

JAMES LEWIS BAKER

HON. STEVE AUSTRIA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 29, 2010

Mr. AUSTRIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of James Lewis Baker.

Jim Baker of Springfield, Ohio, was born June 18, 1945, and his life was dedicated to his family and neighbors. His acts of charity and goodwill made him well-known and loved in his local community and his energetic presence will be missed.

A 1963 graduate of Northeastern High School, Jim served in the United States Air Force as an Air Policeman, conducting a tour in Vietnam and achieving the rank of sergeant. He received the Bronze Star for bravery as he was the first to respond in an emergency, saving the life of a fellow officer.

After his service, Jim established his family in Springfield, Ohio, with his wife, Jean (Woolweaver) Baker, and two sons. He was a local area businessman and served as the traffic control officer for the Springfield Police Department until his retirement. Jim was an active and respected member of the community, known best for his hard work and willingness to help others. He received the Springfield Citizenship Award for heroically assisting police officers in capturing a suspect.

Jim Baker, 64, had an enthusiasm for life that left an impression on each person he was encountered. He was a corner stone of the community and his life is an outstanding example of good citizenship. It is a privilege to honor his life today.

JOHN E.D. BALL

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 29, 2010

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I call to the attention of the House the passing on March 25 of John E.D. Ball, 77, a resident of Vienna, Virginia, who was the founding president of the National Captioning Institute and two-time national Emmy Award winner for his television engineering work.

Mr. Ball was a native of Glasgow, Scotland. An avid electronics buff as a teenager, he was a graduate of Glasgow's Royal College of Science and Technology. He served two years in the Royal Air Force as a radio signaller and 13 years with the BBC. Recruited by Computer Sciences Corporation, he and his family arrived in the United States in 1966. He joined the Public Broadcasting Service in 1971 and helped implement the first domestic satellite distribution system. Completed in 1978, the project won Mr. Ball his first Emmy award for engineering.

His interest in developing closed captioning for television programs was spawned in 1972 when he attended a briefing at Gallaudet College (now Gallaudet University) and was struck by the enthusiasm from the largely deaf audience following a demonstration by ABC-TV and the National Bureau of Standards of a subtitling system for the deaf. He worked over the next 7 years at PBS to make closed caption television a reality and in 1980 accepted

on behalf of PBS a second national engineering Emmy Award.

Mr. Ball's effort led to the establishment later that year of the National Captioning Institute, a nonprofit that worked to expand the availability of closed captioning, for which Mr. Ball served as the founding president and chief executive officer for 15 years. At the urging of NCI and others, Congress passed the Television Decoder Circuitry Act in 1990 that required new televisions with screens larger than 13 inches to be equipped with closed-captioning technology. Today the "talking TV" logo has become one of the most recognizable symbols in the country.

For his exceptional dedication and work, Mr. Ball was awarded an honorary degree from Gallaudet University and also received a distinguished service award from the American-Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

Madam Speaker, we extend our sympathies to Mr. Ball's family, including his wife, the former Elizabeth Rodger of Vienna, Virginia; three sons, Norman Ball of Leesburg, Adrian Ball of Arlington County and Evan Ball of Vienna; and a grandson.

INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION
SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND
IDEALS OF THE INTERNATIONAL
YEAR OF BIODIVERSITY

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 29, 2010

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, today I have introduced a resolution to support the goals and ideas of the International Year of Biodiversity and to recognize the importance of biodiversity to ecosystems and human well-being. As our understanding of the interactions between humans and the environment grows, it has never been more evident and is highly dependent on our natural resources for the ecological goods, services and raw materials that underpin our economies, provide for our well-being, and are functional to many cultures. And accordingly, many of the goods and services on which we depend, both directly and indirectly, are supported by Earth's rich biodiversity.

Biodiversity describes the variety of plant and animal life on earth, the places they inhabit, and the interactions between them. Today scientists have identified over 1.7 million species and have estimated that at least 13 million are in existence. Biodiversity allows ecosystems to be resilient in the face of change, which is critical to consider as we move toward a world where increasing population, economic growth, and unpredictable climate will place additional pressures on our natural resources.

This resolution to support the goals and ideals of the International Year of biodiversity which I have introduced today, recognizes the environmental and societal value of diversity and the urgent need to protect this precious global heritage.

Globally, 35 percent of mangrove swamps have been removed, 40 percent of been cut down, 50 percent of freshwater wetlands have been lost, and 20 percent of coral reefs have been destroyed. While some of these losses might be restored in the future, regrettably

many species and habitats, once lost, are gone forever. Moreover, the current pace of habitat loss is rapid, as more natural areas are altered or removed to provide for agriculture and aquaculture production, housing and urban industry and recreation. In my home territory of Guam, we are particularly vulnerable to climate change impacts, including increasing sea temperature, ocean acidification, and sea level rise, which threaten biodiversity within marine habitats. International and domestic conservation strategies are necessary to prevent the unfettered loss of critical areas of biodiversity, in Guam and globally, to ensure that ecosystem goods and services—such as shore protection and sustainable fisheries—are provided future generations.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to advance this important resolution to reaffirm the United States' global leadership and longstanding commitment to the preservation and conservation of Earth's biodiversity, and to raise awareness about biodiversity's important role in supporting ecological and human well-being across the world.

COMMEMORATING THE 250TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF BETHESDA PRES-
BYTERIAN CHURCH, YORK COUN-
TY, SOUTH CAROLINA

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 29, 2010

Mr. SPRATT. Madam Speaker, I want to call the attention of the House to a landmark event in the Fifth Congressional District of South Carolina. On Sunday, May 2, 2010, the Bethesda Presbyterian Church of York County will celebrate its 250th anniversary. For 2½ centuries, Bethesda Presbyterian Church has kept the faith, preaching the gospel and bearing witness to its faith through Christian service and community leadership.

Worship at Bethesda began in the 1760s among some one hundred forty families, most of whom had immigrated from northern Ireland by way of Pennsylvania, Virginia, and the low country of South Carolina. Bethesda Presbyterian Church was formally organized in 1769, and became instrumental in forming other Presbyterian churches in our area. According to church records, its outreach included two churches in western Mississippi.

During the Revolution, after the fall of Charleston in 1781, Bethesda became a stronghold of resistance to the British. Its members figured prominently in the Battle of Huck's Defeat at the nearby Williamson Plantation. In the early 1800s, Bethesda was the site of evangelical meetings, now called the Great Awakening, which inspired the creation of churches throughout the upcountry of South Carolina.

The Bethesda church buildings have undergone various changes over the years, but the church's exterior still reflects the simple, old meeting house design, and the cemetery on the grounds is as hallowed as it is historic. In 1977 the Bethesda Presbyterian Church was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Despite the social changes of 250 years, war, economic crisis, and the ravages of time,

Bethesda has remained an old rock of the faith, with a future as promising as its past. In view of its long and glorious history, I ask that this commemoration of the Bethesda Presbyterian Church's 250th anniversary be noted by the Nation through entry in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

CONGRATULATING THE ENTERPRISE ASSOCIATION OF STEAMFITTERS, UNITED ASSOCIATION LOCAL UNION 638

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 29, 2010

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I am both honored and privileged to congratulate the over five hundred Enterprise Association of Steamfitters, United Association Local Union 638 retirees and their families who live in the state of Florida as they celebrate the 125th anniversary of the founding of their great union.

Steamfitters Local 638 was chartered in 1884 as Local Assembly 3189 under the Knights of Labor. In 1914 the Local Assembly became one of the first Enterprise Association of Steamfitters locals to join the United Association, eventually being incorporated as United Association Local 638 in August of 1947. Since their incorporation, the Enterprise Association has trained close to 3,000 apprentices, ensuring a dignified wage, benefits, and a skilled trade to all who have passed through the program.

Although many things have changed throughout its distinguished history, the Enterprise Association has preserved its reputation as an organization of highly skilled craftsmen dedicated to the preservation and protection of its members and their trade. The presence of so many Local 638 members in our community has helped Florida's working families overcome many barriers in their daily struggle to earn a living wage. South Florida is truly a better place because of their active engagement in the betterment of our community.

I salute the Enterprise Association for 125 years of service to the trade union movement and for facilitating a dignified living wage. I wish the members and retirees of United Association Local 638 congratulations during this momentous occasion.

IN HONOR OF MICHAEL D. PATTERSON, RECREATION DIRECTOR FOR THE CITY OF ROCKY RIVER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 29, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Michael D. Patterson, Recreation Director for the City of Rocky River, in celebration of his retirement after 34 years of service.

Thanks to his hard work and expertise, the Rocky River Parks and Recreation Depart-

ment has been able to expand, offering programs to better the quality of life for all residents. Mr. Patterson began his career with the Parks and Recreation Department after earning a Master's degree from the University of Tennessee in 1976. When he first started, the Department only had five full-time employees. Today, the department employs sixteen.

Under Mr. Patterson's leadership, the Rocky River Outdoor Pool was renovated; the ice rink was renovated twice; a new civic center was constructed; and Rocky River's parklands were restored and maintained. Mr. Patterson has been a longtime member of the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association, including his service as President of the board from 2000 to 2001. During his time as Recreation Director, the City of Rocky River was honored with several awards from the State of Ohio, including the Superior Award for Teen Programs and the Outstanding Facility Award for the Don Umerley Civic Center.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Michael D. Patterson, whose unwavering dedication to the Parks and Recreation Department in Rocky River, Ohio has helped to preserve and promote the green spaces in our community. I wish Mr. Patterson and his family an abundance of health, happiness and peace in all of their future endeavors.

HONORING THE RAINIER CLUB'S ARTIST LAUREATE

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 29, 2010

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, I rise today, on the occasion of the honoring of Stephen Wadsworth's lifetime achievement by one of Seattle's historic organizations and keeper of the arts, the Rainier Club. The people of the State of Washington hold up as a national inspiration the work of Stephen Wadsworth, stage director and writer.

Associated with Seattle Opera for more than 25 years, Stephen Wadsworth is a renowned director whose work has included acclaimed productions at the Metropolitan Opera, Teatro alla Scala, Royal Opera Covent Garden, Vienna Staatsoper, Nederlandse Opera, and Edinburgh Festival, and in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Toronto, and Santa Fe. He made his Seattle Opera debut with Jancek's Jenufa and has returned for Gluck's Iphigenia in Tauris (a co-production with the Metropolitan Opera) and Orphée et Eurydice; Handel's Xerxes; and Wagner's Lohengrin, Fliegende Holländer, and Ring.

Highlights of his operatic work include the Seattle Orphée (1988), on which he collaborated with Mark Morris. Of that production, The New Yorker magazine wrote "Inspired productions touch the heart of a listener's being, reveal music's power to sound every string of a psyche; make the theater what it should be, a place of, at once, ecstasy, entertainment, and moral and political enlightenment. The Seattle Orphée was such a production. It made the absurd extravaganzas of opera, all that it costs in public and private money and personal, hardworking devotion, seem worthwhile."

Wadsworth has staged much-traveled productions of plays by Shakespeare, Molière, Marivaux, Goldoni, Shaw, Wilde, and Coward. Wadsworth wrote the opera A Quiet Place with Leonard Bernstein, and directed the world premieres of Daron Aric Hagen's Shining Brow and Peter Lieberman's Ashoka's Dream, as well as new plays by Beth Henley and Anna Deavere Smith. He has translated a number of works for the stage, including works by Monteverdi, Handel, and Mozart.

The French government named Stephen Wadsworth a Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres for his work on Molière and Marivaux. He is the Head of Dramatic Studies at the Metropolitan Opera's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program, and the James S. Marcus Faculty Fellow and Director of Opera Studies at the Juilliard School, where he has launched the first intensive acting program for opera singers.

Stephen Wadsworth's influence is international and broad in scope, but it is our honor that his presence is local to Washington State's 7th Congressional District. His work has brought a rich luminosity to the Seattle arts community for many years, and I am privileged now to note his profound contribution to our cultural life.

CONGRATULATING COMMANDER KAREN MILLER ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 29, 2010

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a dedicated public servant from my Congressional District, Commander Karen Miller. After spending 25 years in the Addison Police Department, she is retiring at the end of April.

Commander Miller started her career in the Dispatch Department and was then assigned to the Patrol Division for 8 years. In 1993 she was named the full time D.A.R.E. /Crime Prevention Officer for the Department. For those 8 years Karen taught more than one thousand 5th grade students the importance of living a drug-free life.

Additionally, Commander Miller developed many programs within the Addison Police Department designed to better educate the public about crime prevention. The programs created under her leadership include the Citizens Police Academy, Senior Citizen Police Academy, Citizens on Patrol, Volunteers In Policing Service, Seniors And Law-Enforcement Together, and Community Emergency Response Team.

Madam Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, Karen Miller is a remarkable public servant who has dedicated her life to serving the people of Addison. Please join me in recognizing her extraordinary service and wishing her happiness in the well deserved respite of her retirement.