TRIBUTE TO THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS CITRUS CHAPTER 192

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Korean War Veterans Citrus Chapter 192 and all the brave men and women who answered the call to duty during the Korean War.

Sunday, July 27, commemorates the 50th Anniversary of the Armistice signing that officially ended hostilities in the war torn nation.

This conflict enlisted the services of 6.8 million American men and women between 1950 and 1955. Despite the enormity of this effort, many who served regrettably feel that their sacrifice has been forgotten by a nation in the murky fog of time.

I commend the Veterans of Citrus Chapter 192 for their efforts to memorialize their comrades in arms who paid the ultimate sacrifice. On Saturday, July 26, the Korean War Memorial will be dedicated at the Citrus County Court House. This marker will serve as a reminder to our nation of the surviving Korean War Veterans, as well as the POW's and MIA's who never returned.

SCHOOL READINESS ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2210) to authorize the Head Start Act to improve the school readiness of disadvantaged children, and for other purposes:

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to H.R. 2210, the School Readiness Act, because, on balance, this legislation will not benefit vulnerable children and families in Connecticut.

Since its inception in 1965, Head Start has been helping low-income children in Connecticut start kindergarten with the skills necessary for success. The program not only prepares children for school by providing a solid foundation in cognitive learning and socialization skills, but also makes them ''ready to learn'' by providing comprehensive health, dental and nutritional services. By focusing on the whole child, Head Start children start school more eager and able to learn.

I do not support the School Readiness Act because in my judgment, the state demonstration project contained in the bill could dilute the comprehensive services and parental involvement Head Start children depend on. The bill's loosely-defined performance standards give states overly-broad flexibility to meet federal guidelines. Consequently, vulnerable children and their families may not be guaranteed the services necessary to overcome barriers to success, or the same level of services they currently receive.

There are a number of laudable provisions in H.R. 2210 which will strengthen and improve Head Start. I support efforts to raise academic standards and improve teacher quality to ensure children are given every opportunity to be productive students and citizens. Unfortunately, H.R. 2210 does not guarantee that vulnerable children will continue to receive the type and scope of services necessary to start kindergarten ready and able to learn.

Early childhood is a critical time for children to develop the physical, emotional, social and cognitive skills they will need for the rest of their lives. A child who enters school without these skills runs a significant risk of starting behind and staying behind. We must ensure all children have an unfettered start and an equal opportunity to achieve in both school and life.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to oppose any reduction in Head Start standards, accountability and performance.

THANKING MRS. EMMA RICHARDSON FOR HER SERVICE TO THE HOUSE

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of her retirement in July 2003, we rise to thank Mrs. Emma Richardson for 19 years of outstanding service to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Emma began her career at the House working as a Programmer Analyst and then was promoted to a Senior Programmer Analyst. In that capacity Emma has served this great institution for the last 19 years as a valuable employee at House Information Resources (HIR) within the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer. Emma has made many significant contributions in the development of the Office Equipment System, Furniture Resource Center system, and in the implementation of bar code technology for Office Systems Management (OSM).

Emma was also an invaluable team member in the development and implementation of the Fixed Assets and Inventory Management (FAIMS). FAIMS is a mission critical system used by the Chief Administrative Officer to collect, record and report official financial information on Fixed Assets, and report on Accounts Payable, Purchasing and General Ledger activities. Emma has been a customer-oriented employee who consistently took pride in delivering products to customers on a timely basis, with great attention to detail and has displayed great passion for her work. Emma has dedicated herself to ensuring that the needs of the House Support Services, House Information Resources and the Office of Finance are met by FAIMS. Emma's extensive knowledge of the inventory process and her excellent relationships with her customers have been invaluable in deploying FAIMS.

On behalf of the entire House community, we extend congratulations to Emma for her many years of dedication and outstanding contributions to the U.S. House of Representatives. We wish Emma many wonderful years in fulfilling her retirement dreams.

TRIBUTE TO HARRY COLEMAN

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a good friend and an outstanding humanitarian, Harry Coleman. After ten years of service, Harry will be stepping down as President of the North Hills Community Coordinating Council (CCC).

Harry's leadership has been crucial to the success of the North Hills Community Coordinating Council. Under his guidance, the North Hills CCC successfully fought for the removal of barricades around the Columbus Street area that protected drug trafficking. Following the 1994 Northridge earthquake, Harry led the CCC in working with elected officials and government officials to expedite the repair of dilapidated and high crime areas; his diligence and steadfast determination helped turn post-earthquake ghost towns into thriving, safe communities. After considerable effort, Harry and the North Hills CCC persuaded the city of Los Angeles to purchase land that ultimately became North Hills Community Park.

Although Harry was born in Rochester, New York, he made Southern California his home early in life and has done much for our community ever since. For example, he has served on the Committee for Patient Education at Sepulveda's Veterans' hospital, applying his unique knowledge of hospital bureaucracy from his days as Vice President of Sales at General Hospital and his personal experience as a veteran.

Harry's hard work was instrumental in the ultimate construction of the Therapeutic Fitness Center, a veteran's gym. Harry monitored every detail of the project with tenacious vigilance, inspired other veterans to stand up for themselves, and was the leading voice in the struggle for its rehabilitation. This gym is an important place where camaraderie, friendship, and healing thrive for those who have given so much for our country. He and I worked very closely together to make this happen, and it is clear that without Harry the gym might never have been reconstructed.

Harry was the Chairman for Lowman-Miller Schools Fund Raising Committee for Handicapped Children, a member of the Community Policy Advisory Committee, and he served in leadership positions in countless other organizations. He genuinely cares about people and has dedicated himself to public service ever since he ''retired'' at the early age of 34.

Even during his leisure hours, Harry has shared his knowledge and talents with the rest of the world. Harry is listed in the Guinness Book of Worlds Records for taking the longest trip in history, traveling around the world in a VW camper for a total of 143,776 miles, visiting 113 countries, and meeting with 14 heads of state in two years. He shared his journey with all of us by filming and producing a two-hour documentary, ''Around the World on Wheels.'' He revealed his travel secrets in his book, ''Camping Out With Your Van or Minibus.'' Closer to home, Harry has also been involved in over 150 chili cookoffs, organizing competitions whenever he can, and sharing his award winning recipes.

Harry's great effectiveness as a community advocate was at least doubled upon his marriage to our former colleague in the House of