

HONORING LT. MICHAEL P.
MURPHY

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Lt. Michael P. Murphy. Lt. Murphy grew up in the Long Island town of Patchogue and fulfilled his dream of becoming a (U.S.) Navy SEAL in 2002. He served honorably in Jordan, Qatar, Djibouti, and made the ultimate sacrifice during his deployment to Afghanistan. Lt. Murphy and three of his fellow SEALs were killed during their mission to find a key Taliban commander. Lt. Murphy posthumously received the Medal of Honor for his “undaunted courage, intrepid fighting spirit, and inspirational devotion to his men in the face of certain death.”

I am proud to stand with the Navy which decided to name its newest warship in honor of Lt. Murphy on what would have been his 35th birthday. The USS *Michael Murphy* DDG-112, a guided-missile destroyer, will be able to carry on the legacy of its namesake by performing a multitude of tasks including crisis management, sea control, and power projection. It will also be able to conduct air, surface, and below surface operations in support of maritime warfare.

It was fitting that the christening ceremony of the USS *Michael Murphy* occurred just one week after the successful operation to hunt down and kill Osama bin Laden. We owe a great deal of thanks to people like Lt. Murphy, the Navy SEALs, and all the men and women of our military. These brave individuals put their lives at risk everyday to keep us safe. May God Bless America and all the brave men and women who protect us at home and overseas.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. HARMON AND DR. ILLG

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Dean Harmon and Dr. James Illg for being the recipients of the Friends of Animals Award at the 2011 Humboldt County Spirit Awards.

The Humboldt County Spirit Awards were established to recognize and honor outstanding groups and individuals who have worked for the benefit of all citizens of Humboldt County, to celebrate the accomplishments and activities of our communities, to acknowledge the value of volunteerism in the county, and to have a positive impact on community spirit.

Annually included in the Spirit Awards, the Friends of Animals Award is presented to those whose acts of compassion ensure the health and well-being of our animal friends for conservation practices and efforts in the interest of preserving our wildlife. Doctors Harmon and Illg have consistently used their talents to support 4-H and ensure the safe purchase of auction animals in Humboldt County.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent Dr. Harmon and Dr. Illg in the United States Con-

gress. I know that my colleagues join me in commending them for their sincere dedication to establishing a better community and wish them continued success well into the future.

PRESIDENT MA YING-JEOU'S
THIRD ANNIVERSARY IN OFFICE

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of President Ma Ying-jeou's third anniversary in office this May 20, I wish to express my congratulations to the leaders and the people of the Republic of China.

Mr. Ma Ying-jeou was inaugurated as President of the Republic of China on May 20, 2008. During the last three years, Taiwan President Ma Ying-jeou has steadily and dramatically improved Taiwan's relations with the Chinese mainland. There are now 370 direct flights from cities in Taiwan to cities in China every week, relaxation of China-bound investments, more visas for mainland tourists and more exchange in many areas.

Committed to pursue reconciliation with the People's Republic, President Ma believes in a systematized dialogue between the two sides, the development of healthy cross-strait relations and the advancement of regional peace and stability. He argues that Taiwan and the PRC can co-exist while maintaining their differences. A win-win situation, President Ma opines, is in the best interest of all Chinese people and the world. As a result of his vision, peace is prevailing in the Taiwan Strait today.

Business is also good for both the Taiwanese and Chinese people. Taiwan and China inked the Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement (ECFA) last summer and President Ma has restarted the institutionalized cross-strait talks. As Members of this body, we thank President Ma for his courage and wisdom in initiating and continuing a pragmatic and yet flexible approach in handling cross-strait relations.

While cultivating a peaceful development across the Taiwan Strait, President Ma has also been working closely with the U.S. government. Our mutual relationship is strong and we applaud Taiwan's cooperation with us, especially in the war against global terrorism.

We are confident that relations with Taiwan will grow even stronger in all areas, including trade, science and technology, educational exchange, military sales and Taiwan's participation in international agencies. For the last three years, U.S.-Taiwan relations have been excellent, far superior to any period in recent memory.

I am pleased that Taiwan was once again invited to attend this year's World Health Assembly (WHA) in Geneva, Switzerland as an observer and I am hopeful that Taiwan's continued participation in the WHA will lead to Taiwan's participation in the activities of other international organizations such as the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

In celebrating President Ma's third anniversary in office, I credit him for these successes and join with my colleagues in extending our best wishes to him for his continued success.

RECOGNIZING ROD DOLE

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague, Representative MIKE THOMPSON, to honor Rod Dole of Sonoma County, California, who is retiring May 31, 2011, after 25 years as the County's Auditor-Controller. During his long tenure, Mr. Dole was responsible for overseeing a wide variety of County financial operations, including serving as Treasurer-Tax Collector when those positions were consolidated with his office 5 years ago.

With a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration and certification as both an Internal Auditor and a Government Financial Manager, Rod Dole was hired as an auditor in 1976. He was appointed to the Auditor-Controller post in 1985 and subsequently elected. He continued to be re-elected by residents who appreciated his confident and sure hand in this key position. He has served in a number of related organizations including Chair of various committees in the State Auditor-Controllers and Treasurer-Tax Collector Associations, the State Controller, and the State Treasurer as well as President of the State Auditor-Controllers Association.

Locally, Mr. Dole has worked with a variety of service clubs and non-profit organizations, on the board of Redwood Credit Union, and on the boards of both the Sonoma State University School of Business and Economics and the President's Advisory Committee.

A man of many accomplishments in his field, he is particularly known for authoring State legislation for the “Teeter Credit” regarding property tax payments to local agencies; chairing State committees on property tax guidelines and spending limits; and most recently for administering the Sonoma County Energy Independence Program (SCEIP), a national model for a mechanism permitting loans for energy efficiency upgrades through property taxes. He advocated strongly for the program in the face of Federal restrictions on such loans, and SCEIP has won numerous awards as well as a \$3 million grant from the California Energy Commission.

It is a key component of Sonoma County's leadership in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and saving energy and has provided hundreds of local construction jobs.

Rod Dole looks forward to his retirement with Kathie, his wife of 35 years, and will have time to appreciate his cabin at Lake Almanor and his hobbies of golf, fishing, boating, tennis, and woodworking. He also has two children, Laura and Michael.

Mr. Speaker, we ask you to join us in commending Rod Dole's 35 years of service to the people of Sonoma County. We wish him an enjoyable retirement with his family.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JEFF FORTENBERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, May 11, 2011, I was inadvertently detained and thus I missed rollcall vote

No. 309. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

A TRIBUTE TO DALLAS CLARK

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize NFL tight-end Dallas Clark for being the recipient of the Youth Champion Award at the 2011 Humboldt County Spirit Awards.

The Humboldt County Spirit Awards were established to recognize and honor outstanding groups and individuals who have worked for the benefit of all citizens of Humboldt County, to celebrate the accomplishments and activities of our communities, to acknowledge the value of volunteerism in the county, and to have a positive impact on community spirit.

Annually included in the Spirit Awards, the Youth Champion Award is presented to an adult individual who has generously given time, talent and energy to promote and further activities for youth in the community. Dallas has not only taken the time to share his talents with the youth of Humboldt County, but as also served as an exemplary role model for the young people that he continues to inspire.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent Dallas Clark and his family in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues join me in commanding Dallas for his sincere dedication to establishing a better community and wish them continued success well into the future.

HONORING THE PUERTO RICAN PHOTOGRAPHERS OF NEW YORK

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, to recognize the lasting impact of the photo-journalists of the New York City Puerto Rican Community, as recently displayed at the 2011 New York Photo Festival.

The renowned exhibition features eight photographers, who during the 1970's and 80's catalogued the daily lives and growth of their community. Frank Espada, Joe Conzo, Pablo Delano, Perla de Leon, Ricky Flores, David Gonzalez, Maximo Colon and Francisco Reyes II all became voices of the community through their art. They captured on film the diaspora that makes New York City truly special as well as the everyday pioneers whose struggles inch our nation closer to our founding ideals.

During the decades that span these photos, the Puerto Rican community in New York rose up against prejudices that prevented them from enjoying their equal rights and established a more inclusive pride in their cultural heritage. Amidst the upheaval and hardships, these photographers captured the beauty in their surroundings. Today their work reveals a unique perspective into the rise of the New York's Hispanic Community.

I have attached for the record a recent Daily News article, written by Carolina Gonzalez previewing the exhibition.

Mr. Speaker, these photographers and their work must not be forgotten. Thanks to the efforts of Adriana Teresa Letorney, people from all over the district, the city, the country can discover the visual evidence of the Puerto Rican community in transition, from outcasts to vibrant, integral parts of our great nation.

[From the New York Daily News, May 11, 2011]

EXHIBIT SHOWCASES WORK OF 8 PHOTOGRAPHERS WHO DOCUMENTED PUERTO RICAN COMMUNITY IN '70S AND '80S

(By Carolina Gonzalez)

Several people carry oversize papier-mâché puppets representing the Three Wise Men while others, dressed as shepherds, herd actual sheep. They walk into one of the arched passageways along upper Park Ave., making tracks in a dusting of snow.

This scene from Dia de Reyes is instantly recognizable to longtime New Yorkers familiar with El Barrio folkways. The image, taken in 1978 by Frank Espada, is representative of several dozen on display at a new exhibit dedicated to eight Puerto Rican photographers documenting their community.

Titled "Dia"—not after the Spanish word for "day," but after the Greek word for "across"—the show is presented at the FotoVisura Pavilion as part of the annual New York Photo Festival, which opens today at DUMBO Arts Center, 111 Front St., Brooklyn, and runs through Sunday.

The images are primarily from the 1970s and 1980s, set in the South Bronx, East Harlem and the lower East Side. Many were taken when the photographers were in their 20s.

"What I was looking for was a moment in time that the Puerto Rican community took a stand in who they were and started to develop its own voice," said curator Adriana Teresa Letorney.

"It's important for my generation to see that, how this group became a voice of a community."

Letorney, who arrived from San Juan eight years ago to study art, created FotoVisura, the organization sponsoring the show, as a service for new and veteran photographers, offering online space to show and share photographs.

"Dia" is her first show dedicated entirely to U.S.-based Puerto Rican photographers.

Some of Joe Conzo's shots document protests against the 1981 film "Fort Apache, the Bronx," which many community members saw as exploiting stereotypes of Bronx Puerto Ricans as savage criminals.

An image by Espada of young dancers from Ballet Hispanico, arms in the air and heads back, is as tender as any by Degas.

Some shots have elements burned into the popular imagination as representative of Puerto Rican communities: burned-out buildings, run-down businesses, dirty streets.

But as in several images by Pablo Delano, Perla de León, Ricky Flores and David González of happy children at play in these settings, it is clear that where others saw ruins, these shooters saw life.

For all the photographers, the work comes from a period when they began to see themselves as serious shooters with a responsibility to document their communities. But not all ended up as fine-arts photographers.

Flores continues to work in journalism. Gonzalez is better known for his journalistic writing, primarily at the New York Times. De León is known as a filmmaker. Conzo's day job is as an emergency medical technician, although he continues to document hip-hop and salsa culture as a hobby.

Delano continues to work as a documentary photographer and as a professor at Trinity College in Hartford, Conn. And Espada,

at 80 the oldest in the group, considers himself "half-retired."

The show is presented as a projected slide show, not a traditional exhibit of printed photos. "Having it be a slide show in a way represents how this was a transient stage in our lives, the impermanence of things," Flores said.

"Why aren't more people outside of our community aware of what happened? How did our history get swept away?"

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF WILLIE L. SMITH

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great public servant who has dedicated his entire career to protecting the public. Over the last 40 years, Chief Willie L. Smith served in the military and as a law enforcement official. His commitment to serving the public has never waned. Chief Smith is being honored for his years of service on June 18, 2011, and I am pleased to add my voice to the many who are thanking him for his lifetime of accomplishments.

Willie L. Smith was born on August 12, 1949 in Marion, South Carolina to H.B. and Ruth McCummings Smith. He was educated in the public schools of Marion County and graduated from Johnakin High School in 1967. In May 1969, he was drafted into the United States Army and reported to Fort Jackson for his advanced infantry training. After graduation, he was sent to Fort Bragg and joined the 18th Airborne Corps with B Battery, 4th Battalion, and the 73rd Field Artillery.

Chief Smith served a tour in Vietnam where he was assigned to the 1st Cavalry 2nd Brigade Aviation Platoon, the helicopter unit that flew convoy escorts and sniffer missions. He spent a year in Vietnam, and returned to his hometown in 1971. That year, he was hired at the Marion Police Department, where he worked his way up through the ranks to Lieutenant.

Smith's career then took him to the Alcohol Beverage Control Commission where he served as an ABC agent for five years. His service there earned him many honors. One of his highest commendations came for outstanding service to the South Carolina Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission for his participation in the investigation of the George Wells Gambling Organization in Berkeley County.

Mr. Smith returned home, where he was hired as Marion's Chief of Police, a position which he held for 34 years. Chief Smith earned numerous commendations, awards, and certificates. Twice he earned the Best of Marion, and was given the U.S. Marshal's Service Award, the Palmetto State Law Enforcement Award, the Marion Chamber of Commerce Award, the District 6 Service Award, and the Woodman of the World Community Service Award. He was also voted the most professional law enforcement officer in Marion in 2007, and received the City of Marion Outstanding Public Service Award given by Mayor Bobby Gerald and the City Council.

Chief Smith is married to Elista H. Smith and they have two children, Craig L. Smith