

CONGRATULATING JEFF
THEERMAN

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Jeff Theerman, the Executive Director of the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District, on his election as the new President of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA).

For over twenty-five years, Mr. Theerman has served St. Louis through his work at the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District. During his tenure with the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District, he has demonstrated that he is an accomplished leader and committed environmental steward continuously working to improve the public health of the St. Louis region. In October of 2003, Mr. Theerman became the Executive Director, ably accepting the accountability of the organization's operations.

Since joining others in the founding of the NACWA forty years ago, the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District has benefitted from its active engagement with the organization. A member of the NACWA's Board of Directors since 2004, Mr. Theerman has served as the organization's Secretary, Treasurer, and Vice President. I find it fitting that his election as President coincides with the 40th anniversary of the NACWA's advocacy on behalf of the Nation's clean water agencies and the environment we all value so much.

It is my sincere pleasure to congratulate Mr. Theerman on becoming the President of NACWA. I am certain his dedication to his work will bring continued progress to proactively and effectively addressing the complex 21st century water quality challenges we face in St. Louis and the Nation.

There is no doubt in my mind that Mr. Theerman is the ideal leader for the National Association of Clean Water Agencies, NACWA.

A STRONG VOICE AGAINST DISCRIMINATION OF ALL SORTS

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I was very proud in the 70's to show my support for appropriate bipartisanship by supporting and working closely with Senator Ed Brooke, who was twice elected to the Senate as a Republican and was a staunch fighter against discrimination, for strong support for rental housing for low-income people, and in general for fiscal responsibility within the context of social concerns. I was therefore very pleased, but not at all surprised, to read in the Boston Globe on June 22, 2010 a strong expression of support for repeal of the "don't ask, don't tell" policy, which has discriminated against so many patriotic Americans seeking to serve their country. Senator Brooke notes that he himself was the victim of discriminatory policies when he served in a segregated U.S. Army in World War II, and as an African American, was treated unfairly. He does affirm

that there are differences in the effect of the policies and the impact they have between racial segregation and "don't ask, don't tell," but as he says after discussing the experience of racial segregation, "The point is that the ban (on gay and lesbian members in the military) is a weapon and expression of prejudice—no more excusable than any other discriminatory law."

Consistent with his lifelong record of fighting for fairness in America, Senator Brooke closes the article by saying, "If I was still in the Senate, I would vote to show my respect for the sacrifices of all soldiers—gay and straight. Congress should repeal this legislation and score another victory of progress over prejudice."

Madam Speaker, I was proud to stand with Ed Brooke in the 70's and I am very proud that he is standing with those of us who are fighting for fairness today.

IN TRIBUTE TO JIM MEREDITH

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, I rise in tribute to Jim Meredith, who has retired from the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Board of Directors in Simi Valley, California, after 28 years.

Jim was Chairman of the Board in 1984, 1991, 1994, 1995, 1999, 2003 and 2008. He was Vice Chairman in 1990, 1993, 1998, 2002 and 2007. In addition, he was President of the Ventura County Special District Association for 10 years, President of the State Board of the California Association of Recreation and Park Districts in 1991 and 2004, President of the California Special Districts Association Board of Directors, member of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Board Liaison Committee, etc., etc. etc.

It's easy to see why Jim is known around town as "Mr. Parks and Rec."

While Jim was on the board, the District budget increased from \$3.5 million to \$16 million, 303 acres of park land were developed and an additional 3,820 acres of land was acquired. Since Jim's first election, the District has added 37 parks to the system and 11 after-school clubs.

Jim was instrumental in nearly every one of the district's expansion decisions during those years. As someone who was a professional baseball player and involved in youth baseball, the Royal High School girl's softball program, adult women's softball program, co-ed softball, youth football, the Simi Valley High School and Royal High School football programs, semi-pro football, soccer programs and the Boy Scouts, Jim has an intimate knowledge of what the community's recreation needs are and how to fill them.

As a result of his vision and dedication, Jim has been recognized with the Founder's Award from the Ventura County Special Districts Association; Board Member of the Year from the California Association of Recreation & Park Districts; 2002 Board Member of the Year from the American Park & Recreation Society; and the 2002 Meritorious Service Citizen Award from the American Park & Recreation Society.

In addition to his recreational activities, Jim is a member of Disabled American Veterans, Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis Club, Simi Valley Historical Society and the Simi Valley Christian Foundation for Homeless.

Jim also found the time to be a husband, father and grandfather during those years. He and Amy have been married for more than 50 years and have five children and numerous grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, the mark James L. Meredith leaves on Simi Valley and Oak Park—the communities the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District serves—is both deep and enduring. I know my colleagues join me in thanking Jim for his tireless dedication to his community and in wishing him and Amy great joy in their retirement.

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS HOUR

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 28, 2010

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, let me begin my thanking my friend and colleague, the gentlewoman from Ohio, Congresswoman FUDGE, for anchoring once again tonight's Congressional Black Caucus' special hour.

This Congress and President Obama have made tough choices and taken effective steps to bring our economy back from the brink of disaster. The Recovery Act has already saved or created up to 2.8 million jobs and much of the TARP funding repaid. Now we are taking another key step forward with a final agreement on the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

For many months now, members of the Congressional Black Caucus continue to be laser focused on financial reform. We have sought to engage the Obama administration, House and Senate leadership, committee chairs, and our coalition partners to develop a legislative strategy aimed at addressing the needs of millions of Americans who are struggling in this tough, economic environment.

Mr. Speaker, we must reform Wall Street to end risky practices that have caused millions of Americans to lose their jobs, their homes, and life savings. The House passed a financial reform bill that will protect consumers and prevent the irresponsible behavior that caused the financial melt down.

I was proud to join a majority of my colleagues in this body in supporting passage of Wall Street. We are committed to protect American families and their savings.

We ended the practice of "too big to fail." We established safeguards to ensure that the abuses of the past are never again repeated. Mr. Speaker, the House made Wall Street reform a priority.

Every day of delay is one more opportunity for a recurrence of economic uncertainty and even collapse. Last Thursday's roller coaster on the stock market was a clear reminder that we cannot allow a willful lack of responsible oversight to expose American families, American business, and our whole economy to such potential risk.

Mr. Speaker, Members of Congressional Black Caucus continue to support the efforts to reform Wall Street.

HONORING DR. JEFF KIMPEL

HON. JOHN SULLIVAN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to honor Dr. Jeff Kimpel for his service as the Director of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Severe Storms Laboratory (NSSL), in Norman, Oklahoma, and for his thirteen years of Federal service.

Dr. Jeff Kimpel has been a lifeline for the NSSL for the last thirteen years; he has led the program to further research opportunities and the results have showed nothing but excellence. Dr. Kimpel has allowed the NSSL to embark upon many programs and technological advancements, saving countless lives and property from the consequences that severe weather can cause. Under the watch of Dr. Kimpel, the NSSL performed the scientific and technological research that upgraded the Next Generation Weather Radar to an open systems operation. Along with this, super resolution capability and designed dual polarization upgrades were added.

The NSSL has been able to upgrade and expand their programs, establishing strong programs and cloud resolving and numerical forecast models, all under the watch of Dr. Kimpel. He was also instrumental in gaining support for new facilities, which sprung the construction of the National Weather Center, which shares space with the National Weather Service and the University of Oklahoma Meteorology Program.

Dr. Kimpel has a perseverance that goes far beyond the field of meteorology. He is dedicated to NSSL but has also achieved so much more, such as serving our nation in Vietnam and being awarded the Bronze Star Medal for his bravery and courage and being named as the Senior Vice President of the Norman Campus of the University of Oklahoma.

Dr. Kimpel, I commend and congratulate you on your noteworthy contributions that you have made to our Nation, the state of Oklahoma, the University of Oklahoma and to the field of meteorology.

EAST ROWAN BASEBALL TEAM
WINS IT ALL

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. COBLE. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we wish to extend our congratulations to the East Rowan baseball team for winning the North Carolina High School Athletic Association's 3-A state championship. The title capped off a record-setting 31–2 season. It was a matter of redemption for many of the players after making deep runs into the playoffs and being knocked out the last two seasons.

The team's resilience mirrors the work ethic of its Head Coach Brian Hightower. East Rowan won the State Championship series by sweeping Wilson Hunt High school two games to none. Coach Hightower focuses on pitching and defense but we are sure he wasn't complaining too much with the 15–10 final of the championship series. Star pitcher William Johnson got the win for the Mustangs and concluded a brilliant postseason record with zero earned runs in 20 innings pitched. Centerfielder Will Sapp was named MVP of the series and had two doubles in the final game.

It took the combined effort of the team, coaches and support from the East Rowan faithful to make this championship dream a reality. The championship team members included: Will Johnson, Parker Gobbel, Thomas Allen, Bradley Robbins, Alex Bost, Curtis Ward, Andy Austin, Justin Morris, Preston Troutman, Noah Holmes, Avery Rogers, Chase Hathcock, Jamey Blalock, Wesley Leroy, Will Sapp, Chris Jacobs, Luke Thomas, Nathan FullBright and Alex Morgan. The coaching staff was led by Head Coach Hightower, with pitching coach Brian Hatley, assistant coaches John McNeil, Matt Miller and statistician Andrew Poston. The East Rowan Athletic Directors Chad Mitchell and Gina Talbert also helped support the championship run. The guidance from school Principals Kelly Sparger, Rick Vanhoy, Debra Murphy and Grayson Hampton also assisted the team.

Again, on behalf of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we would like to congratulate the East Rowan baseball team, the faculty, staff, students, and fans for an outstanding championship season.

DEMOCRACY IS STRENGTHENED BY CASTING LIGHT ON SPENDING IN ELECTIONS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2010

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5175) to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit foreign influence in Federal elections, to prohibit government contractors from making expenditures with respect to such elections, and to establish additional disclosure requirements with respect to spending in such elections, and for other purposes:

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 5175, and strongly believe that the legislation is vital to our democracy.

While I believe that personal speech should be protected by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, I feel that corporate speech was never meant to be protected and extending Constitutional safeguards to it is corrosive to our democracy. By providing unprecedented transparency, H.R. 5175 goes a long way to hold corporations who participate in U.S. elections accountable to the American people.

At its core, H.R. 5175 protects the constitutional right of voters to know the identity of the organizations spending money to influence their elections and the sources of the money they are spending.

Without the establishment of strong new disclosure rules, the Supreme Court's decision in *Citizens United v. FEC* will give corporations incredible power to influence elections. That is why I believe that H.R. 5175 is necessary to ensure that people know who is trying to influence our country's elections.

I also believe that this legislation prevents those who should not interfere in our elections, such as corporations controlled by foreign interests, from doing so.

This legislation strikes the appropriate balance and I urge my colleagues to support this important measure.

IN MEMORY OF CHARLES
LEGRAND LEWIS

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise at this time to honor the life of Charles Legrand Lewis. He was the father of a former Military Fellow in my office and current Army Lieutenant Colonel, Patrick Lewis. His father, Charles Legrand Lewis, at age 69, of Oceanside, California, died peacefully, Sunday, May 2, 2010, at Tri-City Medical Center, Oceanside, California, surrounded by his family.

He was born in Elizabethtown, North Carolina, on March 9, 1941, to the late Charlie Roundtree and Ada Mervell Lewis. Also preceding him in death was his brother, Harold Lewis.

Legrand, as he was known, graduated from Frederick Douglass High School in Baltimore, Maryland class of 1959, where he was an avid trumpet player in the school band. After graduation he attended a printing apprenticeship program at Westinghouse in Baltimore, where he began his 45-year commercial photographer career in the printing industry.

Legrand's career lead him to New York where he met his wife of over 40 years Bernice Lewis, of Wilson, North Carolina. They later moved to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and then Willingboro, New Jersey, where they raised two children until they moved to Oceanside, California, where they prepared for retirement.

After retirement Legrand enjoyed wearing baseball caps and driving his convertible top down, no matter how cold or hot it was. He enjoyed his family and friends and was affectionately known as "Pop Pop" by his grandchildren. He also enjoyed meeting and sharing life stories with everyone he met. He always told a good story and was a kind and gentle man. He will be missed greatly by his family and everyone who knew him.

Legrand is survived by his wife, Bernice Lewis; brother, Frank Lewis, Baltimore, MD; sister Candy Woingust, Baltimore, MD; four children (two children from previous marriage), son, Andre Whitt, Los Angeles, CA; daughter, Lavern Whitt, Los Angeles, CA; son Patrick Lewis, Lorton, VA; daughter Stephanie Lewis, Philadelphia, PA; seven grandchildren; Jasmine Lewis, Dominique Lewis, Jade Lewis, Taj Whitt, Tyler Whitt, Freedom Lewis, Victorie Lewis; one great grandchild, J'leigh Lewis, and a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins.