

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE
BUD CRAMER AND THE HONOR-
ABLE TERRY EVERETT ON
THEIR RETIREMENT FROM CON-
GRESS

SPEECH OF

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2008

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend and colleague Congressman BUD CRAMER, who is retiring from Congress after spending the past 18 years representing the Fifth District of Alabama.

I have had the immense privilege of serving with BUD on the Appropriations Select Intelligence Oversight Panel and on the Intelligence Committee, where he acts as the Chairman of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee. BUD has demonstrated true leadership in his role as Chairman and has created a legacy that will outlast us all. He has pursued all oversight matters vigorously, always in a bipartisan fashion and always in the interest of national security. His input has been thoughtful, even-handed, and precise. And I can say that I have always appreciated his well-timed sense of humor, which often lightens the load when we all start to take ourselves too seriously. In short, BUD has set an amazingly high standard on the Committee, and I will miss him greatly.

BUD never does anything half-heartedly, and I would like to tell the people in North Alabama that it's going to be difficult to replace him. A true son of Alabama, BUD has been a relentless champion of the Marshall Space Flight Center and Redstone Arsenal. He guided a community through the base realignment and closure process twice and has been a vocal advocate for North Alabama's growing defense and aerospace industries. In fact, BUD's leadership and efforts are responsible for bringing jobs and further economic development to his district.

Finally, I would do BUD a great disservice if I failed to mention his big heart and his work on behalf of abused and neglected children. During his tenure as the Madison County District Attorney, he endeavored to create a cooperative relationship between the social service and criminal justice systems and an effective, secure environment for children who were suffering. BUD's initiative has developed into Huntsville's National Children's Advocacy Center, a nationally-renowned child advocacy group that trains communities to successfully and compassionately integrate the services essential to child abuse victims.

I wish BUD all the best as he moves from one remarkable phase of his life to another. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to serve with such a committed, passionate, and just man. His presence and leadership will be greatly missed by the House and on the Committee.

Thank you for your service, BUD.

HONORING SHERRY FRIEDLANDER
OLSEN

HON. RON KLEIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, today I rise to commend my constituent, Sherry Friedlander Olsen, on being named Florida's Outstanding Older Worker for 2008. This year marks the eleventh year Experience Works has recognized remarkable individuals, 65 and older, who continue to make valuable contributions in the workplace through the Prime Time Awards.

Experience Works is a national organization that seeks to improve the lives of every day Americans through community service, training and empowering seniors through the dignity of work. Sherry Friedlander was given this honor on account of her revolutionary program that helps find missing children, elderly people and disabled individuals by enabling law enforcement agencies to get the word out quickly.

Sherry is the founder of A Child Is Missing and currently serves as the program's Executive Director. Since its inception, her program has assisted in the safe recovery of over 380 missing people.

A native of Cincinnati, Ohio, Sherry came to Fort Lauderdale in 1964 to marry her husband, George. Since then, Sherry has remained committed to helping those in need. Her tireless work has been recognized in Congress with the passing of H.R. 5464, A Child Is Missing Alert and Recovery Center Act. This bill expands the widely-praised South Florida nonprofit organization into a national program with regional centers under the Department of Justice. The bill passed with the support of more than two thirds of this distinguished chamber.

For her achievements, Mrs. Friedlander Olsen has received the prestigious J. Edgar Hoover award for Distinguished Public Service and was named the Kiwanian of the Year. It is now my distinct pleasure to congratulate Sherry Friedlander Olsen as Florida's Outstanding Older Worker of 2008.

COMMUNITY HEALTH AND COUN-
SELING SERVICES 125TH ANNI-
VERSARY

HON. THOMAS H. ALLEN

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a Maine organization that provides vital services to our State.

In 1883 a group of church women organized the Associated Charities, a coalition of church and voluntary charitable organizations located in and around Bangor, Maine. The organization has gone through many name changes, but its mission and dedication have remained the same: to improve the lives of vulnerable children and adults in Maine.

Now known as the Community Health and Counseling Services, the program has continually modernized its services to meet the changing needs of the community. Today, it brings many services directly to clients in the

comfort of their home. The agency is a significant employer of home health and mental health professionals throughout the State. The program excels at helping children and families meet the challenges of modern life by providing services they need and value. Community Health and Counseling Services has continued to expand their service area by opening additional offices throughout Maine.

On October 15, 2008, the Community Health and Counseling Services will celebrate its 125th anniversary. I congratulate this organization and the many people who, over the course of many years, have contributed their time and resources to help thousands of Mainers in need.

SUPPORT FOR REAL SEX
EDUCATION

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Ms. SOLIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for real sexual education. In my home state of California, sexual health education taught in public schools must be medically accurate, bias-free, and age appropriate. Comprehensive sex education is needed to truly address the rise in sexually transmitted infections and the rise in teenage pregnancies among communities of color.

I am working to reduce teen pregnancy in the Latino community. Despite the arguments of the current administration, abstinence-only education has not proven to be effective. For the first time in 15 years, teen birth rates are increasing in the United States. Fifty-three percent of Latina teens become pregnant at least once before age 20. These appalling statistics are why I introduced H.R. 468, the Communities of Color Teen Pregnancy Prevention Act. This legislation would provide additional funding to support teen pregnancy prevention efforts in our communities and schools and for research about teen pregnancy in at-risk communities.

We need to protect the future of our children by committing to providing comprehensive, medically accurate sex education. I am proud that several Planned Parenthood centers are located in my district in the San Gabriel Valley. I know that many of my constituents rely on health information from Planned Parenthood clinics such as the El Monte Medical Center and East Los Angeles Medical Center.

Recently, I invited Andreina Cordova, a teenage Planned Parenthood peer advocate in Los Angeles, to discuss her work with the Ujima program at the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Public Policy Conference. I was impressed by her commitment to provide sexual health information and promote responsible behavior among teens.

I also strongly support the efforts of Planned Parenthood's successful promotoras program. Promotoras visit schools, homes and community centers to educate families about reproductive health and teen pregnancy prevention. We need to provide comprehensive sex education in schools instead of wasting valuable dollars on ineffective abstinence-only programs. Some states agree. In fact, California is one of few states in our country that rejects federal abstinence-only sex education funding

in order to provide students with accurate comprehensive sex education.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support comprehensive, medically accurate sex education so that we can reduce the number of teenage pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections. I look forward to working with a new administration to ensure that our younger generations will be provided with real, medically accurate sexual health information.

TRIBUTE TO THE IOWA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Iowa Army National Guard for being recognized as the Best Installation Management Program in the nation during the Army National Guard's Construction and Facility Management Officers annual conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Iowa scored 902 points out of 1,000 and was the only state to receive a Gold Award in the installation management program. The Iowa Army National Guard has had a history of putting an emphasis on installations and stresses the importance of setting goals to provide facilities that make our Soldiers and citizens proud, which has included important modernization efforts such as improving accommodations for female Soldiers. It also provides continuing education for all Iowa Army National Guard installation management professionals to help them become the best they can be on the job.

The Iowa National Guard, which has 42 armories, continues to make Iowa and our nation proud through its dedicated service. It is an honor to represent Installations Division Chief Col. Michael Bouchard, Construction and Facilities Management Officer Col. Scott Ayres and all those involved in installations at the Iowa Army National Guard in the United States Congress and I wish them success in their future work.

STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES GIFT OF LIFE MEDAL, ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2008

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I wish to express my strong support of H.R. 6950, the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Gift of Life Medal Act.

I was pleased to work with Chairman PETE STARK to craft this bill that recognizes those that have donated their organs, and gave the gift of life. And it is a fitting tribute to name this bill in honor of our late colleague, Stephanie Tubbs Jones. A dedicated public servant to the end, she too gave the Gift of Life, helping over 50 individuals.

Enacting this bill will give the thousands of Americans who also donated their organs appropriate recognition for their tremendous gift by presenting them with a Congressionally-

sponsored medal. Each year, individuals donate approximately 14,000 organs. This is an amazing success and they should be recognized. Yet there are still nearly 100,000 individuals waiting for transplants.

In order to further encourage individuals to consider organ donation, Congress must publicly thank those that have made this selfless and living saving decision.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank Former Senate Majority Leader, Dr. Bill Frist. As a transplant surgeon and sponsor of this legislation in previous years, Dr. Frist helped to encourage greater organ donation. Mr. STARK and I introduced an earlier version of this bill in honor of Dr. Frist, who has endorsed H.R. 6950. Enclosed is a copy of Dr.

Finally, I want to thank the Tubbs Jones family for allowing this bill to be named in her honor. I am proud that we will pass this bill to ensure that through tragedy, lives will be saved and honored.

NASHVILLE, TN,
September 15, 2008.

Hon. PETE STARK,
Chairman, Ways and Means Health Subcommittee, Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC.

Hon. DAVE CAMP,
Ranking Member, Ways and Means Health Subcommittee, Cannon House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN STARK AND RANKING MEMBER CAMP: Thank you for your leadership on the Gift of Life Congressional Medal.

Like you, I am truly inspired by those that donate their organs. I can think of no act that is more honorable or selfless, and it is befitting of Congress to pass this act to recognize these outstanding individuals and their families. I was pleased to sponsor this legislation in the Senate.

It is also extremely fitting to name this legislation in honor of the late Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones. A tireless advocate for those in need, she cemented her legacy by donating her organs and tissue, which will help over 50 individuals. Her act, and the thousands that have come before it, must be recognized.

Each year, there are nearly 14,000 organs that are donated. As a transplant surgeon, I have seen firsthand how lives are transformed through these miraculous gifts. For me, it is a privilege to be part of the transplantation process. I am continually amazed at the advances in technology that make transplants more successful every year.

While advances are being made, there are still too few donors—nearly 100,000 people are waiting on national transplant lists. To encourage more donors, we should make every effort to recognize those that make this life-saving decision. I believe creating a Gift of Life Congressional Medal is critically important to increasing awareness on this issue.

Again, please accept my sincere appreciation for your work and strong support for naming the Gift of Life Congressional Medal Act in honor of Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones. It is a fitting tribute for such an outstanding and committed woman.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM H. FRIST.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN LINCOLN

HON. JOHN R. "RANDY" KUHL, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. KUHL of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of New York Farm Bureau President John Lincoln.

Throughout his career, John has proven time and again his commitment to bolstering our agriculture industry here in New York State.

During his 12 years as President of the New York Farm Bureau, John has made a significant impact on our State's agricultural industry at every level. He has been a tireless advocate for the industry and he has never failed to communicate his enthusiasm for agriculture. As a member of many boards and task forces, John is one of the most respected and devoted members of our agricultural community.

In the words of John himself, "farming is a challenging business, and without farm bureau working for farmers, farmers simply wouldn't have a voice. We're too busy farming."

Yet, through it all he remained a farmer, operating a dairy farm with his wife Anne.

The farm has expanded over the years to include his daughter Julie and son Mike, ensuring that the next generation will keep farming in upstate N.Y.

John Lincoln has been an outstanding leader and advocate for strengthening the agriculture industry in New York and across the Nation, and for that, I thank him and wish him the best in his retirement.

LINCOLN TO RETIRE AS FARM BUREAU CHIEF

(By Julie Sherwood)

EAST BLOOMFIELD.—John Lincoln will retire in December as president of the New York State Farm Bureau after 14 years as head of the agriculture advocacy organization that includes 52 county farm bureaus statewide.

"I am so honored to have been a part of this wonderful, farmer-driven organization for all of these years," stated Lincoln, an East Bloomfield dairy farmer. "It's been a place where, working together, we've been able to positively advocate for real changes in public policy which have made a difference in the ability of family farmers to live and farm and thrive in New York."

"Farming is a challenging business, and without Farm Bureau working for farmers with a constant presence in Albany and D.C., farmers simply wouldn't have a voice. We're too busy farming," he added.

Delegates from each of the 52 counties in the bureau will vote for a new president at a two-day meeting in Albany in December.

Lincoln, who served 29 years on the state Farm Bureau's board of directors, said he thinks it's time for "the next crop of farm leaders to take their turn" leading the organization.

During his tenure, Lincoln took part in major victories for farmers including revisions to the agricultural-assessment program, the beginning of the farmland-protection program, passage of the farmers' school property-tax credit, authorizing interstate shipment of wine, incentive programs to encourage on-farm production of renewable energy and the recent boost of funding for specialty crops through the federal Farm Bill passed this year.

"John has been a great asset for New York agriculture," said Laura Pedersen, president of the Ontario County Farm Bureau. "We will miss him representing us" at both the state and national level.

In addition to being president of the state Farm Bureau, with its 30,000 member families, Lincoln also serves on the American Farm Bureau Federation's board of directors. In that role Lincoln has been involved in numerous immigration, trade, and environmental policy issues.

Lincoln "has played a key role in improving the financial well-being and quality of