

For them she so bleeds, so tried and true!
 A shining star over at Walter Reed, a real
 who's who!
 For Bo knows hearts, of most heroic hues!
 And how to get inside them so very deep to
 view!
 Bo, you move me! oh yes you do!

HONORING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF UNITED STATES ARMY SECOND LIEUTENANT MARK J. PINCEK

HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor United States Army 2LT Mark J. Pincek, who passed away on July 11, 2010. Born and raised in Michigan, Mark joined the U.S. Navy in July, 1991 and rose to the rank of Petty Officer Second Class. He served two deployments aboard the USS *Vicksburg* as a gunner's mate before graduating from Florida State University with a Bachelor's Degree in communication and film studies.

On September 17, 2009, Mark graduated from Fort Benning's Officer Candidate School and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. He was then assigned to Charlie Company of the 304th Military Intelligence Battalion where he completed the Military Intelligence Basic Officer Leadership School and was then assigned to Bravo Company of the 304th and was responsible for updating the Afghanistan training scenario. His work in the training scenario function earned him many laudatory comments.

We remember Mark and offer our deepest condolences and sincerest prayers to his family. My words cannot effectively convey the feeling of great loss nor can they offer adequate consolation. However, it is my hope that in future days, his family may take some comfort in knowing that Mark made a difference in the lives of many others and serves as an example of a competent and caring leader and friend that will live on in the hearts and minds of all those he touched.

This body and this country owe Mark and his family a debt of gratitude and it is vital that we remember him and his service to his country.

Mark is survived by his wife, Kerin; father, Stephen; mother, Dianne Heskett-Ward; brothers, Steven, Duane and Devin; and sisters, Diana, Nancy, Susan, Sandy and Mara.

TRIBUTE TO CLYDE "BILL" NEELY

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Clyde "Bill" Neely, a World War II Army Air Corps veteran from Boone County, Iowa, and to express my appreciation for his dedication and commitment to his 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. Clyde "Bill" Neely was recognized on Tuesday, July 13. Below is the article in its entirety:

BOONE COUNTY VETERANS: CLYDE "BILL" NEELY

(By Alexander Hutchins)

Clyde "Bill" Neely, 86, a former Army Air Corps Sergeant, lives a full life. He resides today in his childhood home, and what was once an attached grocery store is now a personal museum to his life's achievements.

Neely served in the Boone Fire Department after the war, drawing strength from the same discipline he called upon when he served in the Army Air Corps in World War II.

Neely was born in Boone in 1924 in a house across the street from his current residence. He graduated from high school and played sports in the community. Neely met his wife Florence while still in high school. They would marry in 1943, and he would be one of the few married men in his unit.

"I had a real excellent childhood. In fact, I've had an excellent life," Neely said with a smile.

His father was a butcher who ran a grocery out of the house that the Neely's now reside in. Neely would run the grocery for several years when he returned from the war, though he would eventually close the store and join the fire department.

Neely's role in the war began in 1943.

"Originally I started right after I got out of school, because we knew after Pearl Harbor that our life was going to be in the military," Neely said.

He had wanted to train in a nearby military Ferry School to ship airplanes overseas for the war effort, but the program was cancelled before Neely entered the Army. He then enlisted in the Air Corps in Des Moines and attended basic training in Miami, Florida. Neely's older brother, Noel, was one of four Boone men he trained with.

"Like I said, I've had good luck all the way through my life," Neely said.

Neely's eyesight kept him from being trained as a pilot, but he entered the Armament service and trained to maintain and repair weapons, as well as load bombs and cargo on the B-24 bombers his unit flew. He would serve part of the war in the U.S. before being stationed in Aldborough, England.

Part of Neely's early duty in the war was in training other Air Corpsmen in the U.S.

"We used to train aerial gunners with a .50 caliber machine gun. We'd start them out with pistols and rifles and work them up to their machine guns. Then, when they went into advanced training, we'd put a big sleeve on behind a tow plane and we'd take all the bullets they would use and put different colors of paraffin on them so when the bullet went through the sleeve it left a color. That's a way we could identify just how many of the gunners could hit their targets," Neely said.

When Neely was stationed in England, he worked in Armament to load the B-24 bombers for missions. His unit, the 8th Air Corps, included Neely's Commanding Officer as the youngest Colonel in the Air Corp and the actor Jimmy Stewart as an operations officer. The ground crew could tell from the bomb and fuel loads where the planes would be flying, and Neely said the crew would always "sweat out" the flights while the bombers were away. The 8th Air Corps had more casualties per unit than any other branch of the service, Neely said.

"From D-day until we won supremacy of the air over there, we were loading out two or three missions a day," he said.

Neely's first experience upon arriving in England was hearing an Axis Sally radio broadcast that promised the German air force would "pay them a visit." The base was bombed that night, and after that engagement drone bombs would sometimes zip over

the base bound for targets further into England.

"People forget how smart the Germans were," Neely said.

At the end of the war, Neely and the 8th Air Corps were assigned to pack up equipment and prepare to deploy to the Pacific theater. That redeployment was thankfully unnecessary and Neely was released from the Air Corps while on duty in California.

Neely returned home and ran the family grocery store, but after marrying his wife Florence and starting a family he was informed of an open position on the Boone Fire Department in 1951. He would serve a career with the Boone Fire Department until retirement in 1984. He also coached baseball for almost 20 years. When a drowning occurred at Ledges State Park, Neely was instrumental in one of the first underwater rescue teams in the state. He and Florence would raise three sons: Allen, Richard and Ronald (who has since passed away).

Neely attributed much of his success in the fire department to the attitude and discipline he acquired as a result of his service.

"People don't realize it, but your fire department to be exact, or your police department, have to be partially military," Neely said.

His training also helped him learn to control his temper, restraining a tendency he had to "fight at the drop of a hat" in his younger days.

Neely said he has no real regrets from his time in the war. "I did it. I'd do it again," Neely said. "The nation came together in a rare way, and everyone did their part in that time."

He did say that modern wars are a different enterprise, as soldiers today aren't able to trust the people around them.

"A fight is one thing, but that's not a fight," Neely said. One of the important things to do, he said, was to thank veterans when the opportunity is available.

Neely has previously served as grand marshal in Boone parades, and a memorial to his son, Ronald, sits in the current fire station, commemorating his years of service.

I commend Clyde "Bill" Neely for his many years of loyalty and service to our great Nation. It is an immense honor to represent him in the United States Congress, and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

FINDINGS OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS RELATING TO EFFICIENCY AND REFORM PURSUANT TO H. RES. 1493

HON. DAVID R. OBEY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. OBEY. Madam Speaker, it is the highest priority of the Appropriations Committee to ensure that the American people are well served by sound investments in federal programs and services. To this end, the Committee has been working to produce fiscal year 2011 appropriations legislation in a fiscally disciplined manner. The Committee conducted more than 160 hearings this year in order to thoroughly review the President's fiscal year 2011 budget request and to conduct vigorous oversight of ongoing programs.

In keeping with an overall discretionary funding level of \$14.5 billion below the President's request, two fiscal year 2011 appropriations bills have passed the House and the remaining 10 bills have been approved at the

subcommittee level. In the coming weeks, the Committee will continue its work to produce fiscal year 2011 appropriations that meet Americans' highest priority needs within this fiscally responsible framework.

In the two fiscal year 2011 appropriations bills that have passed the House thus far—Transportation/HUD and Military Construction/VA—the Committee has made some significant cuts below the Administration's request. Among these reductions, the Committee cut \$500 million below last year and \$1.36 billion below the request for ill-defined or duplicative programs of the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Transportation. The Committee also cut \$545 million below the request for military construction projects due to bid savings and ill-defined plans for the realignment of forces to Guam.

In recent years, the Appropriations Committee has also eliminated or cut hundreds of wasteful and duplicative programs. Last year alone, the Committee terminated 60 programs and significantly cut funding for another 660 programs.

Since 2007, the Appropriations Committee has strengthened contract oversight and independent audits to make programs across federal agencies more effective and efficient. As an example, the Committee has led an initiative to double enforcement capacity to end improper payments, fraud and other abuses at the Social Security Administration and the Departments of Labor and Health and Human Services. These efforts are projected to save more than \$48 billion over the next 10 years.

Furthermore, the Appropriations Committee has ended unnecessary no-bid contracts and strengthened competition, management and oversight in government contracts across the federal government.

Most notably, the Committee has worked to impose discipline and strengthen accountability for Department of Defense, (DOD), contracted services. From 1997 to 2007, DOD contracted service costs grew 143 percent from \$125 billion to \$299 billion. Yet, DOD had no system of accountability for contract services, and couldn't even identify the number of its contractors. At the Committee's direction over the past three years, the Pentagon is now implementing reform efforts to strengthen contracting and clarify rules prescribing when outsourcing is and is not appropriate. The Army can now identify the number of its contractors (213,000) and is working to bring in house inherently governmental functions. The Defense Department estimates that these actions will result in a \$4.5 billion savings by 2015. Last year, the President followed the Appropriations Committee's lead and announced government-wide contracting reforms based on the Committee's direction to DOD over the past 3 years.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS' OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNMENT SPENDING

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the budget enforcement resolution for fiscal year 2011 passed by the House of Represent-

atives on July 1, 2010, as Chairman of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs I am submitting "findings that identify changes in law that help achieve deficit reduction by reducing waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement, promoting efficiency and reform of government, and controlling spending within Government programs" the Committee may authorize.

Under Democratic leadership, the Committee has undertaken an active and far-reaching oversight agenda that has, among other accomplishments, identified ways to save millions of taxpayer dollars within the Department of Veterans Affairs through improvements in the operation and management of veterans' benefits and health care programs. Working closely with the VA's Office of Inspector General, we have pushed the VA to more effectively utilize the generous and robust budgets provided by this Congress under your leadership.

Since the beginning of the 110th Congress, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs has been striving to revolutionize the manner in which the VA provides benefits to veterans. By mandating greater efficiency and a veteran-first attitude, we have sought to change the perception of the VA as being the veterans' adversary to standing as the veterans' advocate.

To further this effort, we are continuing to work toward major reforms in the VA's claims processing system and the VA's acquisition and procurement system. I am confident that when these reforms take place, taxpayers will realize major cost-savings by providing greater efficiency, fairness, and accountability. The Committee is also working toward integrating the VA's Post 9/11 G.I. Bill benefits and improving and streamlining the application process.

These efforts will, in the months ahead, result in assisting the House in working toward its goal of making government more responsive and effective while saving taxpayer dollars and reducing our deficit.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF CAROLE A. SLIWA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Carole A. Sliwa who lived her life with great energy, joy and with love for her family, friends and community.

Mrs. Sliwa was the devoted wife of Theodore "Ted" Sliwa for 56 years. Since childhood, her faith and her family served as her strength and her foundation. She remained very close to her extended family members, especially her brother Daniel and his wife, Patty; her sister, the late Patricia, and her brother-in-law, Donald. In addition, Mrs. Sliwa was a cherished friend to many people throughout the Greater Cleveland community.

Mrs. Sliwa's enthusiasm for local arts programs never wavered, and she shared her artistic gifts with many. Her beautiful paintings are displayed in the homes of numerous friends and relatives. Mrs. Sliwa's lifelong commitment to and passion for the arts is also reflected in her membership and leadership in

several community art centers, including the Ohio Artist Color Society, the Friendship Center of Bay Village, the Lakewood Art League, and the Art Mart of Brecksville.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Mrs. Carole A. Sliwa. I offer my condolences to her devoted husband and to her entire family and many friends. Mrs. Sliwa lived her life with great joy and love. Her devotion to family and friends, and her passion for the arts, will be treasured and remembered always.

—FINDINGS PURSUANT TO THE HOUSE BUDGET RESOLUTION

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, I submit the following.

HEALTH CARE/MEDICARE

Congress spent the first part of this session enacting landmark health reform legislation that substantially reforms and strengthens the Medicare program. As a result of this legislation, CBO estimates net deficit reduction of \$143 billion from 2010 to 2019, and deficit reduction of more than \$1 trillion in the next decade. In addition, the Medicare Actuary estimates that the Medicare changes enacted in health reform will extend the life of the Part A Trust Fund by 12 years—the largest extension in history. Finally, as a result of the new law, national health expenditures per insured person will fall by \$1,400 by 2019.

The health reform law also includes extensive provisions to aggressively reduce fraud, waste, and abuse in government health programs. The Affordable Care Act (ACA) establishes new authorities to enhance fraud-fighting when providers first enroll in the program and during the pre- and post-payment periods.

During the Medicare provider enrollment period, ACA strengthens provider screening and disclosure requirements and allows the Secretary to impose a moratorium on new providers in areas of significant risk. These tools will help keep fraudulent providers out of government programs before they have a chance to act. In the pre-payment period, ACA directs the Secretary to establish a program of increased oversight for new providers and allows for the suspension of payment, if deemed appropriate, to a provider or supplier. For the post-payment and enforcement period, ACA establishes new penalties for the submission of false data or false claims and increases funding for proven fraud-fighting programs used by the Office of Inspector General (OIG) and the Department of Justice.

Taken together, these provisions reduce fraud, waste, and abuse by improving payment accuracy, promoting efficiency, and controlling spending within Medicare and other government programs.

The Committee's efforts to achieve deficit reduction, prevent fraud, promote efficiency, and control spending within government programs extend beyond the ACA. The Preservation of Access to Care for Medicare Beneficiaries and Pension Relief Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-192) included two provisions that address these goals. First, this law clarifies the 3-day payment window for inpatient admissions to ensure that all services related to the hospital admission are included in the bundled payment. Absent this provision, hospitals would likely have unbundled hospital payments driving up Medicare spending. Second,