

TRIBUTE TO MR. ATHNEIL C.
"ADDIE" OTTLEY

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 3, 2007

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a brilliant Virgin Islander and friend, Mr. Athneil C. (Addie) Ottley, who has distinguished himself as a broadcaster, businessman, legislator, and community activist. This weekend, "Addie" as he is known to one and all will be honored in my district, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands for 25 years as the host of "Face to Face" a community talk show on our local public television station, WTJX.

But, Madam Speaker, I am sure that the honors that will be bestowed on Addie on Saturday evening will go well beyond his service as a talk show host because in his inimitable style, he has been a leader in the broadcast industry in the Virgin Islands for more than 40 years.

Born on November 19, 1941, Addie is 1 of the 11 children of the late Charlotte Amalie Postmaster. His interest in broadcasting began at a young age and he was given his own teen show at WIVI called "Addie at Night." After graduating from Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic High School, he built his own ham radio station, KV4BW and was the first teenager to be granted a license in the territory. He now holds the highest FCC amateur license, the Extra Class license and the highest Commercial Radiotelephone operators license, the First Class General Radiotelephone Certificate with radar endorsement.

Addie went on to graduate from the RCA Institute of Technology in New York, majoring in electronics and subsequently from Indiana Institute of Technology, majoring in electronics and engineering. Upon returning to the St. Thomas community in 1965, he worked as assistant manager and host of the "Morning Show" at WSTA. He later became the manager and then producer of the youth television show "Youthquake."

Pursuing political aspirations, Addie ran for and won a seat in the U.S. Virgin Islands Legislature in 1970 and 1972. In 1973, he was appointed Lieutenant Governor in the administration of the late Governor Melvin H. Evans. He later served a third legislative term in 1978 and was appointed executive assistant to the Commissioner of Commerce in 1981.

It was in the 1980s, that Addie became the host of "Face to Face" the public television talk show that provides an hour long discussion of community news and events that goes beyond the daily news sound byte. It was in 1984, with a group of local friends and investors, that Addie became President and CEO of Ottley Communications Corporation and purchased WSTA radio, making it the first radio station to be owned by local interests. In 1995, Addie bought out his investors and became the full owner of the station.

In addition to business, communications and politics, Addie has also served the community as Chairperson of the Advisory Committee of the Reichhold Center for the Performing Arts Advisory Committee, a member on the Board

of Directors of the Advisory Committee of the United Negro College Fund to benefit the then College of the Virgin Islands, a member of the advisory Committee and MC of the Muscular Dystrophy Association annual telethon. He was also appointed Civilian Liaison Officer for the Virgin Islands National Guard.

Addie has been President of the St. Thomas-St. John Chamber of Commerce and member of the Phi Kappa Theta Fraternity and the Mental Health Commission. He is also on the Board of Arts Alive and is Chairman Emeritus of the Virgin Islands Chapter of Employers Support for the National Guard and Reserve.

Addie has won his share of awards to include the 1990 Feddy Award for dedication to youth, the 1982 Business Advocate of the Year Award, and the Rotary II Man of the Year. He was recently named the "Executive of the Year" by the African American Ethnic Sports Hall of Fame.

Madam Speaker, Addie Ottley has contributed to the wellbeing of the people of the U.S. Virgin Islands as a leader in business, communications, politics and community service. It is fitting that he be recognized today as an exemplary Virgin Islander and American.

HONORING THE FANNIN FAMILY
AS "ANGELS IN ADOPTION"

HON. TIMOTHY WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 3, 2007

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Kent and Marilyn Fannin as "Angels in Adoption."

In 2003, Kent and Marilyn Fannin came to Family Service and Children's Aid in Jackson, Michigan and inquired about providing a home for abused and neglected children. Although they had a young son of their own, they felt their mission in life was to provide for other children who needed them.

Within a year of being licensed as foster parents, they began caring for a severely mentally and physically handicapped 7-year-old boy who suffered from cerebral palsy, seizures and autism. He was non-verbal and functioning as an 8-month-old. Even though the couple recently had their second child, they gladly accepted this child into their home. Within 6 months, because of the Fannins' hard work, encouragement and support, this young man progressed until he was able to feed himself, walk with assistance and communicate his needs.

In 2005, Kent and Marilyn began attending a Bible and missionary training college and were considering serving on a foreign mission field. However, during this time, the now ten year old boy's mother released her parental rights. After spending some time considering the situation, they made the decision to adopt this child and decided their mission in life was to help other children like him. In 2006, the Fannins were contacted again about a baby girl who needed placement. They chose to adopt her as well. They recently cared for a 1½-year-old legally blind child and have since become the birth mother's support system. When a 9-year-old girl needed emergency

placement, Kent and Marilyn helped nurture her through a traumatic time.

Caseworkers describe the Fannins as patient, generous, understanding, nurturing, stable, considerate and selfless. They treat children, families and workers with respect and are always willing to go the extra mile for a child in need. They are never negative. They carefully and prayerfully consider which children they can be most effective with. They do not seek attention for themselves and ask nothing in return. They have dedicated their lives to helping needy children.

"The dedication of Kent and Marilyn to giving cheerfully of their time and talents has left an indelible, lifelong impact on the lives of several boys and girls in south-central Michigan. It gives me great pleasure to honor this remarkable couple that truly deserves the title 'Angels in Adoption.'"

HONORING THE BUCKS COUNTY
RESCUE SQUAD ON THEIR 75TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 3, 2007

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Bucks County Rescue, Squad on their 75th Anniversary. Their outstanding service and dedication providing life saving emergency medical services to the residents of Bucks County, Pennsylvania deserves our praise and appreciation.

Bucks County Rescue Squad was founded 1932 in Croydon, Bucks County by a group who saw the need for a rescue unit when a young man drowned in the nearby Delaware River. To prevent future tragedies, the rescue squad became a reality.

Over the years the Bucks County Rescue Squad has accomplished a great deal. Their first vehicle was a hearse parked at the Croydon Fire Department. In 1956, a local facility of the Rohm and Haas Company donated land so they could build a station. The Rescue Squad also worked tirelessly to raise the money to establish the Lower Bucks Hospital. Today, the Bucks County Rescue Squad is located on the campus of the Lower Bucks Hospital, with their support.

As the son of a former Philadelphia police officer, I know how hard America's first responders work to keep our cities and towns safe. The Bucks County Rescue Squad's commitment to our community is undeniable. As their representative, I am proud to be just as committed to providing them, and our other rescue squads with the tools and resources they need to do their jobs. After all, true homeland security means supporting those who keep our families safe.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of my family and the families across Bucks County, I want to thank the Bucks County Rescue Squad for their tireless and life-saving efforts. The Bucks County Rescue Squad and the emergency services units throughout our country need—and deserve—our continued support.