

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO LETCHER COUNTY
CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL MARCH-
ING BAND

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 18, 2013

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the director and members of the Letcher County Central High School marching band, who have received the honor of performing in Washington, DC, for the 57th Presidential Inaugural Parade on January 21, 2013. This talented group of students should be proud of this remarkable achievement and I am honored to recognize their success.

Competing with more than 2,800 applicants to perform during the parade following President Barack Obama's inauguration, Letcher County Central marching band was one of merely 24 groups chosen for this prestigious honor. After weeks of hard work, fundraising, and practicing in the cold, the band members will serve as the only representative from Kentucky to march in the Presidential Inauguration Parade this year. The band will also be joined by the school's ROTC Cadet Honor Guard performing a "Patriotic Parade Sequence," a medley of American songs, after President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden are sworn into office. The marching band was also invited to perform at the Kentucky Society of Washington DC's Inaugural Ball on January 19, 2013.

Contrary to their current success, the Letcher County Central High School music program has not always had a strong presence on campus. In fact, in 2006, the instrumental music program at Letcher County Central High School did not exist. However, with the help of Dr. Jason Griffith, Director of the LCCHS marching band, and several VH1 Save the Music Grants, the program has grown from 50 kids to approximately 400 kids in just six years. Today, the band has received numerous awards such as a Kennedy Center Honorable Mention, and has participated in prominent parades such as the Gubernatorial Parades in Kentucky in 2007 and 2011 and a special parade at Disney World in 2012.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Band Director Jason Griffith and the Letcher County Central High School Marching Band. This band has made Kentucky proud, and I wish them all the best as they take part in this once in a lifetime opportunity and become forever apart of our nation's history.

HONORING THE LIFE AND DEDI-
CATED SERVICE OF COLONEL
JAMES L. HILL, SR.

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 18, 2013

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Northwest Florida's beloved Colonel James L. Hill, Sr. Colonel Hill was a native Northwest Floridian who served his nation with honor and distinction, while also working tirelessly as an educator and leader in his community.

Colonel Hill was born in the small town of Lakewood in Walton County, Florida on February 1, 1925. Colonel Hill attended public schools in Walton County, before graduating from Tivoli High School in DeFuniak Springs, Florida. After his high school career, Colonel Hill began his studies at Florida A&M University.

Colonel Hill put his studies on hold, however, to answer the call of duty during World War II. Colonel Hill entered the United States Army as a Private, serving bravely in the European Theater. After the war ended, Colonel Hill returned to his studies at Florida A&M University; however, he decided to remain in the Army Reserve to continue serving his nation.

After graduating from Florida A&M, Colonel Hill married his college sweetheart, Jounice, and together they accepted positions at Carver Junior High School in Florala, Alabama. Colonel Hill was working as the Principal of Carver Junior High, when he was recalled to active duty during the Korean War. Colonel Hill was ready to answer his nation's call, and he again served with honor and distinction with the 45th Combat Infantry.

Colonel Hill finished his tour in Korea and returned to Northwest Florida to continue his career in education. He took a position as the Principal of Drew Elementary School in Baker, Florida. His successful tenure at Drew was the beginning of an exemplary career that saw Colonel Hill serve as a principal at four different schools in Okaloosa County, Florida including 26 years at Florosa Elementary School.

While serving in the Army Reserve and as a school principal, Colonel Hill also continued his education receiving both a master's and doctorate degree in education. Colonel Hill also excelled in his reserve service, and in 1975, after completing Command and General Staff College, he was promoted to the rank of Colonel. Colonel Hill continued to serve in the Army Reserve until his retirement in 1981. In 1994, Colonel Hill retired from the Okaloosa County School District after having worked as a teacher and principal for nearly 40 years, and his excellent service to the State of Florida was recognized with a gubernatorial proclamation from Governor Lawton Chiles.

Outside of his outstanding leadership as an educator and a member of our Armed Forces, Colonel Hill was also a true leader in the

Northwest Florida community. Colonel Hill served as President of the Community Action Program in Fort Walton Beach, as well as Vice President of the Fort Walton Beach Civic League. He was also a longtime member of the Okaloosa County NAACP, and in 2009 he was recognized as the Okaloosa County Branch NAACP Centennial Celebration Legacy Honoree. Colonel Hill's outstanding achievements and legacy were also recorded for posterity in his autobiography *Sawmill, A Family Affair*, which won the Palm Beach County African Diaspora Award.

To some, Colonel James Hill will be remembered as a patriot, who answered the call of duty on numerous occasions with honor, distinction and bravery. To others, he will be remembered as a committed educator and a leader in civic society. To his family, Colonel Hill will always be remembered as a loving husband, devoted father, and proud grandfather. His contributions to our nation and his community will not be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it gives me great pride to honor the life and service of Colonel James L. Hill, Sr. My wife Vicki joins me in extending our most sincere condolences to Colonel Hill's wife, Jounice, his children, grandchildren and the entire Hill family.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF H.R. 152, DISASTER RELIEF
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 15, 2013

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend, colleague and fellow New Yorker for yielding time. I'd also like to thank Representatives LOWEY and KING for their leadership; and I commend my colleagues in the New York and New Jersey delegations on both sides of the aisle for working so well together to advance the interests of our states at this critical time. I rise to support the rule and urge my colleagues to support H.R. 152, and the Frelinghuysen Amendment, and to oppose the Mulvaney Amendment.

It has been two-and-a-half months since Superstorm Sandy hit communities in New York, New Jersey, and neighboring states which continue to face the almost insurmountable task of cleaning up and rebuilding homes, businesses, and lives. I'm grateful we finally have the opportunity to consider a relief package to help those who are most in need.

On the eastern half of Long Island, businesses, farms, and homes fell victim to intense flooding; ferocious winds caused substantial damage to property, vehicles, and businesses; and along the coast, Sandy created breaches in the coastline and severely eroded other beaches. In New York and New Jersey, at least 651,000 homes were damaged or destroyed and approximately 463,000 businesses were impacted.

● 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.

I must observe this has been a painfully protracted process; it is a fact that what we've tried to accomplish for the last two-and-a-half months had once been considered a common-sense, bipartisan response to natural disasters. And the calls for offsets and a slower pace of funding in the wake of natural disasters are a recent phenomenon, even though previous Congresses quickly supported measures that provided relief to affected states.

For example, within two weeks of Hurricane Katrina, Congress provided \$70 billion in disaster funding to the Gulf Coast with great bipartisan support, and with virtually no discussion about how to pay for it. Congress recognized this was a major disaster, people were hurting, and it had to act to alleviate the suffering.

Congress, with bipartisan support, continued to appropriate emergency funds for various Katrina projects and activities totaling \$120 billion, all without payfors. For example, Congress funded \$1 billion to build a retractable seawall to protect New Orleans from rising storm surge. And it approved \$14 billion to rebuild and upgrade critical flood prevention infrastructure to minimize, or mitigate, the risk of such devastation occurring again. Why do New York and New Jersey deserve less urgency? And why are mitigation projects for New Orleans considered prudent, and mitigation projects for New York and New Jersey characterized as pork?

Mr. Speaker, our states are not asking for anything more than help to get back on their feet and rebuild. We are asking for nothing more than to respond to this disaster as we have for Hurricane Katrina and other natural disasters that have wrought damage upon fellow Americans. I urge my colleagues to support this package without any damaging amendments.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF H.R. 152, DISASTER RELIEF
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 15, 2013

Mr. HOLT. Madam Chair, I rise in support of the Disaster Relief Act. This bill brings much needed aid to the residents of central New Jersey.

I am concerned that several amendments to H.R. 152 would impair the ability of money in the bill to be spent wisely. The amended bill includes a provision that would block funding that enables coastal communities to develop mitigation plans for future hurricanes and other severe weather events. We should not be limiting NOAA's ability to forecast and respond to hurricanes in an emergency appropriations bill that is designed to respond to a hurricane.

I intended to offer to H.R. 152 an amendment that would have lifted the \$250,000 cap on Community Development Block Grant Funds (CDBG) that can be used by towns and municipalities to finance critically need infrastructure projects. There are towns in my district that would benefit from upgrades to exist-

ing flood management infrastructure, yet are unable to afford the costs associated with these projects. Unfortunately, my amendment was not made in order by the House Leadership.

While I support strongly passage of H.R. 152, I want to reiterate that our fellow citizens affected by Hurricane Sandy have already waited far too long for help from Congress. In other natural disasters, such as Hurricane Katrina, Congress acted swiftly, and aid reached those in need. And yet, the 112th Congress adjourned before passing a much-needed disaster relief package. The Senate had already acted to pass a well-constructed aid package bill. The only reason that this bill is not law today is that House leadership refused to act.

This devastating storm has left many people hurting in many different ways—shopkeepers, homeowners, fishermen, hotel and restaurant owners—and has damaged the entire economy. H.R. 152 responds to this variety of needs and concerns. I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

IN MEMORY OF CARMEN
WARSCHAU

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 18, 2013

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, today, the people of California mourn the passing of a political legend of unsurpassed wit, a political leader of unyielding will, and a force for progress—for women, for Democrats, for our state and our country, Carmen Warschau.

Carmen believed in the power and promise of our democracy. She believed that politics was about people, that the political process should be a force for good, that elections should produce leaders of bold vision and strong values, courage and character. She believed all Americans bore a responsibility to participate, to vote, to make our voices heard. She believed we all had the ability and the obligation to make a difference—whether in a campaign, in our schools, or in our communities. And she never hesitated to act on her beliefs.

I was on the foundation of these principles that Carmen made her mark. It was on the basis of these values that Carmen built her legacy.

She left footprints on the lives and careers of countless political figures—as a fixture at every Democratic National Convention from 1948 to 2008; as the Democratic Party's Chairwoman in Southern California; as a power broker in state government. She was never afraid to go toe-to-toe with the most powerful people in our state, whether a governor or a state party chair. She would, in the words of her alma mater, always "fight on."

She was a pioneer. The daughter of immigrants, she became the first woman to lead the state's Fair Employment Practices Commission, standing firm for civil rights, equality, and justice for all.

She was a philanthropist to her core, investing in the causes of Los Angeles' Jewish com-

munity; supporting the state and people of Israel; endowing chairs and backing research at USC—the school where she met the love of her life, Louis.

She loved music and the arts, and was surrounded by them in her beautiful home. She loved sports, and could regularly be found on a hot summer day in her seat behind the home dugout at Dodger Stadium.

She was intensely loyal, fiercely independent, extraordinarily wise, and unabashedly proud of her heritage, her values, and her political activism. Indeed, it was only fitting that Carmen would pass away on November 6, 2012—Election Day. In characteristic fashion, she had already voted, leaving one last, indelible mark on history.

To borrow a phrase from Jewish tradition, Carmen Warschau was a "woman of valor." May she forever be an example of grace, passion, and commitment to all of us. May her memory be a blessing to all who knew her. May it be a comfort to her daughters, Hope and Susan, her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, her friends and loved ones to know that so many share in their grief at this time.

HONORING THE HONOREES OF THE
KENNEBEC VALLEY CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE AWARDS

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 18, 2013

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Honorees of the 2013 Kennebec Valley Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet Dinner. The Kennebec Valley Chamber of Commerce serves the people and business community of the Augusta area, working hard to strengthen economic opportunity throughout the region and the state.

Each year, the Kennebec Valley Chamber of Commerce recognizes local businesses, business leaders, and individuals who promote and advance a vital and healthy business environment. These individuals and businesses are committed to strengthening opportunity and prosperity in Maine.

This year's award recipients include J.S. McCarthy Printers, recipient of Business of the Year; Peter E. Prescott, recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award; Scott Bolduc, recipient of Business Person of the Year; Andy and Sheree Wess, recipients of the President's Award; Deborah Shepherd of the Family Violence Project, recipient of the Community Service Award; Mike Seitzinger, Esq., recipient of the Community Service Award; Randy and Teresa Hutchins of O'Connor Auto Group, recipient of the President's Award; and Laura Benedict of The Red Barn, recipient of the President's Award.

These recipients are among the best that Maine has to offer. Through their leadership and incredible commitment to their communities and the region, Maine is a better place to live and do business.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in congratulating the Kennebec Valley Chamber of Commerce and these individuals on their outstanding service and achievement.