

Bar in 1973, the Bar of England and Wales in 1981, the Bar of Northern Ireland in 1983, and the Inner Bar of Ireland in 1986. Justice Kelly was appointed Judge of the High Court in 1996 and has led the Commercial Division of the High Court since its inception in 2004.

In addition to conducting a successful legal career, Justice Kelly is active in the community. He volunteers for several organizations and is a leader on numerous boards. He is the Director of the Dublin Choral Foundation and serves as Chair of the Commercial Law Centre in Dublin.

Justice Kelly comes to Cleveland on the occasion of our annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration. For thirty-one years, attorneys Tim Collins and Thomas Scanlon have organized Cleveland's St. Patrick's Day Party and Parade. This joyous event promotes and preserves the rich traditions of the Irish homeland. On March 17, our downtown streets will spring to life as a sea of green and the spirited sound of drums and bagpipes wind their way along Euclid Avenue.

Madam Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Justice Peter Kelly as we welcome him to Cleveland on St. Patrick's Day. Please also join me in recognition of Tim Collins and Thomas Scanlon for organizing the St. Patrick's Day Celebration.

"Ni dheanfaidh smaoineamh an treabhadh duit—You'll never plough a field by turning it over in your mind"—Old Irish Proverb.

A TRIBUTE TO JOHN MAUDLIN

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 16, 2010

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and pay tribute to a fine American, John Maudlin, on an occasion when he and his business have received a prestigious honor: the International Circle of Excellence Award for 2009.

The Circle of Excellence, which is awarded by the International dealer organization of Navistar, Inc., honors International truck dealerships that achieve the highest level of dealer performance with respect to operating and financial standards, market representation, and most importantly, customer satisfaction. It is the highest honor a dealer principal can receive from the company. Under John's leadership, Maudlin International Trucks has grown into one of the preeminent truck dealerships in the Southeast and the entire nation, with 153 employees and five dealer locations in Orlando, Ocala, Jacksonville, Daytona Beach and Palm Bay. In 2007, the dealership also opened two parts and service locations. With this most recent award, Maudlin International has now received the Circle of Excellence Award a total of nine times.

John has achieved this level of accomplishment and recognition through many years of hard work and service to his industry and community. He serves the International dealer network as a member of its Sales, Marketing and Finance Dealer Advisory Board. He is a strong supporter of the Metro Orlando economy through not only his International dealership, but also his successful truck leasing business, Ideal Lease of Orlando. That leasing

business is a multi-year winner of the Ideal Gold Award for Excellence. Maudlin International Trucks is also very active in service to the community, staging the holiday party for the kids at the Arnold Palmer Children's Hospital, and engaging in annual adopt-a-family programs with the Orlando Rescue Mission and the Seminole Party Fire Department. John is also a strong supporter of the First Presbyterian Church of Orlando—as well as a die-hard University of Alabama football fan.

Through his commitment to hard work and outstanding customer service, he has built an economically vital business of which he can be justly proud. Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join with me in congratulating John Maudlin for his record of accomplishment and for his many contributions to his community, State and Nation.

HONORING MR. RON STARK

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 16, 2010

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Ron Stark of Middletown, New Jersey. Mr. Stark will be honored as the "2010 Irishman of the Year" by the Monmouth County, New Jersey Division, 2nd Division, of the Ancient Order of Hibernians. This prestigious honor is well-deserved in light of his tremendous contributions to the organization's continued efforts to preserve Irish culture in the United States. The Ancient Order of Hibernians works tirelessly to connect those individuals of Irish origin who are generations removed from their ancestral homeland to Ireland.

As a member of Division 2 of the Ancient Order of Hibernians for the past twenty years, Mr. Stark has been actively involved in preserving Irish music through his participation in various bagpiping competitions. Mr. Stark began playing the bagpipe in 1997 and has competed as a Grade 4 Senior Soloist, and with a Grade 5 band which won 4th place in a 2001 competition. This achievement helped the band receive a Grade 4 upgrade from the Eastern United States Pipe Band Association. Mr. Stark has piped with fellow AOH members at various Hibernian functions over the years, and is now involved with a group of dedicated AOH members who are looking to form a Division 2 Bagpipe band. His achievements as a successful bagpiper serve to further preserve the Irish heritage in our culturally diverse state and nation.

Mr. Stark has also made great strides in bringing our Irish-American citizens closer to their ancestral homeland. During a 2004 trip to Ireland, he played the bagpipe during the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Galway City with his sons, Daniel and Liam, and met with extended family members who still live on the same land where his grandfather was born. His attempts to remain connected to his ancestral homeland help to foster American-Irish cooperation, and will help preserve the presence of Irish culture in the United States, which is important to millions of Irish-American citizens.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in congratulating Mr. Stark for his reception of the "2010 Irishman of the Year" recognition, and also for his lead-

ership and service to the Irish-American community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 16, 2010

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, unfortunately last night I was unable to cast my votes on H. Res. 1145, H. Res. 1170, H. Res. 1163 and H. Res. 67. I was speaking at Mahomet-Seymour High School Bulldog Pride Night at Mahomet-Seymour High School and I was unable to arrive in Washington, DC to cast my votes.

Had I been present on Roll Call #112 on suspending the rules and passing H. Res. 1145, Recognizing the University of Arizona's 125 years of dedication to excellence in higher education, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present on Roll Call #113 on suspending the rules and passing H. Res. 1170, Congratulating the winners of the Voice of Democracy national scholarship program, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present on Roll Call #114 on suspending the rules and passing H. Res. 1163, Recognizing Washington State University Honors College for 50 years of excellence, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present on Roll Call #115 on suspending the rules and passing H. Res. 267, Recognizing the cultural and historical significance of Nowruz, expressing appreciation to Iranian-Americans for their contributions to society, and wishing Iranian-Americans and the people of Iran a prosperous new year, I would have voted "aye."

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION OF THE SCULPTURE OF HUNGARIAN STATESMAN LAJOS KOSSUTH, IN THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 16, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker and Colleagues, I rise today in honor and recognition of the 20th Anniversary of the ceremonial placing of the sculpture of Hungarian Statesman Lajos Kossuth, which occurred on March 15, 1990, in the United States Capitol Rotunda.

Lajos Kossuth is known as the Father of Hungarian Democracy. A lawyer and political columnist who was popular for his criticism of the government, he was imprisoned for his writings between 1837 and 1840. After his release, he worked to empower citizens and was a key leader during the 1848 Hungarian Revolution. Mr. Kossuth's activism on behalf of the people of Hungary resulted in the passage of the 'March Laws' that eradicated the privileges of nobles, freed the peasants, and established a legislature.

The 1990 dedication was made possible by legislation sponsored by my dear friend and colleague, the late Congressman Tom Lantos

of California. The dedication was attended by Interim President of the Republic of Hungary, Mr. Matyas Szuros, former House Speaker Thomas S. Foley, Secretary of Labor, Elizabeth Dole, Senate Republican Leader Robert Dole, Deputy Secretary of State of Lawrence Eagleburger, and several U.S. Representatives and Senators.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, I am honored to commemorate the life of Freedom Fighter and Hungarian statesman, Lajos Kossuth, in collaboration with the Ambassador of the Republic of Hungary, Bela Szombati, Majority Leader STENY H. HOYER, and Mrs. Annette Lantos, Chairwoman of the Lantos Foundation for Human Rights and Justice. Mr. Kossuth, a man of courage and conviction, paved a path to freedom in Hungary. His life and works will forever live as a testament to the power of commitment to freedom.

"The time draws near, when a radical change must take place for the whole world in the management of diplomacy"—Lajos Kossuth.

AFGHANISTAN WAR POWERS RESOLUTION

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 10, 2010

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this resolution.

As a proud veteran of the United States Army, I have always worked to serve our men and women in uniform, our veterans, military families and their communities. In the U.S. House, I have the honor of representing Fort Bragg and Pope Air Force Base.

I recently traveled to Afghanistan to visit our troops and get a firsthand view of the situation on the ground. I met with 82nd Airborne troops as well as those from the North Carolina National Guard. They are doing a great job under the most trying of circumstances, and they make us all proud.

After the end of the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, the United States simply walked away from a failed state. We know the impact that that decision has had on our history. We cannot simply walk away again. We must empower the Afghan army, security forces and the Afghan people themselves to tend to their security needs and build functioning civil institutions. We must not allow the Taliban to return to power in Afghanistan and once again use that country to become a staging ground for Al Qaeda terrorists targeting America and our allies. And we must stabilize this fragile region that includes the nuclear armed republic in next door Pakistan. These are daunting challenges, but our military men and women and their civilian counterparts are making progress and deserve our support.

Mr. Speaker, we should give our troops all of the resources they need, and make sure that we keep them in our prayers and appreciation. I am sure that my colleagues will join me in expressing our thanks. I thank first and foremost the Americans serving in Afghanistan. I thank their families for their tremendous sacrifice at home. I thank our allies, who would be left with an overwhelming task should we neglect our national commitments

and suddenly depart. I thank the vast majority of the Afghanis, who are working with us for their own futures in a functioning state. It is for their efforts, and all of their reasons for continuing to work tomorrow, that we should reject this resolution.

I urge my colleagues to join me in support of our troops and in opposition to this resolution.

HONORING THE LIFE OF K.D. KILPATRICK

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 16, 2010

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and achievements of Mr. K.D. Kilpatrick, who passed away on March 14, 2010.

Among his impressive list of endeavors, Mr. Kilpatrick was a prominent businessman and former state senator. He was the retired co-owner of Kilpatrick Funeral Homes, Inc., Central American Life Insurance Company, Inc., and Ashley Life Insurance Company.

He will surely be remembered by all as a loving husband and father, a successful businessman and an important part of the North Louisiana community. His legacy will continue to thrive in those who he leaves behind.

Mr. Kilpatrick was a friend to many, and deemed a gracious and hardworking person by all who knew him. I wish to express my deepest condolences to his family, and may God continue to bless the memory of a man who will truly be missed by his family, his friends and his community.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the late K.D. Kilpatrick, a true representative of the spirit of North Louisiana.

HONORING SERGEANT GUSTAVO RODRIGUEZ

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 16, 2010

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Army Staff Sergeant Gustavo Rodriguez for his exceptional service to the United States Army, his fellow medics, and corpsmen.

A native of Harford County, Sergeant Rodriguez was inspired by his father, a Vietnam veteran, to join the military and become a combat medic. His 15 years of service include three tours to Iraq and the receipt of the Bronze Star.

Sergeant Rodriguez, nicknamed Doc by his fellow soldiers, provides exceptional medical care and serves as a mentor and comrade to his colleagues. For his dedication and stellar commitment to the service, the Armed Services YMCA will award Sergeant Rodriguez with the Angels of the Battlefield Award. His bravery and honorable service saves lives each and everyday on the battlefield.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Army Staff Sergeant Gustavo Rodriguez. His tremendous contributions to the United States military do not go unnoticed.

IN RECOGNITION OF WADLEY TOWN COUNCIL DECLARING ZULA BATTLE DAY TO COMMEMORATE HER 108TH BIRTHDAY

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 16, 2010

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I would like to request the House's attention today to pay recognition to Ms. Zula Battle who is celebrating her 108th birthday on March 22. The Wadley Town Council in Randolph County has helped highlight this special occasion by declaring March 22 as Zula Battle Day. According to Mayor Jim Dabbs, Ms. Battle has had more birthdays than the town itself.

On March 19, Ms. Battle is planning to celebrate her birthday at the home of Tom Radney. Many local residents close to Ms. Battle are planning to be in attendance, and the invitation is open to everyone in town.

Ms. Battle's 108th birthday is such a remarkable event that deserves all the praise given. I wish Ms. Battle a very happy birthday, and a wonderful Zula Battle day.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ELECTRICITY CONSUMERS' RIGHT TO KNOW ACT

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 16, 2010

Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, information is the ultimate tool for empowering consumers. The more people know about the things they buy, the better able they are to match their needs and budget to the appropriate product and quantity of that product. This principle has been applied to help consumers make more fully-informed decisions on everything from corn flakes to cars, but never to electricity. Today I am introducing the Electricity Consumers' Right to Know Act (e-KNOW) to establish the consumers' right to access their electricity information. Encouraging energy efficiency and conservation in our homes and businesses is one of the easiest and most cost-effective ways to strengthen our energy security and reduce global warming pollution. e-KNOW is a simple way to ensure that electric utility consumers have access to free, timely, and secure data regarding their electricity prices and usage patterns so they can take charge of their energy use and save money on utility bills.

The Pacific Northwest National Lab has found convincing evidence that consumers will change their energy consumption behavior in response to feedback they get regarding prices and patterns of use. When people see just how expensive electricity is when demand peaks on a hot summer day, they find ways to conserve energy or defer usage to a later time. This saves consumers money directly and also reduces the need for utilities to build more power plants, thereby indirectly saving consumers money through avoided rate increases in the future.

Rapid developments in Smart Grid technologies are providing a golden opportunity to