

multiple leadership positions on a district level as Cabinet Secretary, 16-B Public Relations Co-Chair, member of 16-B State Sight Committee, member of 16-B Katzenbach Committee, and member of Women's Development & Participation. She became a Certified Guiding Lion in 2008, participated in the reorganization of the Jackson Lions, and deservedly won Lion of the Year in 2001–2002. Furthermore, District Governor Palmer has represented the club at eight State Conventions, nine Charity Balls and was awarded later the Melvin Jones Fellow by the Oceanport Lions Club.

Madam Speaker, I would once more like to thank District Governor Joyce Palmer for her outstanding life achievements and dedication to her community. She has truly inspired so many people with her community leadership and commitment to providing vision for those who are unable to see.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 4899, SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 2010

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to state how I will vote on the war in Afghanistan and why.

Today Congress considers whether to continue funding operations in Afghanistan, and as we do, we must scrutinize the policy, the price being paid, and the outcomes for our national security. This is a deeply profound examination and its outcome will decide life or death for some of our troops.

It's hard to believe that the eighteen year olds who enlist today to fight and die in Afghanistan were in fourth grade when the World Trade Center and Pentagon were attacked in 2001. Now it is 2010. This conflict is now the longest war in our nation's history and it has been accompanied by tragic loss of American lives and those of innocent civilians.

The history of Afghanistan is instructive. It is called the graveyard of empires for a reason. No one since Ghengis Khan has been able to hold the country—not Alexander the Great, not the Persians, not the Ottomans, not the British, not the Russians. It's said that the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results. We should learn from the examples of those who preceded us in Afghanistan.

President Obama told the troops that the mission must be definable and it must be winnable. I believe it is neither.

We are losing more and more precious lives—102 in June alone. And every month security has not improved after \$300 billion in military spending and more than 1,000 American lives lost.

We have a corrupt partner with the Karzai regime and when the Afghan people see the U.S. supporting their government, they believe we have taken one side in their own civil war. No counter insurgency effort has succeeded

when the partner is corrupt. If the Afghans don't want us there, and do not wish to protect their own towns and villages, no amount of armament and firepower can change this dynamic.

I applaud the work our troops have done in disrupting Al Qaeda, and the risks they have taken to prevent terrorist attacks here at home. According to the CIA Director, Al Qaeda is down to 50 to 100 operatives in Afghanistan. We have achieved our goals, and we should leave before our continued presence unites the other insurgent groups in the region against us.

I have tremendous respect for the men and women—civilian and military—who are risking their lives every day in Afghanistan. I have met them, and I am impressed by their selfless dedication to the mission and belief in the cause.

The President's strategy is not succeeding, and rather than ask Americans to put their lives on the line for another eighteen months for what has become an impossible task, I will vote for Congressman McGOVERN's amendment to require a withdrawal plan by April 2011 and end this war.

TYLER SALEN

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 Tyler Salen who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award. Tyler Salen is a 10th grader at Ralston Valley High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Tyler Salen 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 Tyler Salen 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.

IN RECOGNITION OF Matriarch ELEANOR B. HOLMES 90TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION “A WOMAN OF STRENGTH AND FAITH”

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, throughout our history, the vision and determination of women have strengthened and transformed America. Change can only come to our nation by those strong women whose contributions shape the history of our country. Women con-

tinue this legacy of leadership as professionals, public officials, leaders in their homes, as well as churches and other community organizations. They continuously provide guidance and care to their loved ones and strengthen America's families and communities.

We have a fine example of a strong woman, Matriarch Eleanor B. Holmes, who has been a dedicated servant of the Church of New Hope Ministries for over 40 years. Over those forty years, Eleanor has served in various roles such as: International Women's Council, 21 Years as the Local Missionary President, Usher Board member, Sunday School Teacher, Mother Board member, Missionary State Chaplin, and Chairperson of the South Carolina State Missionary Banner Committee.

Born June 28, 1920, in Mayesville, South Carolina to Rosa (Smith) Bowens and Hugh Bowens. Eleanor's ancestry traces back to her grandparents Reverend David E. Smith & Rosa Smith, both were born in 1860 into slavery. As a daughter of the South and descendant of Slavery, Eleanor was on the front line for civil rights and against Jim Crow. She fought for causes true to her faith and community by creating programs, like “Feed A Child Program (Friendship Apartments, Sumter, SC),” and establishing the New Hope Church Day Care Center.

As a child, Eleanor walked from Shaw Cross Road, Mayesville, South Carolina to Salterstown, South Carolina. Reminded by the many years of walking several miles a day to attend Elementary and High School, she launched community school bus service so children of Sumter would not have to endure what she had to endure as a child growing up in the South. In 1947, Eleanor married William N. Holmes, a World War II Veteran, and from that union came eight children, thirteen grandchildren, and 17 great grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, so often unrecognized and unrewarded, we have an outstanding individual, a real American hero, Eleanor Holmes, who has contributed greatly to the lifeblood of our nation and her beloved South Carolina. Please join me in recognizing Matriarch Eleanor B. Holmes on the occasion of her 90th Birthday, and her undaunted service to her community of Sumter, South Carolina.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$13,194,523,014,378.23.

On January 6th, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$2,556,097,268,084.43 so far this Congress.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

HONORING VETERANS OF HELICOPTER ATTACK LIGHT SQUADRON THREE

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I was proud to introduce House Resolution 1228, Honoring the Veterans of Helicopter Attack Light Squadron Three and Their Families, to recognize the veterans' sacrifices in service to America during the Vietnam War.

I would especially like to mention Frank Hiles who currently lives in Ozark, Arkansas who served with HAL-3. Originally from Cleveland, Ohio, Frank served in the United States Navy for 20 years as aircrewman on many different types of aircraft. After retiring he moved to Arkansas to start a business and raise his three children as a single parent. Frank continued his service to his country as an intern in the Fort Smith Congressional office last year as he worked toward his bachelor's degree.

I want to thank Frank and all of our veterans who served with the HAL-3 Seawolves.

Despite the controversy surrounding the Vietnam War, most of the officers and enlisted men who served in HAL-3 were volunteers. Most of the pilots were fresh out of flight training in Pensacola and most of the juniors enlisted were recent graduates of Navy boot camp and technical training schools. Their leaders were also new to combat, coming mostly from ship-based helicopter squadrons normally assigned to track submarines and haul supplies.

HAL-3 fought from 1967 to 1972. In that time, they earned the respect of Army and Navy units throughout the Mekong Delta for their courage under fire and their dedication to supporting their comrades on the ground and in small boats patrolling the canals and rivers. They supported Army troop insertions and extractions. Navy SEALS counted on their support in tight situations.

Wounded sailors and soldiers benefitted from battlefield medivacs. In short, the Seawolves mastered every form of combat helicopter operations.

Here are some statistics from the Resolution:

The nine detachments and home guard of HAL-3 flew 130,000 flight hours in 5 years, they performed 1530 medical evacuations, inflicted thousands of casualties on enemy forces, transported 37,000 passengers and hauled a million pounds of cargo.

In accomplishing those milestones with a fleet of cast-off gunships and a few slicks, the veterans of HAL-3 were awarded 156 Purple Hearts, 5 Navy Crosses, 31 Silver Stars, 219 Distinguished Flying Crosses, 101 Bronze Stars, 142 Vietnam Gallantry Crosses, 16,000 Air Medals, and numerous other awards including six Presidential Unit Citations, the highest recognition given to military units.

Like any combat operation, there was a cost. Forty-four Seawolves lost their lives and are among the 58,000 immortalized on the Vietnam Memorial. Today, the children and grandchildren of those brave souls can be justifiably proud of the heritage of courage and sacrifice of their fathers and grandfathers.

It has been my honor to bring this resolution honoring the HAL-3 Seawolves to the House

and I strongly urge my colleagues to add their names to the roster of those recognizing these American sailors.

RECOGNIZING THE 2010 BEST OF BRADDOCK AWARDEES

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize the recipients of the 2010 Best of Braddock Awards. The awards are given annually to deserving individuals, organizations and companies in the Braddock Magisterial District of Fairfax County, Va., who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment to the community.

Residents of the 11th Congressional District enjoy an exceptional quality of life. Fairfax County schools are ranked as some of the best in the country, our communities are safe, and our employment rate is second highest in the nation. However, much of what defines a community cannot be found in statistics; it lies in the commitment and contributions of all who strive for the betterment of the community as a whole.

Recipients of the 2010 Best of Braddock Awards:

Citizen of the Year—Duane Murphy.

Club or Organization Making a Difference—Burke/West Springfield Senior Center Without Walls.

Most Can-Do Public Employees (Local)—Neighborhood College Team for the 2010 Sessions.

Most Can-Do Public Employees (Federal)—Mike McMahon, National Park Service.

Young Person of the Year—Kelsey Rose, West Springfield High School; Melissa Sbrocco, Robinson Secondary School.

Special Achievement Award—Tommy Salvi, Canterbury Woods Elementary School. Outstanding Business Persons—Jules and Nicky Verster, previous owners Great Harvest Bread.

Neighborhood Enhancement or Beautification, Homeowner—Fernando Restropo, Wakefield Chapel Road.

Neighborhood Enhancement or Beautification, Civic Association—Mike Walsh, Woodwalk HOA Landscaping Committee Chair.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating these outstanding residents and companies and also in thanking them for their service to our community. Their efforts and leadership have been a great benefit to our community and truly merit our highest praise.

REMEMBERING JOSHUA FUESTON

HON. RICK LARSEN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Madam Speaker, nearly one year ago Joshua Fueston, a 19-year-old Army soldier from Bellingham, Washington, committed suicide in Washington DC. Joshua was at Walter Reed Army Medical Center receiving treatment for physical wounds suffered in Iraq, but he was also suf-

fering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

In honor of his life and service, I request that the following poem, penned by Bert Caswell, be placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

THE SCARS OF WAR

As when our fines sons and daughters go off to war. . . .

Much heartache, and such great burdens bore!

As some come home all encased in wood, all but for the greater good!

While, others come home without arms and legs. . . . as do they!

Ones without eyes, and faces . . . with burns upon their bodies as placed this . . .

Touching all hearts, in so many ways . . . as it's for them we now so pray . . .

But, some scars are not so easily seen . . .

But found deep down inside most heroic hearts, convened!

Are but found Those Scars of War, not so easily seen!

The kind that, in the middle of the dark night make them so awake . . .

All in cold sweats, as upon all of their fine souls such heartache is placed . . .

All in their most sleepless sleeps, now carried in their souls so very deep . . .

As each day these scenes from hell they pray not repeat, as its for them we weep!

For War is Hell, and Hell is War!

For their battles do not end, when they reach their home shores again!

As from the outside, they look so strong and secure . . .

While, deep down inside . . . in all of them, the battle builds all the more . . .

Destroying even the bravest, and the strongest of all hearts for sure!

As upon their fine hearts and souls, but lie these most dreadful scars of war!

As P.T.S.D., is but the silent killer . . . that we all should so look for!

Because, while some die on battlefields of honor bright . . .

And then others, come home all in anguish . . . to fight this fight!

And sadly, without help . . . many will but live their last and final nights!

As they must fight their own private wars, never ending both day and night . . .

As this darkness upon them so lies, as they so try and try!

With tears in eyes!

As another Hero died this day!

Take a look around you, I say . . .

A Hero stands beside you, with tears of heartache upon their souls which lay!

All in their quiet suffering, we must somehow so hear their pain!

For some things are not so clearly seen!

But, lie so deep down so inside this pain . . .

Remember, under the surface but lie all of their most dreadful dreams . . .

Such things that Heroes dare not repeat!

Now, carried all in their fine hearts, so very deep!

For ever vigilant, as we must keep!

For all of our Sons and Daughters, who deep down inside their fine hearts!

The Scars of War, they so keep!

P.T.S.D. a silent enemy . . .

SERVAAS STOKVIS

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 Servaas