

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 88TH ANNUAL FEAST OF ST. WENCESLAUS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 23, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Czech Catholics of Greater Cleveland's 88th Annual Feast of St. Wenceslaus on September 24, 2011 at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish. This year's celebration will also honor the 100th anniversary of the founding of Cleveland's former Holy Family Parish.

St. Wenceslaus is the patron saint of the Czech Republic. Every year, his feast day, September 28th, is celebrated by Czech communities around the world. St. Wenceslaus was the leader of Old Bohemia during the early part of the 10th Century. During his tenure as king, St. Wenceslaus took a vow of chastity and was devoted to his Christian faith. Killed by his brother, St. Wenceslaus was later canonized as a martyr of the Christian faith.

In addition to celebrating the Feast of St. Wenceslaus, the 100th anniversary of the founding of the former Holy Family Parish will be recognized at this year's celebration. Holy Family was founded on November 6, 1911 after Father Rudolph Habrda noticed Bohemian families moving into Cleveland's Woodland Hills neighborhood. Over the years, as parishioners began to move to the suburbs, the parish school merged with St. Cecilia, Epiphany and St. Mary of Czestochowa to form Mr. Pleasant Elementary School. In 1988, the Holy Family Parish was closed.

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish is one of only two Czech congregations left in the Cleveland Catholic Diocese, along with St. John Nepomucene in Slavic Village. The Czech Catholics of Greater Cleveland will gather together on September 24th for mass and a celebration featuring the Hronek Czech Band.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognition of the 88th Annual Feast of St. Wenceslaus. I offer my best wishes to the Czech Catholics of Greater Cleveland and all those who attend this joyous celebration.

TAIWAN CENTENNIAL NATIONAL DAY

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 23, 2011

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, I salute Taiwan on its forthcoming Centennial National Day, also known as Double-10 Day, October 10, 2011.

The Republic of China on Taiwan is a model of success for Asia. For over six decades now, the Taiwanese people have struggled to lift their island into the top ranks of the world's economies. The recently released 2010 World Competitive Yearbook finds Taiwan to have the 8th most competitive economy among the 58 countries surveyed.

Over the past year, the number of employed people has increased and the unemployment rate has dropped to an enviable 5.17 percent.

Even more important than its economic achievements, Taiwan has developed into a strong and vibrant democracy. It is a valued

member of the free nations of the world, even though it is burdened with particular and unique diplomatic challenges—challenges which the Taiwanese people and government have met with courage.

On the occasion of the Republic of China's Centennial National Day, I hope there can be renewed peaceful coexistence and co-prosperity between Taiwan and the Chinese mainland. There have been many agreements reached between the two sides, including direct air and sea links, increased mutual investments, and regular negotiations over economic and other substantial issues.

Also, I offer my congratulations to Taiwan for its continued participation in the World Health Assembly meetings last May in Geneva and to its continuing commitment to safeguarding human rights and other universal values.

Congratulations to the Republic of China. I look forward to closer relations between the United States and Taiwan.

THE COME-FROM-BEHIND GRASSHOPPERS WIN IT ALL

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 23, 2011

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, as Major League Baseball begins its post-season push, the professional minor leagues are concluding their seasons. The citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina are celebrating the first championship since 1982 of the Greensboro Grasshoppers of the South Atlantic League.

The Hoppers—as their fans affectionately call them—were a dramatic, come-from-behind team all season. It took the final games of the season for the Hoppers to even qualify for post-season play. Greensboro split the first two games at home in the best-of-five championship series against the Savannah Sand Gnats. When the series moved to Savannah, the Hoppers lost game three to the Sand Gnats. It has been 11 years in the “Sally League” since a team leading two-games-to-one failed to clinch the championship. With Savannah needing only one more win to capture the South Atlantic League title, the Hoppers were facing the end of their season, when they pulled out a heart-stopping, 11-inning win to force a fifth and deciding game.

Even in the championship game, Greensboro fell behind 2–0 early before cruising to 7–3 win to capture its first South Atlantic League championship in almost three decades. Hoppers Manager Andy Haines told the Greensboro News & Record that he could not pick a Most Valuable Player for the series. “There’s no way I could name anyone,” Haines told the newspaper. “We had a lot of guys contribute. It was someone different every night.”

All of the Grasshoppers can be proud of the regular season, along with the dramatic run to the title. Among those who were part of Greensboro's first championship since 1982 included: pitchers Michael Brady, Alex Caldera, Jordan Conley, Grant Dayton, James Leverton, Miguel Mejia, Robert Morey, Gregory Nappo, Mike Ojala, Chris Shafer, Rett Varner, Kyle Winters, and Brett Zawacki. The catchers were Aaron Dudley, Wilfredo Gimenez, and Jacob Realmuto. The infielders

included Daniel Black, Joe Bonadonna, Mark Canha, Ryan Fisher, and Noah Perio. The outfielders were Issac Galloway, Marcell Ozuna, James Wooster, and Christian Yelich. Only one of those on the disabled list, Zachary Neal, made it onto the post-season roster, but the others contributed during the year and they included Kevin Cravey, Alan Oaks, Jay Rogers, Adam Veres, and Sean Watson.

Greensboro is one of the best-run minor league teams in the entire United States and it is because of an outstanding front office. This championship caliber group includes: Donald Moore, President/General Manager; Katie Dannemiller, Vice President, Baseball Operations; Jimmy Kesler, CFO; Tim Vangel, Assistant General Manager, Sales and Marketing; Jake Holloway, Assistant General Manager, Head Groundskeeper; Erich Dietz, Director of Ticketing; Todd Olson, Sales Associate; Murray White, Sales Associate; Joey Burridge, Sales Associate/Ticket Representative; Rosalee Brewer, Sales Associate; John Redhead, Executive Director of Business Development; Laura Damico, Director of Community and Event Development; Shawn Russell, Director of Promotions/Production; Amanda Williams, Director of Creative Services; Yunhui Bradshaw, Director of Merchandise; Chad Green, Assistant Director of Stadium Operations; Kaid Musgrave, Assistant Groundskeeper; and Bob Perry, Clubhouse Director.

Championship Skipper Andy Haines was ably assisted by Pitching Coach Willie Glen and Hitting Coach Kevin Randel. The players were kept in championship form all season long by Athletic Trainer Masa Fujimoto and Strength and Conditioning Coach Cody Clark.

On behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we congratulate Greensboro Grasshoppers owners Cooper Brantley, Wes Elingburg and Len White and everyone affiliated with the Hoppers on providing its fans with so many dramatic moments during a memorable season. All of us who love the Hoppers are basking in the glow of the first South Atlantic League Championship since 1982. We may see some of today's Grasshoppers playing for the parent club—the Florida Marlins—in the near future, but none of us will forget the 2011 season when Greensboro came from behind numerous times to win it all.

TRIBUTE TO DARRELL WALTRIP

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 23, 2011

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, on this week when NASCAR's Chase for the Cup begins, I rise today to celebrate another landmark achievement for a 3-time Cup winner and resident of Tennessee's 7th District who I am truly privileged to call a good friend. Darrell Waltrip will join the third class of inductees in the NASCAR Hall of Fame.

Darrell was born and raised in Owensboro, Kentucky, but began making his mark as a professional driver at the old Nashville Speedway in the 1970s. We are proud that Darrell and his wife, Stevie call Franklin, Tennessee home.

This much-deserved accolade caps D.W.'s legendary career which included three

NASCAR Cup series championships, 84 Cup victories, the 1989 Daytona 500, and five-time winner of The Coca-Cola 600. Darrell had 271 top-five finishes and 390 top-tens, not to mention 13 Grand National Series wins. He's been the American Driver of the Year three times, the Auto Racing Digest Driver of the Year twice, and once NASCAR's Driver of the Decade.

We've seen him race the track, we now see him announce the sport he loves, and we look forward to watching him be enshrined into the NASCAR Hall of Fame. Mister Speaker, I rise today to honor Darrell Waltrip on this great success and ask my colleagues to join me in one hearty "Boogity, Boogity, Boogity". Way to go, D.W. It's another checkered flag for you.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CONVENIENCE STORES

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 23, 2011

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the National Association of Convenience Stores (NACS).

Originally founded in 1961, today NACS represents more than 3,700 companies that do business in more than 50 countries worldwide.

The convenience retailing industry in America generates \$575 billion dollars in sales annually, in its more than 146,000-plus stores across the country, and employs 1.73 million Americans. The industry is growing steadily as well—sales are more than 13 times higher than what they were three decades ago. Cumulatively, the U.S. convenience store industry alone serves 160 million customers per day.

It is convenience stores that keep America's motors running. Convenience stores sell 80 percent of all fuel sales in the country, and 80 percent of convenience stores sell gasoline.

While NACS boasts the membership of 49 of the top 50 convenience store companies, the majority of its membership consists of small, independent operators that own 10 stores or less. More than half of convenience stores are owned by single-store operators. NACS helps member retailers to grow their businesses, from research and marketing to human resources and management.

NACS also helps to advocate for those issues that are vital to these small business owners. From motor fuel policy, to prevention of tobacco sales to minors, to the provision of health care for its 1.73 million employees, NACS is an industry leader in making sure their voices are heard.

Convenience stores provide a speed of transaction that is unparalleled, and the large number of locations limits travel time for consumers. Additionally, they are often the only source of food or fuel for families outside of normal business hours. The extended hours and flexibility of convenience stores mean that they play a vital role in the communities they serve and customers are able to quickly pick up what they want, when they need it.

Mr. Speaker, in recognizing the many contributions the National Association of Convenience Stores has made to our Nation and to our history, I join my colleagues in celebrating the 50th anniversary of its founding.

HONORING CHARLES KRUG WINERY OF ST. HELENA, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 23, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Charles Krug Winery, Napa Valley's oldest and most historic winemaking establishment, and among the region's most highly acclaimed and admired firms. Charles Krug will be celebrating its 150th anniversary this year and in so doing will salute the century and a half of rich traditions and extraordinary wines cultivated under the esteemed brand.

In its long, storied history, Charles Krug has played host to and benefitted greatly from the hard work and immense accomplishments of some of the most famous and brilliant Wine Country luminaries. Among them were founder Charles Krug himself, Robert Mondavi, proprietor Peter Mondavi, Sr., and the current winemakers, brothers Peter, Jr., and Marc Mondavi. Today, the winery produces a line of super-premium and reserve wines, all made with estate-grown, sustainably farmed fruit from each of Napa Valley's esteemed sub-appellations: St. Helena, Carneros, Howell Mountain and Yountville.

Charles Krug was the first outfit in the Napa Valley to implement a handful of revolutionary techniques and technologies including the use of the cider press in 1858, the differentiation of product labels by vintage and varietal, the use of glass-lined tanks and the use of French oak barrels in 1963. The winery's estate vineyards have also been the sites of some historic innovations in the field of viticulture. Krug was the first vintner to purchase and develop vineyard land in the Howell Mountain area of Napa Valley. Peter Mondavi, Sr., avoided a costly replanting of the winery's vineyards when he bucked industry and rejected recommendations to plant the AXR1 rootstock, which was later found to be vulnerable to industry-ravaging phylloxera damage. More impressive still, he was among the first vintners to develop vineyards in and around Carneros, demonstrating that Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Merlot wines made from the grapes of this sub-appellation could reach high standards of quality.

Though Charles Krug Winery emerged as an early leader in the Napa Valley wine community, the company's commitment to serving the greater needs of the industry has always been a constant. Krug founded the St. Helena Viticultural Society in 1875, and assisted shortly thereafter with the establishment of the Napa and Sonoma Wine Company, a collaborative effort between producers to improve the quality of wine shipped to the East Coast. Today, after a century and a half's worth of work, the Charles Krug brand retains its place as one of the premier winemaking establishments in the Napa Valley region with a portfolio of wines that compete with the highest ranks of the national and international arenas.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time for us to congratulate and applaud the proprietors and staff of Charles Krug Winery for their outstanding and ongoing work, embodying and representing some of the best that Napa Valley and California have to offer. We wish them all much success in the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DAVID WEBSTER GREENER WAY TO WORK DAY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 23, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize September 23, 2011, as the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association's (CMBA) 3rd Annual "David Webster Greener Way to Work Day," and to remember David Webster, legal scholar, litigator, entrepreneur, and environmentalist, who died at age 46 from cancer on March 13, 2009, but whose achievements were many in his short life.

David Webster overcame alcoholism at a young age and went on to sponsor others in recovery. He accomplished much and saw life as an adventure. At Case Western Reserve School of Law, he graduated magna cum laude and was an editor of Law Review, where he met his wife Beth.

Upon graduation from law school, David became a commercial lawyer with broad experience in matters involving banking, commodity trading, securities, technology, real estate, intellectual property, and his passion, environmental law. Merging his knowledge of commodity trading and environmental law, he founded INHALE, which later became the Clean Air Conservancy, an organization which worked within the manufacturing economy and the commodities market to reduce air pollution by acquiring and retiring pollution allowances. Outside Magazine dubbed the Clean Air Conservancy one of the 10 best small environmental non-profits.

David Webster was an aggressive litigator who took on music giant Sony and won a judgment of more than \$5 million for the late Cleveland music producer Steve Popovich over credit for Meatloaf's hottest album, "Bat out of Hell." He was a founding partner of the law firm Webster & Dubyak and was also actively involved in the Cuyahoga County Bar Association, the Federal Bar Association, and the American Bar Association. He was a driving force behind the merger of the Cuyahoga County and the Cleveland Bar Associations and was the President-elect of the merged CMBA at the time of his passing.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, today, we observe the 3rd Annual David Webster Greener Way to Work Day. The CMBA encourages us to find a greener way to travel to and from work, whether through public transportation, biking, walking or carpooling. The CMBA will honor David's memory with a noon luncheon at the CMBA offices with a special tribute presentation. Please join me in honoring the memory of David Webster by joining with the CMBA in taking action to protect our environment.