

TRIBUTE TO THE GREATEST
GENERATION

HON. MARY BONO MACK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2012

Mrs. BONO MACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the brave men and women who fought and served in World War II. Their courage, selflessness and remarkable contributions to our country must never be forgotten. They fought not for fame or recognition, and too often made the ultimate sacrifice, but because it was simply their duty.

When Tom Brokaw declared them the "greatest generation any society has ever produced," no one could have described them in more fitting terms. After suffering through the Great Depression as youths, they were summoned to war following the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. They didn't hesitate. They jumped at the chance to fight for their country in the heat of the South Pacific, the chill of Europe and other fronts around the globe. When they returned home, they humbly kept the horrors of war to themselves, not wanting to trouble their families with the terror of what they had faced. Women who had never held a job outside of the home before served as nurses, built tanks and planes, and those who stayed home immediately went to work to support the war effort. Truly, their unwavering patriotism is exemplary and serves as an inspiration to future generations.

I am honored to pay tribute to this generation because I am the proud daughter of a World War II veteran who flew a B17 bomber in Europe during the war. My dad's unwavering courage, unimaginable sacrifices and tireless work ethic is typical of his generation. Because of my dad and others like him, we live in freedom in the greatest country on Earth. As this generation ages, it's up to us to keep their legacy strong and tell their story to generations to come. Together, we must "keep the Spirit of '45 Alive." I commend the residents of the Coachella Valley for their efforts to do just that.

The Palm Springs Air Museum, where old bombers like my dad's stand proudly on display, is hosting a "Spirit of '45 Day" next month to honor those who fought in World War II. Events like these serve as a worthy salute to this brave generation before we are left with only their memory. The Palm Springs Air Museum is a community treasure and labor of love for those dedicated to preserving and sharing the history of our nation's heroic aviators. It is well worth a visit for anyone who wants to learn more about the role our brave pilots and other service personnel played in many epic conflicts. I want to extend special thanks to the many volunteers and supporters who ensure the continued operation of this outstanding museum.

In the early hours of June 6, 1944, General Dwight Eisenhower told his troops that the eyes of the world were upon them. Those words were powerful then, but still rings true today. Indeed, the eyes of the world will always be upon the Greatest Generation, and I hope you'll join me in making every effort to preserve their remarkable legacy, a legacy that will never be diminished as long as the Republic they fought so heroically to preserve endures.

HONORING DEAN WELDON
SLEIGHT

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Weldon Sleight as he retires as Dean of the University of Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture (NCTA).

Dean Sleight has led NCTA since 2006 and played a vital role in supporting the college legacy and our rural agriculture economy along the way.

Under his watch NCTA constructed a new residence hall, expanded the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, and built a state-of-the-art education center.

In addition, Dean Sleight has established innovative programs combining entrepreneurship and agriculture such as the "Combat Boots to Cowboy Boots" initiative, designed to assist military personnel, their families and veterans in becoming farmers and ranchers; and the "100 Beef Cow Ownership Advantage" program which assists students, parents, employers, and agencies in creating successful businesses and ranch transfer plans.

When Dean Sleight retires in December of this year, we wish him the best of luck and thank him for his contribution to agriculture, education and Nebraska.

DEBRINA WORKMAN 30 YEARS
WITH CONGRESSMAN NICK
RAHALL

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2012

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, thirty years ago today, a young woman joined my Congressional Staff to help serve our fellow West Virginians in the midst of our State's rich coalfields. She hailed from the community of Holden and still resides there near her parents' home.

Though she was very young, she had a burning passion to help people. And so she has, by the hundreds, nay thousands, over the decades working from her home base in my Logan District Office. For years, once a week, she did outreach work, bringing the constituent services of this Member of Congress to the good people of Mingo County. Working from the Mingo County seat of government in Williamson, she keeps me abreast of the important issues confronting the citizens of the Tug River Valley, the demarcation line of the famed Hatfield and McCoy Feud.

To say she is a seasoned expert in agency process, procedure and practice is an understatement. She knows constituent casework inside and out. More importantly, Mr. Speaker, she knows the families of the coalfields, where they came from and where most of them are headed. She knows this because she cares, cares deeply that people are treated justly, and that justice is meted in a timely manner. She can scrap the varnish off truth faster and cleaner than anyone I know, whether you want her to or not.

In the office she laughs with family members when things go right for them, and at

home in the evening, she sheds tears for them when they are troubled. Indeed her passion still burns brightly, though now through these many years, it takes on the golden hue of seasoned compassion. She knows just the right thing to say to put people at ease. Not the art of politics, just working the Golden Rule, overtime.

In these past thirty years, she has stuck with the people of southern West Virginia, through floods, blizzards and now a derecho. Her loyalty knows no bounds, even by Mother Nature's standards. Those in West Virginia's Third Congressional District and I are indeed fortunate to have Debrina Taylor Workman on our side because when the need arises, she can be a force of nature all by herself.

Members of Congress are indeed blessed with godsenders like Debrina to help us serve. While we don't say it often enough, we are thankful for their many sacrifices on our and the good people we represent behalves. Please join me in thanking Debrina for thirty years of service to her country and its families. May the good Lord's blessings continue to shine upon Debrina, her son, Jordan, and her many friends and family.

RECOGNIZING THE GRAND MARSHALS FOR DELANO'S 38TH ANNUAL PHILIPPINE WEEKEND

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2012

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Grand Marshals for Delano's 38th Annual Philippine Weekend. This event takes place in my district each year to honor and celebrate the Filipino culture. This year's honorees are Juanita Quiocho Villaruz, Suzanne Villaruz, and Arleen Villaruz-Gonzales, and they were selected for their dedication to service in their community. They are terrific examples of strong women that exhibit leadership, selflessness, and perseverance.

Juanita immigrated to the United States in 1958 from Rancho, Santa, Ilocos Sur, Philippines. She married Louie V. Villaruz, and had three children—Suzanne, Arleen, and Lounito. While supporting their young family, Juanita and Louie were active in the United Farm Workers of America's efforts to change conditions and wages for farm laborers. In 1970, Juanita found herself having to support three children on her own due to Louie's sudden death. She received training and worked as a psychiatric technician at Porterville State Hospital. Juanita retired from the State of California in 1995.

As a member of many different organizations, Juanita has stayed extremely active in the Filipino community. She was a charter member of the Filipino-American (Fil-Am) Cultural and Educational Association and served as president in 1976–77. She is also a member of the Filipino Catholic Association, Legionarios del Trabajo, the Filipino Community of Delano, and the Sons of Santa, of which she is a past president.

Juanita has always had a sense of service and participation in her community which she has undoubtedly passed down to her children.

Suzanne Villaruz was born in Delano and graduated from Delano High School in 1977.

She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from California State University, Bakersfield. As a registered and credentialed nurse, she has been working at McFarland Unified School District for over 20 years. In 2011, she was honored as Certified Employee of the Year.

In 1995, Suzanne initiated the Delano's Junior Miss program. Today, that program is called the Distinguished Young Women of Delano. Outside of Junior Miss, Suzanne finds joy in volunteering. She has served as an alternate on the Cecil Avenue Junior High School Site Council and chaired the School Site Council at Delano High School. Suzanne gladly served several years on the Board of Directors for Joshua Tree Council for Girl Scouts and Junior League of Bakersfield. Since 2001, she has been a member of the Kiwanis Club of Delano and has twice served as president.

Suzanne lives a very busy life working and dedicating her time to service, but family is also extremely important. Her most cherished roles are that of mother to Nicole Ailina Villaruz and partner to Arnold Morrison.

Arleen Villaruz-Gonzales, born just eleven months after her sister, is a 1978 graduate of Delano High School. She graduated from California State University, Bakersfield with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Liberal Studies. She married Anthony Gonzales in 1981, and they have two beautiful children, Aaron and Aubree.

Arleen has taught in the Delano Union School District at Fremont, Del Vista, and Princeton Schools. At Princeton, she was the first to ever receive the Teacher of the Year award, and in 1994 was named to the Hall of Fame as an Outstanding Teacher from Paramount Farms.

Just like her mother and sister, Arleen is very active in her community. She was a parent liaison for Delano High School's Theater Percussion Ensemble, United Spirit Association camp counselor, AYSO Commissioner, and a troop leader for Girl Scouts. Following in her mother's footsteps, Arleen is a past president of the Fil-Am Cultural and Educational Association.

Suzanne and Arleen have served many organizations in tandem, but Philippine Weekend has always been at their hearts. In 1976, Suzanne was crowned the first Miss Philippine Weekend queen, and then had the distinct pleasure of crowning Arleen the following year.

Two decades after being crowned, Suzanne was part of a reorganization of Philippine Weekend, when they returned to encouraging the youth of Delano to participate and take leadership positions in the organization. This proudly continues today. Suzanne and Arleen are very proud and supportive of the young people they have worked with who have become successful in their professional and volunteer lives. Philippine Weekend is now a successful nonprofit organization.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 2012 Philippine Weekend Grand Marshals—Juanita Quiocho Villaruz, Suzanne Villaruz, and Arleen Villaruz-Gonzales—for their outstanding contributions to the community of Delano and the San Joaquin Valley.

RECOGNIZING NORTHWEST FLORIDA'S SAM HAZEWINDEL AS A MEMBER OF THE 2012 UNITED STATES OLYMPIC TEAM

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Northwest Florida's Sam Hazewinkel as a member of the 2012 United States Olympic Team. The Olympics are a truly special event where nations from around the world come together to compete as their fellow countrymen cheer them on, and when Sam steps to the mat in the 55 kilogram freestyle wrestling category to represent our nation, all of Northwest Florida will be cheering him on.

From an illustrious wrestling family, Sam is the first ever second generation Olympic wrestler in U.S. history. His father, Dave, and uncle, Jim, both represented our country in Greco Roman wrestling at the 1968 and 1972 Olympics. Dave introduced his son to wrestling at a young age, and coached Sam while he competed at Pensacola Christian Academy. At Pensacola Christian, Sam compiled a perfect 140–0 record on his way to three Florida state championships. His success gained him a scholarship to the University of Oklahoma, where he was a four time All-American, and he finished his collegiate career with an impressive 132–10 record.

While Sam excelled on the mat, he also learned the importance of perseverance. Sam finished in third place in the NCAA championships in his Freshman, Sophomore and Junior seasons, and in his Senior season he came agonizingly close to capturing a national championship before losing in overtime of the final match. During his collegiate career, Sam also competed for a spot on the Olympic team, finishing in third place in the 2004 Olympic Team Trials. In 2008, Sam competed again for a spot on the Olympic team, only to fall short in the finals and finish as runner-up.

Some may have given up after coming so close on two occasions, but Sam remained dedicated and never gave up on his Olympic dream. He switched from Greco Roman to Freestyle wrestling, but he came into the 2012 trials as the underdog. Sam reached the finals determined to win, but he started off the best-of-three finals with a loss in the first match. In the second match, he battled back from an early deficit to pull out a win in overtime to force a decisive third match. He won the third and final match in dramatic fashion, in overtime, to fulfill his Olympic dream and cement his legacy as a role model for hard work, dedication and perseverance in the face of adversity.

Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to rise on behalf of Florida's First Congressional District to recognize Northwest Florida's own Sam Hazewinkel and wish him the best as he represents our country and competes for an Olympic gold medal.

MOUNT CHOSIN FEW AND THE BATTLE OF CHOSIN RESERVOIR (JANGJIN LAKE)

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2012

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, during the Korean War, a war often forgotten by U.S. history books, many brave soldiers fought and sacrificed their lives in battles waged in brutal fighting conditions. In one such battle, American forces were surprised by an overwhelming Chinese military force at Jangjin Lake, also known as the Chosin Reservoir. From November 27 to December 13, 1950, these courageous American soldiers, including the 1st Marine Division, fought bravely to free themselves from Chinese encirclement and certain capture or death. Following this great battle, seventeen allied soldiers received the Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest honor this Nation can bestow upon a soldier, and more than seventy soldiers were awarded the Navy Cross.

In honor of these brave soldiers, and at the request of two of my constituents, Richard Lilly of Wasilla, Alaska, and John Beasley of Palmer, Alaska, I recently introduced a bill to name one of the mountains in the Alaska Chugach National Forest after this monumental battle. This bill, H.R. 5928, the Mount Chosin Few Act, was intended to show support for the naming of this mountain, a mountain which would forever commemorate the 3,000 killed and 13,000 wounded American service members in the Battle of Chosin Reservoir.

On June 15, 2012, the Board of Geographic Names (BGN), independent of my legislation, acted on an existing request from Mr. Lilly and Mr. Beasley, to name Mount Chosin Few. This action was entirely within the Board's existing legal authority to address new name proposals. I am pleased that the BGN voted unanimously to name this mountain and, in doing so, honor those who fought and died, not just in this one battle, but during the entire Korean War.

Recently however, I have learned of some concerns regarding the origin of the name, Chosin Reservoir and its American colloquial roots. In 1950s, the United Nations provided U.S. soldiers with Japanese maps of the Korean Peninsula, as Korean maps were not available. Due to the use of Japanese maps, U.S. forces and U.S. news sources used the Japanese name "Chosin," instead of the Korean name "Jangjin," to describe the body of water around which this great battle was waged. Consequently, given the great heroics of this battle and the play on words between "chosen" and "Chosin," the Battle at Jangjin Lake has been known, by most Americans, as the Battle of Chosin Reservoir. Additionally, the media-friendly nicknames stemming from this battle, such as "Frozen Chosin" and "The Chosin Few," have also been adopted into American history.

Please know that I understand and appreciate the concerns of the Korean people and government about the difference in the names "Jangjin Lake" and "Chosin Reservoir." Such cultural sensitivities are significant and remind us of the amazingly complex differences that exist not only within ethnicities and countries, but also within individual people as well. In the