

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNITION OF THE OHIO STATE SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND MARCHING BAND ON MARCHING IN THE 2010 TOURNAMENT OF ROSES PARADE

HON. MARY JO KILROY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 2010

Ms. KILROY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Ohio State School for the Blind Marching Band, who in January 2010, became the first blind marching band in the nation to march in the Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, California. Thirty-five talented and inspirational blind students, accompanied by their sighted marching assistants, demonstrated their unique abilities by marching alongside some of the nation's top marching bands.

Located in Columbus, the publicly-funded Ohio State School for the Blind offers academic, vocational, and extra-curricular opportunities to its students. The school is committed to developing their students' potential by partnering with the community to ensure that their students' educational experience is both effective and enjoyable.

The Ohio State School for the Blind has the only fully blind marching band in the nation. Before joining the Tournament of Roses Parade, the marching band performed at the Ohio School for the Deaf football games and other local events. This unique marching band was formed in 2005 and the members were thrilled to discover in October 2008 that their application to march in the Tournament of Roses Parade had been approved.

January 1, 2010, was an exciting day for central Ohio. In addition to celebrating the victory of The Ohio State Buckeyes over the University of Oregon Ducks, I was proud to see the young people of the Ohio State School for the Blind Marching Band represent our district with such passion and skill. The marching band completed the full parade route of almost six miles and participated in the halftime show, wowing the crowds with their signature performance of Script Ohio in Braille.

The Ohio School for the Blind provides an immeasurable service to our blind children and their families. Their marching band's recent trip to California is an excellent example of one of the many achievements these dedicated and talented students have attained. It is with great pride that I honor the Ohio State School for the Blind and congratulate its stellar Marching Band on such a remarkable achievement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 2010

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on March 11, 2010, I was unavoidably detained and was

unable to record my vote for rollcall Nos. 92–94. Had I been present I would have voted: rollcall 103: “yes”—On Agreeing to Article II of the Resolution; and rollcall 104: “yes”—On Agreeing to Article III of the Resolution.

RECOGNITION OF THE SHAMROCK CLUB AND THE IRISH COMMUNITY OF CENTRAL OHIO

HON. MARY JO KILROY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 2010

Ms. KILROY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of The Shamrock Club of Columbus and its president Francis Doyle for their efforts to share and celebrate the historical, cultural, and social contributions of Irish-Americans. The Shamrock Club of Columbus is a non-profit social organization that hosts events throughout the year and builds lasting friendships between Columbus residents.

On March 17, 2010, The Shamrock Club will join other members of our nation's Irish community in celebrating Saint Patrick's Day. Each year, The Shamrock Club celebrates the Feast of Saint Patrick with a procession, a mass, a parade, and the annual Irish Family Reunion. Since 1936, this group has organized and sponsored the traditional St. Patrick's Day Parade, which has become a beloved tradition for families throughout Columbus area.

The Shamrock Club benefits from the leadership of President Francis Doyle, a man whose dedication to the Irish community of Columbus has made him an influential member of the group since he first joined over 40 years ago. Before being named president, Francis helped to organize the annual Irish Family Reunion, which brings together Irish families and supporters for an afternoon of activities and celebration. Francis has proven to be an energetic and intelligent president, and under his leadership The Shamrock Club has grown to almost 2,500 members.

The members of The Shamrock Club and Irish-Americans throughout central Ohio have contributed greatly to the social and cultural development of our community. I am proud to honor Francis Doyle, The Shamrock Club of Columbus, and the large and vibrant Irish community in central Ohio as they join together to celebrate Irish heritage.

AFGHANISTAN WAR POWERS RESOLUTION

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 10, 2010

Mr. CAPUANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the resolution introduced by my colleague, Rep. DENNIS KUCINICH, with

the aim of bringing an end to the U.S. troop commitment in Afghanistan. I am a cosponsor of this resolution because, while not perfect, I believe it initiates a debate that is long overdue in Congress: what is our military strategy in Afghanistan and what future mission or missions are planned for our troops there? How long are they to be deployed and what are they being asked to accomplish? Do we also have a coherent diplomatic strategy for South Asia, involving not just Afghanistan but both Pakistan and India?

For some time now, I have advocated the development of a U.S. exit strategy for Afghanistan. I voted to authorize use of force in 2001 against those responsible for the September 11 attacks. President Bush rightly determined that the Taliban regime in Afghanistan was providing shelter and material support to al-Qaeda, and he sent U.S. forces to Afghanistan to root out the terrorists. But the terrorists have now been largely driven from Afghanistan, and yet, President Obama seeks to increase our troop deployment to over 100,000 men and women in uniform. Given the statement from General Jim Jones last fall that there are currently fewer than 100 al-Qaeda members in Afghanistan, I have to question why a troop build up is necessary if our goal is to pursue the terrorists. In fact, I think all of my colleagues should question this.

It may not be realistic to withdraw all of our troops by year's end, and I believe we should retain the ability to take limited military action in concert with the Government of Afghanistan in certain circumstances. However, the time to change course and start concluding this war is now. We must plan for the orderly redeployment of troops and rethink our approach to fighting terrorism globally.

I thank my colleague for introducing this resolution and encouraging a fresh look at U.S. military policy. I know that we will continue to raise this issue until it has registered at the highest levels and we are able to bring our men and women in uniform home.

HONORING GLADYS FLAMER

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 2010

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Gladys Flamer, a Coatesville, Pennsylvania resident whose tremendous dedication to her community and church and participation in local politics have earned her the Fourth Annual Rebecca Lukens Award.

At 103 years old, Gladys maintains an incredible work ethic that she developed at her father's side helping with farm chores and polishing silver with other employees at the estate of Lukens Steel President Robert Wolcott. After holding jobs as a licensed practical nurse and owning her own beauty salon, Gladys retired from her jobs as a sales associate at Strawbridge and Clothier at age 90.

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

She still bakes homemade pies and serves lunch to the Thursday Retired Men's Club in Coatesville.

Gladys has worked equally hard to help improve the Coatesville community. She is a member of the Coatesville Historical Commission, The Eastern Stars, The Better Community Group, and the Coatesville Senior Center. She also served as a Judge of Elections in Coatesville's Fifth Ward and as President and Treasurer of the Hyacinth Federated Club. As a member of the Historical Hutchinson Memorial UAME Church, Gladys has been a member of the Senior Usher Board for more than 84 years, serving 17 years as President.

The Graystone Society, located in the Lukens National Historic District of Coatesville, will present the Rebeca Lukens award during a reception March 18, 2010 in the Lukens Executive Office Building.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Gladys Flamer for her long-standing civic involvement and tireless work in helping others. She is an inspiration to all.

HONORING MEMBERS OF HUNTINGTON HIGH SCHOOL FASHION PROGRAM FOR THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, a group of impressive students from the Huntington High School Fashion Program joined First Lady Michelle Obama for a historic occasion, the donation of her Inauguration gown to the Smithsonian's First Ladies Collection.

These students impressed and inspired the First Lady a year ago when their teachers challenged them to design an Inauguration gown fit for the new First Lady. They studied both Michelle Obama and the work of other designers. They then sent a book of their designs to the First Lady.

More than a year later, the First Lady remembered that project and it when it was time to arrange for her Smithsonian ceremony she asked the Huntington High School students to join her in Washington, DC for the special event.

Madam Speaker, all of Long Island couldn't be more proud of the work of the Huntington High School students.

We are equally proud of their teachers who challenged them with this creative project. These teachers thought big. They thought outside the box. And they along with their students are being rightfully rewarded with this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

Madam Speaker, I thank First Lady Michelle Obama for her thoughtful inclusion of the Huntington High School Fashion Program in this ceremony and I commend Huntington High School's students, teachers, parents and administrators whose great efforts led to this special recognition.

IN RECOGNITION OF PAUL
MCHUGH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Paul McHugh as he is named the recipient of the 2010 James P. Sweeney Founder Award by the Retired Irish Police Society of Cleveland, Ohio.

Mr. McHugh began his service as a police officer in 1965 as a member of the Cleveland Motorcycle Unit. His twenty-seven-year tenure was framed by integrity, loyalty and bravery. He risked his life on numerous occasions to protect his colleagues and the citizens of Cleveland. His acts of courage did not go unrecognized. In 1967, Mr. McHugh was awarded the Meritorious Award for an act of heroism by the Cleveland Police Department. While assigned to the First District Detective Bureau, Mr. McHugh's sharp and persistent investigative efforts led to the dismantling of a massive burglary ring, for which he was recognized as the "City of Cleveland Police Officer of the Month."

After his retirement from the Police Department in 1992, he volunteered as a leader and member of many local police and charitable organizations including the Police and Fire Holy Name Society, where he currently serves as Treasurer, the Saint Patrick West Park Hunger Center, the American Legion and AmVets, and the Holy Family Cancer Home.

Mr. McHugh has a life-long connection to his Irish heritage. He grew up as one of twelve children on Cleveland's west side. He is extremely active in Cleveland's Irish-American community. For the past twelve years he has served as Treasurer for the Retired Irish Police. Mr. McHugh is also a member of the West Side Irish American Club, serves on the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee, and served as the Past President of the Mayo Society of Greater Cleveland. Above all his civic engagements, Mr. McHugh is a dedicated family man. Together, he and his wife, Marie raised their children, Colleen and Allan. Mr. and Mrs. McHugh remain active in the lives of their children and four grandsons.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Paul McHugh, whose exemplary service on behalf of our community is an inspiration and example for all of us. His dedication to helping others continues to enhance and strengthen our entire community, and we are grateful for his efforts.

HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS AND HYPOXIA RESEARCH AND CONTROL AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. ALLEN BOYD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 12, 2010

Mr. BOYD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3650, the Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia Research and Control Amendments Act. I represent North Florida along the coast line of the Gulf of Mexico. My district has some of the most beautiful and cleanest beaches in the

Nation, as well as a strong fishing and oyster industry. This coastline is pristine and much of it is undeveloped. Every time the Algal Blooms near our coastline, our local economy and environment come under threat.

Algal blooms have a significant impact on our seafood industry. In particular, the blooms directly affect the filter-feeders. Oysters and scallops are a significant economic engine to many of the small towns along the Gulf coastline. When the 2005 algal bloom incident occurred, many folks in my district lost a significant amount of their income because of the toxins that result from algal blooms. In fact, the Apalachicola Bay was closed for over 50 percent of the season, resulting in loss of seafood harvest, cancelled tourist reservations, regional defamation and illness that exceeded millions.

Algal blooms also have a significant impact on Florida's tourism industry. The effects of the toxins can lead to respiratory and eye problems in people who are exposed. When algal blooms take over, tourists can not enjoy the wildlife and ecosystems they came to experience and this has a clear and disastrous impact on our State's \$53 billion tourism industry.

In conclusion, the welfare of our coastal communities, seafood production, and health in the Apalachicola Bay, and all along the Florida coast, remains at risk due to algal blooms. This situation must have more attention and science devoted to protect our economy and job, as well as the environment and public health. I support H.R. 3650 and will continue to do my part to help develop responsible and more effective methods to stop algal blooms.

IN HONOR OF ANGELO PETITTI

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Angelo Petitti upon his recognition as the recipient of the St. Malachi Center's 2010 Sister Michael Marie Griffin Anchor Award, which will be presented to him at the St. Malachi Center's Tenth Annual Soup for the Soul Benefit.

Mr. Petitti emigrated from Faeto, Italy in 1963 when he was just 16 years old. He studied political science at Kent State University and worked as a landscaper. He left Kent State to pursue his true passion: landscape design. He moved to Florida and founded his own landscape business, but eventually moved the business back to Ohio to form Petitti Landscape Company with his brother Dominic.

Working out of a small garage, the Petitti brothers were soon inundated with requests from passersby who saw the shrubs that lined the driveway. Over the past forty years, Mr. Petitti has become one of the most successful garden center owners in Ohio. He can be heard on his weekly radio show, "In the Garden with Angelo," and is regularly seen out in the community, lending his time to help raise funds for numerous local charitable organizations.

Above all, Mr. Petitti is devoted to his family. His wife, Maria, also emigrated from the same