

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES N. BIKAKIS

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chuck Bikakis, who recently retired as the Director of the Kern County Veterans Service Department. Chuck has been a motivated and passionate advocate for our veterans in Kern County for the past 14 years.

A veteran of the United States Marine Corps, Chuck received his Bachelor's degree from the United States Naval Academy and entered the Marine Corps in 1960. Chuck retired with the rank of Major after 20 years of service. In that time, Chuck served our country in Vietnam from August 1968 through September 1969.

After his retirement from the Marine Corps in 1980, Chuck relocated to Bakersfield and worked in real estate. He then worked in a Job Developer position with the Kern County Employers' Training Resource starting in January 1994 until the Kern County Board of Supervisors appointed him to the position of Director of the Kern County Veterans Service Department. Chuck held the position of Director of the Veterans Service Department since April 20, 1998.

Shortly after his appointment, Chuck relocated the Veterans Service Department to its current location and established the Kern County Veterans Services center. This one-stop Center now includes a Job Developer from Employers' Training Resource and a computer resource room. He was instrumental in bringing to Bakersfield the California Veterans Assistance Foundation, which operates a transitional housing program for veterans.

There are many other examples of Chuck's leadership that will continue to benefit veterans of Kern County for years to come. Chuck's concern for homeless veterans led to the first Kern County Homeless Veterans Stand Down during October 1999. With the assistance and support of veteran organizations, community volunteers, and local businesses, Stand Down has become an annual event that provides outreach and guidance to homeless veterans to give them the opportunity toward a new beginning away from life on the streets. Chuck has also collected funds to assist the families of deployed servicemembers and was an active participant in the design and development of the Kern County Veterans Memorial and the Bakersfield National Cemetery.

Dedicated to education and service on multiple levels, Chuck's retirement will leave big shoes to fill at the Kern County Veterans Service Department. I commend his service to the thousands of veterans in our area, thank him for his dedication, and join many members in our community in wishing Chuck our best wishes as he embarks into the next chapter of his life.

THE EFFICIENT EXPORT PROMOTION TO HELP AMERICAN BUSINESSES ACT OF 2012

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill with the support of Congressman REICHERT to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of our country's export promotion efforts. Over the next decade exports will be this country's biggest growth engine for jobs. Even though most everyone knows that, everyone also agrees the United States does not do a great job of promoting our exports. But with commonsense no-cost reforms, we can take big steps to change that—and create jobs faster and compete better with other countries.

There are about 20 agencies in the Federal Government working hard to promote our exports—and they're all overseen by an effort centered in the called the Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee, TPCC, created by President Clinton in 1993.

The fact that most people have never heard of it says a lot about why we're not succeeding. My bill would put more energy into their efforts.

First, this bill would make sure the TPCC and all the agencies it coordinates has a single plan every year, sets clear goals and ensures the export efforts of all of these agencies are coordinated and do not overlap.

Second, my bill would require an annual report to businesses and Congress that looks back on the government's efforts to promote exports, the private sector's progress, where the Federal Government's work succeeded and came up short, how we're competing with other countries and what our next steps are.

Finally, my bill gets businesses and the TPCC much better data so we actually know how we are doing. Right now our Services export and import numbers are up to 35 percent off because Congress does not let the statisticians in the Commerce Department see all the data they need. Businesses want accurate economic data and people who promote our exports have to have it too. This is a place where Congress is in the way and we should fix it.

More than 50 other countries promote their exports and most of those countries do a better job than we do. This bill would go a long way towards making us number one.

This bill would cost the American taxpayer nothing, but go a long way towards making our export efforts more efficient, more accountable, and would help us create more jobs here at home. Thank you.

TRIBUTE TO WINFRED YOUNG
"CHUCK" LORD**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the exemplary life of a beloved and respected citizen of South Alabama, Mr. Winfred Young "Chuck" Lord, who recently passed away at the age of 75.

If we are truly fortunate, we may have an opportunity to get to know a person or two who is an inspiration in all that they do. Such people leave lifelong impressions on family and friends and their example calls us to be our best as well. To all who knew him, Chuck Lord was such an inspiration.

A native of Atlanta and a longtime resident of Mobile, Chuck Lord embodied the qualities of hard work, dedication to family and devotion to faith that made this country great. Hard work met up with him at an early age. Beginning at age 13, he labored to support himself and, at 17, he joined the Navy where he served for three years as a machinist aboard the USS *St. Paul*, a *Baltimore*-class heavy cruiser.

After completing his duty to country, Chuck Lord returned to civilian life, taking a job at McDonnell Douglas Aircraft Company in California. It was also in the Golden State that he met his future wife, Patricia. After a three-month courtship, they married, embarking on a journey that endured for 52 years.

In 1974, they bought a small vacuum business in Mobile. Chuck's hard work and skill led A&A Vacuum to expand to new locations in Mobile and Fairhope, transforming the company into a regional institution.

Chuck Lord was known as a fighter, giving his family and his business his full measure of attention even in the face of serious health conditions. Even as he recovered from heart transplant surgery, he insisted upon helping to run his business. Similarly, when he suffered kidney disease, he chose to undergo dialysis during the evenings so as not to interfere with his work schedule.

Chuck Lord treated his customers with the same dutiful attention to detail, earning him the respect and friendship of many.

On behalf of the people of South Alabama, I would like to extend my condolences to his wife Patricia, their children, Susan, Michael, Jenny, David, Dan, and Tony; their 28 grandchildren and two great grandchildren, and many friends. You are all in our prayers.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4310) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2013, and for other purposes:

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Chair, the Fiscal Year 2013 National Defense Authorization Act contains badly needed reforms that are vital to our national security and our defense industrial base.

America's small business industrial base has supported our military for generations, and their participation enhances competition, helps control costs, and spurs American innovation. H.R. 4310 recognizes that our defense maintenance needs are best met when we have capabilities both internally in the Department of Defense and in a private sector where work is competitively awarded.

Sections 1631 and 1632 will help maintain a strong small business presence in our defense industrial base which is essential to reducing maintenance and procurement costs as well as maintaining a strong national defense.

It is my strong belief this important legislation will help ensure that the highest level of support services are provided to the men and women who protect our freedom.

RECOGNIZING THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY COMMEMORATING MAY 19 AS ATATURK YOUTH AND SPORTS DAY

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate May 19 as a significant day in the history of our friend and ally the Republic of Turkey.

In Turkey, May 19 is celebrated as the commemoration of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the Founder of the Republic of Turkey. It was on that day in 1919 when Atatürk landed in the Black Sea port of Samsun and the war of independence began. After the war, he dedicated May 19 to Turkey's youth as a reminder that their "first duty is to preserve and defend forever Turkish independence and the Turkish Republic."

He was an exceptional leader who understood that Islam and modernity are not inconsistent—an important factor to reinforce today with democratic leaders throughout the Muslim world.

Atatürk went on to build a republic based on universal values, secularism, equal rights and democracy under the rule of law—from a disintegrating Ottoman Empire. He understood that advances in women's rights, education, science and technology were crucial to his vision of creating a nation as proud members of the group of civilized nations.

His reforms inspired President John F. Kennedy who said, "The name Atatürk reminds mankind of the historical accomplishments of one of the greatest men of this century. His leadership gave inspiration to the Turkish nation, farsightedness in the understanding of the modern world, and courage and power as a military leader."

Recognizing the importance physical activity has in the health of our nations, the United States and Turkey have a shared vision of promoting the well-being of their nation's youths. Coinciding with Atatürk Youth and Sports Day, President Barack Obama has designated the month of May 2012 as National Physical Fitness and Sports Month. These celebrations promote the value of physical activity in the pursuit of a happier, healthier and more productive nation.

May is a very important month for the United States and Turkey—it's a month where we both honor the importance and health of our youth. What started on May 19, 1919 as a great leader beginning his inspirational journey to transform his people, has culminated in a yearly celebration of his vision becoming a reality. We should all learn a lesson from this man's life. A leader with motivation and determination can lay the roots for a great future.

IN RECOGNITION OF PATTY MOZLEY

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Patty Mozley for her 43 years of dedicated service to the students of The Walker School in Marietta, Georgia.

Mozley moved to Marietta in 1969 and began teaching third grade at The Walker School, a position she held for 17 years. She also served as interim principal, and spent her last 26 years as an enrollment advisor.

An avid playwright, Mozley also began The Walker School's drama program, writing and directing the first script. Before her retirement, The Walker School renamed its studio theatre in Mozley's honor.

Students, parents, and communities need more educators like her. She has inspired countless lives and fostered a love for learning in her students.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Mozley's outstanding accomplishments and her unwavering commitment to education.

RECOGNIZING EDITOR CAROL STARK AND THE JOPLIN GLOBE EDITORIAL STAFF

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Editor Carol Stark and her staff at The Joplin Globe for their steadfast coverage of the Joplin tornado disaster.

The Joplin community was dealt a devastating blow when it was struck by a deadly tornado on May 22, 2011. During the entire aftermath of this catastrophe, Carol and her team did not waiver in providing up-to-date coverage to the Nation. Amidst the chaos that included the destruction of half of the staff's homes and the death of a fellow staffer, The Joplin Globe carried on its work and managed to get the next day's newspaper out only an hour late.

Because of her unyielding dedication and leadership during these hard times, Carol is the recipient of the Local Media Association's Editor of the Year award. The Joplin Globe also received the Jesse Laventhol Prize for Deadline News Reporting by the American Society of News Editors on April 2, 2012 in Washington, DC for its coverage of the tornado. These are noteworthy accomplishments and I am proud that they have been acknowledged for their efforts.

Mr. Speaker, Carol Stark and her team at The Joplin Globe have served both our community and our Nation well amidst times of trial and it is an honor to recognize their dedication and work.

RECOGNIZING STEVEN MOCZARY AS THE 2012 EGLIN AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mr. Steven Moczary, the 2012 Eglin Air Force Association Teacher of the Year. Despite being new to the field of teaching, Mr. Moczary has had a substantial impact on the lives of his students. To be chosen as Teacher of the Year after only one year in the profession is evidence of Mr. Moczary's talent and work ethic. Mr. Moczary's strong background in science, engineering and aviation, as displayed by his Masters Degree in Aeronautical Science from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University and his Bachelors Degree of Science in Engineering from Texas Tech University, has helped him achieve laudable success in such a short period of time.

Before beginning his career in education, Mr. Moczary served in the United States Air Force as a B-52 Electronic Warfare Officer and Flight Safety professional. As a teacher, he has continued his dedication to aeronautical safety as the Assistant Director of Academic Support for the CHOICE Aviation Institute. In this role, he works with his alma mater, Embry Riddle, to instill in his students a love for aviation, while imparting in them the importance of safety. His hope is to encourage more students to enter the aviation field.

Mr. Moczary's courses at the CHOICE Aviation Institute are among the most invigorating, innovative, and challenging in the entire school district. His knowledge of aeronautics is coupled with a unique ability to engage his students. Mr. Moczary is also able to call on his experience serving in the United States Air Force Safety Center and his vast knowledge of the safety systems and the human interface to communicate valuable information to students about the aviation profession and the science of flight.

Mr. Moczary is described as always having a "can do" spirit that he utilizes in his inspiring attitude to motivate his students. In his position as the Assistant Director of Academic Support, Mr. Moczary counsels and speaks to students about present and future enrollment in aviation programs, often providing them with career counseling. He also reintroduced the Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) course to the CHOICE Aviation curriculum. This course teaches students about UAV technology, which can be particularly important to the Florida Panhandle after a hurricane or natural disaster to survey damage and search for missing persons. Mr. Moczary has given back to the community through a course teaching flying safety in high schools and middle schools across the Florida Panhandle.

Described as an invaluable asset to the CHOICE program, Okaloosa County schools, and Embry Riddle University, Mr. Moczary is committed to the success of each of his students. On behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize Mr. Steven Moczary for his achievement and commitment to aviation education in Northwest Florida. I also commend his honorable service in the