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RECOGNIZING THE CENTENNIAL OF THE GENERAL VON STEUBEN MONUMENT

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 2, 2010

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to mark the one hundredth anniversary of the dedication of the monument to General von Steuben across the street from the White House—in Lafayette Park, Washington, DC.

The monument to General Frederick Wilhelm von Steuben was dedicated in a ceremony presided over by President William H. Taft on December 7, 1910. Taking its place among the statues of three other European-born Revolutionary War heroes, the Steuben monument serves as a reminder of the tactical foresight and invaluable contributions of General von Steuben to the United States military during the American Revolution.

General von Steuben arrived in the United States from Prussia during a period of great turmoil for our young country. Facing the superior forces of Great Britain, the American military lacked experience, tradition, and proper training. It was under these circumstances that General von Steuben wrote to General George Washington prior to his arrival in 1778, stating “The object of my greatest ambition is to render your country all the service in my power, and to deserve the title of a citizen of America by fighting for the cause of liberty.” General von Steuben is credited with almost singlehandedly transforming the Continental Army from a group of untrained militias into a professional army capable of defeating the strongest military in the world.

In addition to his battlefield heroics, General von Steuben’s enduring impact lives on through the U.S. Armed Forces’ continuing reference to his “Blue Book,” which outlines a training plan that has served as the standard bearer for strategic military preparation. General von Steuben’s contributions and accomplishments continue to serve as a source of great pride and inspiration for the millions of German-Americans living in the United States today.

The Steuben Society, founded in 1919 and named in honor of General von Steuben, serves to educate the public about matters of interest to American citizens of German heritage and their families, to encourage participation in civic affairs, and to perpetuate and enhance the understanding of contributions made by German Americans to our nation. I am proud that the national headquarters of the Steuben Society is located in Patchogue, New York, which is my district and home to 130,000 German-American constituents.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize the centennial anniversary of the dedication of the General von Steuben monument in Lafayette Park, and I commend the Steuben Society for its active role in promoting the culture and contributions of German-American citizens across the United States.

HEALTHY, HUNGER-FREE KIDS ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 1, 2010

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 3307, the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010. I applaud Chairman MILLER for his efforts on this legislation, and commend Speaker PELOSI and Leader HOYER for bringing this legislation to the floor. I also commend First Lady Michelle Obama for her leadership on this initiative.

The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 expands access to school meal programs to thousands of children across the country. In addition to reauthorizing all expiring authorities and programs in the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act and the Child Nutrition Act, it will also assist all 50 states in providing meals for at-risk youth after school.

This bill contains several innovations in food delivery and safety for young people at school. Importantly, S. 3307 will increase funding for school lunches, increase access to free school meals, improve school meal nutrition standards, expand food service for summer and outside-of-school programs, implement food safety requirements for food served on school campuses, help innovate the WIC program, introduce new nutrition and healthy living standards, and fund state and local initiatives to eliminate childhood hunger.

Each day, millions of our young people go hungry, or consume food that is detrimental to their bodies and their minds. For many children, the meals they receive at school may be the only balanced, nutritious meal they have all day. A healthy diet is absolutely essential to a healthy life. Through health care reform, we have already taken steps to cultivate a culture of preventive care; this is another part of our effort to ensure that our children can realize their full potential.

The First Lady’s Let’s Move initiative has also played an important role in spotlighting the steps that can improve our children’s health, including the vital role that exercise plays in a healthful lifestyle. It is now our job in Congress to continue to support the important work done through this campaign by supporting this legislation.

I am proud to support this legislation, because I know what a profound effect this will have on many children’s lives.

However, while I do strongly support the legislation that is in front of us today, I am concerned with cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program that are on the horizon. We are taking steps now that will make our young people happier, healthier, and more productive individuals, but we must not forget that the SNAP program benefits many of the same children—and their families—that we are trying to help today. For that reason, it must be our priority to fully fund the SNAP program in the coming years.

That said, I am eager to see S. 3307 passed, and I am confident that this is indeed landmark legislation that will ensure our children can be all that God meant them to be—and I urge its adoption.

HONORING THE NEW HOPE EAGLE FIRE COMPANY

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 2, 2010

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor members of the New Hope Eagle Volunteer Fire Company: President/Fire Fighter Jim Finn; Chief Craig Forbes; Deputy Chief Frank Cosner, Jr.; Fire Fighter Keith McMullen; Fire Marshal Daryl Jurbala; Company Secretary Linda Rowe, and Fire Fighter/Safety Officer Frank Cosner, Sr.

On September 31, 2010, a giant construction barge broke free of its anchoring mechanisms and began drifting down the Delaware River toward the New Hope-Lambertville Bridge. This barge was meant to be a work platform and was equipped with a lifter and small crane, which could have caused major damage to the New Hope-Lambertville Bridge. Without the crucial decisionmaking and help of the New Hope Fire Company and its volunteers, this could have ended in disaster. They displayed incredible skill and bravery in their actions and for that they are honored.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize and honor the individuals for their bravery and quick thinking in a time of great distress. I am honored to serve as their Congressman.

CONGRATULATING RAYMOND T. AND ROBERTA “BOBBY” WHITE

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 2, 2010

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Raymond T. and Roberta “Bobby” White. Members of the Jewish War Veterans Post 266 since November 1997, Ray and Bobby’s activism and efforts on behalf of south Florida’s Jewish War Veterans are unmatched. Drawing on their prior experiences with veterans organizations, they have proved to be great assets within Florida Post 266.

Ray and Bobby’s hard work on behalf of Post 266 was quickly noticed. Shortly after their arrival, Bobby was elevated to be commander of the Women’s Auxiliary for Post 266, as Ray was named Post commander. It was not long before Ray rose to be the commander of the Department in 2003, and he did not stop there.

While serving as the Department Commander of Florida, Ray was appointed by the National Commander to the position of chairman for the first Committee for Soviet Jewry. In this capacity, Ray organized a program of installing flag poles and flags from condo organizations, the first of which was installed for Temple Emeth on Atlantic Avenue, where services are conducted annually on Memorial Day for fallen comrades.

Together, Ray and Bobby spearheaded numerous other community projects. Not only did Ray champion continued funding for hospitals and veterans’ benefits, but Bobby instituted a program for hospitalized veterans of the West Palm Beach facility with monthly Bingo games. The vision and followthrough of Ray and

Bobby were also instrumental in the planning and constructing of the Governor Lawton Childs Veterans Memorial Park right in Delray Beach.

Under the leadership of this outstanding couple, their community flourished and the membership of Post 266 grew to be the largest post in the country. Undoubtedly, these two have worked immensely to further the program of the Jewish War Veterans both locally and nationally. Today, Ray and Bobby are still involved in the Post; after turning over the commander's role in January 2010, Ray now holds the position of quartermaster, and Bobby continues to assist the current commander of the Women's Auxiliary. Raymond and Roberta White deserve special plaudits for their commitment and dedication to their work, and our very best wishes for their continued service and happiness in good health together.

HONORING ETHEL KENNEDY

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 2, 2010

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ethel Kennedy, my aunt, upon the occasion of the 2010 Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Award ceremony. This ceremony highlighted the abuses in Mexico and honored local hero Abel Barrera Hernandez, founder and director of the Tlachinollan Center, for his courageous defense of the rights of rural and indigenous people living in Guerrero State in southern Mexico. Aunt Ethel's work with the Human Rights Award is truly remarkable.

Aunt Ethel has been instrumental in advancing human rights. I wish her all the best as she continues this important work. She will continue to carry my own admiration, and that of all who have had the privilege to work with her.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION HONORING THE OFFICE OF RESEARCH ON WOMEN'S HEALTH

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 2, 2010

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 20th anniversary of the Office of Research on Women's Health. As the leading agency for women's health research in the United States, the Office has transformed biomedical research and improved the lives of women nationally and internationally.

The Office of Research on Women's Health was founded in response to congressional and scientific concerns over the systematic exclusion of women from clinical research trials funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). One clinical trial, the Physicians' Health Study, included 22,071 men—and no women. This clinical trial generated over 300 basic findings that are used today to guide all facets of medicine. Indeed, the common advice to take aspirin to prevent heart attacks is based largely on this clinical trial with no female par-

ticipants. By excluding women from clinical trials, biomedical research failed women.

Scientists and government officials alike recognized the troubling implications of providing medical care based on research that excluded more than half of the world's population. The Society for Women's Health Research was founded to galvanize support and improve scientific research.

My colleagues and I in the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues challenged the exclusion of women from federally funded research.

In 1990 we introduced H.R. 5397, an omnibus Women's Health Equity Act, an unprecedented package of 22 separate bills designed to improve the status of women's health in the areas of research, services, and prevention. Among the provisions of this mammoth legislation were: the establishment and permanent authorization of the Office of Research on Women's Health; the statutory requirement that women and minorities must be included in NIH clinical studies, where appropriate; the establishment of research centers on osteoporosis, contraception, and infertility; and necessary funding increases for research into the diseases that claim unacceptable numbers of female lives, like breast, ovarian, and cervical cancers.

Our interest prompted federal action. The National Institutes of Health announced the creation of the Office of Research on Women's Health in 1990.

Many of the provisions of the Women's Health Equity Act were included in the National Institutes of Health Revitalization Act of 1993. Thankfully, President Clinton made the NIH bill, and especially its critical improvements of women's health research, one of his first legislative priorities. It was signed into law on June 10, 1993, in a White House ceremony befitting such historic legislation—establishing the Office of Research on Women's Health in statute.

Since its creation 20 years ago, the Office of Research on Women's Health has increased our understanding of sex differences, from single cells to biological systems. This new focus on sex differences has transformed epigenetics, endocrinology, immunology, and many other fields.

In 1999, the Office initiated the "Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health initiative" which supported the career development of approximately 400 early-stage research scientists. By helping these scientists to become independent researchers and obtain academic positions, the Office of Research on Women's Health built a sophisticated, active field of women's health research.

In 2002, the Office established the "Specialized Centers of Research on Sex and Gender Factors Affecting Women's Health" program to support interdisciplinary research in basic and clinical research. In 2009 alone, this program helped scientists to publish 116 journal articles, 176 abstracts, and 63 other publications.

Alongside of the ambitious research agenda of the Office of Research on Women's Health, the Office also educates physicians, providers, and patients about gender-based differences in health care. This education program helps to translate the research accomplishments into tangible improvements in care for women and girls nationwide.

The Office of Research on Women's Health continues to press for improvements for women's health care.

This fall, the Office launched its "Vision for 2020 in Women's Health Research", a far-sighted research strategy for the next 10 years. Their vision—which I share—calls upon our Nation to increase its commitment to evaluate sex differences in both basic science and clinical research.

We also must ensure that sex differences are acknowledged in the design and application of new technologies and medications. Furthermore, we need to build a talented, diverse, and active women's health research workforce.

We cannot abandon our commitment to women's health research.

Indeed, recent withdrawals of medications by the Food and Drug Administration remind us of the importance of evaluating medicines by sex. In 2001, the then U.S. General Accounting Office published an evaluation showing that eight of the ten medications recently withdrawn "posed greater health risks for women than for men".

The importance of the mission and accomplishments of the Office of Research on Women's Health cannot be overstated. Women and girls deserve health care that has been tailored to their needs, and that requires high-quality research sensitive to gender-based differences.

I thank the Office of Research on Women's Health for their achievements over the past 20 years. I know that the Office will use the next 20 years to support excellent science that will benefit women and men alike.

REMARKS ON ALAN GROSS

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 2, 2010

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, tomorrow marks the one-year anniversary of the imprisonment of Alan Gross in Cuba. Today, I come to the House floor not in my role as Chairman of the Western Hemisphere Subcommittee nor as a Congressman interested in U.S. policy toward Cuba.

Instead, I come here as a father and a husband to urge the Cuban government to release Alan Gross on humanitarian grounds.

Alan's health continues to deteriorate. He has lost 90 pounds and has developed disc problems that have caused partial paralysis in his leg. This could become permanent if he does not have surgery. He also has developed severe pain in his hips.

Perhaps even more devastating than his own health is Alan's not being able to be with his daughter who was recently diagnosed with breast cancer. His daughter has had several surgeries and is now undergoing chemotherapy. As a father to a daughter around the same age, it absolutely breaks my heart that Alan cannot be by his daughter's side to give her the emotional support that she needs.

The United States and Cuba have had a difficult relationship for a long time. But, Alan Gross is not a politician. His work brought him to Cuba because of his passion for the country's Jewish community.

Earlier this year, I met with Judy Gross in the Capitol. She told me that Alan jumped at the chance to work in Cuba, because he loves the Cuban people and wanted them to be able