

IN MEMORIAL OF OFFICER
PATRICK McDONALD

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, September 23, 2008, Officer Patrick McDonald, an 8-year veteran of the Philadelphia Police Department and a constituent of the 13th Congressional District, was murdered after pursuing a previously convicted felon. The shooter was wanted for a recent altercation with the police. The pursuit ended in a shootout that also injured 12-year veteran Officer Richard Bowes.

Officer McDonald, 30, was assigned to the Highway Patrol Division. He was known to his colleagues as a "stand up guy," the type of person who would "go out of his way for anybody." Another officer called him "a great cop."

Protecting the public was a McDonald family tradition. His father, Captain Larry McDonald, spent 34 years with the Philadelphia Fire Department. Families like the McDonalds are the backbone of Philadelphia's law enforcement, guardians who are willing to put themselves in harm's way for others, some of whom make the ultimate sacrifice for the safety of our city. The McDonald family's loss is a loss for all of us.

Officer McDonald grew up in Morrell Park. He graduated from Archbishop Ryan High School in 1996 where he played football and basketball. The toughness that he exhibited as a cop was developed on the football field. Glen Galeone, his coach, said Officer McDonald "always gave his all."

Officer McDonald dedicated his entire adult life to serving and protecting the people of Philadelphia. He worked as a paramedic before joining the Philadelphia Police Department in 2000. After he joined the force, Officer McDonald constantly worked to better himself by taking night and weekend classes at St. Joseph's University where he earned a degree in Criminal Justice in 2005. He was a role model for his neighbors and his fellow officers.

Officer McDonald joins Gary Skerski, Chuck Cassidy, Stephen Liczbinski, and Isabel Nazario as Philadelphia Police Officers from northeast Philadelphia killed in the line of duty since May 2006. The loss of these officers saddens and outrages me and my constituents. I ask that the House of Representatives extend its condolences to the McDonald family and the Philadelphia Police Department for their significant loss.

HONORING PURPLE HEART RECIPIENT
RICKE PETERSON OF LAND
O'LAKES, FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an American soldier who was wounded in service to our Nation during the conflict in Iraq. Master Sergeant Ricke Peterson is a member of the United States Army who served with honor

and distinction on the battlefield. It is truly an honor to present this brave patriot with his Purple Heart medal.

Born in Melrose Park, Illinois, Mr. Peterson currently resides in Land O'Lakes, Florida. A decorated non-commissioned officer (NCO), Mr. Peterson comes from a long line of military service members. With a grandfather who served in World War I, a father who was in the Air Force, Reserves and Guard, an uncle who served in the Navy in Korea, two brothers who served, and a nephew who was seriously wounded in Iraq, no one can question the Peterson family's commitment to military service.

A soldier who spent his entire career in the United States Army, Mr. Peterson was just less than a month away from completing his twenty-eighth year of service when he was gravely wounded in Iraq. Indeed, Mr. Peterson had already completed his service commitment when his unit received orders to deploy to Iraq. Instead of leaving the Army prior to his deployment, Mr. Peterson requested to stay with his unit so that he could go to Iraq and share his years of expertise with the younger Army men and women.

On October 6, 2004, at the age of forty-four, Mr. Peterson was serving as the Force Protection NCO for the Army HHC, 4th BDE, 1st Infantry Division, assigned to Tikrit, Iraq. While traveling with his fellow soldiers, an anti tank mine tore off the front of his vehicle. The blast came through the floorboard, tearing through his legs and hitting him square in the chest. Mr. Peterson was peppered with shrapnel in his face, thighs, inner arms, feet and ankles, and he was eventually rendered unconscious.

Today Mr. Peterson is still recovering from his extensive injuries. Suffering from severe head trauma, he undergoes comprehensive physical therapy and is slowly getting better. Thankfully he has the support of his wife of twenty-seven years, Chung, as well as their two grown children, Ricke, Jr. and Sara.

Madam Speaker, it is soldiers like Ricke Peterson who joined the military to protect the freedoms that all Americans hold dear. While brave men like Mr. Peterson were wounded fighting for freedom and liberty, his family, friends and loved ones know that this Congress will always remember his bravery and commitment in battle.

TRIBUTE TO JOY SEITZ

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, during our time in Congress we all have benefited from the efforts of our staffs. I certainly have been blessed with the services of wonderful people through my career. One of those individuals, Joy Seitz, has been with me throughout all of my congressional tenure and helped me in my time in the Missouri State Senate.

Joy came to work for me on the State senate staff in 1974. She has been the anchor of my office in Jackson County, Missouri since it was opened in 1977. She has handled countless constituent calls and letters and has been an able advocate for them as an ombudsman and caseworker. She has for several years been the principal bookkeeper for my office. She has been competent and professional al-

ways and has always demonstrated a warm personality reflecting her wonderful parents and small town values.

It has been my great joy to witness her transition in life. She married Jim Seitz, the son of my long time good friends Ed and MaryBelle Seitz. Jim and Joy have raised two wonderful children, Michael and Rebecca both of whom have served as interns in my Washington office and are outstanding young adults.

Joy has been the model for what a Congressional staff member should be. She has been a calm voice in responding to constituents who were often frustrated with some aspect of the government. Her work in solving constituent problems has won many accolades and has made the government work better.

Joy Seitz will be retiring from Congressional service as we begin the new Congress in January. With this statement I want to recognize her 32 years of service to our country and to wish her many, many happy years with Jim and their family. While she will not answer the phone in my Blue Springs office she will continue to be a cherished friend.

HONORING THE 225TH ANNIVERSARY OF CONGRESS MEETING IN PRINCETON

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank my colleagues for supporting my resolution, H. Con. Res. 351, commemorating the 225th Anniversary of the Continental Congress meeting at Nassau Hall in Princeton, New Jersey.

On June 19, 1783, 80 soldiers defected from the Third Pennsylvania Regiment stationed in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, in order to "obtain justice" from the Continental Congress. Outraged by the lack of compensation for their service during the Revolutionary War, these soldiers marched to the Nation's capital recruiting new troops to join them in their cause. By the time they reached Philadelphia two days later, the number of disaffected troops had swollen to 300. The Continental Congress held an emergency meeting at the Philadelphia Statehouse to decide how to counter this uprising only to emerge to an angry and armed mob ready to take by force the back-pay owed to them by their government.

With the Nation's finances in disarray, the Continental Congress took refuge from the riot, and Continental Congress President Elias Boudinot ordered the body to reassemble in Princeton, New Jersey, on June 26 "in order that further and more effective methods may be taken for suppressing the current revolt, and maintaining the Dignity and Authority of the United States."

Congress descended upon the small town of Princeton, a village with little more than 60 homes, 300 residents, and three taverns which doubled as churches. In regard to the commotion brought to town by Congress, 19-year-old Princeton University student Ashbel Green, who would go on to serve as the President of the University, remarked "The pace of things is inconceivably altered in Princeton within a fortnight. From a little obscure village, we have become the capital of America."

The College offered Congress the use of Nassau Hall, where it met in the second floor library to conduct the essential business of our fledgling Nation. It was in these rooms that the foreign policy of our country began to be formed. However, Congress's time in Princeton was not all hard work. At Princeton's Fourth of July Celebration, members of the Continental Congress joined students of the University and townsfolk in celebration. According to Samuel Beach, a student at the college, at the end of the evening "some were drunken and all were tired." Congress did not reconvene for five days.

In August, the Continental Congress summoned General George Washington to Princeton to receive the formal thanks of the Nation for his dedicated service as commander-in-chief. Leaving Major General John Knox in charge of the encamped army at Newburgh, New York, General Washington traveled to the Rockingham estate in Rocky Hill, New Jersey with his wife Martha and a guard of dragoons. General Washington stayed at the Rockingham estate for the next three months, advising the Continental Congress on the creation of a peacetime military and pondering his military career. It is at Rockingham that General Washington completed writing his Farewell Orders to the Armies of the United States dismissing the troops and announcing his retirement.

During the time that Congress met there Nassau Hall and the town of Princeton played host to three future Presidents of the United States, seven signers of the Declaration of Independence, nine signatories of the Articles of Confederation, and 11 signers of the Constitution. It is where the seat of government was located when John Adams, John Jay, and Benjamin Franklin signed the Treaty of Paris on September 3, 1783, marking the end of the American Revolution and establishing the boundaries of the new Nation. Although Congress's tenure at Princeton was brief, this community played a pivotal role in the formation of the United States of America.

I would like to take a moment to recognize the unique role that New Jersey played in the American Revolution. In 2006, my colleagues in the New Jersey Delegation took action to help protect the battlefields and historic sites where this conflict took place. We passed legislation that created the Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area linking together 14 counties in New Jersey where the War of Independence took place. New Jersey was truly the Crossroads of the American Revolution for a number of reasons, as thousands of troops marched through the State and fought on our soil. The State's strategic location between the British stronghold of New York and the rebel capital in Philadelphia meant that New Jersey and New Jersey citizens were at the crossroads of the founding of our new Nation. In fact, New Jersey had more military engagements during the Revolutionary War than any other State. Crossroads has proved to be an exceptional way to preserve New Jersey's unique history for future generations.

I am pleased that the House of Representatives has passed H. Con. Res. 351 today commemorating the 225th Anniversary of the Continental Congress meeting in Nassau Hall in Princeton, New Jersey.

CONGRATULATING JOANY CABRERA

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my most heartfelt congratulations to Joany Cabrera for winning the 2008 Congressional Arts Competition.

In the fourth largest school system in America, Joany has created a breathtaking piece of art that allows him to stand apart from his peers at Miami Jackson Senior High School.

It is a testament to the greatness of our Nation that a young man from a disadvantaged Latino family could have the fruit of his labor hanging in the halls of the United States Capitol to represent his community.

This beautiful painting which will represent south Florida for the next year will serve to remind us all that we should never be hindered by circumstance and that we should never accept anything less than the very best from ourselves.

I pray that Joany's devotion to art never waivers so that he may continue to inspire us with his work and bless us with his friendship.

HONORING NORTHWEST CHURCH

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Northwest Church upon celebrating their 50th anniversary. The church will be celebrating the anniversary throughout 2008 with golf tournaments, luncheons, all-church Bunko nights, reunions and a dedication and renaming of the church's chapel on September 28, 2008 at the church in Fresno, California.

In 1958 a group attending First Baptist Church in Kingsburg began discussing the possibility of establishing a Baptist General Conference church in Fresno, California. The core group of planners consisted of three families; the Swansons, the Bertzs and the Satterbergs. The group determined that Curt Martin, a recent graduate of Bethel Seminary, was to be the first pastor of, what was then, Northwest Baptist Church. Pastor Curt and his wife, Carol Martin, moved to Fresno in August and the first public service was held on September 21, 1958 in their home. The church was officially formed on November 13, 1958 with twenty-four members. That number quickly grew to sixty. With the rise in numbers, the visionaries decided to purchase a five-acre piece of property, complete with a farmhouse.

Almost one year after holding the first public service, they broke ground for the new church on September 20, 1959. The building was completed in 1960, with seating for one hundred. The members quickly realized that they were going to need more space for an educational unit. A building was completed for that purpose in the early 1960's. In 1961, Pastor Martin resigned to pursue his education goals. Reverend Eric Moody and Reverend Rollo Entz both served as senior pastor during the mid-1960s.

In 1968 a young Youth for Christ director, Bufe Karraker, was brought on to serve as interim Pastor of Northwest Church. At that time, the average attendance at the Sunday morning services was about seventy-five to eighty people. However, with Pastor Bufe's gusto and passion during the services, the people began pouring in. Pastor Bufe was asked to stay on as senior pastor. Within six years the refurbished chapel was full; over 750 people would filter in and out for the three Sunday morning services. There was excitement surrounding the church and growth was inevitable. Over the next three decades the congregation built seven additions, including an 850-seat sanctuary and office building. Pastor Bufe was instrumental in this growth, and after thirty-three years at Northwest Church he passed away at the age of seventy-four. Northwest Church has since been lead by Dr. Jim Westgate (interim senior pastor), Pastor Scott Gossenberger, Pastor H. Spees and Pastor Mark Platt.

Over the years, Northwest Church has been instrumental in developing new congregations in the Fresno area including New Covenant Community Church, Central Community Church and New Harvest Church. The church currently supports twenty-three local and national missionaries, and offers various mission trip opportunities to members of the church. They hold three services on Sunday for about 1,200 worshipers, a Thursday night service, and the doors are open to the community for various gatherings, such as Sunday school classes, Weight Watchers group meetings, Alcoholics Anonymous and Alanon. The focus on religion, family and community is the foundation that has led Northwest Church to be so successful.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Northwest Church upon their 50 anniversary. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Northwest Church many years of continued success.

TRIBUTE TO THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF LAKE PARSIPPANY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the 75th Anniversary of the Lake Parsippany Property Owners Association of Parsippany, NJ.

Lake Parsippany sits in the center of the Township of Parsippany Troy-Hills, Morris County, NJ. The lake and grounds cover 168 acres and offer well kept swimming beaches as well as many different recreational areas to enjoy the summer. Boating, fishing, volleyball, and horseshoes, are just a few of the many sporting activities enjoyed at Lake Parsippany. Lake Parsippany began in the early 1930's when the New York Daily Mirror, part of the Mirror Holding Corporation, purchased a large expanse of pasture and farmland in The Township of Parsippany. They dug out 159 acres and constructed a dam that formed Lake Parsippany, which became the headwaters for Eastman's Brook.

The Mirror Holding Corporation made the 7,916 lots surrounding the lake available to anyone agreeing to subscribe to the Daily Mirror for at least six months. Lots measured 20