

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARINE
CORPORAL JOHN BISHOP

HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, September 8, 2010, Southern Indiana lost another of its brave sons. Marine Corporal John Bishop was killed in Helmand Province, Afghanistan after sustaining wounds from enemy small arms fire. He was 25 years old, and born in Batesville, IN.

Cpl. Bishop wanted to be a Marine from a very young age. After graduating from Southwestern Shelby High School in 2003, he immediately enlisted in the Corps. After joining he and his brother, Tyson, also a Marine, would often taunt each other as to who was the "tougher" Marine.

It was in the Marines that John met his wife, Cristle. The two were recently married and expecting their first child together, a daughter, next month. After his tour in Afghanistan—his third combat tour already having served twice in Iraq—Bishop planned to separate from the Marines, go to college to become a conservation officer, and start a life with his new wife and daughter, and his son K-Sean. Bishop's mother described her son as being ecstatic about starting a new chapter in his life. Sadly, that dream was cut short.

Cpl. John Bishop is the epitome of a true American hero. He and his family's sacrifice deserve our most sincere and heartfelt gratitude. Though I did not have the pleasure of meeting Cpl. Bishop, I mourn his death. His loved ones are in my prayers.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE BEVERLY
KEELERS

HON. JOHN H. ADLER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. ADLER of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the Beverly Keelers, an outstanding African American women's softball team, created during the 1920's by Mrs. Margaret Hicks Morris and her sister in Beverly, New Jersey.

The Beverly Keelers, also known as the "Killers," played softball up and down the East Coast. The Keelers took on all competition including opponents of the opposite sex. The Keelers were considered iconic during their time and in a tumultuous period in our nation's history, they reminded others of the diversity that made America the greatest nation on Earth. The Keelers captivated its local audience, even leading to a local businessman to incentivize the team for reaching benchmarks like strikeouts, homeruns and shutouts. In 1938, the Keelers earned the auspicious honor of a state championship by beating a team from Elizabeth, New Jersey.

While the team eventually disbanded, it reorganized in the 1950's as the Beverly Amazons and continued its success for many more years.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the accomplishments of this groundbreaking women's softball team whose love for the sport brought pleasure and inspiration to many.

RECOGNIZING EDWARDSVILLE, IL-
LINOIS, AS ONE OF THE TEN
BEST TOWNS FOR FAMILIES

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Edwardsville, Illinois. The city was recently declared by Family Circle magazine as one of our nation's ten best towns for families.

Edwardsville was praised by Family Circle for meeting the magazine's criteria of having "affordable housing, good neighbors, green spaces, strong public school systems and giving spirits." It should also be noted that Edwardsville is the only city in Illinois that appeared on Family Circle's list.

Edwardsville has developed substantially since its humble beginnings in 1805 with just a single log cabin into a thriving community. Today, Edwardsville is home to 46 acres of wildlife preserve, numerous parks, and Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. It is also the location for some of the areas largest construction companies including: Dean and Sons Construction, Phelps Construction and Thiems Construction.

I would like to join my colleagues in recognizing the city of Edwardsville as it is recognized for its many accomplishments. Edwardsville has proven to be an excellent educational, economic and family community that deserves any honor bestowed upon it.

HONORING DAVID HAROLD
BLACKWELL, PH.D.

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Dr. David Harold Blackwell, world-famous statistician, the first African American inducted into the National Academy of Sciences, professor emeritus at the University of California, Berkeley, and the university's first African American tenured faculty member. He was an elegant theoretician, an accomplished scholar and a devoted friend, husband, father, grandfather, uncle and colleague. Dr. Blackwell passed away on Thursday, July 8, 2010, in Berkeley, California, at the age of 91.

Born April 24, 1919, David Harold Blackwell was the oldest of Mr. and Mrs. Grover and Mabel Blackwell's four children. During his humble upbringing in Centralia, Illinois, David taught himself to read by studying the labels of supplies at his grandfather's store. In 1935, at the age of 16, he entered the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with plans to become an elementary school teacher. At a time

when there were no African American professors, David Blackwell graduated with a B.A. in mathematics and continued at the university, earning a master's degree in 1939, and a Ph.D. in mathematics in 1941, at the age of 22.

After being awarded a Rosenwald Fellowship for black scholars and winning a top fellowship to Princeton University's Institute for Advanced Study, Dr. Blackwell experienced the first of several career obstacles caused by racial prejudice. Undaunted by unequal treatment at Princeton and a blocked appointment at the University of California, Berkeley, Dr. Blackwell sent out applications to over a hundred black colleges. He eventually joined the faculty at Howard University in 1944, fast becoming the head of the mathematics department.

A lecture in Washington D.C. by Agriculture Department statistician Meyer A. Girschick not only influenced Dr. Blackwell's interest in statistics, but also initiated a close friendship and collaboration between the two colleagues. Their 1954 book, "The Theory of Games and Statistical Decisions," established them as leaders in the burgeoning field of game theory, a mathematical analysis of winning strategies that can be applied to economics, biology, engineering, military strategy, political science and international relations.

From 1948 to 1950, Dr. Blackwell used his expertise in game theory as a consultant to the U.S. military and RAND Corporation. His innovative take on established studies in multiple disciplines led to groundbreaking work in the mathematics of multistage decision-making, a textbook on Bayesian statistics, the independent invention of dynamic programming, and the development of the Rao-Blackwell Theorem.

In 1955, more than a decade after Dr. Blackwell withstood racial discrimination and the loss of an appointment, he accepted tenure as a UC Berkeley professor. He became Statistics Department Chairman, as well as assistant dean of the College of Letters and Science from 1964 to 1968. A self-described "teacher," Dr. Blackwell mentored 65 Ph.D. students, wrote two books, and published more than 80 papers during his long career. He held 12 honorary degrees, including from Harvard, Yale, Carnegie Mellon and Howard universities. Throughout his life, Dr. Blackwell's worldwide accolades and professional and philanthropic associations became too numerous to count.

Though Dr. Blackwell was preceded in death by his devoted wife of 62 years, Ann Madison Blackwell, and four of his eight children, his surviving family members, including 14 grandchildren, are proud to celebrate his remarkable life as they mourn his passing.

Today, California's 9th Congressional District salutes and honors Dr. David Harold Blackwell. Named one of the Four American Mathematicians Who Changed the World, we also recognize that he changed countless lives for the better. Our community is indebted to his life's contribution in myriad ways. He was a tremendous role model for the African American community and a compassionate, progressive advocate for peace and equality. We extend our deepest condolences to Dr. Blackwell's family and his extended group of loved ones. May his soul rest in peace.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF JEAN K.
HOLBROOK, ED.D

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to an extraordinary educator and community leader, Dr. Jean K. Holbrook, who is retiring after four decades of outstanding service in San Mateo County, California. Under her leadership, county schools have made impressive and promising strides forward, teaching students to love learning and preparing them to enter a globalized workforce.

Born and raised in Minnesota, Dr. Holbrook received her Bachelor's Degree in English from Augsburg College in Minneapolis, before moving to California for further studies. Already committed to educational leadership, she earned a Master's Degree in Secondary Education and Educational Administration from San Francisco State University, and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from the University of San Francisco.

A longtime resident of San Mateo, Dr. Holbrook began working as a researcher for the San Mateo Education Research Center and rose to become its Director. Since then, she served as Deputy Superintendent and Associate Superintendent of Instructional Services, before being appointed San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools in January 2006, and subsequently elected to a four-year term in 2007.

As Superintendent, Dr. Holbrook oversaw a \$1.5 billion budget, instructional and curricular assistance, and special education for 23 school districts and nearly 90,000 students. Announcing her decision to serve a second term, Dr. Holbrook stated her desire "to make the county office more effective in providing countywide leadership." Dr. Holbrook succeeded. During her tenure, schools and scores improved substantially, and her committed efforts were widely praised. Dr. Holbrook took pride in San Mateo County's gains, while soberly noting that "the challenge remains to meet the needs of all students and to close the achievement gap where it exists." For Dr. Holbrook, the glass was neither half full nor half empty. She believed, as did William Butler Yeats, that "education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire."

She worked hard to 'light that fire,' serving on a wide array of civic and educational organizations in addition to her career with the San Mateo County Office of Education. Dr. Holbrook is a member of the First 5 Commission and the California County Superintendents Educational Association Pre-K Task Force, chairs the Peninsula Partnership Leadership Council, and co-chairs the Child Care Partnership Council. Involving herself in all aspects of her community, she is also active in the Rotary Club and the Chamber of Commerce.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. Jean Holbrook's forty years of extraordinary leadership. Throughout her career, Dr. Holbrook's greatest gift was that she never forgot to treat each and every one of her 90,000 students as individuals with extraordinary potential. When she retired, Dr. Holbrook thanked the County for the "profound honor of serving as Superintendent, but it is San Mateo County and the surrounding

communities that are honored by her contributions. As a San Mateo County resident and public servant, I am extremely proud to call Dr. Holbrook my friend and even prouder of the profoundly positive impact of her life's work on our community, on our children, and on our country.

HONORING FRED WOehl FOR USDA SERVICE IN IRAQ

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Fred Woehl for his service, sacrifice and commitment to establishing stability and security in Iraq. Woehl taught Iraqis the agriculture lessons he learned as a farmer and as a farm loan manager for the United States Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency for 33 years.

Woehl served on the Mosul PRT in Ninewa, Iraq from 2008 to 2009. While in Iraq, he helped to revitalize interest in the Al Jerzera Irrigation project, the largest system in Iraq and developed cooperation between Ministry of Agriculture and Extension for agricultural training. His expertise and knowledge in the agriculture field helped him create a mentoring program that is ongoing; working with Iraqi citizens building greenhouses for growing tomatoes, cucumbers and melons and establishing the first all female farmer association in Iraq. He also received the Meritorious Honor award from Ambassador Chris Hill.

By empowering Iraqis with knowledge and best practices to improve their agriculture industry Woehl has helped create opportunities for development and long-term economic viability in Iraq. Fred's devotion to helping others in need is a great example of selfless Arkansas values. I am so proud of his accomplishments and the opportunities he helped create for Iraqi citizens. He's continuing to use his skills to help others around the globe. Today, Woehl is serving in Jordan to help teach people how to increase productivity on the farm, develop functioning markets, improve availability of agricultural credit, and enhance infrastructure along the supply chain.

Woehl's devotion to serving his country and helping others find better ways to use their land and provide for themselves, their families and their country is a great example of the American spirit.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF FAIRVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH IN WAYNESVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of Fairview Baptist Church in the community of Waynesville, North Carolina. Since 1910, this church has brought light and joy to the lives of many devoted members.

From its humble beginnings consisting of a congregation of eight people and a house pur-

chased for six dollars, Fairview Baptist has grown to be a proud and prominent part of the Waynesville community. Over the past hundred years, the Church has witnessed many significant moments in history from World War I to the Civil Rights Movement.

The strength and longevity of Fairview Baptist Church has proven to be an inspiration for many and I look forward to seeing what the future holds for the Church as it continues its journey through the next 100 years. Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me today in congratulating Fairview Baptist Church on its outstanding accomplishments over its 100-year history.

TRIBUTE TO THE 2010 FERRAGOSTO FESTIVAL ON BELMONT AVENUE

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. SERRANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of the most special places for culture and cuisine not only in the Bronx, but all of New York, the Ferragosto Festival on Belmont Avenue. This is a celebration that grows in size and fame with each successive year. People now travel from across the nation to sample the delicious tastes and wonderful atmosphere on display in the Bronx's own Little Italy.

Ferragosto is powered by small businesses, many family-owned, and has built a reputation for generosity to its patrons and authenticity to its cultural source. The Festival is made possible with the support of many people and institutions, perhaps none more so however than the Belmont Business Improvement District, which deserves special recognition for its efforts.

One of the landmark attractions of the Festival, and indeed a cultural touchstone for the entire city, is the Arthur Avenue Retail Market, known popularly as simply "The Market." Owned by the City of New York and located in the Belmont Community of the Bronx, The Market has a history and symbolism that is distinctly New York. Back in the 1940s, through the efforts of Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia, pushcart vendors, who were largely immigrants, were taken off the streets and relocated into buildings and shelters throughout the five boroughs. The Arthur Avenue Retail Market in the Bronx was one such creation, with purveyors of Italian food, craft and specialty items. It retains today the cooperative vendor model and "old world feel" from so many years ago, endearing it to all who visit.

Importantly, The Market is currently undergoing important renovations that will ensure its stairways, halls and storage spaces will stand up to merchant demands in the new century. The goal of the project is to comprehensively renovate and modernize The Market, while maintaining the atmosphere which has made it so well-known and well-loved.

Madam Speaker, one of our most distinguishing qualities as a nation is the passion with which we celebrate our cultural diversity. At the most basic level, festivals like Ferragosto and institutions like the Arthur Avenue Retail Market are expressions of pride and honor. They are part of an exchange of