

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO THE TOWN OF BELLE

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2008

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Town of Belle, WV as it celebrates its 50th year of incorporation.

Located in Kanawha County along the Kanawha River, Belle was incorporated on December 13th of 1958 by the Kanawha County Circuit Court.

For half a century now, Belle has been the home to many hardworking men and women with great values and a strong sense of community. Past and present mayors, councilpersons, employees, and community leaders have all played an integral role in shaping the town. Their hard work has provided jobs and opportunities to many people.

Even before incorporation, Belle was home to DuPont. Breaking ground in 1925, it has maintained a strong presence in the area for over 80 years. DuPont Belle has special significance in the history of the chemical industry. The plant's central location provides overnight delivery to two-thirds of the U.S. population and one-third of the Canadian population. It is the nation's first commercial ammonia synthesis site. At Belle, DuPont developed the technology to manufacture nylon. The town of Belle and state of West Virginia have experienced labor with industry-specific skills which allows them to offer an unmatched advantage in the chemical business.

It is an honor to pay tribute to Belle, a town that represents the best of America's small towns. I wish congratulations to Belle as it celebrates half a century of incorporation in the Mountain State.

CONGRATULATING THE STOCKDALE HIGH SCHOOL MUSTANGS VARSITY BASEBALL TEAM

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2008

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the student athletes and coaches of the Stockdale High School Mustangs varsity baseball team. The Mustangs won the 2008 Central Section Division I Baseball Championship, also known as the Valley Baseball Championship, on May 22, 2008. In addition, the Stockdale Mustangs baseball team was ranked 2nd in the entire state of California (Division I) and 20th in the nation. Its achievements make the Mustangs the highest ranking team in Kern County history.

On May 22, 2008, the Stockdale Mustangs defeated Clovis High School 7–6 in its final game of the season to win, for the first time in Mustang history, the Valley Baseball Cham-

pionship. This was a truly outstanding achievement to cap a remarkable season, a season where the Mustangs finished with a record of 31–1. The game was an amazing come-from-behind victory, where the Mustangs scored three runs to tie the score in the bottom of the sixth, and pulled ahead two innings later with a game-winning single to right field. With the Mustangs' optimism, athleticism, skill and hard work, the Stockdale High School fans, students and community members were treated to an exciting and memorable championship game.

I would like to extend my congratulations to the Stockdale High School Mustangs student athletes for their impressive championship win and strong 2008 season. The 2008 roster included Ryan Lay, Jeff Dolinar, Jonathan Broida, Kyle Desimone, Ryan Drown, Greg Osteen, J.D. Reed, Philip Valos, Dominic Chavez, Justin Williamson, Brock Allen, Jared Schweitzer, Travis Boos, Ren Floyd, Ryan Atherly, Travis Maytubby, Imaad Nuriddin, Scott Denesha, Eric Matthews, K.C. Hobson, Tyler Boren, Aaron Hartman, Steven Eyherabide, Ryan Espinoza, and team manager Jack Robson.

I also want to congratulate the coaching staff who helped lead the team to its championship season. The Mustangs head coach is Dan Lemon and his coaching staff includes assistant coaches Greg Showers, Travis Debondt, Butch Hobson, and Lance Stevens.

Participation in extracurricular activities is a wonderful component of a high school education because it provides opportunities for leadership, teamwork and competition. These essential characteristics for a well-rounded education are especially distinct in the Stockdale High School's exemplary athletic programs. The months of physical and mental training and the dedication to teamwork that was required to win this Valley Championship, as well as all their unprecedented achievements, will benefit these young men in their years to come.

On behalf of the residents of the 22nd Congressional District, I once again commend the Stockdale High School Mustangs on winning the 2008 Central Section Division I Baseball Championship, and I know the parents, teachers, neighbors and fans of our community will remember this season for many years to come.

CONGRATULATING GRAYHAWK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2008

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Grayhawk Elementary School for being named by Project Tomorrow as a Speak Up Top 200 school. This honor is in recognition of the school's incorporation of the views of students, parents, and

educators in their educational decision making, with an emphasis on the implementation of new technologies.

Grayhawk Elementary School has done an exemplary job of putting communication channels in place in order for the needs of the students to be recognized and for the concerns of the parents to be taken into account. With this information available, teachers are better able to engage and inspire their students.

As a former teacher and a member of the Science and Technology Committee, I am especially proud of the achievements of this school. It takes a great deal of time and effort from both parents and educators to spark students' creativity; a feat I believe can only be achieved through open communication. Also with the great strides that have been made recently in the technology industry, it is paramount that our students, teachers, and parents are up to date with our constantly changing technological landscape.

Grayhawk Elementary was chosen by as a Top 200 school out of a pool of over 10,000 schools nationwide. The school signifies the progressive approach necessary in order for our children to receive the best education possible. It is for these reasons and many more that I congratulate Grayhawk Elementary School for its achievement and urge its educators, parents, and students to continue to strive for excellence in the future.

HONORING LIEUTENANT GENERAL JOHN A. BRADLEY ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2008

Mr. COOPER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to salute a man who has touched the lives of so many Tennesseans, as well as many the world, through his long and distinguished military career, culminating as Chief of the Air Force Reserve and commander for the Air Force Reserve Command.

General John A. Bradley was commissioned in 1967 after completing the Air Force ROTC program as a distinguished graduate at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

As a fighter pilot, General Bradley flew 337 combat missions in Vietnam. He commanded a fighter training squadron, fighter group and wing and Reserve numbered air force. General Bradley also served as the Assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff for Reserve Matters. He has over 7,000 flying hours in the T–38, A–37, A–10, F–4 and F–16.

General Bradley's noteworthy service has been recognized for his service with numerous devices on medals for the Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, Combat Readiness Medal, Vietnam Service

• 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.

Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, and Kuwait Liberation Medal, Government of Kuwait.

General Bradley's superior leadership propelled the Air Force Reserve Command to meet or exceed every mission requirement while effectively managing limited resources in an ever-changing, post-September-11 environment. His "One Air Force, Same Fight . . . an Unrivaled Wingman" Vision provided a road-map for the Air Force Reserve Command to execute over 39 Total Force Integration and Base Realignment and Closure changes affecting 75 percent of its units.

He supported the Combatant Commands with over 27,000 volunteer and mobilized reservists. He proactively led the Command's steadfast support of Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom as well as the rapid response to the 2005 hurricane strikes. As the Air Force lead for the Air Force Smart Operations 21 Caring for People process, he made recommendations to improve programs essential to the health and welfare of Airmen.

General Bradley has retired home to Nashville, TN. On behalf of a grateful Nation, I thank General Bradley, his wife Jan and their daughter Leigh Ann for their commitment and sacrifices made throughout this distinguished military career. Congratulations on completing an outstanding and successful career.

COMMEMORATING BHUTAN'S PARTICIPATION IN THE SMITHSONIAN FOLKLIFF FESTIVAL

SPEECH OF

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2008

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my support for H. Res. 1307, a resolution commemorating the Kingdom of Bhutan's participation in the 2008 Smithsonian Folklife Festival and commending the people and the Government of the Kingdom of Bhutan for their commitment to holding elections and broadening political participation.

The Kingdom of Bhutan has a very special relationship with the University of Texas at El Paso, UTEP, community and the people of El Paso, TX. This year's Smithsonian Folklife Festival presented a truly rare opportunity for UTEP and the El Paso community to join with the Kingdom of Bhutan to showcase our two cultures in the Nation's Capital. People had the opportunity to listen to El Paso mariachis and watch traditional Bhutanese dances at the National Mall. The show was one-of-a-kind.

Bhutan is currently transitioning to parliamentary democracy, and the resolution under consideration today commends the Bhutanese people, and in particular King Jigme Singye Wangchuck, for advancing democratic institutions in the Himalayan nation.

During this critical time in Bhutan's history, it is fitting that the Kingdom was included in the 2008 Smithsonian Folklife Festival. The Folklife Festival is the largest annual cultural event in the U.S. Capital, featuring a different nation, region, State, and theme each year. This year's festival showcased the Kingdom of

Bhutan, the State of Texas, and commemorated the 50th anniversary of NASA.

The festival also celebrated UTEP's ties to the Kingdom of Bhutan, and featured El Paso mariachi band Los Arrieros and musicians and dancers from Bhutan. UTEP President Diana Natalico and City Representative Susie Byrd welcomed the standing-room-only crowd to the performance.

As an added bonus, Bhutanese carpenters and skilled artisans constructed a traditional Bhutanese structure on the National Mall as gift of friendship for the people of the United States. The structure, one of the largest traditional buildings ever constructed on the National Mall, will be housed at UTEP for permanent display. UTEP students traveled to Washington, DC, to film a documentary about the 30-foot structure and the Folklife Festival.

Following the Smithsonian Folklife Festival, several Bhutanese performers traveled to El Paso to perform at the 2008 Bhutan Festival at UTEP. The event gave El Pasoans the opportunity to learn about Bhutanese culture and traditions.

These cooperative efforts between our two nations enrich both the United States and the Kingdom of Bhutan, and I rise today to join my colleagues in honoring the people of Bhutan as they shift to a more representative form of government.

EXPRESSING THE CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE STATE OF OHIO

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2008

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, it is with tremendous sadness that I rise to mourn the passing of our dear colleague, the Honorable STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES of Ohio. STEPHANIE's death is an unbelievable tragedy for her family and all of us who loved her. It is a tremendous loss for her Cleveland constituents and our Nation. Her passing reminds us how precious life is and how we must treasure the time we spend with our loved ones.

STEPHANIE's absence is profoundly personal for me because she was a very special person and a friend. Many, many memories and personal stories come to mind when I think of her. She was a caring person who showed her kindness and friendship freely. Her deep, strong, loving voice is memorable. STEPHANIE's energy and strength—almost fearlessness—to fight for what she believed in, and at the same time, be open to opposing points of view was admirable.

I can't count the number of times I watched STEPHANIE on the floor of this House boldly speaking out on behalf of Americans and her Ohio constituents. She was passionate and never shied away from fighting for justice, equality, and the belief that this great country can do so much better for so many of the citizens who have been left behind. A powerful voice for justice in Congress and an extraordinary public servant is the best way I can describe STEPHANIE and her legacy.

As the chair of the House Ethics Committee, Congresswoman TUBBS JONES had one of the most difficult duties in Congress. Her experience as a judge and a prosecutor made her perfectly suited for the responsibility of maintaining the integrity of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Today is STEPHANIE's 59th birthday. It is heartbreaking that she is not here with us, but I am proud to celebrate her life of service and her commitment to both her family and the families she represented. Congresswoman TUBBS JONES was the epitome of a citizen servant and demonstrated to all who knew her a spirit of joy, hope and compassion. I feel honored to have known her and privileged to have served with her in this House. STEPHANIE will be missed by me and many others, but she will not be forgotten.

IN MEMORIAL OF OFFICER ISABEL NAZARIO

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2008

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, on Friday September 5, 2008, Officer Isabel Nazario, an 18-year veteran of the Philadelphia Police Department and a constituent of the 13th Congressional District was killed in a crash while assisting fellow officers in the pursuit of a stolen vehicle. The crash also injured her partner, 12-year veteran Terry Tull.

Officer Nazario, 40, left behind a 15-year-old daughter, Jazmin, and a fiancée, Carlos Buitrago. She was remembered by her friends and colleagues as a "beautiful mother" and "a great officer."

Police Commissioner Charles Ramsey called her, "a very, very good officer in a very high-profile unit with highly motivated officers."

Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter said she "was a dedicated public servant who spent her life protecting others."

Fraternal Order of Police Lodge No. 5 President John McNesby said, "She had a great work ethic and a great reputation on the street. She was always willing to do what needed to be done."

Officer Nazario joined the Department because she was called to make her community a better place. A graduate of Olney High School in Northeast Philadelphia, Nazario was promoted to the Narcotics Strike Force division 12 years ago. She was part of a police family, her sister Maritza Mohamad and her fiancée were also Philadelphia Police Officers.

Jazmin Nazario said the thing that she admired most about her mother was her strength—the type of strength that enabled a single mother to walk the beat through city streets and put away criminals.

Madam Speaker, in the 4 years I have represented the people of the 13th Congressional District, 4 police officers from my district have been killed in the line of duty. The loss to families, communities and the force is acute. It is our duty to recognize the sacrifice of our law enforcement officers who put themselves in harm's way to protect the people of our great city.

I ask that the House of Representatives extend its condolences to Jazmin Nazario, her family, and the Philadelphia Police Department for their significant loss.