

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL KENNETH  
O. MCCREEDY

**HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Colonel Kenneth O. McCreedy, Installation Commander at Fort Meade in Maryland. Colonel McCreedy holds a bachelor's degree in history from Washington and Lee University, master's and doctorate degrees from University of California, Berkeley, a Master of Military Arts and Sciences degree from the U.S. Army Command and Staff College, and a Master of Strategic Studies from the Army War College. He is also a graduate of both the Army's School of Advanced Military Studies and the Advanced Strategic Art Program.

After over twenty years in the service, Colonel McCreedy took command of Fort Meade in June 2005. Since then, Colonel McCreedy has worked closely with business leaders and elected officials, to consider how his decisions would affect the communities both inside and outside of the Fort Meade gates.

Fort Meade, located halfway between Baltimore and Washington, DC, is the fourth largest army installation base in the continental United States with approximately 40,000 military, civilian, and contractor personnel. The base thrives not only as a military installation, but also as a leading contributor to Maryland's economy.

Colonel McCreedy has played a large role in planning and preparing for the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process, which will cause a projected 25 percent population increase and 5,700 jobs at Fort Meade alone. He also has worked closely with the Fort Meade Alliance, an advocacy membership organization created to promote and support Fort Meade as an economic asset and resource to the region.

Among his countless awards and decorations, Colonel McCreedy has earned the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, and the NATO Medal.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Colonel Kenneth O. McCreedy in his retirement from the position of Fort Meade Installation Commander. His legacy as a brilliant military commander will be forever remembered in his service to one of our nation's largest military installations. It is with great pride that I congratulate Colonel McCreedy on his exemplary military career and his outstanding leadership at Fort Meade.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. CON.  
RES. 70, CONCURRENT RESOLU-  
TION ON THE BUDGET FOR FIS-  
CAL YEAR 2009

SPEECH OF

**HON. BOBBY L. RUSH**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 5, 2008*

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of S. Con. Res. 70, the Concurrent Budget Resolution Conference Report for 2009. I want to commend Chairman SPRATT for his outstanding work in moving this blueprint for fiscal responsibility to fruition.

This budget is a recipe for fiscal integrity, reaching balance in 2012 while maintaining a smaller deficit in 2009 and over the next 5 years as opposed to the Bush Administration proposal. With the adoption of this budget resolution, this Congress will reject the misplaced priorities of the Administration by restoring funding to vital programs for our Nation's citizens.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, I have been an ardent supporter of the Low Income Housing Energy Assistance Program, LIHEAP, and I am particularly pleased that this budget takes significant and necessary steps to strengthen the safety-net for those families most in need, including boosting funding for home energy assistance to help millions of low-income families and funding housing assistance for low-income families, the elderly, and the disabled.

I am further pleased that we increase funding to make college more affordable, thereby reversing the Administration's underfunding of education in our Nation. This budget substantially increases veterans' funding, invests in renewable energy and energy efficiency initiatives, provides funding for green collar jobs, rejects the Administration's cuts to Medicare and Medicaid, expands children's health insurance coverage and accommodates additional middle class tax relief.

Mr. Speaker, S. Con. Res. 70 will serve as an important guide as we set spending priorities for our Nation over the next few years and I am pleased to join in support of it.

CELEBRATING FRANKLIN COUNTY,  
NEW YORK'S BICENTENNIAL

**HON. JOHN M. MCHUGH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mr. MCHUGH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincere congratulations to the fine people of Franklin County, New York, as they celebrate the county's bicentennial. I am proud to represent them and to have the opportunity to take a moment to reflect upon the county's characteristics and rich history, which includes the War of 1812 and the Underground Railroad.

Franklin County was formed on March 11, 1808, from Clinton County, when it became apparent that travel to Plattsburgh to conduct legal business was too burdensome. Franklin County, which encompasses 1,631.49 square miles, was named after Benjamin Franklin. Its neighbors are Quebec, Canada to the north, Clinton County to the east, Essex and Hamilton Counties to the south, and St. Lawrence County to the west. Franklin County's nearly 51,000 residents live in 19 townships: Bangor, Bellmont, Bombay, Brandon, Brighton, Burke, Chateaugay, Constable, Dickinson, Duane, Fort Covington, Franklin, Harrietstown, Malone, Moira, Santa Clara, Tupper Lake, Waverly, and Westville. In addition to the County seat, Malone, Franklin County is home to five other villages: Brushton, Burke, Chateaugay, Saranac Lake, and Tupper Lake.

Potash production was the earliest industry in the county; other early industries included agriculture, iron ore mining, logging, mills, sanitariums, and tourism. Today, agriculture continues to play a vital part in the county's economy; in 2002, Franklin County's 530 farms produced agricultural products with a market value of about \$48 million including dairy, cattle and calves, vegetables, aquaculture, and nursery and greenhouse. Likewise, the world class Trudeau Institute, which was originally founded in 1884 as a tuberculosis sanitarium, is still making breakthrough discoveries to improve human health as the incredible Adirondack Mountains continue to draw tourists who enjoy bird-watching, camping, canoeing, fishing, hiking, hunting, and other outdoor activities.

Franklin County's residents are known to be generous, independent, proud, resourceful, and resilient. Perhaps its most notable native son is William Almon Wheeler, who was born in Malone on June 30, 1819, and was elected as our nation's Vice President in 1876 after serving as District Attorney, State Assemblyman, State Senator, and U.S. Representative. Other noteworthy former residents include Tom Browning, who pitched a perfect game and won a World Series game for the Cincinnati Reds, and Almanzo Wilder, whose boyhood on a Burke farm later became known to the world through *Farmer Boy*, which was written by his wife, Laura Ingalls Wilder. Again, it is a great honor to have the opportunity to join with the residents of Franklin County, New York, as they celebrate their bicentennial.

HONORING ANTHONY BORBA

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Anthony Borba upon his retirement as the superintendent of Salida Unified School District. Superintendent Borba will be honored at a reception on May 31, 2008.

Superintendent Anthony Borba graduated from California State University, Stanislaus, in

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

1975 with a bachelor's of arts degree in Spanish, a minor in political science and a California elementary teaching credential. Immediately after completing college, he taught at Tuolumne School for 3 years. It was during this time he spent a summer at the University of California, Santa Barbara, completing an intensive Portuguese study program. This program allowed Superintendent Borba to become a language program facilitator for the Office of Merced County Superintendent of Schools. As he completed additional educational programs he was able to advance through the ranks of the school districts. In 1980, Superintendent Borba earned a masters of arts degree in school administration from California State University, Stanislaus. In 2003 he earned an educational doctorate in education administration from University of the Pacific.

Superintendent Borba worked for the Office of Merced County Superintendent of Schools as a language program facilitator for 4 years. He then taught and became the assistant principal at Selima Herndon School. After just 2 years, he became principal of the school. He served as principal for 4 years. In 1988 he became the director of instructional services and staff development for the Merced City School District. Two years later, he was a superintendent. He served as a superintendent for two districts, Chatom Union Elementary School District and Salida Union School District. In addition to his employment with the schools, Superintendent Borba was also a part-time English-as-a-second language teacher at Modesto Junior College, he worked with the California State Department of Education as a facilitator for Portuguese and Asian minority languages group. He was the principal at a migrant summer school and has been an adjunct faculty member at California State University, Stanislaus, in the Department of Advanced Studies. Superintendent Borba is retiring to become an associate professor for advanced studies at the university.

Superintendent Borba has been, and continues to be, involved in numerous organizations. A few of the organizations include: community advisory board for the doctoral program in instructional leadership at California State University, Stanislaus; he is a member of three doctoral dissertation committees for University of the Pacific; Central Regions Schools Insurance Group; Superintendents' Council of Stanislaus County; Association of Low Wealth Schools; and Stanislaus County Superintendents of Schools. Superintendent Borba has been awarded with the Educator of the Year Award in 1998 by the Portuguese Chamber of Commerce in San Jose, Outstanding Alumnus Award in 1999 by the Professional Administrative Services Credential Program at California State University, Stanislaus, the Outstanding Vocational Award for 2000–2001 by the Rotary Club of Salida; the Ethics in Public Service Award in 2007 by the Modesto Bee and California State University, Stanislaus; and the Educator of the Year Award in 2007 by the Portuguese Education Foundation for central California.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Superintendent Anthony Borba upon his achievements and retirement from Salida Unified School District. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Superintendent Borba many years of continued success.

# CONGRATULATING MICHAEL J. MOCEK ON HIS RETIREMENT

## HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I want to congratulate Mr. Michael J. Mocek on his upcoming retirement and thank him for his 37 years of Federal service to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the State of Texas, and our Nation.

Mike has a long and distinguished history with the Corps of Engineers. Most of his Corps service has been with the Fort Worth Engineer District, where he served the last 12 years as the senior civilian and as the deputy district engineer and the chief of the Programs and Project Management Division.

Among his many significant accomplishments in Texas was the successful completion of Jim Chapman and Ray Roberts Lakes in the 1980s. Mike's technical expertise and planning efforts on those projects provided those communities with vital flood protection and water supply. He also played an invaluable role in the successful approval of the Dallas Floodway Extension project, currently under construction, which will greatly improve the flood protection for that city.

In recent years, Mike has been instrumental in getting Corps approval for one of my top priorities, the Central City Project in Fort Worth. This project will revitalize a portion of the downtown area and provide much needed recreation and park lands, ecosystem restoration, and future flood protection for our citizens. In addition, Mike has provided exceptional leadership for the Corps of Engineers in developing a partnership with the Texas Water Development Board to improve cooperation between the State and Federal government for water resource projects to meet the State's future water needs.

Mike has also guided and overseen the management of one of the largest and most challenging military programs in the Corps, supporting flag ship installations such as Fort Hood, Fort Bliss, and Fort Sam Houston, as well as Lackland and Dyess Air Force Bases. His extraordinary leadership, dedication, and commitment led to the successful completion of many projects that have greatly improved the readiness of our forces and the quality of life for our soldiers, airmen and their families. He did all of this while concurrently serving in the Army Reserves, and retired at the rank of lieutenant colonel.

In 2005, Mike was selected as the top civilian for the Corps of Engineers for achieving the highest overall standards of excellence and for his many significant contributions to the missions, prestige and reputation of the entire Corps. He was very deserving of this honor.

He has mentored many senior military officers and continues to be sought out for his expertise, wise counsel, and advice. Though he received many offers for senior executive promotions throughout the years that would have taken him from Texas, Mike elected to remain in his home State where he felt his efforts would best serve his fellow Texans.

In the Fort Worth community, Mike has been a well-known and trusted leader and public servant. Both he and his wife, Betty,

have served their community well. As an ordained deacon at Holy Family Catholic Church, he provides counsel and spiritual guidance to those who seek it. Betty has taught elementary school students for many years and is currently teaching 4th grade at Tanglewood Elementary School in Fort Worth.

I am indeed honored to have worked with Mike over the last several years as a Member of Congress, and before that as mayor of Fort Worth. I appreciate Mike's long, dedicated, and faithful service to the Fort Worth community, the State of Texas and our Nation. I wish him all the best in his retirement.

# HONORING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA ART GALLERY

## HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the 10th anniversary of the Brooksville Art Gallery. Conceived of by two community stalwarts, Mary Alice Queiros and Karen Phillips, 10 years ago this month, the gallery has been an artistic pillar of the community for its entire existence.

Following the completion of Brooksville City Hall in 1996, Clerk of the Court Karen Phillips and longtime champion of the arts Mary Alice Queiros looked for ways to brighten the hallways and fill much of the empty space. Starting in 1998, they reached out to the Hernando County community to find examples of outstanding art from local residents. One painting at a time, they slowly but surely covered the hallways and walls with fine examples of Florida artistry.

Once the bare walls of city hall were filled with bright and beautiful artwork, the duo worked to make the area friendly to other forms of art, including poetry readings and sculpture. Today, Brooksville City Hall hosts an annual fall art show to showcase the work of area artisans. I also sponsor the annual congressional art competition, a contest for Fifth District high school artists to display their finest artwork and compete to have their piece hung in the United States Capitol. With hundreds of students exhibiting in city hall, Hernando County residents have truly been exposed to some of the finest artwork in our State.

In addition to their love of art, both Mary Alice and Karen have been involved in the Brooksville community for many years. Karen Phillips has given back through her long service as Brooksville City Clerk, and Mary Alice has been honored as the 2005 Great Brooksvillian for her work on behalf of the greater community. Both these women have done so much to promote art in Hernando County, and deserve to be recognized for their dedication and commitment. I would like to congratulate them both on making the Brooksville City Hall Art Gallery a haven for artists and a beautiful addition to our city government building.