

While Director, Mr. Baldwin began the FDLP's transition to electronic document distribution, building a staff with an extraordinary ability to work in partnership with depository librarians and the citizens they serve. The transition to a more electronic FDLP has resulted in significantly increased public access to publications produced by the Government, extending the reach of the Federal Depository Library Program farther than at any time in its history. Mr. Baldwin managed this transition with eagerness, care, and a sense of adventure that inspired his staff and his colleagues in the library profession. In recognition of his leadership, he was honored in 2005 with the James Bennett Childs Award for lifetime contributions to the profession of Government documents librarianship, by the Government Documents Round Table of the American Library Association.

For the last 4 years, Mr. Baldwin has brought his experience and leadership to the team developing GPO's Federal Digital System (FDsys), which will bring to maturity GPO's long transition into the digital age.

Next month, Mr. Baldwin will retire from a long and distinguished career of public service. I ask my colleagues to join me in conveying our thanks and appreciation to Gil Baldwin, and our best wishes for a healthy and happy retirement.

INTRODUCTION OF THE AMERICA RESOLUTION

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2008

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, yesterday was Constitution Day. On that day, 221 years ago in a cramped hall in Philadelphia, 39 men signed their names to a document that would forever change the course of human events.

The United States Constitution is one of the most remarkable covenants ever authored by man. Grounded firmly in the Age of Enlightenment, the Constitution gave physical form to the radical ideas of Montesquieu, Locke, and Paine, who believed that the rights of man come from God and that legitimate governments arise from the consent of the governed. Our Founding Fathers blended these philosophies with common sense and tough compromises to create a new form of government dedicated to the ideas of liberty, the rule of law, civic responsibility, and popular sovereignty.

For over 200 years, the ideas the Founders wove through our Constitution have been considered sacred. Each Constitution Day presents us with an opportunity to pause and reflect on the extraordinary document these men drafted to provide us with a unified and stable Nation. In their wisdom, they sought to protect the rights and liberties of individuals by dividing power and authority between the States and the national government. The result is a system of shared roles designed to prevent any one element from gaining too much power.

Yet today, the document at the very foundation of our Republic is often considered only as an afterthought during our debates. Even though every Member, staffer, and officer of the House of Representatives has taken an

oath to support and defend the Constitution and to bear true faith and allegiance to it, too often we ignore its many constraints on our authority in the name of political expediency.

It is essential that we never forget the guiding principles established in our Constitution and that is why yesterday I introduced the AMERICA Resolution, A Modest Effort to Read and Instill the Constitution Again.

The AMERICA resolution requires all staff and officers of the House to read the Constitution once a year and encourages all Members of Congress to do the same. Just as we require Members and staff to know how to act ethically, we should require Members and staff to know how to act constitutionally.

It is my hope that this small yearly effort will renew and deepen our appreciation for the genius of the Constitution and the divisions and constraints on power contained within it. The AMERICA Resolution is meant to remind lawmakers, and our staff that advises us, to stay within our country's founding framework as we conduct legislative business.

Today I call on all Members of Congress to join me and rededicate ourselves to our founding principles of limited, constrained government as enshrined in our Constitution. By studying our founding document, we will continue the legacy of these great men and their groundbreaking ideas, as well as develop the habits of citizenship that keep the Constitution alive and relevant for a new generation of Americans.

I urge you all to join me and support the AMERICA Resolution.

TRIBUTE TO RAYMOND E. DAY

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2008

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the service and sacrifice of an honorable and proud American, Mr. Raymond E. Day. Mr. Day is an 84-year-old World War II veteran living in Kansas City, Missouri. In February 1945 Mr. Day was assigned to the 155th Machine Gunner's Battalion, 5th Marine Division during the assault on the island of Iwo Jima, as part of Operation Detachment.

The mission of Operation Detachment was to secure two strategic airfields, located on the well-defended and heavily fortified island. On February 23, just 4 days after arriving on Iwo Jima, Mr. Day's machine gun position took nearly a direct hit, knocking his gunner's mate, Irra Arrington, unconscious, and rendering the gun inoperable.

After successfully reviving Irra, the pair continued the fight, destroying several nearby enemy positions. The pair often dodged obstacles such as barbed wire and land mines and repeatedly came under relentless attack from Japanese small arms fire, mortar fire, and artillery barrages. Again, just a few short hours later, both men were injured when an enemy artillery round destroyed their position. Mr. Day was wounded by shrapnel in the hip and left leg.

Both men were evacuated to a nearby merchant marine vessel, treated for their wounds and returned to duty on the island. Mr. Day continued to fight, despite his wounds, risking death or permanent injury because that was

his job, to keep the battlefield moving forward as American forces moved to secure the island.

Earlier this year, I was contacted by my constituent, Norman Polsky, with a request for assistance to obtain the Purple Heart medal for his friend, Raymond Day. After researching medical records, reviewing morning reports, I have learned that Raymond Day's files were destroyed during the 1973 fire at the National Personnel Records Center. There exists no record of Mr. Day's injuries or treatment for the wounds he sustained in action either in his medical records file or in existing morning reports.

It is a shame that Mr. Day is still without the Purple Heart Medal, despite the fact that he bears the scars from the residuals of shrapnel embedded in his leg and hip, not to mention the painful memories that America's warriors guard so closely for a lifetime.

It is for these reasons that I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Raymond E. Day. Without the service and sacrifice of Mr. Day, and the men and women of the "greatest generation," our Nation would not be as resilient and flourishing as it is today. By continuing his mission, despite being wounded, Mr. Day lends great credit to himself, the 5th Marine Division, and the United States of America.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ERBY WALKER

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2008

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of Atlanta's greatest icons. A humble man who loved his job and worked hard to be the best he could be, Erby Walker became one of downtown Atlanta's most beloved figures. Presidents, celebrities, athletes and Atlantans alike came to know Erby Walker as the heart and soul of the Varsity, Atlanta's most famous drive-in diner and a downtown landmark.

Erby Walker started his career at the Varsity in 1952 sweeping up after customers at the tender age of 15.

Back then the diner was segregated—whites worked the counter, blacks worked in the back—but in 1964 the diner was integrated and Erby Walker was promoted to the counter, the first black man to work there. And work he did. He worked so hard that the owners of the Varsity sent Erby and his family to Disney World, all expenses paid—twice. He received awards, honors and recognitions—he was even inducted into the Atlanta Convention and Visitors Bureau Hospitality Hall of Fame.

It was Erby who first asked, "What'll ya have?"—a question still asked today when customers approach the counter and just one of the many phrases Erby coined as he shaped the Varsity into a place as famous for its unique vernacular as for its food.

Over the years, I have brought many friends to the Varsity. When I brought former President Clinton, Erby greeted him warmly, saying, "What'll ya have, Mr. President?"

Erby Walker loved his job; he loved the Varsity and, most of all, he loved Atlanta and the thousands of customers she brought to his

counter every day. Madam Speaker, Erby Walker was an Atlanta icon and his service to his community must not be forgotten.

HONORING READE MONTGOMERY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Reade Montgomery of Blue Springs, Missouri. Reade 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 1058, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Reade has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Reade 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 Reade Montgomery for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

THE PRAIRIE ROSE CHAPTER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION SALUTES CONSTITUTION WEEK

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2008

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, the week of September 17–23 has been officially designated as Constitution Week. This marks the 221st anniversary of the signing of our Constitution.

The guardian of our liberties, our Constitution established our republic as a self-governing Nation dedicated to rule by law. This document is the cornerstone of our freedom. It was written to protect every American from the abuse of power by government. Without that restraint, our founders believed the republic would perish.

The ideals upon which our Constitution is based are reinforced each day by the success of our political system to which it gave birth. The success of our way of government requires an enlightened citizenry.

Constitution week provides an opportunity for all Americans to recall the achievements of our founders, the nature of limited government, and the rights, privileges and responsibilities of citizenship. It provides us the opportunity to be better informed about our rights, freedoms and duties as citizens.

Madam Speaker, at this time I particularly want to take note of the outstanding work of the Prairie Rose Chapter of the Kansas Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, which is actively involved in the Third Congressional District in events this week commemorating Constitution Week. The Prairie Rose Chapter has been involved with this effort in our communities for a number of years and I commend them for doing so.

Our Constitution has served us well for over 200 years, but it will continue as a strong, vibrant, and vital foundation for freedom only so long as the American people remain dedicated to the basic principles on which it rests. Thus, as the United States continues into its third century of constitutional democracy, let us renew our commitment to, in the words of our Constitution's preamble: "form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity. . . ." I know that the Prairie Rose Chapter of the Kansas Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution joins with me in urging all Americans to renew their commitment to, and understanding of, our Constitution, particularly during our current time of crisis, when Americans are fighting overseas to defend our liberties here at home.

HONORING BRANDON MESSINA

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Brandon Messina of Blue Springs, Missouri. Brandon 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 1175, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Brandon has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Brandon 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 Brandon Messina for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF EFFECTIVE STATE-BASED ALCOHOL REGULATION

SPEECH OF

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2008

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 415, which would celebrate 75 years of effective state-based alcohol regulation since the repeal of Prohibition.

On May 5, 2008, I introduced H. Con. Res. 341 with the gentleman from North Carolina, Mr. COBLE, to recognize the 75th anniversary of the repeal of Prohibition and to commemorate the effective state-based regulation of alcohol.

This legislation has 98 cosponsors.

In order to bring the resolution to the floor today, Mr. COBLE and I re-introduced it as H. Con. Res. 415.

I thank the gentleman from North Carolina for working with me on this important resolution.

In 1919, the 18th amendment prohibited "the manufacture, sale or transportation of intoxicating liquors."

During Prohibition, the United States experienced a dramatic increase in illegal activity including unsafe black market alcohol production, a growth in organized crime, and increasing noncompliance with alcohol laws.

It was not uncommon for consumers to fall victim to counterfeit or tainted alcohol, with disastrous results including blindness or brain damage.

For example, the patent medicine Jamaica ginger, or "Jake," was often consumed by those desiring to circumvent the ban on alcohol. In response, the Treasury Department mandated changes in the formula to make it undrinkable.

In an attempt to fool government testing, unscrupulous vendors would sometimes adulterate their Jake with an industrial plasticizer. As a result, tens of thousands of victims suffered paralysis of their feet and hands—usually, this paralysis was permanent.

Other amateur distillers used old automobile radiators to distill liquor, and the resulting product was dangerously high in lead salts—which usually led to fatal lead poisoning.

On December 5, 1933, the United States ratified the 21st amendment, repealing Prohibition and restoring the control of alcohol regulation to the States.

For 75 years, this regulatory system has allowed each state to adopt individual laws that fit the beliefs of the residents of each State.

State lawmakers, regulators, law enforcement officers, and public health officials in each State have developed and implemented effective policies that have protected consumers and encouraged safe and responsible consumption.

While the United States now enjoys the safest and most responsible alcohol distribution network in the world, cases of tainted or counterfeit alcohol continue to occur across the globe.

Just yesterday in the United Kingdom, a police raid found 1,100 bottles of fake vodka that may blind consumers, many using the SPAR Imperial label.

British officials believe it is likely that more of the vodka is on the market. Small shops and stores in particular have been told to be on the lookout.

The potential for counterfeit alcohol and unscrupulous vendors remains a threat throughout the world today, and presents a real danger to consumers.

The state-based system for regulating alcohol in the United States has served as one of the safest and most responsible systems for protecting consumers from tainted or counterfeit alcohol.

I think it is fitting to salute the State lawmakers, regulators, law enforcement officers, and public health officials that have made this regulatory system successful.

I'd like to thank the Judiciary Committee, specifically Chairman JOHN CONYERS and Ranking Member LAMAR SMITH, for their support in allowing us to consider this resolution today.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 75th anniversary of the repeal of Prohibition, and in commemorating the effective state-based system of alcohol regulation.

Vote "yes" on this important resolution.