

CONGRATULATING THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE HOUSE FELLOWS PROGRAM

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 2010

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the participants of the House Fellows Program. The House Fellows Program, run by the Office of the House Historian, is a unique opportunity for a select group of secondary education American history and government teachers to experience firsthand the inner-workings of Congress. These educators have demonstrated excellence in the classroom, are dedicated to educating our Nation's youth and are truly deserving of our recognition.

One of the goals of the House Fellows Program is to develop curriculum on the history and practice of the House for use in schools. During the program, fellows prepare a brief lesson plan on a Congressional topic of their choosing, which is then shared with the other fellows. These plans will become part of a larger teaching resource database on the House. During the school year following their participation in the House Fellows Program, each Fellow is responsible for presenting his or her experience and lesson plans to at least one in-service institute for teachers of history and government.

The House Fellows Program began in 2006, and since then 75 teachers from across the country have participated in this innovative program.

An additional 45 teachers will be taking part in this summer's program. With plans to select a teacher from every Congressional district over the next several years, the House Fellows Program will impact thousands of high school teachers and their students and will energize thousands of students to become informed and active citizens.

As a former U.S. history teacher, I believe strongly in the importance of civic education. We must continue our efforts to get our youth involved in the political process in districts across the country. Educating teachers about the "People's House" is one of the best ways to do that. I congratulate the following educators who are participating in the 1st session of this summer's 2010 House Fellows Program:

Ms. Katherine Brantley (Ruppersberger, MD-02), Mr. Brian Rock (Pallone, NJ-06), Ms. Elizabeth Murphy (Payne, NJ-10), Ms. Esme Scott (Price, NC-04), Mr. Charles Zappa (Serrano, NY-16), Mr. Nate Cole (Serrano, NY-16), Mr. John Burns (Pastor, AZ-04), Mr. Darios Felix (Rohrabacher, CA-46), Mr. Roy Greenland (Goodlatte, VA-06), Mr. Duane Baker (Hoekstra, MI-02), Ms. Laura Howard (Kingston, GA-01), Mr. Daniel Hayden (King, NY-03), Mr. Randy 'Scotty' Hicks (Duncan, TN-02), Ms. Mary Helen Story (Duncan, TN-02) and Mr. Timothy Rodman (Bartlett, MD-06).

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in thanking the Office of the Historian for sponsoring this program. Thanks to Dr. Robert Remini and Dr. Fred Beuttler for their outstanding leadership, and Dr. Thomas Rushford, Mr. Anthony Wallis and Mr. Benjamin Hayes for providing the crucial staff support.

Thank you also to the Office of the Historian interns: Ms. Jacqueline Burns, Mr. Michael Karlik, Ms. Madeleine Rosenberg and Ms. Debbie Kobrin.

BENJAMIN R. DECOSTA, GENERAL MANAGER, CITY OF ATLANTA DEPARTMENT OF AVIATION

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 2010

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great public servant of Metro Atlanta and the international aviation community.

For 12 years, Mr. Benjamin R. DeCosta has led the City of Atlanta's Aviation Department and successfully managed Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport—the world's busiest passenger airport. Located in my congressional district, this outstanding internationally-recognized transportation center employs more than 56,000 people and generates more than 400,000 jobs and \$23.5 billion in Metro Atlanta's economy. Recently, Mr. DeCosta announced that he will be leaving Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport.

I am proud to have known and worked with Mr. DeCosta for over a decade. Whenever I call Ben and his staff about national aviation policy issues and the impact on Hartsfield-Jackson—I could always expect an honest, thorough, and researched answer. Ben successfully led the effort to open a 5th runway, the Maynard H. Jackson, Jr. International terminal, a consolidated rental car center, and upgrades to the central passenger terminal complex. He also managed to award almost 40 percent of contracts that were part of this \$6 billion capital improvement initiative to women- and minority-owned businesses.

Consumed with improving customer service and setting higher standards for passengers, Ben has led the airport's team in making the entire experience smoother for those traveling, to, from, and through Hartsfield-Jackson. For example, we worked together to improve the security screening processes at the airport. Now the passenger wait times average less than 10 minutes; the lines may be long, but they move. He also brought numerous retailers to the airport; on both sides of the security check points, you can find great food and shopping for whatever your needs may be while you wait.

It has not been easy; many would have walked away a long time ago. Somehow, Ben rose to the challenge. The aviation community took notice of his successes. Last year, the National Forum of Black Public Administrators (NFBPA) recognized him as the recipient of the 2009 prestigious National Leadership Award. In 2007, Airport Revenue Magazine voted him Best Director. Under his leadership, Hartsfield-Jackson was recognized as the World's Most Efficient Airport for three consecutive years, the world's top airport with Wi-Fi connectivity, and the Executive Traveler's Best Large U.S. airport.

Ben came to Atlanta from New York where he worked for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and served as the general manager of Newark International Airport. He earned a physics undergraduate degree from

Queens College and a Juris Doctor degree from New York Law School, and continued his studies as part of a senior executive program for local and state governments at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

I would like to thank Mr. DeCosta for his service, dedication and success to Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport and the Metro Atlanta community. I wish him and his family continued success and happiness in the next chapter of his great career.

THE TATEUCHI FOUNDATION

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 2010

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, in 2006, the fundraising campaign for Performing Arts Center Eastside (PACE) began in earnest and a new performing arts center is set to open in 2013 in my District—Washington's 8th. The PACE campaign just received a \$25 million gift from the Tateuchi Foundation, and a renewed life has been breathed into a campaign for cultural vibrancy, economic vitality, and artistic expression.

Madam Speaker, the generosity of the Tateuchi Foundation to the PACE campaign is nothing short of phenomenal. For its incredible gift, the Foundation received the naming rights of the performing arts center. Therefore, it will now be known as the Tateuchi Center, and I'm extremely pleased to see the campaign receive such a significant boost.

The spirit of giving and philanthropy is alive and well, Madam Speaker. This extraordinary gift has reminded our community that belief in unique and worthwhile entertainment and art is essential to a vibrant community. The realization of a state-of-the-art performing arts center in the 8th District will provide jobs and enhance the quality of life and cultural infrastructure of the entire Puget Sound region. According to recent studies, the Tateuchi Center will have a \$470 million impact on King County over the next decade and will generate \$70 million in new tax revenues for federal, state, county and city governments. Beyond that, Madam Speaker, a unique, exciting venue like the Tateuchi Center will help businesses in the Puget Sound region—such as Microsoft—continue to recruit top talent and excel in a highly desirable area.

The campaign to bring a one-of-a-kind performing arts center to the 8th District is driven by the desire to transform lives and enrich the community by presenting artistic, cultural, educational, and entertainment experiences of the highest quality for everyone. The momentous gift of the Tateuchi Foundation is helping make that desire a reality. The overall fundraising goal will be reached, and that's a testament to civic pride, business leadership, and the public good. Madam Speaker, I thank the leaders of the campaign to bring the arts to the 8th District. And of course, I join my constituents in thanking the Tateuchi Foundation for its generosity. The continued dedication to this cause is remarkable and worthwhile.

Madam Speaker, even in this difficult economic time, the Tateuchi Center campaign demonstrates that the desire for artistic expression is as limitless as the expression itself.

and is sending a clear message: the inclusion of arts in a community will make that community a better place to work, live, and create.

HONORING MRS. JUDITH BERNICE SEEMAN DEL ROSSI AND MR. FRANCIS JOSEPH DEL ROSSI

HON. JOHN H. ADLER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 2010

Mr. ADLER of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Judith Bernice Seeman Del Rossi and Mr. Francis Joseph Del Rossi on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary.

Judith and Joseph were married at St. John's Catholic Church in Collingswood, New Jersey, on June 11, 1960. Together, they raised three children: Angeline Rita, Mary Frances, and Francis Joseph. As longtime residents of Pennsauken, New Jersey, Frank taught at Pennsauken High School for 37 years, where he also coached the school's basketball team. Judy served in many Parent Teacher Association leadership roles while her children were young. She recently retired from her job at the Claridge Casino after more than 20 years of service.

Today, Judy and Frank are residing in Marlton, New Jersey. Their 50 years of marriage is a true testament to the loyalty and love they demonstrate in all aspects of their lives.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me on congratulating Judith and Joseph Del Rossi upon the occasion of their 50th anniversary. For their commitment and generosity to family, friends, and each other, they are to be commended.

HONORING MRS. EGLANTINE MELITA GORDON

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 2010

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the late Mrs. Eglantine Melita Gordon. It is with both profound sadness but also an enduring sense of gratitude that I recognize her for the tremendous inspiration she provided to both her church and community.

Affectionately known as "Mama G," Mrs. Gordon was born in Riverside, Hanover, Jamaica on November 26, 1916 to the late Jabez Buchanan and Florence Johnson. She attended Riverside All-Age School, Rusea's Comprehensive High School and Bethlehem Teachers College.

Upon graduation, Mrs. Gordon began her professional career as a teacher at Riverside, Wesley, Elletson, and New Providence primary schools in Jamaica and William Gordon Elementary School in the Bahamas. She was also a private tutor.

She was a member of the Meadowbrook United Church in Jamaica and served as an elder, member of the Women's Guild, and participated in the Social Services Outreach Program.

In Miami, Florida, Mrs. Gordon was a member of Bay Shore Lutheran Church. She served as a greeter and member of the Lutheran Women Missionary League. She was the recipient of the Good Samaritan Award of Bay Shore Lutheran Church, which was awarded by the Lutheran Services of Florida.

Mrs. Gordon was married to the late Rupert Carlton Gordon. They had three daughters: Yvonne Elaine Hill, Patricia Evadne Ferdinand and Rose-Marie Gordon-Wallace. She was blessed with a loving family who took pleasure in every aspect of her life and her interests. I offer my heartfelt condolences to her three daughters; sons-in-law, Tyrone Hill, Donald Ferdinand, Frederick Myers, and Roy Anthony Wallace; her grandchildren, great-grandchildren, sisters, cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and all the members of this esteemed legislative body to join me in recognizing the extraordinary life and accomplishments of Mrs. Eglantine Melita Gordon. I am honored to pay tribute to Mrs. Gordon for her invaluable service and tireless dedication to both her church and local community. She will be missed by all who knew her, and I appreciate this opportunity to pay tribute to her before the United States House of Representatives.

FIREARMS EXCISE TAX IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, this legislation is long overdue. For years, there have been inconsistencies in the manner in which manufacturers pay their taxes. Under current law, firearm and ammunition manufacturers pay excise taxes into the fund on a bi-weekly basis. All other manufacturers pay on a quarterly basis. This legislation will change this inconsistency and bring a little commonsense into our crazy tax system.

I am pleased to be a cosponsor of H.R. 510, to amend the Internal Revenue Code to require that the payment of the manufacturers' excise tax on recreational equipment be paid quarterly. The frequency of tax payments for the firearm and ammunition manufacturers is a burden on the industry. In fact, some manufacturers are forced to secure short-term loans to pay their taxes, thus incurring additional expenses and adding to administrative overhead. The end result is that money is diverted away from core business areas to finance tax payments.

Through this legislation, firearm and ammunition manufacturers will now be able to reinvest more funds into researching and developing new products, purchasing new manufacturing machinery, and increasing marketing and outreach to the hunting and sport shooting community. The federal government will get their taxes, on a quarterly basis as it does from every other manufacturer, so no revenue will be lost.

I urge my colleagues to support the Firearms Excise Tax Improvement Act.

RECOGNIZING THE SALTER FAMILY AS THE 2010 SANTA ROSA COUNTY OUTSTANDING FARM FAMILY OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 2010

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct privilege to recognize the Salter family for being named the 2010 Santa Rosa County Outstanding Farm Family of the Year. The hard work and dedication of this family helps not only feed many in the community, but also so many throughout the country. For that reason, Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize their accomplishments.

John, Stacy and their daughter Kailee are fourth generation farmers. The Salter family has been a vital part of the Chumuckla community since the late 1800s. While many things have changed in the field of agricultural science since the 1800s, the Salter family has remained steadfast in their honored tradition of working hard and providing quality goods to market.

In addition to having a determined work ethic that is deeply rooted in the Salter family, they have also begun to sow the seeds of voluntarism in the Northwest Florida community. Mr. John Salter has served as the Chairman of the Blackwater Soil and Conservation District for the past 12 years and is currently Chairman of the Santa Rosa County Farm Service Agency County Committee. Furthermore, Mr. Salter serves as a council member of the Three Rivers Resource Conservation and Development Council. He is also a member of Florida Farm Bureau, Florida Peanut Producers Association and the Southeast Peanut Farmers' Association.

Madam Speaker, our great nation was built by farmers and their families. The Salters serve as an example to all our nation's family farmers. On behalf of the entire United States Congress I applaud their efforts and congratulate them on being named the Santa Rosa County Outstanding Farm Family of the Year. My wife Vicki and I thank them for their work and wish them continued success in the future.

IN MEMORY OF MR. ROBIN WHITLEY HOOD

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 2010

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Robin Whitley Hood, who passed away on Sunday, June 27, in Raleigh, NC. Best known for the smile he brought to other's faces and his lifelong community involvement, Whitley will surely be missed.

Robin Whitley Hood was born on January 1, 1932, in Johnston County to parents John Robert and Cleo Wood Hood. He attended Campbell College and graduated from Wake Forest University, where he was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity. After graduation, Whitley established Robin Hood Enterprises Inc., which still flourishes today. His companies include Whitley Hood Insurance Agency,