

HONORING THE CAREER OF
WILLIAM J. PIENTA

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2012

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable career of William J. Pienta, the United Steelworkers District 4 Director.

Bill began his forty-one year career as a labor leader in my Western New York Community working at the former Allegheny Ludlum steel mill in Dunkirk, NY as an electrician. He became a union activist in 1970 and eventually was elected President of Local 2693.

Throughout Bill's career he tirelessly represented the working families in the public and private sectors of organized labor. He joined the USW International staff as an organizer in 1990 and was appointed Director in 2004.

As Director of USW District 4, Bill was responsible for all USW activities in New York, Delaware, New Jersey, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, and the island of Puerto Rico.

In addition to his duties as director of USW District 4 Bill held elected positions in multiple labor organizations. He served as a Vice President of the Buffalo, NY Central Labor Council and as Secretary to the Western New York Area Labor Federation. Additionally he represented the USW as a Vice President of the New York State AFL-CIO. He was also a director of the New York State Workforce Development Institute, Inc and was a member of the Univera Advisory Board.

Mr. Speaker, it is with pride that I am able to honor Bill Pienta on an exemplary career and celebrate his retirement. I thank him for his service to our community and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING CHIEF R. STEVEN BAILEY ON HIS 60TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JEAN SCHMIDT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2012

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 60th birthday of a very dear friend of mine, Chief R. Steven Bailey, the Chief of the Miami Township Police Department.

To call Chief Bailey a public servant would be an understatement. His biography reads like a to-do list for an entire police department, but let me point out a few of the many significant accomplishments Chief Bailey has achieved throughout his career.

Since May of 1995, R. Steven Bailey has been the Chief of the Miami Township Police Department where under his watch, the Miami Township Police Department has been accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies an astounding five times. Additionally, the Miami Township Police Department achieved CALEA's flagship status in 2007 and 2010—something less than 1% of police departments do.

In 1999, after 27 years, Chief Bailey retired from the Ohio Army National Guard where he

held the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He is a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, the Defense Logistics Executive Development Program, the National Defense University National Security Program, and the U.S. Army War College Defense Strategy Studies program.

Chief Bailey is also a Certified Law Enforcement Executive—one of just 100 in the State of Ohio. In December of 2000, he graduated from the FBI National Academy, is a graduate of the Northwestern University Traffic Institute School of Police Staff and Command, and is also a graduate of the Ohio Police Executive Leadership College.

Mr. Speaker, Chief Bailey's accomplishments don't stop there. Since 1986, he has been a Reserve Police Officer for the City of Middletown where he currently holds the rank of Reserve Captain. He was President of the Clermont County Chiefs of Police and Sheriff's Association for eight years, and has been President of the Ohio Law Enforcement Foundation as well as President of the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police.

If that wasn't enough, Chief Bailey has somehow found time to be an Adjunct Instructor in the Criminal Justice Program at the University of Cincinnati and for Northwestern University in the School of Business, and has been a Visiting Instructor of Political Science at Miami University.

I could go on and on about Chief Bailey's awards from the Boy Scouts of America, his extensive experience with local government, or the numerous and well deserved accolades he has received throughout his career.

It was a privilege to call Chief Bailey a colleague when I was a Miami Township Trustee. It is an even higher honor to call him my friend.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Chief Bailey for his years of service to our community. Additionally, I want to send my gratitude to his wife of over 30 years, Sharon, to his two children, Caryl and Matthew, and to his grandson, Logan, for the sacrifices they've made.

Chief Bailey is the epitome of a true public servant. His career and commitment to our community is something every public official should strive for, and I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Chief R. Steven Bailey on his 60th birthday.

COMMENDING ROSCOE BOLTON,
WORLD'S LONGEST-SERVING ROTARIAN

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2012

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I have the opportunity to recognize deep-rooted Alexandria businessman, Roscoe Bolton, who was recently named the world's longest-serving Rotarian.

On March 7, Mr. Bolton celebrated his 99th birthday, and is currently serving his 77th year as a Rotarian. To celebrate the occasion, the local club dubbed him the longest-serving among the world's 1.2 million members.

Bolton is a true product of the Alexandria community, having being born here as well as attending Bolton High School and Louisiana College before graduating from the University

of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Finance. In 1933, he began work for the insurance agency Alexander & Bolton, where he continued to work into his 90s. During his tenure at the agency, Mr. Bolton served as chairman of the board and only took leave to serve his country in World War II.

A bona fide member of the Greatest Generation, Mr. Bolton has earned the respect and regard of everyone he's met along the way. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Roscoe Bolton. His dedication and contributions to the Rotary Club and to the citizens of Alexandria warrant this laudable recognition.

IN RECOGNITION OF LANCE CORPORAL JONATHAN LEE BEDWELL

HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2012

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of Tennessee's heroic Marines, 22-year-old Lance Corporal Jonathan Lee Bedwell of Morristown.

Lance Corporal Bedwell was nearly killed in an IED explosion while on patrol in Afghanistan, protecting a position on a mission that he volunteered for. After losing his leg and sustaining multiple other injuries in the explosion, he is well on his way to a full and healthy recovery. It is because of the heroic actions such as this one that our brave service members make every day that we are able to enjoy the freedoms this great nation has to offer.

I salute Lance Corporal Bedwell as he not only exemplifies the best of America, but also the best of the United States Marine Corps. For this reason I ask you to join me in commemorating the valor of this extraordinary Marine. Also, I ask that a poem by Albert Caswell, written in honor of Lance Corporal Bedwell, be entered into the RECORD.

BECAUSE OF THESE

Because of these . . .
Because of all of these this night . . .
Our nation's future looks very bright!
And as you lay your head down to sleep, all
in your prayers so to keep . . .
All in this golden peace, all because of their
heroism that which does so speak . . .
All in your hearts of love so very deep, but
remember . . . remember all of these
. . .

Magnificent men, who all in such shades of
green who carry on that fight . . .
Southern Sons, who so defend . . . and live
and die, all in honor's light!
Men of honor, and such faith . . .
Whose most magnificent hearts shall never
so wave!

And oh what a most brilliant sight they so
cast!
The United States Marines,
One of the greatest things in our nation that
which has come to pass!
And your support is all they ask!
So sleep well this very night, while far
across our shores such fine men of
might . . .

All for us carry on that fight!
Men like Jonathan, who so live and die . . .
And so give up their strong arms and legs,
and yet do not ask why!
Men who so rest in peace this very night,
All in such soft quiet cold graves this sad
sight!

While, all across our nation their mother's cry!
 For they have lost their greatest of all loves,
 Their most blessed of all sons for us who have so died . . .
 As some have lost their strong legs, arms and even eyes . . .
 While awake in the middle of the night, as PTSD rules their lives . . .
 Sleep well this night . . .
 Upon the Bed of Freedom that they so provide!
 And as you lay yourself so down to sleep . . .
 All because of our brave sons from Tennessee, ones like Jonathan . . .
 Who his fine promises did so keep!
 Whose fine blood has so run red,
 All for us so very deep!
 This Volunteer, from this great state . . .
 Jonathan whose courage so makes us weep!
 As even the angel's too so cry . . .
 All at selfless sacrifice,
 All for God and Country as he did not so ask why!
 As it was on that day, out on his patrol . . .
 When his fine life almost went away . . .
 When, an IED . . . went off putting him so close to the grave . . .
 With his leg lost and dying, as death just minutes away so lying . . .
 As when he so made a choice, listening to his most inner voice . . .
 As when Jonathan woke up on that next day . . .
 Telling him go forth marine,
 For you have mountains to so climb all out upon your way!
 As when his new battle would begin,
 As his fine heart would so command him to win!
 Command him, to a recovery . . .
 Step by step, day by day . . .
 As this United States Marine how so makes his way . . .
 As this Tennessee Titan,
 So teaches us all in his actions upon each new day . . .
 As he so beseeches, so deep down as he so reaches us . . .
 All in what his fine heart so to convey!
 As if I ever had a son, I wish he could have the heart half as this one . . .
 As I watch in awe, all in what I saw . . . as this marine gets up and so runs!
 For heaven so holds a place,
 All for such men or honor and of such grace . . .
 As Thy will be done . . .
 Sleep well this night,
 All in your hearts ever so hold these heroes and their families so tight . . .
 These fine women and men,
 Who but country tis of thee do so defend!
 United States Marines, like Jonathan who so gallantly fight that fight!
 That kind of man,
 That Andrew Jackson would love and so understand,
 And hold up to such great heights!
 So as you lay your heads down to rest,
 Remember all of these, our very best . . .
 and sleep well this night!
 All because of these . . .

HONORING LEE COLLEGE ON RECEIVING AN OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2012

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Lee College on re-

ceiving an Official Texas Historical Marker. Lee College is known as one of the fastest growing community colleges in the Nation. It currently ranks 6th in the Nation for degrees awarded in science and technologies; and offers more than 130 degrees and certificates. I am proud to honor Lee College, located in Baytown, Texas, for receiving this marker.

On Friday, March 23, 2012, the Texas Historical Commission will dedicate the Historical Marker with the following text:

In 1934, during the Great Depression and after several years of planning, the residents of the Goose Creek Independent School District voted to establish Lee Junior College, stressing the importance of higher education opportunities for area residents. One hundred seventy-seven students registered during the fall 1934 semester, and paid less than \$15 per semester in fees. The junior college first shared facilities with Robert E. Lee high school, and classes met at night. In 1935 four women made up the first graduating class, and vocational education was inaugurated with a non-credit class in child psychology. The school's name was changed to Lee College in 1948, and a separate campus was first utilized in 1951. In 1965, the college separated from Goose Creek C.I.S.D. and obtained its own board of regents.

Lee College instituted a college level program in Huntsville at the Texas Department of Corrections in 1966, becoming a pioneer in prison education. The program was designed to reduce recidivism of inmates by offering them educational opportunities, and remains a vital part of the college's programming. The Lee College Honors Program was established in 1974 to serve gifted and highly motivated students by preparing them for success in education and employment opportunities. Classes in the program are taught in a seminar format, and several scholarships are awarded through the program based on academic excellence. Lee College continues today to offer academic as well as vocational-technical and continuing education classes to the residents of Baytown and the surrounding area.

I congratulate the past and present administration, faculty, staff, and students of Lee College for all of their hard work and dedication to education. And so it is with great pleasure that I recognize Lee College on receiving an Official Texas Historical Marker.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2012

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, on March 19, 2012, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to record my vote for rollcall No. 111. Had I been present I would have voted: rollcall No. 111: "yes"—To allow otherwise eligible Israeli nationals to receive E-2 nonimmigrant visas if similarly situated United States nationals are eligible for similar nonimmigrant status in Israel.

RECOGNIZING MRS. MIRIAM V. HENSON ON THE OCCASION OF HER 105TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2012

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor a beloved leader in the Co-op City community, Mrs. Miriam V. Henson, on her 105th birthday.

Mrs. Henson, affectionately called Mother Henson by her neighbors, is an inspiration to me and to many of my constituents, so I'd like to take this opportunity to discuss her life and achievements.

Mrs. Henson was born in Bangbridge, GA in 1907, but her family shortly thereafter moved to Harlem, NY, where she graduated from Wadleigh High School.

She had one daughter, Virginia Henson, with her late husband, Mr. Wallace Henson. After her husband's passing in 1969, Mrs. Henson moved into Co-op City with Virginia and began working for Macy's Department store.

Mrs. Henson might now live alone, but she is never truly alone—since she is such an active member of her community.

From a young age, she has been involved with philanthropic efforts such as the Young Women's Christian Association, YWCA, and the moment she moved into Co-op City, she began to reach out to help her neighbors.

She is one of the founding members of the Community Protestant Church, and also served as a Board Trustee, President, and founding member of the Community Protestant Church's Willing Workers Organization.

The ambitious Mother Henson is also a founder of the Dreiser Loop Retirees and a member of the local AARP Chapter, serving each organization with love, compassion, and understanding. And to continue serving others, she represents the needs of seniors in our state capital in Albany.

A woman of many hobbies, Mrs. Henson is a real globe-trotter. She has visited countries throughout the world including Canada, Aruba, Switzerland, Australia, France, Germany and Brazil, just to name a few.

She especially loves cruises, and has been on many in her lifetime. Mrs. Henson recharges her batteries at home with card games, and bridge is among her favorites.

Throughout her 105 years, Mother Henson has survived the stock market crash, the Great Depression, two World Wars, and the World Trade Center attacks on September 11, 2001. Despite these tragic events, she still has a positive outlook on the world.

Mr. Speaker, I think we can all learn a lesson from her.

There's no doubt that Mrs. Henson has seen and done a lot in her lifetime, but she says the greatest thing she's done was having the opportunity to vote for our 44th President—something she did not think would ever happen in her lifetime. Not only did she experience it, but now she is looking forward to voting in the next presidential election.

Mrs. Henson, as one may imagine, is no ordinary woman. Her philosophy in life is to keep the "pep in her step" with "good living, good friends, trusting in God, and a little tonic twice a day." And clearly, it's working.