

TRIBUTE TO THE URBAN SCENE
AND HOST DON FRIERSON

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2008

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 20th anniversary of a radio institution in my hometown of Columbia, South Carolina. The Urban Scene is the first issue-oriented radio talk show in Columbia, and it remains a touchstone in the African American community today.

In 1988, WOIC radio began airing The Urban Scene with host Ben Scott. The next year, Gwen Foushee and Don Frierson took over the hosting duties, and by the end of 1989, Don was flying solo.

The next big change for The Urban Scene was its move from WOIC to WGCV/620 AM in Columbia in 2000. It is a testament to the popularity of the show that its loyal audience followed The Urban Scene, and many new listeners tuned in.

The Urban Scene quickly made its mark as the place to go for an in-depth discussion and debate of the issues of the day. Under Don's guidance, listeners feel comfortable to call in and give their opinions or ask questions. The topics covered on The Urban Scene run the gamut and are always entertaining and informative. Don has featured guests from all walks of life, including actor Danny Glover; House Majority Leader Dick Gephardt; former Miss America Kimberly Aiken; gospel legend Dr. Bobby Jones; civil rights pioneer Modjeska Simpkins; and nationally syndicated talk show host Bev Smith. I have been known to make appearances on The Urban Scene from time to time as well.

I don't believe The Urban Scene would have enjoyed its longevity without the leadership of Don Frierson. He has done a tremendous job over the last 19 years in creating a midday talk show that is consistently the talk of the town. As a native of Columbia, Don knows the issues that are important to his listeners. He graduated from the University of South Carolina in 1983 with a degree in journalism, and continues to work full-time for the South Carolina Human Affairs Commission.

Don maintains the pulse of the community by being involved in many activities. He has served on the board of Bethlehem Community Center, the Columbia Branch NAACP, and the South Carolina Conference of Branches of NAACP. He has volunteered his time with Big Brothers and Sisters of the Midlands, as a mentor, working with children in Richland School District One, and has assisted non-profit agencies and organizations in the areas of press and publicity. He is a volunteer docent with the South Carolina State Museum and has served as third Vice President of the Columbia Branch NAACP.

Don's many awards include the Living the Legacy Award, presented by the National Council of Negro Women for outstanding work in the field of Journalism; Certificate for Outstanding Community Service in the field of Journalism, from the Omicron Phi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity; Community Leader of Excellence Award, from the Cush Fellowship Ministries; Million Man March Appreciation Award, from the Nation of Islam, for work in promoting the Million Man March; Martin Lu-

ther King Award for Community Service presented by Zion Baptist Church No.1; Award for Community Service, presented by Masjid Al-Islam; Outstanding Service Award from the Alcorn Middle School Community Task Force; Community Service Award from the Sister Clara Muhammad School; Certificate of Honor from the Columbia Branch NAACP for service; and a commendation from the South Carolina House of Representatives for public service.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me today in celebrating the 20th anniversary of The Urban Scene and the outstanding work of its host Don Frierson. The show and its host are synonymous with intelligent and thought-provoking radio. I applaud the tremendous service Don provides on The Urban Scene, and I am proud to call him a friend.

TUOLUMNE ME-WUK LAND
TRANSFER ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 2008

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, thank you for the opportunity to express my support for H.R. 3490, the Tuolumne Me-Wuk Land Transfer Act of 2007. H.R. 3490 was considered and approved by the House of Representatives yesterday. This bill provides for the transfer of three small parcels of land from the Bureau of Land Management to the Bureau of Indian Affairs in trust for the benefit of the Tuolumne Me-Wuk Tribe located in Tuolumne, California.

I introduced this bill on behalf of the Tuolumne Me-Wuk, a federally recognized tribe in my district. In addition to providing for the land transfer, H.R. 3490 also extends the boundaries of the Tuolumne Me-Wuk Reservation to encompass the BLM lands and other certain lands that have either been taken into trust for the Tribe, or that the federal government has announced plans to take into trust for the Tribe.

The lands to be transferred are located in close proximity to the existing Tuolumne Me-Wuk Reservation. They include a small parcel which contains an active tribal burial ground, a parcel originally intended as an inter-tribal health facility that was never built, and a third parcel located near the first two. These lands will be available to meet the needs of tribal housing, along with cultural and infrastructure improvements. Furthermore, the Tuolumne Me-Wuk burial ground deserves to be properly maintained and preserved by the Tribe. None of these lands are to be used for tribal gaming.

The Bureau of Land Management expressed support for this land transfer in the Natural Resources Committee hearing earlier this month and has listed the parcels as available for disposal. In addition, there is local support for this non-controversial land transfer from the community and the Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors.

I thank my colleagues for recognizing the benefits of this legislation and unanimously supporting the Tuolumne Me-Wuk Land Transfer Act of 2007. Furthermore, I look forward to working with my colleagues in the Senate to continue the movement of this important legislation.

HONORING THE OSAGE UNIT 278 OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the great work and service that Osage Unit 278 of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Iowa is doing on behalf of our young citizens' education.

The members of Osage Unit 278 place a great value on the education of our young citizens who will be the leaders of tomorrow. The Unit recently held a scholarship luncheon/bake sale on April 5, 2008, with the purpose of raising money to give scholarships to the graduating seniors of Osage High School. Their objective was met, and funds raised will allow for 13 scholarships of \$250.00 each to be awarded; 10 of those by the Unit; two to be given in honor of members by their families; and one from the Unit Auxiliary marching group known as the Starlighters.

Unit 278 also contributed \$250.00 to benefit the Special Olympians of the Osage School System, enabling them to attend the State of Iowa Special Olympics.

The work of the 381 member Unit has always been highly respected, regarded and appreciated by the community of Osage. Their work and dedication exemplifies the great Iowa spirit of giving to help others. And Unit 278 truly follows one of the guiding principles of the American Legion Auxiliary mission statement, "that Auxiliary members continue to be the leaders in all that is good in this nation today, tomorrow and for generations to come through serving others first and not self."

I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in recognizing the dedicated work and accomplishments of Osage Unit 278 of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Iowa. I am proud and honored to represent all 381 members of the Unit in the United States House of Representatives and I wish them continued success in their future work.

HONORING THE 8TH BATTALION,
4TH REGIMENT

HON. VIRGIL H. GOODE, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2008

Mr. GOODE. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to recognize the U.S. Army 8th Battalion, 4th Regiment on the occasion of their association reunion, which will take place May 2-6.

The 4th Artillery was authorized and constituted by an Act of Congress in June 1812, as the 4th Artillery Regiment. The regiment has seen continuous duty since that date. The 8th Battalion, 4th Artillery, has served in varied capacities throughout its illustrious service: Coast Artillery, Harbor Defense, Anti-Aircraft Artillery, Pack Artillery, 177mm Gun Battalion and as a 175mm 18 inch (SP) Gun Battalion.

On March 1, 1967, the 8th Battalion, 4th Artillery was activated at Fort Sill, OK, as a 175mm gun battalion. Its mission was to deploy on July 24, 1967, to the central highlands

of Vietnam. The only battalion from Fort Sill to deploy on its original deployment date, the 8th Battalion, 4th Artillery departed Ft. Sill, OK, with the personal good wishes and promised continued support from the Fort Sill commanding general. The battalion's equipment, including its 12 175mm guns, departed in early July. The equipment was moved by rail to Houston, TX, then by ship through the Panama Canal and on to Vietnam.

The men of the battalion traveled by air to Tacoma, WA, and boarded a U.S. naval troop ship, the USNS *UPSHUR*, along with two smaller Army units. On the high seas, after a 12-hour shore break on Okinawa, we were notified our mission had changed. We were being diverted to Da Nang with a support mission to the 1st and 3rd Marine Divisions. The battalion was originally assigned the dual mission of supporting both the 1st and 3rd Marine Divisions with long-range heavy artillery fire until November 1, 1967, when it was assigned to the 108th Artillery Group, reinforcing the 12th Marine Regiment.

From January 31, 1968 until March, the battalion supported the 5th Marines and the Americal Division during "Operation Auburn." It participated in "Operation Rock" by firing in support of the 7th Marines from March 6 until March 10, 1968. From March 13 until March 26, 1968, it supported the 7th Marines during "Operation Worth." From August 1968 until September 1968, the battalion provided general support for units operating near the DMZ.

During the first year in Vietnam, the battalion changed over 300 gun tubes. In its 4 years in the Republic of Vietnam, the battalion had fired more than 450,000 rounds of 175mm/S inch ammunition in support of the United States and the Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) forces. It had supported operations throughout the northern sector of South Vietnam and had fired from positions at Da Nang, Dong Ha, Quang Tn, Bastone, Camp Lo, Camp J J Carroll, Thon Som Lam ("Rockpile"), True Khe, FSB C-1, FSB C-2, and FSB A-4 (Con Thien).

In ceremonies held August 6, 1971, at Dong Ha Combat Base, the battalion was presented the Meritorious Unit Citation. The award covered the period from January 31, 1968 to January 31, 1969, and was primarily for actions in support of the 1st and 3rd Marine Divisions. The battalion was also awarded the Naval Presidential Unit Citation in support of the 3rd Marine Division and the Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry.

As the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces began their withdrawal from Laos and the Khe San area, the need for artillery support along the route of egress became vital. By April 1971, all remaining elements of the battalion departed the Khe San Plains. The 8th Battalion, 4th Artillery, was the first heavy artillery battalion into the Khe San area and the last heavy unit to return.

In the 63 days that the battalion was involved with the Khe San Operation, it suffered losses of 4 persons killed and 41 wounded, with 17 vehicles destroyed. It was credited with costing the enemy 1,238 killed, unknown numbers wounded, 26 field guns destroyed, 3 tanks destroyed, 5 fighting positions destroyed, 16 wheeled vehicles destroyed, and 2,644 secondary explosions. During this same period, in line with increased troop with-

drawals, the American ground troops in the area turned over their fire bases to the ARVN and withdrew to Quang Tri for their consolidation.

At 0930 hours, 15 October 1971, the 8th Battalion, 4th Artillery, conducted a redeployment ceremony at Quang Tri Combat Base. The battalion colors were furled and cased for redeployment to Fort Sill, OK, where the 3rd Battalion, 73rd Artillery, was being redesignated the 4th Battalion, 4th Artillery. On this date, the unit completed its tactical mission, and after completing the Keystone stand down operations from October 15 through November 15, 1971, sent its color guard and colors to Fort Sill to begin a new phase in the illustrious career of the 4th Artillery.

After a stay of 4 years on the DMZ, the battalion had truly earned its unofficial motto, "The Guns of the DMZ," with 26 killed in action and numerous wounded. Today the 4th Artillery continues with the 2nd Battalion, 4th Artillery, a multiple launch rocket system battalion stationed at Fort Sill, OK. The 2nd Battalion, 4th Artillery deployed to Iraq during the initial assault of "Desert Storm," and continue their combat role in the great tradition of the historic 4th Artillery Regiment.

I appreciate the opportunity to offer these remarks and share my appreciation for our veterans. We are forever grateful to the 8th Battalion, 4th Artillery and all the veterans who have preserved our country.

TRIBUTE TO DR. CONSTANCE
MIERENDORF

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2008

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Constance Mierendorf and to celebrate her inauguration as the first female President of Sussex County Community College.

Constance Mierendorf brings a wealth of experience to this position as a teacher, academic leader and innovative small businesswoman. Dr. Mierendorf holds a Ph.D. in English from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln; earning her Bachelor and Master degree in English from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. She also holds certificates for secondary teaching and teaching English as a second Language. Her post-graduate work includes coursework at Harvard University's Institute for Educational Management.

Dr. Constance Mierendorf comes to the Presidency of SCCC from Raritan Valley Community College, where she held the position of Vice President of Academic Affairs. She held the same position at Santa Fe Community College in New Mexico, and was also a faculty member and department chair at Minneapolis Community and Technical College.

In addition to her education background, Dr. Mierendorf brings considerable business expertise to the College. She worked as a corporate trainer to Chief Executive Officers of several Fortune 500 companies and was a partner and business manager for Mierendorf Productions, a three-time Emmy Award winning independent documentary film company.

Sussex County Community College is a true gem of the Fifth Congressional District. It currently serves more than 3,500 credit and 1,700 non-credit students each year. SCCC is ranked 11th in the country, as the fastest growing community college of its size, with a 43-percent increase in enrollment over the past 5 years. I am confident Dr. Mierendorf will continue to raise the bar of SCCC's educational standards.

I commend Dr. Mierendorf on her appointment as the President of Sussex County Community College. I wish her all the best as she embarks on this opportunity and congratulate her on this remarkable accomplishment.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES DANIEL

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2008

Mr. BERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great Arkansan and a fine citizen of Marshall, Arkansas. I am proud to recognize Dr. Charles Daniel in the United States Congress for his four decades of service to Arkansas. He has made numerous invaluable contributions to his community, his State and our Nation.

Dr. Charles Daniel was born in Marshall, Arkansas on July 1, 1940 and currently resides there today. After graduating from Marshall High School in 1958 as valedictorian, he received his medical degree from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in 1967. He married his wife Sharon Guthrie in 1964 and they have two children.

In addition to his decades of service to the community as a leading medical professional, Dr. Daniel has dedicated 40 years of service to both the Rotary Club and the Searcy County Economic Development Commission. He was a leading advocate for the construction of the Searcy County Civic Center and was recognized by the Searcy County Economic Development Commission as Citizen of the Year in 2007.

Dr. Daniel is one of the few remaining genuine, southern gentlemen. He is a humble man who goes out of his way to help others simply because it is the right thing to do, never for personal gain. Dr. Daniel's office was always open to people in need of medical attention. Often he would keep his doors open well into the evening and would visit with patients at their homes on weekends to ensure they received the care they needed. Not only does he epitomize what a family doctor should be, he is the living example of how we should treat our neighbor.

Dr. Daniel embodies the old fashioned values of service, leadership and commitment to his community that has made our State and our Nation great. He has dedicated his life to serving the people of Searcy County as a leader in both his profession and his community. On behalf of the United States Congress, I extend congratulations and best wishes to my good friend Dr. Charles Daniel for a lifetime of outstanding personal and professional achievements.