

Building at the Hardin County Fairgrounds in Eldora.

Brady has been involved in scouting since he was in Tiger Cubs and continues to be an active member of the Eldora Boy Scout Troop 334 today. He has completed over 50 merit badges, 12 of which are required to become an Eagle Scout. While in Scouts, Brady has earned various awards which include: the Bronze Palm, Arrow of Light Award, 50 Miler Award, God and Country Religious Award, World Conservation Award and various others. Brady is also a Member of Order of the Arrow—Brotherhood Level and completed the Den Chief Leadership training.

The example set by this young man demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I am honored to represent Brady Young in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues join me in congratulating him on earning an Eagle Scout ranking and wish him continued success in his future education and career.

HONORING FRED WELCH

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Fred Welch, a dedicated and selfless member of the community who passed away on March 13, 2009.

Fred was born in Linden, Tennessee and later attended the University of Tennessee. After graduation he attended Auburn University and Iowa State University. Fred's areas of specialty were in soil science, specifically soil fertility and fertilizers. This area of expertise led him to work at the Georgia Experiment Station, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and finally the agronomy department at the University of Illinois.

He is survived by his wife, Marilyn, whom he married in 1956 in Cherokee, Alabama. They were blessed with three sons, five granddaughters, and three grandsons. After retiring from the University of Illinois in 1990, Fred and his wife traveled whenever possible and founded an active seniors group that meets once a month to discuss politics and meet candidates. This organization, the Active Senior Republicans, has grown from just the two of them to over one hundred citizens of the Champaign area.

I hope all of you will join me in recognizing Fred Welch for his contributions to his community, Champaign County, and the University of Illinois.

TRIBUTE TO REAR ADMIRAL DR. JOHN F. EISOLD

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, let me take this opportunity to recognize the service of Dr. John F. Eisold, former Attending Physician of the United States Congress. From 1994 to 2009, Dr. Eisold dedicated himself to the medical welfare of the Members and staff

of Congress. His services were essential to the Members of Congress and should not go unrecognized.

Dr. Eisold was born in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1946, and grew up in Baltimore, Maryland. He received a Bachelor's degree in Physics from Dartmouth College in 1968 and a Doctor of Medicine degree from Dartmouth College in 1976. From 1976 to 1979, Dr. Eisold completed his internship and residency in internal medicine at the National Naval Medical Center. Upon receiving his American Board of Internal Medicine Certification, Dr. Eisold established the General Internal Medicine Division and Hypertension Clinic at the National Naval Medical Center. In 1985 he was selected as a Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellow and worked for Senator KENNEDY's Health Staff on the Labor and Human Resources Committee. From 1988 to 1994 Dr. Eisold was reassigned back to the National Naval Medical Center and was selected as chairman of the Department of Internal Medicine. He was promoted to Rear Admiral in 1995.

Dr. Eisold has been recognized for his work to the Congress during the anthrax attack in 2001. He and his staff were awarded the U.S. Surgeon General's Crisis Response Service Award, the Public Health Service Outstanding Unit Citation and the Navy Unit Commendation. In addition, Dr. Eisold has been awarded the National Defense Medal with two Bronze Stars, Meritorious Unit Commendation with three Bronze Stars, Navy Commendation Medal with Gold Star, Defense Commendation Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, the Legion of Merit with Gold Star, and the Distinguished Service Medal.

I am certain that Members of the House will join me in thanking Rear Admiral Dr. John F. Eisold for his service to the United States Congress and in wishing him the best of luck in future endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF THE U.S.-PARAGUAY PARTNERSHIP ACT OF 2009

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, today, I am pleased to introduce the U.S.-Paraguay Partnership Act of 2009 which will add Paraguay as an Andean Trade Preference Act (ATPA) beneficiary country. As Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, I have spent countless hours over the past two years urging greater U.S. engagement in the Americas. Congress's passage of the U.S.-Paraguay Partnership Act of 2009 will be one small step in that direction.

Paraguay is the second poorest country in South America—after only Bolivia. 30% of Paraguayans live in poverty and 13% live in extreme poverty. Paraguay's inclusion as an ATPA beneficiary country would allow the country to create well-needed jobs and reduce poverty.

But, the U.S.-Paraguay Partnership Act of 2009 is about much more than poverty reduction. This bill will serve the dual purpose of reducing poverty in Paraguay and enhancing the already strong relationship between our two countries. I visited President Lugo in Asuncion in November, and he expressed to me his in-

terest in a strong relationship with the United States. President Lugo is the first Paraguayan president to be elected not from the Colorado party in 60 years, and he is already a good friend of the United States.

Paraguay is a small, landlocked country that is often left out of discussions of U.S. policy toward Latin America. But, it is a crucial ally in so many areas. According to the State Department's February 2009 International Narcotics Control Strategy Report, in 2008, Paraguay's National Anti-drug Secretariat (SENAD) seized a record 172 metric tons of marijuana. Paraguay also works closely with the U.S. and its neighbors Argentina and Brazil in the "3+1 process" to curb illicit activities in the so-called tri-border area where the borders of Paraguay, Argentina and Brazil meet.

Over the past two years, I have been highly critical of Congress's short-term extensions of ATPA. It is my hope both that Paraguay will be quickly added to ATPA and that ATPA will then be extended for a much longer time period than in the past.

During his campaign, President Obama said that "my policy toward the Americas will be guided by the simple principle that what's good for the people of the Americas is good for the United States." The U.S.-Paraguay Partnership Act of 2009 embodies the spirit of President Obama's statement, and will be a win-win for both countries.

TRIBUTE TO TRAVIS JESKE

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Travis Jeske on earning an Eagle Scout Award. Travis is a 10th grade student from South Hardin High School in Eldora, Iowa.

The Eagle Scout rank is the highest advancement rank in scouting. Only about 5% of Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout Award. The award is a performance based achievement that has maintained similar standards over the years. To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout is obligated to pass specific tests that are organized by requirements and merit badges, as well as completing an Eagle Project to benefit the community. Travis's project was building gate extensions for the Hardin County Fair Board, at the Hardin County Fairgrounds in Eldora.

Travis has been involved in scouting since he was in Tiger Cubs and continues to be an active member of the Eldora Boy Scout Troop 334 today. He has completed over 50 merit badges; 12 of which are required to become an Eagle Scout. While in scouts, Travis has earned various awards which include: the Bronze Palm, Arrow of Light Award, 50 Miler Award, God and Country Religious Award, World Conservation Award and various others. Travis is also a Member of Order of the Arrow—Brotherhood Level and completed the Den Chief Leadership training.

The example set by this young man demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I am honored to represent Travis Jeske in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues join me in congratulating him on earning an Eagle Scout

ranking and wish him continued success in his future education and career.

INTRODUCTION OF THE “DANIEL PEARL FREEDOM OF THE PRESS ACT OF 2009”

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the “Daniel Pearl Freedom of the Press Act of 2009”—legislation to highlight and promote freedom of the press worldwide.

In early 2002, Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl was kidnapped and murdered by terrorists in Pakistan, just four months after 9/11. Lured from his apartment, Daniel was on his way to interview a Muslim fundamentalist when he was captured. Just two days before his abduction, Daniel had learned that his wife Mariane was expecting a baby boy. Although four of the kidnappers were convicted in July of 2002, seven other suspects, including those who allegedly helped murder Daniel Pearl, remain at large.

Despite international outrage over this brutal murder, freedom of the press has continued to decline on a global scale.

In 2006, Anna Politkovskaya, one of Russia’s most prominent journalists, was shot dead in her apartment building. The investigative journalist, well known for her critical reports of the Kremlin’s actions in Chechnya, is widely believed to be the victim of a politically motivated contract killing. Anna Politkovskaya was the 13th Russian journalist murdered during President Vladimir Putin’s administration. One month ago, a jury in Moscow acquitted three men charged with her murder.

Just two weeks ago, on March 17th, 2009, two American journalists were detained by the North Korean authorities while reporting on the plight of North Korean refugees in China. North Korea has accused the reporters of illegally entering North Korea from China and has stated the journalists will be indicted and tried for suspected hostile acts.

Acts of violence against journalists continue to rise in frequency, with very few of the attacks resulting in prosecution. According to the Committee to Protect Journalists, in 2008 at least 41 journalists were killed in connection with their work, and 125 were imprisoned. As the level of violence directed at the press continues to rise, so too does the side effect of self-censorship. Legal mechanisms are also increasingly being used to restrict the media, both through overt censorship and through the use of laws that forbid “endangering national security” or “inciting hatred” by commenting on sensitive or anti-government topics.

Freedom of expression cannot exist where journalists and the media are not independent and safe from persecution and attack. Our government must promote freedom of the press by putting on center stage those countries in which journalists are killed, imprisoned, kidnapped, threatened, or censored. Therefore, together with my colleague Congressman PENCE, I am introducing legislation which calls upon the Secretary of State to submit an annual report on the status of freedom of the press worldwide, bringing attention to those governments, extremists, and criminal groups which seek to silence opposition.

To further this effort, my legislation also establishes a grant program aimed at broadening and strengthening the independence of journalists and media organizations. Too often media assistance programs are short-term, ranging from one year projects to weekend workshops, and are buried as a second thought under broader human rights programs. The Daniel Pearl Freedom of the Press Act of 2009 will give prominence to freedom of the press projects within the State Department, and ensure a long-term, holistic approach to journalist and media development.

Please join me in this effort to promote freedom of the press worldwide.

INTRODUCING A BILL TO DESIGNATE THE LIBERTY MEMORIAL AS THE NATIONAL WWI MEMORIAL AND TO ESTABLISH THE WWI CENTENNIAL COMMISSION TO ENSURE A SUITABLE OBSERVANCE OF THE WWI CENTENNIAL

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, today along with my colleagues, Representatives AKIN, BLUNT, CARNAHAN, CLAY, EMERSON, GRAVES, LUETKEMEYER, and SKELTON, I am introducing a bill designating the Liberty Memorial at the National World War I Museum in Kansas City, Missouri as the National World War I Memorial. This bill also establishes a Centennial Commission to ensure a fitting observance of the centennial of World War I.

The First World War extended through four of the bloodiest years in world history. This truly global conflict involved the world’s major powers, mobilizing over 70 million military forces. The War to End All Wars ended with an armistice on November 11, 1918 on the Western Front in Europe, after approximately 16 million military and civilian deaths across the globe, including 375,000 American casualties. The death and destruction of World War I irrevocably impacted the lens through which people viewed the world: The optimism that initiated the early 1900s was swiftly sobered by a consciousness that came to be known as the Lost Generation.

Many people, however, were determined to make this generation a generation remembered and honored. Concerned American citizens in Kansas City, Missouri initiated a movement to erect a lasting and meaningful monument to the men and women who served and died for liberty in World War I.

According to R.A. Long, the founding president of the Liberty Memorial Association, the 217-foot Liberty Memorial was intended to represent “on the part of all people, a living expression for all time of the gratitude of a grateful people to those who offered and who gave their lives in defense of liberty and our country.” In 1919, the people of Kansas City, Missouri expressed an outpouring of support and raised more than \$2,000,000 in two weeks for a memorial to the service of Americans in World War I. This fundraising was an accomplishment unparalleled by any other city in the United States and reflected the passion of public opinion about World War I, at the forefront of everyone’s memory.

H. Van Buren Magonigle won a national architectural competition officiated by the American Institute of Architects to further transform the Liberty Memorial idea into reality. On November 1, 1921, nearly 200,000 people witnessed the dedication of the site for the Liberty Memorial in Kansas City, Missouri. The dedication marked the only time in history that the five allied military leaders—Lieutenant General Baron Jacques of Belgium, General Armando Diaz of Italy, Marshall Ferdinand Foch of France, General John J. Pershing of the United States, and Admiral Lord Earl Beatty of Great Britain, were together at one place. General Pershing echoed the significance of the dedication by asserting, “[t]he people of Kansas City, Missouri are deeply proud of the beautiful memorial, erected in tribute to the patriotism, the gallant achievements, and their heroic sacrifices of their sons and daughters who served in our country’s armed forces during the World War. It symbolized their grateful appreciation of duty well done, an appreciation which I share, because I know so well how richly it is merited.”

Shortly after its dedication, the Liberty Memorial was again distinguished during an Armistice Day ceremony in 1926 when President Calvin Coolidge marked the beginning of its three-year construction project by laying the cornerstone of the memorial. In his dedication speech, President Coolidge declared that “[. . .] the magnitude of this memorial and the broad base of popular support on which it rests, can scarcely fail to excite national wonder and admiration [. . .].” A message on the Liberty Memorial’s tower bears an inscription that inspired its namesake: “In Honor of Those Who Served in the World War in Defense of Liberty and Our Country.” Four stone “Guardian Spirits” representing courage, honor, patriotism, and sacrifice proudly perch above an observation deck, making the Liberty Memorial a noble tribute to all who served in World War I.

Undoubtedly, hundreds of thousands of people—since the memorial’s inception and even today—regard the Liberty Memorial as a powerful symbol of and tribute to Americans who served in World War I. The grandeur and significance of the Liberty Memorial was recognized by the 106th Congress as a national symbol of World War I. The Liberty Memorial that overlooks Kansas City extends far beyond the Kansas City limits. The Memorial serves as a perennial reminder of and for all Americans who served our country during World War I.

The evidence articulated above demonstrates that the Liberty Memorial already is, has been, and deserves to be regarded as a national tribute to World War I. This legislation aims to make official what so many people already consider to be the National World War I Memorial.

While we look to the Liberty Memorial in remembrance of World War I, we likewise must look to the upcoming World War I centennial, to be honored in 2017. To ensure a proper observance of the World War I centennial, this legislation also aims to create a commission to be known as the World War I Centennial Commission. The Commission will promote not only a suitable observance of the centennial of World War I, but will also recognize the values of honor, courage, patriotism, and sacrifice, in keeping with the representation of these values through the four Guardian Spirits