

HONORING THE HONOREES OF THE
ANDROSCOGGIN COUNTY CHAM-
BER OF COMMERCE AWARDS

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 22, 2013

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Honorees of the 2013 Androscoggin County Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet Dinner. The Androscoggin County Chamber of Commerce serves the people and business community of the greater Lewiston/Auburn area, working hard to strengthen economic opportunity throughout the region and the State.

Each year, the Androscoggin 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 Barbara Dagley of Carbonite Inc., recipient of Business Leadership Award for a Larger Company; Kurk Lalemand of Next Level Business Coaching and John Stass of Katandin Furniture, recipients of the Business Leadership Awards for Smaller Companies; Larry Raymond of Issacson and Raymond, recipient of the Ray Geiger Award; Rita Dube, Julia Sleeper and Kim Pelletier, recipients of the Community Service Leadership Awards; Rick Jones of Jones Associates, recipient of the Poland Business Award; Nick Benoit of Benoit's Bakery and Wine Cellar, recipient of the Lisbon Business Award; Nancy Ricker of Ricker Hill Orchards, recipient of the Turner Business Award; Russ Barlow, Principal of the Franklin Alternative School in Auburn is the recipient of the Education Award; Sherry Spencer of Proctor and Gamble—Tambrands, recipient of the "Cool Chamber Award;" Dick Roy of Mechanics Savings Bank, recipient of the Ken Addition Small Business Advocate Award; Kim Jacques of Revelation Massage, recipient of the 2013 New Member of the Year Award; and Susan Hall of The Vault and Kevin Dean and Emil Clavet of Electricity Maine, recipients 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 Androscoggin Chamber of Commerce and these individuals on their outstanding service and achievement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 22, 2013

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, January 4, 2013, I was unable to be present for a recorded vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote No. 7 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 41).

IN RECOGNITION OF E. JOHN
MOROCCO

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 22, 2013

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Public Safety Commissioner E. John Morocco for 46 years of service to the City of North Adams, Massachusetts. Commissioner Morocco, in a career spanning over four decades, has been an instrumental member of the leadership within the city's and throughout Berkshire County's law enforcement duties. It is the dedication Commissioner Morocco has had to his job and to the people that has made North Adams, Massachusetts a safer place to live and to call "home."

Throughout his tenure with the North Adams Police Department, Commissioner Morocco has held various roles over the years. Notable titles include being appointed Detective in 1986, Lieutenant in 1994 and his retiring title of Commissioner in 1996. Commissioner Morocco also served as one of the founding members of the Berkshire County Drug Task Force and is also a past President of the New England Narcotic Enforcement Officers Association.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Commissioner Morocco on his achievements and thanking him for his contribution and dedication to the citizens and City of North Adams, Massachusetts.

BLACK JANUARY

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 22, 2013

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, as the Co-Chairman of the Congressional Azerbaijan Caucus, I rise today to join with the people of Azerbaijan to commemorate the tragic events of "Black January."

On January 19, 1990, approximately 26,000 Soviet troops stormed Azerbaijan's capital city of Baku in tanks and armored vehicles. That night, the Soviet military opened indiscriminate fire on peaceful demonstrators, including women and children. As a result of these merciless acts 131 people were killed, 611 were injured, 841 were arrested, and 5 went missing.

The Human Rights Watch report "Black January in Azerbaijan" states that "among the most heinous violations of human rights during the Baku incursion were the numerous attacks on medical personnel, ambulances, and even hospitals." The report concludes that the violence used by the Soviet Army constituted an exercise in collective punishment and that the punishment inflicted on Baku by Soviet soldiers may have been intended as a warning to nationalists, not only in Azerbaijan, but in other Republics of the Soviet Union.

Far from crushing the spirit of Azeris, the atrocities of Black January instead consolidated the rising independence movements in the country and united the Azerbaijani nation in its quest for freedom. After 23 years Azerbaijan represents a flourishing country where democratic aspirations of Azerbaijani people

have been materialized as they continue diplomatic relations with the United States.

It is my honor to thank the Azerbaijani people for their friendship and to offer my thoughts and prayers to the families of those who gave their lives for the independence of Azerbaijan. I encourage my colleagues to visit the very moving memorial to Black January in Baku that honors the memories of those killed in these attacks by the Soviet military and to join with me today in standing with Azerbaijanis as they commemorate this tragedy.

TRIBUTE TO UMATILLA COUNTY
SHERIFF JOHN TRUMBO

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 22, 2013

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Umatilla County Sheriff John Trumbo. Sheriff Trumbo retired on January 1, 2013 after a career in law enforcement that dates back to 1973. Since he moved to Pendleton, Oregon in 1977, Sheriff Trumbo has dedicated over thirty-five years of service to the citizens of Umatilla County.

Born and raised in Oregon's Willamette Valley, John learned how to work hard in the family business and later as a crane "high flyer". His love for police service began in 1972 when he joined the Benton County Sheriff's office "Ride Along" program. A year later John became a reserve officer, serving Benton County, Oregon for nearly four years. During this time he joined his colleagues in Benton County who traveled to Pendleton, Oregon and lent a hand with security for the world famous Pendleton Round-Up and Happy Canyon Pageantry Show. Because of these connections and his work, John was offered a job by the Umatilla County Sheriff.

John took the Sheriff up on this invitation and in 1977 moved to Pendleton, an eastern Oregon wheat ranch and rodeo community which he and his wife Carol never left. His wife Carol, an accomplished school teacher in her own right, was there helping John raise their two sons Nick and Michael who now have blessed them with two loving grandchildren, Presley and Cade. Recently Cade was asked to write about a hero in school and chose his "good grandpa the Sheriff" who would be there "just in case anyone is a criminal."

For nearly twenty years John served in various roles in the Umatilla County Sheriff's office, officer in the jail, having the first K-9 unit, Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain and Under-Sheriff. In 1997, John was sworn in and began his first of sixteen years of service as Umatilla County Sheriff. Always known for his honest and straightforward approach, Sheriff Trumbo was requested and volunteered to participate in many local and state boards, task forces, and councils, including the Governor's Methamphetamine Task Force and the advisory board for Blue Mountain Community College's criminal justice program. He also served as President of the Oregon State Sheriffs Association.

Sheriff Trumbo also implemented programs to aid the citizen of Umatilla County and the region. He organized the nationally recognized

Umatilla County Neighborhood Watch and Rural Crime Prevention Program that now has 19 units and over 800 active members. Recognizing the rural nature of Umatilla County and the challenges that are posed, especially in the winter, John implemented an all-terrain vehicle and snowmobile patrol program, for search, rescue, and patrols. Whether it was creating a program to take meth off the streets or sending a bill to a foreign county for the care and feeding of their citizens, Sheriff Trumbo has always looked for simple, straightforward solutions to solving problems.

Although John has retired as Sheriff, I know he won't be ending his service to Pendleton or Umatilla County. In fact, John remains an active volunteer with the Pendleton Round-Up, serving as the Board of Director who heads up security during the world famous rodeo. In this role he spearheads efforts to provide protection and safety of thousands of people attending the performances and visiting the community, including helping those wayward individuals leaving the "Let'er Buck" room stay out of trouble!

I also know he will be spending plenty of well-earned time on those things he loves, whether it is traveling horseback across the county with his grandchildren, woodworking, or camping with his family. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Sheriff John Trumbo the best in his retirement. Sheriff, thanks for all your service to Umatilla County, the region, and our fine State of Oregon. You may be able to turn that cell phone off from time to time now!

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 22, 2013

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 7 on H.R. 41 "To temporarily increase the borrowing authority of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for carrying out the National Flood Insurance Program," I am not recorded because I was absent due to illness.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

RECOGNIZING THE 2012 STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY BASEBALL TEAM

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 22, 2013

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the 2012 Stony Brook University Baseball team on a record-setting season with its "Shock the World" rallying cry.

The Seawolves finished the regular season with a 43–11 record and won their second straight conference regular season title. The team also swept the major conference awards, bringing home Coach of the Year, Player of the Year, and Pitcher of the Year. Twelve players were named all-conference. But the team's success did not end there.

After winning its conference, Stony Brook went on to win the America East Champion-

ship for the second time in three seasons. The Seawolves then competed in the Coral Gables Regional of the NCAA tournament. The tournament, attended by four teams, was statistically the toughest regional tournament in the country. The team was able to prevail over the three other competitors and advance to the Super Regional in Baton Rouge.

In the Super Regional, the Seawolves faced the LSU Tigers in a best-of-three tournament. After falling behind in Game 1, the Seawolves won Game 2 to force a winner-take-all Game 3. Although the Tigers took an early lead, the Seawolves won the game to become the first Northeast region school to advance to the College World Series since the end of geographic regional tournaments in 1987.

The Seawolves went to Omaha as the team that had captured the attention and the hearts of observers throughout the country. The team embraced the rallying cry "Shock the World" as a mission; it set out to leave a mark on the national stage and make Stony Brook a household name. Unfortunately, the Seawolves were eliminated from the College World Series after a loss to Florida State, but they were successful in their mission to raise the profile of the Stony Brook University athletic program. The question, "What's a sea wolf?" is now able to be answered by people who have never set foot on the Stony Brook campus.

By the end of the post-season, Stony Brook had compiled an NCAA-best 52 wins. For the 2011 and 2012 seasons combined, the team has a winning percentage of .777, the best in the nation. In addition to its playoff run, the team reached a number of milestones for its program. Coach Matt Senk became the third coach in the history of the conference to win 6,000 games. The program also had a record seven players drafted in the Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft, including its first player to be drafted in the first round. All seven players have signed with major league organizations.

Stony Brook's remarkable season of triumphs was recognized by the local news media as among the top sports moments of 2012, and the coaches and members of the team were named People of the Year in Sports by a local newspaper. These are a few among the many ways the team has been honored by organizations across Long Island, and I am so very proud to represent this outstanding baseball team and Stony Brook University as their representative in Congress.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of New York's first congressional district, I again congratulate the 2012 Stony Brook University Baseball team on its record-breaking season and wish the program continued success. Go Seawolves!

INTRODUCTION OF THE 21ST CENTURY READINESS ACT OF 2013

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 22, 2013

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, in order for our students to be competitive in the global economy, we must do our part to ensure that they are acquiring the knowledge and skills they need for success.

The skills needed for success go beyond the basics of reading, writing, and math, how-

ever. When surveyed, employers continually emphasize that, in our 21st century economy, students need to be adept at critical thinking and problem solving; communication; collaboration; and creativity and innovation, in addition to being proficient in core subjects.

Sixteen states, as well as local school districts from across the country, have formed a partnership with over thirty leading education organizations and corporate entities to find ways to strengthen 21st century skills in their K–12 classrooms. However, this momentum isn't sustainable unless federal policy gives states and districts the flexibility to innovate in this direction.

To remedy this, Rep. DAVE LOEBACK and I are introducing the 21st Century Readiness Act. This bill does not create any new programs or authorize additional spending; instead, it would amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) to emphasize the importance of 21st century skills and give states and districts added flexibility to develop and enhance these skills as part of their own initiatives.

A growing coalition of states and school districts has recognized the importance of giving our students the tools they need to succeed in our 21st century workforce. This bill will give them the flexibility to succeed in these efforts.

I hope that our colleagues will join us in this effort.

A CLARION CALL FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 22, 2013

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I submit a letter I recently sent to over three hundred national faith leaders encouraging them to use their platform and lend their voice to the cause of the persecuted church globally.

DEAR FRIEND: Christians worldwide just celebrated the birth of Jesus. For those of us living in the West, this was a festive season marked by worship services, gift-giving and time with family and friends. But for our brethren in the Middle East, fear of persecution and outright violence or even death cast a long dark shadow over the Christmas holiday.

While most striking in the Middle East, given the ancient roots of Christianity in that part of the world, the challenges facing those believers are by no means isolated, nor are they anything "new under the sun."

Ecclesiastes 4:1 says, "I saw the tears of the oppressed, and they have no comfort; power was on the side of the oppressor." As you well know, oppression has marked the church since its birth. Consider the chilling words of Roman historian Tacitus regarding the early church:

"Besides being put to death they were made to serve as objects of amusement; they were clad in the hides of beasts and torn to death by dogs; others were crucified, others set on fire to serve to illuminate the night when daylight failed. . . ."

Every day, around the world, men and women of faith are imprisoned, beaten, detained, tortured and even killed. The book of Hebrews enjoins us to "remember those in prison as if you were their fellow prisoners, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering." Do we suffer with our brethren? Have we in the West ceased to be salt and light?