

HONORING THE LIFE OF LOUIS BEECHERL

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Louis Beecherl, a great Dallas businessman, political activist, philanthropist, and community servant. Mr. Beecherl, who passed away on July 5th, 2011, was a founding member and CEO of Texas Oil & Gas Corp. from 1957–1977, was appointed chairman of the University of Texas Board of Regents in 1987, and was most recently the owner of Beecherl Holdings.

In 2002, Mr. Beecherl was inducted into the Texas Business Hall of Fame and is recognized as being a leader in expanding Texas' economy. He also devoted his time and resources as a GOP benefactor, supporting various political campaigns, and the National Republican Congressional Committee. Furthermore, Mr. Beecherl will be remembered as a community servant and has been involved in countless organizations. He has served as President of the Boy Scouts of America Circle Ten Council, was as an Advisory Board Member of the Salvation Army in Dallas County, and has served as the Chair of the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) Capital Campaign Advisory Committee.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise to remember the life of Louis Beecherl; a great Texan, businessman, and above all, a devoted husband and father. It is my privilege to have this opportunity to honor his life and legacy.

REAFFIRMING COMMITMENT TO NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT

SPEECH OF

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 6, 2011

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I voted for H. Res. 268 because I believe in the bill's underlying premise of a negotiated two-state solution to end the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and bring enduring stability to the region. I have always used my voice and my vote to promote peace in the Middle East. Too many lives have been lost and too much violence has been wrought to do anything else. Citizens throughout the region deserve better.

However, my vote is not without reservations about the provisions in this resolution. At this moment of incredible regional volatility, we should be encouraging the President to deploy America's full diplomatic capacity to pursue peace in the region not discourage recognition of a Palestinian state, as this resolution does. We should be encouraging the promotion of stability and dialogue with all parties involved, not discouraging assistance to the Palestinians, as this resolution does. And we should be calling on every actor involved to be a serious broker for peace.

I just traveled to the Middle East and saw firsthand the need for a sustainable two-state solution. The question I came away with is: What can be done to bring a just and lasting

peace? While I hope that this resolution can bring us closer to a peaceful solution, I fear that it leaves too many hard questions unanswered and too many issues unaddressed.

While I voted for this resolution, I will also continue to support a constructive dialogue that can bring this conflict to a permanent end. The time for peace is now. We cannot wait a moment longer.

IN HONOR OF ROAD RAGE AWARENESS WEEK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Road Rage Awareness Week—a week created by Reaching Out Against Road Rage, Inc. to encourage safer driving practices and to prevent unnecessary violence on the roads.

Reaching Out Against Road Rage, Inc., or R.O.A.R.R. is a nonprofit organization located in Muskegon County, Michigan. R.O.A.R.R. was established by Kay Foster-Shabazz, two years after the death of her twenty year-old daughter, Diyaamond, in a road rage related incident in 2002. Since its establishment, the mission of R.O.A.R.R. has been to prevent road rage, protect and support victims of road rage and to promote the saving of lives.

R.O.A.R.R. has been working to reduce the number of road rage related incidents by promoting awareness and providing educational tools. In addition, R.O.A.R.R. pledges to assist victims and their families throughout the recovery process by providing a multitude of resources.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in recognizing Road Rage Awareness Week, July 10–16, 2011. The hard work of Reaching Out Against Road Rage, Inc. has made the roads safer for everyone.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2219) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Chair, I rise today to address an important issue affecting the domestic renewable energy industry. As the House continues consideration of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act of 2012, it is important to carefully examine the Department's investment in renewable energy products, and what effect their investments have on the U.S. economy.

The U.S. Department of Defense is required to abide by the Buy American Act when purchasing goods and equipment, including solar panels. However, the Department is utilizing alternative financing vehicles, such as Power

Purchase Agreements, PPA's, to fund renewable energy technology installations on its bases and buildings. Under such agreements, a private developer finances, installs, and maintains the solar installation for the life of the technology and leases the power to the military facility. This financing structure is beneficial to the Department, as it allows the Department to meet its renewable energy goals, requires no upfront capital costs, and allows a private entity to take advantage of tax incentives not available to government purchasers, all with little risk to the taxpayer.

However, PPA's allow the private entity to purchase the solar technology and the Buy American Act does not apply. This is a loophole in the Buy American Act that foreign manufacturers, in particular highly subsidized Chinese solar panel manufacturers, have quickly exploited to deploy foreign-made solar technology on U.S. government property.

For this reason, DOD should review their procurement and payment for power policies. These decisions impact the U.S. solar industry, and our nation's energy security. Installing highly subsidized foreign solar technology on DOD property or a facility owned by the Department had the unintended consequence of pushing domestic solar manufacturing technology offshore and puts our nation in the position of remaining dependent on foreign energy resources. We must ensure our military does not unintentionally transition our country from one dependent on Middle East oil to one heavily reliant on Chinese renewable energy. I look forward to working with my colleagues on this important issue.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, we are here today to mark a great day in the history of democracy, a great day for Africa, and a great day for the United States.

On Saturday, July 9th, the Republic of South Sudan becomes Africa's 54th country and the world's newest nation. This is an outcome that would likely have been inconceivable for most Sudanese only a few years ago. South Sudan's declaration of independence is a testament to their resolve and determination to be free.

The United States should also be proud of this momentous achievement, and I would like to congratulate the Obama Administration and the Bush Administration for maintaining the vision and unwavering commitment to stand with the people of this great new country through their struggle. I am thrilled that the White House has sent a high level delegation, led by Ambassador Susan Rice, to the burgeoning new capital of South Sudan, to celebrate with our newest ally.

Former Secretary of State Colin Powell will accompany Ambassador Rice. I'm pleased that our colleague Congressman DONALD PAYNE, a leader of the Sudan Caucus and a forceful advocate for Sudanese self determination, will be with the delegation, as will the senior diplomats Johnnie Carson and Princeton Lyman who have worked to make this day

possible, and Gen. Carter Ham, the commander of the U.S. Africa Command. Under-scoring our past and future commitment to human rights and economic opportunity and development in Sudan, Donald Steinberg, Deputy Administrator of USAID and Ken Hackett, of Catholic Relief Services, are also part of the White House delegation.

As in so many struggles for democracy, the final joy of liberation emerged only after many seasons of pain and loss. We join the South Sudanese in honoring those who struggled, suffered and died over decades of conflict in the effort to celebrate this great democratic achievement. Two million of their brothers and sisters died in the struggle, and twice that number were forced from their homes. This loss is felt today, and will take a generation or more to recover from.

Indeed, we must recognize that our new ally faces serious challenges. South Sudan holds oil wealth, but is still extraordinarily poor. The new capital, Juba, is expanding at a fast pace, but the country is bereft of an infrastructure that can support commerce and development. This huge new country of more than 250,000 square miles has less than 50 miles of paved roads.

On average, a family in South Sudan must spend 30 minutes just to secure their water for cooking and bathing, and their water is often not safe to drink. This is no doubt one reason why South Sudan suffers a rate of infant mortality that is among the highest in the world. And Sudan is one of the most dangerous places in the world to be a mother. In fact, a girl in Sudan is more likely to die in childbirth than to receive a primary education. We must recommit ourselves to a new independence for Sudan: independence from poverty.

And we must also recognize today that the people of both the new republic and the state from which it split continue to suffer the cruel and indiscriminate evil of conflict. Even now, so soon after the referendum in which nearly 99 percent of South Sudanese voiced their intention to be free, we have witness to a vicious armored assault on Abyei that displaced some 100,000 people in May, while destroying homes, churches and businesses. And in June, the Khartoum government unleashed a further assault on Sudanese civilians, this time in south Kordofan State. The people of this region largely identify with South Sudan.

And so we also must recommit ourselves to Sudan's independence from war. I know that the Obama Administration intends to stand with our new ally in these other, critical liberation struggles. I ask my colleagues to join me as we remind Juba and Khartoum that we are still watching, and we remain attentive to the cause of peace with justice in both countries, including in Kordofan, Blue Nile, Abyei and, not least, Darfur.

And as we learned with the defeat of the Soviets in Afghanistan, let us not abandon them after we worked so hard to help them secure their freedom.

CONGRATULATING THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA FOR WINNING THE BID FOR THE 2018 OLYMPIC GAMES

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I would like to rise today to express my congratulations to The Republic of Korea for successfully winning the bid to host the 2018 Winter Olympic Games. Yesterday, the International Olympic Committee selected the beautiful site of Pyeongchang, in the Taebaek mountain region, as the host city for the 2018 Games.

These 2018 Winter Games will take place 30 years following the successful 1988 Seoul Summer Olympic Games. That year marked the international recognition of the Republic of Korea's maturation as a leading economic power and the emergence of the country as a liberal democracy. In the 3 decades since, South Korea has grown and matured at a remarkable speed so that it now has the world's 11th largest economy and is one of the top trading partners of the United States.

No doubt many Korean immigrants to the United States and their descendants are celebrating as a result of this announcement, and justifiably so. The Olympic Games provide any country the opportunity to shine, and I expect that Korea will shine brightly in 2018.

As co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Korea, I wish to add my voice to the many Americans—both friends of Korea and sports enthusiasts—who today are cheering on the excellent choice of Pyeongchang as the site of the 2018 Winter Olympics.

IN HONOR OF MS. DORIS O'DONNELL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Doris O'Donnell on the occasion of her 90th birthday.

Ms. O'Donnell was born on July 10, 1921 and grew up in the Old Brooklyn neighborhood of Cleveland. Her family was heavily involved in the community; her father was a fireman, her mother was a Democratic ward leader, and her uncle was the county sheriff.

Her career in print journalism began in 1944, starting at the Cleveland News. She would go on to work at numerous newspapers, including the Lake County News-Herald, the Tribune-Review based in Greensburg, Pennsylvania, and the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Ms. O'Donnell was a pioneer for female journalism. Her career spanned over five decades, and she covered such topics as police, the court system, organized crime, and local politics. She was the first female reporter to reach "superstar" status in the Cleveland area, and she won more state and local journalism awards than any female journalist in history.

She was known as a big-story reporter, and was able to use her fearless and brass-knuckles reporting style to report on such items as the Kremlin, and the assassinations of John Kennedy, Robert Kennedy, and Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. Ms. O'Donnell's late husband, former Cleveland News city editor, passed away in 1976. Ms. O'Donnell currently lives in suburban Cleveland and serves on the board of a charitable foundation.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Ms. Doris O'Donnell, a woman whose relentless pursuit of the truth enabled her to rise to the top of Cleveland journalism, and whose brilliant career was a gift to the Cleveland community.

A TRIBUTE TO MISS SUSIE MUSHATT JONES

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Miss Susie Mushatt Jones for her love of life and service to her children.

Miss Susie as those close to her call her, was born in Lowndes County, Alabama, as the third of 11 children. Being raised in the segregated south, Miss Susie developed a warm and kind heart from the love her mother and father expressed. Throughout her life she has been led by a basic principle of giving all that she has, while living an upbeat life.

Miss Susie looks favorably and positively on her early life. After graduating from high school, she taught for two months before going to New Jersey in 1922. In New Jersey, Miss Susie worked for a wealthy white family which gave her the opportunity to travel from coast to coast. Using her resources, Miss Susie was able to send two of her nieces to college while sending lavish gifts to other family members. While traveling between coasts Miss Susie looks back fondly on her time spent in Hollywood where she was able to meet movie stars such as Clark Gable, Cary Grant, and George Raft.

Before retiring in 1965, during the height of the civil rights movement, she took a job with a Westchester County family that offered her great resources that would further support her family. Recently Miss Susie lost her vision, but has managed to still be an active member in her community, carrying on with an infectious laugh and upbeat attitude. She remains an active member of The Vandalia Houses tenant patrol, sitting in the lobby asking guests to sign in.

Miss Susie Jones has lived a full and joyful life, and celebrated her 112th birthday this week. She is believed to be the oldest living New Yorker! The Vandalia Senior Center funded by NYC Department for the Aging and sponsored by Millennium Development will be hosting a party later in the month to honor this milestone.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life of Miss Susie Mushatt Jones.