

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

REMEMBERING MSG CLARENCE O.
LYALL

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2012

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a man who put his life in harm's way for our country as a member of the iconic 101st Airborne Division's Easy Company during World War II. MSG Clarence Odell Lyall, a longtime resident of Leonardtown, Maryland, passed away on March 19.

The 101st Airborne Division was created in 1942 to put American boots on the ground in some of the most treacherous enemy-held territory—in possibly the most dangerous way possible. Paratrooper tactics were still very new, and the risks of jumping out of an aircraft, let alone into a warzone, were enough to give even some of our bravest soldiers pause. But for the men who were formed into the Division's E Company, known as "Easy Company," landing safely on the ground was only the first obstacle.

On June 6, 1944, Clarence—"Clancy," to those of us who were fortunate to know him—jumped with Easy Company a few miles from Utah Beach in the opening hours of Operation Overlord, and he landed in a tree. He was so laden with heavy equipment that another soldier had to cut him down to safety. After the Normandy beachhead was secured, Clancy fought in France, the Netherlands, Belgium, and Germany in Operations Market Garden and the Battle of the Bulge. The exploits of Easy Company were highlighted in the book *Band of Brothers* and the television miniseries of the same name.

Clancy's service to our country continued long after the Second World War came to a close. After the war, Clancy was honorably discharged. But he re-enlisted and went on to a military career that took him from occupation duty in West Germany to service in the Korean War and even a stint as an observer at the Battle of Dien Bien Phu in Vietnam in 1954, escaping the besieged town just two weeks before the fall of its French garrison. Over the course of his career, Clancy made an astounding four combat jumps, earned twenty-five decorations and citations, and retired as a Master Sergeant.

Since leaving the Army, Clancy continued to serve his country and community as a VFW Commander, President of the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, and President of the American Legion Vice Commander Lions Club. He served on the Southern Maryland Veterans Advisory Board and was a member of the Order of the Purple Heart in support of our wounded veterans.

I was proud to represent Clancy in Congress for so many years, and I continue to be in awe of what he and others in Easy Company and across the Armed Forces achieved during World War II. Their sacrifices, their courage, their bonds of brotherhood through

unspeakable difficulty have ensured the lasting triumph of democracy.

Clancy Lyall was my dear friend, and I join in thanking Clancy for his service to this nation and to our community in Southern Maryland, and I offer my condolences to his wife, Liz, their five children, eight grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

PROTECTING ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 22, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5) to improve patient access to health care services and provide improved medical care by reducing the excessive burden the liability system places on the health care delivery system:

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 5, the so-called HEALTH Act. This misguided legislation undermines Medicare, raises deficits and restricts states' rights.

Last year, House Republicans voted to end the Medicare guarantee for seniors. Fortunately, Senate Democrats blocked this dangerous proposal from becoming law. Now, House Republicans are trying again to dismantle the program in their fiscal year 2013 budget proposal.

The Republican proposal would end the Medicare guarantee by pushing future seniors into the private insurance market with a voucher that fails to keep up with the rising costs of health care. According to the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office, the Republican voucher proposal could force future seniors to pay \$6,400 more for health care every year. Republicans claim that shifting rising health care costs onto future seniors will save billions of dollars. What do House Republicans proposed do with those savings? Reinvest in Medicare? Increase funding for education? Reduce the national debt? Remarkably, House Republicans are proposing to take Medicare dollars from future seniors to give a new \$150,000 tax cut to the wealthiest individuals and corporations in America today. House Republicans introduced H.R. 5 to distract attention from their radical plans to dismantle Medicare and give more handouts to billionaires.

H.R. 5 repeals the Independent Payment Advisory Board (IPAB) created by the Affordable Care Act. IPAB was established in the new health care law to protect Medicare's long-term sustainability. The Board will do this by keeping program costs at a manageable level and preventing special interests from delaying implementation of reforms that strengthen Medicare.

IPAB will be composed of fifteen non-political experts, including doctors, consumers and

senior advocates recommended by Congressional leaders, nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate. If Medicare costs exceed certain targets, these experts will make recommendations to Congress on ways to stabilize Medicare by reforming payment and delivery systems. Congress retains the power to reject these recommendations and pass their own reforms to reduce Medicare spending. IPAB experts are prohibited by law from recommending changes to Medicare that ration care, increase seniors' costs, reduce benefits or restrict eligibility. IPAB does not harm Medicare or seniors, but eliminating IPAB would weaken Medicare and raise the deficit.

The Congressional Budget Office found that repealing IPAB will add \$3 billion to deficits over the next ten years. To offset this cost, House Republicans impose new federal rules to legal cases involving medical malpractice, product liability, health insurance and related issues. The broad provisions of this bill would offer new protections to drug companies, nursing homes, insurance companies and HMOs. These new restrictions would severely limit a patient's ability to recover damages suffered as a result of medical negligence, defective products or irresponsible insurance products. Every year, approximately 200,000 severe medical injuries are caused by negligence. Only seventeen percent of these patients ever file a malpractice claim. Patients who do seek legal recourse may not obtain full and just compensation for their injuries due to the caps on awards imposed by H.R. 5.

The National Conference of State Legislatures strongly opposes this federal mandate on states arguing that federal medical malpractice legislation is unnecessary. In fact, the Congressional Budget Office analysis of H.R. 5 noted the new medical malpractice caps "might cause providers to exercise less caution, resulting in an increase in the number of medical injuries attributable to negligence."

I urge my colleagues to reject these extreme and unprecedented changes mandated to state medical malpractice laws that will result in less justice for victims, less patient safety, and less flexibility for states to make their own laws.

Further, I urge my colleagues to stand up for seniors and protect Medicare by opposing H.R. 5.

HONORING CODY PAE

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2012

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Cody Pae of the Fulton High School Wrestling team for winning the Class 2 Missouri State Wrestling Championship in the 126-pound weight class.

Mr. Pae and his coaches should be commended for all their hard work throughout the

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regular season and for bringing home the state title in the Class 2 126-pound weight class to his school and community. This is his third state medal and first state title.

I ask that you join me in recognizing Mr. Pae for a job well done.

**CALVARY EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF
INDIAN ROCKS BEACH, FLORIDA
CELEBRATES ITS 50TH ANNIVER-
SARY**

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2012

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, Calvary Episcopal Church of Indian Rocks Beach, Florida, which I have the privilege to represent, will celebrate its 50th anniversary of service to our community next month and I would ask my colleagues to join me in saying congratulations to the members of this tremendous family oriented church.

The effort to establish this church began in 1954 and in April of 1962, this small church located on a beautiful piece of waterfront property opened its doors. With its mission statement expressing the congregation's belief that "God is calling us to make known His truth and to convey His love to all," Calvary Episcopal has become a key part of this beach community.

The church's energetic and beloved leader is Father Robert Wagenseil. Father Bob as he is affectionately called, traveled from New York 16 years ago to pay the church a visit, and never left. Together with the church's Deacon, The Reverend Melissa Sands, and Music Director and Parish Administrator Lynn Vera, Calvary Episcopal and Father Bob serve the church community in a combination of traditional and unique ways.

In addition to their wonderful music, Father Bob's inspirational messages, and the prayers they share together, the families of Calvary Episcopal reach out to help feed the hungry through an exceptional volunteer food bank. They teach our children through Sunday school programs and even a unique summer sailing school led by Father Bob. He tells me that one of his highlights every year is the graduation ceremony for his Intrepid Sailors.

They provide computer skills training in their church computer lab to help the unemployed and the underemployed. And Father Bob and the church have formed a special bond with the local fire fighting community and in particular Pinellas Suncoast Fire and Rescue and the Indian Rocks Volunteer Firemen's Association.

Mr. Speaker, I have had the privilege to worship at Calvary Episcopal with my family and I can tell you that Father Bob and the members of his church always find new ways to amaze me both spiritually and through the compassion they show their neighbors in need. Please join me in saying congratulations to the members of Calvary Episcopal on their first 50 years of ministry and service.

**RECOGNIZING THE TOWN OF
LURAY, VIRGINIA AS IT CELE-
BRATES ITS 200TH ANNIVERSARY**

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2012

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the Town of Luray, Virginia as it celebrates its 200th anniversary.

The Town of Luray was founded in 1812 and is the county seat of Page County, Virginia. Tucked away in the rolling hills of the Shenandoah Valley, Luray boasts of breathtaking views and is steeped in rich history.

Perhaps best known for the Luray Caverns, Luray is home to the largest and most popular caverns in the East. Upon its discovery by Andrew Campbell on August 13th, 1878, the Smithsonian Institute sent nine scientists to examine the caverns and reported the following: "... it is safe to say that there is probably no other cave in the world more completely and profusely decorated with stalactite and stalagmite ornamentation than that of Luray." Even today, this sentiment remains the same. The Luray Caverns now attract more than 500,000 visitors each year from around the world. Luray is lucky to be home to such a historic and significant token of natural beauty.

There is no doubt why the Town of Luray is such a popular attraction for those just passing through or visiting from many states away. When not touring the caverns, you can find visitors of Luray enjoying the 106-mile scenic Skyline Drive, or nestled into a cozy bed and breakfast. The Appalachian Trail also passes through Luray, where hikers can climb through the peaks and valleys of the Shenandoah region and explore the area first-hand.

Luray residents will celebrate and honor the Town's rich history with events and activities throughout the year, which began with a "Celebrate Luray" event back in February.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the citizens of Luray as they celebrate the town's bicentennial, and wishing them all the best for their continued growth and success.

**HONORING ANDREW RODRIGUEZ,
WINNER OF THE 2011 JAMES E.
SULLIVAN AWARD**

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2012

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Alexandria, Virginia resident Andrew Rodriguez, on his receipt of the highly-esteemed Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) 2011 James E. Sullivan Award. The award honors the nation's outstanding amateur athlete and has annually been presented since 1930. Finalists were selected from personal nominations following a review by the AAU Sullivan Award Executive Committee. Renowned recipients of the Award include: Mark Spitz, Jackie Joyner-Kersey, Florence Joyner, Peyton Manning, Michael Phelps, J.J. Redick, Tim Tebow, and Shawn Johnson, just to name a few.

As you may know, the AAU is dedicated to promoting amateur athletics throughout this nation and is one of the largest non-profit volunteer sports organizations in the U.S. For over 100 years, AAU has remained committed to helping young people develop as both athletes and as valued citizens of their communities. The Sullivan Award, which is in its 82nd year, making it even older than the Heisman trophy, salutes amateur athletes who not only succeed in sports, but who also exhibit strong moral character in their daily lives.

In order to be considered, Sullivan Award nominees must demonstrate talent, excellent character, leadership and sportsmanship—all qualities that Andrew has certainly surpassed during his career at the United States Military Academy at West Point. He recently received the Army's first Campbell Trophy and the National Football Foundation National Scholar-Athlete award, which recognizes the nation's best in combined academic success, community leadership, and performance on the football field. Andrew currently carries a 4.14 GPA as a mechanical engineering major and ranks third academically in his class of 1,052 cadets.

In addition to his exemplar character and scholarly record, Andrew is a senior linebacker on Army's football team and delivered 140 career tackles in 23 career games. Andrew suffered what many thought was a career-ending injury and missed the entire 2010 football season, but through determination and hard work, recovered and returned for the 2011 season as team captain.

Andrew is an outstanding leader both on the field and in the classroom. He has been very active in giving back to his community and honoring our military by spending many hours visiting the injured at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. He follows his father, Commanding General of the U.S. Army Forces Command David Rodriguez, and sister Amy, in a family tradition at West Point.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to ask my colleagues to join AAU and myself in congratulating Andrew on his outstanding achievement. We can all see that he is an exceptional, strong leader, and I very much look forward to following his continued success. It is truly an honor to represent Andrew and his family in the United States Congress, and I sincerely thank them for their commitment to our nation.

**RECOGNIZING THE 60TH WEDDING
ANNIVERSARY OF DR. J.O.
"ROCKY" MAYNES JR. AND BEKI
SIGWORTH-MAYNES**

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2012

Mr. PASTOR of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to congratulate Rocky and Beki Maynes on the occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary—a milestone reached January 19, 2012 and celebrated by the couple's ten children, thirty grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and other family and close friends. Verma and I have known and worked with this wonderful couple for many years and we sincerely wish them our heart-felt congratulations.

Rocky and Beki met at Arizona State College, (now ASU), where Beki was studying