

ACQUIRED BONE MARROW FAILURE DISEASE RESEARCH AND TREATMENT ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1230, the Acquired Bone Marrow Failure Disease Research and Treatment Act.

Every year, it is estimated that between 20,000 and 30,000 Americans are diagnosed with some form of acquired bone marrow failure disease.

This classification of diseases, which include myelodysplastic syndromes (commonly known as MDS), aplastic anemia, paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria (known as PNH), and others, take a debilitating and deadly toll on those diagnosed, forcing patients and families to deal with significant health, social, and economic hardships.

In some cases, MDS can even progress over time to become leukemia, which affects hundreds of thousands of Americans in its own right.

And while individuals stricken with these conditions can take some action to prolong their lives, this diagnosis offers little hope that affected patients will ever fully recover.

In light of this, I introduced the Acquired Bone Marrow Failure Disease Research and Treatment Act to enhance and intensify current and future efforts in the fight against bone marrow failure diseases.

This legislation would support increased research on these still relatively unstudied diseases, including what genetic and environmental factors may be associated with the condition and best practices for the diagnosis and treatment of these diseases.

In addition, the bill would authorize coordinated outreach and informational programs targeted to minority populations affected by these diseases, including information on treatment options and clinical trials research.

These provisions are critical to the individuals affected by bone marrow failure diseases and their families, as it would bring both tangible progress to fighting these diseases, and provide hope to those who have suffered their effects.

This bill has bipartisan support, 62 cosponsors, and has incorporated suggestions from both sides of the aisle.

Mr. Speaker, I commend our Leadership and thank Chairman WAXMAN and Chairman PALLONE and their staff for bringing H.R. 1230 to the floor, and for their commitment to protecting the health of all Americans.

I urge my colleagues to support passage of this important legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

TAIWAN

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, on October 10, 2010, the Republic of China will celebrate its 99th anniversary.

The government now in Taiwan was founded in mainland China before it was pushed out by a brutal, communist regime. The differences between the two governments today is stark. While Taiwan flourishes as a democracy marked by passionate elections, China suppresses all political opposition, torturing and imprisoning anyone who dares to disagree. And yet we let China into regional and world bodies but keep the ROC out.

For example, Taiwan is not a member of the International Civil Aviation Organization. That means that when world leaders get together to talk about aviation regulation, Taiwan and the 35 million people that fly in and out of it each year are completely unrepresented.

So I urge my colleagues, on this 99th anniversary of the Republic of China, to call on the leaders in Beijing to allow Taiwan to participate in ICAO and other key international organizations like it.

And that's just the way it is.

RECOGNIZING THE 99TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to the Republic of China on Taiwan on the occasion of the celebration of their 99th anniversary. Although it is commonly known as "Double Ten Day," this year, the anniversary can be called "Triple Ten Day," as it falls on the tenth day of the tenth month of the tenth year of this millennium.

This important date commemorates the Wuchang Uprising of October 10, 1911, which was the impetus for the fall of the Qing Dynasty in China, leading to the creation a few months later of the Republic of China, commonly known as Taiwan.

October 10 is the National Celebration Day in Taiwan. It is as important to the Taiwanese people as the Fourth of July is to Americans, and many American cities, including Chicago and San Francisco, have large celebrations to mark the occasion.

Sadly, the destruction and devastation caused by Typhoon Morakot last year caused Taiwanese President a to cancel the national festivities to pay respect to those who had lost their lives. Additionally, funds normally used for celebration were instead used to aid victims of the disaster.

Today, Taiwan is a valued partner of the United States and I extend my best wishes to Taiwan for a wonderful 99th anniversary this year, and I look forward to celebrating their 100th anniversary with them next year.

RECOGNIZING THE COMMUNITY OF NORTH PLAINS CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the centennial anniversary of the

community of North Plains, Oregon. The celebration being held on Saturday October 2, 2010, is a tribute to the residents of North Plains, both past and present, whose years of hard work, persistence, and endurance is a reflection of the values embodied by their community.

North Plains is situated at the base of Oregon's Coastal Range, which houses one of Oregon's finest watersheds. North Plains is home to Pumpkin Ridge golf course and Bob Horning's hideout, whose music festivals and frisbee golf course attract visitors from across the country, along with numerous other locally owned businesses. At the heart of the North Plains community are picturesque farms, nurseries, and wineries which produce everything from Christmas trees and Halloween pumpkins to small fruits and world class wines. Each August, North Plains celebrates its agricultural heritage by hosting the world's largest elephant garlic festival—an event my kids and I look forward to participating in on our way to camping at nearby Stub Stewart State park, our most recently dedicated state park.

Former Oregon Governor Tom McCall once said: "Heroes are not giant statues framed against a red sky. They are people who say, This is my community, and it is my responsibility to make it better." The residents of North Plains are American heroes who have devoted their lives to making our country and their community better.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating North Plains on this remarkable achievement. North Plains' history of land stewardship has been an asset to our state and region, and it serves as a model to be emulated. I am proud to serve a community with such a strong commitment to the livelihoods of its families, and I look forward to hearing of North Plains' ongoing successes in the years to come.

MARGARET-LEE THOMPSON

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, today I rise in recognition of a constituent whose lifetime of passionate and intensive work on behalf of developmentally disabled children and adults has been recognized at a national level.

Margaret-Lee Thompson, a resident of Redmond, Washington, and the coordinator of the King County Parent Coalition for Development Disabilities, was awarded the "Advocacy Matters!" honor by the Arc of the United States because of her efforts and courageous advocacy.

Ms. Thompson's adult son, Dan, has lived with disabilities his entire life. While focusing wholly on the daily needs of her son, Madam Speaker, Ms. Thompson identified a variety of inconsistent and wrong-headed policies and practices at different levels of government and local organizations. In 1990, seizing on a six-month grant opportunity to bring parents of the developmentally disabled and policy makers together, Margaret founded the Parent Coalition. Twenty years later, Ms. Thompson is nationally recognized as a committed, veteran leader of an incredibly worthy movement. Her work and advocacy have changed hearts and minds, Madam Speaker.

The Parent Coalition—with Ms. Thompson as its leader—has three overarching goals: to work for a better future for people with developmental disabilities and their families through systems advocacy, to organize parent training workshops, and to inform families in King County, Washington about the developmental disabilities system at all levels. Under Ms. Thompson's leadership, the Coalition has accomplished its goals—and much more.

Madam Speaker, Margaret-Lee Thompson is a leader, an advocate, and a social entrepreneur. She's helped thousands of developmentally disabled individuals in King County and influenced thousands more policy makers, community leaders, and residents. After 20 years of leadership and advocacy, Ms. Thompson has finally received the type of recognition she so richly deserves. She's a selfless humanitarian, Madam Speaker, and I'm honored to call her a constituent, thank you.

OVERBROOK SCHOOL

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. COOPER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Overbrook School in Nashville, Tennessee. This year, Overbrook was named a National Blue Ribbon School, a tremendous honor from the U.S. Secretary of Education acknowledging Overbrook's outstanding scholastic achievement.

The Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes public and private elementary, middle, and high schools for excellence in academic achievement. Overbrook is one of only 304 schools nationwide to receive 2010 Blue Ribbon designation and is the only Nashville area school to be honored this year. Overbrook is also the first Catholic elementary school in Nashville to receive the coveted award.

Since it opened in 1936 as a co-educational, Catholic school, Overbrook students have pursued academic, cultural, and spiritual growth. Situated on the Dominican Campus in the heart of Nashville, students from kindergarten through eighth grade thrive in an environment that promotes academic excellence and a life of faith. Overbrook School is an institution that values a well-rounded education in a nurturing setting.

And so, Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to honor Overbrook School for being named a 2010 National Blue Ribbon School. I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the students, teachers, parents and staff who have helped Overbrook School set a standard of excellence for elementary schools across middle Tennessee.

RECOGNIZING THE 140TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH OF FALLS CHURCH

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Second Baptist

Church of Falls Church for its 140th anniversary, themed "celebrating 140 years of service to God through prayer, worship and praise."

Founded shortly after the Civil War, the Second Baptist Church has grown from a small two-room cabin to a two-story church on "Baptist Hill." Not only has the Church served as a symbol and source of faith for the congregation, but it has also acted as a community center, opening its doors to various groups such as Girl and Boy Scout troops, nursery school classes, and other community organizations. The Second Baptist Church also has served the Falls Church community by founding the Food Bank and the S.H.A.R.E. Food Network.

This past week the Church hosted a series of worship services and community events to honor this momentous occasion. It will host a celebratory dinner on October 3 with a concert to conclude the week's events.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the 140th Anniversary of the Second Baptist Church of Falls Church. For 140 years the Second Baptist Church has served the community through prayer, worship and praise. I would like to extend my congratulations and thank the Church for its commitment to faith and to the community.

ON THE 130TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIFTH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a storied institution of faith in the Third Congressional District. This year, the Fifth Street Baptist Church is celebrating its 130th anniversary, and I would like to highlight some moments from the history of the church and its contribution to our community.

Fifth Street was organized in 1880 and first worshiped in the old Odd Fellows Hall on East Franklin Street. The church acquired land for a sanctuary on Fifth Street in 1882, and became known as Fifth Street Baptist. The first pastor, Rev. Henry Haywood Mitchell, served for 2 years. Under the pastorate of Rev. A.P. Dunbar, the new house of worship was completed and dedicated in 1886.

Fifth Street grew rapidly under the leadership of its third pastor, Rev. Wesley Paul Graham. At the end of one revival, Rev. Graham singlehandedly baptized 285 people in one afternoon. It was under his direction that the first Baptist Young Peoples Union in Virginia was established at Fifth Baptist. This Union was influential in the plans to consolidate Richmond Theological Seminary and Wayland Seminary of Washington, DC into one institution—Virginia Union University. Rev. Graham served Fifth Baptist for 17 years, with the highlight of his pastorate being the 1900 Session of the National Baptist Convention hosted at Fifth Street Baptist.

Fifth Street flourished in Richmond during the turn of the century. Under the leadership of its fourth pastor, Rev. Thomas J. King, the

first Deaconess board in the city was organized, and hundreds of new members were added to the church. It was also during Rev. King's ministry, on July 4, 1926, that a new sanctuary was dedicated at 705 North Fifth Street.

The Great Depression brought with it a share of challenges for Fifth Baptist. In response, the church called a pastor who had already built a church in Philadelphia and was proven as a skilled leader. On the first Sunday in February, 1930, Rev. Christopher Columbus Scott became the fifth pastor of Fifth Street Baptist Church, and he served the church for 36 years. During his years of service, the church celebrated the burning of its mortgage in 1946, installed a new 22 rank pipe organ in 1955, and led the city-wide celebration of Emancipation Day for many years, bringing nationally known speakers and rallies for civil rights to the church.

Changes in the city of Richmond brought changes to Fifth Baptist under the leadership of its sixth pastor, Rev. Henry Clayton Gregory III, who assumed leadership of the church in August 1967. New expressway construction and other municipal developments had geographically split the Jackson Ward/Navy Hill community. In response, the church rededicated its efforts to the community, serving as a command post for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Poor People's March and establishing a Federal Credit Union for members. Fifth Baptist also looked to serve the world at large, building a medical clinic in Karnal, India.

In January 1974, Rev. Roscoe Dennis Cooper, Jr. was installed as the seventh pastor of Fifth Baptist. It was under his leadership that the church undertook the biggest change in its history. Citing growing problems with the location in Downtown Richmond, the church took the bold step to move 37 blocks away to a new property on Third Avenue. On Sunday, October 5, 1975, the church members marched these blocks to the church's new home in the Highland Park Community.

The church's eleventh and current pastor is Rev. F. Todd Gray. At the church's new location and under his leadership, Fifth Street has continued to minister to the needs of the community. Coming together with community neighbors, the church helped found the North District Community Development Corporation. Under this organization, the church, in conjunction with the Southern Tip Civic Association, The United Way, St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church, and other community groups, has provided numerous programs to the community including: computer training, test prep, job training, summer jobs for youth, and medical services. In 2005, the church dedicated a new Community Empowerment Center known as the G.R.A.C.E., God's Redemptive And Community Empowerment, Center.

As Fifth Street gathers to celebrate this historic milestone, the church can truly remember its past, celebrate its present, and focus on the future continuing to "bring the Kingdom to the Community!" I would like to congratulate current pastor Rev. Gray and all of the members of the Fifth Street Baptist Church on the occasion of their 130th anniversary.