

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

THE PASSING OF SAN FRANCISCO LABOR LEADER WALTER JOHNSON

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, with the passing of Walter Johnson, the working men and women of San Francisco have lost an extraordinary champion and a powerful advocate; our nation has lost a strong voice for economic justice. Many of us in Congress were proud to call him a friend.

Walter Johnson was a giant in the labor movement, who dedicated his life to advancing and expanding the rights of workers—the cornerstones of a thriving middle class. He championed fair pay for a full day's work, equal rights and protection in the workplace, and social justice and opportunity for all. Walter's imprint can be seen across our city, whether in better conditions for home care workers, greater access to health care, more affordable housing options for families, or increased diversity at San Francisco City College.

Born on April 22, 1924, in Amenia, North Dakota, Walter arrived in San Francisco following three years of service in the United States Army during World War II. While working as an appliance salesman for Sears, he joined the Retail Clerks Union, where he was elected President in 1958, and in 1964 was elected Executive Officer, the top position in his local. Under Walter's leadership, the rights of women, people of color, and gay people working in retail were protected. His expert guidance resulted in his subsequent re-election over the next 11 years.

Walter was elected Secretary-Treasurer of the San Francisco Labor Council in 1985 and held that post until he retired in 2004. From that powerful perch, he fought for workers' benefits, health care reform, and workplace equality. Walter educated, enlightened and mobilized union members to fight the unjust and unfair practices that existed in the workplace. He had a special talent for negotiation, helping to settle many contentious disputes.

Walter possessed unflinching moral courage. He spoke out against the Vietnam War, even though it was supported by the AFL-CIO national leadership. He was one of the first labor leaders to give unconditional support to the gay rights movement. Even after his retirement, he was active in labor demonstrations, where he walked picket lines and was arrested at sit-ins.

A humanitarian, Walter's friendships extended far beyond the labor community. He was known by all, from the owner of the corner store to the homeless person on the street. His friends were blessed by his generous nature, his wry sense of humor, and his penchant for storytelling. He was rarely without a personal anecdote or a footnote from history.

Walter Johnson's life was a story of extraordinary courage, leadership, and service to the

labor community and the people of San Francisco. His legacy will live on in our continued pursuit of fairness and workers' rights in our city and across the country.

We hope it is a comfort to Walter's son Lawrence, his daughter Emily Davis, his grandchildren and a multitude of friends and loved ones, that so many share their grief and are praying for them at this sad time.

HONORING NANCY B. KELLEHER

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Nancy B. Kelleher of Scarborough, Maine, on the occasion of her retirement as AARP's Maine State Director.

Maine has the highest median age in the United States, and our state's seniors depend on a strong advocate for the issues that matter most to them: greater access to affordable health care and financial security. Since 2008, Nancy Kelleher has served Maine's 228,000 AARP members as State Director, spearheading legislative efforts to provide protection for Maine seniors on issues such as access to affordable health care and prescription drugs, predatory lending and homeowner protections, funding for home care services, and the repeal of the older worker penalty.

Prior to joining AARP, Nancy worked in the Speaker's Office of the House of Representatives, where she coordinated administrative and policy issues for three Speakers, and was named Chief of Staff to Speaker Steven Rowe. Nancy also served as the Deputy Secretary of State for Corporations, Elections & Commissions for former Secretary of State, Dan Gwadosky, and as the Director of the Division of Community Services, a cabinet level position under former Governor Joseph E. Brennan.

Nancy is a leader in her community. She serves on and volunteers for several health-related groups, amongst which are the Elder Abuse Task Force of Maine, the Stakeholders Group on Health INFONet, the Maine Health Management Coalition and the Aligning Forces for Quality Project. Her contributions are not limited to just health issues. Nancy volunteers for and has served as the President of the Scarborough Public Library Board of Trustees. Her additional interests include helping women and families with housing issues. Most recently she has worked with American Friends, a group that assists recent refugees to adjust to life in America. In 2002, she was named a YWCA Woman of Achievement.

She and her husband, Edward, live in Scarborough, Maine and are the proud grandparents of four. I wish her the best in her retirement.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Nancy B. Kelleher for her life-long dedication and service to the people of Maine.

CONGRATULATING STEVE COSTA ON HIS TENURE AS STATE PRESIDENT OF THE CABRILLO CIVIC CLUBS OF CALIFORNIA

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincerest congratulations to Scott Costa, as he concludes his tenure as State President of the Cabrillo Civic Clubs of California. This prestigious organization is one of California's oldest and largest groups committed to promoting and preserving the memory of John Rodrigues Cabrillo, who discovered our great State in 1542. Scott's dedication to the Cabrillo Clubs, community service, and education makes him a role model and a source of pride for our community.

Scott grew up in southern California and graduated from Antelope Valley High School. Upon completion of his studies, Scott pursued a career in the hospitality industry, where he managed and sold hotel properties in El Paso, Texas, as well as Sacramento and Fresno, California. Not only is Scott a successful and savvy businessman, he is also a tireless advocate for the people of our community and California.

Demonstrating his commitment to community service, Scott joined Sacramento Civic Club No. 5 in 1999 as an Honorary Member. Honorary Members are recognized for having made "outstanding contributions to the welfare and advancement of the Portuguese in California." In 2005, he became an Affiliate Member, and was eventually eligible to serve as a subordinate club officer. Scott was elected to serve as President of the Sacramento Club and completed five consecutive terms. An Active Member of the Cabrillo Civic Club by 2008, Scott was elected 2nd Vice President at the State Council Convention in 2009, which led to the State Presidency in 2011.

Continuing its long tradition under Scott's leadership, the Cabrillo Clubs of California have proudly served California's students by providing over 175 \$500 scholarships to high school seniors throughout the State. In addition, members have volunteered over 130,000 hours in a year.

Scott Costa is the proud father of Kay Lee Hinds and Rebecca Jackson of Austin, Texas; Billy Ingraham of Seattle, Washington; and Lisa and Michael Gavin of San Jose, California, grandfather of seven, and soon-to-be great-grandfather of one. He has lived at the Costa Family Farm since 2002 and has become proficient in the farming of a vineyard.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Scott for his diligent work and many years of dedicated service to the Cabrillo Civic Clubs of California. I invite my colleagues to join me in recognizing Scott Costa's commitment, dedication, and success and wish him well as he embarks on new endeavors.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

RECOGNIZING 2011–2012 FULBRIGHT GRANTEES JULIA BAILEY, GREGORY DE ST. MAURICE, JAY EVICK AND SETH PACKRONE

HON. MARK S. CRITZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. CRITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize four intelligent and accomplished students from my district for receiving one of the world's most competitive, merit-based grants to perform research in a foreign country. Since 1946, the Fulbright program has been fostering cross-cultural understanding and scholarly excellence by sending some of the world's brightest minds abroad to undertake innovative research projects. Julia Bailey of Latrobe, PA, Gregory De St. Maurice, also of Latrobe, PA, Jay Evick of Waynesburg, PA, and Seth Packrone of Uniontown, PA, each received a Fulbright grant for the 2011–2012 academic year. They were given this honor on account of their outstanding leadership skills, exceptional academic credentials and penetrating interest in foreign cultures.

Julia Bailey was awarded a Fulbright-Nehru English Teaching Assistantship. She is currently a graduate student at George Mason University, where she studies international development in Africa, as well as social anthropology. She has a wealth of education policy and classroom teaching expertise, having performed a significant amount of research to promote education in the developing world, and taught English in the United States and Egypt. Her worldliness, intellect and wide-ranging experience make her well-suited to serve as an ambassador for American culture and scholarship abroad.

Gregory De St. Maurice was given a grant to study Anthropology in Japan. He is currently working toward a Ph.D. in Cultural Anthropology at the University of Pittsburgh. At present, his research focuses on the food culture of the city of Kyoto. Gregory's in-depth understanding of the people and traditions of Japan is laudable and will serve him well in his future studies.

Jay Evick received a grant to serve as an English teaching assistant at the Tyumen State University of Oil and Gas in Tyumen, Russia. He has spent the last four years studying Russian and linguistics at the University of Pittsburgh. Jay's ability to grasp the intricacies of Eastern European culture and complexities of the Russian language is a testament to his tremendous scholarly abilities.

Seth Packrone was awarded a teaching assistantship at Inonu University in Malatya, Turkey. Seth's passion is education reform. In the summer of 2007, he interned with Advocates for Children, a nonprofit that works to promote access to quality education for low-income, minority and special needs students. Seth has also been the recipient of an Arthur Liman Public Interest Law Fellowship. As a Liman Fellow, he researched and developed education policy with the Center for Law and Education in Washington, DC. Seth's unwavering desire to unlock the potential of young students everywhere speaks to his inherent selflessness and kindness.

Mr. Speaker, these four individuals possess an exemplary work ethic, profound intelligence and a precociously broad worldview. I am

overjoyed that they have been granted such a prestigious and coveted opportunity to study and work abroad.

RECOGNIZING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF BENET ACADEMY

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 125th Anniversary of Benet Academy, a Catholic Benedictine college preparatory high school located in Lisle, Illinois. On March 2, 2012, Benet will celebrate its Founder's Day, representing 125 years of dedication to academic excellence and Christian morality.

Benet Academy was founded in 1887 on the Benedictine motto "Ora et Labora," "Pray and Work." Generation upon generation of the Academy's devoted faculty and promising students have upheld this motto in a tradition that carries back 1,500 years to the Order of Saint Benedict.

I applaud Benet Academy's commitment to nurturing an atmosphere of prayer, work, and stability among its student body. Its distinctive qualities draw students from six counties, including many in Illinois' Sixth Congressional District. Benet Academy has helped students consistently achieve at rigorous academic levels while instilling the Benedictine core values of community, hospitality, respect, stewardship and love of learning.

On this special occasion, we recognize Benet Academy's rich history and faithfulness to God. We thank the Academy for its partnership with parents, who strive to educate the current generation that will become our nation's future leaders. For well over a century, Benet Academy has contributed toward this brighter future.

Mr. Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in honoring the legacy of Benet Academy, and in wishing them continued success.

RECOGNIZING THE VIRGINIA NATIONAL GUARD'S 400 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the selfless service of the Virginia National Guard, which is now celebrating 400 years of service to the Commonwealth of Virginia and our nation.

With its roots dating back to the Jamestown Colony in the early 1600s, the Virginia Guard has established itself as one of the oldest institutions of our nation's armed forces. From protecting the colonies during the earliest days of the Commonwealth to its role in the Revolutionary War, the Virginia Guard was an essential force in the inception of our great nation.

For over four centuries, Virginia's guardsmen have come from all walks of life and volunteered to be "a guardian of freedom and the

American way of life." These men and women have gone into harm's way time and time again to preserve peace and ensure their fellow citizens of the Commonwealth are kept safe. Members of the Virginia Guard also have a proud history of public service to the nation at large, including five Virginia Guard officers who later went on to become U.S. Presidents: George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe, and John Tyler.

More recently, the brave men and women of the Virginia Guard have again selflessly answered the call to duty. Since the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, over 14,000 Virginia soldiers have been deployed across the world to protect our country. The enormous sacrifice of these soldiers and their families is something for which we will forever be grateful for.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the sacrifice and service of all past and present Virginia Guardsmen as we celebrate 400 years of courage and bravery in protecting the Commonwealth of Virginia and our country.

THE PALMER CENTER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize The Palmer Center of Missouri's Sixth District. The Palmer Center is being honored by The National Institute for Senior Centers for meeting and exceeding the NISC standards of accreditation.

Of the 11,000 senior centers in the country, only 126 senior centers are able to achieve accreditation. The Palmer Center is one of only two sites in all of Missouri to earn that lofty distinction. Throughout the year-long process to receive the accreditation, the NISC noted the Palmers Center's innovative partnerships with various organizations and businesses throughout the community, its dynamic health and fitness programs, and The Palmer Center's exceptionally organized and professionally operated senior program. The NISC also made special note of the most important strength of The Palmer Center, it's committed and dedicated volunteer staff.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing The Palmer Center located in the Sixth District of Missouri. It is an amazing place with an outstanding group of people dedicated to making a daily impact on the proud seniors in Independence, MO and the whole of the Sixth District. I am honored to represent The Palmer Center in the United States Congress.

IN MEMORY OF DOROTHY "DOT"
HALL FOWLER SHEFFEY

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I submit these remarks in memory of Dorothy "Dot" Hall Fowler Sheffey, a devoted wife, sister, mother, grandmother, and community