

Stokvis who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award. Servaas Stokvis is an 8th grader at Arvada Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Servaas Stokvis 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 Servaas Stokvis 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.

HONORING THE LIFE OF U.S.
ARMY PRIVATE FIRST CLASS MICHAEL S. PRIDHAM, JR.

HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, July 6, 2010, America tragically lost another of its brave heroes. Army Private First Class Michael "Mikey" Pridham, Jr. was killed in Qalat, Afghanistan, when his vehicle was struck by an improvised explosive device. He was 19 years old. A Louisville, KY, native, Mikey's father currently lives in New Albany, IN.

Mikey, who was known to have a great sense of humor and cared greatly for people, joined the Army as he saw the military as a better path to the one he was on prior to enlisting. According to his father, "Mikey was more of a man at 19 years old because of the Army than most men I know." His mother said he was more mature after returning home from basic training and that he had an eye on building a life.

Days before deploying to Afghanistan, Pridham married his wife, Deidre, who is expecting the birth of their first child. At the time of his death, Pridham was just six weeks away from redeployment—he would have been back just in time for the birth of his baby girl. While in Afghanistan, Mikey and Deidre spoke on the phone twice a day, every day. He would tell his wife how excited he was to come home and be with her and their daughter. Justly, Deidre plans on telling their daughter that her father died a hero.

Pfc. Michael Pridham is a true hero. His sacrifice for our nation deserves our most heartfelt gratitude and reverence. Though I did not have the pleasure of knowing Pfc. Pridham, I will mourn his death. His friends and family are in my prayers.

CONGRATULATING SOUTH AFRICA
ON FIRST TWO CONVICTIONS
FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2010

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues Representative CHRIS

SMITH and Representative KAY GRANGER in congratulating the government of South Africa for their efforts to combat human trafficking.

Let there be no mistake: human trafficking is modern-day slavery. Although slavery was abolished almost 150 years ago in the United States, millions of people worldwide are still deprived of their freedom. Victims of this growing epidemic are forced into a world of abuse and exploitation. I have worked with my colleagues in Congress for years to fight this horrific problem but our work is far from over.

Past experiences indicate that global sporting events such as the World Cup strongly affect the human trafficking industry. The influx of millions of tourists to South Africa for the World Cup increases the demand for prostitution and facilitates the entry of trafficking victims to the country. Women and girls are reportedly being trafficked to South Africa from all over the world in order to meet the demand for commercial sex. With so many people entering the country, it is important to raise awareness of the horrors of human trafficking and be able to identify victims from tourists. The government of South Africa not only needs to protect its vulnerable population but also those that have been trafficked from across the globe.

House Resolution 1412 is an important measure that not only commends the government of South Africa for their efforts to combat human trafficking but also urges them to act quickly to pass anti-trafficking legislation. Strong police enforcement and strict government laws are especially critical during the World Cup in order to protect potential victims and ensure victims are given proper attention. Although the government of South Africa has worked to tackle this issue and has successfully convicted two human trafficking cases more needs to be done to prosecute traffickers and buyers of the industry.

It is our duty to protect men, women, boys, and girls from this devastating scourge that is destroying people's lives.

CONDEMNING THE RISE OF SEXUAL
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN
IN HAITI IN THE AFTERMATH OF
THE EARTHQUAKE

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, in the aftermath of the catastrophic earthquake, and its aftershocks, that struck Haiti in January, 2010, there has been a horrifying rise of sexual violence against displaced women there. I rise in condemnation of this unconscionable crime and fundamental violation of human rights. And, I call upon my colleagues in Congress, the administration, the international community, and all Americans to speak out against this abuse and act swiftly to end it.

It is widely documented that sexual violence often increases in emergencies and post-crisis situations, due to mass displacements of people, lack of safe, secure shelter and other scarce resources, and the breakdown of rule of law. In Haiti, according to reports from the United Nations, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, major media outlets and many others, violence against women in the aftermath of the earthquake has risen dramatically.

In particular, the displaced women in camps have been the main targets of sexual violence. These women have lost their homes, loved ones, contact with friends and family, and have nowhere else to go but to makeshift shelters often consisting of little more than a plastic tarp. These camps offer little privacy, order, or protection from any kind of danger.

The conditions in the camps are so deplorable that they actually increase the chances of women and girls experiencing sexual violence. For example, men and women share the same latrines, which remain unlit after dark, effectively turning a basic necessity into a predatory opportunity and increasing the chances that a woman using those facilities will be raped.

Access to food, clean water, health service and other critical necessities is also limited or nonexistent in these camps. This forces women to take on great personal risk and brave unsafe conditions simply to acquire essential requirements for survival, for themselves and their dependants.

The breakdown of law enforcement has only exacerbated this intensifying problem. There is insufficient policing in and around the most volatile areas. Women have no recourse to report violence, seek protection from abuse, and ensure their cases are brought to justice. Often they are too afraid to speak because their attackers live in the same camp and the women fear retribution. They have nowhere to seek refuge.

Furthermore, as many individuals are still unaccounted for, women and girls who are sexually assaulted are too often faceless, nameless victims. Any surviving family may not know their loved ones are out there, let alone in dire need of protection from rape.

We must make the safety and protection of women and girls in Haiti a top priority during the ongoing recovery efforts. It is critical that we in Congress, along with the UN, human rights groups and non-governmental organizations take a strong stand against this sexual violence and do all we can to protect women in Haiti during this difficult time of national crisis.

We must not allow sexual violence against women in Haiti to continue. Freedom from violence and intimidation is essential to empowering women and improving societies all over the world. It is a fundamental human right.

I strongly urge for a greater police presence as well as more peacekeeping forces on the ground to enhance and ensure security for vulnerable women and girls. Additionally, I strongly support efforts to help strengthen the capacity of local women's organizations. These local organizations help women acquire access to crucial medical and mental health services after an attack.

Strengthening medical and counseling services while building a stronger and more effective security force that patrols the camps are critical first steps to curb the rampant rise of sexual violence and address its devastating consequences for women already suffering from the trauma of the earthquakes that devastated their country just six months ago.

Madam Speaker, in the aftermath of the earthquake we saw a worldwide outpouring of support and goodwill that was truly inspirational and demonstrated the best of what is within all of us. We also heard a lot of talk about ensuring accountability, sustainability, and a commitment to revive Haiti at all levels,

above and beyond pre-earthquake conditions. Now we are seeing an ugly rise of violence against the most vulnerable.

We in Congress, along with our international partners, must stand up now to take bold action on ensuring that women and girls in Haiti are no longer targets of that violence. We need to make sure that women's rights in Haiti are protected in every capacity during and after reconstruction.

We have committed ourselves and our resources to helping to rebuild Haiti. We cannot deliver on that promise if women's security is at risk. Full participation and empowerment of women in rebuilding and development processes are key components for success in Haiti, and this depends on ensuring their safety now.

SKIP KHAMVONGSA

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 Skip Khmavongsa who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Skip Khmavongsa is a 7th grader at Mandalay Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Skip Khmavongsa 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 Skip Khmavongsa 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.

TRIBUTE TO CARL STANLEY
"STAN" BEGLEY

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Carl Stanley "Stan" Begley of Grays Creek, Kentucky, who was an inspiration to thousands of young aspiring athletes, a tenacious business operator and supporter of the coal industry and a savvy political advisor in southeastern Kentucky.

Even a devastating 6-year battle with cancer didn't stop Stan Begley from enjoying his lifelong passions during his illness. The greatest thrill of his life was helping others succeed. As an avid sports fan and former local high school basketball star in Buckhorn, Kentucky, Stan's drive to live carried on through his involvement in little league sports. He was more than a little league coach. Stan provided shoes if necessary, transportation and friendship to youngsters who needed a true role model.

As a young man, Stan got involved in the operations of his stepfather's trucking business and would later become the operator of Virgil Raleigh Coal. Stan also became a local political advisor, realizing the positive impact he could influence on a larger scale through leadership. Only months before he passed, Stan braved 90-degree heat to attend two coal rallies in an effort to protect the industry he loved.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Stan Begley for dedicating a lifetime of service to the youth and families of eastern Kentucky.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF SISTER
MARY CELINE GRAHAM: "A
WOMAN OF COMPASSION AND
FAITH"

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to memorialize a beloved member of our community, Sister Mary Celine Graham, whose mass will be celebrated tomorrow at Saint Aloysius Roman Catholic Church in her beloved Harlem. Her tragic and senseless death came as a result of a horrific accident and has left behind a deeply felt void within the Handmaids of Mary of the Most Pure Heart family and the greater Harlem community. The Handmaids of Mary have a special place in my heart going back to my youth, and the loss of Sister Mary Celine is especially profound.

Sister Mary Celine was born in Jacksonville, Florida and raised in Detroit. At the age of 22, she joined the Franciscan Handmaids of the Most Pure Heart of Mary in Harlem, which is one of only three historically black orders of Roman Catholic nuns in the United States. She continued to share her love and services with her community for the next 61 years.

Her death at the age of 83 leaves behind a great legacy of tireless service and devotion to those who needed her. Sister Mary Celine is remembered as a woman of true compassion who believed in education for the young. She dedicated her life to being a teacher, director, and surrogate grandmother to the children of St. Benedict's Day Nursery on 124th Street at Marcus Garvey Park.

As the New York Times reported last week, Sister Mary Celine left an indelible mark on the children she cared for and educated. She was a gently firm yet caring teacher who recognized the potential in each individual and worked to bring that potential to fruition. Sister Mary Celine was not only an educator but was also a loving mother figure to the children. These children not only learned the basics of reading and numbers but also learned what it was to love, and what it was to serve others.

The undivided attention and care she poured out to the children and the community will be forever etched in the hearts of all those that encountered her. She was a true kindred spirit that emanated a sense of peace and order.

Madam Speaker, although her life was taken from us too abruptly, rather than mourn this tragedy, I hope that my colleagues will join me in remembering and celebrating the

tremendous and loving spirit of Sister Mary Celine Graham—one of God's special angels who served Harlem at the Franciscan Handmaids of the Most Pure Heart of Mary.

A BILL TO AMEND THE FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker. I rise today to introduce a bill to clarify that the federal government, like private citizens and corporations, must take responsibility for the pollution it produces. This bill will clarify that the federal government has a responsibility to pay fees assessed by local governments for managing polluted stormwater runoff from federal properties.

Recently, the Government Accountability Office issued letters to federal agencies in the District of Columbia that instructed them not to pay the District of Columbia's Water and Sewer Authority's, D.C. Water's, Impervious Area Charge. D.C. Water calculates the charges based on the amount of impervious land occupied by the landowner. Impervious surfaces, such as roofs, parking lots, sidewalks and other hardened surfaces are the major contributors to stormwater runoff entering the sewer system and local rivers, lakes and streams, which causes significant amounts of pollutants to enter these waters.

D.C. Water's Impervious Area Charge simply is to defray the cost of reducing water pollution caused by stormwater runoff. In fact, D.C. Water's fees are the result of a federal mandate to reduce sewer overflows from excess stormwater and to improve water quality in local waters, such as the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers and the Chesapeake Bay. It is, therefore, unfair, at best, for the federal government to turn around and refuse to pay these fees. Moreover, it is contrary to President Obama's commitment to preserve the Chesapeake Bay and the Anacostia River, as outlined in Executive Order 13508, which I have applauded many times.

When I looked into this issue further, I found that at least nine states faced the same issue of federal agencies refusing to pay the local fees associated with controlling the stormwater pollution originating from their properties. Surely, the federal government understands that these local governments still must cover the cost of managing the pollution from federal properties. So, in effect, what the federal government is doing is passing on that cost to already financially burdened citizens. In a city such as the District of Columbia, where nearly a quarter of the land is owned by the federal government and still more is leased by the federal government, the refusal by the federal government to pay these fees will impose substantial and burdensome costs on individual citizens.

It is important that we continue to work to improve the quality of our waters. Reducing pollution and improving water quality in the District has been a priority for me. My bill to secure funding for the Anacostia River cleanup plan became law in 2007 and the plan was released by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in April. Additionally, my bill to amend the National Children's Island Act of 1995 to make