

Best wishes.
Sincerely,

FRANK R. WOLF,
Member of Congress.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR
PROMPT RESPONSE TO AT-
TEMPTED TERRORIST ATTACK
IN TIMES SQUARE

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 5, 2010

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Homeland Security Committee, I rise today in strong support of House Resolution 1320, expressing support for the vigilance and prompt response of the citizens and law enforcement agencies in New York and Connecticut to the attempted terrorist attack in Times Square on May 1, 2010, their exceptional professionalism and investigative work following the attempted attack, and their consistent commitment to preparedness for and collective response to terrorism.

I would like to acknowledge Speaker PELOSI and Chairman THOMPSON for their leadership in bringing this important resolution to the floor. I would also like to thank my colleagues Congressman MCMAHON, Congressman HIMES, and Congressman HALL, who authored this legislation.

As Chair of the Homeland Security Subcommittee on Emergency Communication, Preparedness, and Response, I am an original cosponsor of this resolution. I am pleased to join my colleagues in recognizing the New York City first responders who safely evacuated hundreds of people from Times Square and responded in a prompt and effective manner, as the result of extensive terrorism preparedness efforts that are supported, in part, by the Department of Homeland Security. H. Res. 1320 recognizes the efforts of these men and women as well as the action of two alert citizens, Mr. Lance Orton and Mr. Duane Jackson, who notified the New York Police Department about a suspicious vehicle that was parked on 45th Street in Times Square. It is due to the exceptional professionalism and investigative work by the New York Police Department, the New York Police Department Bomb Squad, the Fire Department of New York, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Customs and Border Protection, the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, the New York Joint Terrorism Task Force, and other law enforcement agencies in Connecticut that a suspect was apprehended only 48 hours following the attempted bombing.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I support this bill because it is important to recognize and honor the men and women who put themselves in harm's way all day, every day, doing the important work to keep our homeland safe. I am proud to stand with my colleagues today in support of this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 1320.

RECOGNIZING CHARLY SKAGGS OF
JUVENILE SERVICES OF
WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. CARTER. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Mr. Charly Skaggs upon his retirement from Williamson County Juvenile Services after 32 years of service. Charly served 24 of those years as the chief probation officer. In the beginning of Charly's career there were only seven employees in the juvenile services department and the county had just broken ground on a ten-bed secure detention facility.

Williamson County grew a great deal during Charly's time of service resulting in operation of a detention center, a non-secure residential center, a juvenile justice alternative education program, a secure residential program, court services, probation services, community services, electronic monitoring and the first military model residential setting with 150 employees. Charly has spent many years traveling all over the U.S. training in the juvenile services field, as well as serving as the past president of the National and Texas Juvenile Detention Associations. I had the pleasure of working with Charly when I sat on the Bench as District Judge of Williamson County. It is an honor to congratulate my friend on his retirement and I wish him all the best.

CONGRATULATING THE 2010
MOUNT CARMEL SCHOOL WE THE
PEOPLE TEAM

**HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO
SABLAN**

OF THE MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. SABLAN. Madam Speaker, once again, the students of Mount Carmel School have won the honor to represent the Northern Mariana Islands in the annual "We the People" competition. Mount Carmel has a tradition of excellence in speech and debate and this year's group of orators continued that tradition with distinction.

The competition is directed by the Center for Civic Education and funded by Congress through the Education for Democracy Act.

This is a program we should continue to support. I watched the Mount Carmel students testify in a simulated congressional hearing on constitutional issues they had studied in the *We the People: The Citizen and The Constitution* textbook. The students are nothing short of impressive in their knowledge and their understanding of the historical bases and the philosophical concepts underlying the document that established our national government.

Eleven hundred students from around our nation earned the right to come to Washington for the final competition over the weekend of April 24th by competing against other schools in their congressional district and States. This

is but a fraction of the students who participate and benefit. In its 23-year history the *We the People: The Citizen and The Constitution* program has reached more than 30 million students.

A survey of program alumni demonstrates that students take to heart what they learn. Ninety-five percent of the respondents voted in the November 2008 election. Additionally, 76 percent voted in all previous elections for which they were eligible, and 56 percent had contacted a government official regarding a public issue during the previous 12 months.

As in years past the *We the People* program honored a member of Congress with the Dale E. Kildee Civitas Award. Chairman David Obey was this year's recipient for his contribution to the field of civic education. I congratulate the Chairman for this recognition; and, again, I urge my colleagues to support this worthwhile program.

Now I'd like to recognize the Mount Carmel team members by name: Matthew Aquino, Geza Baka, III, Maria Balajadia, Rynne Camacho, Ericka Celestino, John Edward Elenzano, Ji Yeon Kim, Min Seong Kim, Savana Manglona, Ivan Matala, Nicoli Matala, Anthony Sablan, Nicolas Sablan, Troy Villafuerte, Brittany Yamagata, Calvin Yang, Joseph Yoon; and their coaches: Keolester Buenapacifico, Rosiky Camacho, Justice John Manglona, Judge Ramona Manglona; and chaperones, Maggie Sablan, Velma Palacios.

HONORING THE NEW JERSEY
STATE POLICE INTERNET
CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN
TASK FORCE

HON. JOHN H. ADLER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. ADLER of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the New Jersey State Police Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force for winning the Prosecutor's Unit Excellence Award. This award is given to a unit or group functioning within the criminal justice system in recognition of outstanding performance. They will be recognized at the Burlington County Prosecutor's Office 22nd Annual PROCOPS Award Banquet. PROCOPS, or Prosecutor's Recognition of Citizens or Public Servants, recognizes members of law enforcement and civilians whose significant actions, bravery and concern for the well being of society have made Burlington County, NJ a safer place to live.

The Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC) was created to aid law enforcement agencies in their investigations of offenders who use the Internet, online communication systems, or other computer technology to sexually exploit children. This group is important because it helps keep our children safe while they are surfing the internet.

Madam Speaker, I hope you will join me in recognizing the New Jersey State Police Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force for their outstanding performance.

RECOGNIZING MR. LONNIE MYERS
FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO
VAN BUREN

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Lonnie Myers for earning the Iverson Riggs Memorial Citizen of the Year Award for his dedication and commitment to Van Buren, Arkansas.

Myers, an assistant superintendent for the Van Buren School District, has been a big influence in the school system first as a teacher and coach, then as an assistant principal, principal and athletic director. Many in the community regard Myers as the driving force behind the creation of Van Buren High School Hall of Honor and for having played a big role in getting a multi-billion dollar tax package passed to upgrade school facilities.

Neighbors and community leaders agree that Myers is a caring man, with a big heart who always leads by example and is always working in the best interest of the community and students of the school district.

It's clear that Myers is very deserving of the Iverson Riggs Memorial Citizen of the Year Award. Now, after decades of calling Van Buren home, Myers is moving to take a job in a nearby community. He will be greatly missed in Van Buren, but his impact and influence won't be forgotten.

CONSTRUCTION AWARDS BANQUET

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great sincerity and admiration that I offer congratulations to several of Northwest Indiana's construction businesses, corporations, and contractors. On Friday, May 14, 2010, the Northwest Indiana Business Roundtable and the Construction Advancement Foundation will honor these entities and individuals at the Construction Awards Banquet, which will be held at the Avalon Manor Banquet Hall in Merrillville, Indiana.

The Northwest Indiana Business Roundtable (NWIBRT) is an independent non-profit council of local firms who are dedicated to the progress and development of construction and maintenance projects in Northwest Indiana. The NWIBRT's main goal is to promote safety, quality, and cost effectiveness by all construction business affiliates. The NWIBRT will be presenting the Safety Awards to many of these hard working local businesses. The recipient of the Safety Contractor of the Year Award is Solid Platforms, Inc. The Safety Excellence Award recipients are as follows: Total Safety US, Inc., Culver Roofing, Inc., The Pangere Corporation, Atlantic Plant Services, Interstate Insulation Corporation, Interstate Environmental Services, Inc., Correct Construction, Inc., Solid Platforms, Inc., The American Group of Constructors, Graycor Industrial Constructors, Inc., ATC Associates, Inc., Ambitech Engineering Corporation, and Orbital Engineering, Inc. The recipients of the Safety

Achievement Award are: M&O Environmental Company, Stevens Engineers & Constructors, Security Industries, Inc., Stevenson Crane Service, Inc., Falk-Pli, Middough, Inc., R.J. Mycka, Inc., and Superior Construction Company, Inc. The Safety Recognition Award recipients are as follows: Manta Industrial, Inc., EMCOR Hyre Electric Company of Indiana, Inc., Central Rent-a Crane, Inc., Mersino Dewatering, Inc., M&O Insulation Company, AMS Mechanical Systems, Regional Contractors Alliance, KM Plant Services, Inc., Meade Electric Company, Cornerstone Electrical Consultants, Inc., CET Inc., Tranco Industrial Services, Inc., and BMW Constructors, Inc. The Safety Progress Award recipients are Urban Elevator and Van's Industrial. The recipient of the Safety Innovation Award is Manta Industrial. This year's Roger Walters Memorial Safety Award recipient is Mr. Doug Patton, Project Safety Manager, BMW Constructors.

The Construction Advancement Foundation, CAF, was created in 1967 and represents Northwest Indiana union contractors. The CAF continues to be a major force in the growth and improvement of the union construction industry in Northwest Indiana. The CAF will also be presenting project and contractor of the year awards. This year's Public Works Project of the Year Award recipient is: Hasse Construction Company, Inc. for the Lost Marsh Clubhouse and the Hammond Port Authority. The recipient of the Commercial Project of the Year Award are Tonn & Blank Construction for the Valparaiso Family YMCA. The Industrial Project of the Year Award recipient is BMW Constructors, Inc., for the C8 Coal Conveyor Replacement/NIPSCO. The recipient of the Commercial Contractor of the Year Award is Berglund Construction, while the recipient of the Highway Contractor of the Year Award is Walsh & Kelly, Inc. The Industrial Contractor of the Year Award recipient is The Ross Group, Inc., and the Professional & Engineering Services Contractor of the Year recipient is ACMS Group. Finally, the recipient of this year's Sub-Contractor of the Year Award is Thatcher Foundations, Inc.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating these hard working individuals, businesses, and contractors for their dedication to the construction industry and to Northwest Indiana. They have contributed in many ways to the growth and development of the economy in Indiana's First Congressional District, and I am very proud to represent them in Washington, D.C.

IN RECOGNITION OF WILLIAM GOWER

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I would like to request the House's attention today to pay recognition to William Gower, a constituent of mine who has been overcoming his disabilities and gaining his freedom by participating in races for the past four years with Tim Thomas, Pastor of Munford Baptist Church in Munford, Alabama.

William Gower is a 37 year-old man with cerebral palsy who tirelessly works to prevail

over his challenges and lives a fulfilling life that many individuals without disabilities can only dream of. Together, Tim and William formed "Team Gower" and have participated as one in over 30 races.

On Saturday, April 17, 2010, "Team Gower" participated in a 15-mile race to raise money to help purchase a new special needs van for William. William has worked hard all his life, and this new van will help ensure he has the independence he wants.

All of us across East Alabama are deeply proud of William Gower and his outstanding strength. He is a role model for us all.

LAWRENCE KESTER

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I stand here today to honor and remember a loving father and husband, respected citizen and dedicated public servant, Mr. Lawrence Kester.

Lawrence was killed on duty May 7, 2010, while driving a San Bernardino County public transit bus, in Rialto, California. He was 47 years old.

He was the victim of a senseless stabbing attack by a mentally ill passenger. Although Lawrence did not survive the attack his passengers escaped traumatized but unscathed.

Fifteen years ago, Lawrence began working for the public transit system and went on to become one of the best regarded drivers in San Bernardino, as well as a great friend to the community.

He was well respected by his customers and colleagues alike, commended on numerous occasions for his consummate professionalism and attention to security.

Most recently, he was awarded the elite "Million Mile Club" membership which is reserved for drivers who have driven more than one million passenger miles in safety.

Lawrence is remembered as a Good Samaritan and trusted friend. He was the kind of man who would chip in for people when they didn't have enough change for the fare and generously greet customers as they entered and exited, wishing them a nice day.

Lawrence is survived by his wife, Misty, and 8 children. Lawrence and Misty celebrated their 12th anniversary of marriage last week and the family just recently spent a weekend at Disneyland together.

Let us take the time to pay tribute to this wonderful man. Let us celebrate the life he lived and the example he led.

Although he is no longer with us, his noble nature and loving kindness will continue to live on through the lives of everyone he touched.

The thoughts and prayers of my wife Barbara, my family and I are with his family at this time.

Madam Speaker, let us pay our respects to Lawrence Kester. He will always have a place in our memories and hearts for everything he gave to his family and community.