

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## HONORING THE CORAM FIRE DEPARTMENT ON ITS 80TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 6, 2009*

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the members of the Coram Fire Department on the 80th anniversary of its founding. Like all of Long Island's volunteer fire services, the Coram firefighters reflect the best of the American spirit: bravery, loyalty, and commitment to public service.

As Coram has grown over the past 80 years, its fire department has expanded and enhanced its services to meet the needs of the community. Operating from three firehouses, the department offers firefighting, EMS and rescue services to nearly 55,000 area residents.

Mr. Speaker, as my primary district office is located in Coram, I deeply appreciate the firefighters' commitment to protecting my second home. On behalf of my staff and the residents of Coram, I offer my thanks and best wishes as the department continues its tradition of service for many years to come.

## SUPPORTING NATIONAL TRAIN DAY

SPEECH OF

**HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE**

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 5, 2009*

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 367. This resolution marks the 140th anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad and the beginning of America's strong dependence on rail transportation.

Since the golden spike was driven into the final tie at Promontory Summit in 1869, our nation has relied on passenger and freight rail to build our communities and enhance our way of life.

And like then, our economic growth depends on the ability to move goods and people quickly and reliably.

For anyone who has driven on the I-95 corridor recently, it is strikingly clear that highway congestion has become a critical problem—threatening business productivity, increasing safety risks, and hindering efforts to improve air quality. In fact, studies have shown that travelers in the Northeast waste approximately 700,000 hours and 500,000 gallons of fuel sitting in traffic delays every year.

Fixing our transportation system will take a sustained, long-term investment. Last month, President Obama announced a new Strategic Plan to build a national high-speed rail network. Now, it is incumbent upon us to ensure this plan is effective in addressing the critical

mobility challenges in heavily congested areas of the country, like the Northeast Corridor between Boston and Washington, DC.

In 2008, Amtrak set a new record with 28.7 million passengers—including millions of travelers and commuters in the Northeast. I commend Amtrak for its efforts to increase ridership and improve its on-time performance over the last several years.

As cochair of the House Passenger Rail Caucus, and more importantly one of the thousands of commuters who rely on Amtrak almost daily, I can attest to the accomplishments of our nation's railroads and I look forward to joining my colleagues in exploring their untapped potential.

I thank Chairwoman BROWN for her strong leadership on this important issue and I congratulate America's railroads in celebrating National Train Day.

## HONORING JOHN BUCK OF NEW BLOOMINGTON, OHIO, 2009 ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AWARD RECIPIENT

**HON. JIM JORDAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 6, 2009*

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I am honored to commend to the House John Buck of New Bloomington, Ohio. John is among this year's recipients of the Environmental Stewardship Award, given by the Ohio Livestock Coalition in partnership with the Ohio Pork Producers Council.

The Environmental Stewardship Award program acknowledges superior conservation techniques among our Nation's livestock producers, who already take the lead in responsible land use practices. For nearly twenty years, winners have been recognized for their dedication to promoting air and water quality and protecting fish and wildlife habitats while operating successful and profitable livestock businesses. This commitment is especially important in Ohio, where one in every seven jobs is directly linked to our state's \$100 billion agriculture industry.

John was recognized for his achievement at the 2009 Ohio Livestock Coalition's annual meeting on April 6. I am honored to add my congratulations to those of producers from throughout Ohio on this achievement. John's commitment to responsible stewardship is a fine example to landowners across the State and Nation.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 6, 2009*

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, on May 4, 2009, I was unable to cast my

votes on H. Res. 230 and H. Con. Res. 111 and wish the record to reflect my intentions had I been able to vote.

Had I been present for Roll Call No. 229, on suspending the Rules and passing H. Res. 230, Recognizing the historical significance of the Mexican holiday of Cinco de Mayo, I would have voted "yea."

Had I been present for Roll Call No. 230, on suspending the Rules and passing H. Con. Res. 111, Recognizing the 61st anniversary of the Independence of the State of Israel, I would have voted "yea."

## STATEMENT ON THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF MARIE WILKINSON

**HON. BILL FOSTER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 6, 2009*

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise today to acknowledge the 100th birthday of Mrs. Marie Wilkinson.

A true living legend, Marie Wilkinson has spent a lifetime giving to others and her community.

Today I thank Marie Wilkinson for all her service to the city of Aurora and wish her a very happy birthday. It is an honor to celebrate such a momentous day and a remarkable life.

For more than six decades Marie Wilkinson has fought injustice and given voice to those most in need. Her activism has reached well beyond the local level to benefit countless across the state. In the late 1940s Mrs. Wilkinson won a case before the Illinois State Appellate Court that resulted in the integration of area restaurants. Through the Human Relations Commission she founded in 1964, Mrs. Wilkinson is credited with enacting the first Fair Housing Ordinance in Illinois.

Unyielding determination and a deep love of people have kept Marie Wilkinson going. Her work has led to the founding of more than 60 charitable organizations including Hesus House Homeless Shelter, Feed the Hungry Program, Breaking Free Drug Program, Catholic Social Action Conference, Sci-Tech Youth Science Museum, and the Quad County Urban League.

I ask my colleagues to please join me in recognizing Marie Wilkinson's 100th birthday, and celebrating her commitment to the betterment of community and humanity.

## RECOGNIZING NURSING STAFF AT EL RIO COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

**HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 6, 2009*

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madame Speaker, I rise today to recognize the nursing staff at El Rio Community Health Center in Tucson, AZ.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

This week, we celebrate National Nurses Week, to honor the men and women that care for us in some of our hardest moments. I am humbled to recognize the nurses of El Rio who endure so much for the health of our community.

From its beginning, El Rio has had a strong community base which comes from advocating and working to ensure that quality and affordable health care were provided to underrepresented communities in the late 1960s. Today, it is among the largest community health centers in Southern Arizona.

The legacy of quality and affordable health care continues at El Rio, because of the sacrifice and commitment of its nurses.

El Rio nurses are often the unsung heroes; they are protective of their patients, are selfless in the care they provide, and are in tune with the needs of the patient. This is just what we see as patients or family of loved ones.

Behind the scenes and off the clock, El Rio nurses are constantly training or researching the newest techniques, health trends, nurse education, or how to provide culturally and ethnically competent care. They do this so that their patients can have the most up-to-date and personal care.

This year, Congress is preparing to undertake health care reform, a debate that is decades old to which we will hopefully find solutions. The work by El Rio nurses are actions and principles that my colleagues and I should embrace as we move forward on this important debate. El Rio nurses are committed to the idea that each patient deserves respect, receives quality care, and is part of the community. If we could replicate their concern, passion, energy, and success, our country's system would provide the quality health care we all hope to attain.

Words are not strong enough to thank the nurses at El Rio on behalf of their dedication, sacrifice, and work for a better future.

HARRY FRANCIS CUNNINGHAM,  
JR.

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 6, 2009*

Mr. TERRY. Madam Speaker, it is my honor today to recognize the 10th anniversary of the death of Harry Francis Cunningham, Jr., a patriotic American, a great Nebraskan and an unsung hero.

Harry Francis Cunningham devoted 31 years to the U.S. Foreign Service, serving in posts in Hungary, Spain, Germany, Vietnam, Sweden, Norway, Finland, and Canada during the tumultuous times of 1938–1969. During that time, Mr. Cunningham was personally responsible for the safety and survival of many families. At the tender age of 25, Mr. Cunningham was able to accomplish feats only achieved by real heroes, and through his noble actions, countless Jewish lives were saved.

One example of Mr. Cunningham's many accomplishments is the story of Mr. Zoltan Roth and Mrs. Elizabeth Foldes, two people that he helped escape Hungary just before the onslaught of World War II.

Both Zoltan and Elizabeth were graduate medical students seeking to escape Europe

for America and facing dire circumstances. Both were brilliant students, but were banned by Hungarian medical school quotas against Jews. Instead, both graduated with honors from their respective schools, Zoltan from the University of Bologna in Italy and Elizabeth from Charles Medical University in Prague.

Upon her graduation, Elizabeth had been accepted at Columbia University in New York City to do graduate studies. She and Zoltan were about to be married, and wanted to come to America together. When she arrived at the American Embassy in Budapest, however, she learned for the first time that her student visa was unattainable. Six years before, her mother had, without Elizabeth's knowledge or consent, signed her up for permanent residency status and this had nullified the student visa process. A person applying for a student visa could not have signaled a desire to remain permanently. Their plight looked hopeless. They made an appointment, again at the American Embassy in Budapest, this time, fortuitously, being assigned to a Foreign Service Officer, who turned out to be Harry Francis Cunningham, Jr., 25 years old and on his first post. Creatively, Mr. Cunningham readjusted their visas giving Zoltan Roth, Elizabeth's permanent visa that she had not known about, as well as a quota number so he could leave Hungary within the next couple of months, freeing up her student visa application for her, and allowing them both entry into the United States.

Because of his kindness and creativity, Elizabeth and Zoltan came to the United States, each practicing medicine in Reading, Pennsylvania for over 50 years, they were generous philanthropists and community citizens. They raised three daughters who have been teachers, professors, authors, lecturers and leaders in the world-wide medical support community.

This was just one example of how Mr. Cunningham was able to assist refugees after the war by providing them safe entry into America to start new and productive lives.

Mr. Cunningham received a bachelor's of arts degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1933 and was awarded an UNL Alumni Achievement award in 1984. He was a former trustee of the Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation and the UNL Alumni Association. He served on the Bishop's committee and was a church warden at St. Mark's Campus Episcopal Church.

Mr. Cunningham comes from a strong Nebraskan family as well. His father, Col. Harry Cunningham, took over the Nebraska State Capitol project after the death of Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue. He is survived by 11 grand children and 8 great grand children, several of which are still living in Nebraska.

Many families owe their survival, and the lives of their children and grandchildren, to Mr. Cunningham. So it is my true honor to remember this unsung hero here today.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 6, 2009*

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I want to state for the record that on May 5th I was in my district attending the funeral of my Aunt

Julia Taglibue Monda who recently passed away at the age of 96, and I therefore missed the three rollcall votes of the day.

Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote No. 231, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree—H. Res. 299—Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the Nation during Public Service Recognition Week, May 4 through 10, 2009, and throughout the year.

Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote No. 232, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree—H. Res. 338—Supporting the goals and ideals of National Community College Month.

Lastly, had I been present I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote No. 233, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree—H. Res. 353—Supporting the goals and ideals of Global Youth Service Days.

#### BOSWELL ENGINEERING

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 6, 2009*

Mr. ROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Boswell Engineering. In 1924, the late David C. Boswell recognized the need for engineering expertise in a world that was expanding and developing at a lightening-fast pace. It was then, in Ridgefield Park, NJ, that he founded Boswell Engineering. His leadership provided the solid foundation upon which the company is built.

Family ownership continued as both of David C. Boswell's sons—the late Howard L. Boswell, Sr. and David J. Boswell—became the second generation to own and operate the firm, each making his unique contribution toward establishing Boswell as a full-service engineering company. The company's third generation of family ownership and management headed by Stephen Boswell who together with his brothers Bruce and Kevin are presently providing the leadership for continuation and expansion of the superb quality of service and high standard of excellence Boswell is known for in the engineering community.

Through the company's fine history of engineering accomplishments—from a two-man field office concentrating on surveying and civil engineering to a 250 person multi-disciplined engineering firm serving numerous public sector clients at all levels of government, Boswell continues to play a major role in the structuring of the future and improving the quality of life for the cities, towns and counties with which it is associated.

Today, as the fourth generation is now actively engaged at the family owned business, Boswell Engineering, which has been headquartered in Bergen County since it's founding in 1924, looks forward to maintaining a reputation for excellence by continuing to provide superb engineering services envisioned by its founder 85 years ago.