

HONORING DR. JOHN HARTIG ON
HIS SELECTION AS A MICHIGAN
GREEN LEADER

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2010

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in appreciation of Dr. John Hartig of Michigan. On April 22nd he, along with 15 others selected from over 300 nominations, will be recognized by the Detroit Free Press as a Michigan Green Leader. This is the first year of the Michigan Green Leader awards to honor the 40th anniversary of Earth Day, our environment, and the hard work and dedication of these outstanding institutions and people.

Dr. Hartig currently serves the United States Fish and Wildlife Service as the Refuge Manager for the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge. He is responsible for the conservation, protection, and restoration of habitat for 29 species of waterfowl, 65 different species of fish, and 300 species of migratory birds in the nearly 6000 acres abutting the Detroit River in Southeast Michigan. The Refuge was established in 2001 as part of an effort to preserve this beautiful area, which is the intersection of the Atlantic and Mississippi Flyways and where an estimated 7 million ducks, geese, swans, and coots traverse the region annually as part of their migratory patterns.

As a Trenton native, Dr. Hartig spent his youth fishing on the Detroit River. He is trained as a limnologist and has over 30 years of experience in environmental science, management, and policy. He served a term as President of the International Association for Great Lakes Research—a group dedicated to the study of large lakes and watersheds around the world. He spent 5 years as the Detroit River Navigator, a federal liaison identifying and enacting valuable economic development, environmental stewardship, and historical preservation, for the Greater Detroit American Heritage River Initiative, established by Presidential Executive Order to protect and preserve America's Rivers. He also worked for the International Joint Commission, established by the United States and Canada to resolve Boundary Water issues, and helped establish the Canada-US Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement for more than a decade. He has taught Environmental Management and Sustainable Development as an Adjunct Professor at Wayne State University. Dr. Hartig has written over 100 published articles on the Great Lakes and authored or co-authored a number of books including "UNDER RAPS: Toward Grassroots Ecological Democracy in the Great Lakes Basin," "Honoring Our Detroit River, Caring for Our Home," and recently "Burning Rivers: Revival of Four Urban-Industrial Rivers That Caught on Fire." His work has garnered numerous other accolades, including the 2003 Anderson-Everett Award for contributions to the International Association for the Great Lakes, the 2003 Community Luminary Award from the DTE Energy Foundation for his leadership in the development of communities in Michigan, and the 1993 Sustainable Development Award for Civic Leadership from the Global Tomorrow Coalition.

John Hartig has dedicated his career to the protection of some of Michigan's most valuable and most vulnerable resources. His work

affects the present and the future of one of our nation's great treasures and I am proud to stand before you today in order to honor him and the causes he has so diligently championed.

HONORING THE LIFE OF TOM
TURNER

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2010

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Tom Turner, a man who devoted his life in service to the Memphis community. He was born in Atlanta, Georgia in 1924, and graduated from Georgia Institute of Technology, after which he served his country as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. Afterwards, he moved to Memphis, Tennessee where he worked as the Division Manager for External Affairs at Buckeye Cellulose Technology for forty years.

Tom Turner was active in a multitude of local organizations during his career and in retirement. He was Chairman of the Boards of Agricenter International, the Memphis Chamber of Commerce, Junior Achievement, and Goodwill Industries. In addition, Mr. Turner served as Vice Chairman of the Boards of the Airport Authority and Christian Brothers University. He was an active participant with Le Moyne Owen College, MIFA and was a big fundraiser for the United Way and the Salvation Army. He was active in the Rotary Club, Memphis in May, Memphis partners and the Tennessee Independent College Fund. Mr. Turner was an active member of his Church, Wesleyan Hills United Methodist, where he was Chairman of the administrative board and taught Sunday School.

This is only a partial list of Mr. Turner's involvement in the Memphis community. He was truly a tireless proponent of civic involvement. The Volunteer Center of Memphis awarded him the Golden Rule Award as the "Top Volunteer in Memphis." Christian Brothers University also awarded him the Maurelian Medal for "exceptional service to the university and to the wider community." Thomas Turner's impact was deeply felt in the Memphis Community and his absence will undoubtedly be deeply felt.

Tom Turner passed away on March 27, 2010, at the age of 85. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Doris Turner, two daughters, Terri Panitz and Lisa Turner and partner Rob Sangster, and five grandchildren. Memphis mourns the loss of Mr. Turner who was tirelessly involved in his community's growth. His life was a reminder of just how much one person can accomplish while serving the community.

HONORING MS. KARYN POREMPSKI

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2010

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the commitment to service of Ms. Karyn Porempski, the serving Department

President of the American Legion Auxiliary for 2009/2010.

During her time as Department President, Karyn has worked tirelessly to assist our veterans and communities throughout New York. The Department Presidents Project, which she oversees, is divided into two programs. The first, the Creative Arts, New York project, works to incorporate the arts into Veterans Affairs recreational therapy programs. The project raises funds to purchase medals, certificates, program books, and art supplies, and allows veterans to enter their work into a national competition.

The second of Karyn's projects is designed to provide help for veterans of the Gulf War, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation Enduring Freedom. The project works alongside the Veterans Administration to provide much needed services that might otherwise fall through the cracks because of red tape or budgetary constraints. The funds she raises for this project will help to provide transportation, grocery cards, and refreshments for group events.

Karyn is expected to raise an impressive \$50,000 in funding for these projects. These donations did not come easily, but instead are the result of many trips throughout New York.

Karyn's enthusiasm and commitment to the American Legion extends throughout her family as well. Her husband Joseph is a past Post Commander and District Commander. Karyn's two daughters Holly and Tracey are members of the Auxiliary, her granddaughters Rebecca and Jenna are junior members, and her grandson Jared is a member of the Sons of the American Legion. Her father, sister, and, until recently, mother were also members of the American Legion; Karyn lost her mother this past year.

Madam Speaker, I ask my fellow Members to join me in recognizing Ms. Karyn Porempski for her over forty years of service to the American Legion Auxiliary, our veterans, and western New York.

CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF
CATHERINE GRACE MCCAULEY

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2010

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, today I wish to celebrate the birth of Catherine Grace McCauley to her parents, John and Jared McCauley of Lubbock, Texas. Cate was born on April 13, 2010, at 11:15 p.m., weighing 7 pounds, 8 ounces and measuring 20 and one-half inches.

Cate's proud grandparents are Michael and Cathy Buchanan and Roger and Diane McCauley. She is the great-grandchild of Joe and the late Billy Gene Buchanan, Troy and Marge Jones, Arline and the late Ward McCauley and Robert and Betty Minemier, Sr. Cameron and Stacey Buchanan and Dee and Jessica Buchanan are Cate's excited aunts and uncles.

Madam Speaker, as a father of two children, I know what a momentous celebration this is for Juli, Jared and their entire family, for a child truly is a gift of the Lord. This family has prayed about Cate's arrival for years, and today, Madam Speaker, they can proclaim

with a spirit of joy and thanksgiving, "For this child I prayed; and the Lord hath given me my petition which I asked of him."

U.S. AND TAIWAN'S AIR DEFENSE

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2010

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to talk about an issue of concern to me and to my Taiwanese American constituents.

Today's Taiwan is a strong ally of the United States that shares with us the ideals of freedom, democracy, and self-determination. Taiwan enjoys elements of independence, although Taiwan continues to be under an ominous shadow cast by the over 1400 short and medium-range ballistic missiles that the People's Republic of China (PRC) has aimed in its direction. China continues to refuse to renounce the use of force against Taiwan, continues to claim Taiwan as a renegade province, and in 2005 passed an "Anti-Secession Law" that mandated military action if Taiwan moves towards formal and legal independence. The U.S. Congress quickly and strongly condemned China for this action with a vote on the House Floor.

A 2009 Pentagon report on the military power of the PRC stated that "in the near-term, China's armed forces are rapidly developing coercive capabilities for the purpose of deterring Taiwan's pursuit of de jure independence." It added that these "same capabilities could in the future be used to pressure Taiwan toward a settlement of the cross-strait dispute on Beijing's terms while simultaneously attempting to deter, delay, or deny any possible U.S. support for the island in case of conflict."

Madam Speaker, the 1979 Taiwan Relations Act is the cornerstone of United States-Taiwan relations and the "Law of the Land." It declares that it is the policy of the United States "to consider any effort to determine the future of Taiwan by other than peaceful means, including by boycotts or embargoes, a threat to the peace and security of the Western Pacific area and of grave concern to the United States."

Furthermore, section 3(b) of the Act stipulates that both the President and the Congress shall determine the nature and quantity of such defense articles and services 'based solely' upon their judgment of the needs of Taiwan.

On January 29, 2010 the Obama Administration notified Congress of a long-awaited package of arms sale to Taiwan, totaling US\$ 6.4 billion. The package included 114 Patriot PAC-3 missiles, 60 Black Hawk helicopters, 12 Harpoon missiles for training purposes, two Osprey-class refurbished mine hunters and military communication equipment. However, not included in the package were 66 F-16 C/D fighter aircraft, which Taiwan requested in 2006.

Prior to the notification, in a report dated 21 January 2010, the U.S. Defense Intelligence Agency made an assessment of the status of Taiwan's air defense. It concluded that Taiwan's air defense is showing increasing vulnerability due to the aging of the air force fighter aircraft.

Madam Speaker, let me conclude my remarks with urging my esteemed colleagues to

join me in requesting the Obama administration to immediately move ahead with the sale of F-16s to Taiwan at this time. One of the main reasons to move now is that the production of the F-16s is nearing its end, as more countries are switching to the advanced F-35 Joint Strike Fighter.

HONORING LIONVILLE YOUTH ASSOCIATION

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2010

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Lionville Youth Association as it celebrates 40 years of providing excellent recreational opportunities and sports programs to boys and girls in Chester County, Pennsylvania.

The Association has come a long way since its inception in 1970 when it developed playing fields on two, pie-shaped parcels along Devon Drive in an era when backstops were made of chicken wire and the snow fences served as outfield walls. Last year, more than 1,600 children participated in sports leagues organized by the Association and competed on well-groomed playing fields with dugouts, electronic scoreboards and press boxes. Countless youth teams have celebrated championships earned while playing on one of the athletic fields faithfully maintained by the Association. More importantly, the Association has afforded boys and girls a chance to learn valuable lessons in team work, hard work and perseverance that will benefit them long after they leave the playing field.

The Association's tremendous success and increased participation in youth sports can be attributed to the 550 volunteers who generously give 180,000 hours each year to serve as coaches, umpires, referees, concession stand workers, league officials and in various other roles.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in congratulating the Lionville Youth Association as it commemorates this very special milestone and offering best wishes for continued success in enriching the lives of our youth and strengthening the bonds within our community.

RICK MAZER

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2010

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I take this time to honor one of Northwest Indiana's most respected business and community leaders, Mr. Rick Mazer, from Saint John, Indiana. On April 8, 2010, Rick was honored by Horseshoe Casino and the Northwest Indiana Forum in appreciation for his many years of service as a dedicated executive and for his numerous contributions to the community of Northwest Indiana. The celebration took place at Gamba Ristorante in Merrillville, Indiana.

Rick Mazer's professional and academic career led him to become a prominent leader in

the gaming industry for nearly thirty years. In 1976, Rick earned a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Boston University. His lifelong career in the gaming industry began in 1979, in Atlantic City, where he held various positions at Caesar's Entertainment and Resorts International. In 1991, Rick's career led him to Peoria, Illinois where he played an instrumental role in the grand opening of Par-A-Dice Riverboat Casino, where he served as Vice President of Marketing. In late 1995, Mr. Mazer became the Director of Marketing and Advertising at the Empress Casino in Joliet, Illinois. He joined the team at Horseshoe Casino nearly fifteen years ago and successfully maintained a leadership role through three ownerships. In 2007, due to his outstanding management skills and superior business strategies, Rick was subsequently promoted to oversee the two Harrah's Entertainment casinos that book-end the state, picking up responsibilities for what was known as Caesars Indiana, now Horseshoe Southern Indiana. Mr. Mazer led the transformation from one great brand to another. The "mother of all boats", or MOAB, is the moniker fondly used internally to reference the \$500 million casino that Rick spearheaded. The design, construction, and opening of one of the most stunning casinos in America could have only happened under his guidance. For his efforts, Mr. Mazer has been presented with the Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce Business Person of the Year award. After years of service in the Indiana market, Rick was given an opportunity to oversee multiple casinos in America's gaming capital, Las Vegas. Staying within the Harrah's Entertainment family has made the transition very smooth.

Rick Mazer exemplifies what it means to be a true leader. His outstanding leadership skills are reflected by staff members, who have been quoted as saying, "Rick actively engages members of his team, constantly challenging them to expand their expertise while fostering their talent and growth. Rick understands that with a truly engaged team, anything is possible."

In addition to his impressive professional career, Rick passionately serves the people of Northwest Indiana through his involvement in many community organizations. Among his many contributions, Rick is actively involved with the Northwest Indiana Forum, Tradewinds Rehabilitative Services, Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra, Casino Association of Indiana, Lake Area United Way, Crisis Center, Haven House, American Cancer Society, Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce, Lake County Convention and Visitor's Bureau Hospitality Committee, and the Indiana Black Expo. For his many charitable efforts, Rick was awarded the prestigious Raoul Wallenberg Humanitarian Award. For his continuous, selfless devotion to the community of Northwest Indiana, Mr. Mazer is to be highly commended.

Rick's dedication to his community is exceeded only by his devotion to his amazing family. This coming May, he and his wonderful wife, Aria, will celebrate 30 years of marriage. They have two beloved daughters, Ericka and Racquel.

Madam Speaker, at this time, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending Mr. Rick Mazer as he is honored for his lifetime of service and dedication to the Northwest Indiana community. Rick continues to touch the lives of countless people,