

Daxon has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Daxon designed and constructed steps and handrails at his church to aid the older generations of his church to reach the pulpit to speak.

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

HONORING THE AUGUSTA STATE UNIVERSITY MEN'S GOLF TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2010 NCAA DIVISION I NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. PAUL C. BROWN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2010

Mr. BROWN of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of the NCAA National Champion Augusta State University men's golf team. The Jaguars, competing in their first ever Division I National Championship, beat seven larger schools from prestigious conferences to win their first national title.

In a classic "David vs. Goliath" battle, this year's NCAA national championship came down to the wire as Augusta State defeated 10-time champs Oklahoma State 3-1-1 in the final match of the 112th NCAA Championships at The Honors Course just outside Chattanooga, Tennessee. Led by this year's National Coach of the Year Josh Gregory, the Augusta State men's golf team has stamped its name in the record books and established what I hope becomes a dynasty.

Jake Amos, Olle Bengtsson, Jacob Carlsson, Taylor Floyd, Brendan Gillins, Mitch Krywulycz, Carter Newman, Henrik Norlander, Patrick Reed, Shawn Yim, Coach Josh Gregory, students, faculty, and supporters should all be immensely proud. I congratulate them all, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing their success and wishing them all the best in future seasons.

RECOGNIZING 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF UNITED STATES-JAPAN TREATY OF MUTUAL COOPERATION AND SECURITY

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 1464, which commemorates the 50th Anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security and affirms our alliance with Japan and commitment to peace and prosperity for the U.S. and Japan, as well as the Asia-Pacific region.

The U.S.-Japan Alliance, rooted in our shared values and democratic ideals, provides a climate of stability for East Asia that has enabled all nations of the region to develop and prosper. I do believe the time has come to rethink our large military footprint near Okinawa.

The Japanese are our partners and allies; a large military presence within their country is likely seen by a younger generation as unnecessary and unwelcome.

The U.S. and Japan should enhance regional cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region. We should work together to respond to natural disasters and to provide humanitarian relief in the region. We must make efforts to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and seek the peace and security of a world without nuclear weapons. We must deepen our cooperation and strengthen our Alliance.

As the Treaty marks its 50th Anniversary, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution to recommit ourselves to further build a strong and cohesive U.S.-Japanese Alliance.

TRIBUTE TO 2LT JOHN L. MCMAHAN

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2010

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Kentucky National Guardsman 2LT John L. McMahan who earned the rare honor of receiving the Kentucky Medal of Valor for his heroic actions on January 27, 2010 in Perry County, Kentucky.

Lieutenant McMahan was en route to a military drill on that January morning when he discovered an overturned vehicle in the bitter-cold winter stream of Lotts Creek in Perry County. In true first-responder style, his training kicked into high gear when he realized a woman was trapped inside the vehicle. McMahan dispatched a call for assistance and waded in the freezing water for more than 30 minutes, calming the woman trapped inside, until firefighters arrived to extricate her. When help arrived, he did not back away. McMahan joined the crew in carrying her out to safety.

McMahan is no stranger to risking his own life for others. In addition to service for his country, he is also a Captain and 17-year veteran with the Kentucky State Police. McMahan is only the 47th Kentucky National Guardsman to receive the Kentucky Medal of Valor and it is an honor well deserved.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring John L. McMahan for his selfless public protection and service to the families of eastern Kentucky, our Commonwealth and our great Nation.

SUPPORTING DESIGNATION OF YEAR OF THE FATHER

SPEECH OF

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I wish to take this opportunity to support the designating of 2010 as the Year of the Father. One hundred years ago, Father's Day was founded by a mother who recognized the vitally important role of fatherhood. As a father myself, I am honored and humbled by this annual day of recognition and celebration, and happily recall

all the positive memories and influences my own father had with me.

I'm sure that most people in this room already know of the importance of fathers. Fathers bring love, care, and emotional support that work in tandem with the support of mothers to bring about positive development for their children. For some, however, fatherhood is a foreign concept. Twenty-three percent of families with children in 2008 were maintained by single mothers. Approximately sixty percent of children born during the 1990s lived or would live significant portions of their lives without fathers. For minorities, the numbers are even more daunting, with only thirty-five percent of African American children living with two married parents, and only fifty percent of children having regular contact with their fathers.

For these same minority families, being a father is simply not the same. Barriers like education and access to jobs continue to restrict the involvement of men who would otherwise be involved fathers. While it is important to promote and celebrate the significance of fathers, it is equally important to recognize that fatherhood comes with varying obstacles and responsibilities for every background. To fully promote a healthy nation and support the ideals behind designating 2010 as the Year of the Father, it is crucial that we pursue more opportunities for non-custodial and would-be fathers to live up to their potential, and the potential of our present and future generations.

It is my hope that by declaring 2010 as the Year of the Father, we would not only be honoring and recognizing the importance of fathers to the family, but also encouraging reform to make fatherhood a reality for countless Americans.

HONORING OUR NATION'S HEROES FROM THE KOREAN WAR

HON. C. W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2010

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues in our solemn recognition this morning of the 60th anniversary of the Korean War as we pay tribute to the American heroes who served in the finest tradition in that so called "Forgotten War."

To this member though, Korea was far from a forgotten war. It was war in which more than 36,000 Americans lost their lives defending our ideals of freedom and democracy against communist aggression.

It was 60 years ago that North Korean troops stormed across the 38th parallel into South Korea, launching a three-year conflict that culminated in an armistice in 1953. The ferocious North Korean attack caught the South Korean army by surprise—they rapidly advanced, seizing the capital in a few short days. Concerned over the spread of communism, President Truman ordered U.S. forces to defend South Korea as part of a United Nations Task Force. Unfortunately, that initial effort did little to stop the advance and our forces suffered heavy losses during their first significant engagement of the war.

For the next couple of months, the situation looked extremely dire as U.N. forces were beaten back all the way to Pusan. There, however, we held the line with the Battle of Pusan

Perimeter. The now famous Inchon Landing further turned the tide by enveloping North Korean forces and forcing them to retreat. Ultimately, China entered the war, a stalemate developed, and the war ended much where it began at the 38th Parallel.

The timeline of the Korean War itself does little to capture the individual stories of heroism and sacrifice. Our soldiers endured the harshest of conditions and the coldest of winters. Ultimately, 36,000 lost their lives and many thousand more were wounded or captured. Their sacrifice was not in vain and their defense of our ideals bore fruit that can be seen today. The clearest evidence is that South Korea has emerged as a democratic and economic powerhouse while North Korea languishes in an isolated morass of its own making.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to take the time today to reassure our heroes of the Korean War that they are not forgotten. Instead, they remain an inspiration to us and to all who have worn the uniform and who will volunteer to do so in the future. Only they have the firsthand knowledge of the hardship and challenges faced on that distant battlefield but they can rest assured that they have the heartfelt thanks and grateful appreciation of our nation for their service half a world away.

RECOGNIZING JUNETEENTH INDEPENDENCE DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to recognize Juneteenth Independence Day which we observe with Resolution 546, sponsored by Rep. DANNY DAVIS of Illinois. The House of Representatives notes the importance of effectively understanding our past as the foundation of a progressive and egalitarian future.

We remember June 19, 1865, "Juneteenth," as the day of the announcement of the Emancipation Proclamation in the last of the States in the Union. Though President Abraham Lincoln intended the Emancipation Proclamation to go into effect on January 1, 1863, slaves in the last of the slaveholding territories, namely Texas, did not hear of their freedom until 1865. Galveston, Texas is recognized as the birthplace of Juneteenth and as of this March, 36 states have recognized the day for observance. Now, 145 years later, we remember Juneteenth as a turning point in the history of Black Americans.

This celebration of freedom and equality is an important patriotic symbol in the history of the Nation. Juneteenth is an opportunity for us to pause and remember the difficult road to advancement and to reflect on the importance of that political organizing in Galveston by former slaves to celebrate their freedom and new status. Juneteenth is one of the earliest landmarks of the active political involvement of Black Americans following the sacrifices made by the more than 200,000 people who fought and died in the Civil War.

We are also reminded of the many achievements and contributions Black Americans

have made to the country in all fields. We highlight the work done by civil rights leaders and activists who have carried on the spirit and legacy of emancipation. In particular, we salute those men and women serving in our armed forces, who could not serve today without the rights afforded them by the work of previous generations of Black Americans who fought in every conflict since the Nation's founding. Culturally, we must recognize the magnanimous impact of Black artists, performers and academics in shaping American identity well beyond the 21st century.

While Juneteenth started in Texas, its impact and importance to the United States' commitment to independence and liberty is felt nationwide. Freedom is at the core of the legacy of the United States and of all its citizens, regardless of race or personal background. I am proud to celebrate and recognize the significance of Juneteenth today and forever in our Nation's history.

HONORING STAFF SERGEANT BRYAN HOOVER

HON. KATHLEEN A. DAHLKEMPER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2010

Mrs. DAHLKEMPER. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life of a fallen hero from Western Pennsylvania. Staff Sergeant Bryan Hoover of Lyndora, Pennsylvania was only 29 years old when he made the ultimate sacrifice defending our nation in Afghanistan.

On June 11th, a suicide bomber detonated an explosive near the Bullard Bazaar in Zabul Province in southern Afghanistan where Staff Sergeant Hoover and his fellow soldier, Sergeant First Class Robert Fike, also of Western Pennsylvania, were on foot patrol. Both these brave men were killed in the explosion. They were members of the Pennsylvania Army National Guard's Company C, 1st Battalion, 110th Infantry, based in Connellsville.

Staff Sergeant Hoover was passionate about his service to his country, and dreamt of joining the military even as a child. He enlisted in the Army National Guard in 2005 and previously served in the Marines. Bryan served a total of four tours overseas, two in Afghanistan, one in Iraq and one in Kuwait. He truly lived to serve our nation.

To his fellow soldiers, he was one of them, but to the students of Elizabeth Forward High School in Elizabeth, Pennsylvania, he was known as Coach Hoover. Bryan was the assistant cross country and track coach at his alma mater, where he graduated in 2000. Bryan loved sports, and was a talented athlete himself who particularly enjoyed hockey. He earned a degree in sports management from California University of Pennsylvania.

For his brave service and sacrifice, Staff Sergeant Bryan Hoover was awarded the Purple Heart.

Bryan is survived by his father, Melvin Hoover; his brothers, Richard and Ben; his sister, Samantha; his grandfather, Ray Bradford; his stepmother, Elaina Evans, and his fiancé, Ashley Tack. His mother, Debra Jean, preceded Bryan in death.

It is my sad duty to enter the name of Staff Sergeant Bryan Hoover in the RECORD of the

United States House of Representatives for service, sacrifice, commitment to his country and to our freedom.

While we struggle to express our sorrow over this loss, we can take pride in the example Bryan set as a soldier. Today and always, he will be remembered by family and friends as a true American hero, and we cherish the legacy of his service and his life.

As I search for words to do justice to this valiant fallen soldier, I recall President Abraham Lincoln's words as he addressed the families of soldiers who died at Gettysburg:

We cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here.

May God grant strength and peace to those who mourn, and may God be with all of you, as I know He is with Bryan.

MRS. LUCILLE ROCHS' 95TH BIRTHDAY

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2010

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an extraordinary woman, Mrs. Lucille Rochs, who has devoted her life to the service of her friends and neighbors in Texas.

In life, it is rare to come across an individual who is so dedicated and so driven that one can follow the path of their life. Most of us leave our marks, but only the exceptional, few leave their footprints. I am humbled and honored to share Lucille's story and to be able to brag on her today, because she is one of those rare individuals.

Lucille makes her home in the city of Fredericksburg, Texas. Although she began her career as a teacher and educator, she has continued in her retirement as an advocate, philanthropist, fundraiser, and mentor for the vulnerable and less fortunate. Mrs. Rochs has focused her time serving seniors and abused children in numerous organizations throughout Gillespie County.

She has worked tirelessly for community organizations like the Gillespie County Child Services board, the Region 8 Texas Department of Child Protection Council, and the Gillespie County Committee on Aging. In addition she has served on organizations like the Hill Country Community Needs Council, Texas Retired Teachers, the Gillespie County Cancer Society, and the Hill Country Higher Education Initiative.

What makes this lengthy record of service all the more impressive is that Sunday is Mrs. Rochs 95th Birthday. To this day, she continues her active community service and keeps a schedule that puts mine to shame. It is my great honor to represent Lucille in this House. She is a treasure to her community and an inspiration to those of us who have followed behind her.

I wish Lucille a happy and healthy birthday and hope that she is able to continue her public service for many more years. I know that I join with everyone in Fredericksburg when I