

hope to be seeing Howard again, and I hope you'll see Howard at home very soon.

A letter to Mr. And Mrs. James Kralik of Nevinville from their son Corporal Roy Kralik, then a German prisoner of war:

DEAR FOLKS:

I suppose you are wondering about our Christmas here. It was all real nice under the circumstances. Had the barracks all decorated and a tree for each. Really looked nice and the spirit was high. The Red Cross put out a special Christmas parcel along with the regular parcel, so we were able to have fruit cake, candy, all kinds of spreads and the like, along with our regular meals. Eight of us boys cooked up our meal together and had a nice time along with a good meal. DeWayne and I baked a bunch of cupcakes so along with them we had fruit cake, candy and coffee, mashed potatoes, fried prem, bread, butter, jam, peanut butter and biscuits. Had special church services, a camp show, and all in all, it passed my expectations by far. Here's hoping you all had a nice Christmas and that everyone is well. Had a letter from Colleen and some more from you.

Best wishes,

ROY.

The following are a few extracts from a letter written by PFC Gerald L. Corey while stationed at Nashville Tennessee, to his mother, Mrs. Fred Heuckendorf.

It snowed Monday. We were up at 6:00 and stood guard until the truck came to take us on a truck ride. We waited all day until 5:00 that afternoon. Couldn't have any fires and it was cold as the dickens. We started out on what was supposed to be 100 miles. About midnight our truck slid off into a ditch and we were there about three hours. Everybody was cold, tired, and hungry. We were a sad bunch. We reached Carthage, Tennessee, about noon. They sure have some hills here. The sun was shining and it was warm but muddy. Finally had a meal, not much I had some candy bars, they come in handy. Enemy planes were flying over us all the time, had to keep down, it seemed pretty realistic. We pulled out and started walking about 7:30, Tuesday night until 2 o'clock in the morning. We were warm while hiking but when we laid down it was cold: we rested until 5:30. The enemy were about 5 hours walk from where we were so we started walking again meeting the enemy about eleven o'clock Wednesday morning and drove them back into the hills. We walked again two miles into Hickman, Tennessee. The General stopped us there and said the problem was over, about four o'clock. We were served sandwiches and coffee. We couldn't get to our rest camp until Thursday a.m. We had to wait and our bed rolls hadn't come. It started to rain. We headed for farmer's barns, hog sheds, hen houses, etc. Our bed rolls came Thursday a.m. at 3:00. It continued to pour down. Everybody was soaked. Nobody pitched tents but went back to the barns. We had breakfast at 6:30. Our trucks didn't come and we stayed in the barns till 6 that night, then moved to town and slept in a warehouse, it was cold and damp. Our trucks didn't come when it stopped raining Friday morning so we moved to the top of a big hill and pitched tents for the night, first good night's sleep for nearly a week. We start out on another problem Monday morning. The colonel said it wouldn't be as bad as the last one. The colonel and the general praised us on the way we came through the problem as it was 4 times worse than they had expected. If you want to send me anything just make it anything to eat. A small truck came out from town with cakes, candy bars, and ice

cream. Some scramble to get any of it! This is a wonderful life.

Love,

GARY.

Corporal John Gildemiester, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. J.H. Gildemiester, wrote from Iran.

Everything is still going swell. I have been in a hospital with an attack of appendicitis but recovered without an operation. I have had the pleasure of meeting an American missionary who has been here for twenty years. Have also seen several Biblical monuments which are real interesting.

In some parts of the country [there] are wheat fields, which are cut with a sickle and the bundles hauled home on mule's backs. They have a little machine with pointed wooden wheels which they run over the pile of bundles many times to thrash out the grain.

The bread is flat somewhat similar to rye crisp. I ate some fresh gazelle meat the other day, which was very good, however we do not have it very often. There is no steak to be had here at any price. We are unable to get any American station on the radio over here.

The following letter was received by Miss Elvira Smith of Orient concerning her brother, Sgt. Russell Smith, who was serving in Italy, and whose parents were dead.

FEB. 1, 1943.

MR. SMITH,

I do not know whether this letter will reach you or not as I do not know what your first name is but will try and see what happens. Your son, Sgt. Russell Smith, who is now serving with the armed forces in Italy and my son, Sgt. Ronald Greiman are very good friends so Ronald tells us. Now we have had three letters from Ronald today, saying he has been wounded in action somewhere between Dec. 25 and Jan. 10. He was hit by machine gun fire in his leg below the knee, and he said it was your son that helped rescue him. He said when he was hit in the leg and fell to the ground, he rolled himself down the hill or cliff and when your son, Sgt. Smith saw what happened, he ran to help him and carried him to safety under heavy machine gun fire. Then Sgt. Smith and another sergeant sent for some stretcher bearers and they carried our son 16 miles down the mountains till they came to a road where he could be hauled to some hospital. Sgt. Smith also bandaged his wounds as soon as he carried him to safety.

Now I want to tell you how grateful we are for what Sgt. Smith has done for our son, Sgt. Greiman, and when you write to your son, I wish you would mention this to him also. Ronald writes he has had his leg operated on and is getting along as well as could be expected. He says the doctors tell him that it will take 3 or 4 months to heal the wounds and 3 or 4 more months before he can get around on it. He also said he would be moved to Africa to some hospital there. Says his big worry now is wondering how his buddies are getting along that he left behind.

So we can see how these boys really get attached to one another. When you write to your son, I wish you would tell him how Ronald is doing and tell him that he was taken to Africa, then perhaps they can get in touch with each other. May God be with our sons and all other boys at the fighting fronts.

H.A. GRIEMAN.

Mr. Speaker, these are the words of brave men. And they ring as true today as they did over seventy years ago when they were written. They embody the ideals of this great nation and the ethos of our armed forces that have fought, sacrificed, and died for our country so that we can remain free.

Next week when we recognize these men and women on Veterans Day, look them in the

eye and say "Thank You." They know all too well what the words in these letters mean. And for their bravery and sacrifices, they deserve our unwavering gratitude and respect. May God bless them. And may God bless these United States of America.

IN RECOGNITION OF TIM DURAND'S SERVICE AS MAYOR OF RIVERVIEW

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tim Durand for his 20 years of service as mayor of Riverview, Michigan.

First elected to office in 1987, Tim served a total of six years on the city council before being elected mayor in 1995. He has faithfully and honorably represented the citizens of Riverview for over 26 years, and his retirement is a huge loss to many. He has helped build Riverview into a thriving community, spearheading many projects, including the Riverview Municipal Building and the municipal boat launch, tennis courts, baseball diamonds, extensive senior citizen organized activities and 12 public parks. Often seen riding his bicycle, Tim is well-known for engaging citizens all over the city. He inspires participation in community efforts and leads by example, regularly sponsoring charity and booster events in Riverview. His commitment to the community is only matched by his dedication to his wife and two children, who have graciously shared Tim with us for more than two decades.

Tim's positive impact on the community is not limited to the city of Riverview. He has been a pivotal member of the Downriver Community Conference, serving as a past chair of this important regional development organization. The Dean of mayors in downriver communities of Michigan, he served with over 100 mayors and supervisors from area communities during the time he was mayor. He was always supportive, kind, and encouraging. His dedication to regional cooperation has made our downriver communities safer, more efficient, and more prepared to deal with the challenges of the 21st Century.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor Tim Durand for his 20 years of service as mayor of Riverview. I thank him for his leadership, and wish him many years of success.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE HOWARD COBLE

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sorrow that I acknowledge the passing of Congressman Howard Coble, but with great joy that I recall his storied career as a public servant, and with even greater joy that I recall our significant friendship.

Mr. Coble represented North Carolina's 6th Congressional District from 1985 until his retirement in 2015, making him the longest-serving Republican House member in the state's

history. I remember his leadership on the Judiciary Internet subcommittee, where he advocated for protecting online content and worked tirelessly to make illegal streaming a felony.

Though I disagreed with him often on policy, we became great friends, most particularly through our official travels. I am now occupying his former office in the Rayburn House Office Building. In public, Congressman Coble had a sterling reputation as a man of integrity and principle, a representative who stood by his commitments. In person, his deep character was outweighed only by his affability. Perhaps that is one of the reasons he became the longest-serving Republican in North Carolina history.

Mr. Speaker, tonight Congress has lost the presence of one of its most humble and hard-working representatives. Congressman Coble's loss will be deeply felt among many, but his work will not. His caring nature and hard work he possessed will live forever.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO TUNISIAN NOBEL PEACE PRIZE WINNERS**

**HON. DAVID E. PRICE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, as Ranking Member of the House Democracy Partnership, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet for receiving the Nobel Peace Prize. This remarkable group of Tunisian leaders and advocates has worked tirelessly to transition their country into a robust democracy after the Jasmine Revolution of 2011.

The Arab Spring sparked hope throughout the international community at the possibility of a new day for democracy and human rights in the Middle East. Unfortunately, in many countries that underwent revolution, the hope of positive change has not come to pass. Tunisia, however, has made great progress, and the Tunisian people have had great success developing their own parliamentary democracy in the wake of the Arab Spring. Much of this progress is thanks to the work of The Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet.

The Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet is composed of four different civic groups: the Tunisian General Labor Union, the Tunisian Confederation of Industry, Trade, and Handicrafts, The Tunisian Human Rights League, and the Tunisian Order of Lawyers. These four organizations represent a broad coalition that has sought to create and sustain a new democracy. Throughout the process of adopting a new constitution, holding elections, and governing responsibly, Tunisia has depended on the values of toleration and inclusion, and a willingness on the part of contending parties to forgo extreme or exclusive demands—exactly what the National Dialogue Quartet has espoused.

As a National Democratic Institute election observer, and working through the House Democracy Partnership, I was privileged to witness a product of the Quartet's work last year when Tunisia held its first successful presidential elections. The Tunisian people went to the polls proudly and peacefully, engaging in the building of a parliamentary democracy that has already achieved a substantial amount and shows great promise for the future.

To be sure, great challenges remain, and the international community, including the House Democracy Partnership, must continue supporting Tunisia in its first steps as a new democracy. As the Tunisian people work to ensure effective and open governance and functioning democratic institutions, they are fortunate to have the leadership of advocates like the National Dialogue Quartet.

**IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE OF SIR MICHAEL BERRY**

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, on November 8th, I will attend the commemoration services for Sir Michael Berry; an icon and leader in the Michigan community. Michael Berry was a son, a devoted father, a loving husband, and a pioneer in the community.

Sir Michael Berry graduated from Fordson Junior College and Wayne College and in 1949, he became the first Muslim American to become a practicing attorney in the State of Michigan. He then formed a legal practice Berry, Hopson & Francis with his associates. In 1967, he won election to the Wayne County Road Commission, where he served for sixteen years, ten of which, he served as the chairman. Sir Michael Berry used his energy and enthusiasm to always give back to the community. He endowed a scholarship at the MSU College of Law, and he gave generously to so many of our great local universities, hospitals, and cultural institutions. Believing that education is a key to success, he was pivotal in the creation of the Michael Berry Career Center at the Dearborn Public schools and worked tirelessly to improve access to education for our children.

Sir Michael Berry gave so much to the community over the years, without ever asking anything in return for himself. His hard work and continuous involvement with the Detroit Metro Airport inspired the Airport Authority to name the Berry international terminal in his honor. He was awarded the Ellis Island Medal of Honor from the National Ethnic Coalition Organization and was given the Knight of the National Order of the Cedar of Lebanon which is considered one of the highest and most prestigious awards for his humanitarian aid to his homeland, and for which, he came to be called Sir Michael Berry.

Perhaps the most lasting legacy that Sir Michael Berry leaves is on the people he mentored and people he loved. He was an activist, a mentor, and advisor to many. He helped mold several generations of educators, elected officials, attorneys, and other professionals. In our community, he was considered an icon, but to his family he was known as a loving husband, father, brother, grandfather and great-grandfather. Based on the values of hard work, faith, and love, I know that his family will proudly carry on his legacy into the future.

Mr. Speaker, Sir Michael Berry lived a life worth celebrating. No words can ease the loss that is felt by his family or this community, but we take solace in the knowledge that his example will live on for many generations. I ask my colleagues today to honor Sir Michael

Berry on his extraordinary life and accomplishments.

**OUTSTANDING TEACHER IN KATY, TEXAS**

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Rebecca Lacquey of Katy High School for receiving the 2015 Outstanding Teaching of the Humanities Award.

Mrs. Lacquey is one of only twelve humanities teachers in all of Texas to receive this prestigious award. Her dedication to bringing history to life through unique methods such as role-playing and virtual field trips makes history more fun and relatable to her students. Mrs. Lacquey's methods continually enrich the lives of her students. Katy High School is lucky to have her. We wish her continued teaching success for many more years to come.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations once again to Mrs. Rebecca Lacquey for winning this Outstanding Teacher award.

**HONORING RETIRED JUDGE JOHN McCANN, 2015 WESTBOROUGH GOOD SCOUT HONOREE**

**HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor retired Judge John S. McCann, who will be recognized at the 2015 Westborough Good Scout Award Dinner held by the Knox Trail Council of the Boy Scouts of America in Westborough, Massachusetts.

At the heart of the Scout Oath that Boy Scouts take is the pledge to 'help other people at all times.' Throughout his career, Judge McCann has been a shining example of this commitment to always serving others.

A resident of Westborough, Judge McCann is a graduate of the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester and the University of Vanderbilt School of Law in Tennessee. He and his wife Suzanne are active members of St. Luke the Evangelist Parish in Westborough, were foster parents for five years, and have three children, Sean, Gaylen and Aidan.

Judge McCann knew from an early age that he wanted to pursue a career in law. His first grammar school composition as a third-grader at the Blessed Sacrament School on Pleasant Street was titled, "Why I Want to Become a Lawyer."

Following law school, Judge McCann practiced law in California, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Maine. Judge McCann returned to Massachusetts in 1970 and has since resided in Westborough. Before he became a judge, he maintained law offices in Westborough and Worcester.

It wasn't until 1993 that he aspired to become a judge, when fellow members of the Worcester County Bar Association encouraged him to apply for the Westborough District