

IN HONOR OF JACK KURLANDER
AND HIS LIFE OF SERVICE TO
SUSSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the late Jack Kurlander, who spent a lifetime turning Sussex County, New Jersey into a destination for tourists and recreation-seekers. His vision truly transformed this picturesque region of the Garden State.

Born in Rhode Island and raised in Nutley, New Jersey, Jack Kurlander had been New Jersey's boys tennis champ while at Nutley High School. But, his love of sports extended to golf and skiing, as well. Spurred by his love of outdoor sports and recreation, Jack Kurlander set about turning this quiet Highlands region into a popular destination for a variety of outdoor sporting activities.

Jack Kurlander and his business partners, first the Fitzgerald Family and later the Mulvihill Family, were the force behind the development of ski resorts, tennis and swim clubs, picnic grounds, spa resorts, and major golf courses over the course of four decades. The Ballyowen Golf Course, in fact, is the top-rated public golf course in New Jersey.

Long before his vision took hold, Jack Kurlander was an avid inventor. He manufactured the first nylon tennis nets with his friend John Fitzgerald in the basement of a Nutley bakery. He created a ski-waxing machine, using his mother's disassembled washing machine to develop his invention.

This evening, outdoor enthusiasts will join together to dedicate the Memorial Garden at the 7th Hole of the Black Bear Golf Course and to pay tribute to their friend and patron. Jack suffered a heart attack in 1977, but it barely slowed him down from his mission to transform this beautiful region. Nearly thirty years later, a heart attack took his life in 2006 at the age of 76. It is said that Jack Kurlander was able to see things that were unapparent to anyone else. His gift for vision and his love of life are truly missed.

**TRIBUTE TO PRIVATE FIRST
CLASS THOMAS R. WILSON**

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. GOODLATTE. Madam Speaker, last month we marked the sixth anniversary of the September 11th terrorist attacks against America. The terrorists responsible carefully selected their targets; the World Trade Center standing for America's success, and the Pentagon for America's strong defense. These extremists sought to bring down the greatest democracy in the history of the world. They thought we were weak—or unprepared to defend our freedom. They were wrong. The terrorists soon discovered America is not comprised of buildings; America is made up of her people. We are strong. We stand together against those who seek to destroy us.

And so it is with great sorrow but immense pride that I recognize one of my own constitu-

ents who paid the ultimate price for our freedom. Private First Class (PFC) Thomas R. Wilson, United States Army, was killed on August 27, 2007, while proudly serving his country in Afghanistan as part of the 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team.

PFC Wilson, who was only 21 years old at the time of his death, grew up in Maurytown located in the beautiful Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. He was a typical all-American boy. He loved being outdoors enjoying nature. His hobbies included hunting, fishing and hiking and he possessed a great love of art and photography. He was an active member of the 4-H and local chapter of Future Farmers of America (FFA). In high school PFC Wilson excelled in the classroom and on the athletic field. He was a member of the National Honor Society in addition to playing on Central High School's basketball and track teams. In 2004, he graduated from high school, where he is remembered by teachers and friends as "a student leader at all times."

After graduation, PFC Wilson went on to West Virginia University where he completed two years before joining the U.S. Army. Upon his completion of boot camp and airborne school, PFC Wilson was sent to Camp Ederly, in Vicenza, Italy and from there was deployed to Afghanistan.

PFC Wilson was a proud soldier. In e-mails he sent home from the war zone, he shared his commitment to the mission and his pride in the U.S. Army. According to his commanding officer, PFC Wilson's fearless actions on the day of his death saved the lives of many of his fellow soldiers. PFC Wilson has been posthumously awarded the Bronze Star, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, and the Purple Heart for these noble actions.

We extend our deepest sympathies to Julie Hepner, PFC Wilson's mother, and his siblings, Chloe, Chelsea and Ethan. Not only did Tom answer the call of his country and in doing so protect the freedoms that we so cherish, but he also paid a dear price to bring freedom to people he had never met. He gave his life in order to make our Nation stronger and safer for future generations.

In 1962, speaking to a gathering of cadets at West Point General Douglas MacArthur delivered stirring remarks in which he described the "American man at arms." He said, "His name and fame are the birthright of every American citizen. In his youth and strength, his love and loyalty, he gave all that mortality can give. He needs no eulogy from me, or from any other man."

In an age when the word 'hero' is tossed around casually to describe everything from sports stars to singers in bands, PFC Thomas R. Wilson is a hero in the truest sense of the word—a possessor of courage and strength who pursued feats of noble purpose.

**HONORING LAVENIA "BEANS"
VANDIVER, A TRUE TEXAS
ORIGINAL**

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. EDWARDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a true Texas original, Lavenia

"Beans" Vandiver who recently passed away. Born and raised in Moody, Texas, Beans was an inspiration and true friend to many, including a young state senator running for Congress in 1990. Beans stayed true to her Central Texas roots attending Moody schools and later attended Mary Hardin Baylor University. A devoted wife to her husband of 50 years Bert Vandiver Sr. and a loving mother to her children and grandchildren, Beans Vandiver was the best America and Texas has to offer, a vibrant force of nature that will be dearly missed.

As a businesswoman, Beans was the hard-working driving force behind several successful local businesses and real estate endeavors. Some of her proudest moments were helping young couples to realize a dream of owning their first home. Because of her success, Beans proved to be ahead of her time setting a positive example for others while shattering the glass ceiling for women in the business world.

As her beloved daughter Karen Vandiver-King also reminded us, Beans was a generous person who cared for the less fortunate and dedicated herself to giving back to the community.

Madam Speaker, today's world needs more people like Beans Vandiver and I join those who mourn her loss but celebrate the many lasting contributions and joys of her wonderful life.

I thank God for the life of Lavenia "Beans" Vandiver and ask his blessings for her family.

**STATEMENT INTRODUCING AMERICAN
FREEDOM AGENDA ACT OF
2007**

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing a comprehensive piece of legislation to restore the American Constitution and to restore the liberties that have been sadly eroded over the past several years.

This legislation seeks to restore the checks and balances enshrined in the Constitution by our Founding Fathers to prevent abuse of Americans by their government. This proposed legislation would repeal the Military Commissions Act of 2006 and re-establish the traditional practice that military commissions may be used to try war crimes in places of active hostility where a rapid trial is necessary to preserve evidence or prevent chaos.

The legislation clarifies that no information shall be admitted as evidence if it is obtained from the defendant through the use of torture or coercion. It codifies the FISA process as the means by which foreign intelligence may be obtained and it gives members of the Senate and the House of Representatives standing in court to challenge presidential signing statements that declares the president's intent to disregard certain aspects of a law passed in the U.S. Congress. It prohibits kidnapping and extraordinary rendition of prisoners to foreign countries on the president's unilateral determination that the suspect is an enemy combatant. It defends the first amendment by clarifying that journalists are not to be prevented from publishing information received from the

legislative or executive branch unless such publication would cause immediate, direct, and irreparable harm to the United States.

Finally, the legislation would prohibit the use of secret evidence to designate an individual or organization with a United States presence to be a foreign terrorist or foreign terrorist organization.

I invite my colleagues to join my efforts to restore the U.S. Constitution by enacting the American Freedom Agenda Act of 2007.

CLUBCORP, THE WORLD LEADER
IN PRIVATE CLUBS CELE-
BRATING 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, congratulations are in order for ClubCorp of Dallas, TX. ClubCorp, the World Leader in private clubs, is celebrating 50 great years of service and tradition.

It is an honor and a privilege to represent the numerous employees at ClubCorp who have generated millions of dollars for charitable causes and philanthropic events.

On October 19, 2007, ClubCorp will host the world's largest one-day charity golf and dining event to commemorate their anniversary.

Instead of receiving gifts for their 50th anniversary, ClubCorp will again be giving back and helping as many lives as possible. The tournament, the dinners, and the auctions are all designed to give aid to four different foundations and charities.

All proceeds raised during ClubCorp Charity Classic will be divided and donated to The Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA), the PGA Foundation, the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation, and ClubCorp's Employee Partners Care Foundation.

ClubCorp continues to provide great service and tradition to its members and charities.

Congratulations again, and thank you, to ClubCorp.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF SER-
GEANT ADAM QUINN TO OUR
COUNTRY

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to SGT Adam Quinn, 22, who died October 6, 2007 while serving our Nation in Afghanistan.

Prior to joining the Army, Adam graduated from DeLand High School in DeLand, Florida where he was a leader in the Junior ROTC program. He also attended the First United Methodist Church in DeLand with his family.

Adam joined the Army and took great pride in serving his country. His colleagues remember a compassionate individual who cared deeply for others while his family recalls his uncanny ability to make people laugh. Adam's character earned him the respect of his family, friends and fellow soldiers. He was assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division based in Fort

Bragg, North Carolina which was deployed to Afghanistan. Adam served with great distinction—the recipient of the Bronze Star Medal, the Purple Heart and numerous other awards and citations.

We should all remember Adam's courage and his ultimate sacrifice for our nation. The freedom and liberty we enjoy and the peace in the world for others for which he fought are part of the great legacy that SGT Adam Quinn leaves behind. He was laid to rest at Oakdale Cemetery in DeLand, Florida on October 12.

To Adam's wife, Faye; their child who will arrive in March of 2008; his parents, Charles and Sherry; his brother, Asa; and his entire family, we extend our deepest sympathy.

Madam Speaker, because of SGT Adam Quinn's sacrifice for our country, I ask all Members of the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in recognizing his service in our Nation's Armed Forces and remembering both his life and his dedication to the United States of America.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. DREW MAYS

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. BACHUS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to commend an individual from the District I represent, the Sixth Congressional District of Alabama, whose recent achievement in the field of music deserves the accolades and esteem of this body.

On June 3, 2007, Dr. Drew Mays of Birmingham took top honors in the world renowned Van Cliburn Foundation International Piano Competition for Outstanding Amateurs in Fort Worth, Texas. His winning performance in the final round included Beethoven's Sonata in C major, Op. 53 "Waldstein" and Liszt's Mephisto Waltz No. 1.

This event, whose prestigious sponsor has long been recognized internationally as a champion of musical excellence, gives its participants from around the world an opportunity to compete for top honors as amateur pianists. Created in 1999, the Van Cliburn Foundation's amateur competition is the most respected amateur piano competition in the United States, and was created to "celebrate the amateur spirit."

It is remarkable to note that as amateurs, competitors may not derive their principal source of income from public performances or piano instruction. Therefore, the level of artistic ability and expression is reached in tandem with balancing the pressures and concerns of daily life. This is an achievement indeed.

In addition to being a master of the piano, Dr. Mays is an ophthalmologist in private practice, specializing in glaucoma. He also serves on the staff of Birmingham's VA Medical Center, and serves as residency program director for the Department of Ophthalmology at the University of Alabama in Birmingham. However, before his medical career began, Dr. Mays studied advanced music both at the Manhattan School of Music and at the Conservatory of Music in Hannover, Germany. In 1987, he earned a master's degree in music from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, the same year he began to work on his medical degree.

What is even more fascinating in my opinion is that Dr. Mays ended his musical career when he started medical school, starting a 15-year hiatus from playing the piano. Only in 2002 did Dr. Mays start to regularly play the instrument again, which culminated with his winning the Van Cliburn Foundation competition only 5 short years later.

In closing, I must remark that Dr. Mays' achievements are a realization of his unwavering commitment to the art of musical performance. Not only is Dr. Mays now a world renowned pianist committed to sharing the gift of music, but he is also a respected physician committed to helping patients with the gift of sight. Our great Nation should congratulate him on his achievements as one of Alabama's finest, and be honored to call him one of our own.

HONORING JOHN J. DUPLESSIS,
SR.

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize John J. DuPlessis, Sr., a remarkable man with a long history of service to the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Mr. DuPlessis, a resident of Elizabethtown, will receive the Distinguished Citizen Award from the Boy Scouts of America on October 17, 2007.

John J. DuPlessis earned his undergraduate and graduate engineering degrees from North Carolina State University. He was employed for over thirty years with the Magnetic Division of Crucible Materials Corporation. He served as the President of the Crucible Magnetics plant in Elizabethtown from 1985 until his retirement in 1992. During his business career he was an active member of the Magnetic Materials Association, the Associated Industries of Kentucky, and the Gorham International Conference on Magnetic Materials.

Mr. DuPlessis has been an extremely active member of his community. He has served on the Board of Directors of the Elizabethtown Jaycees, was the first President of Let's Spruce Up, and has been active with the Elizabethtown Lions Club. He was also a board member and Chairman of the Elizabethtown Independent School System, and has been involved with Habitat for Humanity, Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity, St. James Catholic Church and Baptist Builders.

John DuPlessis has had a long association with the Boy Scouts of America serving as Scout Master for Troop 829. Mr. DuPlessis was also Fundraising Chairman of the Lincoln Trail District Sustaining Membership Enrollment, Lincoln Trail Camping Chairman, Wood Badge trained, and a Silver Beaver recipient.

It is my privilege to recognize John J. DuPlessis, Sr. today, before the entire United States House of Representatives, for his hard work and service to his community.