

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE MEMBERS OF THE 529TH MILITARY POLICE COM- PANY USAEUR HONOR GUARD

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2013

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the prodigious service of the members of the 529th Military Police Company Honor Guard, first activated in July of 1945, which served at and protected the United States Army in Europe (USAEUR) Headquarters and handled internal security for the USAEUR Commander-in-Chief's command building and residence.

The 529th had the responsibility and privilege of honoring notable figures such as President John F. Kennedy, President Charles de Gaulle of France, General William C. Westmoreland, and Secretary of the Army Stanley Resor.

Beyond its important work to protect U.S. interests and dignitaries in Europe, this talented and dedicated MP company spent many long hours practicing the drill team manual, including perfecting the "click-tap-click" of the "Deuce Nine." In addition, the unit was assigned three 105mm Howitzers which formed their salute battery, and successfully fired 742 rounds without a misfire.

Across the nation and the world, U.S. military police provide an important duty to protect and serve not only our nation but also their colleagues. The tireless and selfless dedication of the 529th Military Police Company Honor Guard and all military police companies must not be overlooked.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in wishing all the members of the 529th Military Police Company Honor Guard our sincerest thanks and appreciation for their valiant service.

HONORING CHAD HIGDON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize a special member of my staff. After more than 11 years of service, Chad Higdon has left his position in my Saint Joseph District Office to become the Executive Director of Second Harvest Community Food Bank.

Chad had been with my congressional office nearly from the start. He began as an intern in 2001, helping to set up our first office in the St. Joseph Post Office Building. A year later, he was hired as the office Staff Assistant. Chad has filled many roles in the office, eventually working his way to become the congressional "go-to-guy" for the Saint Joseph community.

As a field representative, Chad spent many hours behind the wheel representing me in the small towns across Northwest Missouri. He built strong relationships with local leaders and always had his finger on the pulse of a community. Whether it was listening to a veteran's retelling of war stories, helping a local community find funding for sewer upgrades, or providing a legislative update to farmers, Chad's work was always done whole-heartedly and with a smile.

In 2010, Chad temporarily left his post to serve as my campaign manager. He helped secure a solid vote-margin that November and represented our organization well across all 26 counties. Chad's willingness to serve and his dedication to constituent service was a great example of how government should work. While I am losing a valuable member of my team, I am proud of Chad and excited to watch the next chapter of his career.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in thanking Chad Higdon for his many years of service to the people of the Sixth Congressional District. I know Chad's colleagues, family and friends join with me in thanking him for his commitment to others and wishing him many years of success to come.

HONORING RANDOLPH F. SNOWDEN OF NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Randy Snowden, who is retiring as the Director of the Napa County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA).

Mr. Snowden is a true public servant in the Napa Valley, and a leader in community public health programs and health care reform. As the director of the largest agency in Napa County, Mr. Snowden has consistently held himself to the highest levels of integrity, principle, and ethical business practice. In the recent recession, Mr. Snowden led efforts to stabilize Napa County HHSA's budget while maintaining critical services that other counties dramatically cut.

Mr. Snowden guided the agency and the county in integrating services and increasing accessibility. During his tenure, Napa County HHSA opened a satellite office in American Canyon, and an embedded Clinic Ole was established on HHSA's campus.

As the agency's leader, Mr. Snowden displayed a dedication to the pursuit of diversity, collaborative management, and program-based budgeting. He has overseen the transformation of HHSA's culture from one of compliance to one focused on quality management.

Above all, Mr. Snowden held fast to HHSA's mission to help those in need. For him, it is always all about the clients. He has remained

true to his and the agency's guiding principles and has served as a professional and personal role model for all who know him.

Mr. Speaker, Randy Snowden has a long and distinguished career of service to Napa County, most notably to the Napa Valley Health and Human Services Agency. It is therefore appropriate that we honor Mr. Snowden today and wish him well in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING REVEREND DR. JOHN F. WILLIAMS

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2013

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, this year, Reverend Dr. John F. Williams is celebrating twenty-five (25) years preaching, twenty-three (23) years in pastoral leadership and seven (7) years as Pastor of Antioch East Baptist Church this year, he has provided stellar leadership to his church and community; and

Whereas, Reverend Dr. John F. Williams under the guidance of God has pioneered and sustained Antioch East Baptist Church as an instrument in our community that uplifts the spiritual, physical and mental welfare of our citizens; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious man of God has given hope to the hopeless and is a beacon of light to those in need; and

Whereas, Reverend Dr. Williams is a spiritual warrior, a man of compassion, a fearless leader and a servant to all, but most of all a visionary who has shared not only with his Church, but with our state and the nation his passion to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Reverend Dr. John F. Williams, as he celebrates this milestone in pastoral leadership; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim August 25, 2013 as Reverend Dr. John F. Williams Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 25th day of August, 2013.

HONORING ST. JOHN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable historical church, St. John Missionary Baptist of Darling, Mississippi and the great leadership it is under.

• 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.

St. John Missionary Baptist Church has been a part of the Darling Squirrel Lake, MS community for some 130 years. Many families have come and gone, but many can boast of a great start at this little wooden church in the country. Although, this is a small church, its pastor and members have always had big hearts. St. John has reached our into the community to host and sponsor reading classes in an effort to improve reading skills among the young and old; summer feeding program—preparing and serving hot balanced meals for the youths and disable in the church community; and doing a garden project to provide fresh vegetables for the church community.

Years has brought about change, but the hearts of St. John members are still big and fill with love. The name was changed to New St. John some ten years ago, but Jesus and saving souls is still the focus of the church.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing St. John Missionary Baptist Church for its dedication to serving our great country.

“THE LIVING MEMORIAL” PREPARED REMARKS BY LT. COL. SEAN N. DAY FOR CITY OF SAN JOSE MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2013

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I had the honor at Oak Hill Cemetery's Memorial Day event on May 27th to listen to Lt. Col. Sean Day's speech celebrating and honoring the memories of Americans who have died defending freedom. I would like to honor his words which are so meaningful.

“THE LIVING MEMORIAL” PREPARED REMARKS: CITY OF SAN JOSE MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE, OAK HILL CEMETERY, SAN JOSE, CA, 1100 27 MAY 2013

Lt. Col Sean N. Day, USMCR Commanding Officer, 2nd Battalion, 23rd Marine Regiment

Mayor Reed, Supervisor Cortese, Congressman Honda, Congresswoman Lofgren, Vice Admiral Zukunft, Major General Regua, other distinguished guests, friends and fellow Americans.

Thank you for the opportunity to be a small part of your celebration of the lives and sacrifices of our most honored citizens. It is with profound humility that I am speaking with you on this sacred day, on this hour and in this place.

Now, if you would indulge me for a moment—

Do we have any veterans from the War in Vietnam in the audience?

It's with deep appreciation that if you have never heard it, or even if you have been told a thousand times, to the veterans of the War in Vietnam, we are so very proud of you and welcome home.

Now, I am keenly aware that as the final speaker of the day, I am all that stands between you and cookouts and the first game of the Bay Area brawl between the Giants and the A's. So, in the few minutes that we'll spend together this afternoon I won't talk about the great sales at Valley Fair Mall or the day off so many are enjoying. I won't speak of bands or bugles, or even the stone and marble monuments raised in memory of the sacrifices given by our most honored citizens.

But instead, my brief comments will center on “The Living Memorial.”

In every age, just as during the Vietnam War era, those who are willing to face down shot and shell are few. During the Revolution, only a few answered the call for help that rang out at the Rude Bridge in Concord. Many heard the call, had more pressing priorities and moved on with their lives. A few answered, and some who did gave the last full measure of devotion to enable the beginning of the Republic that we love so dearly.

And right down through the years, it has been the same. Many hear, few answer and a portion of those who do, consecrate our nation's highest ideals with their lives. On battlefields long forgotten, or for the mass of our fellow citizens not known or even cared about, this story of self-sacrifice, complete devotion and fidelity to the best and highest of ourselves, plays out again, and again and again. The many war veterans in the audience, from World War II right up to the ones of today, can tell you what it is like to hear an unrelenting drumbeat demanding sacrifice.

They can remember in jungle monsoons or savage desert sandstorms, seeing the very best our country can produce step forward. And then watching those same brave brothers in arms, friends and comrades fall to the violence of the cruel enemy. All the while, hearing that same drumbeat, demand more and more sacrifice.

How many friends have we held as their final breaths slipped away?

How many times have we seen flag-draped transfer cases placed on aircraft;

How many times have we stood at memorials in hot, dirty, dusty places;

And how many times have we been asked by parents and family members what the last days of their loved ones were like.

Everyone here knows the answer—far too many times.

So many of our friends are no longer here to teach their sons to throw a baseball, escort their daughters to quinceañeras, or to guide their parents into old age. We, who have born the battle, must give voice to our fallen comrades. They stood for all Americans when it counted most. So, we must stand tall today and everyday—because they cannot.

As witnesses to the most profound human tragedies, our charge now is to ensure their memories are not forgotten. But even more importantly—that the ideals of the great republic they gave their very lives to protect—live on and are strengthened. It is our sacred obligation to represent those whose lives were so cruelly ended; to be their “Living Memorial.”

One of our most distinguished countrymen, Oliver Wendell Holmes, not only served as a Supreme Court Judge for the great state of Maine, and on the Supreme Court of the United States, but he was also a wartime and combat veteran. Serving as an infantryman during the Civil War, Justice Holmes offered a poignant reminder to all of us. . .

“We have shared the incommunicable experience of war, we have felt, we still feel, the passion of life to its top. In our youth our hearts were touched with fire.”

And we stand in constant memory of our fallen brothers.

It is worth remembering that those brave Americans who fell threw the torch of freedom to those in the next generation, who would take it up and shield it. Each successive generation of patriots serves as a “Living Memorial” to those who gave all in the preceding age. And a few in this generation have caught that same torch of freedom.

When tyranny and terror have attacked the torch and caused its flame to flicker, a few have protected it from the violence of the enemy. They have given their blood and lives to shield it, and in so doing had their

own lives extinguished so that the light of liberty would continue to shine.

They have done so in the ancient Mesopotamian cities of Baghdad, Al Kut and Hillah in Iraq. From Afghanistan's desert plains of the Helmand province to its wispy heights of the Hindu Kush, where air to breathe is hard to come by, but enemy bombs, bullets and attacks are easy to find.

The honor roll of names who have given the last full measure is not nearly as popular or as well-known as the latest winner of American Idol, the results of the NFL draft or the latest cover story in People magazine. And because of this, it is up to us to carry their lives, loves and memories forward to serve as their “Living Memorial.”

For those esteemed fallen patriots are the precious few who were willing to step forward for all of America. The story of their lives and commitment answers the ancient question, “Who will go for us and who will we send.”

They answered the question through their actions; stepping forward for all of us.

The scriptures say, “A man has no greater love than to lay down his life for his brother.” What they showed may have been patriotism, may have been devotion, and it certainly was sacrifice—but what we know is that they gave their all, and in so doing, showed all of us today that those who will follow, love in its most basic form. A love for our country, our families—yours and mine, and our way of life; one that exceeded the love they had even for themselves. And as we look out across the years, and think of far-away places, our deep and humble appreciation is with those whose love exceeded all bounds.

So what to make of this devotion, belief and sacrifice?

One of our very distinguished Americans, Eleanor Roosevelt, witnessed some of the most significant events in our country's proud history. She carried in her wallet this poem to remind her daily of the sacrifices of our most esteemed citizens and it reads:

“Dear Lord,
Lest I continue
My complacent way,
Help me to remember that somewhere,
Somehow out there
A man died for me today.
As long as there be war,
I then must
Ask and answer
Am I worth dying for?”

Eleanor Roosevelt understood deeply that she was a “Living Memorial,” for those who enabled her to do all the wonderful things she did for our great country. She understood the deep debt of gratitude owed to those who “gave their today to ensure our tomorrow.” She understood that her life personally, and our nation's way of life, was a “Living Memorial” to those who gave all.

So, I leave you with this. Today is not a day for mourning.

It is, of course, a remembrance for what has been lost—the finest our country has produced from across the ages. However, this day is more than that, it is a celebration. A celebration of our national heritage, a celebration of the very best our country represents. We ought not lament the loss of our true champions. Instead, cherish the thought that such very fine Americans lived, such fine Americans sacrificed for your family and mine—such American gave all. Our challenge is to ensure that their sacrifices were not in vain.

Your presence in this place, at this hour indicates that you probably don't need to hear this message. However, many of our countrymen do need to hear it. So as you leave here today, each of you has a mission.

Carry forth the memory of those who gave all they had to give for the finest ideals of our country and of all humanity.

Carry forth the memory of our honored dead.

Remind others that our champions were not victims, but Americans who made our way as a people possible. They carved the path that brought freedom from the yoke of distant tyranny, they served as the guarantors of independence, they made the proclamation of emancipation real. And they ensured that liberty remained a reality rather than a mere idea, a word on a page, or a hope for dream.

I ask each of you to resolve to live in such a way as to carry on the work of the fallen. To make our great country better each day, and in doing so to serve as "Living Memorials," to our most honored citizens.

Thank you for taking the time out today to be part of this celebration.

God Bless America and Semper Fidelis.

RECOGNIZING AMERICORPS ON THEIR TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2013

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the national service organization AmeriCorps on its twentieth anniversary. AmeriCorps has provided young Americans with the opportunity to meet critical needs in the communities in which they work.

AmeriCorps partners with nonprofit organizations, government agencies, schools, and faith-based organizations to support intensive community service work. AmeriCorps was first formed under President Clinton in 1993 as a part of the Corporation for National and Community Service. Since its inception, 800,000 people have taken the AmeriCorps oath, with about 80,000 now serving annually.

Mr. Speaker, AmeriCorps members are hard at work in my district and all across the country. They tutor students in junior and high schools. They work directly with families to help them overcome barriers to employment. They advocate for victims of domestic violence. They teach CPR classes. In short, AmeriCorps members are making a difference and are strengthening communities.

Not only do communities benefit from AmeriCorps—so do the participants. These young people are able to work side-by-side with local community partners on issues that are important to them. AmeriCorps functions as a framework for how individual citizens motivated to public service can come together and make a difference in a tangible way.

AmeriCorps has demonstrated remarkable successes over the last 20 years; I look forward to more accomplishments and more impact over the next 20 years. I am hopeful that a new task force created by President Obama earlier this year can help identify new ways that AmeriCorps can employ members' talent and ingenuity to further national priorities. As Martin Luther King, Jr., once said, "Everyone can be great because everyone can serve."

Mr. Speaker, I would like to close by extending my gratitude for the hard work AmeriCorps members are doing by serving and making America even greater.

HONORING NEW BEGINNING FULL GOSPEL BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2013

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, for the past twenty years, New Beginning Full Gospel Baptist Church has been and continues to be a beacon of light to our county and district; and

Whereas, today, Bishop James H. Morton and the members of the New Beginning Full Gospel Baptist Church family continue to uplift and inspire our county and district; and

Whereas, the New Beginning Full Gospel Baptist Church family has been and continues to be a place where citizens are touched spiritually, mentally and physically through outreach ministries and community partnership to aid in building up our county and district; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious Church of God has given hope to the hopeless, fed the needy and empowered our community for the past twenty (20) years; and

Whereas, this Church has produced many spiritual warriors, people of compassion, people of great courage, fearless leaders and servants to all, but most of all visionaries who have shared not only with their Church, but with our community their passion to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize the New Beginning Full Gospel Baptist Church family for their leadership and service to our District on this the 20th Anniversary of their founding; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim August 18, 2013 as New Beginning Full Gospel Baptist Church Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 18th day of August, 2013.

SEPTEMBER 11

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2013

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, twelve years ago, the course of our country's history changed.

In an unprovoked attack that sought to bring America to its knees, the world was reminded instead that ours is a nation of heroes—where people run toward danger for the sake of their fellow man; where a new generation of protectors, knowing full well the risk, chose to answer its country's call to defend liberty and pursue peace.

Last year on this day we were again reminded that freedom has its foes. We mourn the lives of the four dear Americans we lost to terror in Benghazi and pledge justice on their behalf.

To the families bound together by this tragic date eleven years apart, we promise our continued prayers for peace, and we take comfort that the nearness of Almighty God is always with the brokenhearted.

September 11, another infamous date for our Republic, revealed the strength and resolve of American character, and proved once

again to the adversaries of liberty that the champions of freedom will not be stopped. We will never waiver, we will not cede strength, and we will stand firm as the last best hope of earth.

IN HONOR OF R. BURNETT MILLER'S 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2013

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Sacramento's former mayor, city councilman and a prominent member of our community, R. Burnett Miller, as he celebrates his 90th birthday. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this great civic-minded individual who has served his country with honor and has contributed so much to the Sacramento region.

Burnett was born in Sacramento, California, in 1923 and graduated from C.K. McClatchy High School. He began his life of service by joining the ROTC at Santa Clara College in 1941. He was a sophomore when World War II began, and went on to serve our nation in the Battle of the Bulge, and was a part of the U.S. 11th Armored Division when it liberated the Mauthausen concentration camp in Austria on May 6, 1945. His service earned him a Purple Heart and the Silver Star for gallantry in action against an enemy of our nation. His experiences were featured in Ken Burns' documentary The War on PBS.

Burnett completed his college education at Georgetown University and lived in Europe for several years; however, he never forgot his hometown. Burnett moved back to Sacramento and joined his family's lumber business, which later became known as Burnett and Sons Planing Mill and Lumber Company. For over 144 years, this company has prided itself in special and unique craftsmanship and has provided high-quality jobs to local Sacramentans.

Burnett continued his lifetime of public service by serving first as a member of the Sacramento City Council and then as mayor. As a leader in our community, Burnett has championed local causes and organizations, raising funds for the Crocker Art Museum, the Sacramento Symphony, and the Sacramento History Center.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing the great life of my friend, R. Burnett Miller, as he celebrates his 90th birthday with his lovely wife Mimi, his children and his friends and family in Sacramento. His life and legacy are an inspiration to us all.

HONORING FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Friendship Missionary Baptist Church for their unwavering resiliency and unity in continuing to spread the Gospel