

HONORING JOEL L. DERETCHIN

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2010

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Joel L. Deretchin, a great community leader and a dear friend. Mr. Deretchin has held numerous leadership roles throughout the community in The Woodlands, Texas. Throughout his distinguished career, Mr. Deretchin has served several executive positions with many respected organizations in the Woodlands area. He held leadership positions at The Woodlands Development Company, served as a board member of The Woodlands Community Association, and served as President and sitting board member of both the Woodlands Association and the Woodlands Commercial Owners Association.

Mr. Deretchin has strived to keep the community focused on improving education in The Woodlands by supporting and establishing The University Center, The John Cooper School and the Academy for Lifelong Learning at Montgomery College—all which have given valuable opportunities to students in and around The Woodlands community. The Conroe Independent School District has recognized and honored Mr. Deretchin's achievements by naming one of their elementary schools in his honor, the Joel L. Deretchin K-6 Elementary School.

As you can see, he has truly impacted innumerable lives in The Woodlands community. His servant leadership on the Interfaith of the Woodlands Board and the South Montgomery County/Woodlands Chamber of Commerce Board are clearly evident as he continuously volunteers his time and lends a hand to organizations and non-profits.

For his countless service efforts, Mr. Deretchin was awarded "Citizen of the Year" by the South Montgomery County/Woodlands Chamber of Commerce in 1990. He was also honored in 1999 as a "Hometown Hero" during the Woodlands 25th Anniversary Celebration. While these awards and honors are significant, nothing can truly commemorate the extent of service Mr. Deretchin has provided for his community. His leadership and commitment to The Woodlands is selfless and something that merits applauding.

His compassionate heart as well as his desire to help others has continued to drive him to remain active throughout the community—he never expected to say he is one of our residents. The Woodlands has more than benefited from his leadership, knowledge and philanthropic focus.

Madam Speaker, it is such an honor to recognize Joel Deretchin as a significant part of The Woodlands' community and pay tribute to his contributions to the people of The Woodlands as he retires, however there is no doubt in my mind that he will continue be heavily involved! I urge you to join me in recognizing Mr. Deretchin and his achievements.

HONORING THE LIFE OF STEWART WINSTEIN

HON. PHIL HARE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2010

Mr. HARE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in sorrow at the news of the death of Stewart Winstein, from Rock Island, Illinois in my Congressional District.

Stewart was one of the most respected and admired leaders in my community and built a strong reputation for local activism, public service and the belief that politics could be a driving force for positive change in the lives of everyday Americans. It is a legacy that will be sorely missed in Rock Island, the city that Stewart loved and called home.

As a child of the Great Depression, Stewart and his family faced great poverty. It was a powerful influence on him and I am sure informed much of his success as an attorney and a founding force of the Rock Island Democratic Party.

As one of the greatest advocates for working men and women that I knew, I think his legacy will be that he wanted to make sure that other families didn't have to face the economic hardships that he knew too well. And as many in the Quad Cities can attest, whether it was working people or the vast number of clients he represented through his law firm, it is a legacy of great success.

Stewart put much of his energy and drive into the legal practice he built. He started practicing law in 1938 and established an early reputation as a formidable attorney. In 1960, he founded the firm of Winstein, Kavensky and Wallace with his two partners. The firm thrived and grew through his drive and dedication.

Stewart was dedicated not only to the long-term growth of the Quad Cities but also to his mission of public service. His title and positions in the community and local government were numerous, including his long-time service as chairman of the Quad City International Airport Authority, his stint as President of the Rock Island County Welfare Information and Referral Services, and his role as the public administrator, public guardian and conservator for Rock Island County from 1974 to 1978.

The people he has inspired to pursue public service in West Central Illinois and throughout our state are almost too numerous to count, but all of them can testify that he was an inspiration and a mentor as they have pursued their callings. Stewart had a huge impact on my life and my career of public service. He was a valuable teacher who led by example and I learned by witnessing the contributions he made to the Democratic Party, numerous charities, and local government. Above all, I was proud to call him my friend. My thoughts go out to Stewart's family, especially his beloved son Arthur.

RECOGNIZING THE MT. VERNON ROTARY FOR 90 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2010

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the 90th anniversary of an important community service organization in Mt. Vernon, Illinois.

The Mt. Vernon Rotary Club was founded in 1920 and has grown into a vital element of the community. For the past 90 years, the Mt. Vernon Rotary Club, like Rotary clubs all across our nation, has brought together local business leaders in a friendly, casual setting, where they discuss ways to band together and serve the community. I applaud the willingness of these Rotarians to step forward and serve their community.

At the 90th anniversary celebration, this year's Rotary Club President Dan Boehmer summed up the spirit of the Rotary Club when he told the Mt. Vernon Register-News, "There's such a rich history of people who have done so many things in the community for the sake of service itself. When you get people together who know how to get things done, you get a lot done in the community."

I want to congratulate Mr. Boehmer and all the members of the Mt. Vernon Rotary Club, past and present, on celebrating their 90th anniversary, and to join with the other Members of this House in wishing them continued success for another 90 years and beyond.

HONORING GARY RAFFIA

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2010

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a man whose generosity and service to his community made this past Memorial Day an unforgettable one. Gary Raffia of Enfield designed and built a spectacular float for the town's Memorial Day Parade—one which served as a powerful tribute to our state's fallen heroes during the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Gary's star-shaped float was draped in a banner displaying the name and picture of every Connecticut soldier who paid the ultimate price for their nation since 2001. The perimeter of the float was decorated with American flags.

Along with everyone present at Enfield's Memorial Day Parade, I was truly moved by Gary's tremendous act of citizenship. Not only did he design and build this float, but he paid for the entire project. Gary is a local farmer by trade and the son of a World War II veteran. It was his friend Teddy, also a veteran, and many others in the community that compelled Gary to build this float. His tribute to Connecticut's fallen soldiers was a selfless act that embodies the support and gratitude our troops deserve on Memorial Day and throughout the year. By creating this float and including it in the parade, Gary honored equally those soldiers who were fortunate enough to come home and those who were not.

Gary is a man with a history of making his visions become a reality—much to the benefit

of those around him. Once before, he built a shed with an opening where people in the community could come to drop off cans and bottles. All the money redeemed from the cans and bottles was donated to a local medical facility for children with cancer. Gary is quick to acknowledge his loyal friends who helped him with these projects and I too want to thank them for their hard work.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Gary and his friends as well as congratulating them for their service to the community.

SMALL BUSINESS JOBS AND CREDIT ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

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. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 5297, the Small Business Jobs and Credit Act. Small businesses form the backbone of our economy and this bill helps them get access to the credit that they need to grow and create jobs.

While there are strong signs that our economy has turned the corner and is beginning to heal, there are still far too many small businesses unable to get the capital they need to contribute to the recovery. H.R. 5297 creates a Small Business Lending Fund to deliver loans to small business on Main Street. This fund will be available to small and medium-sized community banks that specialize in lending to these institutions. H.R. 5297 includes strong incentives in the form of adjustable repayment rates to make sure that participating community banks lend this money out for its intended purpose. This \$30 billion fund can be leveraged to create up to \$300 billion in loans that small businesses need for growth and expansion. This is the kind of growth that will help continue our economic recovery and get us back to full strength.

In addition to this loan fund, H.R. 5297 provides funding specifically for new and existing lending initiatives that have been developed in several states. With increased funding, we can tap this local expertise and expand on their work to increase small business lending and create jobs.

Finally, as a supporter of budget discipline, I am pleased that this bill does not add to the deficit. These loans are required to be paid back in ten years with interest. In fact, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office estimates that this bill will actually reduce the deficit by \$1 billion by the end of the ten-year period.

I support helping businesses on Main Street access the credit they need to grow and expand. I support H.R. 5297, and I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in voting for its passage.

THE RETIREMENT OF RONALD T.Y.
MOON, CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE
HAWAII STATE SUPREME COURT

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2010

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Hawaii Supreme Court Chief Justice Ronald T.Y. Moon on his retirement. I know that I am not alone regretting that, due to Hawaii State law, he must retire from service on his 70th birthday this September. He will be missed.

C.J. Moon, as he is affectionately known, has served as Chief Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court for seventeen years. C.J. Moon also has the distinction of being the first Korean-American to become Chief Justice of any Supreme Court in the United States of America.

As his time on the Hawaii Supreme Court bench comes to a close, it was interesting to learn that it was almost a fluke that C.J. Moon went into the field of law at all. He attended three different high schools in Hawaii and, apparently, took little interest in his studies. This attitude changed during his years at Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. It was there that he met a cousin who was attending law school. Meeting this cousin, combined with Ron's experiences of racial discrimination, piqued his interest in the law.

He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology and Sociology from Coe College. Ron then graduated from the University of Iowa School of Law in 1965 and returned to Honolulu to clerk for United States District Court Judge Martin Pence.

His diligence on the job was evident even then. During his clerkship with Judge Pence, he once climbed into a trash bin outside the federal court building to look for a lost jury verdict form. The search was unsuccessful. He later learned that Judge Pence had another copy of the form in his office the whole time.

In 1966, Ron joined the staff of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu, where he served as a deputy prosecutor until 1968. He left public service to become a partner in the law firm Libkuman, Ventura, Moon, and Ayabe, where he stayed until 1982.

It was from that firm that Hawaii Governor George Ariyoshi appointed Ron Moon to the Hawaii State Judiciary as a Circuit Court Judge. He would serve in that position for eight years, earning the respect of attorneys, including myself, who came before him. He was particularly persuasive in getting plaintiff and defense attorneys to resolve cases fairly before trial.

Governor John Waihee then elevated Ron to the office of Associate Justice of the Hawaii State Supreme Court in 1990. In 1993, he was elevated to the position of Chief Justice.

As his retirement looms near, the people of Hawaii have begun to pay tribute to the incredible service of C.J. Moon. The County of Hawaii recently recognized May 7, 2010, as Chief Justice Ronald T.Y. Moon Day. The Hawaii State Legislature has also recommended that the new Kapolei Court Complex be named after C.J. Moon, who spearheaded the project. The Hawaii Chapter of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association will

celebrate the career of C.J. Moon on June 23, 2010.

C.J. Moon has joked that he is "looking forward to joining [his] fellow retired judges and other judiciary employees at [his] neighborhood McDonald's." It will be a retirement that has been well-earned.

Mahalo nui loa (thank you very much), C.J. Moon, for your many years of admirable stewardship of our system of courts and laws. I would also like to thank C.J. Moon's wife Stella and his family for sharing C.J. with us.

RECOGNIZING THE METRO-EAST
LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL DANCE
TEAM

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2010

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the state champion dance team from Metro-East Lutheran High School in Edwardsville, Illinois.

Just three one-hundredths of a point separated the Dancer Knights from a clean sweep at state. They captured state championship honors in Class A Jazz and Class A Pom Dance, and narrowly missed the title in Lyrical. These were just the latest titles in the distinguished history of the Dancer Knights, who also won state championships in 2005, 2008 and 2009.

I want to join with the other Members of this House in congratulating coaches Kristen Reeb-Wardlaw, Mariah Scott and Stephanie McGovern for their work with this outstanding group of student-athletes. I especially want to congratulate the members of the Dancer Knights on their tremendous achievement: Katelyn Batty, Shanna Rull, Katie Miller, Leah Yurchuck, Haley Santen, Phoenix Helmkamp, Jessica Ross, Sarah Menk, Ashley Paskero, Alyssa Rupprecht, Allison Clessa and Becky Newton.

These young ladies have represented themselves, their school and their community in an exemplary fashion. I wish them continued success in both their academic and athletic endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2010

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I was unable to cast votes on the following legislative measures. If I were present for rollcall votes, I would have voted in the following manner:

Roll 347, June 10, 2010: On Agreeing to the Amendment: Waters of California Amendment No. 1 to H.R. 5072, FHA Reform Act of 2010, I would have voted, "aye."

Roll 348, June 10, 2010: On Agreeing to the Amendment: Garrett of New Jersey Amendment no. 5 to H.R. 5072, FHA Reform Act of 2010, I would have voted, "no."

Roll 349, June 10, 2010: On Agreeing to the Amendment: Price of Georgia Amendment no. 7 to H.R. 5072, FHA Reform Act of 2010, I would have voted, "no."