

HONORING THE 50TH
ANNIVERSARY OF DAN'S PAPERS

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 2010

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the publication Dan's Papers, celebrating its 50th anniversary as a purveyor of culture and a staple of community life on Eastern Long Island.

Dan's Papers was first published on July 1, 1960, by Dan Rattiner, who was at the time a junior at the University of Rochester. Dan's impetus for creating Dan's Papers stemmed from a desire to create a fun, light-hearted, and welcoming publication for tourists visiting Suffolk County, New York.

Gathering a devoted following, Dan's Papers was instrumental during a 1967 protest to prevent the U.S. Coast Guard from allowing the historic Montauk Point Lighthouse to fall victim to the eroding cliffs on which it is perched. Through the efforts organized by Dan's Papers, not only was the lighthouse saved, but the community was united in a common cause.

Dan worked individually for the first six summers of Dan's Papers, writing, editing, and crafting his newspaper to entertain residents and tourists alike. As populations grew and the demographics of the South Fork began to shift, so too did the scope of Dan's Papers, providing articles, editorials, and updates on the visitors and inhabitants of the East End.

Madam Speaker, Dan's Papers has played an important role in helping to promote the iconic culture of Long Island's South Fork and has personified the American spirit of creativity and community for five decades. I am proud to congratulate Dan's Papers on its 50th anniversary and join eastern Long Island in wishing the publication success in the future.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF JUDGE DAVID TOBIN

HON. CHARLES A. WILSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 2010

Mr. WILSON of Ohio. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the judicial and civic contributions of Judge David Tobin. This month, Columbiana County is losing a great public servant. Judge Tobin devoted twenty-five years of his life to serving on Columbiana County Court of Common Pleas, the second longest tenure of any judge on the Court. His time spent on the bench and prior decade of service as a Columbiana County Prosecuting Attorney greatly benefited the citizens of Columbiana County.

During his service, he had the honor of serving on the Ohio State Bar Association's Board of Character and Fitness as a Commissioner. He also worked hard to bring the Supreme Court of Ohio to the Columbiana County Courthouse to host a court session. These are just a few of the examples that illustrate the professional respect for Judge Tobin exhibited from Lisbon to Columbus.

He was also greatly respected throughout the community. From community service through the Calcutta Rotary, to his work with the Calcutta Community Park Committee, to his various coaching positions, Judge Tobin exhibited a strong commitment to his community.

The people of Columbiana County have been blessed by the long service of Judge Tobin, and upon his retirement this July, he will be sorely missed. I ask my colleagues today to join with me in honoring Judge Tobin, a respected judge and public servant who has been and will always be dedicated to the people of Columbiana County.

UKRAINIAN GOVERNMENT SHOULD
MAINTAIN FREEDOM OF MEDIA

HON. ALAN B. MOLLOHAN

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 2010

Mr. MOLLOHAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to draw your attention to a troubling situation occurring in Ukraine. Less than 100 days ago, President Victor Yanukovich assumed leadership of the Ukrainian government. During this short period of time, there have been alarming reports that many of the democratic achievements of the 2004 Orange Revolution are being rolled back—including the freedoms of speech and media.

Some of the reported actions occurring include the Ukrainian Security Service's, SBU, agents approaching university deans to warn them against their students' participation in pro-opposition rallies, as well as instances of the new government intimidating journalists. Furthermore, two TV channels with a history of independent coverage—Channel 5 and TVi—are under threat of imminent closure due to reported pressure from executive bodies, including SBU.

These troubling instances of pressure against Ukraine's beleaguered opposition and independent media outlets are arguably part of a disturbing, coordinated effort by the executive to squelch a healthy political debate and assure an uncritical coverage of the government's policies. In fact, these reports are so widespread that the United States Ambassador to Ukraine, John Tefft, even recently expressed his concerns about the increasingly difficult climate for Ukraine's independent media and stressed that "it is essential to protect and even expand the media freedoms that emerged" after the country's 2004 Orange Revolution.

I understand that Secretary of State Hillary Clinton will visit Kiev, Ukraine on July 2, as part of her five-day, five-nation tour of Eastern Europe. I would encourage Secretary Clinton to raise these issues with President Yanukovich and reiterate the importance of not returning to Ukraine's old system of government pressure on journalists and media companies.

I am including a copy of an article titled, "Ukraine channels cry foul as frequencies pulled" that appeared in the June 8 issue of *The Financial Times*, Europe. As such, I urge my colleagues to follow and engage in this vitally important issue.

[From the *Financial Times*, June 8, 2010]

UKRAINE CHANNELS CRY FOUL AS
FREQUENCIES PULLED

(By Roman Olearchyk in Kiev)

Two Ukrainian television channels cried foul on Tuesday after a high court pulled crucial broadcasting frequencies away from them, sparking media freedom activists to reiterate concerns of an organized attempt to block objective news coverage.

The development follows weeks of growing complaints by journalists about the resurgence of censorship and heightens fears that a Kremlin-styled crackdown on media freedoms could be in the works five months into the presidency of the Moscow-friendly Viktor Yanukovich.

Management and journalists from channels 5 and TVi pledged to appeal against the controversial ruling and hope to remain on the air in the near term. But during a press conference held after Tuesday's regional administrative court ruling, they openly expressed fears that media freedoms and democratic gains made by Ukraine since 2004 could be at risk under Mr. Yanukovich. He is accused by oppositionists of setting up an authoritarian regime.

"We lived through 2004," said Channel 5 director Ivan Adamchuk, recalling attempts by authorities to muzzle the channel ahead of the pro-democracy Orange Revolution, which overturned a fraud-marred presidential vote for Mr. Yanukovich. "We could not imagine that those times would return, but they have," he added.

Oleh Rybachuk, a former presidential administration chief turned civic activist, said "censorship is re-emerging, and the opposition is not getting so much coverage. There are similarities to what [Vladimir] Putin did when he came to power. We are seeing Putin-style attempts to monopolise power."

With Mr. Yanukovich's coalition having swiftly consolidated control over the nation's legislative, executive and judicial branches of power, the channels could face an uphill battle if he opposes their survival.

Mr. Yanukovich's administration on Tuesday repeated denials of cracking down on free press. But media watchdogs warned that if stripped of the frequencies, the two channels—seen by media watchdogs as rare sources of reports critical of Mr. Yanukovich's coalition—would be blacked out from much of the country.

Such a scenario would preserve the strong grip over Ukraine's television airwaves held by Mr. Yanukovich's billionaire business backers.

One of them is Valery Khoroshkovsky, currently head of Kyiv's SBU spy agency and owner of UA Inter Media Group, the nation's largest television holding. The latter filed the court appeal asking for the frequencies to be pulled on grounds that they were wrongfully issued in January.

Both 5 and TVi have repeatedly accused Mr. Khoroshkovsky of abusing his power and influence to preserve his monopoly control over Ukraine's media airwaves and limit objective news reporting.

Mr. Khoroshkovsky denies wrongdoing and insists his wife manages his media empire as he dedicates his time to public service.

But on Tuesday, Mykola Knyazytsky, director of TVi, which was set up by exiled Russian businessmen, blamed Mr. Khoroshkovsky for the crack down on the two channels and described his simultaneous role as a presidential backer, intelligence chief and media mogul as a "huge and blatant conflict of interest."

RECOGNIZING THE COCKRUM FAMILY AS THE CRAWFORD COUNTY FARM FAMILY OF THE YEAR

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 2010

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Cockrum family of Crawford County Arkansas. The Cockrum's have devoted their lives to the service of Crawford County and the State of Arkansas through the service and hard labors of cattle farming. It is because of their devotion and hard labors that they were named Crawford County's 2010 Farm Family of the Year.

For 63 years, the Arkansas Farm Family of the Year Program has honored farm families all across the State for their outstanding work both on their farms and in their communities. Recognition from the program is a reflection of the contribution to agriculture at the community and State level and its implications for improved farm practices and management.

The Cockrum's have worked diligently to contribute to the protection of the environment and the conservation of soil, water, and energy. Mr. Cockrum's journey began at the age of seventeen when he rented 32 acres of land and purchased his first twelve cows. Today, through hard work and determination, the Cockrum's now own more than 300 acres of land and two businesses.

I congratulate Randy, his wife Anjie, and their children Shelby, Tyler, and Siera for their outstanding achievements in agriculture and ask my fellow colleagues to join me in honoring them for this accomplishment. I wish them continued success in their future endeavors and look forward to the contributions they will offer in the future of Arkansas agriculture.

RECOGNIZING OF ARTHUR WOLF FOR DECADES OF DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 2010

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. Arthur Wolf, a great New Yorker and a great American who has devoted himself to serving others. Arthur provided top-notch public service to the citizens of the Empire State for decades as an official at the Social Security Administration and then at the New York City Department for the Aging. He has provided invaluable and expert advice to me on issues related to aging, and in particular, Social Security and Medicare, for the last seventeen years. Last month, he hosted a celebration of his upcoming 80th birthday (he will actually turn 80 on September 25) at a gathering at Aleo restaurant in Manhattan.

Here in Congress, we are elected by the people to make laws, but the job of implementing, applying and enforcing them falls to others. Throughout his professional life, Arthur Wolf has, in his own mild-mannered way, helped citizens overcome the barriers that sometimes exist between often byzantine bu-

reaucracies and the people whom government is supposed to serve.

A proud son of the Bronx, Arthur Wolf has been a consummate New Yorker throughout his life. He did venture far from home to begin his undergraduate education at the University of Georgia, where he witnessed first-hand the mean-spirited racial segregation that then permeated the region, an experience that helped inspire him to try to make a difference for the better. After two years, Arthur returned to his hometown to finish his undergraduate education at New York University, an outstanding institution of which he is a proud, loyal, generous, and highly revered alumnus. After earning his bachelors degree, Arthur became a welfare investigator. In areas like the South Bronx, Arthur Wolf ensured that often underprivileged New Yorkers got a fair shake from the government when it came to accessing benefits to which they were legitimately entitled. He was also a diligent steward of taxpayer dollars who made certain that the public till was not bilked by those who fraudulently tried to qualify for welfare benefits.

As a Social Security Administration official, Arthur helped countless senior citizens cut through red tape that stood between them and the benefits to which they were entitled. Many of these citizens would be penniless if it weren't for the dedicated work of this extraordinary man. In one memorable instance, Arthur helped an elderly widow tap into Social Security benefits to which she was unknowingly entitled, providing her with a sum in the six figures that constituted an enormous boost to her quality of life. He carries that same commitment to serving others everywhere he goes. A longtime resident of Peter Cooper Village, a bastion of middle class housing on Manhattan's East Side, Arthur often helps seniors in the neighborhood by offering uncompensated counsel on how to traverse the Social Security bureaucracy. His work ethic is only matched by his remarkable selflessness. A former Scout Master, he helped introduce inner-city kids to the great outdoors. For many years, he also volunteered his time hosting a radio show on Fordham University's radio station, WFUV, answering callers' Social Security inquiries.

An active member of many community, civic and fraternal organizations, Arthur Wolf is a Full Mason and upstanding member of the Grand Lodge of Accepted Masons of the State of New York, which he has served as Secretary for many years. He remains a longtime member of the Executive Board of the Samuel J. Tilden Democratic Club.

Madam Speaker, for his extraordinary contributions to others and to the civic life of our nation's greatest city, I ask that my distinguished colleagues rise and join me in honoring Mr. Arthur Wolf.

COMING HOME: TRANSITION FROM MILITARY SERVICE TO CIVILIAN LIFE

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 2010

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise on this 4th of July Independence Day Weekend to congratulate and thank

Congressmen SANFORD D. BISHOP, Jr. and CHARLES B. RANGEL for joining me last year in convening a powerful national dialogue at the 21st Anniversary of the Congressional Black Caucus Veterans Braintrust during the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's 39th Annual Legislative Conference (ALC) held in Washington, DC. Our September 25, 2009 forum titled: Coming Home: Transitioning from Military Service to Civilian Life, brought together members of the Obama administration, federal agencies, distinguished scholars and professionals, and two of today's highest ranking black military officers to discuss the important challenges and obstacles facing thousands of returning soldiers and veterans who struggle to negotiate family life, jobs, education and health care after honorable discharge from the U.S. military.

As is our tradition, the morning session began with Dr. Zachery Tims, Jr., Senior Pastor, New Destiny Christian Center (NDCC) giving the invocation to bless the occasion, and inspiring international singer Brenda Jackson singing our national anthem, and a stirring rendition of 'Lift Every Voice and Sing,' the Negro National Anthem by Paul Lawrence Dunbar before a standing-room-only crowd of 400 people.

Rep. CHARLES B. RANGEL provided the framework for the forum using his own experience as a Korean War soldier who had experienced the difficulty of transitioning to the real world after a tour of combat. He opened the morning saying, "I went from being a respected and decorated Army staff sergeant to being viewed as nothing more than a high school drop-out." He was able to navigate his way using the GI Bill from underemployed in the garment district of New York City to obtaining his undergraduate and law degrees. But not everyone is as fortunate.

"Although we have a very effective Department of Veterans Affairs, thousands of today's veterans are falling through the cracks. Most of those who flounder are simply not aware of the assistance available from the VA and other service organizations," RANGEL said. "Our vision was that any veteran who walked into this session lost or disillusioned about the future—after hearing our speakers—would walk out feeling that the VA was there for him or her."

Our keynote speaker was Secretary Eric K. Shinseki, of the Department of Veterans Affairs, the first Asian American Four Star General in American military history, a real 'Soldier's Soldier.' He was joined by two other distinguished military officers, Rear Admiral Michelle Howard, the first female graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy to command a U.S. naval vessel, and Four Star General William "Kip" Ward.

Adm. Howard made history as the commander of the USS *Rushmore* that led the successful rescue effort of Captain Richard Phillips and his crew of the *Mearsk Alabama* captured by Somali pirates during April 2009. Gen. Ward is a Morgan State University graduate and the highest ranking African American in the U.S. military. He spoke eloquently about his military career. He serves as the first-ever commander of the newly formed U.S. AFRICOM, one of six geographical commands within the Department of Defense, tasked with training African soldiers and delivering aid and resources to the continent's residents. Also in attendance were retired Generals Julius Becton, George Price, and Robert Cocroft.