

HONORING HOUSTON WHITE

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Houston White on the 60th anniversary of his participation in the establishment of the Rotary Club of Rusk, Texas.

If you've ever wondered what made individuals from the "Greatest Generation" so exceptional, one must look no further than to Mr. White. Ninety-five years old, Mr. White recalls surviving the Great Depression by spending his days picking cotton in West Texas. During World War II, Mr. White volunteered for the Navy, but that was just the beginning of his volunteerism.

Mr. White, a graduate of Jacksonville High School and Jacksonville Baptist College, helped establish the Rotary Club in Rusk, Texas in 1948. Since then, Mr. White has been an active member and was selected to serve as District Governor for Rotary District 5910, one of the highest offices a Rotarian can achieve.

Mr. White's public service includes countless civic projects, volunteer efforts, and participation in Rusk city government. In addition, Mr. White has served as a deacon and Sunday school teacher at First Baptist Church.

Mr. White is a husband to Freddie Banks Dear, a father to George White, and grandfather to Christopher White.

Abraham Lincoln once said, "In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years." Well, Mr. White has certainly made the past ninety-five years count.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize Mr. Houston White as a resident in the fifth district of Texas and would like to thank him for his tireless service to Cherokee County, Texas, and this great nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, I was absent from the House due to the funeral of a close friend and therefore missed rollcall votes 430 through 433.

Had I been present for rollcall 430, H.Res. 1230, on a motion to suspend the rules and agree to a measure condemning the post-election violence in Zimbabwe and calling for a peaceful resolution to the current political crisis, and for other purposes, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall 431, H.R. 2262, agreeing to Senate Amendment to House Amendment No. 1 on the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall 432, H.R. 2262, agreeing to Senate Amendment to House Amendment No. 2 on the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall 433, H.Res. 1029, on a motion to suspend the rules and

agree to a measure congratulating and recognizing Mr. Juan Antonio Chi-Chi Rodriguez for his continued success on and off the golf course, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING DOUGLAS A. FRASER

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Douglas A. Fraser of Southfield, Michigan.

Douglas A. Fraser departed from this life Saturday, February 23, 2008 at a fulfilling 91 years old. Douglas will forever be remembered for his dedication to labor rights, as he constantly sought after fairness and justice in employment practices. Douglas led the United Auto Workers (UAW), through a period of transition in the 1970s and 1980s. As the chief of the United Auto Workers, he played an instrumental role in saving the former Chrysler Corporation from bankruptcy.

Mr. Fraser commenced his career with the auto industry by taking a job at a DeSoto plant owned by Chrysler that had been organized by the UAW. He rose rapidly in the ranks of the union, eventually being elected of Local 227, in 1944, at the age of 27. After three terms as president, in 1947 he was hired as a member of the union's international staff. In 1951, Mr. Fraser joined then UAW President Walter Reuther's staff. Because of skills at negotiation, he quickly became known for his shrewd bargaining ability.

Respected for being both an artful politician and an impassioned activist, Mr. Fraser was one of the first labor leaders to take on many of the thorny issues facing the auto industry today, from global competition to soaring health costs.

Without Mr. Fraser's aggressive lobbying on Capitol Hill and among UAW rank and file, Chrysler would not have been able to secure \$1.5 billion in federal loan guarantees in 1979, which saved the automaker from bankruptcy, according to labor historians and top UAW officials. Also, in the 1979, as president of the UAW, Mr. Fraser and his team achieved other breakthroughs: Incremental increases in pension benefits for current and future retirees, a substantial increase in reduced work time, improvements in the cost-of-living allowance formula, and Chrysler agreement to union representation on its board of directors.

In 1980, Mr. Fraser became the first American union official to sit on the board of a large corporation. He even donated his board salary to Wayne State University in Detroit.

Current UAW President Ron Gettelfinger, who has led the union through a period of labor challenges in the face of the financial downturn of the automotive "Big Three", said he often turned to Mr. Fraser for guidance and support.

Once Mr. Fraser retired as UAW president in 1983, he became a professor of labor studies at Wayne State and launched another career that spanned 25 years. In that capacity, he served as a guest faculty member at other campuses, including the University of Michigan, Harvard University and Columbia Business School, where he was labor leader in residence for 3 years.

It is with the deepest appreciation that I pay tribute to the long life of a hard-working, just and passionate man, Douglas Fraser. He lived his years in service to his family, friends and fellow United Auto Workers. May this ardent labor leader be showered with blessings into eternity and receive a loving peace.

CENTENNIAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. YOUNG. Madam Speaker, I have the pleasure of informing my colleagues that the International Boundary Commission (IBC), the entity responsible for making, maintaining and mapping the Canada-U.S. border, is celebrating its centennial this month.

Through the IBC, Canada and the United States have collaborated for over 100 years to peacefully maintain the longest shared border in the world, 5525 miles long, from the Atlantic to the Pacific to the Arctic Ocean. My state of Alaska shares more boundary with Canada than any other State, 1540 miles (Water and Land). Of those 1540 miles, 710 miles of land is defined by 90 mountain peaks and 97 intermediate monuments from the Portland Canal to Mt. St. Elias. This summer, the field parties for both the U.S. and Canadian sections of the IBC will be surveying the land boundary in Southeast Alaska (710 miles). The main goal of this project is to update the boundary positions to the currently used coordinate reference system, as well as identify and mark the boundary points the original surveys were unable to physically occupy.

The work of the IBC is fundamentally important to our national interest; to law enforcement—land administration, customs and immigration; and to the management of the transboundary resources. The last 100 years of work of the IBC exemplifies the close and enduring Canada-U.S. relationship.

Madam Speaker, and my fellow members, join me in celebrating the centennial of the International Boundary Commission.

RECOGNIZING THE COMMITMENT OF THE ALI FAMILY TO THE COMMUNITY THROUGH THEIR BUSINESS, BEN'S CHILI BOWL

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to the Ali Family for 50 years of contributing to the economic vitality and culture of Washington, DC's historic U Street corridor, the "Black Broadway."

In each decade in which the Chili Bowl has been in operation, Ben and Virginia have faced challenges that for others contributed to the closing of their business. The violent unrest following the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. in 1968, disinvestment in Washington commercial districts throughout the 1970s and 80s, the complete upturning of the

1200 block of U Street to make way for Metro's green line extension during the late 1990s. Many entrepreneurs have come and gone, but the Ali's and that familiar long white counter with red-vinyl stools have remained stalwart and true.

As we enter into a moment in time when the possibility for change is right at our finger tips, it is comforting to know that for which we hope to attain is possible, and can be seen in our not too distant past. Ben and Virginia opened a business to be part of a community, to contribute. Through hard work and commitment, they have been able to raise a family, guide young employees in the lessons of good business, and make and keep appreciative patrons. The neighborhood has changed around them, but their devotion to creating a place where everyone feels welcome, where what is expected is what is served, and where you can listen to the rhythms of what makes U Street so special. They created a place of character. It is in these things that for 50 years we have seen the best part of ourselves when looking through the plate glass window of Ben's Chili Bowl. It is with the next generation of Ali capable hands that the business moves forward.

CIVIL AIR PATROL HOMELAND SECURITY SUPPORT ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2008

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1333, Civil Air Patrol Homeland Security Support Act of 2007.

The Civil Air Patrol is comprised completely of volunteers who provide air and ground support for disaster relief, conducts search and rescue missions, perform counter drug missions and aerial damage assessment.

Shortly after being established on December 1, 1941, our Nation was drawn into World War II with the attack at Pearl Harbor. And the Civil Air Patrol began its vital mission patrolling the skies over our great Nation.

Although originally intended to perform only reconnaissance missions, the Civil Air Patrol found themselves carrying depth charges and bombs as the deadly German U-boats attacked U.S. shipping in the Atlantic.

During the war the Civil Air Patrol found 173 German submarines, hitting 10, and sinking 2 of them.

A German commander later confirmed that coastal U-boat operations were withdrawn from the United States "because of those damned little red and yellow airplanes" of the Civil Air Patrol.

From this early beginning, the Civil Air Patrol established itself as a provider of critical support in times of crisis and emergency.

Whether the danger comes from hurricanes, downed or missing aircraft, wildfires or other disasters, the Civil Air Patrol can always be counted on to provide the support our Nation needs.

Even today, the Civil Air Patrol continues to serve as a vital source of aerial reconnaissance.

The Midwest continues to be ravaged by flooding and broken levees, and our Civil Air Patrol is working with local first responders, providing digital photographs of flooded areas. These images have been used to assess the extent of the floods and the damage they caused.

In my home State of Michigan, the Civil Air Patrol flies missions from the Selfridge Air National Guard Base where they supported the National Weather Service in the aftermath of tornados and heavy storms last fall.

Shortly after the attack on 9/11, the Civil Air Patrol was the first in the skies over Ground Zero, and assisted in the relief efforts.

So I believe that it is only fitting that we examine using the Civil Air Patrol for Homeland Security Missions as they have already demonstrated their capabilities to provide aerial support during emergencies around the Nation.

I look forward to viewing the final Government Accountability Office, GAO, report and examining the ways that the Civil Air Patrol can assist the Department of Homeland Security, whether that includes assisting in our border security efforts, or utilizing their search-and-rescue capabilities in the aftermath of an act of terrorism or natural disaster.

These brave men and women volunteer their time and deserve our gratitude for the vital work that furthers the security of this great Nation.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

TO HONOR A GREAT TEXAN—RUTH KEMPNER

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. LAMPSON. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of a great friend and Texan that passed away June 16, 2008. Ruth was an honorable woman who dedicated her life to charity and helping others.

Ruth Levy Kempner was born at John Sealy Hospital in Galveston, Texas, on November 26, 1917, to Marion J. and Alma L. Levy. She died on June 16, 2008, at her home in Galveston.

Mrs. Kempner graduated from Ball High School in 1933, and earned a BA degree from the University of Texas at Austin, graduating cum laude in 1937. She was a Galveston school teacher prior to her marriage to Harris L. Kempner on April 24, 1939. They had two sons, Harris L. "Shrub" Kempner, Jr., and Marion Lee "Sandy" Kempner. Sandy, a lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps, was killed in Vietnam in November 1966.

She is preceded in death by her parents, husband, son, and brother, Marion Levy of Princeton, New Jersey. She is survived by her son, Harris L. Kempner, Jr., and his wife Hetta T. Kempner of Galveston, her grandchildren, Harris L. Kempner III and wife Kim of Knoxville, Tennessee, and Randall T. Kempner of Washington, DC, sister-in-law, Joy Levy of Princeton, New Jersey, niece, Dore Levy-Trilling and husband Jim Trilling of Providence,

Rhode Island, nephews Noah Levy of New Jersey and Amos Levy and wife Carla of New York, and cousins, Adrian Levy of Galveston and Gloria Herman of Houston.

Her life was devoted to various charitable and civic endeavors. She was president of the Family Service Bureau and served on the boards of Galveston Public Health Nursing Service, Galveston Community Council, and the League of Women Voters among many others.

She was chairman of the Red Cross Disaster Relief Committee during the Texas City disaster in 1947, and worked tirelessly on the scene searching the wreckage for the dead and injured, bringing home temporarily orphaned children at night. It was her nature to see a need and immediately accept the challenge to meet it.

She was president of Friends of Rosenberg Library and volunteered in the library's cataloging department for 20 years. She also served on its board of trustees.

From 1959 to 1960 Mrs. Kempner served on the Galveston City Charter Commission and was instrumental in changing Galveston's form of government from a city commission to a council-city manager operation. When the new charter was adopted, Mrs. Kempner was elected to serve on the first Galveston City Council from 1961 to 1963. She thereby became the first woman in Galveston's history to serve on any governing body of the city of Galveston. In this, as in many things, she pioneered the way for women in the city.

Ruth Kempner was one of two lay persons appointed to the Texas Civil Judicial Council and served for 8 years, from 1965 to 1973. In later years, she was active on the development board of the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston and was chairman of the Breast Imaging Committee. She was a generous benefactor to the UTMB mammography and osteoporosis screening van, "the Oleander", and enthusiastically participated in its dedication in 1999. In 2003, her grandsons established the Ruth Levy Kempner Professorship in Radiation Oncology at UTMB in honor of their grandmother's dedication to the medical branch and the Galveston community.

She was the recipient of many community awards over the years including the Galveston Historical Foundation Steel Oleander Award and the 1894 Grand Opera House Community Enrichment Award.

She was delighted to list her profession on her passport as "Housewife and Civic Busybody", but she will be remembered for her intelligence, her candor, and her dedication to every cause she believed in. Equality for all people, regardless of sex, race or religion was one of those causes, and she fought for it staunchly at a time when it took much courage. She was particularly a role model for many women who responded to her gracious toughness, and her willingness to express herself very directly.

Mrs. Kempner was a courtly hostess, a steadfast friend, and a formidable enemy to injustice of any kind. She took great pride in her family, and was passionate about Galveston and its citizens. Vice versa.

She occasionally admitted that she had poor math skills. We believe that she thought one and one equals three because she always knew that the whole was greater than the sum of its parts. We will miss her greatly.