

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL COACH PAT SUMMITT

HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor University of Tennessee women's basketball coach Pat Summitt for her hard work, courage, and perseverance. Pat, like me, is from Clarksville, Tennessee. We share a love for basketball, and it has been an honor to watch her lead the Lady Vols for nearly forty years. Pat's commitment to excellence has resulted in almost 1,100 wins, making her the winningest basketball coach in NCAA history.

What is most impressive about Pat isn't her .840 winning percentage or her eight national championships. Nor is it her ability to run laps with, and sometimes around, her teams, or the intense stare that I am sure is still burned into the minds of some of the ladies on her 1974 inaugural team. What impresses me most about Pat is the way she does everything in her life with heart and to the best of her ability. When she announced her condition last August, I was impressed both by her courage to fight Alzheimer's in a very public way, as well as her leadership in founding the Pat Summitt Foundation Fund. According to the Alzheimer's Association, 5.4 million Americans are currently living with Alzheimer's. By sharing her story, Pat has undoubtedly helped to bring awareness to this disease. I'd be one sorry fan if I didn't also point out that, despite her condition, last season Pat still led the Lady Vols to the NCAA tournament.

Pat Summitt has left the UT community with an amazing legacy and I have no doubt she will continue to faithfully serve the University in her new role as head coach emeritus. I also look forward to seeing great things from her son, Tyler, as he follows in his mother's footsteps. My thoughts and prayers are with Pat and Tyler as they move forward on this journey together.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, on April 24, 2012, I missed one recorded vote on the House floor. I ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on Rollcall 178.

CONGRATULATIONS TO COMBAT MEDICAL SYSTEMS

HON. RENEE L. ELLMERS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mrs. ELLMERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to the Men and Women of Combat Medical Systems on the opening of their new office in Fayetteville, North Carolina.

One year ago this month, Fayetteville suffered from a sudden and devastating outbreak of tornadoes. These storms ripped through our region and caused horrendous damage to homes, businesses, and personal property. I was told of the bravery of their staff and President, Corey Russ, who, as a retired Delta Force medic, began treating casualties and handing out thousands of dollars of company equipment to strangers so that they could help others in the area and transport casualties to nearby hospitals.

One year later, our communities continue to rebuild and we can take pride in the new homes and buildings that have been erected. We must continue to remember the individuals that perished in this disaster and honor their legacy through the care and rebuilding of our community.

Combat Medical Systems and its employees show the dedication and determination we all aspire to as we rebuild and survive in the face of unforeseen obstacles. This courage embodies the spirit of our nation and fuels our economy. I commend them on their willingness to give back to the community and on the successes they have rightly earned.

Again, I congratulate them on the opening of their new office. May God bless them, their families, and our great nation.

AUJANAE VALDEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Aujanæ Valdez for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Aujanæ Valdez is a 12th grader at Jefferson Senior High and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Aujanæ Valdez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Aujanæ Valdez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

HONORING ROBERTA ROPER

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the work of a remarkable woman from Maryland, Roberta Roper, and to express to her the appreciation felt by so many across our state and throughout the country.

In 1982, Roberta and her family faced their darkest days when they learned that their daughter, Stephanie—a talented artist and college student—had been kidnapped, raped, and murdered. While struggling with her own personal pain and grief, Roberta learned that there were no supportive services for her and her family as they struggled with the loss of their daughter. Even more devastating was that the criminal justice system lacked the rights and support they needed as family members of a murder victim.

That same year, to honor the memory of their daughter and to address the inadequacies between the rights of a defendant and those of a victim of crime, Roberta and her husband, Vince, founded the Stephanie Roper Foundation. The Foundation's mission has been to provide supportive services to crime victims across Maryland for thirty years. They also established the Stephanie Roper Committee, the Foundation's legislative arm, which has resulted in over sixty laws enacted to create new or improved crime-victim rights and services.

With Roberta's active encouragement, the Maryland General Assembly created the State Board of Victim Services in 1988. This Board offers recommendations to the legislature and to the Governor on matters concerning state and local efforts to assist victims of crime. In 1994, Roberta was appointed as Chair of the Board, a position she held until her retirement last October.

In 2002, the Foundation merged with the Maryland Crime Victim Resource Center, a one-stop, statewide non-profit that provides victim services, crisis assistance, legal help, victim notification, financial help, social services, and links to national victim resources.

Roberta's activism since her daughter's tragic death in 1982 led her to so many important accomplishments benefitting my home state. These include the creation of the Maryland Victims of Crime Fund, legislation ensuring victims and their families a place in the courtroom and a voice during the sentencing process, the creation of new support and services for victims and their loved ones, as well as the ratification of an amendment to the Maryland Constitution guaranteeing crime victims the right to be informed, present, and heard throughout the investigatory and judicial process.

• 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.

In addition to her tireless efforts to improve victims' treatment, Roberta serves as Co-Chair of the National Victims Constitutional Amendment Network—a network of states working with Congress to enact a Constitutional amendment establishing meaningful and enforceable rights for every crime victim in this country.

Today, I join in honoring Roberta Roper for turning a deeply saddening and difficult tragedy into a thirty-year movement to provide crime victims and their families a greater voice.

Stephanie Roper once said: "One person can make a difference, and every person should try." Roberta Roper has built a lasting legacy in her daughter's name by doing just that—and we are all better off for it.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday April 24, 2012 I had obligations that necessitated my attention in my district and missed a suspension vote on H.R. 2157, to facilitate a land exchange involving certain National Forest System lands in the Inyo National Forest. Had I been present for this vote, I would have cast an "aye" vote for this piece of legislation.

Again, had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on H.R. 2157.

THE HOLOCAUST

SPEECH OF

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day. Each year on the 27th day of the Jewish month of Nisan, we remember the victims whose lives were destroyed, and who suffered unspeakable brutalities at the hands of their Nazi tormentors. We all know the number six million far too well, but we must always remember that each of those six million—along with so many others—was an individual whose life was snuffed out because of baseless, senseless hatred.

We should also remember that the date for Yom HaShoah was also chosen to coincide with the anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising of 1943, perhaps the most famous example of Jewish resistance to the Nazis. When the Germans came to liquidate the last remaining inhabitants of the Warsaw Ghetto in order to murder them at the Treblinka extermination camp, these brave, untrained, overmatched and starving souls fought back. Though they were ultimately crushed, they held out against the Nazis for nearly a month, forcing the German army to divert thousands of troops, as well as air force, artillery, armed vehicles, minethrowers, and machine guns in order to put down the rebellion.

While the Holocaust is the greatest of Jewish tragedies, the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising

stands as a moment of pride for the Jewish people, and a foreshadowing of the new Jewish spirit that would rise with the State of Israel just a few years later. Never again would Jews give up without a fight. With a state and an army, the Jewish people would finally have a refuge to run to in their time of need.

While we commemorate the Holocaust today, I call on my colleagues to join me in reaffirming our connection to the State of Israel, and our responsibility to help Israel through its most difficult times. The Jewish State ensures the survival of the Jewish people in a dangerous and often anti-Semitic world, which is one of the many reasons we in the United States have stood by Israel for so many years and will continue to stand by Israel for as long as they need our help.

The memory of the six million killed by the Nazis demands no less. We in Congress stand with the entire Jewish people in saying Never Again.

AUDREY ARAGON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Audrey Aragon for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Audrey Aragon is a 12th grader at Jefferson Senior High and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Audrey Aragon is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Audrey Aragon for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF MR. JIM SCHLECHT

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Jim Schlecht, who is being recognized for his work serving the homeless.

Born and raised in Euclid, Ohio, Jim has been a lifelong Cleveland area resident. While attending Cleveland State University, he and a group of progressive Catholics joined together at Merton Community's Houses of Hospitality in Cleveland's Near West Side neighborhood to begin serving the community's less fortunate.

Throughout the years, Jim has become one of Ohio City's most well-known residents. He has worked to establish health centers, schools, book stores, social service agencies and community organizations, such as Near

West Neighbors in Action, which cater to the homeless. He has also worked at the Rose Mary Center, West Side Community House, West Side Catholic Center and currently, Care Alliance.

Because of his relentless work to support those in need, today, at the Bishop Cosgrove Center, the Cleveland Tenants Organization and the Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless are coming together to honor his lifetime of service.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in congratulating Mr. Jim Schlecht. His faith has guided him into a life of service which is unparalleled.

HONORING JOHN "JAY" DALICANDRO

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the long and distinguished career of John "Jay" Dalicandro. Mr. Dalicandro, who honorably serves the Village of Elmwood Park as village manager, plans to retire this June after 23 years of service.

A native of Elmwood Park, Jay has remained a part of the community throughout his life. To date Mr. Dalicandro is the longest-serving Village Manager Elmwood Park has ever had and his retirement will leave some big shoes to fill. Jay is admired by those in his community for his enduring devotion to the Village of Elmwood Park and his service is to be commended.

During his tenure as Village Manager, Jay has done a tough job very well. He has been responsible for day-to-day operations of the Village of Elmwood Park. Most people in Jay's position remain as Village Manager for a short stint before moving on to another position, but Jay's commitment to the people of Elmwood Park for the past 23 years demonstrates his sincere devotion to the wellbeing of the community.

Mr. Dalicandro's vision for the Village of Elmwood Park has impressed his peers and ensured a bright future for the Village. Jay's accomplishments as Village Manager include establishing the Village's first tax increment finance district, superb handling of the Villages finances, and a commitment to establishing new parkland for the Village. In addition to these accomplishments, Mr. Dalicandro has succeeded in ensuring the Village's fiscal stability by consistently staying under budget.

Jay is credited as being the man who brought the Village of Elmwood Park into the 21st century. His colleagues recognize the hard work he has invested into the community. Undoubtedly, the impact Jay has had on the Village of Elmwood Park will be seen for years and decades to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Jay Dalicandro and his commitment to public service in his community. The devotion he has demonstrated to his work in the Village serves as an example to us all.