

English, history, and music for numerous years in Southwest Missouri, Marvin was hired as a disc jockey and sportscaster for radio station KDMO in Carthage. Marvin advanced to news director at KDMO and then took a job with The Carthage Press where he worked as the assistant managing editor and co-publisher.

Marvin served his community as a member, and then President, of the Carthage Board of Education. He was also on the boards of the Sunshine Children's Home, the Carthage Crisis Center, the Eastern Jasper County Red Cross, the Carthage United Way, the Carthage Lions Club and the Eastern Jasper County Mental Health Association.

Marvin has authored books on everything from poetry to the history of Barton County, Missouri. On those subjects and many more, he served as a guest lecturer at numerous schools and museums. He received the George Washington Medal of Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge Award in 1971, the Drury College Distinguished Alumni award and was the first citizen of Carthage to receive the Carthage Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year award. Marvin was married on October 15, 1950 to E. Irene Smith VanGilder and they have four daughters Paula, Linda, Leesa and Carla, one son Chris, nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

I am proud to congratulate Marvin VanGilder on his years of service as a leader in our community, and across our State.

IRAQ

SPEECH OF

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 17, 2007

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with Representative JONES and my other colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus, in calling for a comprehensive reevaluation of our strategies in Iraq. I consider the situation in Iraq to be one of Congress' highest priorities and there is an urgent need to establish a comprehensive and realistic exit strategy. We need to offer hope to the families anxiously waiting for news of their loved ones and the men and women who risk their lives everyday.

Next month will be the 40th anniversary of one of the largest protests against the Vietnam War. Over a hundred thousand people marched on Washington that day, and it worries me that the current Administration seems to have learned little from history. A similar discontent can be seen on the streets of America today, as more and more polls demonstrate dwindling public support for this war.

I have always maintained the stance that an adequate case for war was never made and that military intervention should only have been used if all other routes failed. From the beginning, I offered an alternative resolution to war. Although we can never know what the outcome of alternatives may have been, we have the chance now to change strategy and

make decisive steps to developing a lasting solution.

Mr. Speaker, an increase in troop numbers is not the answer. This war, commenced in haste and founded on deception, will never provide the solutions Iraq needs to establish a strong and lasting democracy. We can't secure victory through a war of attrition, and neither can we protect our sons and daughters who stand in harm's way in a war that was never necessary.

It is true that we cannot abandon the Iraqi people. But more productive ways to help them can be found. In the current international climate, we cannot engage in meaningful dialogue on the Iraqi situation while the occupation continues. I believe we must allow the U.N. to play a greater role in the reconstruction of Iraq, advancing human rights and justice within the framework of international law. In my work in this great body, I consistently seek to protect the United States and its people above all else. However, currently there is no absolute proof of an imminent threat. In fact our vulnerability to international terrorism only rises every day our troops stay in Iraq.

Mr. Speaker, I am dedicated to providing funding to protect our troops, but I refuse to support the failed foreign policies of the Bush administration, nor any legislation that will lead to more unnecessary deaths. The greatest thing we can do for our brave men and women in the Armed Forces is to take them out of harm's way by developing a clear, decisive exit strategy.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, September 25, 2007 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

SEPTEMBER 26

9:30 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the role and impact of credit rating agencies on the subprime credit markets.

SD-538

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the impacts of global warming on the Chesapeake Bay.

SD-406

10 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 1543, to establish a national geothermal initiative to encourage increased production of energy from geothermal resources.

SD-366

Finance

To hold hearings to examine offshore tax issues, focusing on reinsurance and hedge funds.

SD-215

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider H.R. 2654, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 202 South Dumont Avenue in Woonsocket, South Dakota, as the "Eleanor McGovern Post Office Building", H.R. 2467, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 69 Montgomery Street in Jersey City, New Jersey, as the "Frank J. Guarini Post Office Building", H.R. 2587, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 555 South 3rd Street Lobby in Memphis, Tennessee, as the "Kenneth T. Whalum, Sr. Post Office Building", H.R. 2778, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3 Quaker Ridge Road in New Rochelle, New York, as the "Robert Merrill Postal Station", H.R. 2825, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 326 South Main Street in Princeton, Illinois, as the "Owen Lovejoy Princeton Post Office Building", H.R. 3052, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 954 Wheeling Avenue in Cambridge, Ohio, as the "John Herschel Glenn, Jr. Post Office Building",

H.R. 3106 and S. 2023, bills to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 805 Main Street in Ferdinand, Indiana, as the "Staff Sergeant David L. Nord Post Office", H.R. 2765, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 44 North Main Street in Hughesville, Pennsylvania, as the "Master Sergeant Sean Michael Thomas Post Office", and the nomination of Julie L. Myers, of Kansas, to be Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security.

SD-342

Rules and Administration

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Robert Charles Tapella, of Virginia, to be Public Printer, Steven T. Walther, of Nevada, Hans von Spakovsky, of Georgia, David M. Mason, of Virginia, and Robert D. Lenhard, of Maryland, all to be a Members of the Federal Election Commission.

SR-301

Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold hearings to examine improving internet access to help small business compete in a global economy.

SR-428A

2 p.m.

Appropriations

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the President's supplemental request for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

SD-106

2:30 p.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Michael J. Sullivan, of Massachusetts, to be Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.

SD-226

SEPTEMBER 27

9 a.m.

Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business; to be immediately followed by an oversight hearing to examine the prevalence of violence against Indian women.

SD-628

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Gen. William E. Ward, United States Army, for reappointment to the grade of General and to be Commander, United States Africa Command, Gen. Kevin P. Chilton, to be General, United States Air Force, for reappointment to the grade of General and to be Commander, United States Strategic Command, Lt. Gen. James N. Mattis, United States Marine Corps, to be General and to be Commander, United States Joint Forces Command and Supreme Allied Commander for Transformation, and Admiral Gary Roughead, United States Navy, for reappointment to the grade of Admiral and to be Chief of Naval Operations.

SH-216

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine hard-rock mining on federal lands.

SD-366

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Paul J. Hutter, of Virginia, to be General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.

SD-562

10 a.m.

Finance

To hold hearings to examine the efficacy of national border security.

SD-215

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine S. 2035, to maintain the free flow of information to the public by providing conditions for the federally compelled disclosure of information by certain persons connected with the news media, S.J. Res. 13, granting the consent of Congress to the International Emergency Management Assistance Memorandum of Understanding, S. 980, to amend the Controlled Substances Act to address online pharmacies, S. Con. Res. 45, commending the Ed Block Courage Award Foundation for its work in aiding children and families affected by child abuse, and designating November 2007 as National Courage Month, S. Res. 258, recognizing the historical and educational significance of the Atlantic Freedom Tour of the Freedom Schooner Amistad, and expressing the sense of the Senate that preserving the legacy of the Amistad story is important in promoting multicultural dialogue, education, and cooperation, S. 1267, to maintain the free flow of information to the public by providing conditions for the federally compelled disclosure of information by certain persons connected with the news media, and the nomination of James Russell Dredick, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Tennessee.

SD-226

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine human rights defenders in Russia.

2212RHOB

10:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine congestion and delays impacting travelers, focusing on possible solutions.

SR-253

2 p.m.

Judiciary

Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the Google-DoubleClick merger and the online advertising industry, focusing on the risks for competition and privacy.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider S. 1578, to amend the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 to establish vessel ballast water management requirements, S. 1889, to amend title 49, United States Code, to improve railroad safety by reducing accidents and to prevent railroad fatalities, injuries, and hazardous materials releases, S. 1453, to extend the moratorium on taxes on Internet access and multiple and discriminatory taxes on electronic commerce imposed by the Internet Tax Freedom Act, S. 1965, to protect children from cybercrimes, including crimes by online predators, to enhance efforts to identify and eliminate child pornography, and to help parents shield their children from material that is inappropriate for minors, S.J. Res. 17, directing the United States to initiate international discussions and take necessary steps with

other Nations to negotiate an agreement for managing migratory and transboundary fish stocks in the Arctic Ocean, and S. Con. Res. 39, supporting the goals and ideals of a world day of remembrance for road crash victims, and a promotion list in the United States Coast Guard.

SR-253

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (T.Doc. 103-39).

SD-419

Energy and Natural Resources

National Parks Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 148, to establish the Paterson Great Falls National Park in the State of New Jersey, S. 189, to decrease the matching funds requirements and authorize additional appropriations for Keweenaw National Historical Park in the State of Michigan, S. 697, to establish the Steel Industry National Historic Site in the State of Pennsylvania, S. 1341, to provide for the exchange of certain Bureau of Land Management land in Pima County, Arizona, S. 128, to amend the Cache La Poudre River Corridor Act to designate a new management entity, make certain technical and conforming amendments, enhance private property protections, S. 1476, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct special resources study of the Tule Lake Segregation Center in Modoc County, California, to determine suitability and feasibility of establishing a unit of the National Park System, S. 867 and H.R. 299, bills to adjust the boundary of Lowell National Historical Park, S. 1709 and H.R. 1239, bills to

amend the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Act of 1998 to provide additional staff and oversight of funds to carry out the Act, S. 1808, to authorize the exchange of certain land in Denali National Park in the State of Alaska, S. 1969, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of designating Estate Grange and other sites related to Alexander Hamilton's life on the island of St. Croix in the United States Virgin Islands as a unit of the National Park System, and S. 1039, to extend the authorization for the Coastal Heritage Trail in the State of New Jersey.

SD-366

3:30 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine cost effective military strategic airlift requirements in the 21st century.

SD-342

10 a.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the role of Federal Executive Boards in pandemic preparedness.

SD-342

SEPTEMBER 28

OCTOBER 2

10 a.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine issues and challenges facing current mine safety disasters.

SD-430

OCTOBER 4

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine the security of our nation's seaports.

SR-253

OCTOBER 17

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine the digital television transition, focusing on government and industry perspectives.

SR-253

POSTPONEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 27

10 a.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine the fiftieth anniversary of the Little Rock High School desegregation, focusing on ensuring equal opportunity in public education.

SD-430

SR-430