

was engulfed in flames and witnesses stated that the victim would have died prior to the arrival of the first responding emergency unit without Firefighter Loving's heroic actions.

Please join me in congratulating Firefighter David Loving and the four other recipients of the National Public Safety Medal of Valor award this year and in thanking these exceptional public safety officers for their service, dedication, and heroism.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL H. MICHAEL DAVIS

HON. NANCY E. BOYDA

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2007

Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I hope the House will join me today to pay tribute to an exceptional patriot and Officer in the United States Army, Colonel H. Michael Davis, upon his retirement from active military service.

Colonel Davis's distinguished career spans over 30 years of service to our great Nation, culminating as Chief of Staff of the Combined Arms Center at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. A native of South Carolina, he was commissioned Regular Army as an Armor Officer from the University of Tennessee in 1978. He has commanded with distinction at every level from company to regiment including the 2nd Battalion, 69th Armor Regiment, the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, Blackhorse, and Operations Group, Combat Maneuver Training Center. He has held instrumental staff positions from troop executive officer to the Chief of Staff at the National Training Center and now at the Combined Arms Center.

Colonel Davis has attended several military schools, including the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and the Naval War College. He holds a bachelor of science degree in industrial management from the University of Tennessee and a master of arts degree in national security and strategic studies from the Naval War College. He also served as a Professor in the Joint Military Operations Department at the Naval War College from 1997–1999.

In his more than 30 years of service, he has earned the Legion of Merit with one Oak Leaf Cluster, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Commendation Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, and the Army Achievement Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster. He also holds the Parachutist Badge and the Ranger Tab. Upon his retirement, he will be awarded the Distinguished Service Medal.

I ask my colleagues to join me today to thank Colonel Davis, his wife Ann, and his entire family for the commitment, sacrifice and contribution that they have made throughout his honorable military career.

RECOGNIZING WALSH COLLEGE AND THE DEDICATION OF THE JEFFERY W. BARRY CENTER

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2007

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize Walsh College of Accountancy and Business Administration in Troy, Michigan as they dedicate the newest addition to their campus, the Jeffery W. Barry Center on December 14, 2007.

When Walsh College was founded in 1922, it was a specialized accounting institute that taught 150 students in Detroit. However, it wasn't until 1970, when Walsh's third president, Jeffery W. Barry, took over that the school grew into what we see today. Under Mr. Barry's leadership, Walsh College transformed from a small specialized institute into a business college granting bachelors and masters degrees.

When Mr. Barry stepped down in 1991, Walsh had an enrollment of over 3,300 students. However, since his tenure Walsh's enrollment has continued to grow and today has over 4,500 students with campuses in Troy, Novi, and Clinton Township. In addition, Walsh offers over twenty different bachelors and masters degrees, and certifications.

The culmination of Mr. Barry's vision will be the new Jeffery W. Barry Center which will open for classes in the winter of 2008. The 36,000 square foot, environmentally sustainable Barry Center features an expanded, modern library, an auditorium, and additional classrooms. It is designed to meet the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design ratings for water and energy efficiency, pollution control, recycling, and indoor environmental quality.

Mr. Barry passed away on July 8, 2006, but his spirit lives on. The Barry Center embodies his legacy of educational outreach and excellence, as it doubles the size of Walsh's main campus. In addition, this fall Walsh will be offering its first ever doctoral degree, a Doctor of Management in Executive Leadership.

Madam Speaker, today I commend Walsh College for their continued commitment to Jeffery W. Barry's vision. I wish them luck and prosperity as they dedicate this new edition, and hope for many years of success.

HONORING KENTUCKY'S SPECIAL OLYMPICS WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2007

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kentucky's Special Olympics Women's Basketball team for capturing the gold medal at the 2007 Special Olympics World Games in Shanghai, China. Members of the team include: Sheila Crowson, Kay Gregory, Crystal Matson, Mary Ann Wilcome, Natalie Williams, Kelly King, Marcie Blandford, Jennifer Hamilton, and Taylor Thompson.

The team qualified to be one of two teams to represent the United States by winning the

2006 Kentucky State Tournament. In preparation for their trip to China, the team joined 400 other athletes in Nashville, Tennessee at a Team USA Training Camp.

In China, the women were joined by almost 7,500 other athletes from around the world competing in 25 different Olympic-type sports. The team started the games with an 0–3 start but their fortunes quickly changed. In the all important medal round, the team went undefeated. Their victories included an upset win over an undefeated Serbian team and their 21–6 victory over Tunisia in the Gold Medal game.

I would like to congratulate the players and their coaches for this impressive achievement, particularly Head Coach Brent Belcher and Assistant Coaches Derek Shadoan and Jennifer Siebold for their hard work and dedication. Also, I would also like to thank the Bowling Green community for their generous support that allowed the team to participate in the Summer Games. The players and coaches raised over \$22,000 from businesses, civic groups, and individuals.

It is my privilege to recognize the Kentucky Special Olympics Women's Basketball team today, before the entire House of Representatives, for winning the Gold Medal at the 2007 Special Olympics World Games. Their hard work and success has made the entire Commonwealth of Kentucky proud.

A RESOLUTION HONORING AND SUPPORTING THE HADLEY SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2007

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, today I am pleased to join with Congresswoman SCHAKOWSKY to introduce a resolution honoring and supporting the Hadley School for the Blind.

Dr. William A. Hadley, an Illinois high school teacher, lost his vision at age 55. With the loss of his sight Dr. Hadley believed that he would also lose his greatest joy—teaching. Although he taught himself Braille so he could continue to read, he was frustrated with the lack of educational opportunities for blind individuals.

Dr. Hadley wanted to help others like him gain the skills and knowledge that could lead to independence. In 1920, Dr. Hadley and ophthalmologist Dr. E.V.L. Brown created the Hadley School for the Blind. Today, the Hadley School is the largest single educator of blind persons in the world, reaching 10,000 students annually in all 50 states and in 100 different countries.

The school began with teaching Braille with the innovative use of correspondence courses. While it is still known for its superior Braille curriculum, the school has expanded to offer a high school degree program and adult continuing education classes. In 2008, the School will expand again to include the Hadley School for Professional Studies for professionals who serve those who are blind and visually impaired.

Students from the school have done extraordinary things. Former student Christine Gilson, a blind doctoral candidate and Fulbright scholar from the University of Illinois at

Urbana-Champaign, was the 2007 recipient of the Hadley School for the Blind's President's Service Award for exceptional work in raising awareness of the needs and abilities of blind and visually impaired people. She bridged cultural boundaries by teaching visually impaired Chinese students English language classes online.

I am proud to introduce this resolution that supports an institution that has, for almost 90 years, provided a valuable education for thousands of visually impaired individuals.

INTRODUCTION OF THE IMPROVING ACCESS TO WORKER'S COMPENSATION FOR INJURED FEDERAL WORKERS ACT

HON. PHIL HARE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2007

Mr. HARE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Improving Access to Worker's Compensation for Injured Federal Workers Act." This legislation would ensure that our Federal workers are reimbursed for crucial healthcare and services that they receive.

In many rural areas, Physician Assistants (PAs) and Nurse Practitioners (NPs) are the only full-time healthcare providers. Unfortunately, medical services and supplies provided by PAs and NPs are not covered under the Federal Employees' Compensation Act. As such, claims signed by PAs and NPs are denied by the Department of Labor. In many cases injured workers have to travel long distances to receive care that is reimbursable, or use emergency rooms for non-emergency care.

PAs and NPs are legally regulated in all fifty States, the District of Columbia, and Guam. All fifty States also authorize physicians to delegate prescriptive privileges to the PAs they supervise, and authorize NPs to prescribe medications under their own signature.

The exclusion of PAs and NPs from the category of covered providers under the Federal Employee's Compensation Act limits patients' access to medical care, services, and supplies, as well as disrupts continuity of care, and creates unnecessary costs for the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs.

My bill, the "Improving Access to Worker's Compensation for Injured Federal Workers Act" amends the Federal Employee's Compensation Act to recognize PAs, NPs and several other Advanced Practice Registered Nurses as covered providers. In doing so, Federal law is aligned with the overwhelming majority of State workers' compensation programs, and ensures that injured workers, especially those who live in rural areas, receive the care and treatment they need.

This bill was introduced by former Representative Charles Norwood (R-GA) in the 108th and 109th Congresses and enjoyed broad bipartisan support. It has also been introduced in the Senate by Senators EDWARD KENNEDY (D-MA), SUSAN COLLINS (R-ME) and JOHNNY ISAKSON (R-GA).

I would like to thank the American Academy of Physician Assistants and the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners for their help on this legislation and for their support of the bill. I am also happy that my colleague on the Education and Labor Committee, Congressman MARK SOUDER from Indiana has joined me in supporting this legislation. I look forward to working with him and others to garner addi-

tional bipartisan support so we can quickly move this bill through the House.

I am proud to be involved in this effort to ensure our Federal workers, especially those living in rural America, have access to critical healthcare providers and services. Thank you Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

COMMEMORATING THE ARMY RESERVE ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2007

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today, along with Representatives BUYER, SHIMKUS, TAYLOR, and over 243 original cosponsors, to introduce a resolution to congratulate the United States Army Reserve on its 100th Anniversary, which will be formally celebrated on April 23, 2008.

The resolution also commemorates the contributions of Army Reserve veterans who have helped to ensure that the United States' vital national security interests are protected and defended in times of war and peace.

I am very gratified by the outpouring of bipartisan support that this resolution has received. It is indicative of the high regard and esteem in which the Army Reserve is held among Members of Congress and the American public.

As a former soldier in the Army Reserve, I know the historic and decisive role it played along with the U.S. Army in promoting integration and the cause of individual dignity.

As a current member of the Subcommittee on Defense as well as the Military Construction and Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee, I have been extremely impressed by the level of commitment that Army Reserve soldiers bring to their work and to their high degree of professionalism. They truly are "twice the citizen," as Winston Churchill once remarked.

Today, the U.S. Army Reserve is composed of more than 30,000 officers and 150,000 enlisted soldiers. They have an active presence in 1,100 communities across the nation, contributing military values, important job skills, and economic support. They are husbands and wives, fathers and mothers, and sons or daughters. They are our neighbors, our friends and acquaintances, and our colleagues at work. These soldiers can be called up at any time to serve our nation and they must be trained and prepared to respond at a moment's notice.

Here in the U.S. House of Representatives, 24 Members including myself have been privileged to serve as Army Reserve soldiers. In fact, 2 of the lead sponsors of this resolution, Representatives STEVE BUYER of Indiana and JOHN SHIMKUS of Illinois, still serve in the Army Reserve.

As this resolution notes, the role of today's Army Reserve soldier has expanded and changed dramatically since President Theodore Roosevelt first requested that Congress establish a reservoir of trained officers in a reserve status. On April 23, 1908, the Congress responded to the president's request by establishing a permanent reserve corps of trained medical officers. The modest corps represented the humble start of what is today a multi-faceted operational and strategic force.

The duties have since expanded such that they have become an integral component of

any active U.S. Army mission. They have answered the call of duty in World Wars I and II, Korea, Vietnam, the Cold War, Panama, the Gulf War, Somalia, Haiti, Bosnia, and Kosovo. In addition, nearly 25,000 Army Reserve soldiers are currently deployed in Iraq, Afghanistan, and 18 other countries.

Through October 31, 2007, 102 Army Reserve soldiers had borne the ultimate sacrifice while serving in Iraq or Afghanistan. We dedicate this resolution to their memory and to the memory of all the Reserve soldiers who fought and died to defend our nation's freedoms throughout our history.

We dedicate this resolution to our living heroes as well—to those men and women who continue their service to our nation in the U.S. Army Reserve today.

Madam Speaker, I again thank my colleagues who are original cosponsors for their extraordinary support for this resolution. I urge our remaining colleagues to join with us in support of this resolution, which is intended to ensure that the first 100 years of the Army Reserve are appropriately commended and that the second 100 years of the Army Reserve are fittingly commenced.

CONGRATULATING DR. GEORGE CROZIER ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2007

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to honor the long and distinguished career of Dr. George Crozier on the occasion of his retirement from the Dauphin Island Sea Lab.

For the past 30 years, Dr. Crozier has served as the executive director of the Dauphin Island Sea Lab, Alabama's marine research facility. Serving Alabama's 21 four-year colleges and universities, the Sea Lab has provided Alabama students with the opportunity to study marine creatures and habitats. George has been with the Lab since its inception in the 1970s, helping to build the Sea Lab to national prominence.

In addition to being the director of the Sea Lab, Dr. Crozier is also an associate professor of marine science at the University of South Alabama and an associate professor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He serves as a member of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Environmental Advisory Board and administers the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program.

In recognition of his outstanding work in the field of marine science, George Crozier has received numerous awards, including the Walter B. Jones Award for "Coastal Steward of the Year" from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. He was the recipient of the Alabama Academy of Science's Wright A. Gardner Award in 2000. In 2007, George was awarded Mobile United's "Green" Award, or Lifetime Achievement Award. In 1993, he was named "Conservation Educator of the Year" by the Alabama Wildlife Federation, and the Alabama Science Teachers Association named him the 1991 Friend of Science.

Dr. Crozier is an acknowledged expert in the coastal management issues, and as a longtime steward of natural resources, he promoted the creation of Alabama's Forever Wild and currently serves as a board member. He helped to found the Alabama Coastal Area