

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING MS. ALICIA FOX

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Chester County resident Alicia Fox on her installation as Governor of the Northeast Potomac District of Pilot International.

Alicia has earned the promotion to this distinguished post with more than 22 years of dedicated service to her community and a faithful commitment to the mission of Pilot International.

Admired by peers in the Pilot Club of Valley Forge for her willingness to provide countless hours of volunteer service, Alicia has taught 4H students the craft of sewing, started and supervised an after-school program for local elementary school students and served several years on the board of a local Boy Scout Troop.

She also has selflessly served her church by teaching Sunday school, preparing children for sacraments, caring for the linens and as a member of the Finance Committee.

Alicia will become Governor of the Northeast Potomac District during a ceremony on May 3, 2009.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in congratulating Alicia Fox on this tremendous achievement and recognizing her outstanding volunteer spirit and drive to improve the quality of life in her community.

**FAMILY SMOKING PREVENTION
AND TOBACCO CONTROL ACT**

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

Mr. WU. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1256, the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act.

Statistics are handed out on this floor like candy. Because numbers are often passed off as nothing more than empty words, we fail to recognize how staggering they are. For instance, smoking-related diseases cause an estimated 440,000 American deaths each year. Smoking costs the United States over \$150 billion annually in health care costs. And a 2004 study by the CDC's National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion found that cigarette smoke contains over 4,800 chemicals, 69 of which are known to cause cancer.

Ninety percent of adult smokers are addicted to tobacco before they reach the age of 18; 50 percent before the age of 14. Currently the average age of initiation to tobacco is 11.

48 million adults smoke in the U.S., which is 22.9 percent of the population overall, and 33 percent of youth currently smoke.

To be quiet honest Madam Speaker, these statistics are more than staggering—they are atrocious.

It was Irving Selikoff, a medical researcher who co-discovered a cure for tuberculosis who said, "Statistics are real people with the tears wiped away."

Those real people are our parents and children, our family and friends, who suffer the consequences of addiction to tobacco. I want my children to grow up healthy and to make healthy decisions. To help that happen, H.R. 256 will put in place the proper authority for the Food and Drug Administration to establish regulations over tobacco products. We need the FDA to protect our population from the harmful effects of cigarettes and tobacco products by being able to provide sound, scientific regulations governing these products.

Even with all the warnings, and the money spent on education campaigns, kids are still picking up smoking at the alarming rate of 3,000 a day in the United States.

The health concerns that will face these children are costly, painful, and deadly. But they are also ultimately preventable.

I ask my colleagues to please pass H.R. 1256, the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act.

TRIBUTE TO CAROL LAFLEUR

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share the inspirational story of Carol LaFleur, a resident of Brooklyn Park, MN who changed her life and is now working to change others' lives for the better as well. Mrs. LaFleur has experienced a great deal of hardship throughout her life, but after discovering the gift of education, she completely turned her life around.

Mrs. LaFleur uses her life experiences to guide others and advocate for education. In her time outside of the classroom, she speaks and mentors on issues of mental health, sexual abuse, and disability. In addition, she volunteers for these and multiple other causes. She sets a great example for all Americans, giving her time without asking for anything back.

In addition to all of her accomplishments and hours of volunteerism, she has found an outlet in writing about her experiences. She has been honored by the Arts in Recovery Program, who chose her essay to be in its exhibit booth online and at the St. Paul Art Crawl.

Madam Speaker, Carol LaFleur is an inspiration, a positive influence for so many who need hope, and a true public servant. She is a great example of the enduring American spirit.

HONORING MAITLAND KEILER OF
SUMTER COUNTY

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Maitland Keiler, one of my accomplished constituents who dedicated his life to improving health services in his community and beyond.

Mr. Keiler was born in 1933 in Royal, Florida to Will and Melbira Keiler. In the early 1970's, he moved to Apopka, Florida where he earned a living picking oranges. He then met four Catholic sisters who had worked to found a health clinic for farmers and migrant workers in the area, the West Orange Farmer's Clinic. Working with the sisters and at the clinic began a new chapter in Mr. Keiler's life. He eventually became one of the first African-Americans appointed to serve on the board of the West Orange Farmer's Clinic.

Wishing to bring similar services to his community which was also in dire need, Mr. Keiler approached Mr. Ellery Gray, director of the West Orange Clinic, about opening a clinic in Sumter County. In collaboration with the county, Mr. Grey and Mr. Keiler succeeded in opening "Project Health" in 1974. Once a simple, modest clinic, Project Health is today the Thomas E. Langley Medical Center. The Center has expanded to more than 41,000 square feet of combined medical, dental, behavioral health, radiology, pharmacy and administrative services

Madam Speaker, men and women like Maitland Keiler are the ones truly making a difference in their communities because of their passion and their drive. Mr. Keiler's story should serve as an inspiration to others, and I am proud to know that one of my constituents worked so hard to make his dream a reality and the lives of his fellow citizens better and healthier.

HONORING DR. ELSA GESKUS

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a dedicated educator whose outstanding leadership and guidance has prepared countless teachers for rewarding classroom careers. Dr. Elsa Geskus will be retiring from Kutztown University in Berks County, Pennsylvania after serving the last 12 years as Chairwoman of the Elementary Education Department. She has earned the respect of her fellow faculty members for excellent leadership, scholarship and service.

Colleagues also praised Dr. Geskus for securing national accreditation for the Department and authoring an accreditation report

• 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.

used as a model for colleges and universities throughout the country by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education.

Another highlight of her tenure at Kutztown was establishing the Philadelphia Masters in Elementary Education Graduate Program. This program helped 64 Philadelphia teachers obtain master degrees from Kutztown and led to developing similar programs for teachers in Reading and Allentown.

Outside of the classroom, Dr. Geskus was active in several national organizations, including the Middle States Steering Committee, National Council of Teachers of Mathematics and the College of Education.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring the distinguished career of Dr. Elsa Geskus and all who commit themselves to teaching others.

HONORING THE 11 WOMEN
EMISSARIES OF MEMPHIS MUSIC

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, it is a privilege to rise today to honor and recognize 11 truly inspirational women who have each played a part in making the music of Memphis world renown. Memphis's music heritage has been called the "soundtrack of America" and these talented artists deserve our thanks and are extremely justified in the recognition bestowed on them today by the Memphis and Shelby County Music Commission.

The esteemed emissaries are Jo Bridges, Joyce Cobb, Jackie Johnson, Susan Marshall, Judy Peiser, Di Anne Price, Reba Russell, Linn Sittler, Pat Kerr Tigrett, Deanie Parker and Ruby Wilson.

Tennessee is the home of country and blues music and the birthplace of the "rock and roll." We are also proud of the thousands of singers, songwriters, performers, producers, and other music industry professionals that make their homes and livelihood within the state and allow Tennessee to compete with New York and California as a hub of creativity and entertainment.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in both thanking and congratulating the new Emissaries of Memphis Music for their dedication and devotion for enriching our lives with wonderful sound and music. These 11 women are truly worthy recipients of this outstanding honor.

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF FINDLAY OILERS ON WINNING THE 2009 NCAA DIVISION II MEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the University of Findlay Oilers on the occasion of their winning the 2009 NCAA Division II men's basketball championship. The Oilers defeated the Cal

Poly Pomona Broncos for the championship on Saturday, March 28, 2009, in Springfield, Massachusetts.

The Oilers ended their perfect 36–0 season in overtime when senior guard Tyler Evans hit a fade-away three-point shot as time expired, clinching the university's first ever basketball title. With this win, the Oilers become only the fourth perfect championship team in Division II men's basketball history. The Oilers are also the most winning team in Division II of the past decade, with a record of 238–46.

I would also like to congratulate Head Coach Ron Niekamp and his coaching staff for their outstanding commitment to Oilers basketball. Coach Niekamp was named the 2009 Molten Division II Bulletin Coach of the Year. In addition, senior forward Josh Bostic was named the 2009 Division II Player of the Year.

I am honored to join the chorus of well-wishers as the University of Findlay and the broader community celebrates this remarkable achievement. I join with my colleagues in wishing them all continued success.

REGARDING DUTCH AMERICAN
FRIENDSHIP DAY

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 227th anniversary of formal diplomatic relations between the Netherlands and the United States of America.

On the 19th of April, 1782 in the City of The Hague, the Ambassadorial credentials of John Adams were officially recognized by Prince William V of Orange, thus establishing formal diplomatic ties between the new Government of the United States and the Republic of the Netherlands.

For centuries, the people of the Netherlands and the United States have shared a bond that has influenced the culture of our two nations and contributed to our mutual prosperity.

In September, we will celebrate the 400th anniversary of Henry Hudson's voyage up what would become known as the Hudson River in New York. Hudson's voyage led to the establishment of New Amsterdam and the New Netherlands colony. Celebrations commemorating this important event have already begun.

As we reflect today on the commercial bond and strategic partnership we have established with the people of the Netherlands over these many years, let us not forget how the strength of our alliance and the endurance of our friendship has helped make both our countries wealthy and stronger and the world more secure as a result.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF THE
VOLUNTEER MEDICAL SERVICES
CORPS

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an ambulance corps that is

celebrating 65 years of faithfully serving communities in southeastern Pennsylvania.

Volunteer Medical Services Corps of Lower Merion, Narberth, Conshohocken and West Conshohocken provides critical care services in a 49 square-mile area and responds to more than 7,200 calls for help each year.

The dedicated and highly-skilled first responders stand ready to answer calls at all hours, in the sweltering heat of summer and the frigid depths of winter, and on some of suburban Philadelphia's most heavily traveled highways, including the Schuylkill Expressway and the Blue Route.

Since its founding in 1944, Volunteer Medical Services Corps has remained true to its mission of providing the highest quality care to each patient its members transport with compassion and dignity.

The Corps owes a large measure of its success to more than 70 volunteers who selflessly give approximately 8,000 hours of service each year.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in congratulating Volunteer Medical Services Corps of Lower Merion, Narberth, Conshohocken and West Conshohocken on its 65th anniversary and acknowledging the tremendous commitment and service of its volunteers and professional staff.

RYAN JAMES

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ryan James, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 75, and by earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Ryan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Ryan has shown an extraordinary commitment to scouting as evidenced by earning several merit badges. Ryan demonstrated a tremendous work ethic in earning his personal merit badge by incorporating his own lawn mowing business.

Ryan's Eagle Scout service project consisted of painting the kitchen and fellowship hall of the United Methodist Church in Maryville, Missouri. This project continues the long tradition of community service established by the Boy Scouts of America.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Ryan James for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

A TRIBUTE IN RECOGNITION OF
THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF LOS
ANGELES NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING
SERVICES, INC.

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Los Angeles Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc. (LA NHS), a non-