

ADMIRAL FRANK KELSO II RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE HONOR AT NAVAL ACADEMY

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, watching over the air and sea while providing exemplary support for our land based services, the United States Navy has a service record that history has looked favorably upon from the Revolutionary War through the Battle of Midway to their present day services around the globe.

One alumni of this cherished brotherhood, Admiral Frank Kelso II, a man who dedicated his life to service of his country, was recently bestowed with the 2008 Distinguished Graduate Award during the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association's annual ceremonies in Annapolis, Maryland.

With a Naval career as long as it is distinguished, Admiral Kelso, born in Lincoln County, Tennessee, steadily rose through the ranks following his graduation from the Naval Academy in 1956.

Serving various tours on *Balao*, *Skipjack*, *Permit*, and *LaFayette* class submarines and attending the Navy's Submarine School, Admiral Kelso was promoted to Commanding Officer of the Naval Nuclear Power School, USS *Finback* and USS *Bluefish*.

In subsequent tours, the Admiral served as Executive Assistant to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Atlantic Command and the U.S. Atlantic Fleet and Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic. He was then assigned to reestablish and command Submarine Squadron Seven.

In 1980 he was selected as Rear Admiral, where his Pentagon assignments included Director, Strategic Submarine Division, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, and Director, Office of Program Appraisal, Office of the Secretary of the Navy.

By 1985 Admiral Kelso was commanding the Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean Sea and NATO Naval Striking Force and Support Forces Southern Europe. During this time the Admiral led successful operations against Libya.

Earning his fourth star, Kelso was promoted to Admiral in 1986, shortly before assuming the duties of Commander, U.S. Atlantic Fleet. Admiral Kelso later became NATO's Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic and Commander in Chief, U.S. Atlantic Command.

Admiral Kelso's naval career reached its high point when he was named the 24th Chief of Naval Operations in 1990, making him the first Tennessean to hold that position. He served as CNO for nearly four years.

Beyond serving in a high ranking military position in the U.S. government and the numerous medals he has earned, Admiral Kelso has remained humble and grounded—saying his greatest accomplishments are his children and grandchildren. As a father of three and grandfather to five, I can say family is the driving force in life and is to be cherished as described by the Admiral.

We are proud to have Admiral and Mrs. Kelso as native residents of the 4th District and wish them the best.

HONORING QUINN CHAPEL

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Quinn Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church on celebrating 133 years of worship and outreach in Flint, Michigan. On Friday, May 30th the congregation of Quinn Chapel recognized this milestone at a special anniversary program.

Quinn Chapel AME Church has a long tradition in Flint. This tradition began in the home of Mrs. Nancy West, where in 1875 she first opened her doors for prayer services. Quinn Chapel reached out to the community, becoming a positive influence on families looking for opportunity in the early days of Michigan.

As Flint grew, so did Quinn Chapel. In 1877 the congregation moved from Mrs. West's home and into a new location on Seventh Street. A decision was made in 1912 to build a new sanctuary and the brick structure was dedicated in 1922. The music program gained national recognition and the Senior Choir took first place in a national music contest during the 1940s.

When the City of Flint decided to build the municipal center in 1955, Quinn Chapel had to relocate again. The first Church service was held in the new structure on Lippincott Boulevard on December 25, 1960. Bishop Joseph Gomez formally dedicated this sanctuary in 1961.

Designated a Historical Site by the State of Michigan, Quinn Chapel AME Church has fulfilled their African Methodist Episcopal motto, "God Our Father, Christ Our Redeemer, Man Our Brother." Under the leadership of their Pastor, Reverend Stanley U. Sims, the congregation continues to provide the residents of Flint with a place to worship in a faith filled community.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in applauding this community for their dedication to Christian life. For 133 years Quinn Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church has led services for its members and provided a foundation for the spiritual lives of many in Flint. I pray they will continue their blessed work for many, many years to come.

IN HONOR OF BARBARA MCCARTY

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, it is with sadness that I rise in honor of Barbara McCarty, who passed away late last month in Hawaii.

Barbara's life was an American success story. She immigrated to the United States from England, became an American citizen, graduated from Sacramento State University and later earned a law degree. Through all of this, she raised 4 remarkable children as a single mother.

For the better part of the last 3 decades Barbara practiced law in Sacramento, primarily

focusing on workers compensation cases. In 1992, she and a colleague staked out on their own and started a law practice. In addition to being a fine lawyer and wonderful mother, Barbara was a vibrant community leader. She was always active with women's causes and was engaged in many civic endeavors, even after she retired in Hawaii.

Barbara is survived by her children: Laura LaMarre; Kevin McCarty; Christopher McCarty; Trevor Nielsen; and her sister, Anne Gash. She also leaves behind 7 grandchildren and countless friends in Sacramento and Hawaii.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in paying honor to Barbara McCarty for her exemplary service to those of us in Sacramento and across the Nation. Her life and legacy—as a mother and advocate—will be an inspiration to us all. I ask that we take a moment and extend our utmost respect and condolences to her family.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF ANNE STARR

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Anne Starr, and in recognition of her dedication to her family, her country and her community.

Mrs. Starr was born in California, Pennsylvania and moved to the Cleveland area in the early 1920s. Both she and her husband, William, were active in the veterans community in the greater Cleveland area. By setting an example of leadership and civic participation, they taught their children the importance of community involvement. Her son, Gary Starr, learned that lesson well, and has served as mayor of Middleburg Heights since 1981. It was through Mrs. Starr's orchestrations that Gary got an early taste for politics. A lifelong "Roosevelt Democrat," Mrs. Starr arranged for her son Gary to get credentials at the Republican National Convention in Miami in 1968 when Gary was 17 years old and visiting extended family in Florida. Through that experience, Gary met all the national news anchors of the day and formed a lifelong interest in politics himself. Later, Anne was active in all of Mayor Gary Starr's election campaigns.

Mrs. Starr belonged to the Lions Club and to the Women's Auxiliary of American Legion Post 703 in Parma and Middleburg Heights. She was a founding member of the Middleburg Heights Veterans Memorial, which stands in front of the Middleburg Heights community center. In 2004, I, along with the Cuyahoga County Commissioners, U.S. Senator GEORGE VOINOVICH, Ohio State Senators Dan Brady and Doug White, and Ohio Representative Timothy DeGeeter, recognized Mrs. Starr for her outstanding service and leadership in founding the Memorial. She sold many of the bricks that comprise the Memorial, with each brick displaying the name of a local veteran. Mrs. Starr was also recognized by the Middleburg Heights Chamber of Commerce during the city's annual Salute to the City Celebration for her significant contributions to the community of Middleburg Heights.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in celebrating the life of Anne Starr, who

committed her life to serving her family, her country and her community. May her life serve as an example to us all.

HONORING DEREK SCHIRMER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Derek Schirmer of Gladstone, Missouri. Derek is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1247, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Derek has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Derek has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Derek Schirmer for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING STACY PRATER FOR SELFLESS ACT

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, it was nearly 100 years ago that the so-called "Central Powers" of Europe opposed the free world in what would become the first of two World Wars. In the midst of our fight against Germany and her Allies at the beginning of the 20th century, one of Fentress County, Tennessee's most famous sons earned a Medal of Honor, and his place in history.

Sergeant Alvin C. York exemplifies perhaps the most common understanding of what a hero embodies: an individual who answered the call of duty and risked themselves for the betterment of others. However, it is the lesser known heroes that I rise today to commend.

Stacy Prater of Pikeville, Tennessee, probably did not have thoughts of heroism in mind as he traveled home from work a few weeks ago. But, when he noticed that the car in front of him was on fire, Stacy stepped in to help the driver and her three children get to safety. With the driver and two children safely out of the vehicle, Stacy rushed into the fire to rescue a third child from a safety seat completely surrounded by flames. Using only a pair of scissors, Stacy released and pulled the child safely out of the vehicle. Through Stacy's efforts, all three children and their mother survived the unexpected incident.

History will probably not remember Stacy, or countless others like him, as it remembers Alvin York. Stacy acted this month not for the glory of heroism, but for what it means to the survivors of that fire. I am proud today to commend Stacy's selfless service, and to commemorate a hometown hero who deserves our continued thanks and appreciation.

HONORING SAINT LUKE CHRISTIAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Saint Luke Christian Methodist Episcopal Church as the congregation celebrates the 75th anniversary of the Church's founding. A celebration was held in Saginaw, Michigan on May 31st in honor of this momentous occasion.

Saint Luke Christian Methodist Episcopal Church was founded in 1933 by King Wicker, Otha Wicker, Mildred Wicker, Alton Wicker, Margaret Wicker, Jerry Wicker, Odessa Fields, Bobbie Lou Anthony, Irene Blunt, Robert Taylor, and Reverend S.J. Scott. Shortly thereafter Reverend S.J. Elliott became the first appointed pastor and was active in developing and organizing the Saint Luke congregation. Under Reverend Elliott's pastoral guidance Saint Luke built its first Church where members could gather and worship.

In 1955 the congregation was expanding and they began to look for a new home. The prayers and hard work of the membership were successful and they purchased the Church and parsonage on Tuscola Street in June 1958. Through the hard work and generosity of the congregation, the mortgage was paid in full and burned in a joyous celebration on October 19, 1969. Over the years the congregation has added a new organ, a communion rail, a grand piano, a furnace, air conditioning and the Church and parsonage underwent extensive renovation.

While the physical structure of Saint Luke has changed, the congregation of Saint Luke Christian Methodist Episcopal Church has not wavered from its purpose—faith and devotion to God. Under the leadership of Reverend James C. Hendricks, Saint Luke has embraced the motto, "From Good to Great—Generation of Excellence." Through the guidance of Reverend Hendricks, the members are inspired to meet the daily challenges of life with vision and courage.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in applauding the clergy, staff and congregation of Saint Luke Christian Methodist Episcopal Church. For 75 years they have brought praise and honor to Our Lord, Jesus Christ, and may He continue to bless them for many, many years to come.

REAFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF LEBANON UNDER PRIME MINISTER FOUAD SINIORA

SPEECH OF

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I certainly share the concerns of the proponents of this resolution regarding the need to bring peace to Lebanon. I also add my voice in opposition to the use of violence against innocent civilians for any reason. It is wrong. I have always condemned such acts and cer-

tainly want to express my condolences to those killed, injured, or otherwise affected by the recent fighting.

I have been to Lebanon. I have talked to Parliamentarians in that country about the needs of that country. I have also supported a series of resolutions since coming to Congress expressing strong support for restoring and respecting Lebanon's sovereignty, disarming militias, and allowing the Lebanese people and their representatives to direct the affairs of the country without outside influence from any quarter.

My concern with this resolution is that it does nothing to bring the fighting to an end or to achieve any of its goals that it intends to advance, especially in light of recent events. Instead of writing resolutions that make Congress feel good, at this time the U.S. should be supporting and cooperating with countries in the region working to actually bring an end to the violence and putting Lebanon on track to resolve the political paralysis that has gripped the country.

I did not vote for this measure because I believe it does not move us forward in helping to bring peace to the region, especially in light of recent events that saw the Arab League and Qatar in particular take leading roles in actively working diplomatically to end the violence. While this resolution was pending a vote before the House, the Lebanese parties including the Lebanese government and its Arab neighbors were hammering out an agreement to resolve the political crisis fueling the recent violence which has crippled the country.

I have included a copy of New York Times articles on these regional efforts well as another article outlining the announcement by Israel of its negotiations with Syria using Turkey as a mediator. Nothing guarantees that these talks will succeed but it certainly shows that some of the parties most affected by violence in the region are tired of empty rhetoric and are willing to sit down and engage in diplomacy to prevent their country from returning to civil war.

Now is an opportunity to encourage the Lebanese and others in the region to build on these efforts to defuse tensions and begin to take a positive way forward. According to the reports, the Lebanon agreement was reached—not because of the Congressional resolution—but because the Lebanese parties, with the help of their neighbors in the region, sat down at the negotiating table to try and save their country from civil war.

According to these reports, the agreement addresses some of the issues that have polarized and paralyzed Lebanon and also makes clear that all parties "commit themselves not to use weapons or violence in order to achieve political gains under any circumstances."

While the agreement is not perfect and it remains to be seen whether it will change the situation on the ground, it has received the endorsement of all parties, Saudi Arabia, the U.N., and even the Bush Administration. The agreement will not resolve all the pressing problems in Lebanon but it helped check the most pressing of the moment: a slow march back to civil war.

While many Lebanese were expressing relief at this news and returning to deserted streets in Beirut, the House was voting on a resolution which had been eclipsed by events