

We hear the term “partnership” used frequently. I would like to explain to my colleagues what partnership means in this instance.

The space and time on digital billboards are donated. The FBI worked closely with the outdoor advertising industry to develop computer software to facilitate the transfer images and text to digital billboards. Specifically, Young Electric Sign Company (YESCO) based in Utah built the computer software.

At the FBI, management has shown a willingness to innovate. In 2007, the FBI—working with a fugitive task force—posted images of wanted fugitives in the Philadelphia area. Based on success there, the agency and the outdoor advertising industry expanded this tactic to other areas.

On March 20, 2009, FBI Director Robert S. Mueller presented a Director’s Community Leadership Award to outdoor advertising companies participating in the partnership.

This month, Mr. Mueller presented a Director’s Award of Excellence to Harry Coghlan of Clear Channel Outdoor’s Spectacolor for his role in assisting the FBI in Times Square. As an example, the FBI announced on September 12, 2010, that an alleged mobster who was featured on a large high-tech billboard in Times Square was arrested in Yonkers, NY.

Meanwhile, the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, an arm of the Justice Department, has distributed more than 400 AMBER Alerts to digital billboards since June of 2008.

I commend the partners in this effective use of technology to deliver information quickly in a mobile society on behalf of public safety.

ON THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THIRD BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. ROBERT C. “BOBBY” SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the enduring legacy of a faith institution in the city of Portsmouth. This year, Third Baptist Church is celebrating its 125th anniversary, and in recognition of this milestone I would like to take a moment to reflect on the history of this esteemed church and its contributions to the greater Portsmouth community.

The original seeds of Third Baptist Church were planted in a schoolhouse on Portsmouth’s Chestnut Street in 1885. It was there that Rev. J.W. Godwin and a group of women conceived of the church and held its first services. From this humble beginning, the church grew under the pastorship of Rev. James Garriss. It was during the tenure of the third pastor, Rev. Harold Anthony, that the church moved to its present location on the corner of Queen and Godwin streets, then the frontier of the city.

Third Baptist’s congregation grew considerably at the new site under the leadership of fourth pastor Rev. Frank Campbell. Rev. Campbell saw the location of the new church, a neighborhood populated by saloons and other morally questionable establishments, as a blessing and opportunity to spread the Word and enlarge the Third Baptist Church family. Due to revivals and outreach efforts, the

church outgrew its building, and a new sanctuary was built in 1911, the sanctuary Third Baptist uses to this day.

Third Baptist continued to grow under the leadership of fifth pastor Rev. B.W. Dance. During his 18 years at Third Baptist, the church knew both success and setback. The \$10,000 mortgage was burned in 1920, a pipe organ was installed, and massive improvements to the sanctuary were completed. As the Great Depression swept the country, the Church was not able to escape its effects. But financial hardship was not powerful enough to close the doors of Third Baptist. When the church could not pay the salaries of Rev. Dance, the church organist, sexton, and clerk, they all continued to serve God and the congregation without a paycheck. This continued until the church could afford to pay them half their wages and finally restore their full salaries.

The Church’s sixth pastor, Rev. C. J. Washington, was installed in 1939. Under his direction, the church established a building fund and secured property for and erected a parsonage on the southeast corner of Elm Avenue and Glasgow Street.

Third Baptist’s seventh pastor, Rev. C.H. Jordan, was installed in 1947. His 31 years of service encompassed the postwar growth of the city of Portsmouth, and many of the institutions of modern Third Baptist were founded under his leadership. One of the Church’s greatest accomplishments of this period was the establishment of a kindergarten and Adult Education Program. Originally housed in the first small Queen Street sanctuary, by 1951, the program had outgrown its facilities, and a new educational building was constructed. Third Baptist continued to expand in the neighborhood, buying a building across Queen Street and renovating it into a Fellowship Hall. Eventually this hall was the only Third Baptist building large enough to hold the education program, and in 1974 the repurposed, renovated, and fully air conditioned facility was dedicated. Rev. Jordan served Third Baptist until his death in 1978.

Third Baptist Church’s eighth and current pastor is Rev. Joe B. Fleming. Since 1981, Rev. Fleming has led the church into the 21st century. During his tenure, the position of Youth Minister was established to coordinate a program to meet the needs and expectations of the young members of Third Baptist. The church ushered in a new era in service in 1994 when it named its first two female Deacons to the Diaconate. In October of 2004, the Fleming family added another generation of service to Third Baptist. Rev. Joseph A. Fleming, the son of Rev. Fleming and Mrs. Johnnie Fleming, became the Assistant to the Pastor of Third Baptist Church and currently serves as Supervisor of Ministries.

The Church continues to minister to its community to this day. The education program now includes after school homework assistance. The newly renovated kitchen helps facilitate the weekly feed-the-hungry program and the Meals on Wheels ministry. This enduring legacy of service is due to the efforts of the congregation, some of whom have been members of Third Baptist for over 60 years.

I would like to commend Pastor Fleming and the congregation of Third Baptist Church as they celebrate their 125th anniversary. I hope that their next 125 years of service will be as fruitful as their first 125 years.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF SOUTHERN ILLINOIS REGIONAL SOCIAL SERVICES

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. COSTELLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 50th Anniversary of Southern Illinois Regional Social Services (SIRSS).

The origin of SIRSS can actually be traced to February 10, 1958, with the meeting of a temporary committee whose purpose was to organize a mental health association and clinic in Jackson County, Illinois. Through the dedicated work of a small group of individuals, the Southern Illinois Mental Health Clinic (SIMHC) was opened in October of 1959 with the first full year of services in 1960.

As the organization evolved to meet its service offerings and geographic area, its name would be modified to reflect that growth. Jackson County Community Mental Health Center was the name adopted in the 1960’s and then, in the 1990’s, it became Southern Illinois Regional Social Services (SIRSS).

SIRSS has always been a dynamic organization, adding new services and evaluating existing services to make sure they are effective, in line with their core mission and addressing the needs of their clients. Substance abuse prevention and treatment programs, wellness education, Big Brothers/Big Sisters and satellite offices are all examples of the variety of services SIRSS has added through the years.

One of the earliest annual reports listed an average clinic caseload of 58 community patients. This has grown to over 2,000 people served annually today. Clearly the need is great and SIRSS has grown to meet that need. Through 50 years of growth, however, they have stayed true to their founding commitment to Build Better Lives and their promise: “You are not alone. We care. We know how to help.”

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the board of directors, administration and staff of Southern Illinois Regional Social Services on their 50th Anniversary and wishing them the very best for many more years to come.

TRIBUTE TO JENNIFER DOAK

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Jennifer Doak, an active-duty Specialist with the National Guard from Boone County, Iowa, and to express my appreciation for her dedication and commitment to her country.

The Boone News Republican is currently running a series of articles that honors one Boone County veteran every Tuesday from Memorial Day to Veterans Day. Jennifer Doak was recognized on Tuesday, June 8. Below is the article in its entirety:

BOONE COUNTY VETERANS: JENNIFER DOAK
(By Alexander Hutchins)

Jennifer Doak, a specialist with the Iowa National Guard, pursues her personal goals

and serves her Nation as a current member of the National Guard.

Doak is from "all over Iowa," having moved to different locations around the state approximately every four years with a brief period of residence in Kentucky. Moving around so frequently made it difficult to form many friendships or get to know her community well, but since she was little she has wanted to serve in the military.

"You have to kind of love what you do," Doak said of her decision to join the National Guard.

Doak played sports in her childhood and was an avid reader, but with her mother frequently relocating, she became a fairly introverted child.

She was influenced to join the National Guard partly due to her father's service in the military during her childhood. She joined the National Guard on Oct. 23, 2003 and continues to serve today.

Doak is an M-day soldier with the Guard, serving one weekend a month and two weeks a year. She said her personal goal for her service is to reach the rank of Command Sergeant Major.

When not serving her drill weekend, Doak is a full-time student at the Des Moines Area Community College Boone Campus. She also completed courses with Grantham University Online while deployed overseas. She was recently hired by the Boone County Commission for Veterans Affairs, working to provide services to service men and women in Boone County.

Doak was deployed to the LSA Anaconda base in Iraq from June of 2006 to August of 2007. She worked as a communications specialist and performed maintenance on "anything that plugged in."

When asked about how the current conflict in Iraq and Afghanistan influences her perception of her vocation, Doak was enthusiastic.

"It makes me want to work harder, to be better at [my job]," she said.

Doak said she does not plan to become a full-time Guardswoman, but she was thankful for the people she has met and friendships she has made during her time in the guard. She said she had no significant regrets from her time in the military except for not being able to be home when loved ones passed away.

"It's a repercussion of any job," she said.

Doak said that she is more aware of things in the world than she used to be, and her time in the Guard has helped her recognize the value of everyday experiences.

"I've grown up quite quickly," Doak said. She said she is more mature and conscious than she was in high school.

In the time between Memorial Day and Veterans Day, Doak encourages everyone to remember what military personnel and veterans have done.

"I think Veterans Day and Memorial Day touch everyone in some capacity," Doak said.

Doak said that even if you do not like that soldiers are deployed somewhere, it's important to thank them when the time is right.

"Remember to thank somebody," she said.

I commend Jennifer Doak for her many years of loyalty and service to our great Nation. It is an immense honor to represent her in the United States Congress, and I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

THE FEDERAL PROTECTIVE SERVICE IMPROVEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2010

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I am pleased today to introduce a bill on behalf of myself and the gentlelady from Texas, Ms. JACKSON LEE.

The "Federal Protective Service Improvement and Accountability Act of 2010" addresses glaring gaps in security at our Federal buildings by putting the Federal Protective Service (FPS) on the path to fulfilling its homeland security mission.

My legislation would direct FPS to increase its ranks while fostering greater accountability and management of contract guards and security service contracts.

BACKGROUND

The Federal Protective Service (FPS) is a critical component of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and of our national security, being the agency responsible for the law enforcement and security of nearly 9,000 Federal facilities all across the country.

Over one million government employees work in federal facilities nationwide and many more members of the public visit and utilize federal facilities each year. Protecting these men and women is of the utmost importance.

FPS was transferred to DHS from the General Services Administration (GSA) under the 2002 Homeland Security Act. Starting in 2006, we began learning about serious capacity and operational challenges in this critical agency.

In 2006, two DHS Office of the Inspector General (OIG) reports were released that questioned the management of and security provided by FPS.

The first report revealed that FPS was running a significant budget shortfall due to problems with transferring operational funds when FPS was moved into DHS. The OIG indicated at the time that the fee-funding system employed by FPS to cover the costs of security it provides Federal agencies might be a part of the problem.

The second report included troubling revelations about the state of the contract security guard program which FPS had come to rely on to provide the physical security presence and access point controls at almost all of the facilities under their protection.

In 2006, FPS had less than 1,000 uniformed officers and employed roughly 15,000 contract guards. The OIG discovered that FPS was not performing adequate oversight of guards and estimated that at least 30 percent of contract guards in the facilities they inspected either did not meet suitability requirements to be permitted to stand at their post and perform their job or had at least one expired certification that would also prohibit them from standing post.

Furthermore, the OIG found that the guards standing post often did not adhere to the terms of their contracts by failing to adequately follow the orders laid out by FPS for manning their guard posts. The Inspector General's report concluded that FPS may have created a situation of unnecessary risk and increased vulnerability at Federal facilities by failing to properly oversee their contract guards.

In May 2007, I convened a Full Committee hearing on the state of FPS. At the hearing, we took testimony as to the serious flaws within the contract guard program and learned of FPS' initial plan to address their budget shortfall. FPS planned to transfer more than 200 Federal law enforcement officers and special agents out of FPS, their duties to be fulfilled by contract guards.

At the time, I expressed my strong reservations about this plan. Subsequently, the House Appropriations Committee directed FPS to maintain a staff of at least 1200 FTEs and FPS ended up addressing its budgetary woes by increasing the fee it charged for providing security by 47% between FY2005 and FY2009.

Over the past three years, my Committee has conducted extensive oversight of FPS and its management of the contract guard program.

By April 13, 2010, a follow-on audit by the Government Accountability Office that I requested revealed that previous concerns raised by the OIG as well as my Committee remained unaddressed, and serious security gaps existed.

GAO found that the initial problem of uncertified or unqualified guards standing post due to a lack of proper oversight was still a very big problem. In fact, GAO identified an entire region of roughly 1,500 guards who never received the proper x-ray and magnetometer training from FPS.

In one instance a woman's infant was put through the x-ray scanner, but the guard was able to retain his job after challenging the FPS for never properly training him on how to use the machine.

GAO also continued to find guards standing post with expired certifications, and even found one level IV facility, the highest risk facility FPS protects, where 75% of guards standing post had at least one expired certification.

GAO determined this happened because FPS lacked a reliable system to track and monitor certifications and training of guards, and was relying on contractors to accurately self report on their guards.

GAO concluded that the lack of uniform guidance for the frequency and rigor of guard post inspections meant that FPS rarely inspected many posts, and when they did there was no continuity from region to region with regard to what constituted a proper or thorough inspection.

The most concerning of GAO's findings, however, were the results of their penetration testing.

GAO performed covert penetration tests to see if contract guards in 10 of the highest risk facilities across the Nation would be able to prevent someone with bomb-making materials from entering the facilities. GAO had a 100 percent success rate.

In other words, they were able to sneak bomb making materials into every single facility they tested, on every attempt they made, and were even able to go somewhere within the facility like a bathroom, assemble the device, and then walk around the facility unimpeded, in and out of offices, including those of Members of this House.

This demonstrates an almost complete lack of entryway security at Federal facilities with the highest risk designation, and that is simply unacceptable.