

brought and nurtured music and jazz in the region for five generations. He will be remembered as a truly great and inspirational teacher whose lasting effect will be felt for many years to come.

After fulfilling his military obligation in the Army, Cannon graduated from Philander Smith College, in Little Rock, Arkansas. While studying music, he was also a member of the football and track teams. Following his graduation, he began teaching music at Jones High School in North Little Rock, where we met and married his wife of 50 years, Maxine Sutton. They moved to Mahaska, Kansas in 1959, where he taught general music from kindergarten to 12th grades.

In 1964, the family moved to El Centro, where he taught elementary and junior high music. In 1966, he became the band director of The Great Spartan Band at Central Union High School, where he distinguished himself as a teacher and band director for 30 years.

Bands from Central High received many awards and honors from the Orange Coast College Jazz Festivals, El Centro Navy Base Jazz Festival, Southwestern College Jazz Festival, Imperial Valley College Jazz Festival, USC Concert of the Bands, UCLA Band Festival, Holiday Bowl Music Festivals, Columbus Day Parade, Mother Goose Parade, and the Disneyland Parades and concerts in 1975, 1976, 1977, and 1987.

The Great Spartan Band traveled extensively beginning in 1972 with a trip to Mexico City, where they were honored by the President of Mexico. The band traveled four times to the Mardi Gras in New Orleans, and twice to Hawaii. The band's last trip before his retirement in 1996, was to Disneyworld in Florida (1995), where they participated in the Magic Kingdom Easter Parade. Throughout the years, the band performed for numerous local events.

He received the Teacher of the Year Award in 1988, which led to the Imperial Valley Arts Council sponsorship of Valley Jazz; a non-profit big band that sponsors scholarships and provides local musicians with performance opportunities.

He is survived by his wife, Maxine; two sons, Derek (Jenee), of La Mesa, and Mike of El Centro; one daughter, Janine of El Centro; three grandchildren, Breanne, Carley, and Brenna of San Diego; two nephews, Hardy Thrower Jr. (Susan), of Sparks, Nevada, and Eric Thrower, (Sandra), of San Diego.

Funeral services were held on Sunday, May 31st, at the Southwest High School Center for the Performing Arts where hundreds of friends, former students and fellow musicians gathered to honor his life and lasting legacy which became synonymous with jazz.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF REINA ARCE LEDDY

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 10, 2009

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Reina Arce Leddy, President of the Guam Chamber of Commerce, for her dedication and service to our community. Reina passed away on Thursday morning, July 2, 2009, on Guam.

In November 2007, Reina was appointed President of the Guam Chamber of Commerce. As the Chamber's President and Chief Executive Officer, Reina led and promoted the Chamber's programs. Before assuming the Presidency, Reina worked with the Chamber since 1991 as an assistant to the President. In that capacity Reina supervised Chamber staff, and managed all aspects of Chamber's community relations, special events and publications. An energetic and focused professional, Reina staffed the Chamber's Committees on the Armed Forces, Maritime Affairs, Small Business, Tourism, and Retail-Wholesale Merchants. Reina also served as the Chamber chief administrative officer where she was entrusted by the Board of Directors with managing the Chamber's organizational structure, with the effective execution of its policies and procedures, the maintenance of its membership and the organization's long range planning.

Reina graduated from the University of Guam where she majored in Finance and Economics and East Asian Studies with an emphasis on Japan. While at UOG she also pursued a minor in Management. The government of Japan awarded Reina a Japanese Government Scholarship as a research student at Hiroshima University's Intensive Japanese Language Course. She also studied at Kagawa University.

In addition to her duties as Chamber President, Reina is a member of the American Chambers of Commerce Executives (ACCE), the Asia Pacific Council of American Chambers of Commerce (APCAC) and the Civilian Advisory Council at Andersen Air Force Base.

Reina's spirit of community extends to her home village of Mangilao and the parish of Santa Teresita Catholic Church. An accomplished pianist, Reina, and her husband, David, a professional guitarist, shared their love of music as the leaders of their church choir. Born on November 24, 1963, to Reynaldo Arce and Consolacion San Nicolas Mendiola, and married to David P. Leddy on May 31, 1986, Reina left us at the young age of 45 but leaves behind a legacy that will live for many years to come.

My condolences, sympathies and prayers go out to her family and loved ones and to all who knew her and were touched by her joyous spirit and never-ending smile.

DID FIRED OC AIR MARSHAL ENDANGER FLYING PUBLIC OR PROTECT IT?

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 10, 2009

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss the article titled "Did Fired OC Air Marshal Endanger Flying Public, or Protect It?" The article was posted online on May 8, 2009 and I believe my colleagues in Congress will benefit from the article and the topic of whistleblower protection.

DID FIRED OC AIR MARSHAL ENDANGER FLYING PUBLIC, OR PROTECT IT?

(By Teri Sforza)

On July 26, 2003, the Department of Homeland Security issued an alert to all U.S. airlines, airport security managers and federal air marshals:

A possible hijacking plot was in the works, involving five-man teams that might try to seize planes and fly them into government, military or economic targets.

Robert MacLean of Ladera Ranch had been working as a federal air marshal since shortly after 9/11. So it struck him as particularly bizarre when—just three days later—a text message popped up on his government-issued mobile phone:

Overnight missions involving federal air marshals will be cancelled from late July through early August.

What? No overnights? That meant no air marshals on long-distance flights. To save money on hotel rooms, MacLean would come to understand.

This, thought MacLean, was crazy. The 9/11 hijackers targeted long-distance flights because they hauled the most fuel and could do the most damage. Pulling air marshals from such flights, precisely when there was warning of a possible attack, was gross mismanagement—and a "specific threat to public safety that could lead to catastrophic loss of life," he'd say later in court papers.

So MacLean took his concerns to his supervisor and other officials.

He didn't get far.

TOP SECRET?

That text message, MacLean would later argue, wasn't marked as sensitive information. It arrived on his mobile phone, not on his secure PDA.

And so, on July 29, 2003, MacLean disclosed the message to—gasp!—a member of the press. NBC.

Fallout was fast and furious. Lawmakers decried the idea as foolish; Sen. Barbara Boxer offered to send the Transportation Security Administration a list of hotels near San Francisco International Airport where rooms cost less than \$100 a night. Officials said they had made no final decisions yet; and overnight missions continued, as per usual, on the full schedule of cross-country and international flights.

ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL?

Not quite.

Nearly three years later—in April 2006—MacLean was fired from his job as a federal air marshal. Grounds for dismissal: disclosing sensitive information to the media.

The message didn't need to be marked "sensitive," the government argued; all details regarding the deployment, number and operations of federal air marshals were protected information.

"Your unauthorized media appearance and unauthorized release of SSI (sensitive security) information to the media raise serious doubts about your judgment and trustworthiness," says MacLean's dismissal notice, signed by Frank Donzanti, special agent in charge with the Transportation Security Administration.

"Moreover, the disclosure of this SSI had the potential to reveal vulnerabilities in the aviation security system, and as such, was extremely dangerous to the public we serve. As such, I find little chance for your rehabilitation as a FAM (federal air marshal). Based on the egregiousness of your actions I have lost confidence in your ability to perform and find that removal from Federal employment for your unauthorized disclosure of SSI is necessary to promote the effectiveness of the FAM Service," the letter says.

LEGAL LABYRINTH

So was MacLean endangering the public safety by revealing the message? Or was he protecting it?

Is he a villain, or a hero?

MacLean argues that he should be protected as a federal whistleblower, and filed a whistleblower suit against the government.

Many machinations have followed, in that tortured, slow, legal sort of way. "I want to get back to federal law enforcement," said MacLean, 39, who says he has applied at a dozen local police departments, but remains jobless. "I want to go back to serving as if I had never blown the whistle before."

MacLean was a Border Patrol agent in San Clemente for six years, and a federal air marshal for four years. He has a wife and two daughters, 5 and 7. They've moved in with his parents. These days he spends time tracking the fits and starts of whistleblower-protection legislation that seems to come up every year, and die every year.

THIS TIME, MORE HOPE

Last week, a letter signed by seven congressmen and women went to President Obama, urging him to swift action on the issue of whistleblower protection for federal employees.

"Whistleblowers are our nation's best resource against fraud and abuse of the public trust," the letter says. "Legal victories for employees who have been retaliated against for blowing the whistle are almost nonexistent. We encourage you to support congressional efforts to reform the inadequate system of whistleblower protections, such as H.R. 1507. . . . In addition to these forward-looking reforms, we encourage you to take action to restore the careers of employees who were wrongly terminated or marginalized by previous administrations after blowing the whistle."

And other lawmakers are getting on board as well. There have been meetings at the White House. MacLean's documents live on the Project on Government Oversight's web site. He has his own page on Wikipedia. Officials did not rush to get back to us to discuss his case; but he has made appearances on many news programs and is not shy about pressing the righteousness of his position.

He hopes for a resolution soon.

CONGRATULATING PORTAGE NORTHERN HIGH SCHOOL FORENSIC TEAM

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 10, 2009

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Portage Northern High School Forensic Team on its eighth consecutive state championship at the Michigan Inter-scholastic Forensic Association state finals.

Portage Northern's forensic program, led by Coach Laurel Scheidt, has a rich 44 year history with 11 state titles to its name. The team had a successful 2009 season with first-place finishes at every invitational and an excellent performance at both the district and regional competitions. At this year's state competition over 80 schools and 800 students participated. The Northern team dominated the Class A division, qualifying the maximum 28 entries to the tournament with 45 students. Northern collected a record 1,066 sweepstake points defeating second place finisher Birmingham Seaholm High School by over 330 points.

It is an honor to congratulate the entire 2009 Portage Northern Forensic Team and pay special tribute to first-place finishers Andrew Beckner, Spencer Dudd, John Kramer, Kasey McSoley, Brennan Mange, Bryce Maurer, Nich Mueller, Nathan Novaria, Brady O'Brien, Caitlin Utt, Allyson Williams and Amanda Willoughby.

On behalf of all residents of southwest Michigan, congratulations again to the Portage Northern Forensic Team, Coach Laurel Scheidt and the entire Portage Community—you are an inspiration to us all. Go Huskies!

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. MARY FALLIN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 10, 2009

Ms. FALLIN. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding the earmark I received as part of "H.R. 3082—Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2010."

Title of Project: T-9 Noise Suppressor Support

Amount of Project: \$5,100,000

Account: Air Force, Military Construction

Project Recipient: Tinker Air Force Base 3001 Staff Drive, Tinker AFB, OK 73145

At my request, \$5,100,000 was included in H.R. 3082, the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2010, to fund the construction of foundations and supporting facilities for two T-9 noise suppression systems at Tinker AFB, Oklahoma. This project would consist of the construction of reinforced concrete footings and slabs capable of supporting T-9 style engine testing facilities, a 20,000 gallon jet engine fuel storage and delivery system, utilities, access driveways, and a small office/restroom/break facility. Current engine test facilities are aging and unable to support the current test mission.

With the completion of the new Tinker Aerospace Complex (TAC) and the transfer of engine maintenance to this facility, construction of these test cells near the TAC will allow contiguous support of military jet engine repair, decrease maintenance downtime, and associated cost. This will allow the 76th Maintenance Wing and the 76th Propulsion Maintenance Group the capabilities to meet its mission of delivering engines on time and on cost and position Tinker AFB for increased mission capabilities in the future.

INTRODUCING THE UNITED STATES OPTIMAL USE OF TRADE TO DEVELOP OUTERWEAR AND OUTDOOR RECREATION

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 10, 2009

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, more than 75 percent of Americans participate in active outdoor recreation each year, experiencing America's wild lands and outdoor spaces in ways large and small. In recognition of this group, I am introducing the "United States Optimal Use of Trade to Develop Outerwear and Outdoor Recreation Act" or the "U.S. OUTDOOR Act". This legislation will reduce the high tariffs on outdoor apparel and will invest in research to shrink the environmental footprint of the American textile industry while increasing its international competitiveness.

According to recent surveys, roughly 33 million Americans went fishing last year and 56 million went hiking. Through healthy outdoor activities like bird watching, ice climbing, hiking, and bass fishing, outdoor recreation contributes \$730 billion and 6.5 million jobs to the U.S. economy.

Unfortunately, recreational performance outerwear—jackets and pants used for skiing and snowboarding, mountaineering, hunting, fishing and dozens of other outdoor activities—is assessed some of the highest duty rates applied to any products imported into the United States. While the average duty on imports is less than 2 percent, the rates on recreational performance outerwear average 17 percent, with some as high as 28 percent.

These disproportionately high tariffs were originally implemented to protect U.S. manufacturers from foreign competition, but now no longer serve that purpose. Instead, they stifle innovation and raise costs throughout our economy. In a recent report, the U.S. International Trade Commission recently found that there was no commercially viable production of recreational performance outerwear in the United States.

To better reflect this economic reality, the U.S. OUTDOOR Act will establish new tariff classifications for these products and will eliminate the disproportionately high tariffs assessed on them.

The legislation will also establish the Sustainable Textile and Apparel Research (STAR) Fund. Access to STAR Fund grants will be made available to certain non-profit organizations through a competitive process, with the overarching purpose of advancing U.S. competitiveness in lean manufacturing technologies and supply chain analysis. The STAR Fund will ultimately help the global textile and apparel industry in minimizing energy and water use, reducing waste and carbon emissions and incorporating sustainable practices into a product's entire life cycle.

Through these mechanisms, this legislation will support the outdoor industry, consumers of outdoor products, and environmental practices throughout the textile industry supply chain. I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass this important legislation.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the Fiscal Year 2010 State and Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill. I'd like to thank Chairwoman LOWEY and Ranking Member GRANGER for their hard work on this bill and take a moment to explain the need for this important piece of legislation.

This bill improves America's leadership in the fight against global poverty and disease. As Congress continues to debate the efficacy of our foreign aid against the backdrop of a post-9/11 world, many Americans do not make the connection between national security and development.