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HONORING THE EAGLE SCOUTS OF BOY SCOUT TROOP 10 OF LOWER MAKEFIELD

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 2008

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 10 recipients who have achieved the rank of Eagle from Boy Scout Troop 10 in Lower Makefield, Pennsylvania. This troop has a long and notable history of improving Bucks County through various service projects and community outreach programs.

On May 4, 2008, 10 members of the Boy Scout Troop 10 will receive their Eagle Badge at the Troop's Eagle Court of Honor ceremony. Becoming an Eagle Scout is the highest honor a Boy Scout can receive and reflects the high expectations the Boy Scouts of America have of their members. Only about 5 percent of Boy Scouts will go on to receive their Eagle Scout rank. This award reflects proficiency in several areas such as leadership and outdoor skills as well as years of dedication and hard work serving one's community.

The dedication of Troop 10 to the principles of scouting is evident in the hard work and dedication the Scouts showed in completing their various Eagle Scout service projects. Max Lee Telsey, Assistant Quartermaster, worked on several construction projects to improve the Cornerstone Church in Philadelphia. Stuart Nyal Taylor, Senior Patrol Leader, restored a historically accurate fence at Pennsbury Manor. Benjamin Lawrence Caggia, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader and Troop Guide, spray painted house numbers on the street curbs for emergency service responders in the Heather Ridge and Yardley Run neighborhoods. Owen Lynn, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, assembled and delivered 346 meals for Aid for Friends. Jacob Robert Vandenburg, also an Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, constructed a shelving unit for the American Red Cross's new Disaster Services readiness storage unit in Lower Bucks County. Jared Michael Slaweski, Troop Guide and Quartermaster, renovated a community nature trail and worked on bridge and sign construction for Lower Makefield Township. Ryan Mathew Bender, Quartermaster, designed and built an outdoor family recreation area at the Bucks County Housing Group. Andrew Maxwell Sing, Quartermaster and Troop Scribe, installed shelves in the childcare supply closet, reconditioned a resident bathroom and organized the donation room for the Levittown American Red Cross Shelter. Robert James Pennington, Troop Guide, reconditioned a community nature trail for Lower Makefield Township. Colin Steuart Johnston, Quartermaster, organized and collected \$1,500 worth of snacks for the healthy snack food drive for the American Red Cross of Lower Bucks County.

Boy Scout Troop 10 of Lower Makefield and its 10 recipients of the rank of Eagle are exceptional examples of how a group of dedicated individuals can truly better the lives of

those around them. The outstanding work of Troop 10 and the Eagle Scouts has significantly improved the Bucks County community. Madam Speaker, I am proud to represent Boy Scout Troop 10 and grateful for the opportunity to recognize those attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.

IN RECOGNITION OF NEW YORK ARTISTS EQUITY ASSOCIATION'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 2008

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of New York Artists Equity Association (NYAEA), now celebrating its 60th anniversary.

NYAEA's advocacy for legislation on behalf of visual artists is matched only by its dedication to the development of the visual arts in our communities, placing the New York artistic world in the context of the larger society, as a necessary component that enriches all of our lives.

Significantly, the Association promotes emerging American and international artists in its Broome Street Gallery. In 2006, the organization established the Jacob and Gwendolyn Lawrence Awards Fund, which finances solo exhibitions for emerging and under-recognized artists. I had the pleasure of meeting Jacob Lawrence, a renowned artist and past president of NYAEA at their 50th anniversary celebration, when Al Hirschfeld honored me by putting both of us in one of his drawings.

Madam Speaker, I particularly commend NYAEA, under the leadership of its Executive Director, Regina Stewart, for supporting visual artists at a time when they receive no help from the government. The Association provides referrals, legal services, and health care to visual artists in need, helping to ensure economic stability for those artists who might otherwise be forced to abandon their talents due to economic difficulties. New York Artists Equity Association works to preserve endangered visual art work, helping to assure the survival of our rich artistic past.

I am proud that NYAEA is in my Congressional District, and that its work reaches far beyond my District to help visual artists in the larger community. I wish to thank the Association for all it has done to advocate for the visual arts, and I also want to thank one of the Association's Past Vice Presidents, Doris Wyman, who serves on my Arts Advisory Committee, for her tireless advocacy. Because of my on-going work with this fine organization and their leadership, I know of their constant efforts and I commend them.

For 60 years, NYAEA has been a passionate advocate for visual artists. I salute New York Artists Equity Association for helping to assure a stable artistic community—one that is, and always must be, recognized as vital to our heritage and culture.

HONORING THE RECORDING FOR THE BLIND AND DYSLEXIC FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 2008

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, as we celebrate National Volunteers Week, I rise today to recognize the outstanding efforts of the Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic—a national non-profit, volunteer organization that, for 60 years, has been the leading producer of accessible education materials for students with disabilities. I would like to extend a special note of thanks and appreciation to the Connecticut chapter led by my good friend, Anne Fortunato.

"Education is a right, not a privilege." That was the mantra of Anne T. Macdonald, founder of the Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic. Shortly after the end of World War II, letters began flooding the New York Library's Women's Auxiliary from soldiers who had lost their sight during combat but were eager to move forward with their lives. The new GI bill guaranteed them a college education but among the many obstacles they faced was access to college textbooks. These veterans were hoping for any assistance the auxiliary could provide and they developed a creative solution that continues to benefit others today.

The women transformed the attic of the New York Library into a recording studio where volunteers began recording textbooks for the servicemen. In just 3 short years demand had grown so much the organization was incorporated as the Nation's only non-profit to record textbooks. The following year, Anne Macdonald traveled across the country to organize recording studios in other communities. Today, there are a total of 30 studios nationwide and the organization has expanded its mission to provide education materials for students of all ages coping with various disabilities.

One of those studios is the Connecticut unit located in New Haven which was established in 1959 and has since become a model for other communities. The Connecticut unit has been a leader for the organization since their inception. A testament to the quality of production, shortly after their establishment the Connecticut unit was selected by the national headquarters for a very special and prestigious project—the recording of the complete works of nine American authors including Samuel Clemens, Stephen Crane, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Nathaniel Hawthorne, William Dean Howells, Washington Irving, Herman Melville, Henry David Thoreau, and Walt Whitman.

Today, the Connecticut unit specializes in the production of science and technology books. Led by Anne Fortunato, a respected advocate and distinguished leader in education, the Connecticut unit operates a studio with six soundproof booths and utilizes over 160 volunteers along with a small paid staff to record books for hundreds of Connecticut residents and thousands of people across the country. I have been a proud supporter of the Connecticut unit for more than a decade and it is always an honor for me to go to the studio each year to record pieces on their behalf.

Their work and that of the other studios across the country are making all the difference—ensuring that a quality education is an opportunity for all and truly making education a right and not a privilege.

This week, as we recognize the invaluable contributions made to all of our communities by volunteers, I am proud to stand and pay tribute to the Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic and the hundreds of individuals who volunteer their time to make their mission possible. There are no words of praise that can describe the extraordinary impact of this organization. There is no doubt that their good work will continue to open the doors of opportunity to others for generations to come.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BRENDA BUSH

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 2008

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today to recognize the life of Northwest Florida's beloved Brenda Bush.

A native of Andalusia, Alabama, Brenda Bush moved to Crestview, Florida, located in Florida's First Congressional District, in 1986—a place where her footsteps were planted and will never wash away.

Mrs. Bush was an active member in the business, civic, and church communities. In 1993, Brenda Bush was elected to the Crestview City Council, where she continually served her community with passion and commitment to excellence. Mrs. Bush was also a member of the Okaloosa County League of Cities, Northwest Florida League of Cities, Okaloosa-Walton Transportation Planning Organization, and Economic Development Council. An active member of First Baptist Church of Crestview, Mrs. Bush served on various committees and as a Sunday school teacher. She was a member of the North Okaloosa Unit of the American Cancer Society, Woman's Club of Crestview, and Crestview Area Chamber of Commerce. Her service to the Northwest Florida community was not uncommon to all who knew her and all who were blessed by her presence, as it played a role in her daily life.

To some Brenda Bush will be remembered as a public servant and dear colleague, and to others an educator and volunteer. She will long be remembered by her family and friends as a woman of strong Christian faith, a loving and compassionate mother, grandmother, wife, and companion; and we will all remember her passion and generosity. Mrs. Bush touched a number of lives. We will forever be grateful and forever be inspired by her life.

Mrs. Bush is survived by her husband, Jim, three children, and three grandchildren. To her family and friends, I would like to offer my sincere condolences. Northwest Florida has suffered a great loss.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to honor the life of Brenda Bush and her living legacy.

TRIBUTE TO MR. ROLAND ROEBUCK

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 2008

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Mr. Roland Roebuck, on the occasion of his retirement. Mr. Roebuck is a Virgin Islander who has served the Government of the District of Columbia, his adopted community, in an exemplary manner, for 25 years. Roland, or Rolando, as those in the Hispanic community affectionately refer to him, has been an advocate for the social, economic and political causes of people of color.

Roland grew up on St. Croix, the protégé of a Puerto Rican mother and a Crucian father, where he was able to bridge the two cultures and gain the best of both worlds.

Later, he served in the U.S. Air Force, giving back to the Nation that he loves, before furthering his education and earning a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of the District of Columbia.

In 1984, Roland joined the District of Columbia Government and worked in various positions over the years. He excelled in ensuring that the rights of Latinos were protected and facilitated the understanding of their cultures and more.

As a guardian of culture, Roland travelled around the world, giving lectures and workshops in understanding the lives of others who were different. As a former board member of the St. Croix Landmark Society, he used the opportunity to dialogue with the people of Denmark, a country that sold the then Danish Virgin Islands to the United States for \$25,000,000 in 1917, to preserve and incorporate their influences on the lives of Virgin Islanders. He assisted in developing an archival program that has allowed my constituents to search their genealogical connections and get a sense of their ancestry.

Roland is a dependable, compassionate person, who truly cares about those with whom he has come in contact. His responsiveness to those who seek his knowledge and wisdom, speak to his dedication. He is always there, giving support to his family, friends and community and he has left a fitting legacy in the Government of the District of Columbia that others will do well to exemplify.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of myself and my family, my entire staff and the communities of the United States Virgin Islands and the District of Columbia, let me express our gratitude to Roland for his many contributions over the years. We know that he will continue to work on behalf of his many causes as he begins his retirement. Roland, thank you for a job well done.

HONORING THE YOUTH EDUCATIONAL SERVICES OF HUMBOLDT COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 2008

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 40th

Anniversary of Youth Educational Services, an innovative community-based organization at Humboldt State University in Humboldt County, California.

Youth Educational Services (YES) trains students for volunteer positions throughout the community, encouraging leadership, communication and interpersonal skills. This well-directed service aids students in becoming successful in all aspects of program direction and management. The skills developed at YES open up a variety of future career opportunities and many students who once served as volunteers have gone on to have a positive impact in Humboldt County and around the world.

Over the past 40 years, YES has created over 70 volunteer programs that address the diverse needs of local residents and provide students with a myriad of service-learning opportunities. Their efforts facilitate active student participation in social change by addressing the needs of the local community.

A wide range of local organizations began as programs at Youth Educational Services, contributing to the overall health of our community. Outstanding examples include, Humboldt Open Door Clinic, which provides high quality, affordable, accessible health care and education to the county; Humboldt State University's Campus Center for Appropriate Technology, an on-campus educational center for sustainable technology and resource conservation; and 4-H Trail, a therapeutic horseback riding program for children with disabilities.

Madam Speaker, it is appropriate that we recognize the Youth Educational Services program at Humboldt State University for their outstanding achievements and contributions to the community over the last 40 years.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOUTH BEND SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

HON. JOE DONNELLY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 2008

Mr. DONNELLY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 75th anniversary of the South Bend Symphony Orchestra. The South Bend Symphony Orchestra has been an integral part of cultural growth in the South Bend community since its inception in 1932. Thanks to the efforts of the orchestra's first president and concept manager Ella May Morris, people from around the world have enjoyed the opportunity to hear the South Bend Symphony perform for over seven decades.

I should first pay tribute to the tireless efforts of Maestro Tsung Yeh, the music director and conductor of the symphony orchestra. His nineteen-year tenure at the South Bend Symphony Orchestra helped it become an outstanding orchestra. Maestro Yeh is praised around the world for conducting the South Bend Symphony and at venues in Singapore.

I also recognize the group of talented musicians that comprise the South Bend Symphony Orchestra. These professional musicians moved to our community from the finest music schools and conservatories around the world. We are grateful for their gifts to the community.