

HONORING CARMENZA JARAMILLO

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker I rise today to honor an exceptional leader and dignitary, the Honorable Carmenza Jaramillo, former Consul General of Colombia to the U.S. and current President of the Colombian American Chamber of Commerce in Miami.

Ms. Jaramillo has served around the world in various posts, including Ambassador of Colombia to India, representing her native Colombia and advancing the needs of her people. Most recently, she served as Consul General in Miami, ensuring that the U.S. and Colombia strengthen their partnership as allies and their presence as the hemisphere's leading democracies. Ms. Jaramillo has also been very much involved in working to promote and advance Colombian American small businesses in our community and has been engaged in issues like trade and commerce, serving as a leading voice in urging the passage of a Free Trade Agreement between the U.S. and Colombia.

Ms. Jaramillo is also dedicated to serving the needs of others and is involved in various community organizations and non-profits and has received numerous recognitions for her work. She serves with professionalism and has dedicated her life to her country. She truly embodies the ideals of liberty and democracy. She is a friend to the U.S. and stands prepared to serve not only her country, but ours as well.

As we celebrate Women's History Month, I ask you to join me in honoring and thanking Ms. Carmenza Jaramillo, for her dedication to her country, her countrymen and to the cause of freedom and democracy.

HONORING REAR ADMIRAL DOUGLASS T. BIESEL, COMMANDER, JOINT REGION MARIANAS, U.S. NAVY, FOR HIS SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the exemplary community service and leadership of Rear Admiral Douglass T. Biesel, Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Marianas; and Commander, Joint Region Marianas. RDML Biesel has been an outstanding leader for the men and women under his command and he has encouraged his troops to be active in our community. RDML Biesel has been a supporter of programs that enhance and promote the Chamorro culture on Guam, and he recently directed the transfer of two historic Latte Stones from the headquarters of Joint Region Marianas to the Governor's Complex in Adelup, Guam. The Latte Stone is an important symbol of Chamorro identity in Guam and the Marianas and represents the cultural heritage of the indigenous people of our islands. RDML Biesel's efforts to return these ancient symbols of Chamorro culture to

the people of Guam are sincerely appreciated by the Chamorro people and our whole community.

RDML Biesel is from Coudersport, Pennsylvania, and was raised in Newtown, Connecticut. A graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy in 1980, RDML Biesel was assigned to serve as Commander of Joint Region Marianas in Guam in May 2009 and was reassigned to serve as Commander of Navy Region Northwest in Silverdale, Washington in March 2010. It is on the occasion of Rear Admiral Biesel's departure from Joint Region Marianas that I join the people of Guam in acknowledging his leadership, outstanding contributions to our community and cultural awareness.

RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENT OF THE 2010 PRINCE WILLIAM AMERICAN RED CROSS AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the recipients of the 2010 Prince William American Red Cross Awards. These individuals and their work with the Red Cross stand as an example of dedication and service for the benefit and safety of the community.

The Elizabeth Smith Davies award is presented to a volunteer in recognition of 25 years of service. This year's recipient, Ruth Stroaker, began volunteering for the Red Cross in the 1980s while her husband was serving in the military in the Pacific. She has done everything from data entry, typing, filing, volunteering in the base medical and dental clinic, to leading volunteer orientation classes, and handling disaster services case work. In 1989 she became a military and international services case worker. During her tenure, she has reconnected families separated by war and other calamities, helped arrange compassionate leave for the military, and provided special support to those who have suffered devastating disasters and other emergencies. Ruth is a beloved member of the Prince William team, always handling her casework with compassion and kindness. Her clients become her family, and she is tenacious in helping them get the help they need.

Tony Boone is the recipient of the 2010 Dr. Gail Kettlewell Award. Tony is a long-standing member of the Prince William Red Cross Board of Directors and is always willing to do whatever needs to be done to support the chapter. He has been the chair of the Finance Committee for the past three years. During his time on the Building Committee, he donated many hours of his time to negotiating and developing a letter of agreement for land donated by Lockheed Martin. This included helping the chapter sort through many pages of county regulations and eventually applying for various city permits. He is the chapter's goodwill ambassador and you can always find him at various events telling his Red Cross story.

Chuck Mudd has volunteered with the Prince William Chapter for a little more than a year, but he has quickly become a treasured member of the team. In the last 12 months, Chuck has been involved with numerous local

fire responses, worked daily on the renovation of the new chapter facility, cleaned out the attic and garage of the old chapter house, attended a winter field day exercise to learn tent operations and managed a shelter during one of the big snowstorms. He also uses his expertise and leadership skills in representing the chapter on the disaster services committee and various regional working groups. In addition, Chuck is a major financial donor to the chapter. His attitude, great personality, and willingness to work in rain, sleet, and lots of snow, make him invaluable to the chapter.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the staff and volunteers of the Prince William American Red Cross. When a community is hit by disaster, the Red Cross is often the first on the scene to provide comfort and assistance. The efforts of individual members are responsible for the organization's outstanding reputation, and I am honored to recognize Ruth Stroaker, Tony Boone, and Chuck Mudd for contributing to this tradition of excellence.

HONORING HOOSIER PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor 21 young Hoosiers who are currently serving our country overseas as members of the Peace Corps.

The Peace Corps was an initiative started by President John F. Kennedy. It was established by Executive Order 1924 on March 1, 1961, and later authorized by Congress on September 22, 1961, through passage of the Peace Corps Act (Public Law 87-293). The Peace Corps Act declares the purpose of the Peace Corps to be:

To promote world peace and friendship through a Peace Corps, which shall make available to interested countries and areas men and women of the United States qualified for service abroad and willing to serve, under conditions of hardship if necessary, to help the peoples of such countries and areas in meeting their needs for trained manpower.

The Peace Corps has pursued its legislative mandate of promoting world peace and friendship by sending volunteers to serve at the grassroots level in villages and towns in across the globe. Living and working with ordinary people, Peace Corps volunteers have offered their expertise in a variety of areas—such as teachers, environmental specialists, health promoters, and small business advisers—to help improve the lives of those they work with and in turn help them better understand the American people and American culture. To date, nearly 200,000 Peace Corps volunteers have served in 139 countries; and about 7,671 volunteers are currently serving in 76 nations.

Beginning this spring, for the first time, Peace Corps volunteers will serve in Indonesia working as English teachers in high schools and at teacher training institutions. Later in the year, the Peace Corps will return to Sierra Leone after a 16-year absence and focus on secondary education and work with their host communities on grassroots initiatives and community developments.

The first week in March has traditionally been set aside to honor the history and accomplishments of the Peace Corps. This year's festivities took place March 1, 2010 through March 7, 2010 and commemorated the 49th anniversary of the Peace Corps.

Madam Speaker, the Peace Corps is perhaps our country's most important public diplo-

macy programs. The sight of ordinary Americans volunteering to serve the world's most disadvantaged populations has never failed to elevate good will toward our country. I ask unanimous consent to include in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of the 21 Hoosiers from my District who are currently serving their tours with the Peace Corps in

countries ranging from Ukraine and Moldova in Europe, to Botswana, Tanzania, and Zambia in Africa, to Guatemala and Costa Rica in Central America. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in honoring these outstanding young men and women and in wishing them well in their endeavors.

SWORN-IN VOLUNTEERS IN THE DISTRICT OF IN-05

[Representative: Dan Burton]

Volunteer name	Country of service	Start of svc date	Projected cos date
Adenrele, Adeyemi O	Cape Verde	20-Sep-2008	25-Sep-2010
Bagley, Zachary P	Uganda	15-Oct-2009	14-Oct-2011
Brooks, Meredith L	Swaziland	27-Aug-2009	26-Aug-2011
Caio, Laura M	Botswana	18-Jun-2009	17-Jun-2011
Carpenter, Stacy M	Kazakhstan	31-Oct-2009	30-Oct-2011
Coe, David M	Armenia	13-Aug-2009	13-Aug-2011
Elliott, Joel C	South Africa	03-Apr-2008	27-Mar-2010
Garvey, Jack E	Armenia	14-Aug-2008	14-Aug-2010
Houghton, Travis S	Guatemala	17-Jul-2009	16-Jul-2011
Jefferson, Matthew P	Botswana	18-Jun-2009	17-Jun-2011
Lutz, Isaac D	Moldova	18-Aug-2009	18-Aug-2011
Miller, Christopher J	Guyana	23-Apr-2009	24-Apr-2011
Myers, Emilia A	Tanzania	20-Aug-2008	19-Aug-2010
Ready, Lauren E	Albania	28-May-2009	27-May-2011
Roberts, Sarah R	Dominican Republic	28-Oct-2009	28-Oct-2011
Rosensteele, Matthew J	Costa Rica	16-May-2008	21-May-2010
Rulon, Jennifer A	Mali	10-Sep-2009	11-Sep-2011
Sather, Made R	Zambia	25-Sep-2009	05-Feb-2011
Sather, Robert O	Zambia	25-Sep-2009	05-Feb-2011
Theibert, Julie E	Namibia	16-Oct-2009	14-Oct-2011
Umstead, Andrew D	Ukraine	09-Dec-2008	09-Dec-2010
Total Volunteers: 21.			

HONORING THE RESCUE EFFORTS AT THE HOTEL MONTANA

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. WAMP. Madam Speaker, when the catastrophic earthquake devastated the island nation of Haiti in January, Americans from coast to coast rallied together in the spirit of compassion and generosity to help those in need. Several emergency organizations including Virginia's Fairfax County Urban Search and Rescue teams and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers responded to the crisis. They took on the daunting task of searching for survivors and recovering the remains of our fellow Americans from the Hotel Montana, a bustling hotel where many U.S. citizens were staying at the time of the deadly quake.

The heroic efforts of these patriots went far above the call of duty. For more than a month, Fairfax County Urban Search and Rescue teams braved extremely dangerous conditions, retrieving victims from the hotel ruins. The Army Corps of Engineers used heavy equipment to move mountains of rubble while the search and rescue teams simultaneously looked for survivors. They selflessly returned to the site each day facing the imminent threat of aftershocks and deadly structural collapse.

Together, these men and women, led by U.S. Army COL Norberto Cintron, worked tirelessly from dawn to dusk in suffocating humidity and in temperatures that soared above 90 degrees to bring our missing fellow Americans home.

Colonel Cintron is a man of exceptional honor and dignity who answered the emergency call to duty without hesitation. He provided an invaluable service to the families of the missing Americans, speaking with them at length on daily conference calls to explain the status of recovery efforts and answer all of their questions.

Colonel Cintron broke from bureaucratic rhetoric to give family members straight-

forward, compassionate updates on their missing loved ones. He conveyed a sense of urgency and strong determination to find both the living and the dead trapped beneath the rubble of the Hotel Montana. With two daughters deployed to the Middle East, Colonel Cintron treated all of the missing persons as if they were a part of his own family. His heartfelt empathy and willingness to go the extra mile for those awaiting news back home brought humanity and hope to families suffering unimaginable loss.

My thoughts and prayers are with the people of Haiti and all of those who lost loved ones. I am grateful for the tenacity of leaders like Colonel Cintron, the volunteer spirit of the Fairfax County Urban Search and Rescue teams and the tireless work of the Army Corps of Engineers at the Hotel Montana. Their unwavering commitment brought a measure of closure to the families in the midst of this horrific situation.

INTRODUCING THE VIRGINIA ACCESS TO ENERGY ACT (VA ENERGY ACT)

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. GOODLATTE. Madam Speaker, for many years the Commonwealth of Virginia has seriously been considering the potential positive impact that Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) development off Virginia's coast would have on the Commonwealth. In 2008, it seemed that the Commonwealth would be able to make OCS development a reality when we in Congress, and then President George Bush, removed hurdles that had previously blocked access to energy resources located on the OCS. However, since that point, Virginia has been confronted with a series of regulatory road blocks. Although a lease sale has been proposed in Virginia's OCS, the first scheduled lease sale for energy development in the At-

lantic, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar has continued to postpone this Virginia lease sale. This delay is happening despite the strong support for the lease sale by the Virginia Congressional Delegation, the Governor of Virginia, the Virginia General Assembly, and the citizens of Virginia. Madam Speaker, the voices of Virginians must be heard.

To allow the Virginia lease sale to proceed we must remove the regulatory road blocks that are impeding development of Virginia's OCS, so I rise today with a bipartisan group of members of the Virginia Congressional Delegation to introduce the "Virginia Access (VA) to Energy Act." This legislation would require that the Department of the Interior, at the request of Virginia's governor, proceed with the Virginia lease sale no later than one year after passage of this legislation. This will remove the regulatory hurdles that have impeded development and create a path for Virginia to become "the Energy Capital of the East Coast."

Passage of this legislation and development of VA's OCS will significantly boost the economy of the Commonwealth of Virginia. In fact, some estimates have shown that development of Virginia's OCS will create 2,578 full-time equivalent positions on an annual basis, induce capital investment of \$7.84 billion, yield \$644 million in direct and indirect payroll, and result in \$271 million in State and local taxes. While exploration activities alone will infuse the Virginia economy with a significant amount of new capital, this legislation will also authorize any qualified revenues generated by the lease sales to be shared between the federal government and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Virginians understand that a major component in lessening energy costs is to produce more energy. I believe that Virginia should have every tool available to access its energy supplies, while at the same time creating thousands of jobs for Virginians and infusing the Commonwealth with new capital growth. I urge