

A sixth proposal was JIM SAXTON's sponsorship of the Coral Reef Conservation and Partnership Act of 2000. Coral reefs are among the world's most productive ecosystems and they are often referred to as the "rainforests" of the oceans. These reefs are critical to the survival of thousands of fish species. Sadly, about 40 percent of all coral reefs are either degraded beyond recovery or in critical condition. This legislation was designed as a lifeline for our coral reef ecosystems by providing a limited amount of Federal funding to finance coral reef grants to assist in their protection and recovery.

Finally, I am proud that JIM SAXTON joined with me as an original co-sponsor of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997. On October 9, 2007, we celebrated the 10th anniversary of this act which is Public Law 105-57. This landmark law established for the first time an "organic" statute for our 96 million acre national wildlife refuge system. It defined the term "wildlife-dependent recreation" to include hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, and environmental education. It also established a "conservation mission" for the system and required the completion of a Comprehensive Conservation Plan for each refuge unit. The act gave wildlife dependent recreation priority consideration in refuge planning, management and funding. Finally, it required the Fish and Wildlife Service to evaluate the likelihood of ongoing historic uses on private lands prior to their inclusion within the system. JIM SAXTON authored this important provision.

This is far from an exhaustive list of JIM SAXTON's legislative accomplishments in the resources arena. It is representative only of the 6-year period that he served as chairman of the Subcommittee on Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife and Oceans. Nevertheless, it clearly demonstrates his dedication and commitment to wildlife conservation which he exemplified throughout his congressional career. His constituents living in Cherry Hill, Mount Holly, and Toms River, New Jersey, will miss JIM SAXTON and his lifelong advocacy of Theodore Roosevelt's vision and principles. I look forward to working with JIM through the 110th Congress. I wish him calm sailing seas in the days beyond Congress. "May the wind always be on your back and the sun shine upon your face!"

TRIBUTE TO THE WEST BOLIVAR EAGLES

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2007

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the West Bolivar Eagles for completing a perfect season and Winning the Class 2A State championship. This is West Bolivar's fourth State title, but their first since 1906—before any of this year's seniors were born. West Bolivar was ranked No. 1 the entire season by the Clarion-Leggett 2A football poll.

Madam Speaker, West Bolivar High School has a rich football history. Along with four State championships, they have 17 division

championships and 5 appearances in State championship games. Over the last 3 seasons the Eagles are 37-4 and have three consecutive Region 3-2A championships.

Madam Speaker, not only have the Eagles enjoyed success this year, but they have done so dominantly. On the season, the Eagles have outscored their opponents 582-184. In the playoffs, the Eagles have outscored their opponents 177-101. The Eagles have scored 40 or more points 9 times, helping them amass more points that any team in Mississippi 2A football.

Madam Speaker, West Bolivar's recent success has come with the leadership of Coach Henry Johnson. Coach Johnson is a former West Bolivar player who played wide receiver and defensive back on the Eagles' last State finalist team under legendary Rosedale coach Leland Young.

Madam Speaker, one of the traditions that Coach Johnson restored at his alma mater was running up and down a steep Mississippi River levee.

Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate the student-athletes, student body, faculty, staff, administration, and the community of West Bolivar for winning the 2007 Mississippi Class 2A State Championship.

HONORING THE KETEWAMOKE CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2007

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Ketewamoke Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution was organized on August 9, 1890 in Washington, DC. Seventeen years later, on December 2, 1907, in the Town of Huntington, Long Island, the Ketewamoke Chapter, NSDAR was organized with 19 charter members. The name Ketewamoke is the Native American name for the region around Huntington known as "the place having the best beach or shore." The Chapter was incorporated in 1913. Today they have 88 members.

The threefold purpose of the Society as a whole is the same now as it was when the Society was organized in 1890 and chartered by an Act of Congress in 1895: "To perpetuate the memory and spirit of the men and women who achieved American independence; to promote, as an object of primary importance, institutions for the general diffusion of knowledge; to cherish, maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom, to foster true patriotism and love of country." The Ketewamoke Chapter continues to include these three objectives (historical, educational and patriotic) in its monthly programs.

One of the first accomplishments of the Ketewamoke Chapter was to restore the Village Green and mark the spot with a bronze tablet on a boulder, in 1915. inscribed, "Huntington Village Green." This "Town Spot" was

the location of Huntington's earliest form of government where, beginning from its settlement in 1653, a small group of men continued to meet and vote over the years.

Also in 1915, the Ketewamoke Chapter outfitted the original Women's Ward in Huntington Hospital with 8 beds. A bronze plaque marking this event still hangs in the old Huntington Hospital building. During World War II, when the National Society bought \$210,000,000 worth of war bonds, more than \$100,000 of these bonds were purchased by members of the Ketewamoke Chapter. Since then, the Chapter has placed mill stones from local mills at the "Town Spot" and on the grounds of the Chapter House, thus preserving local history. It has cleaned up and marked the graves of many of the local American Revolutionary soldiers. They continue to honor these patriots by placing flags on their grave sites every Memorial Day and by the Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony at Huntington's Old Burial Ground.

Currently, the Chapter works to promote patriotism through community projects. They encourage local students to appreciate American history through our annual American History Essay Contest for grades 5 through 8. They encourage students to be good citizens by awarding annual Good Citizenship medals to students of 15 local schools. These students must fulfill the qualities of honor, service, leadership and patriotism. They support other local community services through our individual volunteer efforts in hospitals, literacy programs, and veteran and senior citizen projects. They give financial support to many National and State DAR projects such as the two DAR schools in the Appalachian region and the education of Native American youths through scholarships and the support of the Bacone College and the Chemawa Indian School. We present ROTC medals to qualifying cadets in local secondary schools.

They are uniquely fortunate to be one of only a few Chapters in New York State which owns an historic Chapter House with a fine collection of period artifacts. It is their privilege and responsibility to preserve and to maintain this Chapter House which dates back to 1837.

We take great pride in being members of the Ketewamoke Chapter, NSDAR, which is the oldest established DAR Chapter on Long Island. We take pride in honoring the memory of our patriot ancestors and in honoring all American patriots, past and present.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2007

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, due to medical reasons I missed a series of suspension votes and the vote on the Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 2082, Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 1123, "aye" on rollcall No. 1124, "no" on rollcall No. 1125, and "aye" on rollcall No. 1126.

INTRODUCTION OF THE WILDLIFE
WITHOUT BORDERS AUTHORIZA-
TION ACT OF 2007: DECEMBER 11,
2007

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2007

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to introduce today the Wildlife Without Borders Authorization Act.

The Wildlife Without Borders Program was created administratively by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 1983. The mission of this program is to develop wildlife management and conservation efforts to maintain global species diversity.

While the Congress has already created Multinational Species Conservation Funds to assist highly imperiled African and Asian elephants, Rhinoceros and Tigers, Great Apes and Marine Turtles, this program has provided a funding lifeline to a number of additional endangered species that are not currently eligible for funding, are not considered a megafauna or a flagship species and frankly lack the public attention necessary to generate private financial assistance.

The first conservation grants issued under this program were awarded to the Wildlife Without Borders Program for Latin America and the Caribbean Initiative. Since that time, additional grants have been allocated for projects in Mexico, India, China and the Russian Federation. In fact, in the past two decades, the International Affairs Office within the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has approved 583 conservation projects at a cost of \$13 million in taxpayer money. These funds have been matched by \$43.7 million in private non-federal money which is a remarkable 3 to 1 matching ratio.

Among the conservation projects that have been approved are funds for the Winged Ambassadors Program to stop the killing of Swainsons' hawks, a project to restore and conserve the forest habitat for monarch butterflies, jaguar conservation in the Yucatan region, the restoration of the California condor in Baja California, Mexico and the purchase of essential equipment for law enforcement personnel to protect imperiled Far Eastern leopards, Amur tigers and snow leopards.

A fundamental goal of this program has been to build conservation capacity and establish ecosystem management regimes by allocating a small amount of U.S. taxpayer money. It is no exaggeration to state that these are the only funds available to assist these highly endangered international species and without this investment these species may become extinct in the wild. In addition, this program has complemented the activities of the Multinational Species Conservation Funds.

By establishing a Congressional authorization for the Wildlife Without Borders Program we will send a positive message to the international community that the United States is committed to its international wildlife treaty obligations and we recognize the long-term importance of this program by enacting it into law.

I urge my colleagues to support this important conservation legislation and want to thank my distinguished colleague from New Jersey, Congressman JIM SAXTON for joining with me in this effort.

TRIBUTE TO DR. DENNIS FRATE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2007

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the life and legacy of Dr. Dennis Frate, a medical anthropologist known for his studies of rural health in the Mississippi Delta.

Dr. Frate was a former pharmacy professor at the University of Mississippi. He worked in the School of Pharmacy from 1980 until 2000. He retired June 30, 2007 as a professor of preventative medicine at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, which is in my Congressional District.

As we are all well aware, rural areas of this country are vastly underserved. Dr. Frate took this problem head-on through the Rural Health Research Program. Dr. Frate served as the coordinator of the Rural Health Research Program and principal investigator of a National Institutes of Health study to develop community-based programs to control high blood pressure in rural populations.

Many of our colleagues here in Congress have espoused the notion of expanding healthcare coverage. Dr. Frate lived it.

It is through community efforts as demonstrated by Dr. Frate that we may be able to achieve a reality of accessible and affordable healthcare for all.

During his 20-plus years of service, Dr. Frate touched the lives of many, proving that even the simplest ideas can make a big difference.

I take great pride in commending the work of Dr. Dennis Frate on a job well done for more than 20 years.

MORTGAGE REFORM AND ANTI-
PREDATORY LENDING ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. BRAD MILLER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3915) to amend the Truth in Lending Act to reform consumer mortgage practices and provide accountability for such practices, to establish licensing and registration requirements for residential mortgage originators, to provide certain minimum standards for consumer mortgage loans, and for other purposes:

Mr. MILLER of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, this legislation may be interpreted to have the unintended consequence of changing the federal regulator governing Farm Credit System lenders, who as mortgage loan originators will be subject to the regulatory controls in this legislation. As H.R. 3915 progresses through Congress, I intend to work with my colleagues to ensure that any regulatory controls resulting from this legislation to Farm Credit System institutions are managed by their current federal regulator, the Farm Credit Administration.

IN HONOR OF DAN deGRASSI

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2007

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my cousin Dan deGrassi on his retirement. Dan has worked for Santa Cruz County in environmental preservation for most of his adult life.

A third generation Berkley graduate, Dan deGrassi completed his education to enter his adult years in a world in turmoil over war, race relations and social mores. With deep feelings about the changes he observed in the societal fabric around him, he became a conscientious objector to the Vietnam War and as such, Dan sought alternative service. It was then that he started his environmental work in 1971 at the Ecology Center in Berkley, California.

Realizing a connection to environmental preservation, Dan moved down to Santa Cruz in 1973 and began work at the local recycling center. The following year, Dan returned to school, this time to study in environmental studies, a passion that would follow him throughout his life. In 1974 Dan married Laurel and the two welcomed their daughter Jessica 2 years later.

Starting 2 weeks after his daughter's birth, Dan began his work at the Santa Cruz County Advanced Planning Department, where he worked to preserve prime agricultural areas. Two years later, he and Laurel welcomed their second child, a boy, Aaron to the family. Later on Dan moved on to curbside recycling and helped pioneer the Materials Recovery Facility, which specializes in organization of recyclable materials.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to consider Dan both family and friend. His work in ensuring the preservation of the environment and his dedication to Santa Cruz County is inspiring and I would like to congratulate him on his retirement and thank him for his service.

TRIBUTE TO C.T. COZART

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2007

Mr. WAMP. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. C.T. Cozart from my hometown of Chattanooga, TN, as he steps down as Chairman of the Board of Carson Newman College. Thank you for allowing me to take a moment to recognize his tremendous contributions and to thank him for his service to our state and nation. Mr. Cozart has been an outstanding leader in our civic and faith communities.

C.T. graduated from the University of Tennessee and began a 30-year career with Chevron. In 1996, he retired as the vice president of marketing for Chevron Lubricants and moved back to his home state of Tennessee. His career caused frequent moves, so he and his wife became active in over ten churches throughout the country. The church was his most important connection with each new town and its people. C.T. is a deacon, has taught Sunday school, and served as head of the pastor search committee at two churches, most recently at Red Bank Baptist Church.