

of five trusts, but have no control over the assets of either trust. My wife, Cheryl Warren Sensenbrenner, and I are trustees of separate trusts established for the benefit of each son.

Also, I am neither an officer nor a director of any corporation organized under the laws of the State of Wisconsin or of any other state or foreign country.

TRIBUTE ON THE PASSING OF SCOTT S. STUART

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2008

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a man who recently died at a tragically young age. I am appending his official obituary to this extension of remarks. In addition to those things listed in his obituary, I would like to point out that Scott was very involved in community and political events. This, for him, was essential to share his concern for his country. Scott held a deep and abiding belief in the rights, freedom and dignity of human beings.

May he Rest In Peace.

Stuart, Scott S. Stuart of Baltimore, Maryland, and Canton, Connecticut, passed away peacefully in his sleep on Wednesday, May 7th. He was 43 years old. Scott was the Director of Alumni Relations at Loyola College since June of 2007. Prior to this position, he was the director of alumni relations for his alma mater Niagara University. Scott also had over 15 years of corporate experience as an executive in the banking industry and as a fund-raising director in the non-profit sector. He held the position of vice president, director of marketing, for OBA Bank in Washington, DC. In this post, he formulated corporate growth strategies and directed and identified marketing programs and opportunities, helping to "re-brand" America's oldest thrift institution. Earlier, he spent several years working for the Boy Scouts of America in Boston, Mass., and Washington, DC., as district executive, district director, development director, and director of major gifts.

After graduating from Niagara University in 1986 with a bachelor's degree in commerce/marketing, Scott worked his way up the corporate ladder at M&T Bank to assistant vice president. Scott enjoyed traveling, backpacking, skiing and winter camping. But first and foremost, he loved his family. He was a devoted son and brother and was happiest when he was around them. He had an infectious spirit and love of life and faith. Scott is survived by his mother, Anne Stuart of Canton, Conn., and three younger siblings, Brian and his wife Yvonne of Boston, Mass., Sean Stuart of Broad Brook, Conn., and Tracy Stuart of New Canaan, Conn. To continue to keep his memory alive, the family asks that you pass on a good deed to someone in need.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL TOM SCHIESS

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2008

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, on the occasion of the change of command

this weekend at the 173rd Fighter Wing at Kingsley Field in Klamath Falls, Oregon, I rise to share with you and our colleagues my pride in an outstanding officer and a great American: Colonel Tom Schiess, United States Air Force, Commander of the 173rd Fighter Wing at Kingsley Field. I will have the honor of attending the change of command ceremony in Klamath Falls this weekend, and before Colonel Schiess relinquishes his command I want to express our nation's gratitude for his service. My comments today echo the admiration of residents of the Klamath Basin community and the respect and affection of the men and women who serve in his command. Colonel Schiess is the type of leader who makes a difference in any endeavor he pursues, and he has made a tremendously positive impact at Kingsley Field.

Colonel Schiess, who is approaching 5,000 flight hours, spent eight and a half years in the United States Air Force before joining the Oregon Air National Guard in 1991. His active duty assignments include: Tyndall AFB as a T-33 Instructor Pilot; McDill AFB as an F-16 Student Pilot; Hill AFB, UT; and Al Minhad AB, United Arab Emirates as an F-16 Pilot. He flew 34 combat missions in Operation Desert Storm while deployed in support of the war effort. While stationed at Kingsley Field, he has been Chief of Wing Standardization and Evaluation, 114th Fighter Squadron Operations Officer, 114th Fighter Squadron Commander, 173rd Operations Group Commander, and 173rd Maintenance Group Commander. Colonel Schiess excelled in each of these roles.

Madam Speaker, in the course of his unselfish service to his country and the State of Oregon, Colonel Schiess has earned many awards, including the Meritorious Service Medal, Aerial Achievement Medal, Air Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, Combat Readiness Medal, Air Force Longevity Award, National Defense Service Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, Global War on Terrorism Medal, Kuwait Liberation Medal, Southwest Asia Campaign Medal, and Oregon Faithful Service Medal with "M" device.

Colonel Tom Schiess has clearly distinguished himself with awards and recognitions, Madam Speaker, but he is most proud of the collective accomplishments of the 173rd Fighter Wing, which he has led so ably. With the motto of "Land of No Slack," Colonel Schiess leads a world class training facility of more than 1,000 Oregon Air National Guard personnel and state and contract employees at Kingsley Field.

As Wing Commander, Colonel Schiess is essentially the Chief Executive Officer and top leader of a very large and highly successful organization. Colonel Schiess is responsible for the production of F-15 sorties to generate student-flying training to graduate the best air-to-air F-15 pilots in the world. The 173rd Fighter Wing serves as one of only two professional F-15 schoolhouses in the United States for Air Force and Air National Guard fighter pilots.

The 173rd Fighter Wing accomplishes its primary mission, F-15 flight training, on the leading edge of innovative training technology and techniques, setting the standard for military training centers worldwide. The Wing flawlessly provides over 4,700 hours and over 3,500 sorties for the training mission as well

as training opportunities for the Combat Air Force. The Wing has received a Lockheed Martin award for its generation of 20,000 accident-free F-15 sorties since it converted to the F-15 in 1998.

The Wing, under the command of Colonel Schiess, has not only distinguished itself as a world class training facility, but has also proven itself to be a significant international ambassador, deploying to Plovdiv, Bulgaria to participate in Sentry Lion, an air-to-air exercise with the Bulgarian Air Force. Subsequently, the 173rd Operations Group hosted six Bulgarian officers for a week as part of a familiarization program in the United States.

The Wing consistently earns outstanding ratings in accomplishing its mission. The high morale and job satisfaction of Colonel Schiess' team are reflected in extremely high retention rates, reenlistment rates, and manning and training rates in the unit career advisory program.

Colonel Schiess and his team have endeared themselves to the community, rendering over 45,000 volunteer hours annually. Each year they welcome the community onto the base with their Sentry Eagle Exercise open house or hosting an outstanding air show. The men and women at Kingsley Field are not visitors to the Klamath community; they are active and deeply involved neighbors who do a great deal to make the Klamath Basin the very special place that it is.

Madam Speaker, I know that my praise of Colonel Tom Schiess and his exceptional team not only represents the gratitude of the local community, but of a nation well served and protected by highly trained and highly motivated individuals. The time that Colonel Schiess has dedicated in commanding the 173rd Fighter Wing will long be remembered as a period of unmatched accomplishment and stellar service at Kingsley Field. Tom has achieved his goal of seeing that the men and women of the 173rd Fighter Wing are citizen airmen who are second to none, and are constantly ready, reliable, and relevant in answering America's needs through brave, confident, and unselfish service.

My colleagues, please join me in thanking Colonel Tom Schiess for his dedication, his commitment, and his tremendous success in a very big and important job.

H.R. 5872, BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICAN CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2008

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 5872, the Boy Scouts of America Centennial Commemorative Coin Act. This bill directs the Secretary of the Treasury to mint and issue up to 350,000 \$1 silver coins in 2010 to commemorate the centennial of the founding of the Boy Scouts of America. The \$10 surcharge required for each coin will be paid to the National Boy Scouts of America Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, I have long been honored to be associated with the Boy Scouts of America. I am the proud father of an Eagle Scout and

I have been proud to support the Occoneechee Council of the Boy Scouts in North Carolina through volunteer work and vital fundraising. I have been honored to receive the Silver Beaver, the Scouts' highest award for volunteering.

Scouting has contributed to the fabric of American life for nearly 100 years. The Boy Scouts of America was incorporated on February 8, 1910, and chartered by Congress in 1916. The Boy Scouts of America's original mission was to provide an educational program for boys and young men to build character, to train in the responsibilities of participating in citizenship, and to develop personal fitness.

You know, North Carolina and America and indeed the entire world have changed a great deal since 1910, yet the Boy Scouts endure. The Boy Scouts remain a mainstay of American life because the message of this organization is timeless: developing American citizens who are physically, mentally and emotionally fit.

The leadership and service skills learned as a Boy Scout have enabled men to become leaders in all walks of life: government, business, sports, science and the arts. These include such distinguished individuals as: President Gerald R. Ford, our first Eagle Scout to become President; Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates; and my friend, Richard Gephardt, the former Majority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives, and Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer. Closer to my home, former North Carolina Governor and Senator Terry Sanford was an Eagle Scout.

The Boy Scouts of America is an institution that contributes so much to the strength of our social fabric. The activities of the Boy Scouts reinforce our moral core and help sustain our American values, generation after generation.

I support the issuance of this commemorative centennial coin, and I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this bill.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT AMENDMENTS BILL

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2008

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, as another presidential election fast approaches, I am pleased to introduce a bill to amend and improve the Help America Vote Act of 2002, HAVA, which was enacted after the chaos of the 2000 presidential election. The genesis of my bill is my own experience and observations from the 2004 elections here in the District of Columbia and campaigning in other parts of the country during the 2004 presidential elections.

The first provision is in response to the long lines that voters have been forced to endure throughout the country that may have deterred significant numbers of voters and would require States to permit counties or other subdivisions upon request to begin voting prior to the scheduled date of an election. During the 2004 election, some subdivisions had voting machines that were modern and plentiful, while other jurisdictions in the same State were burdened with scarce and out-of-date

machines, resulting in long lines. In the pivotal state of Ohio, which determined the outcome of the close 2004 presidential election, the controversy was deepened by reports that lines were particularly long in counties where there were large minority populations compared with largely white counties. One reason for the difference is that in many States, voting machines are purchased by counties or other jurisdictions. Differences in income levels, tax bases and other issues often result in large disparities within the same State in the availability of machines. Small changes in the calendar day that voting begins can help eliminate these disparities and the lines that discourage the exercise of the right to vote, and without the often significant capital investment in new equipment.

The second provision of my bill adds a section to HAVA that responds to calls my office received regarding absentee ballots sent in that inadvertently did not include postage, or had insufficient postage. My bill would require officials to accept such absentee ballots. Postage mistakes may be made depending on the number of issues on the ballot and the resulting size and weight of the envelope containing the ballot. The cost to authorities, if any, is de minimis. The public interest in counting every ballot voters have cast outweighs the incidental, virtually immeasurable cost, if any. There should be no doubt that such ballots should be counted.

A third provision amends HAVA to eliminate the confusion that arises when voters go to the incorrect voting sites because they are first-time or infrequent voters or their usual voting site has been changed. To encourage participation, my bill would allow voters registered anywhere in the State to cast a provisional ballot and have it counted and verified. However, voters would be told the correct polling site to allow the option of going to the correct site and thereby avoiding any doubt that their ballots would be counted.

The 2000 presidential election was a calamity of such historic proportions that it cast doubt on the validity of the election of the President of the United States and led to the enactment of HAVA. The continuing problems in the 2004 elections were very serious, unacceptable, and controversial. Although that election was also razor thin close, its problems took longer to surface and there was no delay in the certification and settlement of the final result through the Supreme Court in *Bush v. Gore* in 2001. However, the 2004 elections were another close call that yielded bitter controversy. Beyond the recent election controversies, the voting franchise is precious enough for us to want and endeavor to protect its full expression. Congress must be willing to learn from our continuing experience to make improvements in protecting the right to vote as they are needed. My bill simply uses the experience from my own district and elsewhere to contribute to this effort.

CONCERN ABOUT TREATMENT OF U.S. CITIZEN IN BELARUSIAN DETENTION

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2008

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, as Chairman of the Commission on Security

and Cooperation in Europe, I would like to draw attention and concern to the case of Mr. Emanuel Zeltser, a U.S. citizen who was detained March 12th upon his arrival in Minsk, Belarus, charged with "use of forged documents." In the entire time that Mr. Zeltser has been detained, he has only been allowed visitation by the U.S. Embassy twice, on March 21st and April 25th. Upon the latter visit it was noted by the U.S. consul that Mr. Zeltser had been beaten several times and appeared in greatly weakened health. Mr. Zeltser suffers from Type 2 diabetes and a severe form of arthritis. Though his condition causes him severe pain and has further deteriorated during his incarceration, the authorities in the detention facility where he is held have reportedly denied him necessary medications. Without proper medications, Mr. Zeltser may not be able to survive the harsh conditions of his detention. Furthermore, according to his lawyer, Belarusian authorities have recently extended the period of Mr. Zeltser's term of detention.

It is incumbent upon the Belarusian government to provide Mr. Zeltser full consular access, proper medical care, and ensure that he is not subjected to further physical abuse and degrading treatment—consistent with its international legal obligations and basic human rights standards.

Time is of the essence in Mr. Zeltser's case, as further delays could lead to further deterioration of his health to the point of endangering his life.

Madam Speaker, I call upon the Belarusian authorities to ensure that Mr. Zeltser immediately receives the medication his doctor has prescribed, and is protected from further ill-treatment, given access to U.S. consular representatives and any medical attention he may need. On April 25, the State Department requested the Government of Belarus to release Emanuel Zeltser on humanitarian grounds. I urge the Belarusian Government to favorably consider that request.

CELEBRATING TAYLOR'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2008

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge, honor, and celebrate the City of Taylor on the occasion of its 40th Anniversary. Incorporated as a city on May 13, 1968, and named after our country's 12th president, Taylor's roots as a community date to the mid-19th Century. What began as a largely agricultural town grew into a prosperous and diverse city which features ample retail and industry for employment and safe neighborhoods for her citizens.

Taylor first began as a Township when residents succeeded in petitioning for their own government in 1847. Like many Michigan communities, Taylor began to thrive when Ford Motor Company opened the nearby Rouge Plant. The Rouge, as it was often simply called, provided over 100,000 jobs at one time during the 1930s. This mighty economic engine created a boom in the burgeoning town that would carry it through the Great Depression and World War II, during which it played an invaluable part of the American war effort.