

IN RECOGNITION OF NICKELODEON
AND THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF
"DORA THE EXPLORER"

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, I rise today on behalf of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus to recognize Nickelodeon for their commitment to educational programming that promotes the ideals of multiculturalism, bilingualism, and diversity. August 14, 2010 marked the 10-year anniversary of the popular animated television educational program "Dora the Explorer," and this week the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute will recognize Nickelodeon at the organization's 33rd Annual Public Policy Conference.

As co-chair of the Communications, Technology, and Arts Taskforce, I work with my colleagues to promote the advancement of Latino arts and culture in all mediums, including print, broadcast, and the Internet. Achieving these goals requires forming partnerships with local, state, and national groups, including artists, non-profit advocacy organizations, and corporate broadcasters and programmers.

Nickelodeon is one of these important partners that has been successful in incorporating the values of multiculturalism, bilingualism, and diversity by producing shows like "Dora the Explorer." The interactive children's television show, created by Chris Gifford, Eric Weiner, and Valerie Walsh, ranks among the top-rated shows in nearly every major market in the world, and is syndicated to TV broadcasters in 151 markets and translated into 30 languages. The program teaches Spanish in the United States, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and Ireland, and teaches English in most other international markets.

The show's main character, Dora Marquez, has become an ambassador of Latino language and culture, reaching millions of children around the world. The show's creators have been able to use the full power of animation to transform the television medium as a force for bridging cultural gaps and educating children about diversity.

I also applaud Nickelodeon for marking the 10th anniversary of "Dora the Explorer," with a multi-year, multi-platform, pro-social campaign titled "Beyond the Backpack." This program, named for Dora's iconic backpack, champions overall school readiness for preschoolers as they prepare for the important adventure of starting school.

In partnership with an advisory committee that includes the National Parent Teacher Association, PTA, and other experts and leaders in school readiness, "Beyond the Backpack" will provide parents with tools and resources that can help children prepare for a well-rounded, positive experience as they enter kindergarten. Programs like these will promote education to all children and assist parents.

I am pleased to recognize Nickelodeon on the 10th anniversary of "Dora the Explorer," and commend the network for their commitment to educational programming that promotes the ideals of multiculturalism, bilingualism, and diversity.

CLEAN RENEWABLE ENERGY
INVESTMENT ACT OF 2010

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, the main issue facing public power providers, corporate electric companies, and tribal utilities who wish to generate renewable energy is the lack of equal treatment under the current tax credit bond system. The "Clean Renewable Energy Investment Act of 2010," brings parity to these providers by giving them the necessary tools to help solve the nation's energy problems while creating thousands of jobs. In 2005, Congress created the Clean Renewable Energy Bond ("CREB") program to provide the not-for-profit sector of the utility industry with a federal incentive to assist them in creating green jobs and developing renewable power generation. Many much needed improvements and modifications to the CREB program have been discovered through the practical application of the CREBS program over the past five years. This bill provides the much needed improvements to the CREB program, bringing the program's effectiveness in line with Congress's initial intent.

The bill contains four key provisions. First it provides parity with the Section 45 production tax credits. Second, it targets incentives to commercial scale projects. Third, it clarifies that tribal utilities may issue CREBs. Lastly, it includes important technical modifications to make CREBs more consistent with other types of existing tax credit bonds.

Ultimately, this bill enables these power providers to develop and own renewable resources directly, while ensuring that the full benefit of the federal incentive flows directly to electric consumers—resulting in lower costs to the consumers through the creation of green jobs and renewable energy.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE OHIO ASSOCIATION
OF REALTORS

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. TIBERI. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure I rise to recognize the 100th birthday of the Ohio Association of REALTORS (OAR).

Home ownership stands as a hallmark of the American way of life, and, for millions of working families throughout this nation's history, owning a home comprises a large part of achieving the American dream. At the core of this promise is the industry which helps make this dream a reality.

Realtors serve a vital role in the healthy propagation of homeownership; therefore, those who contribute to the furtherance of this profession are deserving of our thanks and recognition. The Ohio Association of REALTORS was created to help protect the investment Americans place in their homes, and for 100 years this fine organization has served with distinction. Where homeownership flourishes neighborhoods prosper, as residents are more civic-minded, schools stronger and streets safer.

For 100 years, the Ohio Association of REALTORS has worked to emphasize the value of home ownership and other property ownerships as well as property improvement across the state. Moreover, the OAR actively promotes a sense of civic responsibility and volunteerism with its over 35,000 members, while also pushing members to adhere to the National Association of REALTORS' stringent Code of Ethics.

Through commendable love of our community and fidelity to their craft, OAR serves a vital need in the state of Ohio. Therefore, in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the Ohio Association of REALTORS and in honor of all those individuals who serve their community as a realtor, I am proud to offer this recognition. As a former realtor, I am especially pleased to honor this fine organization for its service to our great state and the realty community.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE FLOURTOWN
FIRE COMPANY

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Flourtown Fire Company on the 100th Anniversary of their founding. Located in Springfield Township, this all-volunteer fire company serves not only the residents of Springfield, but also several surrounding communities.

When a local barn burnt down in 1910, a small group of dedicated citizens came together to form what would become the Flourtown Fire Company. From a modest start of a hand-drawn hose-cart stored in a barn to a modern firehouse with state-of-the-art life saving equipment, the Flourtown Fire Company has been a vital asset to the community.

The volunteers of the Flourtown Fire Company have relocated several times to accommodate their growing fleet. In 1983 the company opened its doors to women volunteers as well as men.

Over the past century the Flourtown Fire Company has demonstrated its commitment to protecting its neighbors numerous times. The Flourtown Fire Company is the home of station 6, Engine 6, Ladder 6, Squad 6, and Utility 6. The company's heroic work and valor has been recognized by the Montgomery County Firemen's Association for life saving efforts far above and beyond the call of duty. In 2003, the company added a Firefighter Assist and Search Team to help protect volunteers during rescue operations. The company also offers safety training courses and activities for children and families.

My constituents in the Springfield area are safer and more secure because of dedicated men and women like those who serve and support the Flourtown Fire Company. I am honored to represent the volunteers of the Flourtown Fire Company and the communities they serve.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the Flourtown Fire Company's 100 year celebration and wishing them many more years of faithful service to the community.

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF SOUTHEASTERN ILLINOIS COLLEGE

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Southeastern Illinois College in Harrisburg, Illinois, on the 50th Anniversary of this educational institution.

Discussion and planning for a college began in 1959. At that time, the State of Illinois rejected the plans, but a review was granted. The Harrisburg High School Board of Trustees created an advisory committee to help found the college. On June 21, 1960, a public vote was taken and over 93 percent of the more than 2,500 voters were in favor of the college. In September 1960 the name Southeastern Illinois College was officially adopted.

Instruction at the college began on September 11, 1961 with 314 students enrolled. The classes were conducted in a wing of Harrisburg Township High School. In 1965 the Illinois Junior College Act passed, and Southeastern officially became a Class II Junior College. In 1967 a referendum to become a Class I college carried, and the district was expanded to include five counties.

In 1968 the first Board of Trustees was elected and assumed governance of the college. The first President, Mr. Joe Deaton, was appointed. In 1976 the college was granted full accreditation by North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. Also that year, the permanent facilities, still in use today, were completed and occupied.

Today, Southeastern Illinois College provides educational opportunities to a number of high school graduates and those returning to school in an ever expanding campus. I am please to congratulate this fine institution on 50 years of success. I look forward to the bright future in store for Southeastern Illinois College.

CONGRATULATING LOGISTICS HEALTH INCORPORATED FOR RECEIVING THE EMPLOYER SUPPORT FREEDOM AWARD

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Logistics Health Incorporated for receiving the 2010 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award. Logistics Health, based in La Crosse, Wisconsin, joined 14 other employers across the country in being recognized for their outstanding support of employees who serve in the Guard and the Reserves.

For many years, our Guard and Reserve forces were seen as a "force of last resort," but recent conflicts have demonstrated just how vital the Guard and Reserves are on a day-to-day basis. In fact, since 2001, more than 775,000 members of the Guard and the Reserves have been activated for military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. These families have gone through enormous sacrifice to

serve their country and too many have given the ultimate sacrifice. We as a nation will be forever grateful to them for their contributions.

As an employer, Logistics Health has gone above and beyond the call of duty in assuring our Guard and Reserve servicemembers that they don't have to worry about their jobs back home. Logistics Health ensures that Guard and Reserve servicemembers won't lose their seniority, salary, and benefits while they are serving their country.

Logistics Health also regularly sends care packages, letters, and emails to its service-member employees, sponsors community events and fundraisers for care package drives for the military as a whole. Logistics Health has contributed \$120,000 to military support organizations and fundraisers.

For its patriotic commitment to the Guard and the Reserves, earlier this year Logistics Health won Wisconsin's "Above and Beyond" award and received the state's "Pro Patria" award.

Employers across the nation should take a close look at the good work Logistics Health and others are doing in providing members of the Guard and the Reserves with the flexibility they need when they leave to serve their country and for when they come back ready to resume civilian life.

CONCERNING FLOOD ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today out of concern for the people of Pakistan who have been affected by the catastrophic flooding this monsoon season. As reports continue to emerge detailing ever-increasing numbers of displaced families and deaths, I want to express my deepest sympathy for the victims of this tragedy.

Estimates indicate that over 20 million people are affected by the flooding and over 1,600 have died. In addition, almost 900,000 homes have been destroyed or damaged. According to the UN, millions of people went unaided in the days and weeks after the flooding began. We must also remember that even after the waters recede, the lack of shelter, food, and clean water may bring ongoing suffering. And as croplands and farming equipment are destroyed, the threat of future famine looms.

The devastation these floods have wrought is widespread and affects people in multiple Pakistani provinces. In the Sindh province alone, estimates from August 10th indicate that 1.4 million people and 2,534 villages have been affected by the floods, and as of August 18th new flood warnings continue to be issued. Through communications with the Sindh-American community over the past year, I have learned of the challenges that the Sindh and other provinces face. These floods have exacerbated the situation. We must ensure that our relief efforts reach all affected people and do not inadvertently neglect the individual regions.

The U.S. has responded rapidly trying to provide relief assistance, and it is my hope that our efforts will continue to ensure that the

death and disease tolls do not rise as winter approaches. Through September 14th, total U.S. government assistance reached over \$300 million. Much of the assistance provided by the State Department and the U.S. Agency for International Development has been distributed in partnership with several international agencies including the United Nations and the Red Cross.

While the U.S. continues to play a leadership role in the global effort to assist the people of Pakistan in this difficult time, it is my sincere hope that our efforts reach all those affected by this tragedy. I raise this concern in light of troubling reports that followed the 2005 earthquake in Kashmir. Even one year after that devastating event, Oxfam reported that administrative bottlenecks and corruption had stymied progress toward reconstruction. We must ensure that such an occurrence is not repeated.

Last year, Congress passed The Enhanced Partnership with Pakistan Act of 2009 which is now public law. Title III of this legislation was written to ensure that U.S. assistance reaches all the people of Pakistan fairly and equitably. I wish to reiterate the concerns that prompted this title and to urge the agencies spearheading our relief efforts to follow appropriate protocols for monitoring the assistance related to the recent floods.

AN EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIP

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, in 2006 and again in 2009, I brought to the attention of the House of Representatives law enforcement's new tactic of using billboards to deliver information to the public about wanted fugitives. Today, I will provide an update on progress regarding this effective partnership.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) now has the capability to send alerts nationwide via more than 2,000 high-tech electronic (digital) billboards. The first such nationwide alert posted on digital billboards was activated on August 2, 2010, as part of the FBI's manhunt in a serial bank-robbery case.

The results, according to federal officials, were impressive. Soon after the suspect's photo was displayed on digital billboards, an FBI field office in Virginia received information from a tipster identifying the fugitive and providing, among other things, photographs. The suspect, dubbed the "Granddad Bandit," was apprehended on August 11 in Baton Rouge, LA.

Authorities had been chasing the "Granddad Bandit" for nearly two years. Based on bank videotapes and other evidence, he is suspected of robbing at least 25 banks in 13 states starting in 2008.

"A tip to the FBI made today's arrest possible," said US Attorney Neil H. MacBride in the Eastern District of Virginia. "This is a great example of how the public and law enforcement must work together to keep our communities safe."

Michael Morehart, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI Richmond Division, thanked the Outdoor Advertising Association of America (OAAA) for coordination of digital billboards, and also publicity on radio and in print.