

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

REMARKS ON THE PASSING OF GRACE STENGEL THOMPSON

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2010

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember and pay tribute to the life of Grace Stengel Thompson.

Grace was born in Menard, Texas, to a German pioneering family on August 12, 1916. Her grandparents were Peter and Emma Jordan, who settled on Upper Willow Creek in Mason County in 1856. Her parents were George and Louise Stengel, who were prominent members of the Menard community. Grace and her husband, Claude, had three children—Toni Thompson Hurlbut, Judith Thompson Hunter and Claude John Thompson. Grace also has six grandchildren, ten great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandchild, and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Grace was proud of her heritage and of her large extended family; she kept up with many of her cousins, aunts, uncles, nieces, and nephews, loved them all, and loved being with them especially at family gatherings. Her front door was always open, as was her table. The family remembers many fine “spur of the moment” meals she fixed for whoever showed up. To say that she was a wonderful cook and hostess is quite an understatement.

After graduating from Menard High School, Grace attended Texas Tech University, and it was at Tech that Grace met her husband, Claude, who was President of the Student Body while she was Secretary of the Student Body. They were married in Menard in July of 1937. Grace was a life-long supporter of Texas Tech, and especially the university's athletic programs.

Grace moved from Menard to Lubbock when son John enrolled at Texas Tech University. While there, she served as administrative assistant to three Deans of Students from 1972 until 1983. Grace belonged to the PEO Sisterhood and she was also a member of Delta Delta Delta Sorority. Grace was a life-long Methodist who loved the Lord and all around her.

Grace passed away on May 13, 2010, in Fredericksburg, Texas. Services were held on May 15, 2010 at the First United Methodist Church of Mason, Texas, and the burial followed at Rest Haven Cemetery in Menard, Texas.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Grace's life and to offer her many family and friends my deepest condolences. Grace was adored by all those who knew her, and she will be missed.

HONORING REBECCA ACORS OF SPOTSYLVANIA, VIRGINIA

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2010

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Rebecca Acors, a dedicated educator from Spotsylvania County, Virginia, retiring after fifty-two years of teaching at Robert E. Lee Elementary School.

Mrs. Acors began her teaching career in 1957 after graduating from Mary Washington College with a degree in psychology. Over the first part of her career, she taught first, second, third, and fifth grades. In 1974 she graduated from the University of Virginia's Curry School of Education with a Master's in Education degree. After receiving her Virginia state certification as a Reading Specialist, she began serving as Robert E. Lee's Reading Specialist and has served in that position to the present day. She has taught children and grandchildren of her early students, and this year she is teaching her first great-grandchild.

Mrs. Acors has taught through many changes—new trends in education and the ever-increasing use of technology in the classroom. She made it her goal to embrace and utilize innovative teaching methods in accordance with new research findings. In 2001, she was named the University of Virginia's Elementary Teacher of the Year and in 2008 she was named Robert E. Lee Elementary School's Teacher of the Year. To summarize her outstanding career, Mrs. Rebecca Acors has had a positive impact on colleagues, parents, community members, and most importantly, children. As she described it, “To be able to help children accept themselves, to challenge each child to reach his/her full potential and to give the gift of reading is invaluable. I am content in knowing that I have changed lives and made a difference in this world.”

Rebecca Acors devoted her life to the children of Virginia and I congratulate and commend her on this significant achievement.

CONGRATULATING STAFF SGT. GREENDEER ON RECEIVING THE BRONZE STAR

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2010

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Staff Sgt. Jessika Greendeer, who has been awarded the Bronze Star for her services in the United States Army.

Jessika is a member of the Ho-Chunk Nation, and has served in the United States Army since 2004. She is the daughter of Conroy and Janet Greendeer, and the great-granddaughter of Corporal Mitchell Red Cloud,

Jr. The Ho-Chunk Nation has stated that she is the first Ho-Chunk woman to have been awarded the Bronze Star.

Her services during Operation Iraqi Freedom, and her outstanding performance during combat operations therein helped to make the command's mission a success. For her actions, she was awarded the Bronze Star, one of the highest military awards available to members of the Armed Services.

I am proud to stand before you today and commend Staff Sgt. Jessika Greendeer for her service to our country. As a citizen of the United States, I am personally grateful to Jessika for her excellence in the U.S. Army. She has demonstrated the kind of sacrifice and service to our country that not only makes her a role model to members of the Ho-Chunk Nation, but to all Americans.

RECOGNIZING MARGARET HUNNICUTT—TEMPE CHAMBER'S 2010 BUSINESSWOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2010

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Margaret Hunnicutt, who was recently named 2010 Businesswoman of the Year by the Tempe Chamber of Commerce.

Ms. Hunnicutt is currently the President and CEO of Tempe Schools Credit Union, an institution where she has served for nine years as both CFO and now CEO. Under her leadership, Ms. Hunnicutt has worked to keep the institution successful in both financial terms and in social responsibility. She brought the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program, or VITA, to the Tempe and Guadalupe communities where low-income families can take advantage of free tax preparation help. The program has been met with great success and recognized by the City of Tempe as improving the quality of life for countless residents.

In addition to her accomplishments at the credit union, Ms. Hunnicutt is a graduate of the Tempe Leadership program, a board member for the Tempe Union High School District Education Foundation, and she received the Bank of America Neighborhood Excellence Award in 2009.

Ms. Hunnicutt has also overcome great personal challenges in her path to success. She persevered to attain an education as a single mother, tirelessly working full time for 13 years while attending school part time and raising her three children.

I am honored to call Margaret a friend, and I am very proud to recognize her amazing achievements in my hometown community.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Margaret Hunnicutt's many contributions to our community.

• 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.

RECOGNIZING COACH REX
BERRYMAN

HON. TRAVIS W. CHILDERS

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2010

Mr. CHILDERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a special Mississippian, Coach Rex Berryman of Mooreville, Mississippi.

Coach Berryman has served as an educator and community leader at Mooreville High School for thirty-eight years. In 2004, he was inducted into the Mississippi Associates of Coaches Hall of Fame for his achievements. Throughout his career he has championed over 2,100 victories in all sports. Coach Berryman has led the Mooreville Troopers to win thirteen State Championships, including basketball, slow-pitch softball, and baseball.

I applaud Coach Rex Berryman's achievements and I know he will continue to support the Mooreville Troopers and victoriously represent Mississippi's First District. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Coach Rex Berryman for his commitment and years of service mentoring young students in Mississippi.

CELEBRATION OF MRS. MATTIE
LEE TOMLIN'S 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2010

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Mattie Lee Tomlin on the occasion of her 80th birthday and to commend her on 46 years of dedicated service as a school bus driver.

While serving our nation's public school system, Mrs. Tomlin was responsible for providing a safe environment for her students. Each school day for over 40 years, her promptness and dependability allowed her to transport school children from home to school. Her commitment made it possible for countless children to attend public school.

Mrs. Tomlin was born on June 23rd, 1930 in Jeffersonville, Georgia. After graduating from the Twiggs County School System, she served as a public school bus driver for six years. After relocating to Jackson, Michigan, she continued serving her community for a further 40 years. Throughout her years of enthusiastic support to our nation's school children, she has been widely recognized for her punctuality and commitment to safety.

Even in her retirement Mrs. Tomlin has continued her commitment to public service. For the past four years, she has volunteered her time at the Charlie Griswold Senior Center, where she currently serves as a VIP volunteer.

Madam Speaker, distinguished colleagues, it is with great pride that I recognize Mrs. Mattie Lee Tomlin for her years of service to our nation's school children. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring this exceptional woman on her 80th birthday.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF DEBORAH
VERNICE REYNOLDS-HAZEN OF
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2010

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember Deborah Vernice Reynolds-Hazen of Fort Worth, Texas.

Debbie danced her way into the lives of her parents, Alverta and Clarence Reynolds on January 12, 1953 in Fort Worth, Texas. She graduated from Our Mother of Mercy Catholic School, Nolan Catholic High School, and Paul Quinn College. Before her college graduation, she attended Tarrant County Junior College, where she was crowned Miss TCJC, and she attended Texas Wesleyan College.

Debbie was one of the first Black finalists for the Miss Texas pageant and one of the first Black models for the Kim Dawson modeling agency. In her work in the Water Quality Protection Division of the Environmental Protection Agency, she served as both a water specialist and the Texas Tribal Outreach Education Coordinator. Debbie also worked for the Corps of Engineers.

Debbie loved Fort Worth and she dedicated her life to helping others through her very active community involvement. Mrs. Reynolds-Hazen was the first African-American chair of the Tarrant County Historical Commission. She also served on the Kupferle Board of the Harris Methodist Hospital system, as well as the boards of the Tarrant County Black Historical and Genealogical Society, the Arlington Landmarks Commission, Historic Preservation Council for Tarrant County and Historic Fort Worth.

Debbie was a Fort Worth Assembly debutante and she continued her involvement with the distinguished organization as a general member and as a member of the Executive Board. She was a member of the Fort Worth chapter of the Links. She was a graduate of Leadership Fort Worth and was involved in her church of 57 years, the historic Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church in Fort Worth's beautiful South Side. It was there that she was a member of St. Anne's Altar Society and had sung with the first OMM Gospel Choir.

Always the life of anyone's party, Debbie was an enthusiastic and great dancer. In her lifetime, she had won many dance contests. It was not uncommon for her to make any floor her dancing arena. Her passion for dancing was infectious. She would pull people on the dance floor and made everyone want to dance with her, including those who were the most shy.

Debbie never met a stranger. She had an unparalleled flair about her. She could sashay into any crowd of people she didn't know and would walk away knowing the majority of them or the majority of people would walk away knowing who Debbie was.

This social butterfly was a very well-rounded person. An avid supporter of visual and performing arts, Debbie was a patron of museums and theatre, she travelled around the world, won many trivia contests, and played classical piano. She even recorded an album showcasing her musical talent.

She is survived by her beloved and devoted husband of 15 years, Robert J. Hazen, step-

daughters Robin Renee Black, UVanna Miller, brother, Clarence Reynolds, Jr., nieces, Judith M. Bell, Shelly Bell, and Jessica Reynolds, cousin (and unofficial younger sister), Glenda Batts Williams and uncles Roscoe Marion Means, Marshall Batts, and Melvin Buckner, and a whole host of loving relatives and dear friends.

Debbie was preceded in death by her parents, Alverta and Clarence, by her sister, Clarece, sister-in-law, Alma, and stepson Wes Hazen. She danced her way back into these beloved relatives' lives on May 14, 2010.

A Wake will be held in Debbie's memory on Friday, May 21, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. at Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church at 1001 Terrell Avenue, in Fort Worth, Texas. The funeral Mass will be held at Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church on Saturday, May 22, 2010, at 1:00 p.m. The family asks that in lieu of flowers, a gift to the National Kidney Foundation be made in Mrs. Reynolds-Hazen's memory.

Madam Speaker, today I rise in remembrance of the very talented, enthusiastic, dedicated and selfless Deborah Vernice Reynolds-Hazen. She has had a profound effect on many, and will be dearly missed.

TRIBUTE TO DREW KELLY

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Coach Drew Kelly of Ames, Iowa, for his induction into the Iowa High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) Wrestling Hall of Fame.

Drew has one of the most storied and impeccable high school wrestling careers the state of Iowa has ever seen. He is one of the 65 Iowa high school wrestlers of all time to win three career state championships, which he did from 1997 to 1999. As a four-time state qualifier while wrestling at Charles City High School, Drew compiled a 133-10 record, closing out his career winning 110 of his final 111 matches. While at Charles City High School, Drew was also a three-time all-state baseball player, a two-time all-state football player and a three-time state track meet qualifier.

After high school, he then went on to wrestle at the University of Northern Iowa. He was an assistant coach for two years in Fort Dodge, Iowa before beginning his current coaching job at Ames High School in 2008.

I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in congratulating Coach Drew Kelly on his fine wrestling and coaching career, and on his induction into the IHSAA Wrestling Hall of Fame. It is an honor to represent Coach Kelly and his students in Congress, and I wish him the best as he continues to provide a positive impact as a role model and educator at Ames High School.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2010

Mr. KING of Iowa. Madam Speaker, on roll-call No. 261, I was detained while attempting