

HONORING COMMUNITY ACTION  
PARTNERSHIP OF GREATER  
SAINT JOSEPH

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 2010*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Community Action Partnership of Greater Saint Joseph. This agency is active in the St. Joseph community through their work and have been chosen to receive the YWCA Women of Excellence Award for Employer of Excellence.

Community Action Partnership has a 45 year history of empowering women and opening doors of opportunity, through assistance to young mothers in achieving college dreams to providing development opportunities to help maintain employment for mothers in need. Many staff members began their careers as program participants and have become supervisors and leaders in the organization, all expressing a passion for their work and the agency. With benefits that include flexible hours, work-from-home options, healthcare for both full and part-time employees, and time allotted each week to attend classes, this agency is building a brighter future for 145 individuals and their families. This employer is empowering its staff by encouraging involvement in community organizations, local boards, and leadership programs at the local, state and national level.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Community Action Partnership of Greater Saint Joseph. Their empowerment and dedication to their employees has impacted countless individuals in and beyond the Saint Joseph Community. I am honored to represent this agency in the United States Congress.

SMALL BUSINESS JOBS AND  
CREDIT ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 16, 2010*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5297) to create the Small Business Lending Fund Program to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to make capital investments in eligible institutions in order to increase the availability of credit for small businesses, and for other purposes:

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Chair, today I rise in strong support of Small Business Lending Fund Act of 2010. Small businesses are the engine of economic growth where nearly two out of three jobs are created. A recent study found that 39 percent of small businesses were struggling to access credit. Today's legislation will address this issue by providing capital to community banks who will lend to these job creating small businesses.

The Small Business Lending Fund Act would establish a \$30 billion fund to lend to small businesses looking to hire and expand their operations by providing additional capital

to community banks. Today's legislation will also create the State Small Business Credit Initiative that would partner with state based programs to lend up to \$20 billion in new lending. This is critical because many state-based programs are being forced to slash funding due to severe budget shortfalls.

Mr. Chair, small businesses will be the catalyst to bring America out of this severe recession. Providing assistance to our small businesses is a necessary and urgent priority. I urge my colleagues to support today's legislation.

HONORING ALAN W. MENDELSON

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 2010*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Alan W. Mendelsohn of the Department of the Navy, who is retiring after more than thirty-two years of faithful service to our Nation, culminating in his role as Deputy Counsel of the Military Sealift Command.

During his more than thirty-two years of federal service, twenty-five of which were spent as an attorney in the Office of General Counsel supporting the Military Sealift Command, Mr. Mendelsohn has consistently demonstrated the highest level of leadership and commitment to his country.

In support of the ongoing war on terror, Mr. Mendelsohn provided distinguished legal services to ensure the award of numerous significant and complex procurements, and to resolve force protection and international law issues related to civilian mariners. In particular, Mr. Mendelsohn was instrumental in the award of the heavy lift contract to return the USS COLE to the United States for repairs following its damage from a terrorist attack. Mr. Mendelsohn also demonstrated outstanding initiative in serving as a business advisor to the Military Sealift Command in the implementation of a significant realignment that has ensured that the MSC can meet the increasing needs of the warfighter at a reduced cost.

Mr. Mendelsohn established himself as a respected expert in the maritime industry and was frequently asked to conduct briefings for Members of Congress and their staff on issues associated with the maritime industry, including overseas ship repair and maritime labor practices. Mr. Mendelsohn also drafted a number of legislative proposals that were enacted into law.

Alan Mendelsohn has exhibited integrity, vision, dedication and civility throughout his career. The commitment and sacrifice of Americans like him enrich our Nation. I am proud, Madam Speaker, to thank Alan Mendelsohn for his honorable service to our Nation. I wish him fair winds and following seas as he concludes a distinguished career of public service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 2010*

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, I was unable to cast the recorded votes for rollcall 339,

340, 341, and 342. Had I been present I would have voted "yes" for these measures.

JUNETEENTH

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 2010*

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I am delighted to acknowledge Juneteenth. I am pleased to be with you this afternoon. I would like to thank you for your commitment to seeking solutions to one of the most pressing challenges facing our community: ensuring that everyone receive all the rights guaranteed under our civil rights laws. I believe that one of the most important violations of civil rights are hate crimes and racial profiling. I also believe that equal access to health, education, housing and health care, are all civil rights. But I will focus on hate crimes and access to adequate health care.

HISTORY OF JUNETEENTH

For those of you who ask, "What is Juneteenth," I will tell you. Dating back to 1865, it was on June 19 that the Union soldiers, led by the courageous Major General Gordon Granger, landed in Galveston, Texas with news that the Civil War had ended and that the enslaved were now free. The Emancipation Proclamation became official on January 1, 1863. Nevertheless, people held in bondage in Texas had to wait two and a half years after President Lincoln's proclamation, to hear the news of freedom.

It gives me great pleasure to speak about Juneteenth and I would like to share with you the letter that Major General Gordon Granger read to the emotion filled slaves. It reads as follows: "The People of Texas are informed that in accordance with a Proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and free laborer."

Prior to June 19, 1865, the Emancipation Proclamation had little impact on Texans due to the minimal number of Union troops available to enforce the new Executive order. Thanks to the meritorious Major Granger and the arrival of his troops, there were forces strong enough to overcome the resistance and to free the slaves.

Many stories have been told about the actual reason for why it took so long for the news of the Emancipation to reach Galveston, but it is very difficult to say which one is true. The fact still remains that the news did not come to the enslaved Texans soon enough. The reactions to the profound news ranged from pure shock to immediate jubilation.

Upon hearing the news, many of the newly freed slaves went north and others went to neighboring states, such as Louisiana, Arkansas, and Oklahoma. For those freed men and women, recounting the memories and festivities of that great day in June of 1865 served as motivation as well as a release from the growing pressures encountered in their new territory.

The celebration of June 19th was coined "Juneteenth" and it grew with more participation from descendants. The Juneteenth celebration was a time for reassuring one another,

for praying and for gathering with family members. This still holds true today because African Americans continue to face many challenges that call for prayer and gathering together with one's family and community.

When the celebration of Juneteenth originated, a range of activities were offered to entertain the masses, many of which continue in tradition today. Rodeos, fishing, barbecuing and baseball are just a few of the typical Juneteenth activities that one may witness or participate in today. This is an historic and important commemoration for Texas but also for the Nation. This Holiday equals freedom. I applaud all of the events sponsored by Houstonians that seeks to inspire and educate our children and to respect the former slaves of Texas who suffered so much.

#### HONORING LYDIA ZUIDEMA

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 2010*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Lydia Zuidema of Saint Joseph, Missouri. Lydia is active in the community through her work and has been chosen to receive the YWCA Women of Excellence Award for Woman in the Workplace.

Lydia is the superintendent and a teacher at St. Joseph Christian School. She instituted the school's National Institute for Learning Development program and has traveled to Afghanistan and South Africa to train other teachers. In Afghanistan, she helped staff and faculty prepare to receive accreditation; in South Africa, she trained early childhood educators. She never wavers from her sense of peace and calm, which comes from her great love for and dedication to the Lord.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Lydia Zuidema. She has made an amazing impact on countless individuals in the St. Joseph Community. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress.

#### HONORING THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ON ITS 140TH ANNIVERSARY

SPEECH OF

#### HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 16, 2010*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res 1422, Honoring the Department of Justice on the occasion of its 140th anniversary. I would also like to commend Representative SENSENBRENNER for his commitment to recognizing the department for its many accomplishments.

The Department of Justice officially began operations on July 1, 1870 and has been responsible for the enforcement of law and administration of justice for 140 years. The Department of Justice was a major advocate and protector for voting rights in the Southern United States and Georgia during the Civil Rights Era. The Department used its litigators to fight racial injustice throughout the Southern

United States. The work of the Department of Justice served in part as inspiration for President Johnson to sign the Voting Rights Act of 1965 into law.

The Department of Justice is innately close to my heart. My father worked for many years in the Bureau of Prisons, a subdivision of the Department of Justice, and was the director of classifications and paroles. He was at that time the highest ranking African-American in the bureau. Today the department is headed by Attorney General Eric Holder, the first African-American man to hold this position in the department's 140 year history. It is ironic that the Department charged with justice for all people took more than a century in order to name an African-American citizen as its leader; however his nomination serves as an indication of progress and change.

The Department of Justice has championed many successful initiatives including Project Safe Neighborhoods, Project Safe Childhood, and the Presidents Corporate Fraud Task Force. Together these initiatives have resulted in increased protection and safety for our nation's children, as well as record convictions for financial crimes. The Department of Justice has made a significant impact in the state of Georgia through the Southeast Regional Fugitive Force operating out of offices in Atlanta and Macon, Georgia. The SERFTF is recognized nationwide as a leader in fugitive investigations.

Mr. Speaker, I stand today to applaud the accomplishments of the Department of Justice on the occasion of its 140th anniversary and I urge my colleagues to do the same. I challenge the Department of Justice to continue its mission of pursuing the administration of justice for all people in the United States.

#### HONORING PATRICK CREER

#### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 2010*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Patrick Creer upon his retirement from the California Highway Patrol, Oakhurst Area Office. Officer Creer will officially retire on June 30, 2010 after 28 years of service.

Officer Creer graduated from Simi Valley High School in 1972. He served in the United States Air Force from 1976 through 1982. After completing his service in the military, Officer Creer was appointed to the California Highway Patrol academy in 1982. Upon graduating from the academy, he was assigned to the Santa Cruz Area Office.

In 1988 Officer Creer was transferred to the Fresno Area Office. After serving 6 years in Fresno, he was transferred to the Central Division, where he worked in the recruitment unit for 9 years. In 2003, Officer Creer was transferred to the newly opened Oakhurst Area Office.

Officer Creer has been married to his wife, Vicki, for 34 years. They have 1 son, Matthew.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Patrick Creer for his tremendous service to the State of California upon his retirement from the California Highway Patrol. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Officer Creer many years of continued success.

#### HONORING LIEUTENANT ROBERT REYNOLDS

#### HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 2010*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Lieutenant Robert Reynolds of the Worcester Fire Department. Lieutenant Reynolds is retiring after 24 years of dedicated service to the City of Worcester.

As with any public service profession, the nobility inherent in fire fighters should not be overlooked. These brave people, bound by duty and honor, risk their own health and safety in order to protect the lives and property of others. This sense of duty was undoubtedly felt by Mr. Reynolds when he joined the department at the age of 34, and certainly it continued to grow even after being promoted to Lieutenant.

Not only has Lieutenant Reynolds served his community during his career as fire fighter, he has served his country as a U.S. Marine. The leap from Marine to firefighter is no difficult to imagine; to be effective in either profession requires strength of character of immeasurable quantities. It is Lieutenant Reynolds's character that led him to his distinguished career, and it is that character that I would like to honor as he enters a well deserved retirement among his family—his wife Elizabeth and two children, Margo E. (Reynolds) Clark and Bridget J. Reynolds.

I know all of my colleagues join me in thanking Lieutenant Reynolds for his service to the City of Worcester and its citizens.

#### HONORING KARLI SAMPLE

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 2010*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Karli Sample of Saint Joseph, Missouri. Karli is active in the community through her school and has been chosen to receive the YWCA Women of Excellence Future Leader Award.

Karli has held several leadership roles, has been involved in athletics and fine arts programs, is committed to being a volunteer, and has maintained a weighted GPA of 4.5, ranking second in her class. Karli's honors include being selected homecoming queen, a Drug Free Super STAR, a Cotillion for Achievement finalist, a DAR Good Citizen, and a Wendy's Heisman state finalist. She won six state engineering competitions and qualified for nationals each year.

Karli's nominator states, "Karli Sample has made the most out of her four high school years by staying actively and consistently involved in school and community activities. . . . Karli's spirit and positive attitude have inspired many to follow in the same footsteps, whether it be on the court, in the classroom, or out in the community."

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Karli Sample. She has made an amazing impact on countless individuals in and beyond the St. Joseph Community. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress.