

meal or a drink after work. And many times that humor defused a tense situation.

To be honest, one has to mention Bill's stubbornness, sometimes accompanied by a strong temper. God, that man could be unyielding. Bill always had a flair for the dramatic. And Monday could not have been more a dramatic day. The retirement of Justice John Paul Stevens. The first day of Elena Kagan's Supreme Court nomination hearings. But perhaps the most fascinating serendipity was the passing of Senator Robert Byrd. Indeed, no one better personifies Bill's unquenchable optimism in the truthfulness of Martin Luther King's quote, "That the arc of the moral universe is long but it bends toward justice. In his 20's, Senator Byrd was a member of the Ku Klux Klan. In his forties, he filibustered the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Then miraculously, perhaps due in some small measure to the Voting Rights Act of 1965, he evolved into a champion of civil rights. No better example could underscore the power and accuracy of Martin's observation.

Bill wrote a marvelous autobiography, *The Passion of My Times: A Civil Rights Advocate's 50 Year Journey*. As we know, the title came from an Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. quote: "... it is required of a man that he should share the passion and action of the time, at peril of being judged not to have lived. Bill Taylor, you lived that quote. And because you did, America made progress.

For everyone in this synagogue today and for countless others who may not even know his name, Bill was a special person who was always there. Bill Taylor was a mensch.

Bill, we were so fortunate to have you as a friend.

THE FY10 SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS BILL

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, this supplemental bill contains funding to support our troops in the field and resources to keep our teachers in the classroom. It also provides funding for other priorities, including strengthening our border security and relief to victims of the oil spill in the Gulf and the earthquake in Haiti.

I support President Obama's request to provide our troops with the equipment and support they need for their mission. We also owe it to our troops to have a realistic strategy that is worthy of their sacrifice.

The toughest decisions we face as a nation are questions of war and peace. Whenever we ask the men and women of our armed forces to put their lives at risk, the President and Members of Congress have a solemn obligation to consider all the facts and exercise their best judgment for the country.

More than eight years ago, our nation was the target of a terrorist attack launched by al Qaeda operating out of Afghanistan. The United Nations unanimously passed a resolution supporting the right of the United States to respond forcefully to that attack. Our NATO allies universally backed our actions, invoking the provisions of the NATO charter stating that an attack on one was an attack on all. Today, largely because the Bush administration diverted attention and resources away from this region to Iraq, Osama bin Laden and al

Qaeda continue to regain strength and plot attacks against Americans from along the Afghanistan-Pakistan border. The Bush Administration also failed to persuade Pakistan to confront the Afghan Taliban insurgents operating inside Pakistan with the support of al Qaeda.

While there is no doubt that al Qaeda operates in parts of Yemen, Sudan, Somalia, and other areas, the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region remains the operational and ideological center for al Qaeda's global operations. The President is right to conclude that allowing al Qaeda to operate there unchecked poses a serious security risk to the U.S. and American citizens around the world.

President Obama has developed a carefully considered and comprehensive "counterinsurgency" strategy for Afghanistan and Pakistan that relies not only on the use of troops but also the use of civilian resources.

The strategy has four parts. First, American and NATO forces will accelerate the training and deployment of the Afghan national security forces, both army and police. This will allow U.S. forces to begin returning home starting in July of next year. Second, in the interim, U.S. and Afghan forces will reverse the Taliban's momentum by working to stabilize major population centers.

Third, the strategy engages Pakistan as a full partner in these efforts. As a result of better coordination between our two countries, for the first time since the beginning of the war, al Qaeda and the Taliban are being genuinely challenged by the Pakistan military.

Finally, the U.S. will work with its partners in Afghanistan and Pakistan to create a more effective civilian strategy—with the goal of establishing sustainable economic opportunities for Afghans and strengthening the country's national and local governance structures. As the 9–11 Commission determined, extremist groups exploit the poor socioeconomic conditions, such as high unemployment, in the border areas to gain adherents to their cause. With this in mind, I introduced the Afghanistan-Pakistan Security and Prosperity Enhancement Act, which will allow the President to designate Reconstruction Opportunity Zones (ROZs) in Afghanistan and parts of Pakistan and allow qualified businesses duty-free access to U.S. markets for designated products. This legislation, which has passed the House and is pending in the Senate, would help create meaningful job opportunities for young people who are currently vulnerable to the lure of extremism.

The President's strategy contains a timeline which initiates a responsible redeployment of American troops in July of next year. He has established this timeline to send a clear message to the Afghan government that they must take seriously their role in creating a stable Afghanistan and to communicate to the people of Afghanistan that the U.S. has no interest in an open-ended engagement in their country.

During floor consideration of the bill, I supported the McGovern/Obey Amendment which would codify the president's plan to initiate a responsible drawdown of U.S. forces beginning a year from now. The amendment requires that by April 4, 2011, the president submit to Congress a redeployment plan that is consistent with the policy he announced in December 2009.

While I supported the McGovern/Obey Amendment, I opposed amendments that would lead to the immediate cutoff of funds to

support the president's strategy in Afghanistan and Pakistan. The immediate withdrawal of U.S. forces from Afghanistan would have two negative consequences. First, it would immediately strengthen the hand of the most extremist Taliban leaders (those most closely tied to al Qaeda), undercutting any leverage behind ongoing efforts to get some Taliban fighters to lay down their arms and undermining Afghan President Hamid Karzai's new initiative to reach a political accommodation with those members of the Taliban open to national reconciliation. If such a political solution is undermined and the old Taliban regime retakes control of Afghanistan, they will again turn that country into a safe haven for expanded al Qaeda operations. It would also lead to the return of an extreme Taliban regime that encourages horrendous acts like pouring gasoline into the eyes of girls who attempt to go to school.

Second, an immediate withdrawal of NATO forces would weaken Pakistan's resolve to confront the Pakistani Taliban, the Afghan Taliban, and al Qaeda. The most promising development over the last year has been the Government of Pakistan's willingness to fight the growing menace of the Pakistani Taliban. In addition, very recently, the Pakistani government has also shown a willingness to confront elements of the Afghan Taliban. The capture of Mullah Bandar, the operational chief of the Afghan Taliban, and two Afghan Taliban shadow governors, demonstrates this progress. The withdrawal of U.S. forces from Afghanistan would sabotage those nascent efforts. Why should the Pakistani forces confront the Afghan Taliban if the U.S. walks away now?

There are no guarantees of success in Afghanistan and Pakistan. But, we do know that failure to confront al Qaeda would leave Americans constantly exposed to another attack like that perpetrated on September 11, 2001.

In addition to funding for our troops, the bill also includes \$10 billion to preserve teachers' jobs—a priority for many members of Congress as well as the Administration. While I share the Administration's concern about paying for this vital relief with unexpended "Race to the Top" funds, I am certain the Committee would have welcomed the Administration's input to identify other viable pay-fors.

To help families suffering as a result of the recession, the measure includes \$4.95 billion for Pell grants and \$50 million for emergency food assistance.

To strengthen homeland security, the bill includes \$701 million for enforcement along our southern border, including \$208 million for 1200 additional Border Patrol agents.

Finally, for those still suffering in the wake of the devastating earthquake in Haiti and the Deepwater Horizon disaster, the bill includes \$2.9 billion and \$162 million respectively.

Madam Speaker, I support adoption of the FY10 Supplemental Appropriations Bill.

SHAWN BRUCE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Shawn Bruce

who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Shawn Bruce is a 12th grader at Arvada School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Shawn Bruce is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Shawn Bruce for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character to all his future accomplishments.

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN'S SOLAR CAR TEAM FOR WINNING THE AMERICAN SOLAR CAR CHALLENGE

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the University of Michigan Solar Car Team on its recent victory in the American Solar Challenge.

Two years ago, I rose to laud the successful efforts of this group on its back-to-back wins in the North American Solar Challenge. Today, I rise again to congratulate the team on its third consecutive North American solar car victory, and the University's sixth in ten North American races.

This year's car, Infinium, is considered the University's fastest car yet. Tested at over 100 miles per hour, Infinium navigated the 1,100-mile course in 28 hours, 14 minutes, and 44 seconds, winning the race by over two hours. Adhering to posted speed limits, the car averaged 40 miles per hour and required only one brief stop to fix a minor mechanical difficulty.

The University of Michigan Solar Car Team is an entirely student-run organization whose purpose is to design, finance, build, and race a solar-powered vehicle in competitions around North America and the world. The team is dedicated to the development of its members as teammates, educators, and leaders, and to the education of its community on the potentials of alternative energy technology. Students who volunteer for the Solar Car Team are typically undergraduates who come from a wide range of academic disciplines, including majors within the College of Engineering, the Ross School of Business, and the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts. Each project operates on a two-year project cycle and sees as many as 200 volunteer students participating on the team.

The Solar Car Team serves as a shining example of teamwork, creativity, and dedication. In addition to college courses, these students spend countless hours developing technology, raising money, and building partnerships within the University and with outside organizations and businesses. Further, these students

are making a major contribution to fuel efficiency and energy conservation. These efforts came together on Saturday, when the team crossed the finish line for its third consecutive title.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the University of Michigan Solar Car team, its faculty advisors, and its sponsors on its recent victory.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4173, DODD-FRANK WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2010

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 4173, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act. This landmark legislation is one of the most critical bills I will vote for in Congress. The bill will protect the American people so they are never again victimized by Wall Street's reckless behavior which brought our economy to its knees, wreaking havoc across the country with over 8 million jobs lost and a \$17 trillion loss in net worth. It makes the most sweeping and comprehensive reforms to our financial system since the Great Depression.

The Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act:

Ends taxpayer-funded bailouts because of Wall Street's risky decisions and greed: The legislation clearly states that taxpayers will bear no cost for liquidating large, interconnected financial companies;

Protects families and small businesses from abusive lending practices: The legislation creates the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau that will ensure bank loans, mortgages, and credit card agreements are fair, affordable, understandable, and transparent;

Stops banks from becoming "too big to fail": The legislation creates the Financial Stability Oversight Council which is charged with identifying and responding to emerging risks throughout the financial system. The Council will make recommendations to the Federal Reserve for increasingly strict rules for capital, leverage, liquidity, risk management and other requirements as companies grow in size and complexity, with significant requirements on companies that pose risks to the financial system;

Eliminates grave threats to financial stability in the U.S.: The Financial Stability Oversight Council can also break up large, complex companies by requiring them to divest some of their holdings—but only as a last resort;

Requires hedge funds and private equity funds to register with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which will have more enforcement power and funding;

Eliminates excessively risky practices that led to the financial collapse: The bill enhances oversight and transparency for credit rating agencies;

Limits bank executive and CEO risky pay practices: The bill addresses egregious execu-

tive compensation that jeopardizes the safety and soundness of banks. It also allows a "say on pay" for shareholders, requiring independent directors on compensation committees;

Assists minority-owned and women-owned businesses: The bill establishes an Office of Minority and Women Inclusion at federal banking and securities regulatory agencies that will, among other things, address employment and contracting diversity matters. The office will coordinate technical assistance to and seek diversity in the workforce of the regulators;

Prevents predatory mortgage lending: The bill requires lenders to ensure a borrower's ability to repay, prohibits unfair lending practices, establishes penalties for irresponsible lending, expands consumer protections for high-cost mortgages, requires additional disclosures for consumers on mortgages, and provides housing counseling.

We are on the verge of making history today as we prepare to vote for the most sweeping financial reform legislation in decades. I'm very proud to strongly support this bill and urge every colleague to do so as well.

HONORING MR. AND MRS. JAMES LEE AND CAROLYN LOUISE ANDREWS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. and Mrs. James and Carolyn Andrews on the occasion of their upcoming 50th wedding anniversary. The lives of these individuals have been uniquely American, and this Golden Anniversary of theirs is a special moment for not only them, but for their family and friends as well.

Carolyn and James were married on December 23, 1960 in Dallas, Texas. Together, they raised four children: Frederick Andrews of Mansfield, Texas; Eric Andrews of Waxahachie, Texas; Tonya Robertson of Allen, Texas and Yolanda Owens who resides in Danbury, Connecticut. Their family now extends to nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Andrews is a homemaker. Her loving husband worked at Texas Oklahoma Express for 20 years and then General Electric (GE) for the next 17½ years; where he later retired his professional career. The Andrews are active in the community and have been members of the Gospel Hour Chorus for over 45 years. The devoted couples' marriage has been based on a strong Biblical foundation, love, respect and friendship.

Currently, the Andrews reside in Cedar Hill, Texas and are faithful members of the Whispering Hills Church of Christ.

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