

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMMON WATERS FOUNDING

HON. TOM MARINO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2013

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John J. Donahue, the Superintendent of the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area and the Middle Delaware Scenic and Recreational River. Superintendant Donahue contracted with the Pinchot Institute to develop an organization rooted in engaging leaders in both private and governmental areas. As a result, Mr. Donahue became the driving force behind the establishment of the grassroots organization known as Common Waters.

Common Waters is a non-governmental group that coordinates efforts and policies of private partners like land trusts and county, state and federal planning organizations.

Delaware River provides clean drinking water for approximately 15 million people within the tri-state areas of New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. The preservation of forest land within these areas helps to ensure a healthy watershed, which is imperative to clean drinking water.

The group has targeted strategic grants to over 90 private forest owners who control over 38,000 acres of land, resulting in the best management practices and greater Delaware River watershed and ecosystem protection.

Additionally, Common Waters has become a voice for all of the member organizations on Landscape Scale Connectivity, resulting in easements being secured for over 1,000 acres of protection.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Donahue and Common Waters have shown that the government can have a dramatic benefit to the local area by providing opportunities to the private sector and I commend them for all of their work.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARTHA ROBY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2013

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, September 25, 2013 and on Thursday, September 26, 2013, I was necessarily absent from the House chamber.

If I had been present, I would have voted, the following on September 25, 2013:

Rollcall 484 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass, H.R. 1961, To amend title 46, United States Code, to extend the exemption from the fire-retardant materials construction requirement for vessels operating within the Boundary Line, I would have voted, "aye."

Rollcall 485 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass, H.Res. 354, Providing for the concurrence by the House in the Senate amendment to H.R. 527, with an amendment, I would have voted, "aye."

If I had been present, I would have voted, the following on September 26, 2013:

Rollcall 486 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass, H.R. 3095, To ensure any new or revised requirement providing for the screening, testing, or treatment of individuals operating commercial motor vehicles for sleep disorders is adopted pursuant to a rulemaking proceeding, and for other purposes, I would have voted, "aye."

Rollcall 487 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass, H.R. 2600, To amend the Interstate Land Sales Full Disclosure Act to clarify how the Act applies to condominiums, I would have voted, "aye."

Rollcall 488, on approving the journal, I would have voted, "aye."

Rollcall 489, on agreeing to the amendment of H.R. 687, Grijalva of Arizona Part A Amendment No. 1, I would have vote "nay."

Rollcall 490, on agreeing to the amendment of H.R. 687, Napolitano of California Part A Amendment No. 3, I would have vote "nay."

CONGRATULATING THE CITY OF GALENA, IL

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2013

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Galena, Illinois, for earning a place on the Executive Travel Magazine's list, America's Best Small Towns.

On a recent visit to Galena, I met with local small business owners who are all very proud of the town's history, a pride I share with them. With over 85 percent of the town's buildings designated as National Register of Historic Places and the general awe that the area's beautiful landscape inspires, it is clear why Galena deserves to be labeled as a great American town. I always enjoy visiting Galena and look forward to many trips to come.

It is important that all of our communities across Illinois continue to highlight why they are great places to live, work and raise a family. As always, I am proud to serve all the hard-working people of the 17th Congressional District of Illinois, and I look forward to communities across my region continuing to receive many well-deserved awards.

H.R. 1526, RESTORING HEALTHY FORESTS FOR HEALTHY COMMUNITIES ACT

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2013

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I grew up in Port Angeles—a town whose lifeblood was the timber industry. As the local economy suffered, I watched as my friends' parents lost their jobs.

This experience motivated me to pursue a career in economic development to help communities and families get back on their feet.

I came to the House of Representatives to fight for hard-working families across our region. I know just how hard our communities have been hit by the changes in the timber industry. It is important to me that we get folks back to work and strengthen rural communities.

With that in mind, I'm supportive of finding ways to sustainably increase harvest levels and increase the health of our forests. In fact, I'm a Co-Chair of the Healthy Forests Caucus here in the House.

Unfortunately, I have serious concerns over certain aspects of H.R. 1526, the Restoring Healthy Forests for Healthy Communities Act. This legislation would undermine core environmental laws, reduce opportunities for stakeholder input and pathways to consensus, and leave our region without a legitimate plan to help us adequately balance multiple forest uses.

The region I represent has some of the most pristine land and waters in our country. Protecting our resources while balancing the needs of resource-dependent communities and industries has been an issue my region has struggled with for decades.

Since taking office, I have been working closely with both sides of this issue. I am firmly convinced that we can protect forest health and get people back to work.

I do not believe bypassing the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) and the Endangered Species Act as laid out in H.R. 1526 is the only way—or even the best way—to do this.

Setting harvest levels by legislative mandate rather than by sound science sets a dangerous precedent and could lead to the destruction of long and hard fought agreements throughout the country.

These decisions must be made with scientific analysis and stakeholder involvement. The approach H.R. 1526 takes does not encourage consensus around federal land management and does not promote a path to a mutually agreeable resolution. H.R. 1526 would only further root stakeholders in oppositional positions. We should pursue a path forward that will reduce lawsuits. I want to see more work for folks in the timber industry—not more work for lawyers.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the work the Committee Chair and Ranking Member have put into this bill, but must voice my opposition.

TRIBUTE TO PAUL FREDERICKSEN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the retirement of KCCI's president and general manager, Paul Fredericksen, and to

• 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.

express my appreciation for his years of service to KCCI and the people of Iowa.

A Newell, Iowa native and alumnus of Buena Vista University, Mr. Fredericksen has been a part of the KCCI family for more than four decades and has served as the president and general manager for 27 years. Under Paul's leadership, KCCI, a CBS affiliate, has expanded its statewide and nationwide influence on its path to becoming the top-rated station in central Iowa.

Paul's many accomplishments at KCCI have earned him deserved recognition across the nation, including numerous broadcasting and broadcast journalism awards at the regional and national levels. It goes without saying that the KCCI central Iowans know and love today would not be the same without Mr. Fredericksen's tireless efforts and thoughtful guidance.

Mr. Speaker, Paul's contribution to broadcasting excellence and to the great state of Iowa cannot be overstated. While Mr. Fredericksen's expertise and experience are sure to be missed, he leaves behind a grateful viewing audience and an excellent example of leadership for which to strive. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Paul and wishing him the best as he begins a new chapter in life.

HONORING MS. SU WEBB

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2013

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Ms. Su Webb, who will be receiving a Loudoun Laurels Medal for her lifetime of civic leadership in the Loudoun County community.

Ms. Webb is receiving the award in the category of "Extraordinary Stewardship" on October 11, 2013 at the River Creek Club in Leesburg, Virginia. The Loudoun Laurels Medal recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the common good in our region.

Ms. Webb has long been committed to cultural and environmental preservation in Loudoun County. She is the chairman of the Loudoun County Farm Heritage museum and serves on the boards of the Aldie Heritage Association and the Lovettsville Park Advisory Committee. She has also served on Loudoun County's Parks, Recreation and Open Space Board for over twenty years, during which time she was instrumental in transferring the operations of Historic Mt. Zion Church and Aldie Mill Park to the Parks authority, the establishment of Gilbert's Corner Regional Park and the planning for White's Ford Regional Park.

I want to commend Ms. Webb for her tireless commitment to preserving the wealth of cultural history and environmental beauty in Loudoun County.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JUDY CHU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2013

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, Wednesday, September 25, 2013, I was unavoidably detained

due to meetings with constituents in my district. Had I been present on the House floor, I would have voted "aye" on the following bills and resolutions:

H.R. 1961, to amend title 46 to extend the exemption from the fire-retardant materials construction requirement for vessels operating within the Boundary Line;

And H. Res. 354, providing for the concurrence by the House in the Senate amendment to H.R. 527, Responsible Helium Administration and Stewardship Act, with an amendment.

LETTER FROM REV. BILLY GRAHAM TO THE PRESIDENT ROUHANI OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

HON. ROBERT PITTENGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2013

Mr. PITTENGER. Mr. Speaker, attached is a letter from Rev. Billy Graham to President Rouhani of the Islamic Republic of Iran. This is the letter I referenced in my one minute speech on September 26, 2013.

MONTREAL, NORTH CAROLINA,
September 23, 2013.

President HASSAN ROUHANI,
Islamic Republic of Iran.

DEAR PRESIDENT ROUHANI, I have been watching with great concern about the case of Pastor Saeed Abedini, an American citizen who is currently a prisoner in your country. He was in Iran working to build an orphanage when he was arrested and later sentenced to eight years in prison. His situation has been receiving an increasingly high level of attention in the United States. Unfortunately this publicity has been entirely negative for Iran, with the belief that the primary reason for Pastor Abedini's imprisonment was because of his Christian faith.

As you may know, as a religious leader I have often spoken (both publicly and also privately with our national leadership) about the need for greater understanding and peace among the nations of the world. As you come to the United States this week for the UN General Assembly in New York, it is my sincere hope that ways may be found to reduce the current tensions between the United States and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The announcement on Monday that your country has freed eighty political prisoners is very encouraging. I fear, however, that the current publicity surrounding the continued imprisonment of Pastor Abedini, an American citizen, may further harm the already fragile relationship that presently exists between our two nations.

On September 26, the one-year anniversary of Pastor Abedini's imprisonment, thousands will attend prayer vigils in more than seventy U.S. cities, calling on your country to release this husband, father, and servant of God. I join them by respectfully asking you to release Pastor Saeed Abedini from prison. Such an action would, I believe, have a positive impact in our nation, and might well be perceived by our leadership as a significant step in reducing tensions.

Respectfully yours,

BILLY GRAHAM.

HONORING HUGH OLIN HALL, JR.

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2013

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Hugh Olin Hall, Jr. who passed away on September 24, 2013 at the age of 93. Mr. Hall, Jr. is a brother of my dear colleague, Congressman RALPH HALL.

Mr. Hall, Jr. was the youngest person to graduate from Rockwall High School at the age of 15. He attended the University of Texas at Austin and North Texas State University in Denton.

Hugh Olin Hall, Jr. was born on January 29, 1920, in Fate, Texas. Hugh honorably served in the in the Field Artillery Unit of the United States Army during WWII and served in the Field Artillery Unit in Germany. After his military service, he worked on the pipelines with his father for the Oklahoma Contracting Company. He was employed with Lone Star Gas, where he worked until his retirement in 1989.

He was a member of the Rockwall Masonic Lodge and member of First United Methodist Church of Rockwall. He was an avid reader and a historian of WWII, later having the opportunity to travel back to Europe and Germany to visit the areas where he had served.

He is survived by his loving wife Doris Jane Hall; brother Ralph M. Hall; sister Rosemary Hall Scott; grandchildren Christopher Andrew Jeanes, Hugh Olin Hall IV and Christopher Leigh Hall; four nephews: Ralph Hampton Hall and wife Jody, Brett Allen Hall and wife Karen, Jay Blakeley Hall & wife Catherine and Dr. Victor Mark Scott & wife Vickie; grandnephews Jay Hampton Hall and wife Katherine, Steven Lule and wife Leeanna and Alexander Cole Scott; and grandnieces Haley Nicole Scott, Sarah Elizabeth Hall, Amanda Ellen Hall and Crystal Tucker Hall. Hugh was preceded in death by his son Hugh Olin Hall, III; daughter Rebecca Ann Hall Jeanes; and sister-in-law Mary Ellen Hall.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Hugh Olin Hall, Jr. I urge my colleagues to please join me in conveying my condolences for their loss.

TRIBUTE TO COLBY COOK

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the heroic actions of eighth-grader Colby Cook of West Des Moines, Iowa.

During a typical lunch hour in the lunchroom of Indian Hills Junior High School in Clive, 13-year-old Colby noticed his good friend Kyle in distress. A large piece of Kyle's sandwich was lodged in his airway, cutting off his ability to breathe. Colby wasted no time upon recognizing his friend was in danger and expertly employed the Heimlich maneuver to save Kyle's life and avert the life-threatening situation.

It is also evident that Mr. Cook is as humble as he is heroic. Immediately after saving a life