

RECOGNIZING DANIELLE “DANIE” VANDERPOOL

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2007

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Danielle “Danie” Vanderpool as a dedicated volunteer, assisting veterans at the Iowa Paralyzed Veterans of America in Des Moines.

Danie, a nine-year-old from Indianola, Iowa has volunteered for the dinner and a movie night every Monday night for the past 3 years. After dinner she cleans off the tables, helps set up chairs and serves popcorn, putting smiles on veterans’ faces. Danie was inspired to volunteer by her wheelchair-bound grandmother, Shonnae Lundy, who also volunteers at the IPVA.

Danie has left a lasting positive impact on many veterans and their families. The late Jimmy Hauck, a U.S. Navy veteran, nicknamed Danie the “Popcorn Girl.” Jimmy took a liking to Danie as she always kept all the popcorn bowls full. She truly exemplifies the Iowa spirit of neighbors helping neighbors.

It is a great honor to represent Danie Vanderpool in Congress. I commend Danie’s willingness to volunteer and I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

HONORING 10 MEMBERS OF THE NORTH CHICAGO FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2007

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor 10 members of the North Chicago Fire Department for going beyond the call of duty to save the life of a 10th district resident.

On November 26 of this year, the fire department was dispatched to the scene of a gunshot victim. Once notified that the victim had received a gunshot wound to the face, a Flight for Life helicopter was immediately called. With the gunman presumed to still be in the area, paramedics Patrick Michael and Gerry Goniwicha went to the aid of the victim despite considerable risk to their lives. Patrick and Gerry quickly moved the injured person to the ambulance and began to clear an airway and stop the bleeding.

As the paramedics worked, additional personnel were called to help the victim and establish a landing zone for the helicopter. Paramedics Joshua Rickabaugh and Joshua Monroe came to the assistance of the ambulance crew to help with patient care and transportation to the helicopter.

At the landing zone site, Commander Keith Humphries met with paramedics Chris Shearer, Keith Peacy and Jason Lambert to set up a safe place for the helicopter to land. The firefighters successfully established a landing zone in very tight quarters and the patient was quickly transferred to the helicopter. Once in the helicopter, Flight for Life nurse Julie Heyer, and flight medic Stu McVicar took over treatment until the team reached the Level I Trauma Center at Lutheran General Hospital.

This victim had a shattered jaw and severed carotid artery, with the bullet initially going into the heart. The victim is still in critical condition, but without the firefighters and medical personnel going into an area where a gunman could still be present, performing their skills flawlessly even with the extreme injuries involved, the victim would not have had a chance.

On behalf of the House of Representatives, I commend Patrick Michael, Gerry Goniwicha, Keith Humphries, Joshua Rickabaugh, Chris Shearer, Keith Peacy, Jason Lambert, Joshua Monroe, flight nurse Julie Heyer, and flight medic Stu McVicar for their amazing actions.

STATEMENT ON THE RETIREMENT OF BUTCH HINTON

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2007

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, let me take this means to pay tribute to a dedicated and loyal public servant, Henry L. “Butch” Hinton. On January 4, 2008, Mr. Hinton will retire following a distinguished 37-year career with the United States Government Accountability Office, GAO, capped by 13 years as the Managing Director of the agency’s Defense Capabilities and Management team.

Mr. Hinton began his career with GAO in 1970, rising through the ranks to lead one of its major divisions—the National Security and International Affairs Division, and after an organizational realignment, one of its key teams—the Defense Capabilities and Management team. He is an acknowledged subject matter expert on a wide variety of national security programs and policy issues dealing with defense planning and budgeting, force structure and readiness, weapon systems acquisitions, homeland defense, military and civilian personnel, logistics, infrastructure, and business and force transformation. In addition, he has an in-depth understanding of the Federal legislative and regulatory processes.

Through the years, I have had the privilege of working with Mr. Hinton in my capacity as both chairman and ranking member of the House Armed Services Committee. As a result of his work on highly sensitive and complex issues related to military readiness, threats to national and global security, the global war on terrorism, the base realignment and closure process, and human capital management, he has been a two-time recipient of the Comptroller General’s Award for exceptional effort and achievement of results in support of the Congress and the American taxpayer. He has also received GAO’s Integrity Award, two GAO Distinguished Service Awards, and GAO’s Meritorious Service Award.

GAO was created in 1921 with the mandate to audit, evaluate, or investigate virtually all Federal Government operations—wherever they might take place. In other words, the GAO serves as a “watchdog” over the taxpayers’ money—guarding against fraud, abuse, and inefficient allocation of public funds.

GAO evaluations under Mr. Hinton’s guidance and leadership have saved taxpayers billions of dollars. During his career as head of GAO’s National Security and International Af-

fairs Division, and GAO’s Defense Capabilities and Management team, Congress has implemented numerous recommendations resulting from his work. He has also led the work on reports to improve the readiness and capabilities of active and reserve forces, oversight of military operations including the use of contractors on the battlefield, reliability of cost reporting, transparency over military compensation costs, defense planning in such areas as infrastructure and force protection, and efforts to transform the Department of Defense’s business operations, including the need for a Chief Management Officer.

Madam Speaker, Butch Hinton’s tenure at GAO has been characterized by success on every level. He has served as an example of a truly exceptional public servant. I am sure my colleagues will join me in wishing him well in his retirement.

HONORING MAYOR FRED TURNAGE

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2007

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, for the past 34 years, Rocky Mount, North Carolina has known only one mayor—Fred Turnage. During his tenure, he showed time and time again that he was one of our State’s finest and most effective leaders.

Part of what makes him such a great leader is that he truly understands how to be a public servant. Mayor Turnage wanted to improve the quality of life of every single person living in Rocky Mount; he always had big plans for improving the city for the people; and, he always worked as hard as he could to achieve his goals.

Mayor Turnage successfully navigated the city through its darkest time in the aftermath of Hurricane Floyd in 1999. The storm dumped 20 inches of rain on a region already saturated by two previous storms. Floyd engulfed neighborhoods, communities and entire towns with floodwaters and killed 16 people in the Twin Counties.

Almost a tenth of the city was flooded; 1,000 structures were destroyed with damage estimated at \$400 million; and, hundreds of residents were evacuated from their homes.

During those dark days, Mayor Turnage provided the strong leadership needed to give people a sense of comfort and the belief that the community could rebuild and be stronger than it was even before the storm.

Under his leadership, Rocky Mount successfully moved forward with a plan to rebuild, expand and strengthen the city beyond what it had been prior to the storm. Grants, private funds and city budget commitments paid for the new Imperial Centre, Rocky Mount Sports Complex, YMCA, Braswell Memorial Library, several parks and the train station.

During his three decades at the helm of the city, Mayor Turnage helped to successfully navigate the community as it moved from a tobacco and textile city to one that relies on diverse factories, small businesses and tourism.

Mayor Turnage has presided over more than 700 City Council meetings and he’s missed just six in his 34-year tenure. Two of those absences occurred because he was out of town on city business.

He grew up in Rocky Mount, graduated from what was then Rocky Mount Senior High in 1954 and moved on to Wake Forest University. He graduated from law school in 1961 and returned to Rocky Mount to work as an attorney. He then worked as assistant clerk of court for about 18 months before he opened his own law firm. In those days there were no district attorneys, so he ran successfully for prosecuting attorney for Nash County.

In 1971, he was elected to the City Council. At age 37, two years later, he was elected Rocky Mount's youngest mayor.

In December, Mayor Turnage turned over the gavel and the city had its first new mayor in 34 years. Mayor Turnage, and his wife, Norma, have been strong and steady leaders for their community, and they have succeeded in making their community a better place for everyone there.

Please join me in recognizing the great accomplishments of Rocky Mount's mayor, Fred Turnage.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2007

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on December 18, I was unavoidably detained and was not able to record my votes for rollcall No. 1174–1182, had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 1174, “yes”—Providing for the consideration of the Senate Amendment to the House Amendment to the Senate Amendment to H.R. 6. Energy Independence and Security Act.

Rollcall No. 1175, “yes”—Providing for the consideration of the Senate Amendment to the House Amendment to the Senate Amendment to H.R. 6, Energy Independence and Security Act.

Rollcall No. 1176, “yes”—Veterans Guaranteed Bonus Act.

Rollcall No. 1177, “yes”—Energy Independence and Security Act.

Rollcall No. 1178, “yes”—Terrorism Risk Insurance Revision and Extension Act.

Rollcall No. 1179, “yes”—Sudan Accountability and Divestment Act.

Rollcall No. 1180, “yes”—Expressing the unconditional support of the House of Representatives for the members of the National Guard.

Rollcall No. 1181, “yes”—Providing for the concurrence by the House in the Senate Amendments to H.R. 3997, with an amendment.

Rollcall No. 1182, “yes”—U.S. Capitol Police and Library of Congress Police Merger Implementation Act of 2007.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE PANPAPHIAN ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA ON THE OCCASION OF ITS ANNUAL DINNER-DANCE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the

PanPaphian Association of America for its tremendous contributions to our cultural and civic life. Founded two decades ago by Hellenic Cypriot Americans of Paphian ancestry, the Association has carried out its vital educational and humanitarian mission while helping promote peace and understanding on the occupied island of Cyprus.

The PanPaphian Association of American is holding its annual dinner-dance this month, at which its members will honor Mr. Nikos Tzizas with the Evagoras Pallikarides Award. Born in Paphos, Mr. Tzizas immigrated to the United States in 1979 after graduating from high school and serving more than two years in the Cypriot National Guard as an artillery officer. While in college, he became an active member of the Zenon Association; general secretary and a member of the soccer team at the Eleftheria Football Club; and an active member of the Cypriot Students Association. After graduating from St. Francis College with a degree in management and finance in 1986, Nikos Tzizas started his first company, National Mortgage Finders, and simultaneously began coaching soccer at the Eleftheria Pancyprian Youth association. In 2006, he became president of its soccer club. Under his leadership, the club became one of the largest and most successful in the Cosmopolitan Junior Soccer League and in the community of persons of Hellenic descent. In 2005 he served as president of the Panpaphian Association. Currently Nicos Tzizas is president of Lyons General Insurance Agency, and remains active in youth activities as president of the Eleftheria Pancyprian Youth Soccer Club. He is a devoted to his wife, Kalina, and his children, Kristothea and Nicholas.

The PanPaphian Association is bestowing its Distinguished Fellow Cyprian Award on Despina Axiotakis. She was born in Asgata, Limassol on Cyprus, where her father, Kyriacos Ioannou, was well known as the “Palikari” for exhibiting tremendous feats of strength. With her family, she immigrated here in 1956. After her education at the Traphagen School of Fashion, she entered the business world and today serves as president of Axiocom Productions, a firm specializing in public relations.

Despina Axiotakis became active in the political arena, serving the presidential campaigns of Governors Michael Dukakis and Bill Clinton. She has served on the Board of Directors of the Greek Children's Fund and the Church of the Assumption in Windham, New York. While serving as president of the Asgata Association Cyprus Woman's Division, she founded the Asgata Youth and Dance Division that included teaching the group Hellenic and Cypriot dances. In addition, she was the editor of the “Asgata Newsletter” for more than eight years. She serves as general secretary of the Cyprus Federation of America, a position she has held for more than 15 years. At the same time she has served as executive director of the Cyprus United States Chamber of Commerce. Despina is devoted to her husband, John, their 2 children, Lucas and Irene, and their 5 grandchildren.

The PanPaphian Association is honoring as its “Member of the Year” Mr. Michael Ioannou Michaels. Born in Kalavasos, Cyprus, he immigrated to the United States at the age of 21 and began working on ships as a welder. Mr. Michaels eventually started his own construction company. Although he adopted the United

States as his new home, he never lost the connection with his native country, and became involved in several organizations such as the Cyprus Federation of America, the PanPaphian Association, and Kalavasos Fraternity, which he serves as acting president, and also participates in the Pancyprian soccer team and the Cyprian dance group. One of his most noteworthy contributions to civic life is his generous and selfless devotion to the Rachel Cooper Foundation, which enables children with congenital heart disease from Cyprus and other countries to be flown to the U.S. for urgent medical care. Although he recently lost his beloved wife Olympia, Mr. Michaels remains devoted to her memory and to his daughter, Martha, and her husband, Andy.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues rise to join me in paying tribute to the PanPaphian Association of America and all its good works.

HONORING THE WEST GENESEE HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2007

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the West Genesee High School Football Team, 2007 Class AA New York State Football Champions. The West Genesee Wildcats defeated Monroe-Woodbury Crusader by a score of 42–21, earning West Genesee High School's first state football championship title.

On behalf of the people of New York's 25th Congressional District, I congratulate these young men on their outstanding athletic achievement and praise head coach Steve Bush, and Assistant Coaches Joe Corley, John Lawrence, Tim Lane, Corey Brooks, and Dana Eells on their team's success. I look forward to another exciting year when the Wildcats take the field to defend their title in 2008.

Joe Kesler, Dave Hildman, Matt McCabe, Joe Fazio, Ryan McConnell, George Eunice, Jim Marks, James Grecco, Nick Aiken, Tim Moran, Jeremy Jones, Kyle Nojaim, Nick Collins, Pat Shanley, Mike Carter, Jeremy Conners, Tim Town, Mike Simiele, Yaw Awuah, Mike Mercer, Ben Waldron, Sirron Wright, Mike Delaney, Marcus Armstrong, Josh Cruz, Tom Flynn, Will Furdyn, AJ Reese, Scott Erikson, Nate Wells, Rich Longo, Mark Ferguson, Nick Pedrotti, Christos Dimkos, Mike Gagnon, Nick Cammuso, Nick Rinaldi, Kevin Heron, Stefan Cavedine, Mike Severance, John Gacek, Vinny Lananna, Ossamia Mere, Craig Simmons, Ben Wysokowski, Stephen Pooler, Tony Pedrotti, Doug Ayer, Jake Fietkiewicz, Dan Kolinski, Jeff Mancuso, Kevin Petrick, Luke Cometti

THE NATIONAL DIABETES COORDINATOR ACT

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2007

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, yesterday I introduced The National Diabetes Coordinator