trict or State.

make a difference.

tion they so richly deserve.

RECOGNITION OF BILLY WALKABOUT

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 21, 2007

Mr. COLE of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of a great American and great Oklahoman, Billv Walkabout. Mr. Walkabout was the most decorated American Indian soldier in the Vietnam War, and this weekend his family will have the great honor of laying him to rest at Arlington National Cemetery.

Walkabout, a Cherokee, joined the Army soon after graduating from U.S. Grant High School in Oklahoma in 1968. On November 20, 1968, Army Ranger Sergeant Walkabout and 12 of his fellow soldiers were on a mission behind enemy lines when they suddenly came under fire. The battle lasted several hours, during which Sergeant Walkabout was seriously injured. Despite these injuries, Walkabout continued to provide life saving measures to his wounded colleagues and help them board evacuation helicopters-all while continuing to return fire.

Because of his incredible courage and valor, Billy Walkabout received the Distinguished Service Cross, 5 Silver Stars, 5 Bronze Stars and the Purple Heart.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor to be a Member of this House and to serve those great Americans like Billy Walkabout. His service, bravery and patriotism are true testaments of his character. I am proud to stand before this House in recognition of the great life and service of Mr. Billy Walkabout.

CONGRATULATIONS GROVE JUN-IOR HIGH DARE STUDENTS OF THE YEAR

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the DARE Students of the Year from Grove Junior High School in Elk Grove Village.

These students participated in the Grove Junior High DARE program during the 2006-2007 school year to learn about the harmful effects of drugs and alcohol. In recognition of their outstanding classroom participation and positive attitude, Anthony White and Christian Barajas were named DARE Students of the Year and Jaela Gibsob and Dahee Will were named runners-up.

These students have learned to resist peer pressure and live productive drug, gang, and violence-free lives. I commend these students for their hard work and encourage them to continue to set a good example for their peers.

Anthony, Christian, Jaela, and Dahee, your families, your school, and your community are extremely proud of what you've accomplished. I wish you all the best in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 21, 2007

Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. Speaker, due to the fact that my flight reservation was inadvertently canceled and I had to take a later flight, I missed three rollcall votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of H. Res. 138, which passed 399-0 on rollcall vote No. 157, H.R. 658, which passed 390-10 on rollcall vote No. 158, and H.R. 839, which passed 394-1 on rollcall vote No. 159.

NATIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR DAY

HON. NORMAN D. DICKS

OF WASHINGTON IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, March 21, 2007

Mr. DICKS. Madam Speaker, ladies and gentlemen, Members of Congress, leaders of our armed forces and, of course, our treasured Medal of Honor recipients. Thanks to all of you all for joining me in remembering the extraordinary achievements of our combat veterans-particularly those who wear the Congressional Medal of Honor. It's also a real pleasure once again to have the chance to be with Bruce Crandall, who received his Medal recently at a White House ceremony that I attended earlier this month. When the President read the citation detailing the amazing heroism that Bruce displayed in Vietnam, it was again a reminder to me of how special each of these individuals are and how important it is that we provide adequate recognition to those who achieve this highest military commendation.

Out of more than 3,400 individuals to receive this medal in our nation's history, just 112 remain with us today.

Their actions in battle, and their continued efforts now as shepherds of patriotism, remind us all how fortunate this Nation is to have men as brave as these among us. Your legacy and lessons of sacrifice continue to inspire us to act with loyalty where we work, live and serve; to walk with courage when obstacles hinder us from the right path.

I am honored to be able to serve in my capacity as a member of the United States Congress, and am proud to be an original cosponsor of this resolution creating the National Medal of Honor day. You have been recognized by your Nation's leadership with the highest medal of military distinction. Now your fellow citizens will always recognize you with a dav in vour honor.

Thank you for your bravery that brought America to where she is today, and thank you for all that you continue do to demonstrate the values of loyalty, sacrifice, integrity, and courage.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURE DAY

HON. MARK E. SOUDER OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, March 21, 2007

Mr. SOUDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Agriculture Day,

HONORING JUSTIN PAWLEY

This resolution recognizes the important work Meals on Wheels does in preventing

senior hunger and improving the quality of life for hundreds of thousands of our Nation's sen-

iors. It also encourages Members of Congress

to support their local senior nutrition programs

by participating in their annual March for

Meals events and delivering meals to home-

bound seniors in a community within their dis-

While, due to our business in Washington,

DC, today, I am unable to participate in this

year's celebration, I have proudly participated

in past Meals on Wheels Association of Amer-

ica's March for Meals events. I have joined

volunteers from Meals on Wheels organiza-

tions throughout my district in delivering meals

and witnessed first hand both the need for

these important programs and the incredible

dedication of their staff and volunteers. I en-

courage each of you to get involved with your

local programs-whether you help prepare

meals, deliver meals, or just join local seniors

in enjoying their meals-your support can

I also encourage you to join me as a co-

sponsor of this resolution which will give the

Meals on Wheels Association of America and

its member programs the honor and recogni-

HON. RON LEWIS OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 21, 2007

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, the right to vote is the cornerstone of our American democracy. I rise today to honor Mr. Justin Pawley, an exemplary individual from my Congressional District, who has fought hard to protect and expand voter rights.

Mr. Pawley, a self-described political junkie, is one of millions of Americans living with Down Syndrome. His civic awareness and interest in our political system motivated him to utilize his right to vote in 2000. Sadly, Mr. Pawley was turned away due to a State statute that prevented adults with guardians to vote in the Commonwealth. Soon thereafter, he began a 7 year effort to correct this injustice.

Mr. Pawley has demonstrated remarkable courage and determination through his work with State and local officials to get his right to vote. The Justin Pawley Act was introduced in the Kentucky Legislature last year to allow thousands of individuals with guardians the right to vote in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Mr. Pawley's quest came one step closer to realization last week when the bill passed both houses of the Kentucky State Legislature.

Mr. Pawley's relentless pursuit of his right to vote is an inspiring example of how one person can make an important difference in our political process. It is my honor to recognize Justin Pawley today before the entire House of Representatives. He is an outstanding citizen worthy of our collective appreciation and respect.

Wednesday, March 21, 2007

which is celebrated each year on the first day of spring.

With more than 8,000 farms, Madam Speaker, agriculture plays a critical role in the economy of the Third District. We lead the state of Indiana in the production of cattle and calves, dairy products, sheep, and goats. As a state, Indiana has long been among the leading producers of corn and soybeans—planting more than 11 million acres—and we are first in the nation in duck production, supplying approximately 30 percent of the nation's total.

Because of the hard work and dedication of farmers and ranchers, Americans have become accustomed to a safe, abundant, and affordable supply of food and fiber. Even more remarkable, and often overlooked, is the fact that farmers and ranchers feed and clothe this nation with an increasing levels of concern for environmental stewardship and animal welfare. The well-being of livestock and the sustainability of the land is a top priority. Indeed, I have seen firsthand in my district the adoption of best-management practices to conserve soil, nutrients, and water, as well as crop protection products that not only improve the viability of agriculture but also prevent flooding and improve water guality for cities and towns downstream.

In addition, as we are all aware, our country is now turning to the American farmer and rancher to help solve our energy crisis. We have placed a new interest in ethanol, and the agriculture industry has responded with vigor. Our goal of 7.5 billion gallons of ethanol will be attained by 2009 rather than 2012 as was expected. Some may say that our food supply is threatened by the push for ethanol. However, our farmers and ranchers have risen to the call before and will become an important part of our energy solution.

Madam Speaker, agriculture's contributions to America's economy, culture, and history should be celebrated, and I ask that my colleagues join with me in wishing our farmers and ranchers continued success in the years ahead. TRIBUTE TO BISHOP ROGER L. JONES, SR.

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 21, 2007

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bishop Roger L. Jones, Sr. as he is appointed Jurisdictional Bishop of the Southeast Michigan Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the Church of God in Christ.

After graduating from Saints College Church of God in Christ at Lexington, Mississippi in 1960, Bishop Roger Jones Sr. moved to Flint Michigan and founded Greater Holy Temple COGIC in 1963. Bishop Jones guickly established himself as an up and coming leader in the Church of God in Christ. Appointed District Superintendent in 1965 by Bishop J.S. Bailey, he also served as the Chair of the State Finance Committee the same year. Over the next several years Bishop Jones has also served in the following capacities: Chairman of State Expediting Committee, Vice-Chair and Chair of the State Elders Council, the National Platform Chair for the International Youth Congress. Vice-Chair of the International Trustee Board, and Chair of the International Trustee Board.

Bishop Jones was consecrated a Bishop of the Third Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of South West Michigan in 1985. Along with his wife, Evangelist Sandra Smith Jones, Bishop Jones continues to affirm his faith every day and espouse the guiding principles of the Church of God in Christ. He strives to bring all to know Jesus Christ as their personal Savior.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Bishop Roger L. Jones, Sr. as he is appointed the Jurisdictional Bishop of Southeast Michigan and pray that he continues to work diligently to make a better life and future for his congregation and the people of Michigan.

HONORING LANCE CORPORAL NATHAN WINDSOR

HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 21, 2007

Ms. HOOLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a fallen American hero. Last Saturday, Lance Corporal Nathan Windsor made his final sacrifice on behalf of a grateful nation while on patrol in the Anbar province of Iraq.

Nathan understood that citizenship meant responsibility and that great sacrifices would be required in order to secure our freedoms and to serve our country in its time of need.

Well aware of the danger and more than willing to endure the risks, Nathan selflessly charged into chaos to help the people of Iraq secure a peace and work toward a self-governing society.

It saddens me, Madam Speaker, to come before you again to ask that my colleagues join in mourning the loss of yet another young American who has made the ultimate sacrifice.

Nathan gave his all before fully experiencing the many freedoms for which he fought. His aspirations to become a movie producer will never be realized because his life and dreams were tragically cut short.

Words alone cannot express the anger, frustration and pain felt by the thousands whose lives he touched, but we have an obligation to ensure that future generations of Americans inherit a land worthy of his sacrifice.

We are all indebted to Nathan's spirit and sacrifice. It is now, and will be forever, our turn to repay the debt. Let us recommit ourselves in this chamber to work even harder and to do our part to make sound decisions about matters of peace and war.

I join all Oregonians, and all Americans, in expressing my deepest condolences to the family of Nathan Windsor for their loss. Our community is greater because of Nathan's short presence and we are certainly lessened by his passing.