

HONORING WILLIAM J. SYRING

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2009

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to William J. Syring of Toledo, Ohio who practiced law in Toledo for a half-century, eventually running for City Council and the Ohio Court of Appeals. Mr. Syring had a general law practice, handling small business, probate, real estate, and personal injury cases. His son, Paul, first practiced law with his father, and state it left "an indelible mark on my career. It was a wonderful experience. He was calm, a constant student of the law", as he reported to the Toledo Blade. William retired about 10 years ago from his practice, which he began in 1948 after serving two years as counsel for the Federal Power Commission in Washington. "He was always a great one for wanting to help others, especially those who couldn't afford it or didn't know the right channels to go through," his wife Pat observed.

Mr. Syring believed that to build a case, a lawyer must get out and talk to people and investigate, much as a detective would do. "He taught me you don't practice law sitting behind your desk and answering the phone," said his son, a senior attorney with the City of Toledo Law Department, where he has been since 1999. "I learned more from him probably than I did in law school. "He was a representative of the golden age of the practice of law in Toledo. He showed me it's priceless to prepare, and he was always prepared."

Mr. Syring ran in 1982 for the Ohio Sixth District Court of Appeals, and he campaigned at diners and fairs through the eight counties of the district. "He was a great communicator, a great trial lawyer, [and] thrived in the courtroom," his son said. Mr. Syring was defeated by Judge Peter Handwork, who remains on the bench.

Early in his career, he ran unsuccessfully for City Council twice, in 1953 and 1956. He was long active in civic causes. Mr. Syring was a member of the Board of Community Relations in the 1950s and he was a trustee of the Model Cities Agency in the 1960s. He was a member of the Interfaith Conference on Religion and Race and of the NAACP.

He was a past president of the Toledo Trial Lawyers Association and was a member of the Toledo Legal Aid Society. He formerly was on the executive committee of the Lucas County Democratic Party. Mr. Syring was on the Ohio Board of Bar Examiners for two terms. He was also a member of Gesu Church.

Mr. Syring was a graduate of St. John's High School when it was in North Toledo. He received bachelor's and law degrees from the University of Notre Dame. He later received a master of laws degree from Catholic University of America in Washington and attended University of Toledo and Ohio State University law schools. An Army veteran of World War II, he was an agent in the Counter Intelligence Corps in Europe.

Surviving are his wife, Patricia Syring, whom he married Oct. 6, 1956; daughters, Julia Syring and Mary Drumm; sons, Patrick, Joseph, John, and Paul Syring, and seven grandchildren.

It is with the deepest appreciation that I pay tribute, on behalf of our entire community, to the long life of a good, patient, kind and dedicated barrister, William J. Syring who passed from this life on July 4, 2008. He lived his years in service to his family, friends, Toledo community and the cause of justice. I valued him for decades as a friend and advisor. May God welcome William home and bring peace to his dear wife and family.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO THE ORGANIZATION OF CHINESE-AMERICANS**HON. JASON ALTMIRE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2009

Mr. ALTMIRE. Madam Speaker, I would like to wish the Pittsburgh Chapter of the Organization of Chinese-Americans a happy and healthy New Year for the year 4707, the year of the ox.

I hope this New Year brings the Chinese-American community of Pittsburgh much joy and thanksgiving. I am thankful for the positive impact this organization has had on the lives of Chinese-Americans and Pittsburgh as a whole. Chinese-Americans have greatly contributed to the progress of Pittsburgh as well as the entire nation. I am very honored for this opportunity to wish them a very happy 4707.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in wishing the members of the Organization of Chinese-Americans a very happy and prosperous New Year.

IN HONOR OF APOSTLE JOYCE COFIELD**HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE**

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2009

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize Apostle Joyce Cofield. On January 31, 2009, Apostle Cofield will be honored at a banquet celebrating her 14th pastoral anniversary at Anointed Word Evangelistic Fellowship.

Apostle Cofield is the founder of Anointed Word Evangelistic Fellowship in Wilmington, Delaware. Apostle Cofield entered full-time ministry in 2000 and has over 30 years of experience in ministerial leadership. During her time as senior pastor of Anointed Word, Apostle Cofield has emerged as an accomplished leader: in 2008 she was profiled in the National Registry of Who's Who, and she recently published a prophetic book of poetry entitled, *From the Father's Heart to My Heart to Your Heart*.

Apostle Cofield is a graduate of a local bible college and has continued her education at various secular institutions in the Wilmington area. As part of her vision to bring restoration to families and individuals, she regularly reaches out to the homeless in Delaware—not only to meet practical needs for food, clothing and shelter, but by motivating, instructing and enriching their lives. Apostle Cofield lives by several creeds including, "the most important

thing is to know God and for God to know you", as well as "attitudes are contagious, is yours worth catching?" The members of Anointed Word admire and respect Apostle Cofield for her selfless acts, strong leadership and passion for community outreach.

I thank Apostle Joyce Cofield for her many years of service to the members of her congregation at Anointed Word Evangelistic Fellowship, the greater community, and the State of Delaware. I am confident that as she celebrates this significant milestone in her ministry, she will remain committed to many more years of demonstrating her faith in both word and deed.

RECOGNIZING THE HERKIMER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE (HCCC) WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD TEAM**HON. MICHAEL A. ARCURI**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2009

Mr. ARCURI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Herkimer County Community College (HCCC) Women's Track and Field Team in my congressional district in Upstate New York. In 2008, the team won its fourth regional championship and its first ever national championship. Altogether, HCCC's athletic programs have won 72 regional championships and 31 national championships.

The National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division III Region III Women's Track and Field Championships were held at the State University of New York (SUNY) College of Technology at Alfred from May 2-3. The Lady Generals came in first with an impressive 163.5 points. Chantal Salamone, from Little Falls, placed first in the triple jump and 100 meter hurdles, and was named the Women's Field Athlete of the Meet. Amanda Davey, of Amsterdam, won in the 400 meter hurdles. Betheny Jennings, of Sylvan Beach, was first in the shot put, while Sarah Lazarus of South New Berlin was first in the 3000 meter steeplechase.

The NJCAA Division III National Women's Track and Field Championships were hosted by SUNY Delhi from May 8-10. HCCC won the meet with 135 points. Chantal and Amanda again won the 100 and 400 meter hurdles, respectively. As a result of their wins, Chantal and Amanda were named First Team All-Americans. They were also named Second Team All-Americans for their second place finishes in the triple jump (Chantal), heptathlon (Amanda), and 3200 meter relay (both).

Joining Chantal and Amanda as Second Team All-Americans were Sarah and Theresa Lazarus from South New Berlin and Krysta Estey from Little Falls. Sarah was second in the high jump and was also a part of the 3200 meter relay team, while Theresa was second in the 400 meter hurdles. Krysta was a member of the relay team.

Amanda Link from North Patchogue, and Grace Hall from Herkimer also helped HCCC to achieve victory in the regional and national championships.

The Lady Generals were led by Head Coach Sharon Howell and Assistant Coach Julie DelMedico. Howell was named Coach of the Meet for both the regional and national championships.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Herkimer County Community College Women's Track and Field Team on their victories. I am proud to represent such talented athletes, and I wish them the best of luck with their future athletic and scholarly pursuits.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NON-NATIVE WILDLIFE INVASION PREVENTION ACT

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2009

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, today I have reintroduced a bill to protect the United States from harm caused by invasive species. In the 110th Congress, I introduced H.R. 6311, the Nonnative Wildlife Invasion Prevention Act, in response to the increasing economic, environmental, and human health threats posed by invasive wildlife species. I am reintroducing this legislation as a proactive approach to combating invasive wildlife species by prohibiting their importation.

Nonnative plants and animals are known by scientists to have been introduced into ecosystems in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the territories. Invasive, nonnative species can harm the economy, environment, other animal species' health and human health. Such harm ranges, for example, from depreciating farmland property values and loss of irrigation water to increasing spread of disease. Additionally, collapse of buildings, competition with native animals, sport, game, and endangered species losses, habitat alteration, and other ecosystem disturbances, have all resulted from the introduction of certain invasive species.

Scientists and economists generally estimate the cost of damages caused by invasive species in the United States to amount to over \$123 billion annually. The risks associated with the introduction and establishment of invasive species, and the costs of mitigation, will continue to rise concomitantly with the expansion of trade and increased speed and frequency of travel around the world and within the United States. The volume of cargo shipped and exchanged worldwide continues to increase and many communities across the United States are experiencing growth in tourism. These factors are reason alone to develop protocols and a system for assessing the risk of all nonnative wildlife species that could be imported or introduced into the United States.

Preventing the introduction of invasive species is a significant challenge and priority for many communities across the country, including my district, Guam. Invasive species, for example, threaten the biodiversity and the ecology of the Florida Everglades, the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, and the Great Lakes, among other national environmental treasures. On Guam, the brown tree snake has caused the extirpation of many endemic forest birds and lizards. The coqui tree frog and the coconut rhinoceros beetle are the latest species to have entered Guam. Although these species were 1 accidentally introduced, intentional introduction of invasive species is something that can and should be controlled. The bill re-

introduced today would protect citizens, the economy, and the environment from imported wildlife species that have the known potential to and that would likely harm our interests in the United States.

Absent a comprehensive federal law addressing the importation of nonnative species, the only protection is provided by the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981. This law authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to designate wildlife species considered "injurious" to humans and prohibits importation of such species into the country. The process, however, to designate a species as injurious can take up to four years, at which point harm has already been done.

The Nonnative Wildlife Invasion Prevention Act authorizes the establishment by regulation of a risk assessment process to control the importation of wildlife species. The bill adopts a preventative approach by requiring the Secretary of the Interior to develop with public notice and public input a "green list" of species allowed to be imported and a "black list" preventing invasive species from entering the country. Prior to approving a species to be imported, the Secretary must evaluate its potential risk to human, other animal species, and environmental health. Any imports of species, which are not on the "green list," will be subject to penalties under the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981. The Secretary, however, may permit importation of an animal of such other prohibited species for educational, scientific research, or accredited zoological or aquarium display purposes. Finally, import fees will be collected to cover the costs of the risk assessment process.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to advance this legislation and to strengthen the abilities of the federal government to more effectively manage and prevent the introduction and establishment of nonnative wildlife species.

THE AMERICAN FARM BUREAU AND THE U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AGREE: REPEAL THE \$175 COW TAX: COSPONSOR H.R. 391

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2009

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, last year, the EPA published an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for a rule to give EPA's bureaucracy regulatory oversight of greenhouse gas, GHG, emissions under the Clean Air Act. This rule would affect both mobile and stationary sources.

If EPA is allowed to implement this rule, almost every small agricultural operation, including family farms, will meet the 100-tons-per year threshold. The cost of this rule will be a "tax" of \$175 per cow, \$88 per head of beef cattle, and \$20 per hog. In addition, any new farms or existing farm expansion will be burdened with the "New Source Review" permitting requirements. These permits, which are extremely costly and time intensive, must be acquired before any new changes take place.

While members of Congress may disagree on regulation of GHG emissions, the final decision should be made by Congress and not mandated by the EPA. H.R. 391 asserts Con-

gress' authority over this issue by pre-empting EPA from regulating GHGs under the Clean Air Act.

Please join me and support our farmers by cosponsoring H.R. 391. Congress must not allow EPA to establish regulations that place new costs on farmers and consumers.

Please contact me directly or have your staff contact Rodney Bacigalupo at 5-2811, rodney.bacigalupo@mail.house.gov, to add your name as a cosponsor of H.R. 391 or to request further information on this issue.

TRIBUTE TO MARGARET BUSH WILSON

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 26, 2009

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American—a feminist, social activist, and accomplished attorney, Margaret Bush Wilson was born before women had the right to vote. A pioneer and champion of woman's rights, she was the first woman to be president of both the St. Louis chapter and Missouri chapter of the NAACP and the second woman admitted to practice law in the state of Missouri. I am privileged to recognize this outstanding member of the St. Louis community as her friends and family honor her on the occasion of her 90th birthday.

Margaret Bush was born on January 30, 1919 in St. Louis, Missouri. Her father James Thomas Bush was a railway postal clerk and her mother Margaret Bernice Casey Bush was an outstanding educator. Both of her parents were very active in the local NAACP. As a young woman, she attended Talladega College where she was awarded a Julia Prescott Fellowship to study at Visva Bharati College in India.

After graduating from college with a B.S. degree in Economics, Mrs. Wilson benefitted from the Supreme Court ruling in the case of *Gains v. Canada*. That decision required the state of Missouri to admit African Americans to the University of Missouri School of Law, or to establish separate but equal law school facilities. Missouri chose to create Lincoln University law school, rather than to integrate. Margaret Bush Wilson graduated from that law school and passed the Missouri bar in 1943.

A dedicated public servant, Margaret Bush Wilson served as U.S. Attorney for the Department of Agriculture's Rural Electrification Administration and as the Assistant Attorney General for the state of Missouri. After her marriage to Robert Wilson in 1944, the couple established the St. Louis real estate law firm known as Wilson and Wilson.

Her expertise in real estate law proved instrumental when she served as counsel for the black Real Estate Brokers Association, an organization initiated by her father. The organization was active in *Shelley vs. Kramer*, a 1948 Supreme Court ruling in which racially based restrictive covenants were ruled unconstitutional and unenforceable. Mrs. Wilson also served as the head of Lawyers for Housing where she championed one thousand new housing units.

In her capacity as president of the St. Louis chapter of the NAACP, Mrs. Wilson was involved in landmark civil rights cases, including