

It has been said that great teachers and coaches enjoy a special immortality because their influence never stops radiating. That is certainly true for Larry Myhra. I wish him and our retiring educators a well-deserved and happy retirement.

HONOR FLIGHTS

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Speaker, I am submitting this statement to record my strong and enthusiastic support for veterans participating in the Honor Flight Chicago visit to the World War II memorial.

Today I recognize these men for their incalculable contributions to our society through their military service to the United States during World War II.

As part of a group brought together by the organization Honor Flight Chicago, I met with these heroes at the World War II Memorial to welcome them on their visit to Washington. Honor Flight Chicago honors World War II veterans by flying them to our Nation's capital so they can visit the World War II memorial for free.

The men who visited today are part of what's been called the greatest generation. They were a group of men who answered the call of duty when summoned, making great sacrifices to preserve the freedoms we all enjoy today. Because of their service and sacrifice, they exemplify what it means to be a hero.

I am proud to submit the names of these men for all to see, hear, and recognize.

Harold Schirmer, Howard Schoen, Gordon Smith, Norman C. Ohlendorf, Sam Polletta, Robert D. Swanson, Bernard J. Kramer, William G. Berry, Frank Loutly, Kenneth D. Loudy.

Michael J. Lasowski, Fernando Yori, Fred L. Alexander, Kenneth Ridgway, Myron Ridgwa, Leonard Tetrault, Wilbert Weigel, Raymond Vogen, Sylvester J. Beaupre, Leonard Feller.

Charles Wagner, Arthur P. Grotto, Daniel Green, William Crosby, Paul Sellers, Willard Swords, Vernon K. Hardt, Joseph Lach, Edward Lancioni, George Dinsmore, John F. Berns.

Theodore Tusinski, James W. Milligan, Robert W. Church, William R. Dreher, Steven A. Krempa, Walter J. Miller, Edward Sulma, Robert G. Terreberry, Lawrence E. Weaver, John P. Weinmeier.

Edward Tanaka, Charlie F. May, Robert W. Anderson, Robert L. Christensen, Robert Persinger, George S. Cassara, Giulio Filippi, Manuel G. Vasquez, Earl Morin, Earl Thayer.

William D. Coons, Robert Cave, William Mansfield, Anton Sikich, Maurice R. Koebele, Vernon H. Keller, Elmer Palmateer, James Sikich, Astor Carlson.

It was my honor to greet these heroes in person, and I thank them for their service.

SUPPORTING EXTENDING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS TO JOB-LESS WORKERS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of assisting the millions of workers who have exhausted their Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits and are still struggling to find work in the wreckage of the Bush recession.

While cutting taxes for the very richest, the President has left workers to fend for themselves. Congress has a responsibility to mend our safety net and lessen the impact of unemployment. In my home State of California, over 180,000 workers have run out of UI benefits, with an additional 520,000 expected to join them over the next 10 months. Even our Republican Governor, Arnold Schwarzenegger, has called on Congress to extend benefits.

This legislation is simple. It will provide 13 additional weeks of UI to workers who are still unable to find employment after exhausting benefits. In States with high unemployment, an additional 13 weeks would be made available. All benefits will be paid out of the UI Trust Fund, which has \$35 billion in reserves. Extending UI benefits is also commonplace. During the last seven recessions—1958, 1961, 1972, 1975, 1982, 1991, and 2002—Congress has passed similar legislation. The circumstances for unemployed workers are actually more dire today than they were during the past two downturns. Long-term unemployment is twice as high (18.5 percent of those without jobs have been unemployed for six months or more) as it was when Congress extended benefits in 2002 and 1991.

The time to act is now. The economy has lost 324,000 jobs during the last 5 months. Gas and food prices are at or above record highs. Foreclosures continue to ravish communities across the country. Over 28 million Americans are receiving food stamps—an all-time high.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates that this bill will provide benefits to 3.8 million unemployed workers. I urge all of my colleagues to exercise common sense and compassion and provide much needed support to working families by voting "yes."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, on June 9, I was unable to vote on House Resolutions 1225, 1243, and 127. Had I been able, I would have voted in support of these resolutions.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VILLAGE OF BEVERLY HILLS, MICHIGAN

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize the Village of Beverly Hills, in Oakland County, Michigan, which is celebrating its 50th Anniversary on June 14, 2008. The village's tree-lined streets and well-planned community live up to its reputation as a lovely place to live.

The Village of Beverly Hills can be traced back to 1830. A thirty-six square mile area from present day 8 Mile to 14 Mile Roads and from Greenfield to Inkster Roads was organized as Ossewa Township on July 12, 1830. Seventeen days later, Ossewa Township was renamed to Southfield Township. Throughout the 1800's and the early 1900's, the area was primarily farmland, with sawmills, gristmills, and cider mills dotting the landscape.

In the 1920's, a subdivision called Beverly Hills was developed on Birchwood and Kirkshire Streets, and was quickly populated through the 1950's. Beginning in 1953, Southfield Township slowly broke apart with the incorporation of Lathrup Village, Franklin, and Bingham Farms. When the City of Southfield was incorporated in 1957, the residents of what is now Beverly Hills felt the need for more home rule and local control. On September 23, 1957, the Village of Westwood was incorporated, and in March 1958, the village adopted the more popular name Beverly Hills.

Today Beverly Hills is the largest Home Rule Village in Michigan, with a statewide reputation as a leader in municipal management and fiscal stability. The Village also has the distinction of being one of the safest communities in Michigan, due in large part to the efforts of their Department of Public Safety, police and fire departments, and emergency medical services.

Madam Speaker, Beverly Hills is a forward thinking community aimed at improving the already sterling quality of life that their residents expect. I congratulate them on their 50th anniversary and wish the residents many more years of prosperity.

FATHER'S DAY RESOLUTION

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 9, 2008

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my strong support to H. Res. 1243, which recognizes the importance of fathers in American society.

In 1965, while reporting to the Johnson administration on the problems of under-class America, Daniel Patrick Moynihan cut to the root of many of the problems we in Congress work so hard to address. His report stated that, "... A community that allows a large number of young men to grow up in broken families ... never acquiring any stable relationship to male authority, never acquiring any rational expectations about the future—that

community asks for and gets chaos.” Tragically, since the Moynihan Report was issued, the number of fatherless homes has more than tripled. Is it any wonder, then, that our society has the problems that it does?

Several studies conducted in recent years emphasize the importance of fathers in the well-being of their children. Children living without their fathers are 5 times more likely to live in poverty as those who live with both parents. Not living with both parents quadruples the risk of having an affective disorder, such as depression, and are nearly twice as likely to be diagnosed with breathing problems such as asthma. Cigarette, alcohol, and drug use, and violent crime rates are all significantly lower for children that come from two parent households. Children with fathers are half as likely to drop out of school, half as likely to repeat a grade, and much more likely to get A’s, enjoy school, and participate in extracurricular activities. And where fathers were present,

young men were more likely to grow up to become good fathers themselves.

It would be naïve for me to suggest that the simple presence of a father guarantees the success of their children and a life without problems. But the evidence is overwhelming that fathers do play a vital role in the growth and development of their children. So, Mr. Speaker, as we prepare to celebrate Fathers’ Day this weekend, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for this resolution that expresses our appreciation for the hard work that fathers do in providing for their families, for modeling good relationships, and for raising their children to be responsible citizens of this great country.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I would like to take just a moment to honor my own father, Wilbur Tiahrt. Truly a member of the Greatest Generation, he raised me and my siblings to be people of integrity, to value our families, and to appreciate and cherish the freedoms we

have in America today. Seven years ago, my father underwent open heart surgery. That experience has served as a very personal reminder to how short life is, and each Fathers’ Day I am especially grateful for the time that I have with my father.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, on June 9, I was touring flood damaged parts of my district in Iowa and was not present for votes. Had I been present for Rollcall votes 388, 389 and 390, I would have voted “yes”.