

A TRIBUTE TO CHARLES "CHUCK"
LAHATTE

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2008

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Charles "Chuck" LaHatte, recently awarded the 2008 Congressional Volunteer Recognition Award by the 2nd Congressional District of Maryland's Veterans Advisory Council.

Chuck LaHatte is a dedicated volunteer with the Disabled American Veterans, DAV, driving a DAV van to help disabled veterans get to and from Fort Howard for their medical treatment. A veteran himself, Chuck truly cares about the disabled veterans he assists on a weekly basis. He serves as an encouraging example in their lives.

Volunteering about 70 hours a month with disabled veterans, Chuck helps teach other DAV volunteers how to interact with the disabled veterans and how best to serve them. Chuck realizes the importance of the service he provides for disabled veterans, and goes above and beyond the call of duty in order to give the disabled veterans he transports the best possible service.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Chuck LaHatte. He is a remarkable volunteer for Maryland's veterans. Through his ongoing efforts, he has helped dozens of veterans to receive the medical care they need. Chuck has gone above and beyond the call of duty to aid those who have sacrificed to serve our great Nation.

TRIBUTE TO LINWARD "LIN"
APPLING

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2008

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, let me take this opportunity to recognize the career of Lin Appling, upon his retirement from the Missouri Public Service Commission.

Mr. Appling received a B.A. from Coker College and an M.A. from Wichita State University, while serving in the U.S. Army. Mr. Appling's distinguished Army service has been recognized with the bestowing of the U.S. Army Legion of Merit Award as well as a Bronze Star for his service in Vietnam.

Since 1993, Mr. Appling has served the Missouri State government in a number of capacities, culminating with his appointment in 2004 to the Missouri Public Service Commission.

Mr. Appling has been an active member of his community through his work with the Capital City Boys & Girls Club. Inspired by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at an early age, Mr. Appling has been instrumental in helping others reach their goals.

I am certain that Members of the House will join me in thanking Lin Appling for his service to his country and to the State of Missouri.

HONORING THE LOUISIANA
HONORAIR VETERANS

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2008

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor a very special group from South Louisiana.

On April 12, 2008, a group of 96 veterans and their guardians will fly to Washington with a very special program. Louisiana HonorAir is providing the opportunity for these veterans from my home State of Louisiana to visit Washington, DC, on a chartered flight free of charge. During their visit, they will visit Arlington National Cemetery and the World War II Memorial. For many, this will be their first and only opportunity to see these sights dedicated to the great service they have provided for our nation.

Today I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these great Americans and thanking them for their unselfish service.

CALLING ON THE GOVERNMENT
OF CHINA TO END ITS CRACK-
DOWN IN TIBET

SPEECH OF

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 2008

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise to express my deep concern over the recent crackdown in Tibet by the Chinese government. I strongly believe that America must be a country that speaks out on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves—men and women who are being persecuted for their religious or political beliefs.

Every person on earth has certain inalienable rights. In a 1987 Constitution Day speech, Ronald Reagan noted that the U.S. Constitution has been described "as a kind of covenant. It is a covenant we've made not only with ourselves but with all of mankind." America has a profound responsibility to keep this covenant and to stand up for freedom in the world's darkest corners.

China is a perfect example of a place where these rights are not being protected. The China of today is worse than the China of yesterday, or of last year, or of the last decade. China is not progressing. It is regressing. It is more violent, more repressive, and more resistant to democratic values than ever before.

The Cardinal Kung Foundation reports that in 2007, 35 Roman Catholic bishops were in jail, under house arrest, or harassed and put under surveillance. In 2007, the Chinese government arrested 693 Christians that we know of. Renowned human rights advocate and Uyghur Muslim Rebiya Kadeer has watched from exile as the Chinese government arrests and beats her family members in her homeland. Since the crackdown on Falun Gong began in 1999, untold numbers of Falun Gong practitioners have been arrested, imprisoned and tortured.

The Tibetans have suffered terribly over the years at the hands of the Chinese government. Tibet is gradually, but brutally, being

subsumed by China. Inch by inch, this region, its people, its culture, its religion, even its language is growing fainter and fainter and could one day disappear as the Chinese government persists in trying to liquidate Tibetan culture and presence in China.

The reports and images of this most recent crackdown in Tibet are deeply disturbing. Tibetan Buddhist monks and Tibetan youth have been beaten down in the street and rounded up in house-to-house searches for protesting China's rule of the Tibet region. Scores of Tibetans are believed to have been killed in the violence, and hundreds of Tibetans have been arrested by Chinese police for participating in protests.

Given this legacy of violence and discrimination by the Chinese government, I'm not surprised it would crack down with such brutal force against these Tibetan protestors. My outrage at what China is doing in Tibet led me to visit Tibet in 1997, and I have seen first-hand the repression the Tibetans live under.

And despite all of its abhorrent acts, China was still awarded the honor of hosting the 2008 Olympics. The Olympic Games are an event designed to lift up "the educational value of good example and respect for universal fundamental ethical principles," according to its own charter.

Does China's behavior sound like a "good example" to the rest of the world? Or that it is reflecting "fundamental ethical principles" that all nations should aspire to? It is because of China's actions that I cannot support the President or other senior U.S. officials attending the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

While I have strenuously urged the President not to attend the Olympics, I know I cannot stop the President from going. But I am offering language in the 2008 emergency supplemental appropriations bill to prohibit U.S. government officials and employees from attending the Beijing Olympics on the taxpayers' dime.

The political prisoners in China and Chinese dissidents around the world will be deeply demoralized by what the Chinese government will surely portray as symbolic support for its regime if senior American officials attend the games.

Some say that the protection of human rights is secondary to attaining economic power and wealth. We must reject that notion. China poses a threat not only to its own citizens, but to the entire world.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING RAY
CHAMBERS FOR WINNING THE
BOYS' DIVISION II STATE BAS-
KETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP.

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Ray Chambers showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and Whereas, Ray Chambers was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Ray Chambers always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the court; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional

District, I congratulate Ray Chambers on winning the Boys' Division II State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2007–2008 basketball season.

**HONORING BETH GLASS FOR
WINNING THE GOLD AWARD**

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2008

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Beth Glass for winning the Gold Award, the Girl Scouts of the USA's highest honor for girls 14–18 years old.

Last summer, Miss Glass set out to complete the required 50 hours of community service. Desiring to honor community firefighters, she decided to repaint fire hydrants, a task she considered both achievable and extremely important since fire fighters rely on the hydrant's color to gauge how much water can flow through an individual hydrant.

Not only did Miss Glass accomplish her community service requirement of 50 hours, she went above and beyond when she put in 69 hours of service. In addition, she managed to engage her friends, family and the community on the project. While her friends and family helped paint, community hardware stores donated supplies.

A resident of Jacksonville, Texas, Miss Glass is a senior at All-Saints Episcopal School in Tyler, Texas, and has been a Girl Scout since fourth grade.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Fifth District of Texas, I am honored to recognize Beth Glass for not only winning the highest Girl Scout honor, but for her dedication to serving her community.

**CARING FOR VETERANS IN
AMERICA'S HEARTLAND**

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2008

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, since 1993 HVAF (Helping Homeless Veterans and Families) of Indiana, Inc. has been committed to assisting our Nation's veterans overcome the challenges of homelessness. I rise today to honor this remarkable organization, and it's most recent initiative, Operation Heartland, which has dedicated itself to taking care of the needs of our heroes.

HVAF has successfully organized projects such as small-scale supportive housing units for homeless vets and the Veteran's Service Center where homeless veterans can obtain food, clothing, hygiene products, IndyGo bus tickets, and use shower facilities; but Operation Heartland is perhaps HVAF's most ambitious project to date. The goal of Operation Heartland is to raise funds to furnish a 40 unit apartment building as the Donald W. Moreau, Sr. Veterans House. Hopefully by August of this year the Moreau House will be up and running and able to accommodate 40 homeless veterans, many of whom have substance

abuse or mental health issues. While staying at the Moreau house, homeless veterans will have the opportunity to receive counseling and other rehabilitative services from HVAF staff, in hopes of returning to society as productive citizens.

In a vote of confidence that HVAF would be successful, Oprah Winfrey's Big Give program recently gave \$5,000 to help Operation Heartland get off the ground. Since then, the outpouring of support for Operation Heartland generated by Hoosiers has been substantial. Many of the donors who have already committed to the program include the Indianapolis Colts, FedEx Corporation, and Cathedral High School. One individual donor personally committed to provide over 15 percent of Operation Heartland's entire goal, and a local mom, who couldn't provide funding, committed her quilting group to provide quilts for the Moreau House.

Caring for our veterans—the men and women who have provided such an incredible service to our country—is one of the most important things we can do. Operation Heartland will help to get our veterans off the streets and into safe homes and satisfying jobs. Our homeless veterans, who have served our country with the utmost courage, honor and dignity, especially deserve the kind of second chance that Operation Heartland and similar initiatives can provide. Madam Speaker, organizations like HVAF of Indiana are working hard to repay the debt we all owe to all the men and women who ever served in our Armed Forces. They deserve our support, our respect and our profound thanks; and I ask all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing the exemplary efforts of HVAF of Indiana.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2008

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, yesterday, on April 8, 2008, I was unable to vote due to official business outside Washington. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote Nos. 161, 162, and 163.

TRIBUTE TO ALLEN RUBY

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2008

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, tonight Allen Ruby will be honored by the University of Santa Clara School of Law. Since the House is in session, I will not be able to participate in this important event. But I do want to note that there is no one more worthy of honor and recognition as a lawyer and as a person than Allen Ruby.

In 1965, after earning his bachelor of arts from Michigan State University in only 3 years, he came west to Stanford Law School. Since graduating from Stanford Law School in 1969 he has practiced criminal and civil law in San Jose. His demonstrated skill and commitment to justice enabled him to be admitted to the Supreme Court Bar in 1993.

I first came to know Allen Ruby when I was a member of the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors. The county was embroiled as a defendant in long-standing litigation. As the only county supervisor who was also an attorney, it fell to me to recommend to my colleagues the best lawyer in town to represent the county's interest. Allen Ruby was the best. To participate with Allen Ruby in preparation of the county's case was to watch an attorney of rare talent. He acted with integrity and ingenuity and served the people of Santa Clara County well.

Allen Ruby has represented a who's who of clients not only in Silicon Valley, but around the United States.

One of his most important public interest cases was the government false claims whistle-blower case, United States of America ex rel Henry Boisvert v. FMC Corp. The matter began when Boisvert, an FMC test analyst, found deficiencies in the U.S. Army's Bradley Fighting Vehicle. The all-terrain vehicle was designed to carry troops and equipment through water and on land but it leaked, making it a danger for troops. As a result of his continued reporting of vehicle flaws, Boisvert was terminated from his employment. Allen Ruby was able to prove that the termination by FMC was wrongful after he filed suit under the False Claims Act.

Ruby's zealous representation of Boisvert for the last 5 years of this 14-year lawsuit resulted in an important victory for the public interest as well as the individual whistleblower.

Mr. Ruby's extraordinary ability in trial is also appreciated by his colleagues. Their respect for Mr. Ruby gained him membership in the American Board of Trial Advocates and the International Academy of Trial Lawyers. He is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers. In 1999, the Santa Clara County Trial Lawyers Association named him Trial Lawyer of the Year.

Mr. Ruby's integrity was not just noted by clients and colleagues, the Santa Clara County Superior Court also recognized his expertise and skill by naming him Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge Pro Tem, presiding over jury trials and court trials from 1987 to 1991.

Allen Ruby's legal career is impressive and his legal acumen has made him an attorney who has merited the trust of individuals and corporations in the most crucial of times. But the legal acumen that has inspired that trust is built on his values and deep commitment to justice.

His personal sense of responsibility to insuring access to our system of justice has moved him to take action outside of his profession as well. Amidst his landmark cases, he has still made time to serve others in several capacities, including as a Silicon Valley Law Foundation board member.

Allen Ruby is honored and famed as a trial lawyer, but he grew up in a family of modest means. He was blessed by parents who loved and nurtured him and helped him to develop the values that have served him well throughout his life. Between high school and law school Allen Ruby followed in the footsteps of his father and was a wrestler on the Midwestern professional wrestling circuit. He learned many lessons through this experience, many of which have contributed to his success as an attorney. He has stated about the experience, "I learned how to get beat and not