

CONGRATULATING BRIGADIER GENERAL JOSEPH A. LANNI ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. STEVE AUSTRIA**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 23, 2011

Mr. AUSTRIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Brigadier General Joseph A. Lanni for his outstanding service to our Nation on the occasion of his retirement.

On behalf of the people of Ohio's Seventh Congressional District, I am honored to congratulate Brigadier General Lanni upon his retirement as Commander of the Air Force Security Assistance Center at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

His over 31 years of dedicated service to the citizens of our Nation and our area is both admirable and commendable. Lanni received his commission in 1980 upon his graduation from the U.S. Air Force Academy. As Commander, Air Force Security Assistance Center, General Lanni was the focal point for administering the Air Force's \$92.7 billion security assistance budget supporting foreign military sales to more than 96 countries, operating more than 6,000 aircraft and other major weapons systems.

Over the course of his distinguished career, he served as an operational fighter pilot, aggressor pilot, and experimental test pilot. He also commanded a classified Flight Test Squadron and the 412th Test Wing. Additionally, he directed the F-22 Combined Test Force, and served on the Headquarters Air Force and Joint Staff. Lanni is a command pilot with more than 4,700 flight hours including the F-22 and 90 different types of aircraft and classified prototypes.

For his many years of service to our Nation, I join the people of Ohio's Seventh Congressional District in extending our best wishes upon his retirement and wish him ongoing success in all future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY ON ITS CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 23, 2011

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Southern Methodist University (SMU) on the occasion of their Centennial Celebration. I am a proud alumnus of SMU, and look forward to their four-year celebration to commemorate this anniversary.

SMU has made amazing strides over the past century, rising from a small rural college to an internationally renowned university. From its founding in 1911 till today, SMU has graduated more than 100,000 alumni. The outstanding achievement and leadership of those alumni serves as a testament to SMU's tradition of success. With seven different schools, SMU ranks as one of the best universities in the Nation. The Cox School of Business is routinely ranked in the top 25 business schools in the United States. In addition to

twelve alumni who are past and present Members of the U.S. Congress, SMU has graduated such notable individuals as: John Tyson, CEO of Tyson Foods; former-First Lady, Laura Bush; Lamar Hunt, founder of the American Football League; Harriet Miers, former-White House Counsel and Supreme Court nominee; James Cronin, Nobel Prize winning physicist; Mary Ellen Weber, NASA astronaut; and Karen Hughes, former Under Secretary of State.

For these well-known alumni, myself, and thousands of former and current students, SMU holds a special place in our hearts. There is a strong sense of pride amongst the SMU community, and the values we learned in school have stayed with us throughout our lives. We were and always will be SMU Mustangs.

With an eye towards the next generation, SMU is not only celebrating the past, but planning for the future. This Centennial Celebration will serve as a time to ensure the next hundred years are even more successful than the first one hundred.

I congratulate SMU, its faculty, staff, supporters and alumni on this monumental occasion. I look forward to continued involvement with SMU, and hope we can work together to ensure outstanding achievement for the University in the years to come.

REMEMBERING THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN 371ST INFANTRY REGIMENT

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 23, 2011

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the 371st Infantry Regiment was formed in August 1917 and consisted of African-American draftees mostly from South Carolina and white officers. After training at Camp Jackson, the unit arrived on the Western Front in April 1918. It was placed under the command of the French Army because of their desperate need for new troops, and because of racial tensions within the U.S. army. The 371st soldiers were given French equipment and reorganized to fit the French army structure. They spent the spring of 1918 training in French tactics and units.

The 371st was then thrown into the "Final Offensive" of the Great War in September. Though fighting well, they suffered heavy casualties: over 1,000 men out of 2,384 were lost in eight days. On September 28, 1918, just six weeks before the end of World War I, Corporal Freddie Stowers (21) of Sandy Springs, SC was killed, leading the remnants of his company to capture German positions after an ambush. After feigning surrender the Germans opened up with machine gun and mortar fire, instantly destroying over half of the company. Stowers rallied the survivors and led them to knock out one machine gun nest, and though mortally wounded, urged them on to capture a second trench line to stop the threat and cause heavy enemy casualties. His commanding officer recommended him for the Medal of Honor.

Vice-Admiral Moreau, on behalf of the French Government, decorated the regimental colors on January 27, 1919, in Brest. The

371st won the French Legion of Honor and the Croix de Guerre. The American Distinguished Services Cross was awarded to ten officers and twelve enlisted men.

Upon the 371st Regiment's return to Columbia, SC, the community worked together to fundraise for a reception honoring the soldiers. The event was held on February 29, 1919 at Allen University. The two flags of the 371st Regiment were presented to the community during the reception. These flags are part of the South Carolina Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum's collection.

With the war over, the unit was disbanded and the achievements of the 371st quickly faded. Fortunately, this was not the end of the story. The Medal of Honor nomination for Freddie Stowers languished for 70 years but in 1988, several members of Congress began campaigning on behalf of African-American World War I soldiers not properly recognized. Stowers became the first African-American soldier from World War I to earn the medal.

HONORING KAREN CARUSO FOR BEING NAMED NORTH CAROLINA'S 2011 SMALL BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR

**HON. HEATH SHULER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 23, 2011

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Karen Caruso, CEO of Mind Your Business, Inc. located in Hendersonville, North Carolina, for being named North Carolina's 2011 Small Business Person of the Year by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

In 1995, Ms. Caruso was watching an Oprah Winfrey show on abusive child care providers and saw the need for parents to be able to screen the individuals who would potentially be caring for their children. Her background in security proved to be useful in developing applicant screening services. Mind Your Business, Inc. was launched in 1996 with two employees and \$2,500 in the basement of Ms. Caruso's home.

Despite facing a market dominated by men and large corporations, Ms. Caruso's business has continued to expand. She now employs 14 people and operates a 3,000-square-foot facility in the mountains of Western North Carolina. Mind Your Business, Inc. now offers several screening options, including pre-employment screening, applicant background checks, and drug and alcohol testing services for individuals, corporate, and government clients.

Mind Your Business, Inc. is a prime example of the success that can be accomplished through a partnership between entrepreneurs and the SBA. Ms. Caruso has made use of several SBA programs, including training through SCORE, the North Carolina Small Business Technology and Development Center, and the SBA Women's Business Center.

I congratulate Karen Caruso for having the vision and perseverance to create a business that, despite these economically difficult times, has shown record profits in 2009 and 2010. Ms. Caruso's business has provided security, given peace of mind to parents, and helped ensure the safety of our region's children.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the exceptional career of Ms. Karen

Caruso, North Carolina's 2011 Small Business Person of the Year.

IN HONOR OF MARY HOZE

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 23, 2011

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, it is with sadness that I rise in honor of Mary Hoze, who passed away on May 9, 2011 in Sacramento, California.

Mary was born on April 16, 1930 in Shubuta, Mississippi to Willie and Fannie Penilton. She was the younger of the two children. Her life was filled with devotion and love for her husband, Walter Earl Hoze, and for her family. She and her husband raised eight remarkable children.

In 1957 Mary and Walter moved to Sacramento, California where they became active and respected citizens in their North Sacramento community. She devoted her life to raising her children, caring for others and gardening. Mary loved reading and sharing God's word. She was a faithful member of Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church in Sacramento. She served as a Sunday school teacher, president, and bible teacher for the General Mission and Senior Women's organizations. She was also an active member of the Deaconess and Mothers' Boards. Mary was well known throughout Sacramento for her compassion, warmth and sense of humor.

Mary is survived by her children: Bonnie, Johnnie, Gwen, Allen, Danny, Connie, Cynthia and Shelia. She also leaves behind nineteen grandchildren, nineteen great grandchildren, along with countless relatives and friends.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in paying honor to Mary Hoze for being an exemplary member of the Sacramento community. Her life and legacy—as a mother and member of our community—will be an inspiration to us all. I ask that we take a moment and extend our utmost respect and condolences to her family.

HONORING THE PEOPLE OF SEATON, ENGLAND

**HON. JON RUNYAN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 23, 2011

Mr. RUNYAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the people of Seaton, England. The people of Seaton were invaluable partners prior to the "D-Day" invasion of June 6, 1944. Seaton's unwavering support and hospitality allowed U.S. troops to launch a successful invasion of Europe and ultimately win World War II.

The kindness of the people of Seaton manifested itself in many ways. They welcomed, housed, and supported the men of the 2nd Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division from January 1944 through early June, 1944. Many of these soldiers were taken in and treated like family, and respected members of the community.

This feeling of community was made evident when the people of Seaton organized dances,

entertainment, and other events, for the troops. There's no doubt that this welcoming atmosphere helped ease the transition for the young soldiers, most of whom were away from home for the first time.

Seaton was instrumental in the continued training of our forces providing marksmanship instruction alongside the British guard. This training inevitably led to our nation's forces being better prepared for battle and ultimately saved American lives.

Seaton's lasting legacy is the positive atmosphere that it helped to foster. In fact in the five months that it housed American troops there were no recorded adverse incidents to speak of and many troops who were stationed in Seaton had some of their fondest memories of the war while stationed there.

Seaton had a significant strategic impact on the war. The town's support of the 2nd Battalion was instrumental in allowing it to become the first to land on Utah Beach, during "D-Day", and obtain all of its objectives within the first few hours of Operation Overlord.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the lasting legacy of the people of Seaton, England and their contributions in support of American forces prior to the "D-Day" landing on June 6, 1944.

RECOGNIZING 2011 EDUCATION FINANCE CAPITOL HILL DAY

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 23, 2011

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to acknowledge the 2011 Education Finance Council Capitol Hill Day. This event brought state agency and not for profit student lenders from across the country to Washington, DC. In my home state of South Carolina, the South Carolina Student Loan Corporation has provided higher education access and completion programs for thousands of students in the Palmetto state since its inception in 1973.

Nationwide, state agency and not for profit student loan organizations offer college access and completion programs including—financial literacy programs, scholarships, grants and low cost supplemental loans—to students, families, and high schools in their states, at no cost. For nearly twenty years the Education Finance Council has been the strong voice in Washington for state agency and not for profit student lenders.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the work these entities are doing to increase the number of college graduates in our country.

DAYTON, TEXAS IS 100 YEARS OLD

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 23, 2011

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to congratulate the citizens of Dayton, Texas on the celebration of their city's 100th anniversary. Towns like the quiet, country living, of Dayton, Texas are why so many new people and businesses continue to move to Texas.

Beginning as a small agricultural village, Dayton was home to rugged Texas ranchers, farmers, and loggers. For many years, lumbering and ranching were the main industry until they established a drainage system. This establishment worked to make Rice the area's major crop. Still today, rice farms are still thriving in Southeast Texas. I am proud to represent Texas Rice Farmers, who continue to be hard-working, well-educated, God fearing Americans.

Modern amenities were brought to Dayton at the turn of the 20th century. They opened a bank, had two cotton gins, as well as a weekly newspaper. So much so that in 1911, Dayton was recorded as an incorporated municipality. The 20s roared in with the nearby founding of Humble Oil and Refining Company, which later became Exxon. As a result, Dayton grew along with the refinery when oil roughnecks began purchasing homes in and around the town.

The 1930s and 40s solidified the Greatest Generation in our Nation's history. Dayton is home to many heroes who served in our military during this time. Twelve such heroes who live in Dayton are the Ripkowski brothers. Growing up on a 200 acre Corn and Cotton Farm, they were a long way from the theater they would soon find themselves fighting in. Nonetheless, As World War II began; each of the brothers answered their country's call of duty to serve in the military. One after the other. Miraculously, all of the brothers survived the war and returned to Texas! These brothers are typical of the hard-working, law-abiding Texans that live in Dayton, Texas. They are charter members of the Greatest Generation.

Bringing air conditioning, the baby boom, and the Vietnam War the 1950's and 60's presented many more changes to the small town. The 1970s saw the biggest rise in fame and fortune with the oil boom, but was followed by the biggest fall from grace in the 80s. Nonetheless, Dayton emerged unscathed in the 1990s, and continues today as a unique, thriving, city that is rich in history, pride and perseverance.

Today, farming and logging and oil are still a part of this diverse, vibrant community. Dayton continues to live up to its rich legacy of industry mixed with community spirit. Dayton is a thriving community, home to growing families, excellent schools, community organizations, friendly churches, new library, new community center, rodeo arena and parks.

Dayton, like many other Texas towns, Dayton residents are still heavily involved in supporting our Troops. One such example is the recent creation of two war memorials, each paying tribute to the men and women who have served our country. Patriotism is truly a part of these folks makeup. Never more so was this patriotism demonstrated than on July 10, 2010. At the age of 24, Staff Sergeant Jesse Ainsworth of Dayton, Texas was killed by enemy action in Afghanistan. At his funeral, hundreds of residents lined the streets of Dayton paying tribute to one of their heroes. Many of those on the streets carried flags and yellow ribbons; while others held signs saying "Proud of You", "Proud to be an American" or "Thank You." As the funeral procession made its way to throughout the town, residents of Dayton, with tearful eyes and grateful hearts, saluted the Ainsworth family.

Dayton's fire and police departments are among the best in Texas. Dayton ISD provides outstanding educational opportunities for