he was promoted to the position of District Fire Chief and later Chief of the Town of Vernon Fire Department in 1986. Bob's commitment to public service is evident in his dedication to do what is best for the citizens of his town and his fellow firefighters, regardless of the task. As a supervisor and mentor his contribution is immeasurable, but his record speaks for itself. No firefighter has ever lost his life in the line of duty under the command of Chief Kelley, and that speaks to his professionalism, dedication, and commitment to public safety and his comrades.

I have known Bob for almost 20 years in a number of different capacities: constituent, fellow town official, advisor, and friend, and he has served the people of Vernon and Tolland County with integrity and distinction. His duties have covered the gamut; planning, developing budgets, saving lives, and protecting property. He also oversaw the transformation of public safety from a loose group of local volunteers to a sophisticated cutting edge network of first responders. We are lucky to still have a predominantly all volunteer force, and under Bob's leadership they have been trained and equipped to deal with the challenges of the 21st century. Congratulations to Bob, his wife of 47 years, Marilla, and his family on this well-deserved retirement. I hope he still drives a red Ford around town so I will know he's coming down the street.

The Town of Vernon Fire Department will miss his leadership and I ask my colleagues to join with me and my constituents in thanking Bob Kelley for his years of public service and wishing him well in his new endeavors.

IN TRIBUTE TO DIC YOUNGS

HON. LEONARD L. BOSWELL

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 17, 2007

Mr. BOSWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life works and career of a local Iowa luminary. Born in Grand Island, NE, Dic Youngs—or "Youngsy" to his fans—has become a legend of regional radio in the Des Moines metro area, attracting loyal listeners from every Iowa demographic over his half century of commitment to the air waves. With the announcement of his retirement from 93.3 KIOA this July, it is proper that we should honor a man who has come to be so cherished in the hearts and homes of several generations of Iowans.

Dic Youngs has always had panache, and he has basked in the community spotlight since his youth. As a young man attending East High School in Des Moines, his athletic prowess earned him many distinctions, and he gained substantial notoriety within the greater conference community throughout his athletic career. At the age of 16, Dic's radio career was kick-started as he championed a KSO amateur DJ contest, and was given a position at radio 1460 KSO, Des Moines. Soon after, he began broadcasting the sounds of the sixties from his "KSO Fish Bowl" studio, which was originally located in the display window of a downtown shop. He was a "smash" with Des Moines area teens, and by charming them with his skillful spins and witty words, he established a loyal fan base from the very beginning.

Dic started his time at 93.3 KIOA in February of 1966, after a brief hiatus from Iowa radio, and remained there for nearly 42 years. During his time at KIOA, he was known for his afternoon broadcasts and the "Original Saturday Night Oldies Show." But Dic did more than DJ during his time at KIOA—he was also an exceptional philanthropist, and was passionately involved in the local community. As a member of the KIOA High Hoopers Basketball team, he helped raise nearly one million dollars for various charitable causes, and he is known in the region for his 50 hour radiothons to benefit the Variety Club of Iowa; the grand total of his personal fund-raising efforts climbing to nearly \$500,000. He has orchestrated 26 "Rock and Roll Reunions" at the Iowa State Fair, and was responsible for the crowd-pleasing "KIOA Good Guy Reunions."

Many Iowans will remember Dic as the man whose voice and musical repertoire filled lazy afternoons and memorable Saturday nights, as the man who first introduced them to the Beatles, and as the man whose steadfastly positive presence in the community has been an inspiration and a blessing to so many. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and career of Dic Youngs. We congratulate you and wish you the best of luck in retirement.

IN HONOR OF CAPTAIN ERICK M.
FOSTER

HON. JASON ALTMIRE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 17, 2007

Mr. ALTMIRE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor CPT Erick M. Foster, an Army Ranger who was killed while serving in Iraq on August 29, 2007. As a member of the 1st Squadron, 73rd Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, he was struck by small arms fire while conducting a dismounted patrol in Muqadiyah, Iraq. This was Captain Foster's second deployment to Iraq.

Captain Foster was born and raised in Pennsylvania and graduated from North Allegheny High School. After graduation, he attended Duquesne University, where he took part in their Reserve Officer Training (ROTC) program while majoring in information technology. In 2000, Captain Foster graduated from Duquesne University and received his commission as an officer in the United States Army.

Captain Foster was awarded the Purple Heart, two Bronze Stars, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, and numerous other military awards for his service to our country. He will forever be remembered as a patriot and a respected combat leader.

On behalf of my family, the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania, and the U.S. House of Representatives, I extend our heartfelt sympathy and eternal gratitude to Captain Foster's family. Our thoughts and prayers are with his parents, Robert and Barbara, and his sisters Elizabeth and Abby.

DAMON JOSEPH ARREDONDO

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 17, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Damon Joseph Arredondo, 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 261, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Damon has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Damon 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 Damon Joseph Arredondo for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.