

HONORING BETTE BOYD FOR HER
SERVICE TO HUMBOLDT COUNTY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 28, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bette Boyd. Mrs. Boyd has exercised the most important duty of citizenship, voting in every election since she registered to vote at the age of 21 in 1947. She has devoted her time and efforts to community endeavors and good citizenship since being first employed in war work in 1943.

When the demand for skilled workers was at a high in 1943, Mrs. Boyd went to work in the American Motors plant in Los Angeles. Shortly after, she was promoted to lead the work group of women engaged in essential war work. Bette embraced her responsibilities and welcomed the opportunity to contribute to the war effort.

Her first job after WWII exposed her to the need for a union voice and she began an organizing effort for the United Electrical Workers. She advocated for better wages and working conditions for men and women engaged in assembly line work. Bette took fellow workers out on strike and experienced for the first time the power of owners and management when the strike was broken. After the Vietnam War, Bette met refugees from southeast Asia who needed help adjusting to American life. She assisted refugees in securing employment and was responsible for integrating 1500 refugee families into American culture.

Through her work with Vietnamese refugees, Bette became aware of the onset of AIDS in Los Angeles and the Bay Area. She volunteered to work with AIDS patients at an early point in the epidemic that would become a global scourge. She met Mother Teresa and helped establish an AIDS clinic in India. Bette continues her work with AIDS patients today.

Bette became involved with the poor in India. She proposed to provide funds to improve educational opportunities in a rural South India village and insisted that girls be offered the same educational opportunities as boys. She contributed to the construction of a school that would touch hundreds of children. Today that school in Madahalli, Karnataka State enrolls 850 children.

Bette moved to Humboldt County in 1993 and has been involved in volunteer work ever since. Her work ranges from helping cancer patients get treatment to working with HIV patients, and helping the mentally ill. She is a stalwart at Democratic Headquarters and is regularly at booths and street fairs. She encourages all who are eligible to register and vote, thereby fulfilling the first duty of citizenship.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize Bette Boyd for her outstanding service to a global citizenry.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
SUSAN B. ANDERSON

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 28, 2012

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank the Honorable Susan B. Anderson for her service, as she prepares to retire from the Fresno County Board of Supervisors. She was elected to the Board of Supervisors in 2000 and has been a reliable champion for the people of Fresno County for over a decade. During her tenure on the Board of Supervisors, Susan has served as a collaborative, creative, and innovative leader. Her participation on the Board will be sorely missed.

Born in Kansas, Susan and her family moved to California's agriculturally rich San Joaquin Valley when Susan was three years old. By 1970, Susan and her family settled in Fresno, California. In 1987, Susan earned her law degree from San Joaquin College of Law, where she also served as president of the Student Association, and eventually the Alumni Association.

A long-time public servant, Susan began her career working as marketing director for the downtown Fresno YMCA for over ten years. With her leadership, the YMCA experienced an expansion in membership and community support—clearly exhibiting her role as an effective ambassador for the people of the San Joaquin Valley.

Susan has been an unwavering advocate for Central California's children during her entire career. Shortly after graduating from law school, Susan worked as a deputy district attorney in the Fresno County Juvenile Courts. She took it upon herself to ensure that abused, abandoned, and neglected children were represented fairly and passionately. Additionally, Susan has served on a number of Boards, including the Boy Scouts, Big Brothers & Big Sisters, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), and the YMCA. She also was at the forefront of the effort to create Focus Forward, a non-profit organization aimed at providing educational and enrichment services to the County's children. Susan's dedication to helping some of our most vulnerable citizens serves as a testament to her superior moral character and compassionate heart.

When Susan was elected to be County Clerk in 1990, she made history by being the first woman elected to a county-wide post. Her time as County Clerk was ample with accomplishments. During her service, she increased the efficiency of her department, ensuring timely responses and successful service.

As a County Supervisor, Susan has often shown thoughtful leadership, effective policy development, and keen fiscal and administrative oversight. Her work has touched the lives of thousands of Valley residents, and will ensure that her legacy lives on for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing one of California's most principled leaders. Her loyalty to her constituents paired with her unmatched work ethic truly makes her a source of pride for our entire nation.

COMMEMORATING TAIWAN'S
NATIONAL DAY OF CELEBRATION

HON. DAVID RIVERA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 28, 2012

Mr. RIVERA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Republic of China (Taiwan) for more than a century of tremendous success as we approach their National Day of Celebration, October 10, 2012. This day marks 101 years since the founding of the country, and most importantly marks more than a century of progress towards democracy, freedom, and economic success for the people of Taiwan. I would like to commend the country for its continued commitment to a brighter future, despite numerous struggles over the years. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Taiwan for its many years of friendship to the United States. It has been an ally in the region for decades, and this invaluable friendship deserves recognition.

I congratulate Ambassador Jason Yuan, Representative of Taiwan to the United States, on his new post as Secretary-General of the National Security Council of Taiwan. I cherish the friendship with Ambassador Yuan and wish the Ambassador and Madame Yuan the very best of luck in the future.

**TRIBUTE TO THE MATILDA
JOSLYN GAGE FOUNDATION**

HON. ANN MARIE BUERKLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 28, 2012

Ms. BUERKLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to the Matilda Joslyn Gage Foundation of Fayetteville, New York, upon the occasion of receiving federal funding through the Department of State's Museums Connect Program—a highly selective program that aims to strengthen cultural understanding through collaborative and innovative projects facilitated by museums.

The Matilda Joslyn Gage Foundation dedicates its efforts to educating individuals about the life and work of Matilda Joslyn Gage and her significant contributions to the women's suffrage movement of the 19th century.

With respect to her commitment and dedication to women's rights and human liberation, the Matilda Joslyn Gage Foundation commits itself to celebrating her life and promoting the continuing significance of the works of Matilda Joslyn Gage for current and future generations.

Consistent with her values, the Matilda Joslyn Gage Foundation works to preserve the home of this great American figure, as well as preserve her writings, provide educational programs devoted to the abolitionist and suffrage movements, and promote the history of Central New York as a beacon during our nation's great civil rights movements.

It is with honor that I pause in my legislative deliberations to acknowledge the Matilda Joslyn Gage Foundation for its dedication to strengthening and developing cultural and historical understanding throughout Central New York and the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in congratulating The Matilda

Joslyn Gage Foundation, recipients of the Department of State's Museums Connect grant.

TRIBUTE TO ANDREW WHELAN

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 28, 2012

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, now that we have returned to our districts before the election, I'd like to highlight a valuable staff member of mine who recently left my office. I rise today to honor an outstanding golfer, a barbecue master, and an intensely devoted San Francisco 49ers fan who ably and professionally served for many years as my press secretary, Andrew Whelan. Andrew and his fantastic wife Paige recently moved back to their home state of California, and I've greatly missed his keen advice and genuine friendship.

Andrew started the Capitol Hill chapter of his career nearly seven years ago, working on the House Committee on Resources, eventually rising to deputy press secretary. In December 2006, I hired him as my press secretary, where he has successfully served the people of Oregon ever since.

Mr. Speaker, there may be no more challenging job on Capitol Hill than being a press secretary to a Member of Congress who was a press secretary to a Member of Congress. But Andrew went above and beyond by facing this demanding role with unflinching resolve and dedication—all while making it look nearly effortless and easy.

Before pursuing federal public service in Washington, Andrew worked for a state assemblyman in California, and edited his alma mater's campus newspaper, the California Aggie at University of California, Davis.

A Member of Congress relies on his or her staff to be his eyes and ears across the district—especially when the district covers 70,000 square miles, like Oregon's Second. Andrew has always been a highly effective representative of me whether it be when speaking to a national news outlet, the local hometown newspaper reporter, or an eager young student angling for an inside scoop for a school project on Congress.

Andrew made it a point to maintain a genuine connection to constituents he came into contact with in all corners of the district—those who agree with my policy positions and those who do not. He listened sincerely to their points of view and, even if they challenged him with extreme emotion, his responses were always civil and respectful and his demeanor was patient.

Andrew made it his highest goal to keep in touch with the citizens of the Second District. He believes, as do I, that we are here to do the people's business, and the people have

the right to know what their government is doing. It was Andrew's job to help communicate what we as Members are doing back to the people we serve.

Andrew played a leading role in a number of public affairs efforts that made a real difference in our country. From helping to uncover negligence in federal agencies, to spotlighting an unfair and misleading National Guard bonus program for new recruits, to restoring housing rights for homeless veterans, to developing many other communications strategies that forced the government to better help the people they are supposed to serve, Andrew accomplished much for his fellow citizens during his time in Washington.

As a press secretary, Andrew had to have a handle on a wide range of policy issues—and often had to know the issues as well as or better than the policy staff. He had to figure out how to explain complicated issues to people, often on a very tight deadline. To better keep in touch with people, he helped me expand the use of social media to more effectively reach Oregonians on Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter.

On a personal level, Andrew's love of golf is only overshadowed by his love for his wife, Paige. According to his mother, he was seen swinging a golf club even in diapers and won his first tournament at eight years old. He's even played in the qualifier for the U.S. Open twice. Also according to his mother, the only time he's looked happier than his time on the golf course was the day he married Paige.

While living in Washington, DC, Andrew became an uncle, and he enjoyed being able to visit his brothers Don and Rob and his four nieces and nephews who live here on the East Coast.

But now Andrew and Paige have moved back home to California. While Team Walden was very sorry to see him go, I know his parents Bill and Lindy are happy to be close to their son once again. I speak for all my current and former staff when I say we have missed Andrew very much. I should also add that I know the folks at Potbelly's around Washington have also been very sad to see him go, but delighted at the prospects of him opening the first Potbelly's franchise in the Bay Area which will be necessary to satisfy his cravings.

I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Andrew and Paige the best of luck as they return West and pursue new personal and professional endeavors. Andrew, thanks for exemplary service to the Congress and citizens of Oregon.

TRIBUTE TO RAMONA ESBECK

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 28, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Ramona Esbeck

on the coming celebration of her 100th birthday. Ramona will celebrate a century of life on October 7th, 2012.

Our world has changed a great deal during the course of Ramona's life. Since her birth, we have revolutionized air travel and walked on the moon. We have invented the television, cellular phones and the internet. We have fought in wars overseas, seen the rise and fall of Soviet communism and witnessed the birth of new democracies. Ramona has lived through eighteen United States Presidents and twenty-two Governors of Iowa. In her lifetime, the population of the United States has more than tripled.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent Ramona in the United States Congress and it is my pleasure to wish her a very happy 100th birthday. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Ms. Esbeck on reaching this incredible milestone, and wishing her even more health and happiness in the years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE GRAND
OPENING OF CHRISTIAN FAITH
WORLD MINISTRIES CHURCH

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 28, 2012

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Reverend Dr. Ronald E. Hodges and his congregation on the grand opening of the Christian Faith World Ministries Church (CFWMC) in Addison, Texas on September 30, 2012.

Through the prayer, hard work and leadership of Reverend Hodges, the vision of a new church facility is now a reality. Strategically located, CFWMC plans to reach out to the people of Addison as well as to the neighboring communities of Carrollton, Farmers Branch, and North Dallas. The church offers a variety of ministries, including counseling, fellowship groups, and education programs, designed to provide a wide range of opportunities for individuals to serve, connect, and establish community. Faith is of great importance and plays a vital role in our society. It strengthens families and relationships, instills values and principles, and encourages participation for the betterment of our communities.

I am delighted to recognize Reverend Hodges and Christian Faith World Ministries Church as they celebrate this special occasion. Mr. Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in expressing our heartfelt congratulations on the grand opening of this new facility. May God bless Reverend Hodges and his congregation.