

IN HONOR OF LANCE CORPORAL
NICHOLAS O'BRIEN

HON. SUE WILKENS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 13, 2011

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life of Lance Corporal Nicholas O'Brien—a Marine from Stanley, NC, who was killed in action while serving our country in Afghanistan. He had just turned 21 two weeks earlier.

Nic—as he was known to family and friends—entered the United States Marine Corps knowing the risks, but also knowing that he had a calling to serve our country.

From a young age, he knew he wanted to be a Marine, and even turned down scholarships to continue playing baseball—he was a star player at East Gaston High School, from which he graduated in 2008.

Lance Corporal Nic O'Brien is what his father calls “a true American hero in every sense of the word.” He's right.

There is no way that we can adequately thank our men and women in uniform all for their service and sacrifice to protect our freedoms. The thoughts and prayers of our entire Nation are with them—those who have bravely served, and the families of those whose ultimate sacrifice will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our deepest thanks and condolences to the O'Brien family and to everyone who knew Nic—a true American hero.

REGARDING THE LEGENDARY
JIMMY HEATH, RECIPIENT OF
THE 2011 DC JAZZ FESTIVAL
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 13, 2011

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, many of my colleagues know of my passion for jazz music. This original American art form has played an influential role in my life and is as integral to my District as Motown and automobiles. As such, it has been my pleasure to support and promote the music over my many years in Washington.

I am proud to be an original supporter of the 7-year old DC Jazz Festival, now the largest music festival in the Nation's Capital. It has truly been a pleasure to be a part of this event and all it offers the District and the Nation—from great year-round jazz programming to real educational partnerships with the DC public schools. Truly, the DC Jazz Festival demonstrates that equality, inclusion and democratic values stand at the heart of jazz music.

Since its inception in 2005, the DC Jazz Festival honors living legends each year with a Lifetime Achievement Award. Past recipients include Dave Brubeck, Dr. Billy Taylor, Clark Terry, Hank Jones, Buck Hill, George Wein, Ellis Marsalis and James Moody. Today I rise to add my words of congratulations to the most recent jazz legend to receive this honor—Mr. Jimmy Heath.

The second oldest brother of the legendary Heath Brothers, Jimmy Heath has long been

recognized as a virtuoso instrumentalist, and magnificent composer and arranger. He has performed on more than 100 recordings with his own groups, as well as with jazz icons such as Dizzy Gillespie, James Moody, and Miles Davis, to name just a few. Nicknamed “Little Bird” due to his similarities in saxophone style to Charlie “Bird” Parker, Mr. Heath has written more than 125 compositions, many of which have become jazz standards. Mr. Heath has also long understood the importance of educating the next generation jazz musician. A preeminent educator, he directed the jazz program at Queens College in New York for over twenty years. Jimmy Heath was also a panelist at my 1987 Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Jazz Forum entitled: “Jazz a Family Tradition.” He talked about his experience growing up in a household with two brothers who also became world renowned jazz musicians: Percy Heath, and Albert “Tootie” Heath.

Jimmy Heath has served on the Board of the Louis Armstrong Archives housed at Queens College, and taught at renowned institutions, including New York's famed Jazzmobile, Housatonic College, the City College of New York, and The New School for Social Research. Recipient of the 2003 NEA Jazz Masters Award, we celebrate Jimmy Heath's enduring achievements and contributions to our nation's singular original art form.

Today, I am proud to honor this American living legend and pass on my congratulations for a job well done and an award well deserved.

HONORING KARL BAUER

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 13, 2011

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and accomplishments of Karl Bauer who passed away on February 16, 2011. For many years, he served as an active member of the Greater Independence Park Neighborhood Association and a source of joy for all those who knew him.

As a young man, Mr. Bauer escaped from East Germany and arrived in Chicago in 1957. He brought with him tremendous skill as a machinist and worked in several small shops throughout the city over the course of his life.

After marrying Edith Bauer, the love of his life, the two bought a house at the corner of Byron and Hamlin in the center of the 5th Congressional District. This house served as a source of pride and happiness for Mr. Bauer and came to be a model of excellence for the rest of the neighborhood. He soon became active in his new community, joined GIPNA and, in the words of his neighbors, served as “a familiar and loveable presence.” Always willing to help, he acted as a dependable block representative and made sure to greet neighbors at the pancake breakfast every year.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering Karl Bauer and his commitment to improving and supporting his neighborhood. His work has touched the lives of many in his community, and his contributions will be greatly missed.

IN HONOR OF THE REVEREND
JOHN KEVIN RING

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 13, 2011

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Father John Kevin Ring, who on June 12, 2011 will celebrate his Golden Jubilee of priestly service in San Francisco, California.

I join my fellow parishioners in profound gratitude for Father Ring's service as Pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Church and St. Vincent de Paul School, both which have flourished with his guidance over the past 24 years.

Father John Ring was born in San Francisco and grew up in St. Anne's Parish in the Sunset district. He entered the seminary at St. Joseph's College in Mountain View and continued his studies for the Priesthood at St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park. Father Ring was ordained a priest on June 10, 1961 at St. Mary's Cathedral and began his first assignment at the Most Holy Redeemer Parish in San Francisco. He served at St. Patrick's in Larkspur, St. Matthew's in San Mateo, St. Brigid's in San Francisco and Mater Dolorosa Church in South San Francisco before being appointed by Archbishop Quinn in 1986 to serve as fifth Pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Church in San Francisco.

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church was founded in 1901, also called the “Church of Cow Hollow” for its oldest neighborhood, “Church of the Exposition” for the Panama Pacific International Exposition that took place largely in the Marina District and the “Church of the Earthquakes” since it withstood both of San Francisco's big earthquakes.

The 1989 earthquake was a momentous event in the history of the St. Vincent de Paul parish because much of the damage was sustained in the Marina District, including considerable structural damage to the church itself. On the Friday following the earthquake Archbishop John Quinn offered mass at the church. Father Ring presided over the church's renovation which was celebrated at the Feast of St. Vincent de Paul on September 27, 1991. Both the new altar and the new pipe organ were dedicated by Archbishop Quinn in 1993.

As Pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Church, Father Ring stressed the need to involve the laity in decision and policy making. During his Pastorate there were many beginnings, including a mass for young adults, a group of Home Visitors to care for the sick and homebound in the parish, and beyond, and girls were allowed to be altar servers.

Father Ring formed a Parish Finance Committee and worked to stabilize St. Vincent de Paul School that has become a highly regarded parochial school in San Francisco.

The individuals and families in Father Ring's parish have been blessed with a Pastor who has strengthened their church and school, built community, and inspired their love for service and their love for God.

On a personal note, my husband Paul's parents John and Corinne Pelosi became parishioners of St. Vincent de Paul in the 1930s and our family has had a relationship with this parish for over 70 years. Although Father Ring will be retiring he will long be an inspiration to our family.

IN RECOGNITION OF HONDA
NORTH AMERICA'S OPERATIONS
BACK UP BY AUGUST 2011

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 13, 2011

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to the people of Honda by including an editorial below from The Daily Home on May 28th about their resilience after the tragedies in Japan.

It is very good news that Honda expects all its North American operations to be back to full speed by August and that includes its Lincoln plant where three of its most popular vehicles are assembled.

The March earthquake and tsunami in Japan severely hampered Honda's supply chain and ended up costing the giant automaker months of production as it faced difficult and at times insurmountable obstacles to getting supplies from Japan to North America.

Without those supplies, cars could not be built.

As time passed, the supply chain opened up a bit, and then a little more.

But not too long ago Honda officials (along with other Japanese automakers) were expecting a late fall date for full production to resume.

Last week, however, the company announced it wouldn't take that long.

"Honda will increase production volume at its North America automobile plants to a rate of 100 percent original production plan in August," a company press release announced.

Honda's employees in Lincoln met the news with enthusiasm.

"Today we announced to our associates in plant-wide meetings that we are planning to accelerate recovery of our production. . . ." said Mark Morrison, a company spokesman. "When we announced that the Odyssey and Pilot would reach 100 percent of their original production plan in August, our associates greeted the news with great applause," he said.

That kind of reaction is what you would expect from Honda employees. The 4,000 people who work in the local plant are intensely loyal and, based on the plant's expansion since opening, also are very productive.

That loyalty and productivity have been rewarded with a unique approach to the forced slowdown in production. Rather than lay off workers, Honda allowed them to work on maintenance chores, or to take earned vacation time to keep their paychecks coming. And after the April 27 tornadoes ripped through our area, Honda allowed its employees to take two days per week to volunteer at cleanup activities while getting paid as though they were at work.

Those policies say a lot about Honda and the kind of company it is. And they say a lot about Honda's employees and the kind of people they are.

Honda made it through this parts crisis without laying off a single employee in their North American plants, the company said. Now that they are ready to ramp up production again, those employees are available and their morale should be high, since no one had to do with a reduced paycheck during the difficult times.

The Japanese automaker obviously enjoys great economic strength to be able to weather such a crisis without cutting employee paychecks. We commend Honda for its approach, we continue to wish the company a long and prosperous future in Lincoln and the rest of its North America plants.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 13, 2011

Mr. BASS of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, on June 3, 2011, I was on a leave of absence from the House of Representatives to attend the funeral of former Congressman Peter Frelinghuysen. As a result, I did not have the opportunity to vote on rollcall votes 410, 411, and 412. On rollcall vote 410, providing consideration of H. Res. 292 and H. Con. Res. 51, I would have voted in the affirmative. On rollcall vote 411, declaring that the President shall not deploy, establish, or maintain the presence of units and members of the United States Armed Forces on the ground in Libya, I would have voted in the affirmative. On rollcall vote 412, directing the President, pursuant to section 5(c) of the War Powers Resolution, to remove the United States Armed Forces from Libya, I would have voted in the affirmative.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 13, 2011

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, on May 10, 2011, I was unable to be on the House floor to vote for the three amendments to H.R. 1229. Had I been there, I would have voted as follows: rollcall 299: Polis amendment: "nay"; rollcall 300: Garamendi amendment: "nay"; rollcall 301: Markey amendment: "nay."

Also, I regretfully inform you I was detained during a vote on May 11, 2011. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: rollcall 312: Connolly amendment: "nay."

Finally, in addition, I was detained during a vote on May 25, 2011. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: rollcall 338: Foxx amendment: "yea."

HONORING HARRIET BEECHER STOWE

HON. CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 13, 2011

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the bicentennial of the birth of Harriet Beecher Stowe. Stowe was born on June 14, 1811, and was an integral figure in the abolition movement. She is best known for her anti-slavery novel Uncle Tom's Cabin—a book that painted a human picture of slavery in the United States.

Her writing stirred an international groundswell of support for abolition. Uncle Tom's Cabin, first serialized in the weekly National Era, became the best-selling book of the 19th century, with 10,000 copies sold in the first week of publication. In Great Britain, 1.5 million copies were sold in its first year. Uncle Tom's Cabin has since been translated into 60 languages and continues to be read around the world.

Stowe leveraged the media of her day, demanding that America fulfill its promise of freedom and recognize the human face of bondage. Virulent criticism from slavery proponents prompted Stowe to publish A Key to Uncle Tom's Cabin, detailing her sources. Over the next decade, public attitudes toward slavery changed.

Stowe's informal, conversational writing style inspired people in a way that political speeches and newspaper accounts could not. Many believe that Uncle Tom's Cabin helped 19th century Americans determine what kind of country they wanted.

Harriet Beecher Stowe's legacy is proof that we all have the ability to make profound position changes to our world, no matter the obstacles. Her creativity and courage positively influenced the lives of many. I ask my colleagues to join with me in officially recognizing the bicentennial of the birth of an incredible American, Harriet Beecher Stowe.

PLEDGE FOR RESPECT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 13, 2011

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, the National Council of La Raza (NCLR) has called on Congress to oppose irresponsible and inflammatory rhetoric toward Latinos, and instead to focus on finding solutions to the nation's most pressing concerns that work for all Americans. Today, I join with them in opposing irresponsible rhetoric and supporting the importance of civil discourse in the political process, especially on issues related to race and ethnicity.

The current national immigration narrative misrepresents the Latino community. Some use the community as a scapegoat, and some blatantly encourage xenophobia for political gain. Like all Americans, Latinos care about and are deeply affected by the complex issues facing our nation: serious economic challenges, a flawed immigration system in need of reform, an unnecessarily complex tax code that often hurts the middle class, and an aging infrastructure that endangers the literal ties between us. Those who slander, dehumanize or disrespect any community in particular are refusing to solve problems in a thoughtful, constructive way.

If we as a country join hands, move forward and choose to be respectful of Latino—and all racial and ethnic communities—we can solve our problems together. Every day, Latinos make substantial contributions to the economic, civic, and cultural life of Oregon and this country. I encourage my colleagues to seek out and consider the Latino perspective on today's issues, and to find areas of common ground based on our shared values and interests. I encourage them to meet with NCLR and other Latino businesses, non-profits and community groups in their area. Hearing the Latino perspective benefits all Americans. I consider it an honor to represent the Latino families, students, workers and constituents of the 3rd congressional district in Oregon.