

RECOGNIZING STAFF SERGEANT THOMAS D. GORDY, JR.—SCOTTSDALE HEALTHCARE'S "SALUTE TO MILITARY" HONOREE

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a member of the Armed Forces from my home State of Arizona. Each month, Scottsdale Healthcare recognizes service members who perform diligent service to our country. Scottsdale Healthcare has recognized Staff Sergeant (SSgt) Thomas D. Gordy, Jr. for the month of December.

I commend Scottsdale Healthcare for paying tribute to this outstanding service member for his commitment, dedication, and service to our country.

SSgt Gordy joined the United States Air Force out of high school in 1968. He served our Nation for four years as a Physiological Training Specialist and was responsible to ensure the readiness of pilots in all services for the rigors of combat aviation. This specialty requires spending many hours in a high altitude chamber to train and monitor flight crews while exposing them to the dangerous conditions of hypoxia and the potential for decompression sickness. By educating pilots and crews on their individual vulnerabilities to these life threatening conditions, SSgt Gordy was instrumental in creating medically ready and trained individuals to engage in the U.S. conflict in Vietnam.

Additionally, SSgt Gordy was trained to treat aviation related medical issues that arise from the demanding effects of military flight. He has logged over eighty hours in hyperbaric chambers assisting our wounded warriors and helping them in their return to duty. SSgt Gordy's awards include the National Defense Service Medal and an Outstanding Unit Award.

SSgt Gordy has been a Scottsdale Healthcare employee for six years, working in the Emergency Department at the Osborn Campus where he has filled positions as a staff nurse, clinical educator, and currently the department manager.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing this outstanding Soldier for serving our country.

TRIBUTE TO CONSTANTINO DELSIGNORE

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and mourn the extraordinary life of Constantino DelSignore upon his sudden passing at the age of 47.

Born on December 2, 1962, Tino DelSignore graduated from Detroit Catholic Central High School in 1980. He immersed himself in the DelSignore family business becoming a warm and welcoming presence at Livonia mainstays, Fonte D'Amore and Laurel Manor. He dedicated his life to serving his community through many philanthropic efforts. Tino was founder of CDS Foundation, co-

founder of the Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Foundation as well as being an advocate for many other local, national and international non-profit organizations. Tino committed his considerable efforts to Angela Hospice, the Aliaga Foundation, Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute, St. Mary's Mercy Hospital's Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center, Botsford Hospital Foundation, McCarty Foundation, Madonna University, Hunters Feeding the Homeless, Livonia Italian American Club, Hockey Has Hearts, veterans' organizations, and Rotarians. Constantino DelSignore gave with an open heart and, like the entire DelSignore family, was always willing to help promote a worthy cause.

Regrettably, on October 26, 2010, Tino DelSignore passed from this earthly world to his eternal reward. He is survived by his beloved son, Giovanni and his parents, John and Lina. A devoted brother to Luciano, Nancy and Renata, Tino leaves a legacy in his nieces and nephews Ryder, Caprice, Coco, Alexa, Olivia, Alexandria and Max. If, in the end, a man's wealth can be measured by the friends and lives he has touched, Constantino DelSignore went home to God a very wealthy man. Courageous and honorable, Tino will be sorely missed.

Madam Speaker, Constantino DelSignore is remembered as a compassionate father, a dedicated son, a treasured brother, a caring leader and a true friend. Tino was a man who deeply treasured his family, friends, community and his country. Today, as we bid Constantino DelSignore farewell, I ask my colleagues to join me in mourning his passing and honoring his unwavering patriotism and legendary service to our country and community.

RECOGNIZING MR. EARL NIDIFFER'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, today I recognize the 100th birthday of Mr. Earl Nidiffer. This significant milestone is certainly an incredible accomplishment.

A graduate from East Tennessee State University in 1934, Earl went on to become a star baseball and basketball player for the Bucs in the early 1930's.

His first job out of college was as the Sports Editor for the Johnson City Press. Earl later went on to work for the U.S. Postal Office in Johnson City. In addition, Earl is the oldest active member of Central Baptist Church in Johnson City.

Madam Speaker, EARL Nidiffer's tenacity and service to East Tennessee is a beacon of hope to us all. I want to thank him for all he has done, and I wish Earl nothing but the very best.

May the experience and wisdom Earl has attained and shared over the years encourage and teach those around him, lasting for generations to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF POLICE DISPATCHER LORI RILEY

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Police Dispatcher Lori Riley for her 20 years of dedicated service to Burlingame Police Department.

She joined the department in 1990 after working for seven years as a communications operator with the California Highway Patrol. At the department, she was responsible for answering incoming emergency calls from the public and dispatching help to save both lives and property. She was a vital link to police officers, monitoring their activities by radio and providing them information while insuring their safety. She served as a Communications Training Officer, providing trainees with the knowledge and skills needed to effectively perform their duties.

Lori was recognized by the American Red Cross and the California State Assembly for her heroic efforts to save the life of a woman who had threatened to commit suicide.

Madam Speaker, I ask that the members join me in saluting Dispatcher Lori Riley for her 20 years of dedicated service to the Burlingame Police Department and that we extended our best wishes to Lori and her husband, Steve, for a healthy and happy retirement.

CONGRATULATING JERRY BROCK, RECIPIENT OF TEMPE COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S THIRD ANNUAL GUIDING LIGHT PHILANTHROPY AWARD

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Jerry Brock, a Tempe, Arizona resident who was recently honored with the third annual Guiding Light Philanthropy Award by the Tempe Community Council. The Tempe Community Council was founded in 1972 with the mission of "connecting those in need with those who care."

Jerry started his career working in his father's auto salvage yard in Tempe over 50 years ago. Through his impeccable work ethic over the years, Jerry has become a national leader in the wholesale auto parts industry, through his company, Brock Supply Co., which celebrated its 50th anniversary this year. Just as Jerry worked steadily to build his company, he has worked tirelessly to improve his community.

Jerry has been giving back to his community continuously through the years. He recently crossed the \$1 million mark in charitable gifts, primarily to causes within his home community of Tempe. Among the organizations that Jerry has supported over the years are the Cancer Foundation, East Valley Boys and Girls Club, Community Bridges and the Tempe City Council.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Jerry Brock for his well deserved

recognition as the recipient of the third annual Guiding Light Philanthropy Award. I am proud to call Jerry not only a constituent and fellow Tempe resident, but also a friend. The philanthropic efforts of individuals like Jerry help strengthen our communities and our Nation.

TRIBUTE TO SHAWN HATCH

HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Shawn Hatch of Massena. Mr. Hatch deserves our congratulations and gratitude for his work to benefit the Wounded Warrior Project.

Beginning in May, Shawn spent his summer vacation rollerblading 3,107 miles from Massena to Los Angeles in an effort to support American troops wounded in combat, and raised more than \$16,000 through his efforts. Shawn's recent efforts remind us all that we must work to support our troops every day of the year.

Just as our soldiers pledge to leave no man or woman behind, Shawn has carried on that promise, inspiring many in New York's North Country communities to support the Wounded Warrior Project and give back to those who have sacrificed so much for our nation.

Shawn represents the drive and determination that America's veterans, military personnel and their families contribute to the security and progress of our country each and every day. Again, I congratulate and thank Mr. Hatch for his extraordinary journey in support of our veterans. His accomplishment is something truly remarkable and sets a wonderful example for the rest of us.

CONGRATULATING MARK T. BECKER FOR OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE OF DUTY IN AERIAL FLIGHT AS AN AIRCREW MEMBER IN THE VIETNAMESE CONFLICT

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Corporal Mark T. Becker of the Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 462. Mr. Becker dutifully served the United States while abroad in Vietnam and deserves such commendation.

Corporal Becker and his fellow members of the Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 462 set off aboard the USS *Okinawa* on April 29, 1975. Corporal Becker served as an aerial gunner on a UH1E Huey Helicopter that participated in Operation FREQUENT WIND. This mission was a humanitarian emergency evacuation of Americans, Vietnamese and Third Country Nationals from Saigon in the Republic of Vietnam.

Corporal Becker assisted pilots by maintaining a constant surveillance for other enemy aircraft and hostile fire. This was an exhausting and troublesome task due to reduced visibility caused by darkness and inclement

weather. Corporal Becker made several flights over hostile territory all the while displaying absolute discipline and rare professionalism in following the binding rules of engagement.

Operation FREQUENT WIND resulted in a huge success for United States forces. A total of 1,373 Americans and 5,595 Vietnamese and Third Country Nationals were evacuated by helicopter in a two day span. Corporal Becker's skill and steadfast devotion to duty while exposed to ground fire, anti-aircraft fire, and surface-to-air missiles contributed significantly and directly to the accomplishment of his unit's mission and the overall success of Operation FREQUENT WIND.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the impressive and courageous actions of Corporal Mark T. Becker. It is an honor for me to recognize his accomplishments and the impact he had on Operation FREQUENT WIND.

STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF SENATE AMENDMENT 4587 TO H.R. 5283 "HELP HAITI ACT OF 2010"

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 5283 and the Senate Amendment 4587 that is "to provide for adjustment of status for certain Haitian orphans paroled into the United States after the earthquake of January 12, 2010." I would like to begin by thanking Congressman FORTENBERRY for introducing this resolution, as it is so important for the United States to normalize the immigration process for the adopted Haitian orphans after the tragic January earthquake. The Haitian orphans that were adopted by American families after the earthquake should not have to wait in legal limbo to become permanent residents of the United States; there were obvious extenuating circumstances that prevented the adoptions from being finalized in Haitian courts.

Without the passing of the Help HAITI Act of 2010, Haitian orphans that have fortunately been adopted by welcoming American families face a two-year limbo with fewer legal protections, ineligibility for critical resources, and at the very worst, a forcible return to the ravaged country of Haiti if something unexpected were to happen to the adoptive parents. The Haitian orphans are currently awaiting crucial paperwork that will provide them with basic resources, such as allowing them to receive health care and to enroll in school. These children have already suffered the tragic loss of their families in Haiti in the aftermath of the earthquake—we should assist in any way we can to expedite this adoption and immigration process. In doing so, we can help these families begin their new lives in the United States.

I am a strong proponent of this resolution, because it will allow the Haitian orphans to become legal permanent residents and eventually to gain U.S. citizenship. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this because it is an important resolution in which we can stand together and support the orphaned children in their adoption process. There are over one thousand children who are subject to this legal limbo—that is far too great of a number

of adopted children who must wait two years for permanent resident status. Additionally, this resolution will help minimize the staff, monetary, and other resources demands for the Department of Homeland Security's United States Citizenship and Immigration Service.

At this point in time, the people of Haiti are in desperate need of international assistance. We have a responsibility to prevent the evacuation of these orphaned children because of a legal technicality. The people of Haiti are suffering now, more than ever, with the devastating earthquake of January, Hurricane Tomas of October, and now the cholera outbreak that is threatening the lives of millions. The cholera outbreak that emerged within the Artibonite region on October 21 has now resulted in more than 14,000 hospitalizations and tragically more than 900 deaths. The children who were fortunately adopted in the wake of the January earthquake should not have to face such a dire humanitarian crisis. The Help HAITI Act will do exactly that; it will expedite and normalize these orphaned children's journey to a new family. In the same vein, the United States should be helping its neighbors in need with humanitarian assistance, and additionally working hard towards preventing any more unnecessary deaths.

With the passing of this resolution, the orphaned children from Haiti will be able to securely begin their lives in the United States. This bill will assure a normalization of the Haitian children, and will allow their status to be adjusted to permanent resident. Furthermore, the Help HAITI Act of 2010 will provide legal certainty and protections for these evacuated Haitian orphans, because it removes an obstacle for their adoptive families. This is an important bill for the families across America who have opened their homes and welcomed the children who were in special need of a family after the January earthquakes.

A TRIBUTE TO THE GREATER OWENSBORO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Greater Owensboro Chamber of Commerce. In August of this year, the chamber was selected by the American Chamber of Commerce Executives, ACCE, as the 2010 Chamber of the Year.

This award is a direct reflection of the hard work and dedication of the employees, members and volunteers of the chamber as well as the Owensboro community.

The Chamber of the Year award recognizes up to four chambers of commerce each year for their dual roles in creating and leading both businesses and communities.

The chamber's advocacy role in creating the Chamber Leadership Initiatives for Northwestern Kentucky, C-LINK, alliance and the Owensboro Buys It! program are significant reasons the chamber was chosen for the award.

C-LINK includes 12 chambers in the region and has been a leading proponent of Interstate 69 in western Kentucky. Owensboro Buys It! was started in 2009 to spur local commerce and teach small business members