

stand as a guide alerting us to how thoroughly the Gandhi propagandists and others have succeeded in deceiving us.

TRIBUTE TO THE CLINTON EXCHANGE CLUB ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 60TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Mr. McGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Clinton Exchange Club on the occasion of its 60th anniversary and to thank its members for the extraordinary contributions they have made to the greater Clinton community throughout the club's distinguished history. Exchange Clubs all across America are widely known for their efforts to prevent child abuse and nurture our nation's young people, however nowhere has the noble mission of this great service organization been more fully embraced by its membership than the Clinton Exchange Club.

As a regular participant in the Memorial Day Exercises in the Town of Clinton, I have proudly marched behind the Exchange Club as they distribute American flags to the children lining the parade route. This public display of patriotism is an invaluable lesson for our young people to learn and I am grateful to the Clinton Exchange Club for making it an indispensable part of the town's Memorial Day tradition. The Clinton Exchange Club is a source of civic education, encouragement and support for the community's youth that extends far beyond one holiday a year. Through the sponsorship of local sports teams, the Freedom Shrine, the youth of the month recognition program and the numerous scholarships it awards, the Clinton Exchange Club is a positive force in nearly all facets of a child's development. A large number of Clinton's youth have responded to the example the Exchange Club has given them by establishing their own affiliated service organization at Clinton High School known as the Excel Club. The close collaboration between the Exchange Club and the Excel Club has ensured that service to others will endure as the hallmark of this tight-knit community for generations to come.

Madam Speaker, the Town of Clinton enjoys a well-deserved reputation as one of the most compassionate communities in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. That is due in large part to the innumerable good deeds the Clinton Exchange Club has performed over these last sixty years. The greatest tribute I can pay them as they celebrate this important milestone is to humbly ask that they rededicate themselves to the club's mission and continue to better the lives of their neighbors and fellow citizens. This nation owes the Clinton Exchange Club a debt of gratitude for their legacy of service and the United States Congress congratulates them on this wonderful occasion.

IN MEMORY OF W.E. AYERS

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of W.E. Ayers, who passed away December 8, 2006, in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, at the age of 76.

W.E. Ayers was a pillar of the city of Pine Bluff and the state of Arkansas for decades. Ayers was the former Chairman and CEO of Simmons First National Corporation of Pine Bluff. He joined the organization in 1957 and became Senior Vice President in 1969. Mr. Ayers was then named President of the Bank in 1985 and named Chairman of the Board the following year.

A graduate of Louisiana State University, W.E. Ayers also received an honorary doctorate degree from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff and Southeast Arkansas College.

W.E. Ayers was an active member of Lakeside United Methodist Church where he served as a former trustee and Sunday School teacher. He was a past President of the Arkansas Bankers Association as well as a member of the Kiwanis Club, Pine Bluff Chamber of Commerce, Arkansas Arts Council and the Arkansas School for Mathematics and Science Foundation.

My deepest condolences go to his wife, Diane Ayers; son and daughter-in-law, Tim and Leigh Ayers of Atlanta, GA; daughter Cathy Zimmerman of Boulder, CO; and to his 5 grandchildren. W.E. Ayers will be greatly missed in Pine Bluff and throughout the state of Arkansas.

HONORING GARY LOUIS SIMPSON OF NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the long and successful career of Mr. Gary Louis Simpson, the Sheriff-Coroner of Napa County, California. On December 28th Mr. Simpson will stand down after 20 years and 5 terms as the elected Sheriff of Napa County. During his tenure, the Sheriff's Department has developed and expanded numerous programs to extend the involvement of the department with other law enforcement agencies and county departments. He leaves behind a technologically sophisticated and well-trained department prepared to continue the work he has advanced for many years.

Mr. Simpson was born in Missouri, but moved to California at an early age, and grew up in Oakland. He attended Pacific Union College and graduated with a B.A. in Social Sciences in 1965. Mr. Simpson served in the United States Army from 1966–1969 and left at the rank of 1st Lieutenant before joining the Napa Police Department that same year. In 1983 he was promoted to Lieutenant in the Police Department. In 1986 he ran for the office of Sheriff, and was elected the 25th Sheriff of Napa County.

As Sheriff, Mr. Simpson expanded the work of the Sheriffs department beyond the strict

confines of law enforcement and into the communities of the Napa Valley. Through a variety of programs like DARE and the Sheriffs Activity League, Mr. Simpson has reached out to the youth of the Napa Valley and helped develop a safe and healthy place for children to grow. He has created an innovative program, the Sheriff Citizens Academy, which is conceived to allow people living and working in the Napa Valley to better understand the work of the Sheriffs Department. Additionally, this important program has begun the process of building bridges between members of the community and law enforcement.

Madam Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize Mr. Gary Louis Simpson on his retirement after 20 years as the Sheriff of Napa County. He has been instrumental in developing the resources and capabilities of law enforcement in Napa County. He will enjoy retirement in the company of his wife Veronica, their children, and their two granddaughters.

CONGRATULATING ARTRAIN USA ON RECEIVING THE 2006 NATIONAL AWARD FOR MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Artrain USA on being a recipient of the 2006 National Award for Museum and Library Services, a prestigious award presented to a select few libraries and museums for outstanding public service.

The National Award for Museum and Library Services is the nation's highest honor for museums and libraries. Artrain USA was one of three museums selected by the Institute for Museum and Library Sciences to receive this high honor. Three libraries were also selected to be honored.

Located in Ann Arbor, Michigan, Artrain USA's unique concept of a traveling museum has visited hundreds of communities, enriching the lives of over 3.2 million people. Many of these communities are rural or underserved and did not have access to this type of world-class art exhibits and educational opportunities. By bringing the art to the communities on vintage railroad cars, Artrain USA provides these communities with a wonderful opportunity for cultural growth and education. This is an indispensable public service and I am especially proud to say that Artrain USA hails from Michigan's 15th Congressional District, which I represent in the House of Representatives.

I would particularly like to congratulate Debra Polich, President & CEO of Artrain USA, for her tireless work and dedication to making Artrain USA a national presence. Madam Speaker, I ask that you and all of my colleagues join me in congratulating Deb and the rest of the Artrain USA team on winning this esteemed award and in sending our best wishes for success in the future.

IN MEMORY OF KEVIN BROPHY

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise today to honor the memory of the late Kevin Brophy. Kevin was a remarkable young man who touched the lives of all those he met.

Kevin Brophy was a native of Melbourne, Australia, who graduated from Memorial Day School in Savannah, GA. In his time at Memorial, Kevin averaged 28.4 points, 7.2 rebounds, and 12.4 assists per game setting a single season school record of 424 points.

Kevin went on to attend the University of Georgia where, as a walk-on, to the 2005 Bulldogs men's basketball team he played in all 28 games of his freshman season and started in seven Southeastern Conference contests. Though he began his collegiate sports career as a walk-on, Kevin quickly earned an athletic scholarship before the start of his sophomore season.

As a member of the Georgia Bulldogs basketball program, Kevin scored a season high of 19 points against the Vanderbilt University Commodores, nine of those coming in the last nine minutes. Kevin's attitude, maturity, and work ethic were contagious, spreading to all those with whom he came in contact.

Tragically, Kevin's life ended July 20, 2006, near Greensboro, GA, just hours after he devoted his time to improving the basketball program at the Athens Boys and Girls Club. His death has left a community in mourning but his life has inspired us all.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF TOM RICE TO OUR HOMELAND SECURITY

HON. DEBORAH PRYCE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a distinguished constituent and a valued member of our country's Homeland Security team, Tom Rice, the federal security director for Port Columbus International Airport. Tom was recently chosen from among 125 peers by the Transportation Security Administration as the Federal Security Director of the Year for the Eastern Region.

In bestowing this honor, TSA recognized Tom's contributions in providing operational direction for federal security, demonstrating integrity and innovation, and improving the morale of employees by promoting a culture of achievement among team members.

Tom's four decades of distinguished and impeccable service in law enforcement is no secret to central Ohio. After serving for 33 years in the Ohio State Highway Patrol, Tom spent a year at the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction as the acting chief inspector and then had a 5-year tour with the City of Columbus as safety director. Before briefly retiring, Tom also consulted for the Ohio Department of Youth Services. However, with the creation of TSA, Tom was swiftly called to return to duty and was sworn in as the first FSD for

Port Columbus and Rickenbacker airports in June 2002.

I am thrilled to see his leadership in security recognized nationally by our Nation's top security agency. Passengers at Port Columbus know and trust Tom. And even amid passenger uncertainty due to terrorist threats, his innovative and professional leadership has helped Port Columbus continue to grow and business at Rickenbacker to flourish. I can think of no better person to receive the recognition of our Homeland Security community.

HONORING THE HEART HOSPITAL OF NEW MEXICO

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable organization from the State of New Mexico. The Heart Hospital of New Mexico was established in 1999, through a joint effort between the state's leading cardiology and cardiovascular surgery groups, as an entire medical facility dedicated to fighting heart disease. Located near downtown Albuquerque, it is the state's first free-standing heart facility, dedicated to providing the most advanced, patient-centered, family-centered care for the region.

Recently, Quantum Research and the New Mexico Business Weekly sponsored a comprehensive employee survey to identify the "best places to work" in New Mexico. With 211 hardworking employees, the Heart Hospital was ranked first amongst New Mexico's largest employers. The award acknowledges a company's achievements in creating a positive work environment that not only attracts employees, but also retains them.

Heart Hospital employees cited flexible work schedules, employee-driven work standards and commitment to superior patient care as critical to their job satisfaction. The Heart Hospital also offers reimbursements for licensures, certifications and tuition; reimbursement for nursing education for household members of employees; full vestment for the company portion of 401(k) upon enrollment and employee appreciation lunches and other recognition.

Madam Speaker, no matter how you measure it, the Heart Hospital of New Mexico sets a standard of excellence. The hospital fills a crucial need in central New Mexico's community, and I am honored to recognize such an outstanding healthcare provider and its outstanding team of dedicated employees here today.

STATEMENT HONORING ROBERT L. HADLEY, SR.

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an honorable man, Robert L. Hadley Sr. His commitment towards his family and his hard work has made him a commendable role model for all of America's future generations.

Born on April 13, 1919, Mr. Hadley was raised to hold strong to his faith and valued the beliefs embedded in him from his childhood. His everyday life and career reflected those praiseworthy values.

In 1937, after the completion of his studies Mr. Hadley entered into the car sales industry with a zest for learning. In 1941, he was called upon by his country to serve in the Army during WWII. He courageously contributed his time to protect our Nation.

Mr. Hadley completed his service to the U.S. Army and returned to his loving wife and son. He then continued working hard in the automotive sales industry while ensuring his son grew up to become an admirable young man. The life lead by Mr. Hadley has undoubtedly become a legacy.

On behalf of the Dallas, TX community, I commend Mr. Robert Hadley's admirable achievements.

ENDING THE WAR IN IRAQ

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Mr. DeFAZIO. Madam Speaker, tomorrow the President will announce he has yet another new strategy for victory in Iraq. This strategy will come just over a year after he released his last strategy for victory in Iraq, which was completed in November 2005.

According to the Brookings Institution's Iraq Index, since the President released his last plan, more than 900 U.S. troops have been killed in Iraq, more than 2,200 Iraqi police and military forces have also been killed. The number of Iraqi civilians killed has risen from 1,778 in January 2006 to nearly 3,300 in December 2006. The number of multiple fatality bombings has increased from 41 in November 2005 to 69 in December 2006.

In other words, by virtually every measure, the violence in Iraq is worse this year than last year, the political situation is more volatile and deteriorating by the day and the civil war is expanding.

After nearly four years, after more than 3,000 U.S. troops have been killed, after more than 22,500 U.S. troops have been injured—nearly half of whom have been injured severely enough that they cannot return to duty—and after more than \$300 billion of U.S. taxpayers' money has been spent with no benefit to U.S. national security and with little progress toward stabilizing Iraq, what is the President's response? All indications are that he will propose to compound the failure by escalating the war, putting tens of thousands of more American lives at risk, and borrowing tens or hundreds of billions of dollars more in order to prosecute a war that cannot be won militarily.

It is past time to end the open-ended commitment the President has made in Iraq. Reportedly the President will propose benchmarks the Iraqi government must achieve, but since there will be no consequences if the Iraqis fail, these benchmarks are meaningless. The Iraqi government has failed to follow through on previous commitments, yet the President's response has only been to express continuing support for the Iraqi Prime Minister. His proposal this week will likely be more of the same.