

HONORING BRYAN EDWARD
O'TOOLE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Bryan Edward O'Toole. Bryan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 900, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Bryan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Bryan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Bryan has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Bryan Edward O'Toole for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE 40TH
ANNIVERSARY OF SLIDE RANCH

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 40th anniversary of a unique institution that operates within the boundaries of the Golden Gate National Recreational Area to provide an educational blend of sustainable agriculture and outdoor education.

A former dairy farm perched on a south slope above the roiling Pacific Ocean, Slide Ranch has welcomed over 175,000 people from the inner city, suburbia and beyond to participate in its summer camps and year-round educational programs. Through the efforts of Marin Attorney Doug Ferguson and Huey Johnson of the Nature Conservancy, the land was purchased and protected from commercial development, and founders Ed and Susie Washington-Smith created a 134-acre hands-on place to learn how to farm and care for Mother Earth. Along the way, the extended family of the famed Grateful Dead, played a big role in building and sustaining Slide Ranch with donations, manual labor and benefit concerts by members of the Dead.

Today, Slide Ranch offers a menu of family outings, summer day camps and group programs. The group programs, offered in spring, summer and fall, are geared toward experiential learning, which is especially suited to help young people appreciate the environment, make good choices about healthy foods and good agricultural practices. Students may learn how to turn compost piles, feed farm animals, milk cows and make cheese. Kids from the inner city may spend the first night of their lives camping under the stars and breakfasting on their own hand-picked berries.

The wild lands of Slide Ranch provide miles of hiking trails and a rich coastal habitat adja-

cent to the waters of the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. Here are spectacular tide pools populated by still starfish, waving anemones and scuttling crabs, while offshore, migrating whales display their spouts.

The pride of Slide Ranch is its bountiful one-acre garden, now under cultivation for over 36 years without the use of pesticides or chemical fertilizers. Using biodynamic and organic methods of improving the soil and controlling pests, the garden grows over 100 species of plants and vegetables each year. The garden includes several educational features such as a medicinal herb area, an urban-style container garden, a worm box and composting bins.

Slide Ranch has weathered forty years of changes in education, new environmental challenges and the ups and downs of the economy. It has survived because it not only has kept pace with the need for a greater understanding of our environment and sustainable food production, but because of the passion and unending curiosity of its staff, governing board and donors—all who deserve our thanks and congratulations today. Madam Speaker, in Slide Ranch's greenhouse, seeds from the garden are potted to produce the next harvest. In its classrooms above the surf or under the starry sky, in the thriving garden or in the barn, the seeds of knowledge are planted for an unending bounty of bright minds.

RECOGNIZING DR. M. RICHARD
SHAINK

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, on Friday October 22, the Association of Community College Trustees awarded the 2010 Marie Y. Martin Chief Executive Award to Dr. M. Richard Shaink, the president and Chief Executive Officer of Mott Community College in Flint, Michigan. At their Annual Community College Leadership Congress the Association named him the best community college president/CEO in North America. The citizens of Flint will hold a reception in his honor tomorrow to celebrate this achievement.

Dr. Shaink has served as President of Mott Community College since March 31, 2000. When he assumed the leadership position at the school, Dr. Shaink was faced with stabilizing the school and improving its financial position. He led the fight to bring increased revenue to the school, fought for federal, state and private foundation grants and at the same time instituted cost saving measures across the campus. A proponent of economic development, he identified the needs of employers in the community and spearheaded the construction of the college's Regional Technology Center to prepare students to enter the workforce. Prior to winning this award, Dr. Shaink was named the 2010 Central Regional Chief Executive Officer for the Midwest and Canadian Provinces.

Madam Speaker, the Association of Community College Trustee Awards are given to those educators that have made extraordinary contributions to their colleges and higher education. The selection of Dr. Shaink as the best

community college president in North America is a testament to his leadership, innovation, enthusiasm and commitment to making Mott Community College a powerhouse of learning. Flint is fortunate to have Dr. Shaink and his wife, Sally, live in the area and provide an example of excellence to the next generation. I congratulate him for receiving this award and ask the House of Representatives to join me in applauding his work in the field of education.

RECOGNITION OF NAVAL WEAPONS
STATION EARLE

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Naval Weapons Station Earle (NWS Earle) based in Colts Neck, New Jersey as they celebrate the 235th Anniversary of the United States Navy. NWS Earle covers 10,160 acres and promotes a long-standing history of aiding the country in combat. I applaud the work, achievements, and dedication NWS Earle has provided the U.S. Navy, local community, and State of New Jersey.

Long before the beginning of the Second World War, officers in both the Army and Navy saw the need to establish a base for loading explosive ammunition. NWS Earle is strategically located in the Port of New York, a focal point for all important rail lines throughout the country. Thus, construction for the Naval Ammunition Depot Earle—named in honor of Rear Admiral Ralph Earle, Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance during the First World War, began on August 2, 1943. Naval Ammunition Depot Earle was later commissioned on December 13, 1943. The south side of Sandy Hook Bay in the Leonardo section of Middletown was strategically chosen for the new Naval Ammunition Depot Earle, quickly becoming the focal point for ordnance shipping, loading the majority of ammunition used by the allies for the invasion of Normandy. In 1974, Earle's name was officially changed to Naval Weapons Station Earle.

NWS Earle has tirelessly provided the U.S. Navy with a safe location to house their materials and equipment. Today, the primary mission of the Naval Weapons Station Earle remains the receipt, storage, segregation and issuance of ordnance for all Carrier and Expeditionary Strike Groups of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet, which includes the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Department of Defense conventional ammunition requirements. Naval Weapons Station Earle currently houses a combined workforce of over 1,600 civilian, military and contractor personnel. They are home to over 20 tenant units where they also support over 250 military personnel and dependents in their housing. It is the hard work of the people employed at NWS Earle that make it possible for the station to run smoothly and efficiently. Most recently, Naval Weapons Station Earle has provided its assistance as the Department of Defense transshipment site for ordnance used in Operation Desert Storm and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

NWS Earle and staff have tirelessly devoted their time to the community, epitomizing what it means to give back in time of need to protect our country. Madam Speaker, please join

me in leading this body in acknowledgement of the extraordinary contributions of NWS Earle. The station is a valued component of the State of New Jersey, and I am honored to recognize them today.

**HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED
SERVICE OF MARVIN MEYERS**

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today before my esteemed colleagues to recognize and honor the distinguished service of an exceptional man. The contributions of this man to the California agriculture industry and our water resources epitomize the spirit of industriousness and persistence found in the agricultural communities across our country. I would like to recognize Mr. Marvin A. Meyers on being named the recipient of the "2010 Agriculturist of the Year" award by the Greater Fresno Area Chamber of Commerce.

A leader in the development of private water banking, Meyers, himself, farms on the Westside of Fresno County in Mendota. Meyers, who cares for 3,500 acres of almonds in the Firebaugh area, admits his impatience over finding a solution to water shortages drove him to begin developing a water bank. After years of preliminary work, including pilot projects and working with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and other agencies, Meyers received federal approval in 2002 to begin operating the bank. Meyers pumps water into the underground bank during wet years and pumps water out during dry years to help make water available when farmers need it most. The bank became invaluable last year after three consecutive dry years and regulatory decisions limited the availability of federal water to our Valley. Meyers' hard work and innovation has translated into the success of his operation and the continuation of a family farm. The Agriculturist of the Year award is given each year to an individual who exemplifies leadership and integrity and whose achievements have significantly affected the community. The Greater Fresno Area Chamber of Commerce has made a wise choice in their selection of Meyers.

Meyers' actions demonstrate his dedication to his community. He is a visionary, a person who epitomizes altruism and believes in giving back to his community. Recently, I had the pleasure of visiting with Marvin and touring his water bank and wildlife project near the outskirts of Mendota, California. The impressive project included five different holding pools all conveyed via gravity and an installation of solar panels that was being erected as we toured that day. Through his water bank and wildlife refuge projects, Meyers educates groups of local students from kindergarten to high school on the importance of water education and wildlife restoration. Going beyond the call, Meyers offers assistance in transportation costs for school buses to travel to and from his site, allowing many school districts and students affected by the recession the opportunity to learn outside the classroom about issues affecting our Valley.

Marvin Meyers is truly a remarkable man—always persistent, always engaged. Marvin is

the kind of advocate that the agriculture industry needs on its side. I have come to know this man well since my days in the California State Legislature, and know firsthand that this award, though meritorious, is only a small part of the recognition Marvin deserves for his many accomplishments. I offer my congratulations to Marvin Meyers today on receiving this distinguished honor and commend him before my colleagues for his contributions to the agriculture industry of California and to our Nation.

**HONORING BROCK REYNOLDS
WENZEL**

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Brock Reynolds Wenzel. Brock is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 714, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Brock has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Brock has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Brock has shown an incredible determination by earning his Eagle Scout while only 12 years old. Brock has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Brock tore out the old handicap-accessible ramp at the American Legion Hall in Edgerton, Missouri and constructed a new ramp with a lower slope.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Brock Reynolds Wenzel for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

**HONORING PASTOR JOY L. THORNTON
ON HIS 11TH ANNIVERSARY**

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker: Whereas, Joy L. Thornton has faithfully served as Pastor for the Greater St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church in Indianapolis, Indiana since October 3, 1999;

Whereas, Joy L. Thornton dedicated his life to serving others after earning his degree from Gammon Theological Seminary in Atlanta, Georgia;

Whereas, Pastor Thornton is celebrating his 11th anniversary of leading the congregation at the Greater St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church as it strives to be an example of faith and respect;

Therefore, I join with the members of the Greater St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church and the Indianapolis community in honoring Pastor Joy Thornton for these past 11 years of exemplary service as a teacher and a leader of his congregation.

IS MOROCCO WHAT IT CLAIMS TO
BE?

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I submit for the RECORD an October 31 Reuters article that describes a recent protest that occurred in Morocco.

The story opens with the following description: "About 900 Moroccan rights activists took to the streets in Rabat on Sunday in a rare protest against what they call widespread rights abuses by the authorities, including illegal detention and torture."

The government of Morocco has long sought to cultivate its image, employing high-powered U.S. lobbyists, as a beacon of tolerance in the Muslim world. This human rights protest is further evidence that Morocco isn't all that it claims to be.

Earlier this year the Moroccan government deported, without due process, dozens of U.S. citizens and foreign nationals, many of whom were engaged in vital humanitarian work—for allegedly proselytizing.

If the government of Morocco hopes to maintain its image, it is going to take more than some well-positioned lobbyists.

**MOROCCANS STAGE RARE HUMAN RIGHTS
PROTEST**

RABAT (Reuters)—About 900 Moroccan rights activists took to the streets in Rabat on Sunday in a rare protest against what they called widespread rights abuses by the authorities, including illegal detention and torture.

Protesters chanted: "Shut down illegal detention centres now!" and "Where is the respect for rights and truth?"

Officials were not immediately available to comment on the protest but the government has repeatedly said that its commitment to improve and protect human rights is irreversible.

Morocco won international praise for an improvement in its human rights record since reformist monarch Mohamed VI took over in 1999 from his father Hassan during whose rule hundreds of people were tortured and killed at the hands of the government.

But local human rights groups at home and abroad argue that the country's rights record has deteriorated since 2003 when it mounted a crackdown against militants linked to al Qaeda.

"The reality of human rights conditions totally belies the government's claim of improvement. Illegal detention, torture and crackdowns on press freedom are pervasive now," said Abdeslam Abdelilah, Vice-President of the independent Moroccan Human Rights Association (AMDH).

Independent journalists and security officials at the scene estimated the number of demonstrators at around 900. Security forces have in the past broken up similar protests but they did not interfere in Sunday's demonstration.

HONORING VIRGIL BRANTLEY

HON. STEVE AUSTRIA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. AUSTRIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Virgil Brantley for his lifetime