

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2014

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, on June 26, 2014, I missed Rollcall Votes No. 360–369 due to commitments in my district. Had I been present I would have voted “no” on Rollcall Vote 360, “yes” on Rollcall Vote 361, “yes” on Rollcall Vote 362, “yes” on Rollcall Vote 363, “yes” on Rollcall Vote 364, “yes” on Rollcall Vote 365, “no” on Rollcall Vote 366, “yes” on Rollcall Vote 367 and “no” on Rollcall Vote 368.

HONORING ELLENSBURG HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY BASEBALL TEAM

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2014

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Ellensburg High School Varsity Baseball Team. On Saturday May 31, 2014 the team won the Class 2A Washington State Championship, the first baseball state championship in the school’s history.

This group of young men overcame adversity and, through extra practices and hard work, came to finish their season with a 10 game winning streak and winning 14 of their last 15 games. It is this perseverance that earned them this incredible championship. None of this would have been possible, of course, without the exemplary leadership of the Bulldog’s Head Coach Todd Gibson, who has inspired and directed these student athletes for the past 5 years.

The young men on the team deserve individual recognition as well. They are: Xander Orejudos, Travis Lyman, Cameron Curtis, Cameron Campbell, Kyle Hickman, Bobby Ward, Tyler Wyatt, Dalton Mandelas, Garrett Hull, Junior Ledgard, Tyrel Panter, Alex Ponchene, Alonso Bibiano, Ceanu Strom, Kyler Watts, Taylor Smith, and Million Zimmerman. The coaching staff also: Brian Kelley, Travis Gibson, Casey Kelley, DJ Smith, Ryan Kellogg, and Gage Gibson.

I am honored to have Ellensburg High School as part of the Eighth Congressional District of Washington and I congratulate them on their success, and earning the 2014 Class 2A State Championship. Thank you.

HONORING MR. REX DAVIS

HON. CORY GARDNER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2014

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rex Davis, from Lamar, Colorado.

Mr. Davis owns a 298 acre irrigated farm in southern Colorado and has participated in the Environmental Quality Incentive Program and the Conservation Stewardship Program since 2007.

Throughout the years Mr. Davis has introduced efficient and sustainable practices to

improve his irrigation management which will make his farm operation viable for years to come.

His conservation practices have included gated pipeline, water control structure, irrigation system sprinkler, irrigation reservoir, pest management and nutrient management.

In addition to his farm operations, Mr. Davis raises Black Angus cattle, is a member of the Lamar Elks and is currently working on his second passion by training for his private pilot’s license.

I am pleased to recognize Rex Davis as the 2013 Prowers County Conservationist of the Year.

HILLSIDE HOSE COMPANY #1 OF MORRIS TOWNSHIP 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2014

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Hillside Hose Company #1, located in the township of Morris, County of Morris, New Jersey, as it celebrates its Centennial.

The Hillside Hose Company #1 was founded in 1914 by local citizens as a “not-for-profit” volunteer organization. The Company now serves as Station 3 of the Morris Township Fire Department, protecting more than 22,000 residents. When needed, it also helps other municipalities’ with mutual aid. Along with fighting fires, their dedicated volunteers also conduct neighborhood safety patrols and ensure safety for events such as the July 4th fireworks, graduation ceremonies, or other permitted events. Recently, Hillside Hose Company received a Unit Citation from the Morris Township Committee for exemplary service during the natural disaster of Hurricane Irene.

Hillside Hose Company also provides community programs to their residents by hosting events for children at Halloween, and Christmas. Some of their most successful events include the Easter Egg Hunt, Halloween costume parade, and the annual Christmas tree fundraiser sale. These events are open to the public and have a high attendance of children that love to participate every year.

A considerable amount of the Hillside Hose Company #1’s budget supports scholarships for local students; youth sports teams, and donations to numerous charitable causes. Hillside awards \$1,500 scholarships to graduating high school seniors who pursue higher education.

The Company takes pride in educating the residents they serve about the importance of smoke detectors and safety evacuation plans. They offer important information about when to change the batteries in the detectors and teaching children what to do in the event of a fire.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating everyone that is associated with the Hillside Hose Company #1, and as they celebrate their Centennial.

RECOGNIZING THE CALIFORNIA FARM WATER COALITION

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today along with my colleague Mr. VALADAO to recognize the 25th anniversary of the California Farm Water Coalition. The Coalition’s contributions to California’s agricultural industry deserve to be commended.

Since 1989, the California Farm Water Coalition has been working with farmers, lawmakers, and the news media to provide factual information emphasizing the importance of farm water to California’s food production. The Coalition was instrumental in increasing public awareness about the resourceful water use practices that farmers partake in daily. Some interest groups falsely criticize farmers for not using their water efficiently, making these public awareness efforts even more important.

The Coalition is the largest organization in California that focuses solely on water for agriculture and is comprised of a diverse membership, which includes water districts, agencies, farmers, and organizations from the entire state. For the past 25 years, the Coalition has provided an outlet for their members to share their views and accomplishments with the public.

The California Farm Water Coalition works diligently to increase public awareness so individuals understand the important role that water has in California’s economy. Since 1996, they have reached millions of motorists through a billboard campaign with the slogan, “Food Grows Where Water Flows.” They strive to stay innovative in their marketing techniques so that consumers are educated about the importance of water to growing their nutritious fruits and vegetables.

In addition to educating the public on the importance of farm water, the Coalition participates in key legislative meetings to provide valuable data pertaining to farm water and pending legislation that will affect farmers and their use of water. Their participation and resources were useful in the development of the Central Valley Water Plan.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join Mr. VALADAO and myself in recognizing the 25th anniversary of the California Farm Water Coalition. The State of California’s agricultural industry has benefitted immensely due to the hard work and efforts made by the California Farm Water Coalition.

IN HONOR OF PAUL S. AMOS

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding citizen and servant of humankind, Mr. Paul S. Amos. Sadly, Mr. Amos passed away on Wednesday, July 2, 2014. Funeral services were held on Saturday, July 5, 2014 at 3:00

p.m. at St. Luke Methodist Church in Columbus, Georgia.

Paul Shelby Amos was born on April 23, 1926 in Enterprise, Alabama to the late John Shelby and Helen Mullins Amos. His father, the town postmaster, sold insurance on weekends and served one term in the state legislature. Mr. Amos served in the U.S. Coast Guard from 1944 to 1946. He met his future wife, Jean, in church and they celebrated a remarkable 65 years of marriage in October of last year.

In 1955, the Amos brothers, Paul, John, and Bill founded American Family Life Insurance Company. In 1964, the name was changed to American Family Life Assurance Company of Columbus, later shortened to Aflac. In its first year of business, the company had 6,426 policyholders and \$388,000 in assets. Today, it is a Fortune 500 company insuring more than 50 million people worldwide and boasting more than \$121 billion in assets.

Aflac is the world's largest supplemental insurance company and is an industry leader in Japan, where the company generates about three-quarters of its revenues. Soon after its founding, Aflac introduced a groundbreaking policy aimed at covering expenses for people with cancer. Mr. Amos is credited with introducing "worksite marketing," where products are sold directly to employees at companies through payroll deductions.

Mr. Paul, as he was known within the company, held numerous positions at the firm. He served as state sales manager for Alabama/West Florida, the first Vice President/Director of Marketing, President, and Vice Chairman. In 1990, he became Chairman of Aflac Incorporated, and his son, Daniel P. Amos, became the CEO. Mr. Paul retired in 2001 but continued serving as Chairman Emeritus and visited the Aflac offices in Columbus on a daily basis, where he was loved and respected by all. His legacy is still carried on by his son, Dan, and his grandson, Aflac President Paul Amos II.

Mr. Amos put as much love and effort into serving his community as he did into his work at Aflac. He and his wife set up several educational funds and scholarship programs, including the Paul S. Amos Family Foundation at Columbus State University in Columbus, the Paul and Jean Amos Educational Fund at Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky and the Scholarship Fund at Cumberland College in Williamsburg, Kentucky. Through these programs and many anonymous donations, Mr. Amos and his wife have changed the lives of thousands of people.

Mr. Amos has received much recognition for his work at Aflac and in the community. He received an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Cumberland College in 2001; an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Columbus State University in 2002; and an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Asbury Theological Seminary in 2004.

George Washington Carver once said, "No individual has any right to come into the world and go out of it without leaving behind distinct and legitimate reasons for having passed through it." We are all so blessed that Mr. Paul Amos, a great man of incredible compassion and integrity, passed this way and during his life's journey did so much for so many for so long. He leaves behind a great legacy in service to his beloved family and to all those whose lives he touched through his kindness and generosity. He will truly be missed.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me, my wife, Vivian, and the more than 700,000 residents of Georgia's Second Congressional District in paying tribute to Mr. Paul Amos for his outstanding contributions to his community. We extend our deepest sympathies to his family, friends and loved ones during this difficult time and we pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN C. WAGNER

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2014

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. John C. Wagner of Knoxville, TN, who this week received special recognition from the Department of Energy for exceptional research in nuclear energy.

The Ernest Orlando Lawrence Award has recognized esteemed scientists for the past fifty-four years, celebrating notable achievements and discoveries within the scientific community. Administered by the Department of Energy, the Lawrence Award is given to mid-career scientists and engineers for their exceptional contributions in research and development supporting the DOE and its mission to advance the national, economic, and energy security of the United States. The 2014 winner of the E.O. Lawrence Award in Computer, Information, and Knowledge Sciences is Oak Ridge National Laboratory's John C. Wagner.

Dr. Wagner is the Manager for Used Fuel Systems at Oak Ridge National Laboratory and serves as National Technical Director for the Department of Energy Office of Nuclear Energy's Nuclear Fuels Storage and Transportation Planning project. He joined Oak Ridge in 1999 as an R&D Staff Member to pursue his research in the area of hybrid radiation transport methods. His research interests include a wide range of issues associated with spent nuclear fuel storage, transportation, and disposal. Wagner was the original developer of computer codes that led to advanced hybrid transport methods. In 2012, he was elected a Fellow of the American Nuclear Society.

Dr. Wagner is being honored with this prestigious award for his contributions to computationally-based studies of radiation transport in real-world complex systems, including safety, radiation shielding, and nuclear reactor analysis. Wagner's research significantly advances the methodology used to obtain accurate predictive solutions to challenging problems ranging from civilian nuclear energy to the Nation's nuclear security. Mr. Wagner is a great asset to the scientific community and to the nation.

I want to thank Mr. Wagner for his years of dedicated service and his contributions to the safe and efficient use of nuclear energy and I wish him many more years of success.

RECOGNIZING MS. DOROTHY PARKER FOR HER 50 YEARS OF DEDICATED AND FAITHFUL SERVICE

HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2014

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dorothy Parker. I had the honor and privilege of working with Ms. Parker in Plattsburgh, NY for more than 30 years. She works hard every day, diligently and happily performing the tasks she is assigned.

This month will mark her 50th year at the firm where we both worked, she having started there on July 13, 1964. During her five decades at the firm, Ms. Parker earned the respect of all who came to trust and depend on her, including myself. She has guided many new staff and young lawyers, teaching us the ropes, if you will, with a smile and a gentle hand.

While working for the firm, Ms. Parker raised four children and now has six loving grandchildren for whom she is a dedicated grandparent.

Ms. Parker's employer, Stafford, Piller, Murnane, Kelleher and Trombley, will be recognizing her successful 50 year career later this month with a celebratory luncheon.

MARKING THE RETIREMENT OF DENNIS VAN ROEKEL

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2014

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a tireless champion for a quality education for all Americans, Dennis Van Roekel. When he retires as President of the National Education Association this month, he will be concluding decades of service as a teacher and advocate—a career dedicated to our children and the hard-working professionals who devote themselves to education. He leaves both NEA and our nation's schools and classrooms stronger for his leadership.

A graduate of the University of Iowa, Van Roekel holds a Master's Degree in math education from Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff. For 23 years, he taught high school mathematics, building an intimate understanding of the challenges facing our children and our teachers.

This experience would serve as the foundation of his work to improve student learning and enhance the professionalism of education employees. It deepened his faith in the importance of public education and the right of all children, regardless of race, background or location, to a world-class education.

After holding key positions with NEA at all levels of the association, including two terms as Vice President and Secretary-Treasurer, Van Roekel was elected President in 2008. Shortly after taking office, he established the Commission on Effective Teachers and Teaching, a national, independent panel whose findings formed the basis of NEA's "Leading the Profession" plan to strengthen and empower teachers and students across America.