

Boyd, Wendell Johnson, John Knox, Dennis Mobley, Charles Nail, Joe Riggs, Charles Smith, Joe Sorah and Terry Stewart.

Rescue and recovery was difficult, since the ventilation controls were destroyed. It took seven weeks—until early November—until teams could recover 12 of the victims. It took eight months to rehabilitate the mine so it was safe enough to resume operations.

At the time of this mine disaster, the Nation's attention was focused the events of 9/11, which had occurred only two weeks earlier. As such, no mining law changes followed.

Five years after the JWR #5 disaster, a series of tragedies at Sago, Aracoma Alma and Darby spurred enactment of the MINER Act. The law largely focused on improvements to post-accident emergency response, and mandates for operators to provide tracking, communications and shelters. Had Congress acted in a timely way after the JWR #5 disaster, it is likely that other miners' lives could have been saved.

Important mine law changes have yet to be mandated by Congress from the JWR #5 disaster that should be acted upon.

For example, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health has developed coal dust explosivity meters, which can give miners real time information on the presence of explosive coal dust—a substance ten times as explosive as methane—and can signal whether additional rock dust is needed to prevent mine explosions. The Robert C. Byrd Miner Safety and Health Act, which was introduced in 2010 but was not enacted, mandates that mine operators use coal dust explosivity meters as a way to assure more timely compliance with rock dusting requirements.

Independent investigations of major mine tragedies are needed to assure there is no conflict of interest involving questions about the adequacy of mine safety oversight and the performance of state and federal regulators. The Byrd bill contained a requirement for independent investigations.

Battery chargers, which ventilate explosive gases such as hydrogen, need to be directly vented to the returns in mines so that they cannot ignite fires. Roof control plans need to assure that areas around battery chargers have robust roof support.

As the senior Democratic Member on the Committee on Education and the Workforce, I strongly urge Congress to follow up on the lessons from the JWR #5 mine disaster, as well as the Upper Big Branch Mine disaster, which took the lives of 29 miners on April 5, 2010. Miners' blood should not be spilled in vain. Continued inaction by Congress on matters of the health and safety our Nation's miners is simply inexcusable.

HONORING THE WORLD WAR II VETERANS PARTICIPATING IN THE QUAD CITIES HONOR FLIGHT

HON. DAVID LOEBSACK

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Mr. LOEBSACK. Mr. Speaker, today I have the great honor of welcoming to our nation's capital 90 Iowa veterans of the Greatest Generation. Accompanied by over 70 volunteer

guardians, these veterans have travelled to Washington, DC to visit the monument that was built in their honor.

For many of these veterans, today will be the first time they have seen the National World War II Memorial. I am deeply honored to have been invited to join them when they see their memorial for the first time and to have the opportunity to personally thank these heroes.

I am proud to have a piece of marble from the quarry that supplied the marble that built the World War II Memorial in my office. Like the memorial that it built, that piece of marble reminds me of the sacrifices of a generation of Americans. When our country was threatened, they rose to defend not just our nation but the freedoms, democracy, and values that make our country the greatest nation on earth. They did so as one people and one country. Their sacrifices and determination in the face of great threats to our way of life are both humbling and inspiring.

The sheer magnitude of what the Greatest Generation accomplished, not just in war but in the peace that followed, continues to inspire us today. They did not seek to be tested both abroad by a war that fundamentally challenged our way of life and at home by the Great Depression and the rebuilding of our economy that followed. But, when called upon to do so, they defended and then rebuilt our nation to make it even stronger. Their patriotism, service, and great sacrifice not only defined their generation—they stand as a testament to the fortitude of our nation.

I am tremendously proud to welcome the Quad City Honor Flight and Iowa's veterans of the Second World War to our nation's capital today. On behalf of every Iowan I represent, I thank them for their service to our country.

SMAST PROFESSOR HONORED FOR FISHERIES WORK

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the latest award recognizing the distinguished career of Dr. Brian Rothschild of the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth School for Marine Science and Technology.

Dr. Brian Rothschild was recently presented the prestigious Oscar Elton Sette Award for "sustained excellence in marine fishery biology" by the American Fisheries Society. For many years, it has been my privilege to work closely with Dr. Rothschild on numerous issues involving the fishing industry as well as marine science, maritime safety, and ocean studies. This has included discussions on global warming and renewable energy possibilities in the northeast as well as the development of critical partnerships abroad such as that which now exists between the University of the Azores and the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth where he is the Montgomery Charter Professor of Marine Science. He has advised me and my staff on the critical issues that face both fishermen and scientists as these stewards of our oceans work to find that critical balance between sustainable fishing and conservation of fish stocks.

Dr. Rothschild has dedicated himself to public service by working in various government roles that have dealt with both fishery management and oceanography. I submit the following article into the record, which describes how Dr. Rothschild was recently honored by his peers for his important contributions to fishery science. I congratulate him, and thank him for his commitment to our community.

[From SouthCoastToday.com, Sept. 20, 2011]

SMAST PROFESSOR HONORED FOR FISHERIES WORK

(By Don Cuddy)

Dr. Brian Rothschild, a distinguished professor at UMass Dartmouth's School for Marine Science and Technology, has again been honored by his peers in the scientific community.

Rothschild traveled to Seattle earlier this month as this year's recipient of the Oscar Elton Sette Award, presented annually by the American Fisheries Society to an individual who has made "sustained and important contributions to marine fishery biology."

Oscar Elton Sette was a pioneer in the development of fisheries oceanography and is regarded by many fisheries scientists as the father of modern fisheries oceanography in the United States. A National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration research vessel based in Hawaii is named for him.

Rothschild was a friend and colleague of Sette in Honolulu and while Sette was at Stanford University, and the pair co-authored a report on skipjack tuna in 1996.

The American Fisheries Society describes itself as "the world's oldest and largest organization dedicated to strengthening the fisheries profession, advancing fisheries science and conserving fisheries resources." Its first president was elected in 1870.

Rothschild has been working in fisheries for close to 60 years. As director of policy at NOAA, he oversaw the successful implementation of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976.

In 1986, Harvard University Press published his book "Dynamics of Marine Fish Populations." This was the first book to comprehensively address the abundance of fish populations in historical, life-history and modeling contexts, according to professor Changsheng Chen, one of his colleagues at SMAST who put forward the nomination.

Among the major accomplishments credited to Rothschild is his work on the scallop fishery. "His innovative sampling strategy, along with Kevin Stokesbury, for ocean scallops allowed new assessments to be made, allowing the opening of scallop beds and preventing the collapse of the most valuable fishery in the U.S.," Cheng wrote in the nomination letter.

The citation on the award reads: "For sustained excellence in marine fishery biology through research, teaching, administration or a combination of all three."

Rothschild, who left for a global fishery conference in Gdansk, Poland, on Friday, said he felt honored to receive the award.

"I would like to thank all of my colleagues," he said. "It's so great to be working in a field that is so important to so many people."

HONORING CLIFF EVERTS

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, over the course of many years, I have observed the

work ethics, tenacity, and love of Alaska by a Pioneer of Alaska Aviation. Today, I stand in recognition and honor Mr. Cliff Everts.

Mr. Everts was an instructor for the predecessor of Alaska Airlines, Alaska Star Airlines. In 1945 he joined the team of Wien Alaska flying Boeing 247s and Lockheed Lodestars hauling fuel from Barrow to Umiat and after 15 years saw an opportunity to begin his first business experience. When Wien's business plan dropped fuel delivery, he purchased one of the C-46s and continued delivering fuel to Alaska's villages. Wien was lucky to keep Mr. Everts as one of their team until 1980 when he retired after 35 years and 30,000 hours in a cockpit.

Mr. Everts has flown at forty below temperatures, through dark days and nights, in snow, sleet, and rain, to supply the needs of village residents. He is a true Alaskan with a frontier spirit.

One of the most interesting adventures of Cliff was delivering 110 reindeer from Nome to Colorado so that people in the "lower forty-eight" could experience a Santa Clause sleigh ride. Somewhere today there are decedents of one of the escapees there in Colorado along with our Alaskan wolves!

Cliff also gave new meaning to "when pigs fly" when he delivered several dozen pigs in a C-46 from Ohio to Big Delta for a farm project.

As a committed Alaskan, he realized early the opportunity in our State and the value of our resources, our people, and our commodities. He purchased surplus equipment and resold or rented it. His renowned collection of planes with historical nose art, which are still flying today, is an example in recycling and honorable use of assets, when others may have disregarded them for lack of value.

Cliff has contributed to Alaska with the creation of more than one successful company; the leadership today exemplifies his integrity, values, commitment to community and family, and love for our State and Country. Cliff and his planes have provided fuel to villages and mines, while not only improving quality of life, but often saving life. Our State would be less today without you and Pioneers like him.

I rise today to congratulate Mr. Cliff Everts on this day as we place a plaque and memory in perpetuity on the East Ramp of the Fairbanks International Airport.

THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF
CENTER POINT

HON. JOHN SULLIVAN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 40th anniversary of Center Point and Dr. Sushma Taylor who serves as President and CEO. Center Point was founded in 1971 as a private, not-for-profit corporation which offers rehabilitation and a spectrum of health and social services to high risk families, men, women, women with dependent children and youth. Since its founding, Center Point has served over 450,000 men, women, families and veterans.

Center Point's mission is to provide comprehensive social, educational, vocational, medical, psychological, housing and rehabilita-

tion services to combat social problems including substance abuse, poverty and unemployment. Center Point provides rehabilitation and treatment services to interrupt abusive cycles of psychological, social and economic dislocation by providing critical training and support so that individuals can claim self-worth and dignity through accountability and self-responsibility.

Center Point's leader, Dr. Taylor, first joined Center Point as its Executive Director in 1981. Dr. Taylor has sought to create opportunities and help individuals and families overcome the barriers of drug and alcohol abuse, homelessness, criminal justice involvement, unemployment, poor health and mental health problems to make a positive contribution to society. Under Dr. Taylor's leadership, Center Point has grown to develop and provide a wide array of services to those in need in California, Oklahoma, Texas, and Louisiana.

Oklahoma's female incarceration rate ranks number one in the Nation and in my district Center Point is making a difference with the Tulsa Women's Program. The burgeoning program helps women transition away from the criminal justice system and back into society. Center Point, the Tulsa Women's Program and the passionate leadership of Dr. Taylor provide countless inspiring examples of how treatment and rehabilitation can work to restore dignity to an individual and help people take responsibility for their own lives.

I am grateful for the contributions of Center Point and Dr. Taylor as we commemorate their 40th anniversary and their positive and lasting contributions to society.

A TRIBUTE TO PRINCIPAL DALE
BARNHILL

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Iowa's excellence in education, and to specifically congratulate Norwalk High School Principal Dale Barnhill of Norwalk, Iowa, for being named Iowa High School Principal of the year by the School Administrators of Iowa.

Dale Barnhill's vision for becoming a teacher began to take form after graduating from Twin Cedars High School in Bussey, Iowa. Dale would then graduate from Iowa State University with a bachelor's degree in history and then from Northeast Missouri State University with a master's degree in guidance and counseling. After earning his administrative certification from Iowa State, Dale began his career in Iowa as a teacher and a coach at Ringsted Community School. Dale would go on to attain his first administrative position in Winthrop, Iowa, and later serve as the Assistant Principal at Pella High School in Pella, Iowa. Mr. Barnhill's entire career in education has been in Iowa and our state has benefited greatly from it.

Since Dale joined Norwalk Schools in 1998, the high school has enjoyed more than a decade of positive growth. Mr. Barnhill's work with improving the high school and its students has directly led to the increased quality of Norwalk's programs. Additionally, Dale took Norwalk High School into the 21st century by im-

plementing electronic portfolios for students to facilitate exit interviews for graduating seniors and an improved method for calculating class rank. Mr. Barnhill has not been shy about pushing students to challenge themselves academically, and the result has been demonstrably effective for both students and the school itself.

Mr. Speaker, I consider it a great honor to represent Norwalk High School Principal Dale Barnhill, the teachers, students, school board members and administrators of the Norwalk Community School District in the United States Congress. I wish Mr. Barnhill and all of Norwalk High School continued academic excellence as they continue to have a positive impact on the future leaders of our state and country.

CELEBRATING THE END OF DON'T
ASK, DON'T TELL

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the end of the discriminatory Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy, and to celebrate that qualified men and women who have the desire to serve their country can no longer be denied simply because of sexual orientation.

Don't Ask, Don't Tell limited the ability of our armed forces to recruit and retain talented Americans. Hundreds of men and women with critical abilities, including language skills, have been discharged under this policy.

Meanwhile, many of our closest allies have demonstrated that allowing open service does not harm unit cohesion or military performance.

Most importantly, Don't Ask, Don't Tell institutionalized discrimination in our military. It was a policy that forced men and women to lie about their identity in order to serve their country.

As of this week, no one is prohibited from serving the country they love because of whom they love.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOYS & GIRLS
CLUBS OF LAS VEGAS

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 50th anniversary of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Las Vegas.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Las Vegas opened their first club in 1961 in a casino basement in North Las Vegas and today serves over 14,000 children in eight dedicated facilities throughout Clark County.

Their mission is to enable all young people to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. Several of the Clubs are placed to serve the neighborhoods, where children are most at-risk for educational and financial failure, drug and alcohol abuse, gang involvement, and teen pregnancy.