

TEEN DATING VIOLENCE
AWARENESS MONTH

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 25, 2010

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I ask that we take the time to recognize the importance of Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. This is an increasingly critical issue that has a devastating effect on our schools, families, and most importantly the victims of this horrifying crime.

The fact is that teens are at a higher risk than adults—half of reported date rapes occur among teenagers. Every year, nearly 1.5 million high school students experience physical abuse from a dating partner.

This violence against another human being breaks our hearts and should never be tolerated.

We took an important step to help these victims with the passage of my Amendment 20 to H.R. 2847, which provided funding to the Supporting Teens through Education and Protection (STEP) program to help schools combat sexual harassment.

Every young person deserves relationships based on respect, and Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month is a time to draw needed attention to this important issue. By educating our youth about the importance of safe and healthy relationships, raising awareness among those who care for them, and supporting the community services that aid victims, we can help to prevent this tragic cycle of abuse.

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES AND
CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
CHARLYE OLA FARRIS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 25, 2010

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Charlye Ola Farris who passed away on February 18, 2010, and was the first African-American to serve as a Southern judge in any capacity since Reconstruction.

Charlye Farris was born in Wichita Falls, Texas. Her father, a bastion in his own right, was the first African-American school superintendent in Texas, and her mother served as an elementary school teacher for 49 years. She graduated as the valedictorian from Booker T. Washington High School in 1945 at the age of 15 and went on to complete a bachelor of arts degree in political science from Prairie View A&M College.

After spending a year teaching school, Mrs. Farris decided to pursue her dreams of obtaining a law degree. At the time, it was almost impossible for an African-American woman to gain admittance to a law school, but through hard work and determination she was accepted to the University of Denver. After her first year, she transferred to Howard University in Washington, DC, and graduated in 1953. Shortly thereafter, Mrs. Farris returned to Texas to take the Bar exam, and after passing, she was sworn in, making her the first Af-

rican-American woman to be licensed to practice law in Texas.

Mrs. Farris did not spend long celebrating, and after moving back to Wichita Falls, she took up practice in an office near the railroad tracks on the city's east side. She endured countless civil rights atrocities that would shock most people today but to her were very real. With great perseverance, she established a reputation for herself, and on July 7, 1954, members of the Wichita County Bar Association elected her to serve as Special Wichita County Judge. This made her the first African-American to serve as a judge in any capacity in the South since Reconstruction.

Mrs. Farris continued her career as a solo practitioner until she closed her office in January 2010. As a woman of faith, she was active in her church until her death and was involved in countless organizations from the local to the national level. Her life included many firsts, and she will be truly missed.

Madam Speaker, the work of Charlye Farris will truly echo through the generations as so many women and minorities have benefitted from her famous first steps. I ask my fellow colleagues today to join me in recognizing her many achievements and celebrating a life that has had such a positive impact on society.

HONORING WALTER GAMEWELL
WATSON

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 25, 2010

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the 100th birthday of Walter Gamewell Watson. Dr. Watson, known as "Curly" to his friends, is said to be the oldest known working physician in the United States. I, along with the communities of both North Augusta, South Carolina, and Augusta, Georgia, am taking this opportunity to celebrate both his life and his faithful, compassionate service to his fellow man.

Dr. Watson was born in 1910 in the small agricultural community of Ridge Spring, South Carolina. His father was a farmer and postmaster of the local post office. Dr. Watson's mother was a schoolteacher. He grew up milking cows and plowing fields. Like many of his peers, he studied agriculture, and it was his good fortune to actually study under the late senior South Carolina Senator, Strom Thurmond, who was a teacher at the time.

After high school, Walter Watson attended the Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina, where he played football and excelled academically. Upon finishing college, he returned to Edgefield County, and for 5 years, he served as both the principal and football coach at Edgefield County High School and later went to work in the school system of Bainbridge, Georgia.

While working in the educational field, Walter Watson saved money for medical school. He eventually attended the Medical College of Georgia and graduated in 1943. He did his internship and residency at the University Hospital and was board certified in Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Dr. Watson served in the Army as an Army physician from 1945 to 1947. After being dis-

charged from the Army, he returned home to join the medical practice established by the late J.W. Thurmond, M.D.

For more than 60 years, Dr. Watson has practiced at the University Hospital in Augusta, Georgia. He has delivered an estimated 15,000 babies. His reputation of excellence at the hospital and his care and concern for his patients has been so notable that a wing of the hospital was named after him. The W.G. Watson, M.D., Women's Center was dedicated in 1999.

Other notable achievements include his marriage to Audrey, and their four daughters and one son. Dr. Watson is also the oldest living graduate of the Citadel.

Today, I celebrate Dr. Watson's birthday as well as his longtime service to his community, his State and his Nation. God bless you, Dr. Watson.

COMMEMORATING TAIWAN'S 2-28
INCIDENT

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 25, 2010

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to observe the 63rd commemoration this coming Sunday of Taiwan's "2-28 Incident." The Incident was an antigovernment uprising in Taiwan that began on February 28, 1947, and was violently suppressed during the following weeks by soldiers that had been sent from China by Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek. Estimates of the number of deaths vary from 10,000 to 30,000.

In the fall of 1945, 50 years of Japanese occupation of Taiwan ended after Japan had lost World War II. In October of that year Taiwan was returned to the Republic of China (ROC).

Due to the mounting corruption and the implementation of unfair public policy and official practices on the indigenous population, tension increased between the Taiwanese people and the ROC administration. According to Ambassador John L. Stuart, "the economic deterioration of the island and administration of the mainland officials became so bad that on February 28th, 1947, popular resentment erupted into a major rebellion." The flashpoint came on the evening of February 27, 1947, when in Taipei a dispute between a female cigarette vendor and certain armed Monopoly Bureau agents and special police agents triggered civil disorder and open rebellion that lasted for days.

The Incident is now openly discussed and commemorated as Peace Memorial Day. The details of the Incident have become the subject of investigation. Monuments and memorial parks to the Incident victims have been erected in a number of cities in Taiwan.

Madam Speaker, the Incident had far-reaching implications. Over the next half century, the Taiwanese democracy movement that grew out of the Incident helped pave the way for Taiwan's momentous transformation to a thriving and pluralistic democracy. Nowadays Taiwan has demonstrated the strength of its democracy by succeeding in peaceful handovers of power. I am confident that Taiwan will continue to make contributions to the development of democracy in the region.

Madam Speaker, I hope Members will join me in commemorating this important historical event.

TRIBUTE TO THE UNI-CAPITOL
WASHINGTON INTERNSHIP PRO-
GRAMME

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 25, 2010

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a unique international exchange program, one in which the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure has participated since its inception 11 years ago.

The Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Programme (UCWIP) matches a dozen of Australia's best university students to Congressional offices for 2-month, full-time internships each January and February. The program is nonpartisan, bicameral, and focuses on connecting people for lasting education and mutual understanding. It is a true exchange that regards its participants as young professionals looking to enter the working world with a head start of sophistication, personal growth, and international sensibilities.

The Australian interns bring a hunger for knowledge and a passion to understand our national legislature from the inside out. They provide valuable perspectives on the public policy issues and challenges that they face in their own country. They leave with an unfettered knowledge of Congress and the individuals who serve the American public.

I've been a proud host of an astounding quintet of Australia's finest student interns: Narelle Hards from Flinders University in Adelaide, South Australia, in 2000; Louise Squire from the University of Western Australia in Perth in 2004; Lauren Reed from Deakin University, in the Melbourne metropolitan area of Victoria, in 2005; Michael Ng from the University of Melbourne, in 2007; and this year, Clara Jordan-Baird, of the University of Melbourne.

Each has brought with them knowledge of and passion for transportation. I recall vividly, for example, how Lauren Reed briefed Committee staff about her home state of Victoria and its compelling anti-drunk driving campaign. Narelle, Louise, Lauren, Michael, and Clara have each contributed broadly and directly to United States-Australia relations thanks to their insights, observation, and helping hands as our Committee workload demanded.

I know that many offices on both sides of the aisle have enjoyed similar experiences with these young Australians. And I know that the Australians have taken home with them a deep sense of reality about the United States so often impeded by what Australians refer to as the "Tyranny of Distance," the physical geographic distance between our two great nations. Despite all of today's technological wonders—from air travel to Facebook—there is still no substitute for a handshake and warm welcome.

For this program we have to thank a long-time former congressional staffer, Eric K. Federing. Eric served as the Committee's communications director in the mid-1990s. During his personal travels to Australia, Eric discovered what he perceived to be a small, but important, gap in Australia-American relationships and he designed this program to help fill it.

Madam Speaker, we should encourage these types of international exchanges. The

more that we can arrange for the finest students and young professionals from around the world to spend some meaningful time among us, the better that we will understand them and they will understand us.

Both the U.S. and Australian governments have been supportive of UCWIP. Many other statements have appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD over the years and there have been two speeches in the Australian Parliament in recognition of the program. I have been a very proud participant and look forward to being one for many years to come.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE GENERAL
OMAR NELSON BRADLEY

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 25, 2010

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the late General Omar Nelson Bradley, hero of World War II, America's last surviving five-star General, first Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and a proud son of Randolph County in the heart of Missouri's 9th Congressional District. It will be my honor and privilege to participate in the celebration and observance of "General Omar Bradley Day" in Moberly, Missouri on Friday, February 12, 2010, the General's birthday. An event to commemorate Moberly's favorite son will be held at the Moberly High School and a reproduction of the portrait of General Bradley, which is in the Bradley corridor at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., will be unveiled and will hang in the foyer of the Moberly High School auditorium, on the south end of the school campus.

I would like to recognize the members of the General Omar Nelson Bradley Library and Museum Committee for arranging Friday's celebration and for their tireless efforts to promote awareness of General Bradley's special connection to Moberly. The members of the committee are Chair Sam Richardson, City Councilman Dick Boots, City Manager Andy Morris, Russ Freed, Wayne Wilcox, Joe Knaebel, Howard Hils, and Mary Lee Noel.

I would also like to enter an excerpt from the following article, "General Bradley Day Here Friday" into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. This item appeared in the Monday, February 8, 2010 edition of the Moberly Monitor-Index.

GENERAL BRADLEY DAY HERE FRIDAY

General of the Armies Bradley was born in rural Randolph County near Clark, on February 12, 1893. He moved to Moberly at age nine and graduated from Moberly High School in 1911. As Moberly High School's most distinguished alum, General Bradley went on to become a member of the United States Military Academy class in 1915 and was one of its most outstanding scholars, as well as a football and baseball star.

He commanded the largest American army ever assembled, during the invasion of Europe in 1944, led the Veterans Administration after World War II, was named Army chief of staff in 1948 and in 1949 was promoted by President Harry Truman to first chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He served two terms as chairman of the Joint Chiefs. Bradley was the youngest and last of nine American military officers to earn the coveted fifth star.

After retirement from active duty, General Bradley was chairman and chief executive officer for the Bulova Watch Corp. Under his leadership, Bulova developed the Accutron watch, which was first developed for America's military and fledgling space program.

Bradley died in New York City on April 8, 1981. He had participated in the inauguration of his friend, President Ronald W. Reagan, in Washington in late January 1981. Among those at his state funeral at Arlington National Cemetery was longtime friend and internationally acclaimed comedian Bob Hope. An avid golfer and fan of horse racing, and lifetime fan of baseball and college football, Bradley lived his final years in special quarters built for him at Fort Bliss, near El Paso, Texas. Both the Sun Bowl at El Paso and the Independence Bowl at Shreveport honored Gen. Bradley during his lifetime and in the years since his death.

The event at Moberly High School Friday is sponsored by the General Omar Nelson Bradley Library and Museum Committee, a citizen panel organized by the Moberly City Council last year to bring recognition to the community's favorite son.

In an October 1966 letter to former Moberly Mayor Will Ben Sims, General Bradley—a man known for his humility and modesty—wrote that he accepted the fact he was Moberly's "favorite son" and that he and Mrs. Kitty Bradley viewed Moberly as their most favorite city in the whole world.

He was an honorary member of the Moberly Country Club and Moberly Rotary Club and longtime member of the Central Christian Church, where he grew up.

IN HONOR OF AGNES TEBO

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 25, 2010

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a great American, Mrs. Agnes Tebo for a lifetime of public service and civil rights activism. This coming Saturday, the Monterey County Branch of the NAACP will honor Mrs. Tebo with its President's award. I will have the great pleasure of attending this ceremony and in conveying to her the gratitude and best wishes of the House. I am particularly excited because I have been privileged for many years to count myself among her friends. Indeed, she has been a great role model and inspiration to several generations of public servants from Monterey County. And that remains true today; at 95 Agnes Tebo is truly one of our nation's great treasures.

Born October 25, 1914, in Port Arthur, Texas, Agnes Dronet grew up in a world dominated by Jim Crow's pervasive injustice. As a child, she remembers learning to live with the separate schools, restaurants, and other humiliations that so dominated the daily lives of Port Arthur's African American citizens. More ominously, Agnes can remember the climate of fear created by the Klu Klux Klan through murders, cross burnings, and other terrorist acts. She recently told a reporter that "we had to walk a straight line or we knew we'd end up dead. The people who did it would brag about it, and nobody would do anything about it. The law wasn't enforced. As a child, I just accepted it. I just thought that's how life was." But that did not mean that Agnes thought it was right. In 1937, at the age of 23, Agnes found her way to Salinas, California, after a childhood spent working to help her single mother