

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF DR.
EDGAR WAYBURN

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay final tribute to a great champion of the environment, Dr. Edgar Wayburn. At age 103, Dr. Wayburn passed away on March 5th surrounded by his beloved family. His accomplishments on behalf of our planet are unsurpassed.

Joining me in tribute today is Congressman GEORGE MILLER.

Working for five decades as a physician, Dr. Wayburn understood that the human condition is inextricably linked to the environment. When Dr. Wayburn first arrived in the San Francisco Bay Area in 1933, he was stunned by the uninterrupted expanse of green beginning in San Francisco and crossing the Bay to Marin. He made a lifelong commitment to ensuring that it remained protected.

He had the same experience when he first visited Alaska fifty years ago with his wife Peggy. They were captivated by the unique beauty of the Alaskan landscape. The national campaign that flowed from that first visit resulted in the Alaska Lands Act: the largest public lands legislation in the history of the U.S. Congress. Today, more than a million acres remain wild largely because of Dr. Wayburn's first trip to what he called "the last frontier."

Dr. Wayburn simultaneously fought to preserve and expand one of America's pristine ancient forests, Redwood National Park in Northern California. Today, these giant redwoods have a permanent home and are listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site and Biosphere Preserve.

In San Francisco he orchestrated the creation of Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA), an almost continuous greenbelt stretching down the Pacific Coast from Point Reyes Seashore to the Peninsula. In the 1960s, the idea of an urban national park was an alien concept to Congress and the National Park Service. Thanks to the tireless labors of Congressman Philip Burton and Dr. Wayburn, along with the support of the local community and local environmentalists, GGNRA is today the most visited national park and one of our nation's great natural treasures. Within its boundaries are redwood forests, beaches, dramatic headlands, marshes, abundant wildlife, historic forts, islands in the Bay, and a world-famous prison—and all of this incredible diversity lies within easy reach of one of the largest metropolitan populations in the United States. It is a living testament to the tenacity of Dr. Edgar Wayburn.

Many of us were fortunate to work with Dr. Wayburn on the monumental achievement of transferring the Presidio of San Francisco in 1994 from a military post to an urban national park. He helped craft a model for the nation in

a place which respected the stewardship and traditions of the military Presidio's tradition as a military base, while enhancing the opportunities for volunteerism and environmental education for youth.

Dr. Wayburn received many awards to honor his accomplishments: the Albert Schweitzer Prize for Humanitarianism from Johns Hopkins University, the Starker Leopold Award by the Nature Conservancy, the John Muir Award by the Sierra Club, and in 1999 Dr. Wayburn's life work was recognized with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian honor that our country can bestow. As President Clinton said at the time, Dr. Wayburn "saved more of our wilderness than any other person alive."

Dr. Wayburn, the honorary president-for-life of the Sierra Club, was the stealth force behind so many environmental movements to save the world's wild lands, forests and waters for the benefit of future generations. The magnificent landscapes that he preserved for future generations will stand as a lasting monument to him.

Above all, Dr. Wayburn was devoted to his family: his beloved late wife Peggy who was his partner in preserving the environment, his children Diane, Laurie, Cynthia and William and three grandchildren. We celebrate his life and we honor his memory.

TCU WOMEN'S RIFLE TEAM

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to the TCU Women's Rifle Team. Last month the team won the 2010 NCAA National Championship. This is the first National Championship win since 1983 for TCU, so this is a huge victory for both the team and the school.

In addition to the accomplishment of the entire TCU Women's Rifle Team, several of the ladies on the team received individual distinctions. Freshman Sarah Scherer won the individual National Championship in the smallbore rifle portion of the competition. Senior Erin Lorenzen was honored as the Most Outstanding Athlete of the championship. These two TCU ladies were also honored as All-American athletes. Sarah Beard, Caitlin Morrissey, and Simone Riford received All-American athlete honors as well.

It is evident that the TCU Women's Rifle Team is a very skilled and accomplished group. Head coach Karen Monez has done an excellent job of leading the team. This National Championship is the height of achievement for the team, which has had phenomenal success for the past several years under the leadership of Coach Monez. I am confident that their success will continue.

Again, I congratulate the entire TCU Women's Rifle Team on their National Champion-

ship win. They have made their entire school and all of Fort Worth proud.

IN HONOR OF THE MONTEREY BAY
BLUES FESTIVAL

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Monterey Bay Blues Festival on the occasion of its twenty-fifth anniversary. For a quarter of a century, the Festival has been dedicated to the stewardship and celebration of this uniquely American musical legacy here on the Monterey Peninsula.

Six years ago the Festival started its Blues in the Schools (BITS) program, which has spread to five school districts in Monterey County and keeps on growing. As part of the regular music program, BITS introduces the blues to young people who hope to find their own expressions in music. Scholarships and grants help to keep students focused on and developing passion for their art. BITS clinicians support choirs, guitar classes, combos, and school bands.

In the words of my friend and former staff member, Doris M. Jones, chair of the anniversary committee: "... the (festival) began with a few local men and women who had a desire to preserve the rich heritage of blues music, as well as continue to perpetuate the heartfelt sounds created out of times of sorrow, pain, jubilation and joy. ... 'The Blues' have a way of touching that place in each of us that brings out a deep emotion and understanding that, regardless of how difficult the times, things will get better. Whether it is our economy, our health, our relationships, times of love or times of war, the expression of the blues reminds us that we are more alike than we are different."

The mission of the Monterey Bay Blues Festival is to give back to the community and spread this distinctively American art form through the Festival and by supporting youth and the arts. In this way, they expand the appreciation of their evolving artistic legacy and inspire a passion for music, especially the Blues.

Madam Speaker, I want to hold up the Festival as a cultural institution, an expression of what makes our nation a worldwide leader in the music that is unique to our land. May their continued success inspire many more generations to celebrate our nation's musical heritage and participate in its future.

On behalf of the whole House, I am honored to extend to the Monterey Bay Blues Festival the gratitude of the Congress and the American people for their past and future service.

• 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.

IN HONOR OF CAPTAIN STANLEY
VINCENT DEGEUS

HON. JOE SESTAK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor Captain Stanley DeGeus on his retirement from the United States Navy, which he has faithfully served for over three decades.

Captain Stanley Vincent DeGeus is a native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and a 1979 graduate of Villanova University. At Villanova, he earned a Bachelor of Science in Biology and was commissioned an Ensign through the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps Program.

Following commissioning, Captain DeGeus completed Division Officer tours as Administrative Officer, Second Division Officer, and Combat Information Center/Missile Officer in USS SEATTLE (AOE 3) from November 1979 to May 1983. His first shore assignment was Commissioning Crew and Navigation/Naval Operations Instructor at the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps Program at Boston University. While at Boston University, he received his Master's Degree in Biology in January 1986.

Captain DeGeus' subsequent afloat duty included assignment as Executive Officer in USS IMPLICIT (MSO 455) from October 1986 to November 1987 and as Executive Officer in USS ENHANCE (MSO 437) during mine countermeasure operations in the Persian Gulf. He then served as Operations Officer in USS CROMMELIN (FFG 37) from June 1988 to December 1989. Captain DeGeus served as Commissioning Commanding Officer in USS CHAMPION (MCM 4) from May 1990 to September 1992.

Following a year of study at the Naval War College, where he received a Master's Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies, he completed a three-year tour of duty as an instructor in the Command Training Department at Surface Warfare Officers School Command in Newport, Rhode Island. From May 1997 to November 1998, Captain DeGeus served as Commanding Officer in USS BONHOMME RICHARD (LHD 6) from September 2001 to February 2003. USS BONHOMME RICHARD deployed for both Operation Enduring Freedom (67 combat sorties) and Operation Iraqi Freedom during his tenure in support of the Global War on Terrorism. Following a tour of duty as a Strategy and Alignment Branch Head in OPNAV 76 and as Sea Shield Pillar Lead in OPNAV 70, Captain DeGeus reported as Commander, Surface Warfare Development Group in May 2005.

Captain DeGeus' medals and decorations include two Legion of Merit awards, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, three Meritorious Service Medals, two Navy Commendation Medals, and four Navy Achievement awards. Most impressive is that he was able to lead a highly successful career in the Navy all while raising his three remarkable children—Juliane Catherine, Case James, and Cory—with his wife, Barbara Jean Mellon of Freehold, New Jersey.

HONORING MR. IRVIN E. RICHTER,
2010 NEW JERSEY BUSINESS
HALL OF FAME RECIPIENT

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Irvin Richter for his induction into the New Jersey Business Hall of Fame. Mr. Richter has demonstrated significant leadership and dedication to his community, and for this he deserves great praise.

A Laureate induction into the New Jersey Business Hall of Fame is a lifetime achievement award for individuals making a significant, positive impact on New Jersey. Inductees demonstrate, as Mr. Richter has throughout their professional lives high ethical standards, mentorship, community involvement and innovative leadership.

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Hill International, Mr. Richter is known for his expertise in the field of construction contacts and claims. His reputation for excellence is worldwide, after working on projects such as the Channel Tunnel, EPCOT, Reliance Oil Refinery, Athens Metro, King Khalid Military City, Petronas Twin Towers, Washington Metro, and the Alaska Pipeline. Mr. Richter is not only an actively sought expert, but also an international arbitrator and mediator for the leading participants in the industry. In addition, he has provided expert witness testimony on numerous occasions regarding contractual and damage issues.

Mr. Richter has been honored as a Distinguished Alumnus from his alma mater Wesleyan University and from his Law school, Rutgers University School of Law, Camden. He is a member of the World Presidents' Organization (WPO) and the Construction Industry Round Table (CIRT). He is a current and past member of the Board of Trustees of Rutgers University, the Board of Directors of the Construction Management Association of America (CMAA), the Board of Governors of Temple University Hospital and the Board of Directors of the ACE Mentor Program. In 2002, Mr. Richter was made a fellow by the CMAA for his contributions to the construction management industry. At that time, he was one of only 17 Fellows in the history of the organization.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Richter's contributions to his field and to state of New Jersey should not go unrecognized. I want to personally thank Irvin Richter for the exceptional leadership he has provided and the impact he has made all over the world. I congratulate Mr. Richter on his induction to the New Jersey Hall of Fame and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

CAREGIVERS AND VETERANS OMNIBUS HEALTH SERVICES ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of S. 1663, the Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2009.

The United States of America has a moral obligation to provide for all the brave men and women whose courageous service allows all of us to live the lives we do.

This service comes not without a price, and America must provide for these service members and their families during deployment and post-deployment.

Our disabled, ill and injured veterans need the assistance and care they deserve for their sacrifice.

S. 1663 will expand mental health services for veterans; enhance health services for 1.8 million women veterans—which for the first time includes care for newborns.

This is a landmark legislation that builds upon the last three years of significant accomplishments for veterans, troops and military families.

S. 1663 will allow for a caregiver of a veteran to receive training, counseling, lodging and subsistence payments when accompanying a veteran on medical care visits.

We must ensure that those who care for our veterans are properly equipped and trained to do so.

In addition, we will prohibit the VA from collecting copayments from veterans who are catastrophically disabled.

I am proud to vote for S. 1663, on behalf of all the service members, veterans and their families in my District. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

HON. JERRY MCNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Mr. MCNERNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my proud support for the passage of historic health reform legislation earlier this year. I am glad the Congress, after working for more than nine months, was able to pass comprehensive health care reform that will reduce the growth in health care costs, cut the deficit, and provide affordable health insurance for an additional 32 million Americans.

The package passed by Congress, which includes H.R. 3590 and H.R. 4872 as enacted, will reduce the deficit by \$143 billion over ten years and by more than \$1 trillion over the second decade. Enacting responsible health care reform will provide health care security for individuals, families, and small businesses across the country. This legislation will ensure that individuals can no longer be denied coverage due to a pre-existing condition or kicked off their insurance when they get sick. Health care reform also places caps on annual and lifetime out-of-pocket costs so that individuals and families will no longer go bankrupt due to an illness.

Despite the benefits and enhanced Medicare protections that I am confident health reform will bring, I wish to stress the importance of vigorous oversight of the newly created Independent Medicare Advisory Board, IMAB. H.R. 3590 establishes such a board, whose goal is to reduce the per capita rate of growth in Medicare spending. I strongly support the need to control costs, but I believe elected officials who answer to the people should make the key decisions affecting health programs. Medicare beneficiaries expect Congress to