

National Ground Water Awareness Week is the pinnacle of NGWA's year-round effort to educate the public about proper groundwater and water well stewardship. The United States uses 349 billion gallons of freshwater daily, 79.6 billion gallons of which is groundwater, serving 90 million Americans.

NGWA is a nonprofit organization composed of more than 12,000 U.S. and international groundwater professionals including contractors, equipment manufacturers, suppliers, scientists, and engineers. The organization is dedicated to advancing groundwater knowledge. NGWA's vision is to be the leading groundwater association that advocates the responsible development, management, and use of water.

Association members are using Ground Water Awareness Week to participate in a variety of activities and events. I want to thank them for their efforts to preserve, protect, and safely utilize this most valuable resource.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL TELEWORK WEEK, MARCH 5-9

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 16, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, March 5-9 was National Telework Week, a prime opportunity to celebrate the progress we have made implementing telework policy after passage of the Telework Enhancements Act of 2010.

More than 63,000 people pledged to telework last week, eliminating more than 5.7 million pounds of carbon dioxide pollution and are saving \$4.7 million in transportation expenses. As oil speculation and international uncertainty drives gas prices higher, telework becomes a more important tool for consumers to protect themselves against high gas prices.

Although private sector employers like AT&T and IBM pioneered telework, federal agencies are catching up under the direction of the Telework Enhancements Act. More than 95% of the 63,000 people who pledged to telework are federal employees. Agencies like USDA are making great progress expanding telework participation, while agencies like GSA and PTO already are saving taxpayer money by avoiding construction of new offices through use of telework arrangements.

As a result of my amendment to the Telework Enhancement Act, all agencies must incorporate telework into their Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP), which will better prepare us to respond to a natural disaster or terrorist attack. During the record blizzards two years ago, federal employees saved taxpayers \$30 million in a single week by continuing to work through telework arrangements even while the streets and Metro were closed by several feet of snow. By expanding telework participation in other agencies we can create additional cost savings and ensure that the Federal Government keeps operating even in the event of a terrorist attack.

These success stories are only possible because of partnerships between federal agencies, advocacy groups like the Telework Exchange and the Partnership for Public Service, and private sector companies which provide the technology to enable telework. I applaud

the collective effort of agencies, advocates, and contractors to implement telework policies. Telework will be one of the essential workforce management tools for recruiting the next generation of federal employees.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating federal agencies and our private-sector partners on the progress being made to expand the use of telework. National Telework Week offers us an opportunity to highlight the success of these efforts and to expand upon them.

THE PASSING OF REPRESENTATIVE DONALD PAYNE

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 16, 2012

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am submitting the attached statement by World Food Program USA regarding the passing of our good friend and colleague, Congressman Payne.

STATEMENT FROM RICK LEACH, PRESIDENT AND CEO, WORLD FOOD PROGRAM USA, ON THE PASSING OF REPRESENTATIVE DONALD PAYNE

The entire staff and board of directors of World Food Program USA mourn the passing of Representative Donald Payne of New Jersey. Representative Payne was a tireless champion on behalf of the world's poorest, hungriest people, and his presence and efforts within the U.S. Congress will be missed.

As Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Africa, Representative Payne played a key role in pushing forward U.S. policies to respond to the protracted crisis in the Darfur region of Sudan, as well as across the African continent. He was one of five members of Congress to accompany President Clinton and Hillary Rodham Clinton on a tour of six African nations, and he headed a presidential mission aimed at finding solutions to the political and humanitarian crisis in Rwanda. Due to his record of outstanding service, Representative Payne was chosen by President George W. Bush to serve for two terms as a congressional delegate to the United Nations from 2003-2007.

Representative Payne travelled many times to countries in the worst throes of humanitarian crises, lending his voice and wielding his influence to help those people most in need. His many years of steadfast support, dedication, and hard work have improved the lives of millions of people in Africa, the United States, and across the globe. He will be remembered for all that he has contributed to the rights, well being, dignity and spirit of people across the world. He was a true humanitarian hero.

TRIBUTE TO WILLYE DENNIS

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 16, 2012

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, to a remarkable woman who will be terribly missed: my heart and prayers go out to the family and friends of the Honorable Willye Dennis. Willye Dennis was a good friend, a political pioneer, a dedicated public servant, and an ardent fighter for the African American community in

Jacksonville. An outstanding state House representative and 10 year NAACP—Jacksonville President, she will always be remembered and in the heart of the entire Jacksonville community.

Known as a fearless warrior, Ms. Dennis was a formidable political force who influenced a generation of city leaders. Inspired by her strong belief in equal opportunity, she was a true civil rights champion, who went on to greatly influence the community as a whole, as well as the Duval County school system.

Ms. Dennis lived her entire life in Jacksonville. She studied at Old Stanton High School and was later hired by the city's library system in 1951. She earned a bachelor's degree from Clark College in Atlanta, a Master's in Library Science from Atlanta University, and completed her Doctoral studies in Public Administration at Nova University in South Florida.

While she continued to work for the library until 1980, Mrs. Dennis incorporated her own business, Fam-Co Learning and Development Inc. in 1978. And by 1992, the company was labeled one of America's 10 best daycare centers by Child magazine.

As branch president of the Jacksonville—NAACP from 1984 until 1994, she dedicated a great deal of her time pursuing a court case to complete the desegregation of the Duval County school system. Largely because of her efforts, the school system negotiated an agreement in 1990 that led to the creation of the county's magnet school system.

In the words of one of Jacksonville's finest civil rights activists, Mr. Rodney Hurst, "she (Willye Dennis) was a tireless worker . . . committed to the NAACP . . . she was one of those brave, unsung she-roses that are not given the recognition they deserve."

I will always remember her strong will power, relentless drive, intelligence and energy. And as one of Jacksonville's civil rights pioneers, I am certain that she will serve as an inspiration for others to follow her footsteps in the future.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND CANON THOMAS WILSON STEARLY LOGAN, SR.

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 16, 2012

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a distinguished member of the Philadelphia clergy who is achieving a milestone that is worthy of recognition and admiration in the people's House.

The Reverend Canon Thomas Wilson Stearly Logan, Sr., will celebrate his 100th birthday on March 19, and even more remarkable, he is still going strong.

Reverend Canon Logan's career as one of Philadelphia's most prominent and honored Episcopal ministers is highlighted by 44 years as Rector of Calvary Northern Liberties Church and its predecessors, St. Michael's and Calvary Monumental churches. Since reaching mandatory retirement age in 1984, he continues to be active and holds the title of Rector Emeritus. He remains on the go, known by all for his lively and friendly manner and a voice that commands attention.

Reverend Canon Logan's life has been one of accomplishment from his birth in Philadelphia in 1912, the son of a minister and a

teacher and one of eight siblings who would ultimately finish college. He is a 1935 graduate of Lincoln University, and was ordained for Episcopal Church ministry in 1938 upon graduation from General Theological Seminary. He went on to earn a Master of Sacred Theology from Philadelphia Divinity School, doctorates in divinity and theology, and two honorary doctorates.

Throughout his life, Reverend Canon Logan has been a fighter for civil rights, an NAACP activist, a friend and advocate of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., a demonstrator and a trainer in the tactics of non-violence. In addition to his stint at Calvary, Reverend Canon Logan has served the Episcopal Church in numerous leadership and missionary roles. He has been a veritable "Mister Fixit" in Philadelphia as interim priest at five parishes, chaplain for the Philadelphia Presbyterian Hospital and Philadelphia Police Department.

Reverend Canon Logan's contributions to his hometown go beyond the life of the church. He is a past president of the Philadelphia Tribune Charities and Ratters' Charities and one of the founders of the Afro-American Museum.

He is a life member—and an active member—of Alpha Phi Alpha, the oldest intercollegiate fraternity founded by African-American men, which he pledged in 1933 at Alpha Omicron Chapter as a student at Johnson C. Smith University. Just last summer, the good Canon attended Alpha's 105th anniversary convention in Chicago, accompanied by his wife Hermione, who had reached the century mark a few months ahead of her husband. It goes without saying that Reverend Logan is Alpha's oldest living member.

Even today, as he approaches the century milestone, this remarkable man of God carries the title of associate priest at the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas, 6361 Lancaster Avenue in Philadelphia, the nation's first to be established by and for black Episcopalians. St. Thomas, under the leadership of the Reverend Dr. Martini Shaw, traces its founding to 1792 and its first pastor, the pioneering Reverend Absalom Jones. It is fitting that St. Thomas will be the venue for Reverend Canon Logan's 100th Birthday Celebration Mass on March 18, 2012—his 99th year, 364th day upon this earth.

I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring this remarkable man, extending best wishes, good health and good times to the Reverend Canon Thomas Wilson Stearly Logan, Sr.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 16, 2012

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, on March 8, 2012, I missed rollcall votes Number 109 and 110. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote 5, on the Motion to Re-commit to increase American job creation and economic growth by improving access to the public capital markets for emerging growth companies and "yea" on rollcall vote 110, to

increase American job creation and economic growth by improving access to the public capital markets for emerging growth companies.

TRIBUTE TO RANDALL T. SHEPARD

HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 16, 2012

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor an incredible seventh generation Hoosier, Randall T. Shepard, upon his retirement as Chief Justice of the Indiana Supreme Court.

Chief Justice Shepard's leadership skills were tested and noticed early in his life when he received his Eagle Scout designation. He received his under-graduate degree from Princeton University in 1969; his Law degree from Yale Law School in 1972; and his Masters of Law degree from the University of Virginia School of Law in 1995. He served as Vanderburgh County Superior Court Judge from 1980–1985. He was appointed by Governor Robert D. Orr as the 99th Justice of the Indiana Supreme Court on September 6, 1985. In March of 1987 Justice Shepard became the youngest State Chief Justice and has served in that capacity since, making him the longest serving Chief Justice in the country.

His love for the Judiciary, coupled with his incredible intellect and quiet thoughtful demeanor, Justice Shepard has forever left his stamp on the Indiana Supreme Court. "C–J", as he is affectionately called on the third floor of the Indiana Statehouse, has opened those imposing doors to television cameras and webcasts during arguments. He also directed changes that led to fewer criminal appeals and more civil cases being heard by the Supreme Court. He stated he is most proud that during his years on the bench Indiana has better court-related programs for children and domestic violence victims; increased professional development for judges; and a wider range of sentencing options.

Indiana has not been able to keep Justice Shepard solely to itself. He is recognized as a national authority on judicial ethics and legal professionalism. In 2006, U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice and fellow Hoosier, John Roberts, appointed him to the U.S. Judicial Conference Advisory Committee of Civil Rules. In 2009, Justice Shepard was the recipient of the national Dwight D. Opperman Award for Judicial Excellence. As a Justice, Mr. Shepard has authored more than 850 majority opinions and has published more than 40 Law Review articles.

All Hoosiers must now, reluctantly, give "C–J" back to his wife, Amy McDonnell, and their daughter, Martha. We do so knowing that the state of the Judiciary in Indiana has been led by the best of the best these last twenty-five years. We wish him relaxing days with more time to spend on his love of historic preservation and God's richest blessings in his retirement. He will be greatly missed.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GIRL SCOUTS

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 16, 2012

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of Girl Scouts on the occasion of their 100th Anniversary.

On March 12, 1912, Juliette "Daisy" Gordon Low assembled 18 girls from Savannah, Georgia, for a local Girl Scout meeting. She believed that all girls should have the opportunity to develop physically, mentally and spiritually.

The first Girl Scout troop in Southern Nevada was formed on April 14, 1932, in Boulder City, with just 22 girls. Girl Scouts of Southern Nevada received their charter from Girl Scouts of the USA in 1943.

In 1950, the Girl Scouts of Southern Nevada held their first cookie sale. The Girl Scout Cookie Program is the largest girl-led business in the country and generates immeasurable benefits for the Scouts, their councils and communities nationwide. Girl Scouts set cookie goals to support their chosen activities for the year, to fund community service and leadership projects, to attend summer camp, to travel to destinations near and far and to provide events for girls in their community.

By 1954, the Girl Scouts of Southern Nevada opened Camp Foxtail in Lee Canyon, Toiyabe National Forest. Three years later they moved their headquarters to Las Vegas and by 1961, the Girl Scouts of Southern Nevada dedicated a Service Center.

In the 1980s, the Girl Scouts of Southern Nevada opened the first Drop-In Center. In these centers Girl Scouts get the opportunity to experience hands-on robotics teams, science camps, and career exploration days. Girl Scouts view the world of technology through a lens that inspires them to tackle tomorrow's technological opportunities and challenges.

For 100 years, Girl Scouts have helped girls discover the fun, friendship, and power of girls together. Today, there are 3.2 million Girl Scouts with 2.3 million girl members and 880,000 adult members working primarily as volunteers to help girls grow courageous and strong.

Through participation in Girl Scout programs, girls ultimately will begin to discover their full leadership potential with increased self-confidence, creative decision-making skills, and teamwork. Their organization provides an accepting and nurturing environment for girls to build character and life skills for success in the real world.

Girl Scouts provide safe, stimulating academic and developmental programs designed specifically for girls. Their programs are building blocks to offer age appropriate development skills from 5 to 17 years old. The Girl Scouts model is designed to encourage girls to discover their values, skills and explore the world around them. They connect with others in a multicultural environment and take action to make a difference in the world.