

TRIBUTE TO PENNSYLVANIA  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE KATIE  
TRUE

**HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 29, 2010*

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, today I honor Pennsylvania State Representative Katie True for her long service to the people of Lancaster County and the State of Pennsylvania. After serving 8 years representing the 37th State House District and another 8 years representing the 41st State House District, Rep. True will retire after the present legislative session.

I had the distinct honor of serving four years in the Pennsylvania General Assembly with Rep. True. Throughout her career she worked across the aisle to defend life in our State. After I was elected to the House of Representatives, Rep. True took over the leadership of the Pennsylvania State House Pro-Life Caucus.

She has been a tireless advocate for children in the State of Pennsylvania. She counts her greatest accomplishment as working to improve the child welfare system so that no child slips through the cracks.

Rep. True has always made protecting women a priority during her time in public service. In between her two terms in the General Assembly, she served 2 years as the executive director of the Pennsylvania Commission for Women. During her time in the General Assembly, she made sure that Pennsylvania established tough anti-trafficking laws to protect women and children in our State. Also, she introduced legislation for a check-off box on state income tax forms for breast cancer research.

Rep. True is one of the most trusted legislators in our state and her colleagues in Harrisburg will miss her cooperative spirit. Her constituents will miss her servant's heart and care for her community.

Our State motto is "Virtue, Liberty, and Independence." Rep. True embodies virtue and has always defended our liberty and independence. The State of Pennsylvania is grateful for her honorable service and we wish her the best in her future endeavors.

JAIDY WIDDIFIELD

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 29, 2010*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jaidy Widdifield who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Jaidy Widdifield is a 12th grader at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jaidy Widdifield is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Jaidy Widdifield for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character to all her future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF O&S TRUCKING ON BEING RECOGNIZED AS  
2010 INNOVATOR OF THE YEAR

**HON. ROY BLUNT**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 29, 2010*

Mr. BLUNT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to O&S Trucking of Springfield, Missouri, on being recognized as 2010 Innovator of the Year by Commercial Carrier Journal.

In 1981, Jim O'Neal and partner Keith Stever teamed to form Ozarks Truck Brokerage with two customers and no equipment. Two years later the pioneering pair launched the company that would become O&S Trucking. Throughout the 1990s O&S Trucking grew quickly and by 2000 had executed an employee stock ownership program to completely overhaul the company as employee owned. This approach led to more ownership from drivers and workers to give O&S Trucking a steady platform for growth and success.

Nearly twenty years later, O&S Trucking provides transportation services to customers throughout the United States and Canada, offering opportunities for owner operators, drivers, small fleet owners and outside carriers. O&S Trucking continually encourages their leaders to generate innovative and engaging opportunities for their company. For example, they created an interactive Trucker's Challenge board game to help over 350 truck owners learn the responsibility and business skills to become a better owner-operator. In 2007, O&S Trucking launched the MegaTruck program to take full advantage of capacity and create an environmentally sensitive truck to haul more freight while reducing their carbon footprint.

The MegaTruck program was created to address fuel efficiency, driver availability and sustainability concerns for both refrigerated and dry van transportation. The MegaTruck is able to maximize product weight per truck without losing revenue and, in fact, the equipment operated under the MegaTruck program averages more miles per week than regular over-the-road trucks. This approach to business is the reason O&S Trucking is one of the few trucking companies to have grown since 2000 and this success should be seen as a bright vision as Missouri looks for new ways to improve our ever changing economy.

Taken together, the Trucker's Challenge and the MegaTruck Program have made O&S Trucking the first company Commercial Carrier Journal has recognized as Innovator of the Year. In addition, Jim O'Neal, President of O&S Trucking, serves as Mayor of Missouri's third largest city, Springfield, Missouri.

To Mayor and President Jim O'Neal, Chief Executive Officer David Corsaut, Chief Operating Officer Rick Johnson and the rest of the team at O&S Trucking, I offer my congratulations on being recognized as the 2010 Innovator of Year.

DESIGNATE CAUCASUS EMIRATE  
AS A FOREIGN TERRORIST OR-  
GANIZATION

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 29, 2010*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution urging the Secretary of State to formally designate the Caucasus Emirate as a foreign terrorist organization. The Caucasus Emirate seeks to establish a Taliban style Islamic state on the sovereign territory of the Russian Federation, Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan and has declared jihad against the United States, Russia, Great Britain, and any other state fighting international terrorism. Let us stand together with Russia and take serious measures to disrupt and destroy this dangerous organization. I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

JACKIE EVANS

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 29, 2010*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jackie Evans who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Jackie Evans is an 8th grader at Arvada Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jackie Evans is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Jackie Evans for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character to all her future accomplishments.

HONORING BRUCE IACOBUCCI

**HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 29, 2010*

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bruce Iacobucci, for his leadership and dedication to the Citizens of Bucks County and for his hard work for the United Way of Bucks County.

Mr. Iacobucci is the recent recipient of the Dr. Stanton Kelton Award given to those who show their dedication to the betterment of their community through their compassion and generosity.

Undaunted by the current economic uncertainties, Bruce Iacobucci has worked hard and has continued to be a major contributor to the goals of the United Way of Bucks County to the betterment of our community.

Madam Speaker, I am proud today to recognize Bruce Iacobucci for his leadership in our community and for his dedication to the citizens of the 8th District. Please join me in honoring him today.

OCCASION OF MAJOR SPEROS  
KOUMPARAKIS' TRANSFER FROM  
THE UNITED STATES MARINE  
CORPS LIAISON OFFICE

**HON. W. TODD AKIN**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 29, 2010*

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, today I recognize and pay tribute to Major Speros Koumparakis, United States Marine Corps, on the occasion of his transfer from the liaison office. I, and many other members of this Chamber, have had the pleasure of working with him over the past 3 years that he has served as part of U.S. Marine Corps Office of Legislative Affairs and as the Deputy Director of the USMC Liaison Office in the U.S. House of Representatives.

From his arrival in the October of 2006 to his departure in May 2010, Major Speros Koumparakis has represented the Marine Corps on all matters pertaining to the U.S. House of Representatives. During his time in the House Liaison Office, Major Koumparakis planned, led and executed many of the Marine Corps' most difficult and challenging legislative initiatives and distinguished himself as a leader and as a visible example of Marine Corps professionalism and values. Through his direct and skillful engagement with numerous Members of Congress and Professional Staff Members, he ensured that the Marine Corps' concepts, programs, and requirements were widely understood; resulting in the greatest possible support to the Marine Corps. His initiative, leadership, and tireless efforts as a fellow, legislative liaison officer and as the Deputy Director of the House Liaison Office have had a direct and lasting impact on improving the war fighting capabilities and the quality of life for Marines throughout the Marine Corps. Among his many achievements are:

Major Koumparakis consistently demonstrated his expertise and knowledge by providing timely and accurate information to the Members of Congress and their respective staffs. He was a vital asset for all matters relating to the Marine Corps and their relationship with the House of Representatives. Major Koumparakis' straightforward and professional work garnered the respect of Members and staffers alike. His candor and knowledge were key attributes in maintaining the Marine Corps' superb relationships with the many Members of the House of Representatives.

Throughout his tour, Major Koumparakis personally responded to hundreds of congressional inquiries, many of which gained national level attention. Through his exceptional interpersonal skills and broad knowledge in a wide range of military affairs, he assisted the Director, Marine Corps House of Representatives Liaison Office, in gaining the Members' support for issues critical to the Marine Corps. This exemplary customer service provided the Marine Corps latitude and time to reach appropriate solutions in each case. Major Koumparakis directly contributed to the Marine

Corps' high degree of success in these matters that may not have been otherwise achieved.

Major Koumparakis successfully planned, coordinated, and escorted more than 50 international domestic trips for high-level Congressional and Staff Delegations.

These delegations often included senior leadership Representatives, such as the Minority Leader of the House, Chairs and Ranking Members of the House Armed Services Committee and other Committees of jurisdiction. These delegations traveled world-wide and visited heads of state, military commands, and deployed U.S. military personnel. His meticulous planning, attention to detail and anticipation of requirements allowed the Representatives and staff personnel to focus on fact-finding and learning new information to guide critical decisions made by the Members of Congress. These trips enabled our elected leaders to understand both the successes and challenges facing our Marines that could only be gleaned from first-hand observation and face-to-face interaction. These trips led to increased Congressional support for funding the needs of our deployed Marines and led to a greater appreciation and admiration for the sacrifices made by our Marines and their families. The close relationships developed on these trips paid dividends for the Marine Corps in all areas of legislative affairs.

Another example of this Marine's impact on Capitol Hill was Major Koumparakis' having led or assisted in the planning, coordination, and execution of countless events, receptions, and meetings on Capitol Hill. These events included New Member Orientation for the Freshman Congressional Class of the 110th and 111th Congresses which took place both on Capitol Hill and in Williamsburg, Virginia; Four Marine Corps Birthday Cake Cutting Ceremonies with the U.S. House of Representatives; countless House Armed Services and House Foreign Affairs Committee hearings and events, promotion ceremonies, awards ceremonies, retirement ceremonies, and guided tours of the Capitol. He also scheduled and facilitated several hundred office calls for the leadership of the Marine Corps to include the Commandant of the Marine Corps, Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, the Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, and numerous other General Officers conducting business on Capitol Hill.

Utilizing his particular expertise in Communications, Major Koumparakis was instrumental in designing and implementing an engagement tracking system for use within the liaison office shared drive. His efforts digitized a complex and cumbersome system and enabled all liaisons to have easy access to shared information, allowing them to focus on their work and create unity of effort in the office.

In addition to the administrative requirements of the Marine Liaison Office, Major Koumparakis was instrumental in leading the planning and execution of the Capitol Hill Running Club for the past two years. This club met several times weekly, preparing hundreds of Capitol Hill staffers and military personnel to run the Marine Corps Marathon. Due to his hard work, the Club offered the Marine Corps an opportunity to engage with Congressional Staffers through physical training and raised the level of Marine Corps Marathon awareness on Capitol Hill.

On a personal note, Major Koumparakis served as a military fellow on my staff in 2007. Speros was a fantastic addition to our office and was an invaluable resource to me in my duties on the House Armed Services Committee. His smiling face will never be forgotten by me or my staff.

Major Koumparakis, through his dedication to professional, exemplary engagement with Congress has contributed immeasurably to the Marine Corps' solid reputation throughout Capitol Hill. The rapport he developed with Members of the House of Representatives and the Professional Staff Members have made a lasting impression with these Members and Staff and have set the tone for a lasting partnership between the Marine Corps and Congress for years to come. The time he has spent supporting Members of the House has been truly noteworthy. He has made lasting contributions to the House of Representatives.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL  
DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 29, 2010*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$12,876,734,073,745.72.

On January 6, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$2,238,308,327,451.90 so far this Congress.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

HANNAH LYNCH

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 29, 2010*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Hannah Lynch who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Hannah Lynch is a 7th grader at Mandalay Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Hannah Lynch is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Hannah Lynch for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character to all her future accomplishments.