

HONORING THE CAREER OF CABOT
REA

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2015

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate longtime WCMH anchor, Cabot Rea, as he retires from broadcast news. For more than 30 years Central Ohioans have welcomed him into their homes and trusted his balanced reporting.

While he worked as a radio announcer when he attended Otterbein College, now Otterbein University, journalism was a second career for Cabot. He first served as the Music and Choral Director at Wilson Junior High in Newark where he was twice named "Teacher of the Year."

He came to the airwaves as a weekend sports anchor and feature reporter in 1985 for WCMH. However, it was as the field anchor for 5:30 Live that Cabot endeared himself to tens of thousands of families across Central Ohio. He proved he was ready for anything by visiting communities, participating in events, and telling the stories of what makes Central Ohio and Central Ohioans so special.

When he teamed up to anchor broadcasts with Colleen Marshall in 1992, no one could have predicted they would enjoy one of the longest tenures in Columbus as co-anchors. For more than 20 years, Cabot and Colleen have been the team viewers turned to in order to learn what was happening across town and around the world.

Even when the cameras were turned off, Cabot's service to the community didn't stop. Whether it was helping those in need with 4's Army, championing NBC4's "Battle against Bullying" campaign, or working with Nationwide Children's Hospital, the Make A Wish Foundation, the Huntington Disease Foundation or the Cancer Support Community Central Ohio, Cabot is a leader in every sense of the word.

One of the most recognizable faces in Central Ohio, viewers will miss his clear, concise reporting and captivating story-telling. I have enjoyed working with Cabot over the years and I congratulate him on his 30-year career as a journalist. I wish him and his wife, Heather, the best in retirement.

HONORING THE FORT HILL HIGH
SCHOOL SENTINELS

HON. JOHN K. DELANEY

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2015

Mr. DELANEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievement of the Fort Hill Sentinels, an extraordinary group of young men from Western Maryland who have inspired their community and gained recognition across the state. This month, Fort Hill High School of Cumberland won their third consecutive state football title, winning the Class 1A Maryland State Championship.

On December 5, the Sentinels defeated Havre de Grace 44-14 behind a powerful rushing attack and a strong defense. The Sentinels averaged over 10 yards per play, led by

fullback Raen Smith who ran for 234 yards. Fort Hill is 40-1 over the last three seasons.

The results produced by the Sentinels—win after win after win for three seasons—are a testament to their dedication, teamwork and intelligence, all qualities that we should celebrate. After winning the state title Coach Todd Appel told the Cumberland Times-News the team would be back in the weight room the next week, a testament to the hard work and commitment of the team.

The achievement of the Fort Hill Sentinels should be recognized and recorded for posterity. Congratulations to the Fort Hill Sentinels, Coach Appel and his staff and everyone who played a part in this championship season.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR MICHAEL J.
RIGNEY

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2015

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Major Michael J. Rigney for his dedication to duty and service as a Defense Legislative Fellow to my late respected colleague Chairman C.W. Bill Young of the 13th Congressional district of Florida, as well as his support from within the Pentagon as an Army Congressional Budget Liaison. Major Rigney will be transitioning from his present assignment to serve as an Acquisition Officer at Redstone Arsenal in Alabama.

A native of Long Island, New York, Major Rigney was accepted into the Hofstra University Reserve Officer Training Corps program in 2000, where he earned a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree and graduated as a Distinguished Military Graduate with the class of 2004. Upon graduation, Mike was commissioned as an Army Aviation Branch Officer. He has subsequently earned a Master's degree in Legislative Affairs from the George Washington University.

Prior to entering the Army Congressional Fellowship Program, Mike served in numerous tactical leadership and staff assignments as an Army Aviation Branch Officer, and UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter Pilot. Major Rigney's assignments include Flight School Student, United States Army Aviation Center of Excellence, Fort Rucker, Alabama; Flight Platoon Leader, 4th Battalion 3rd Aviation Regiment (Assault), 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia, and Baghdad, Iraq; Aviation Brigade Future Plans and Operations Officer, 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, Baghdad, Iraq; Commander, Bravo Company, 4th Battalion 3rd Aviation Regiment (Task Force Brawler), 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia, and Logar Province, Afghanistan; Student, Army Aviation Captain's Career Course, Army Aviation Center of Excellence, Fort Rucker, Alabama. Major Rigney was deployed for 16 months in direct support of combat operations as part of the surge in Baghdad, Iraq, in 2007-2008, and then again for 12 months as part of the surge in Afghanistan, Regional Command—East, in 2009-2010. While deployed, Mike accumulated over 933 hours of combat flight time in direct support of Soldiers in the fight of his nearly 1,300 hours of total military piloting experience.

In 2013, Michael was selected to be an Army Congressional Fellow for a year, working in Chairman Young's personal office on Capitol Hill and very closely with the House Appropriations Committee, Subcommittee on Defense. Next, in his role as a Congressional Budget Liaison, working with both the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, Michael ensured the Army's budget positions were well represented and articulated. Michael was instrumental in ensuring that Congress was informed of the importance of key Army acquisition programs for the future fighting force.

Mike's interagency coordination and diligent work proved invaluable in assisting Members of Congress and their staff complete the important work of Congressional oversight in support of National Defense and United States foreign policy.

Throughout his career, Major Rigney has positively impacted his soldiers, peers, and superiors. Our country has been enriched by his extraordinary leadership, thoughtful judgment, and exemplary work. I join my colleagues today in honoring his dedication to our Nation and invaluable service to the United States Congress as an Army Congressional Budget Liaison.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a genuine pleasure to have worked with Major Michael Rigney over the last three years. On behalf of a grateful nation, I join my colleagues today in recognizing and commending Michael for his service to his country and we wish him, his wife Jennifer, and sons, Jackson and Luca, all the best as they continue their journey in the United States Army.

HONORING CHARLES DiPERRI IN
CELEBRATION OF HIS 90TH
BIRTHDAY

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2015

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my congratulations to Charles DiPerri in celebration of reaching his 90th birthday.

As he reflects on the great memories that have highlighted the past ninety years, I know he will think fondly on all that he's accomplished and the positive impact he's had on New Hampshire.

It is with great admiration that I congratulate Mr. DiPerri on achieving this wonderful milestone, and wish him the best on all future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING BONNIE CARROLL
ON RECEIVING THE PRESIDENTIAL
MEDAL OF FREEDOM

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bonnie Carroll on receiving the Presidential Medal of Freedom for her life-long public service and dedication to veterans and their families.

Bonnie is the Founder and President of Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors

(TAPS). TAPS was founded in 1994 as the nation's first national support network for the families of fallen service members. Since then, TAPS has supported over 50,000 surviving family members, casualty officers, and caregivers. When President Obama said, of all of the November 24 recipients of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, that "these men and women have enriched our lives and helped define our shared experience as Americans," he was referring in part to the 50,000 lives of surviving military family members that have been touched by Bonnie's work.

TAPS has affected lives through a myriad of undertakings: a 24/7 helpline for those grieving the loss of a loved one, peer-based and community-oriented emotional support, case-work assistance, informational resources, and the annual Good Grief Camp for young people. All of this work is offered at no cost for survivors.

In addition to her service at the helm for TAPS, Bonnie is a retired Major in the Air Force Reserve and currently serves on the Defense Health Board and the Board of the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America. She also co-chaired the Department of Defense Task Force on the Prevention of Suicide in the Armed Forces.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking Bonnie Carroll for the work she has done on behalf of veterans and their families. Her record of service is truly deserving of the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Her work serves as a reminder of our sacred compact with those who gave the ultimate sacrifice in service to this nation and their families.

IN HONOR OF JON DANA RAGGETT

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2015

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and accomplishments of a remarkable man and to mourn his passing. Jon Raggett was a brilliant engineer, an enthusiastic and accomplished builder of kayaks, and a tireless and generous philanthropist who founded a nonprofit whose mission was to build schools in developing countries. He was also a lifelong friend of mine, who died following a sudden illness on September 26, 2015, at the age of 71.

Jon Dana Raggett was born July 9, 1944, and he grew up in Carmel, California, where his love for boats and the sea was born. Jon graduated from Princeton University with an engineering degree, received an MS from Stanford University, and returned to Princeton to complete his Ph.D. in civil engineering. Throughout his engineering career, he brought his keen analytical mind and his imaginative creativity to projects in structural engineering, earthquake research, and the aerodynamic effects of extreme wind on bridges. Through West Wind Laboratory, which he founded in 1988, he performed wind studies on major bridge, architectural, and industrial projects all over the world. Closer to home, Jon worked on the Golden Gate Bridge, including the creation of a suicide barrier and a retrofit to improve the performance of the bridge in high

winds, and he also worked on the new span of the Bay Bridge. John also served as a member of the engineering faculty at Santa Clara University and the Naval Postgraduate School.

In 1994, inspired by Theodore Roosevelt's admonition to "do what you can with what you have," Jon founded Schools3, a nonprofit corporation which began as Jon's attempt to use his engineering skills to address problems of poverty in the developing world. Jon worked on a design for a three-room primary school with an office-storage building and a latrine which could be built with concrete blocks, a metal roof, and finished with plaster walls. This design could be built inexpensively all over the world, and through Schools3 Jon was able to fund and complete the construction of 71 schools in Africa, Honduras, and India. Jon donated his time and the time of his assistant Ann Keeble to Schools3, so every dollar contributed went directly towards the construction of a school, with no overhead, administrative, or marketing costs. In 2002, Schools3 received a commendation for this work from the U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee in its report on Foreign Operations.

Jon also used his structural design skills to create musical instruments out of plywood and furniture which was inventive and playful. But his primary passion was for building boats, and designed and built countless beautiful kayaks over the years, no sooner completing one project than he began thinking about how he would improve on the design for the next boat, and there was always a next boat. At Jon's service, his sisters-in-law quoted from Kenneth Grahame's beloved *The Wind in the Willows*: "Believe me, my young friend, there is nothing—absolutely nothing—half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats." No one believed this more deeply than Jon Raggett.

Jon and his wife Tory, a talented artist whom he met when they were both 10 years old, raised two sons, Mark and George. When grandchildren Joe, Hugh, Mae, and Owen arrived, Jon took delight in introducing them to the joys of being on the water. Jon's love of his family, his deep commitment to doing what he could to make the world a better place, and his impressive accomplishments in civil engineering combined to create an extraordinary man. His untimely death is an enormous loss not only to his beloved family and many friends, but to the world which he worked so hard to improve. Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House to join me in celebrating the life of this exemplary man and his remarkable accomplishments.

NORTH AMERICAN ENERGY SECURITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 2, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 8) to modernize energy infrastructure, build a 21st century

energy and manufacturing workforce, bolster America's energy security and diplomacy, and promote energy efficiency and government accountability, and for other purposes:

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition of The North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act (H.R. 8). This bill would reverse America's progress on energy efficiency and energy security. In a time when we need a forward-looking comprehensive energy policy that preserves the environment and provides sustainable energy to American consumers, we cannot afford to reverse course.

The North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act would cripple ongoing efforts to curb energy use and promote energy efficiency. This bill removes the effective provisions of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 which require federal buildings to reduce fossil fuel-generated energy. Additionally this bill would make it much harder for the Department of Energy to provide assistance for building code development at the national, state, and local level.

Instead of making needed investments in our energy infrastructure, H.R. 8 continues to protect big oil and gas companies by attacking newer environmental standards and procedures. Section 1101 of this bill makes extremely hazardous changes to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission natural gas pipeline permitting process undermining environmental protections and land owners' rights. This section would force FERC to decide on pipeline applications within 90 days even in cases of extremely complex proposed projects. Additionally, it would undermine land owners' rights by allowing oil and gas companies to use aerial or remote surveys for environmental data instead of actual surveying the land.

As the Ranking Member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, I am disappointed that H.R. 8 would make it easier for oil and gas companies to get approval for pipelines through our nation's most treasured areas, our national parks. It also threatens protections in the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Federal Power Act by allowing the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to override conditions placed on hydropower project licenses by state and federal agencies that serve to protect wildlife from the potential impacts.

President Obama has stated that he will veto this legislation should it come to his desk because H.R. 8 sidesteps important environmental procedures and actually increases energy consumption and consumer costs. According to the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy, H.R. 8 would actually cost American citizens nearly \$20 billion dollars through 2040. Instead of this misguided legislation, I support President Obama's "All-of-the-Above" energy strategy for our country which includes a combination of fossil fuels, renewable energy, and energy efficiency.

I am committed to advancing America's energy policy by moving away from depending on fossil fuels and towards clean and renewable sources of energy. For these reasons, I will vote against the backward path of H.R. 8, The North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act.