

## TRIBUTE TO JUDY HELLMAN

## HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Judy Hellman, who is retiring this spring from the Jewish Community Relations Bureau/American Jewish Committee of the greater Kansas City area. Judy and this agency have been most helpful to me during my time in Congress and were responsible for sponsoring my visit to Israel in 1999 during my first year in office. My remarks borrow very freely from a letter sent by JCRB/AJC Board Chair Michael Abrams in January 2010 when Judy made her plans public.

JCRB/AJC Associate Director Judy Hellman has devoted her professional career and her personal life to the work of justice and community relations, and to the Jewish Community Relations Bureau/American Jewish Committee, first as a volunteer, then as a member of the Board of Directors, and then as staff for decades before her “first” retirement over a decade ago. Shortly after that “retirement” she started helping in the office on one project, then another, then a couple days a week, and was soon once again an everyday devoted and passionate professional who doesn’t stop accepting responsibilities and challenges.

Judy’s contributions to the community are significant, and too numerous to mention. Her work to advocate that each person does not have to face injustice has touched countless lives and families. Decades ago she worked for fair housing in Kansas City, and was a leader in the movement to free Soviet Jews from religious persecution. Before the founding of the Midwest Center for Holocaust Education, Holocaust education was a mission of JCRB, for which Judy did extraordinary work.

Judy continues to be admired for her exemplary and prolific work in interfaith relations, her dedicated relationship work with educators, law enforcement, government and elected officials, and her work vigilantly combating hate groups. Judy has listened to, and discussed and worked with, hundreds of individuals and families regarding their issues, always with great compassion and empathy. Many have seen her on JCRB Agency videos poignantly talking about why she has worked for justice in the public square for the people of Israel, and in recent years been a role model in the community advocating on behalf of those suffering injustice in Africa.

For several decades, Judy and Rev. Dr. Robert Lee Hill have co-chaired the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Interfaith Service every January. Judy has been a longtime officer of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, working with the Rev. Dr. Nelson “Fuzzy” Thompson. Judy has been recognized with many awards, and has asked that “this” retirement come with little fanfare. In Judy Hellman’s case, her achievements are a monument to her work. Judy’s life has been dedicated to working for justice. Judy would have devoted her time to working on these issues even if she had not been a staff member of a justice organization.

With a milestone birthday approaching, Judy has decided to give retirement yet another attempt. All who know Judy feel great admiration, gratitude, love, and respect for her. I

know that I look forward to continuing to work with Judy, soon as a retired and devoted community member, as she continues to work to make the greater Kansas City area a more just community.

## THE CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL: A LEGACY OF SERVICE

## HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in congratulating the 2009–2010 Congressional Youth Advisory Council. This year 45 students from public, private, and home schools in grades 9 through 12 made their voices heard and made a difference in their communities, their country and their Congress. These students volunteered their time, effort, and talent to inform me about the important issues facing their generation. As young leaders within their communities and their schools, these students boldly represent the promise and the hope we all have for their very bright future.

President Ronald Reagan said, “Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn’t pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children’s children what it was once like in the United States where men were free.”

To ensure that the blessing of freedom is passed from one generation to the next, the members of the CYAC spent time interviewing a veteran and documenting the experience for the “Preserving History Project.” Today I’m proud to submit the brief summaries provided so the patriotic service of our dedicated veterans and the thoughtful work of the CYAC may be preserved for antiquity in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. A copy of each submitted student summary follows.

To each member of the Congressional Youth Advisory Council, thank you for making this year and this group a success. It is not a coincidence that this congressional tribute celebrates two generations of service. Each of you is trusted with the precious gift of freedom.

You are the voices of the future and I salute you. God bless you and God bless America.

The summary follows:

Robert James is a veteran of World War II. He entered the war in the Medical Corps and returned from war as a private first class in the Air Force. After graduating from U.T., Mr. James stayed in the Air Force Reserve for 30 years and retired as a Major. He still regularly visits a nearby base in Colorado, where he buys his groceries, works out, and shops for other needs. Robert James received multiple awards after returning home, including an Air Medal and a Distinguished Flying Cross. Mr. James’ story should be preserved throughout history in addition to the thousands of other veterans that risked their lives for the safety of the United States. This interview with my grandfather was very moving and I gained a lot more insight and detail than I ever had before. I am happy to have been able to discuss such a

pivotal time in my grandfather’s life and I hope my essay helps to somehow preserve some of his unique experiences so that they can last throughout generations of Americans. The conservation of the stories of our many veterans is very crucial and should be a goal of every American that has been kept alive by these honorable, selfless men and women.—Rebecca James

## HONORING GEORGE GALLUP, JR. ON HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY

## HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 80th birthday of George Gallup, Jr., the accomplished son of Dr. George Gallup, Sr., the founder of the renowned Gallup Poll.

George Jr. has followed in his father’s footsteps; a close friend described George as a “political junkie,” a characteristic that clearly runs in the family. It comes as no surprise that George has become so involved and intrigued by the political process, since he has either observed or participated in polling for his entire life. His father pioneered the random sampling technique, which has been used for decades to gauge public opinion on everything from presidential approval to the economy. He also founded the George H. Gallup International Institute, of which George Jr. is the current Chairman. In this role, George Jr. oversees preeminent economists, psychologists, and sociologists all over the world in their efforts to investigate what people think about the most pressing issues of the day.

George is from Princeton, New Jersey and has been a lifelong advocate for children’s rights locally and nationally. He has made the world a safer place for kids through working closely with Child Lures Prevention, an organization which helps protect children from violence, drugs, and sexual abuse. He also wrote a passionate letter to President Obama in support of the organization and the admirable cause for which it fights.

George would agree that the influence of the Gallup Poll over the past 75 years has been much more than symbolic—the organization has provided our political leaders and lawmakers with objective, unbiased information about the ever-shifting values and expectations of the American people. In short, polling makes the government more responsive and accountable to the electorate.

Madam Speaker, I know that my colleagues will join me in honoring a man who has been instrumental in keeping our leaders honest and the American public informed.

## RAISING AWARENESS AND SUPPORTING AN END TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

## HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, I rise in solidarity with my colleagues who, this week,

have come forth under the leadership of Representative TED POE, founding co-chair of the Victims' Rights Caucus, to speak out against violence perpetrated against women. Violence against women is one of the most pervasive forms of violence throughout the world today, affecting an estimated one billion women and girls. It is a reprehensible violation of fundamental human rights and a crime against humanity.

According to the United Nations, approximately 1 out of every 3 women in the world has been beaten, coerced into sex, or otherwise abused in her lifetime. The World Health Organization reports that in some countries, up to 70 percent of women report having been victims of domestic violence at some stage in their lives.

Violence against women has come to be systematically used as a tool of war in some regions, where women are publicly raped, beaten and murdered. In Rwanda, up to half a million women were reportedly raped during the 1994 genocide. In Bosnia-Herzegovina, nearly 60,000 women were raped in a campaign of ethnic cleansing during the war.

Women have become "prey," according to the New York Times, in Guinea, and in the Democratic Republic of Congo it is reportedly more dangerous to be a woman than a soldier.

Shocking stories such as these provide only a snapshot of the complete scope of this deplorable problem and are exemplary, sadly, of the experiences of vast communities of women and girls every day.

It is critical that we in Congress, along with other governments, multilateral organizations and nongovernmental organizations throughout the world, take a strong stand against these crimes. We must not allow violence against women to become a socialized norm.

In 1994 the Violence Against Women Act was signed into law by President Bill Clinton, in an effort to comprehensively acknowledge and address the severity and importance of this insidious problem within the United States. This landmark Act enhanced judicial and law enforcement tools to combat violence in all forms, improved existing services and provided for additional services, economic security, and protection for victims.

This legislation has since served as an example globally on how issues affecting women can be successfully incorporated into public law and social consciousness. Freedom from violence, abuse and intimidation is a basic building block of empowering women. And, when women have a voice, communities and countries are made stronger, more economically prosperous, and more stable.

In 2009, the International Violence Against Women Act was reintroduced, to extend the provisions of VAWA to tackle violence worldwide. This bill would ensure that all women are protected under the same policies and approach now codified for women and girls in the U.S.

IVAWA seeks a comprehensive international strategy to reduce and prevent violence against women and girls. This includes assistance to reduce international violence, enhanced U.S. accountability and training of foreign military, police and judicial officials on preventing and responding to violence, and addressing violence in humanitarian relief, peacekeeping, conflict and post-conflict operations.

We in Congress, along with our international partners, must stand up now to take bold action on ensuring that women and girls are no longer targets of brutal violence; violence that destroys families and communities, and has lasting detrimental effects on productivity, health, and many other areas of women's daily lives.

Furthermore, we must work tirelessly to give women a voice to impact the issues that affect them and be agents of change in their societies. When women thrive, families, communities, societies and economies thrive. When women and girls are victimized, families, communities, societies and economies suffer and are profoundly weakened, and the cycle of violence is perpetuated. Violence against women and girls is an assault against us all and we must end it now.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. DIANNE ADDINGTON'S DECADES OF SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY AS PRESIDENT AND CEO OF GENISYS CREDIT UNION

**HON. GARY C. PETERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 22, 2010*

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dianne Addington, president and CEO of Genisys Credit Union, on her retirement from Genisys. As a Member of Congress it is both my privilege and honor to recognize Ms. Addington for her many years of service and her contributions which have enriched and strengthened our community.

Ms. Addington brings a lifetime of experience to her current position at Genisys Credit Union; a career which began almost 40 years ago as a part-time teller at T&C Federal Credit Union. Through Ms. Addington's ingenuity and hard work she eventually rose to the position of president and CEO of T&C Federal Credit Union, one of the parent companies of Genisys, which she has held for the last 21 years. During her tenure at Genisys, Ms. Addington has been awarded numerous accolades for her commitment to the community including awards from the Sojourner Foundation, the Clinton Valley Council of the Boy Scouts of America, and the Pontiac Chamber of Commerce. In recognition of her many contributions, the Michigan Credit League, MCUL, awarded her the Distinguished Service Award in 2006, for which she was inducted into the Michigan Credit Union Hall of Fame.

Under Ms. Addington's leadership Genisys Credit Union has grown into a thriving local institution, which is deeply involved in strengthening the communities it serves. Genisys is a strong philanthropic partner to Southeast Michigan, having received numerous awards and recognitions from the community for the programs it has sponsored. In keeping with their mission to provide excellent customer service and to support its community, Genisys continues to create programs which highlight the importance of financial literacy to its more than 117,000 members and to the communities it serves. Moreover, through its strong commitment to quality customer service Genisys Credit Union was recognized by the readership of Corp! Magazine as a "Best of Michigan Business" in 2009.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor Ms. Dianne Addington for her many contributions to our community and her leadership at Genisys Credit Union. I wish her many more years of health, happiness, and productive service.

CONGRATULATING ANGEL RAY GUERRERO

**HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLÁN**

OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 22, 2010*

Mr. SABLÁN. Madam Speaker, Angel Ray Tudela Guerrero is a teenager in the Northern Mariana Islands, who, despite facing extraordinary health problems in his own life, found

IN RECOGNITION OF RETIRED SAN MATEO POLICE DEPARTMENT CAPTAIN KEVIN RAFFAELLI

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 22, 2010*

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Kevin Raffaelli, who retired as a Captain with the San Mateo Police Department in December of 2008 after 30 years of dedicated and loyal service.

I must note that last year Kevin continued his law enforcement service on an on-call basis and on August 24, 2009 was credited with preventing a pipe bomb suspect from carrying out a potentially catastrophic event at Hillsdale High School. For this heroic action he was awarded the prestigious Medal of Valor, proving again, that some of us get better with age.

The list of commendations for Kevin is long and meritorious and many involve the apprehension of burglary subjects during the commission of a crime. He is well known throughout San Mateo County for his expertise in tactical deployment and special operations at events. He was, for example, commander of the Countywide Tactical Chemical Assault Team, a model operation replicated by other municipalities after 9/11.

He played key roles in coordinating security for numerous dignitaries visiting the San Francisco Bay Area, including President Bill Clinton, President George W. Bush, President Jimmy Carter as well as Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Kevin grew up in the city of South San Francisco where his brother, Mark, served as the chief of police, so Kevin's thirst for public safety runs deep in his family.

Madam Speaker, Kevin Raffaelli has served his fellow citizens to the utmost of his ability and he has saved lives in the process. I commend him and wish that he and his wife, Elizabeth, enjoy this well-earned retirement.