

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING ASHLEY HOWERY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 2010

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Ashley Howerly, a very special young lady who has exemplified the finest qualities of service and citizenship. Ashley has recently been named one of the top youth volunteers in Missouri for 2010 in the 15th annual Prudential Spirit of Community Awards.

Ashley is recognized for this prestigious award because of the positive impact she has made in her community. Her initiative, creativity, and selfless volunteerism make her a worthy recipient. Ashley should be proud to be a model citizen amongst the youth in her community and my congressional district.

Madam Speaker, I am confident Ashley will continue to use her many talents as tools for the betterment of her community and our nation. I respectfully urge you to join me in commending Ashley on this monumental achievement.

HONORING BLAIR ROBERTS

HON. MARY FALLIN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 2010

Ms. FALLIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and pay tribute to a fine American, Blair Roberts, 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.

Blair's business, Roberts Truck Center, is headquartered in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and has grown into one of the preeminent truck dealerships in the Southwest and the entire nation. He currently manages five of the 13 dealer locations within the Roberts Truck Center family business, which he owns with his brother Blaine. It employs a total of 467 in Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Kansas. With this most recent award, Roberts Truck Center has received the Circle of Excellence, under Blair's leadership, a total of five times.

Blair has achieved this level of accomplishment and recognition through many years of hard work and service to his industry and community. Active in the industry, he is chairman of the International Dealer Council and was past co-chairman of the International Product Advisory Board. Today, in addition to

his leadership of Roberts Truck Center, he has also built a successful truck leasing business, Roberts Idealease, which is a multi-year winner of the IdealGold Award for Excellence.

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 Blair Roberts for his record of accomplishment and for his many contributions to his community, State and Nation.

RECOGNIZING DUANE KYRISH, WINNER OF NAVISTAR'S CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE AWARD FOR 2009

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 2010

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Duane Kyrish, a winner of Navistar's Circle of Excellence Award for 2009. Located in Illinois, Navistar employs many of my constituents and is an important economic engine for my district, undoubtedly so because of suppliers like Mr. Kyrish.

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.

Mr. Kyrish's business, Longhorn International Trucks, is headquartered in Austin, Texas, and was acquired by the family in 1976. Under his leadership, it has grown into one of the preeminent truck dealerships in the Southwest and the entire nation, with 105 employees and two dealer locations. In 1999, Duane was named the first International Dealer of the Year, an honor awarded to the one International dealer who exhibits the highest commitment to best-in-class customer services. With this most recent award, Longhorn International Trucks has now received the Circle of Excellence Award a total of 27 times.

Duane has achieved this level of accomplishment and recognition through many years of hard work and service to his industry and community. He got his commercial operator's license at 17 and began driving trucks for the International Harvester Fort Worth branch. In August 1976, Duane began his professional careers in the truck business at the Austin dealership. Both Duane, and his twin brother Wayne, work for the family business. Today, in addition to leading Longhorn International Trucks, he has also built a successful truck leasing business, Longhorn Idealease, which is a multi-year winner of the IdealGold Award for Excellence.

Madam Speaker and distinguished colleagues, please join me in honoring Mr. Kyrish

for his contributions to his community and to the nation as a whole.

RECOGNIZING THE SIGNIFICANCE OF NOWRUZ AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF IRANIAN-AMERICANS

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 2010

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to support H. Res. 267 "Recognizing the cultural and historical significance of Nowruz, expressing appreciation to Iranian-Americans for their contributions to society, and wishing the Iranian-Americans and the people of Iran a prosperous new year."

As a cosponsor of this resolution, I am proud to recognize the contributions of Iranian Americans on their day of celebration. Nowruz is celebrated by nearly 300 million Iranians and other peoples all over the world, including in the United States, Iran, and other countries in Central Asia, South Asia, Caucasus, Crimea, and Balkan Regions. Nowruz, which means new day, is celebrated on 21 March, the day of the vernal equinox. Nowruz is celebrated by more than 1,000,000 Iranian-Americans of all backgrounds, including those with Baha'i, Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Zoroastrian, and non-religious backgrounds. The people of Iran have a long history of celebrating Nowruz—a holiday that embodies the tradition that each individual's thinking, speaking, and conduct should always be virtuous, and the ideal of compassion for our fellow human beings regardless of ethnicity or religion, and symbolizes a time of renewal and community.

This resolution not only reminds us all of the contributions made by our Iranian constituents, but also of the trying times faced by Iranians in Iran and in the Iranian diaspora. During this time of renewal, my thoughts are with the residents of Camp Ashraf and their families—some of whom reside in my district.

Late last year, three months after U.S. forces turned over control of Camp Ashraf, Iraqi security forces violated the human rights of the People's Mujahideen of Iran (PMOI). Camp Ashraf detains over 3,400 exiled Iranian political dissidents, who are members of the PMOI, including over 1,000 women. The PMOI opposes the current Iranian regime, and for their political beliefs they have been exiled from Iran and sequestered in Camp Ashraf. Several women detained at Camp Ashraf have reported acts of intimidation and threats of physical and sexual violence by members of the Iraqi security forces.

On July 28, 2009, Iraqi security forces conducted a raid on the detainees at Camp Ashraf. The raid occurred fewer than three months after the U.S. passed control of Camp Ashraf to the government of Iraq. The raid began on Tuesday, July 28th when Iraqi armored vehicles began attacks against the Iranian prisoners. The attacks continued for two

• 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.

full days and resulted in the death of 11 exiles and the injury of over 400 more. As a result of the raid on Camp Ashraf, 36 men were arrested under allegations of violent behavior. The 36 arrested Camp Ashraf residents have since been freed, but the United States has a continuing interest in ensuring that the events of July 28th never occur again.

The Iraqi government's treatment of the camp's residents sets a dangerous precedent for future treatment of minority groups. In recent years, there have been alarming numbers of religiously motivated killings, abductions, beatings, rapes, threats, intimidation, forced conversions, marriages, and displacement from homes and businesses, and attacks on religious leaders, pilgrims, and holy sites, in Iraq, with the smallest religious minorities in Iraq having been among the most vulnerable, although Iraqis from many religious communities, Muslim and non-Muslim alike, have suffered in this violence. In summary, members of small religious minority communities in Iraq do not have militia or tribal structures to defend them, do not receive adequate official protection, and are legally, politically, and economically marginalized.

Madam Speaker, as 300 million people worldwide celebrate the start of a new year, it is my hope that Iraqis around the world find peace and prosperity.

RECOGNIZING GEORGE WILSON
FOR A CAREER IN RADIO BROADCASTING
IN LUDINGTON

HON. PETER HOEKSTRA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 2010

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Madam Speaker, I rise here today to honor Ludington talk show host George Wilson for a career of service in radio broadcasting in Mason County.

George Wilson joined WKLA radio in June of 1959. Along with his popular morning show, Big George served in a variety of other roles over the years, including sales manager and play-by-play sports announcer. George left WKLA for a brief period to serve as advertising manager at the Ludington Daily News, but returned to WKLA in 1986.

In 2007 Wilson was nominated for induction into the Michigan Broadcasting Hall of Fame, and his name will remain on the Hall of Fame ballot through 2012.

Throughout his morning show broadcasting career, George woke every day at 3 a.m., but despite the hours, he always enjoyed his job, saying, "If you look forward to going to work every day, then that's a good job and I've always looked forward to going to work at WKLA."

I have interviewed with George on countless occasions throughout my 18 years in Congress, and have always enjoyed our conversations on issues of the day.

Whether it was through our conversations, watching him lead the Scottville Clown Band or working with him as mayor of Scottville, my wife Diane and I have always enjoyed our friendship with George.

George Wilson's retirement marks the end of an era in Mason County, and he will be missed by all those who tuned in to listen to his morning show during the weekdays.

RECOGNIZING LYLE BASSETT,
WINNER OF NAVISTAR'S CIRCLE
OF EXCELLENCE AWARD FOR
2009

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 2010

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Lyle Bassett, a winner of Navistar's Circle of Excellence Award for 2009. Located in Illinois, Navistar employs many of my constituents and is an important economic engine for my district, undoubtedly so because of suppliers like Mr. Bassett.

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.

Mr. Bassett's business, Riverview International Trucks, LLC, is headquartered in West Sacramento, California, and has grown sales and revenue from \$5 million in 1982 to more than \$60 million in 2009, which was a record year for the business. The business employs 78. Lyle started out as a trainee at International Harvester in 1966 and worked his way through various areas of the business, prior to buying Riverview International Trucks in July 1981. With this most recent award, Riverview International Trucks has now received the Circle of Excellence Award a total of three times.

Lyle has achieved this level of accomplishment and recognition through many years of hard work and service to his industry and community. He is active in his community as a member of the Rotary Club of Sacramento, where he supports the club's annual fundraising events and efforts to provide college scholarships to high school students, and as a Meal on Wheels volunteer, providing home-delivered meals to seniors. He is known as a hard working man who takes care of his family, employees and customers each and every day the gates are open at Riverview International Trucks.

Madam Speaker and distinguished colleagues, please join me in honoring Lyle Bassett for his contributions to his community and to the nation as a whole.

HONORING THOMAS JONES

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 2010

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Thomas Jones, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 374, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Thomas has been very active with his troop participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Thomas has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous

merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Thomas Jones for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

2010 BRAIN AWARENESS WEEK

HON. MARTIN HEINRICH

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 2010

Mr. HEINRICH. Madam Speaker, today I rise to commemorate Brain Awareness Week and the benefits of educating students on brain science in Central New Mexico and across the country. Launched in 1996, Brain Awareness Week brings together the Society for Neuroscience, Dana Alliance for Brain Initiatives, and 2,400 other organizations in 76 countries that share a common interest in improving public awareness of brain and nervous system research. During Brain Awareness Week, which is being held March 15–21, neuroscientists around the globe educate K–12 students, senior citizens, and the public at large on the wonders of the human brain. These activities include tours of neuroscience laboratories, museum exhibitions, and classroom discussions on the elements of the human brain.

This year, the New Mexico area members of the Society for Neuroscience hosted the 2010 Neuroscience Day at the School of Medicine at the University of New Mexico, located in my district. During this day-long event, many of my constituents learned about the wonders of the mind and the nature of scientific discovery. Today, in recognition of Brain Awareness Week, I would like to highlight a serious neurological condition that affects many of our men and women in uniform returning from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan: Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Madam Speaker, as a member of the House Armed Services Committee, I recognize the great urgency of understanding and treating PTSD, especially for the new generation of U.S. soldiers returning home after prolonged exposure to combat-related stress and trauma in the war zone. One large study conducted by the RAND Corporation, a nonprofit, non-partisan organization focused on improving policy and decision-making through research and analysis, found that almost 20 percent of returning military personnel who served in Iraq and Afghanistan report symptoms of PTSD or major depression. Our service members aren't the only Americans at risk for this debilitating neuropsychiatric disorder. According to the National Institute of Mental Health, about 3.5 percent of American adults, or 7.7 million individuals, struggle with PTSD during any given year. Unfortunately, current drug and behavioral treatments for PTSD are often unable to reduce or eliminate symptoms that include intrusive memories, emotional numbness, and insomnia. In recent years, however, neuroscientists have begun to piece together some of the neurobiological puzzles behind this complex disorder, offering new hope to its sufferers.

The research dollars allocated in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which I