

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE JEWISH COUNCIL ON URBAN AFFAIRS

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2014

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Jewish Council on Urban Affairs, JCUA, on the occasion of its 50th Anniversary.

From its inception in 1964, the enduring mission of JCUA has always been to combat poverty, racism, and anti-Semitism, working in partnership with Chicago's diverse communities. Guided by the Jewish principles of "tzedek" (justice) and "tikkun olam" (repairing the world), JCUA has reached across faith, race, and class to pursue social and economic justice for those most affected by poverty and discrimination.

JCUA has been an active and leading voice in Chicago for five decades. During that time, JCUA has facilitated the development and preservation of thousands of units of affordable housing, advocated for public policies that address the root causes of poverty, and educated and mobilized a Jewish constituency to create a more just Chicago.

During JCUA's 50 years of working in Chicago's diverse communities, it has also fostered deep relationships and built an understanding and trust with the organizations with which they partner. By bringing Jewish voices and Jewish participation to their issues—as partners and allies—JCUA continues to tackle root causes of injustice to create positive systemic change.

While the specific campaigns, issues, and challenges in Chicago have changed, poverty and racism continue as modern day plagues, creating enormous obstacles and threatening the humanity of everyone. Today, JCUA pursues social and economic justice through issue-based campaigns, community investment, and building bridges between the Jewish community and communities challenged by poverty and discrimination.

JCUA's Community Ventures Program provides zero-interest loans to spur the creation of affordable housing and economic development projects. One loan recently allowed St. Leonard's Ministries to help open the doors of Gracie's Café in partnership with St. Leonard's Ministry, providing jobs and training for formerly incarcerated men and women.

Through ongoing solidarity and partnership with grassroots community groups, JCUA demonstrates that effectively addressing the root causes of social injustice in partnerships and in coalitions with those directly impacted is the most effective way to combat systemic oppression.

JCUA's Jewish Muslim Community Building Initiative, in partnership with Muslim groups, continues to build strong bridges between Jewish and non-Jewish communities. These relationships help to dissolve barriers of potential bigotry and ignorance and to foster a culture of genuine understanding and respect.

And finally, JCUA plants seeds for a better future through its teen social justice program, Or Tzedek, engaging youth as active leaders and organizers in current social justice campaigns. Or Tzedek provides teens with inspiration and the know-how to be powerful and effective agents of social change.

The Jewish Council on Urban Affairs remains as relevant today as it was 50 years ago—serving as an essential Jewish voice for social justice. I join others in the Chicago area offering my gratitude for JCUA's five decades of service.

HONORING KEVIN BAKER

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2014

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Kevin Baker, an American History teacher from Springfield, Missouri, who led his 30th annual school trip to Washington, D.C., this spring.

On March 11, 2014, Kevin completed his 30th school trip to Washington with a group of nearly 100 students from Pershing Middle School in Springfield, Missouri. While in Washington, the students visited the Capitol, Library of Congress, Smithsonian museums, and the many monuments along the National Mall celebrating our heritage.

It is no easy task to plan and coordinate a trip involving such a large number of students and parents, but the support of the Springfield community helps make these trips a continued success, including the help of Anne Lanzilotta, the group's tour guide for the last 28 years, and his fellow teachers Scott Corn and Cale McAninch who have assisted him on the annual trips for the last 15 years.

Kevin's passion for American history runs through his family. His wife Valerie and two sons Tristan and Trevor have attended multiple trips and not only encourage his efforts, they enjoy them. Kevin continues the tour of the capital because he wants all of his students to experience the history of our country through the monuments, museums, and memorials, as well as to share that love for country, that awestruck feeling he received every time he traveled to Washington. He credits his work ethic to the examples set by his parents, Luther and Joyce, and the support he received growing up from his younger brother Dwight.

Kevin hopes that these annual trips will motivate or inspire some of his young students to return to Washington as elected officials and embrace new ideas for the future of our great nation. He credits the Springfield community for making so many of these trips possible. The education of a child is a once in a lifetime experience, and the immersion into our history and political process makes the efforts well worth it.

RECOGNIZING JOHNNY HARRIS' 90TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2014

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Johnny Harris Restaurant of Savannah, which will celebrate the 90th anniversary of its founding this May. This barbeque joint has been a mainstay for the people of Savannah since it opened its doors as a simple roadside establishment on May 1, 1924, and it

has always been one of my favorite spots in Savannah.

The Johnny Harris Restaurant is one of the oldest food service providers in the city. Much to the amusement of native Savannahians, the restaurant has a long history of serving its customers with entertainment in addition to excellent food and legendary barbeque sauce. When Johnny Harris, founder and namesake of the restaurant, first moved to the Victory Drive location, there was a small zoo directly behind the property. His wife, Mrs. Harris, often took of the zoo's monkeys on carriage rides around the neighborhood to the delight of local children.

For Johnny Harris, the customer has always been the number one priority. It was the first restaurant in Savannah to install an air conditioning system for its dance floor as well as a revolving bandstand. It remained in business through the Great Depression and is exemplary of hard work, perseverance, and hospitality of Savannahians. I am proud to congratulate Johnny Harris Restaurant as it celebrates this historic milestone.

CONDOLENCES REGARDING MINE EXPLOSION IN TURKEY

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2014

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I was saddened to learn of the recent mining disaster in Soma, Turkey, which has now claimed 301 lives, and I extend my deepest condolences to the people of Turkey who struggle to make sense of this unfortunate accident. My thoughts and prayers are with both the families mourning the loss of their loved ones, and with the injured as they begin their long journeys to recovery.

Turkey is a longstanding friend and ally of the United States. From the Cold War to the fight against international terror, we have stood together against challenges and threats and we stand again in solidarity with our Turkish friends at this very difficult time. On behalf of myself and my constituents, I wish to offer the people of Soma, and the people of Turkey, our deepest sympathies.

RECOGNITION OF EXEMPLARY ACT PERFORMANCE

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2014

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate 10 outstanding high school seniors from Carroll County, Tennessee. These scholars were recently recognized by the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce for their academic excellence in scoring a 29 or better on the national ACT test. This accomplishment ranks the students among the top seven percent in the nation of all the students who took the ACT exam.

I commend—Brandon Barker, Micah Bullock, Dan Hoffman, Joshua Howell, Corey Kleppe, Joshua Malley, Robert Medford, Katelyn Ridley, Lucas Simmons and Kelsey

Wallace—for their academic achievement, commitment to high standards, and as a shining example of the educational quality found throughout West Tennessee.

The American College Testing (ACT) is a standardized test for high school achievement and college admission. The test consists of four concentrations: English, mathematics, reading and science reasoning, with an optional writing component. The main four tests are scored individually on a scale of 1 to 36.

On behalf of Tennessee's 8th Congressional District, I congratulate all these individuals and wish them the best of luck for all future endeavors. I am extremely proud of you all.

SERGEANT JENNIFER LATINI

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Sergeant Jennifer Latini for her service to our country.

Sergeant Latini served in the United States Army and Army National Guard from 1989 to 1995. She was assigned to the Defense Intelligence Agency where she used her Arabic language and knowledge of Arabic culture during her deployment to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. She continues to use her skills and passion for veterans' issues by serving as the Secretary for the United Veterans Committee of Colorado.

Through her courageous service, Sergeant Latini charted the path for future generations of women to serve in the military. I extend my deepest appreciation to Sergeant Jennifer Latini for her dedication, integrity and outstanding service to the United States of America.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2014

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,479,199,305,480.74. We've added \$6,852,322,256,567.70 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$6.8 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2014

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week I attended the funeral of a family member and missed votes on May 19, 2014 and May 20, 2014. Had I been present, I would have voted in support of the following bills:

1. H.R. 2203—To provide for the award of a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Jack Nicklaus, in recognition of his service to the Nation in promoting excellence, good sportsmanship, and philanthropy

2. H.R. 685—American Fighter Aces Congressional Gold Medal

3. Agreeing to the Conference Report on H.R. 3080—Water Resources Reform and Development Act

4. H.R. 3530—Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act

5. H.R. 4225—Stop Advertising Victims of Exploitation (SAVE) Act

PAYING TRIBUTE TO COLONEL TONY KROGH'S DEDICATED MILITARY SERVICE TO OUR NATION

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2014

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, let me commend the attention of the House to Colonel Tony Krogh, United States Army, for his extraordinary dedication to duty and selfless service to the United States of America. Colonel Krogh is retiring after an exemplary 28 year career in service to his country. He has been recognized with numerous awards, including the Legion of Merit Award, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service and Expeditionary Medal, and the Humanitarian Service Medal.

A native of Birmingham, Alabama, Tony earned his commission as an Officer in the United States Army from the ROTC program at the University of Alabama, where he was recognized as a Distinguished Military Graduate. He served first as an engineer and later as a Models and Simulations Officer with numerous operational assignments in Germany; Fort Drum, NY; Fort McPherson, GA; and Saudi Arabia. His combat deployments include Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm and Operation Iraqi Freedom, where he served as the chief of current operations for Joint Task Force 7. He also excelled as the lead for a Partnership for Peace military exercise that involved planning, coordination, and execution with 42 countries. Because of his demonstrated superior understanding of Corps operations, he was selected by the Corps Commander as the interim Deputy G-3 and Deputy Chief of Operations.

In recognition of his superior performance, Tony was specifically chosen in 2005 to lead the Army's effort to integrate mission command systems. He skillfully led a Combat Identification effort that for the first time allowed common operating pictures across all services, reducing the risk of accidental deaths for U.S. and Coalition forces. Simultaneously, Tony led the effort for the Army's first "Battle Command Strategy," published in 2006, which created a service wide battle command architecture that is still in use today.

Immediately after his training at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces in 2008, Tony was appointed as the Director of Simulation at the Aviation Center of Excellence. He leveraged his extensive technical background and operational experience to produce realistic training exercises that readied 21 aviation brigades for deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan.

He provided the leadership and strategic vision for Aviation simulators and simulation programs across the U.S. Army, while managing a \$1.8 billion service contract and the largest collection of high fidelity, full motion simulators in the world.

In 2010, having been recognized as the Army's foremost authority on training simulations, Tony became the first Colonel centrally selected to be the Director of the National Simulation Center (NSC). In that capacity, he provided the U.S. Army with state-of-the-art training simulation capabilities from individual soldier to theater level command exercises. Simultaneously, he was given the responsibility for the Army's efforts with Live, Virtual, and Constructive (LVC) Integrated Training. His direct involvement created the most realistic and affordable training across camps, posts and stations the Army has ever known.

In July of 2012, Colonel Krogh was selected to serve as the Executive Officer for the Deputy Chief of Staff for Programs (G-8) where he swiftly established much needed procedures and high standards. After an extremely successful first year, he rebuilt the G-8's Initiatives Group and as Director, focused efforts on shaping and promoting Army equities across numerous communities at the strategic level.

Throughout his successful career, Colonel Krogh has been anchored by the strength of his wife and partner, Kim. Through her generous spirit and loving support, she has selflessly stood by Tony's side, taking care of their family through countless moves and stressful deployments. At every step of the way, Mrs. Krogh has sought community leadership and volunteer positions within military and local communities. Her endeavors include major fundraising for scholarships, Toys for Tots, and renovating youth sports facilities; volunteering for school programs, local animal rescues, and animal therapy for hospital patients and the elderly; and establishing community websites to link family members. In fact, Kim was selected as "Community Volunteer of the Year" in Heidelberg, Germany. Mrs. Krogh embodies the ideals we cherish: strength, loyalty, commitment and selfless service. Her sacrifices and accomplishments as well have earned our admiration.

Mr. Speaker, it has been my honor to recognize Colonel Tony Krogh and his nearly three decades of dignified and distinguished service. On behalf of a grateful nation, I join my colleagues today in recognizing and commending his contributions and the mark he has made on the United States Army. We wish Tony, his wife Kim, and their two children, Mary Ashley and Erickson, all the best as they embark on their next journey.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2014

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 221, I was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."