

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE
USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL
FOR THE PRESENTATION OF THE
CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL
TO THE WOMEN AIRFORCE SERV-
ICE PILOTS

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall for the presentation of the Congressional Gold Medal to the Women Airforce Service Pilots.

As Chair of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Military Personnel and Co-Chair of the Women's Caucus Task Force on Women in the Military and Veterans, I am privileged to honor these women who, almost 70 years ago, became pioneers for women's equality in the Armed Forces.

And now, on March 10, 2010, we will honor their legacy as the first female aviators in American military history with the award of the Congressional Gold Medal.

The Women Airforce Service Pilots are referred to as the WASPs.

Unlike many acronyms used in the military, this is an apt name.

Like wasps, their work demanded a unique combination of feistiness and strength, underlined by loyalty to their fellow WASPs and their country.

I am astounded by their tenacity and their bravery.

And yet, despite that dedication, these women have encountered difficulties in being recognized for their service.

This ceremony will be an illustrative example of our indebtedness to their service, and I hope all of my colleagues will join me in thanking the WASPs.

This group of unsung heroines demonstrates the courage of servicewomen in the past, the integrity with which women serve today, and the enthusiasm of the young women who dream of serving this great nation in the future.

I am therefore honored to ask for authorization for the use of Emancipation Hall for the Congressional Gold Medal ceremony.

TRIBUTE TO DIANE BERRY CAVES

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. WAMP. Madam Speaker, our nation lost an extraordinary public servant on January 12, 2010, when a catastrophic earthquake devastated the island nation of Haiti. Diane Berry Caves died tragically in Port-Au-Prince helping others in the impoverished country through her work at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Her life and her dedication to public service are an example and high standard for us all.

This remarkable young woman accomplished more in her 31 years than many people contribute in a lifetime. A devoted wife, daughter and sister, Diane dedicated her life to helping those less fortunate. Her profes-

sionalism and commitment to improving the world around her was recognized twice with outstanding service awards. In 2008, Diane was awarded the Public Administration Achievement Award from the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, one of the country's best policy schools. Last year, Diane was chosen from 6,000 other Federal workers and honored as the Atlanta Federal Executive Board Employee of the Year.

Diane grew up in the heart of my congressional district and graduated from Oak Ridge High School, where teachers remember her as an outstanding student and her classmates described her as adventurous. In addition to her work at the CDC and graduate studies at Georgia State University, Diane furthered her thirst for knowledge through book clubs and even found time to hike both the Andes Mountains and European Alps. There is no doubt, Diane's work ethic and zest for life left a lasting impression and inspired those around her.

The void she leaves in public health, outreach and volunteerism will be felt far beyond the CDC in Atlanta and her hometown of Oak Ridge, Tennessee. May Diane's family be comforted by her memory and may her extraordinary legacy serve as an example to others.

LOW-INCOME HOUSING TAX CREDIT
EXCHANGE EXPANSION AND
JOB CREATION ACT OF 2010

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Exchange Expansion and Job Creation Act of 2010," legislation combating the housing and unemployment crises.

The Low-Income Housing Tax Credit is the nation's largest and most successful affordable rental housing production program. It has financed more than two million homes since 1987 and about 120,000 annually in recent years. This program provides tax credits to developers who agree to build or rehabilitate affordable housing. It includes both "9 percent" credits, which state housing finance agencies can allocate in amounts up to a state-level ceiling, and "4 percent" credits, which are available to all developers who receive allocations of tax-exempt bonds to build rental housing.

The American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) of 2009 contained a provision that enabled the temporary exchange of unusable low-income housing credits. This exchange has enabled more than 600 affordable housing developments to proceed around the country, providing affordable homes to more than 30,000 low-income families and creating more than 35,000 jobs. The ARRA provision allowed investors to exchange low-income housing credits for grants at 85 percent of the value of the credits at virtually no cost to the federal government. Unfortunately, this provision only applied to 9 percent housing credits.

My legislation would expand this temporary credit exchange opportunity to include 4 percent credits. In 2007, prior to the financial markets crisis, states partnered with private

developers using 4 percent housing credits to create nearly 70,000 rental homes affordable to low-income working Americans and 85,000 housing-related jobs. In 2008 and 2009, the number of affordable homes and jobs produced by the 4 percent credit program fell by nearly 50 percent as capital available for investment disappeared.

I am introducing this bill because our country cannot afford to let this valuable 4 percent tax credit program fall into disuse due to the economy's downturn at a time when our country is in desperate need of more jobs and more affordable places for low-income families to live. Providing a safe and stable home gives families the critical foundation to find employment, get an education, and play an active role in their communities. Passage of this bill will allow cost effective investments leading to both more jobs and more housing for low-income working Americans and benefit our communities for years to come.

I hope that you will join me in supporting this legislation.

A TRIBUTE TO JOHN M.
HITCHCOCK

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor John M. Hitchcock, who will be retiring as Executive Director of Hillside Home for Children in March 2010.

John M. Hitchcock was born in New York, NY on April 23, 1940. He received his BA in Math and Chemistry from the University of Michigan in 1963 and his MA in Social Work from Wayne State University in 1965. John and his wife, Ida, have been married for over 40 years and reside in Pasadena. The Hitchcocks have two sons, David and Bob, and one granddaughter, Kate.

In 1971, John joined Hillside Home for Children as Assistant Director and then became Executive Director and President of Hillside Education Center in 1981. Since then, John has been responsible for the overall operation of Hillside, which encompasses the management of the 17-acre campus, the operation of three local group homes, and planning, directing and coordinating Hillside's activities.

Under Mr. Hitchcock's leadership, Hillside has become an exemplary residential treatment program for children. The Hillside Education Center continues to be an invaluable resource for the community, and the scope of programs and services provided by Hillside has expanded to serve not only abused, abandoned and neglected children but also children and families in crisis living in Los Angeles County. John helped provide residential care, community-based support, special education and transitional assistance to emancipating foster youth, and in 2006, opened a large apartment complex, which serves as a transitional living facility for 20 emancipated foster youth.

Mr. Hitchcock has served on many boards and commissions including Planned Parenthood of Pasadena, Camp Wrightwood, Coalition for a Non-Violent City, Gooden Center, and the Association of Community Human

Service Agencies, and he has served as Chair of the Episcopal Commission on Advocacy for Children and Youth. John is actively involved in the Foster Care Project at All Saints Episcopal Church, and he is a Canon in the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles.

For over 40 years, John has truly been a voice for at-risk children. His kindness, foresight, leadership and extraordinary energy have profoundly impacted the lives of the 25,000 children and their families in his care over the years. By maintaining a deep awareness of the children's current needs as well as personal knowledge of each of the residents in Hillside's care, John has created a warm, loving environment where children feel secure enough to rebuild hope for the future.

I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in honoring John M. Hitchcock for nearly 40 years of dedicated service to Hillside's Home for Children and the entire community.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is 12,409,374,679,862.09.

On January 6th, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$1,770,948,933,568.29 so far this Congress. The debt has increased \$6,347,500,206.80 since just yesterday.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT GENERAL LARRY DODGEN

HON. PARKER GRIFFITH

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American who was a good friend of mine and a good friend of north Alabama—Lieutenant General Larry Dodgen. General Dodgen passed away this past Saturday leaving a void in our Huntsville community. He was a battle tested soldier, having led his battalion into war in 1993 during Operation Desert Storm. Later in his career, he became commander of the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command (AMCOM) at Redstone Arsenal. He assumed this command on September 10, 2001, and led during a trying and transformative time in our nation's history. Following that duty, in 2003, he was tapped to command the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command headquartered at Redstone (SMDC/ARSTRAT). He was fully invested not only in the Arsenal, but also in the Huntsville community. He was a leader in the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process on Team Redstone. Following his retirement from his distinguished career in the United States

Army, he remained in the community and became the corporate lead executive of Northrop Grumman's Huntsville operations. Men such as General Dodgen are rare; he was a true servant who was fully involved both in his profession and his community. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Leslie, and his many friends and family who are mourning at this time. Next month I will join with many others to honor him as he is laid to rest among his fellow heroes at Arlington National Cemetery. We will all truly miss this great man, and are better for having had the opportunity to know him.

HONORING GLOBAL FAMILY DAY FOUNDER LINDA GROVER

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, on February 20, 2010, we lost a dedicated and tireless voice for the pursuit of peace and global sharing and cooperation, Linda Grover. I joined Ms. Grover in the founding of Global Family Day, an effort to celebrate and promote harmony within the global family every January 1st, but it was Linda whose every undertaking was in the name of Global Family Day.

Linda Grover, an author, writer, and activist, was resolute in her belief that all people, regardless of race, culture, religion, or economic status, celebrate life on earth together as one human family. It was in the promotion of this ideal, that Linda Grover and her children conceived Global Family Day, One Day of Peace and Sharing, an international holiday that would allow people around the world to engage in global fellowship.

Linda's Global Family Day initiatives were supported by the Congress and United Nations. In 2000, the 106th Congress unanimously passed S. Con. Res. 138 and in 2006, the 109th Congress unanimously passed H. Con. Res. 317 and S. Res. 582. These Congressional resolutions urged the President of the United States to issue an annual proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe Global Family Day. In 1999 and 2001, United Nations General Assembly resolutions, UNRes54/29 and UNRes56/2, were passed, recognizing a day of peace on January 1st and encouraging Member states to observe the global holiday.

This Congress, I introduced another Global Family Day resolution, H. Con. Res. 221. In this purpose, I was joined by Representative DENNIS KUCINICH and Senators HARRY REID and DANIEL INOUE. It was Linda's hope, as well as ours, that there finally be a proclamation issued by the President asking that the citizens of the United States celebrate Global Family Day, thereby resulting in the Day's widespread observance.

In advancing Linda Grover's legacy, we will continue to pursue this proclamation and recognize Global Family Day every January 1st. Just as Ms. Grover believed, I think that, despite our differences, each of us has an interest in pursuing peaceful solutions to many of our contemporary world problems. A better appreciation for one another, practiced at the start of a new year, can only lead to the eradication of human suffering that results from violence, hunger, poverty, and other social ills.

Even in the weeks right before she died, Linda worked diligently to spread the Global Family Day message. Linda said, "it's [Global Family Day] is going to improve our global attitude and give us a slightly better chance to overcome all these global crises that are demanding global solutions. Economy, Environment, Energy, Ethnic Enmity, Education, Employment, Epidemics—and those are just the ones that start with the letter E."

Linda's fight and determination to spread the message of peace and sharing through Global Family Day will be missed. However, I will work to make sure that the message is not forgotten. Linda is survived by three children, who I understand will continue their mother's work to champion Global Family Day, and I will join them in this effort. We must all understand, as Linda did, that by working together as one global family, we can better meet the challenges humanity will face in the years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN BARROW

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. BARROW. Madam Speaker. I was unable to be present for votes on Monday, February 22, 2010. Had I been present I would have voted "yes" on Rollcall Vote No. 49 and Rollcall Vote No. 50.

NEXT GENERATION CHOICES FOUNDATION: WORKING TO LESSEN CANCER

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, like so many Americans, my family and I have been touched by cancer. I have worked over the years in Congress as a member of the Congressional Cancer Caucus as well as my service on the Appropriations Committee to support measures to help fight cancer, including historic increases in research funding for the National Institutes of Health, NIH. I have always believed that ensuring adequate funding for medical research on diseases such as cancer is an important priority for the federal government.

There is another important component in the fight against cancer being lead today, Madam Speaker, by Bill Couzens, one of my constituents from Middleburg, Virginia. He heads a grassroots nonprofit organization—the Next Generation Choices Foundation—that he founded over 6 years ago, to build awareness for cancer prevention by reducing environmental exposures both known and suspected to be linked with cancer. After the loss of his sister Anne, mother Joan and several close friends, he felt the need to create an organization that would focus on the root causes of the worldwide cancer epidemic and increase awareness on ways to reduce exposures and choices linked with human health and the environment. He says he learned that there are healthy choices that can be made by individuals and communities to work toward a world