

THE PASSING OF JOHN DOWLIN

HON. JEAN SCHMIDT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 22, 2011

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember former Hamilton County Commissioner John Dowlin, who passed away on July 15th at the age of 81.

After spending 38 years at Procter and Gamble and 28 years as the Mayor of Sharonville, Ohio, John Dowlin served 13 years on the Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners.

Throughout his distinguished career, John became known for his principles, his work ethic, and especially his bow ties.

I had the opportunity to work with Commissioner Dowlin when I was in the state legislature, and I always found him to be honest and fair.

Commissioner Dowlin was the kind of person we should all strive to be, standing up for what he believed was right—even when others believed he was wrong.

He is survived by his loving wife, Sarah, four children, and nine grandchildren.

The world is a better place because of John Dowlin. May he rest in peace.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the life of a true public servant.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 22, 2011

Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, due to family matters, I was unable to vote on consideration of H.R. 1315, the Consumer Financial Protection Safety and Soundness Improvement Act of 2011 on Thursday, July 21, 2011. I was also unable to vote on consideration of H.R. 2551, the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2012 on Friday, July 22 2011.

Had I been present, I would have voted to support H.R. 1315. For the Amendments to H.R. 1315, I would have voted to support the Rigell Amendment. I would have voted to oppose the Jackson Lee Amendment #1, the Miller Amendment, the Jackson Lee Amendment #2, the Maloney Amendment, and the Motion to Recommit.

Had I been present, I would have voted to support H.R. 2551. For the amendments to H.R. 2551, I would have voted to support the Hayworth Amendment, the Broun Amendment, and the Stutzman Amendment. I would have voted to oppose the Watt Amendment, the Thompson Amendment, the Holt Amendment, and the Moran Amendment.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF PINNACLE TECHNICAL RESOURCES

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 22, 2011

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Pinnacle Technical Resources, Inc. on its fifteenth anniversary this year.

Located in Dallas, Texas, Pinnacle was born in a living room and quickly matured into an award-winning information technology staffing company. Under the leadership and vision of Chief Executive Officer Nina Vaca-Humrichouse, Pinnacle expanded nationwide and created over 20,000 jobs, consequently ranking six straight years as one of the fastest growing companies in its industry. In 2009, Pinnacle received the CIO 100 Award for its development of PROGATA, a proprietary industry-leading software tool.

Beyond their financial success, Pinnacle emphasizes social responsibility and actively encourages employees to contribute to the local community. Boy Scouts of America, United Way, Habitat for Humanity, and the Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Foundation are among the many non-profit organizations Pinnacle supports. This year, Pinnacle also provided scholarships to thirty-two high school students to attend the Dallas Hispanic Youth Institute, a well-regarded summer symposium.

Pinnacle Technical Resources embodies the entrepreneurial spirit of America; a concept with humble beginnings that transformed into a fast-growing and nationally recognized company. Mr. Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in congratulating the staff and leadership of Pinnacle Technical Resources as they celebrate fifteen years of success.

HUDSON RIVER SCHOOL OF PAINTERS

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 22, 2011

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I wish to call my colleagues' attention to the Hudson River School of Painters, the first American school of painters that contributed to an appreciation of the American landscape and conservation of this country's natural beauty. At the time of its operation in the 19th Century, it was a significant achievement in American art and culture that commemorated American landscapes in a manner unseen before by American citizens and others around the world.

Recently, I had the distinct honor to unveil the first of a series of historic bronze markers along the Hudson River. These bronze markers are designed to indicate where painters put their easels in order to create a panorama and vista of the river itself. The historic bronze marker, created by Greg Wyatt, Director of the Academy of Art at the Newington-Cropsey Foundation in Hastings-on-Hudson, New York, honor the sites where painters such as Jasper F. Cropsey, Thomas Cole, Frederic Edwin Church, and Asher Durand stood to create paintings reflecting their unique perspectives on nature. Additional sites are planned this coming year at Hook Mountain State Park and Newburgh, New York.

In light of this occasion, I would like to commend my colleague Representative MAURICE HINCHEY in his long record of support for both the rebirth of study of this first American school of painting, and for his determination to present to Congress and the American people the importance of the Hudson Valley to our cultural heritage.

I also would like to commend the Architect of the Capitol for displaying two paintings purchased by Congress after the Civil War from the famous 19th century Hudson River School painter Albert Bierstadt. They are entitled "Discovery on the Hudson" and "Entrance into Monterey," and are available for viewing in the Capitol Visitors Center. I urge all of my colleagues and their constituents to appreciate these wonderful pieces of art.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 21, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2551) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Chair, I rise today in strong opposition to the amendments that would reduce funding appropriated in H.R. 2551, the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2012 for the U.S. Botanic Garden.

As you may know, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and James Madison initially had the idea of starting a national botanic garden and helped to establish one on the National Mall in 1820. It is a keystone on our mall and belongs to the American people. The mission of the U.S. Botanic Garden is to demonstrate the aesthetic, cultural, economic, therapeutic and ecological importance of plants to the well-being of humankind. It is a national and global center for learning about how to sustain life on our planet, especially as climate changes and new challenges confront our society's plant life.

According to the Architect of the Capitol, approximately 1 million people visit the U.S. Botanic Garden each year. About 12,000 different plant accessions comprising more than 60,000 plants are displayed for exhibition, study, conservation and exchange with other institutions. The Botanic Garden is America's encyclopedia for sustaining production and life itself.

In addition to displaying some of the world's most rare and endangered plants, the U.S. Botanic Garden provides numerous educational opportunities through its partnerships, workshops, lectures, tours and demonstrations. Some specific education programs include the opportunity to earn a Certification in Botanical Art and Illustration, the Junior Botanist Program and several hands-on activities exploring plant materials. The Gardner instructs the next generation with partnerships across our nation.

Mr. Chair, we are still in the midst of the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression, and a series of odd weather events. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service reports that greenhouse, nursery and floriculture operations account for 2.5 percent of all U.S. farms but employ nearly 5 percent of hired farm workers. This sector has a sales value of \$16.6 Billion. It is a one-of-a-kind endowment America depends on.

From my perspective, it is vitally important that we continue to support institutions such as the U.S. Botanic Garden not only because of its ability to preserve rare and vital plants essential to life but also for its potential to inspire the entrepreneurial spirit. We know its visitors will one day lead to increased economic output and job creation in the agricultural sector of our economy so dependent on innovation and advanced technology.

Therefore, I urge my colleagues to reject any amendment that would reduce funding to the U.S. Botanic Garden.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. HERBERT PARDES

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 22, 2011

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor, recognize, and celebrate my dear friend, Dr. Herbert Pardes, on his retirement as President and Chief Executive Officer of New York-Presbyterian Hospital.

Dr. Herbert Pardes has dedicated his life to advancing the medical profession and patient care. He received his medical degree from the State University of New York in Brooklyn and completed his residency in psychiatry at Kings County Hospital. He also received additional psychoanalytic training at the New York Psychoanalytic clinic.

Since 1999, Dr. Pardes has been President and CEO of New York-Presbyterian Hospital. Under his guidance the hospital has achieved an incredibly impressive record; it is top-ranked in the New York metropolitan area and is consistently ranked among the best academic medical institutions in the Nation. The Hospital is the largest not-for-profit hospital and one of the most comprehensive hospitals in the world.

Dr. Pardes has always been an active advocate for academic medicine and advancing medical technology. The importance he places on academic medicine has helped to produce a generation of new highly skilled doctors to combat emerging health issues. He participates at the State and local level by supporting legislation that increases the quality of care in hospitals. He is a passionate supporter for achieving the best possible medical care for all who need it.

Dr. Pardes was appointed by Congress and President George W. Bush to serve on the Commission on Systemic Interoperability, which initiated action to develop a national health information technology infrastructure. During the Clinton administration he served on an advisory commission on consumer protection and quality in the health care industry. He is Chairman Emeritus of the eHealth Initiative and serves on the boards of the Macy Foundation and Markle Foundation, which are dedicated to improving quality, safety and efficiency in health care.

Dr. Pardes is devoted to enhancing patient care. He implemented a campaign called We Put Patients First to humanize the hospital experience for patients and their families. He also launched myNYP.org, a website which allows patients and families to access personal health records online. Dr. Pardes has also strived towards fostering close interaction be-

tween the hospital and communities in New York. He initiated the Lang Youth Medical Program, a six-year science education and mentoring program for middle and high school students, and helped start the WIN for Asthma outreach program along with other community health screening events.

I greatly admire the leadership that Dr. Pardes has provided to the medical community. He has demonstrated great care for his patients and has tirelessly worked to improve their experience and the quality of their health care. He is an extraordinary example of the tremendous changes that can be accomplished through the dedication of one individual.

I ask my colleagues and a very grateful Nation to join me in this special Congressional Recognition of Dr. Herbert Pardes.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF AUDREY RUST ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT FROM PENINSULA OPEN SPACE TRUST

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 22, 2011

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Audrey Rust, a highly distinguished constituent, a nationally recognized leader of land preservation and a cherished friend on her 24 years as President, CEO and Executive Director of Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST).

Under her exceptional leadership since 1987, Ms. Rust has led POST, the Palo Alto, California based nonprofit land trust and has worked successfully in partnership with public agencies and private landowners to bring permanent protection to thousands of acres of open space lands in San Mateo, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties. Recognized across the country as a conservation innovator and champion, she has helped protect local landscapes that are now part of the National Park System, the National Wildlife Refuge System, the California State Parks, as well as county and city parks, regional open space preserves and private farmlands.

Before coming to POST, Ms. Rust worked with the Sierra Club, Yale University and Stanford University. She has served on the boards of numerous local, State and national organizations, primarily in the conservation and housing arena. She has received the Times Mirror-Chevron National Conservationist of the Year Award; the League of California Voters Environmental Leadership Award; the Cynthia Pratt Laughlin Medal; the Garden Club of America's top environmental honor; and the Jacqueline Kennedy Award from JFK University for her achievements in land conservation. Ms. Rust is a graduate of the University of Connecticut at Storrs.

I've been privileged to know and work with Audrey Rust for many years. She has been a friend, a mentor, and an inspiration to me and to thousands more. Audrey is one of the great environmental heroes of our Nation. Her determination and focus have shaped an extraordinary legacy and our entire Nation is grateful to her for leading the way in saving and preserving the world-class beauty and natural integrity of the Peninsula, South Bay and Coastside of California for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, I'm very proud to have my Bay Area colleagues—Leader NANCY PELOSI; Representative SAM FARR; Representative MIKE HONDA; Representative ZOE LOFGREN; Representative JERRY MCNERNEY, and Representative JACKIE SPEIER join me in honoring Audrey Rust. I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in honoring and thanking Audrey Rust for her unparalleled record of leadership and wish her a joyful retirement. Audrey Rust is indeed a national treasure and it is a privilege to represent her and call her my friend.

COMMENDING THE U.S. WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 22, 2011

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend our U.S. Women's Soccer Team in their thrilling race to the World Cup Final. Although it was ultimately Japan who captured the World Cup Trophy, as a country we could not be more proud of our team, their tremendous effort throughout the Cup, and their grace in accepting defeat. Regardless of the outcome, there is much to be said about how their playing inspired a country. The attention of the world has turned to women's sports, and these women are serving as positive role models to young girls across the globe. It has been a long twelve years since the heroics of the victorious US Women's National Team in the 1999 World Cup, and I want to congratulate the 2011 team for exemplifying champions, win or lose. The image of Brandi Chastain, fists clenched, basking in the glory of a World Cup victory that captivated our spirits all those years ago still hangs on the wall of my office.

As a representative from western New York, I especially want to congratulate the amazing performance of Abby Wambach, a native of my hometown: Rochester, New York. She scored her 100th career international goal in Rochester and she carries with her the support of Rochesterians wherever she goes. She is a four-time winner of the U.S. Soccer Athlete of the Year award, and is currently the fourth all-time leading scorer in international soccer history. She scored the gold-medal-winning goal in the 2004 Olympics and saved the quarterfinal match in this year's cup against Brazil when she scored a gut-wrenching equalizer off her head in the final moments. In the semi final victory over France, she tallied two more scores, including the go-ahead goal against France in the 79th minute. Of the two amazing goals scored by the U.S. in the finals, Abby scored the go-ahead header in extra time, and Alex Morgan, a player for the Western New York Flash, scored the other.

Alex, a 22-year-old phenom, has impressed the world with her quick feet and prominence as a striker, and she is being heralded as the future star of U.S. women's soccer. The entire Upstate New York area is beaming with pride and admiration of these two players as they represented our area so well.

The fervor and enthusiasm for our team was encapsulated in the hero's welcome Abby received when she returned to Rochester, with