

A TRIBUTE TO MR. CLIFFORD L. STOFFEL

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to pay tribute to Mr. Clifford L. Stoffel who was awarded the 2005 Congressional Volunteer Recognition Award by the Second Congressional District of Maryland's Veterans Advisory Group.

It is with great pleasure that I bring before you a man who has selflessly committed himself as a volunteer driver and as the Coordinator for the Transportation Section at the Glen Burnie Clinic for Veterans.

In the past six years, Mr. Stoffel has driven 41,986 miles to take patients to and from scheduled and emergency doctor appointments. The veterans have come to rely on him when other drivers cancel or when they forget to request a driver. He is always willing to assist them, ensuring that those in need of a ride to the nearest veteran facility, will have transportation.

Because of Mr. Stoffel's generosity, approximately 2,258 patients have had reliable transportation when necessary. His generosity is recognized as an example of dedication amongst veteran volunteers.

I believe this country should honor the service and sacrifices of those who place themselves in harm's way to protect the freedoms of the American citizens. The Veterans Advisory Group provides an excellent opportunity for me to share pending legislation with people who have done just that, as well as, gain their perspective on specialized issues.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join with me, and the Veterans Advisory Group to commend the efforts of Mr. Clifford L. Stoffel in his kindness and willingness to help others. He has gone above and beyond to aid those who have dedicated their lives to serve our great country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 572 on H. Res. 444, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

A PROCLAMATION THANKING LANCE CORPORAL HICKORY OGLE OF THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Lance Cpl. Hickory Ogle served with the 1st Platoon, Lima Company, 3rd Battalion, 25th Marines, 4th Marine Division with honor, courage and commitment; and

Whereas, Lance Cpl. Hickory Ogle has continued in his family's proud footsteps of service and dedication to America; and

Whereas, Lance Cpl. Hickory Ogle has taken part in numerous offensive operations in Iraq, including Matador and Sword for the preservation of American liberty and freedom for the Iraqi people.

Therefore, I join with family, friends and the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in thanking Lance Corporal Hickory Ogle for his service to the United States and welcoming him home to an appreciative nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, on Monday November 7, 2005 I missed the following votes: rollcall No. 570: H. Con Res. 260, "Recognizing the 40th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council's Declaration on the Relation of the Church to Non-Christian Religions"; rollcall No. 571: H.R. 1973, "Water for the Poor Act of 2005"; and rollcall No. 572: H. Res. 444, "Gynecological Resolution for Advancement of Ovarian Cancer Education." Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 570, rollcall No. 571, and rollcall No. 572.

RECOGNITION OF THE PMI GROUP

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate The PMI Group's tenth anniversary as a publicly traded company. The PMI Group's company headquarters is located in Walnut Creek, California, which is in my district. Ten years ago when the company first went public it was the sixth-largest IPO in the New York Stock Exchange's history. In the past decade it has grown from one of the nation's leading providers of private mortgage insurance to a global provider of credit enhancement. PMI has helped to push homeownership rates to a historic high, while consistently providing a strong average return on shareholders' equity.

Founded over 30 years ago, The PMI Group, Inc., offers residential mortgage insurance and credit enhancement products that promote homeownership and facilitate mortgage transactions in domestic and international capital markets. Currently the company has over \$5.2 billion in total assets, serves two million families worldwide and has been recognized as one of the best places to work in the Bay Area of California.

Under the leadership of Chairman and CEO Roger Haughton, The PMI Group's mission is to put people in homes—and keep them there. They have been integral in helping low and moderate income families become homeowners by developing affordable mortgage programs that help them to realize their dreams of homeownership. Now with operations in Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong and Europe they have taken that commitment

globally. The company's management is committed to the belief that homeownership helps build strong families, which in turn builds strong communities.

The company's commitment to facilitating homeownership goes beyond its fundamental business model to its relations with the communities in which it operates, exemplified in the generous spirit of their foundation. The PMI Foundation supports national and local organizations that create housing opportunities and revitalize neighborhoods. Most notably the company has been a part of building over 125 Habitat for Humanity homes worldwide. They have also led the business community in initiatives to reinvest in inner-city and rural communities. Most recently, PMI stepped up to the plate and contributed a \$2 million relief package for the victims of the Gulf Coast hurricanes.

I greatly appreciate everything The PMI Group, Inc. has done for the citizens of my district, as well as our citizens nationwide. Facilitating homeownership is an admirable business, so I ask my fellow Members of Congress to join me in congratulating The PMI Group on a very successful 10 years as a publicly traded company and I wish them many successful years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM GIBBONS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to explain how I would have voted on November 7, 2005 during rollcall vote Nos. 570, 571 and 572 during the first session of the 109th Congress. The first vote was on H. Con. Res. 260—Recognizing the 40th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council's Declaration of the Relation of the Church to Non-Christian Religions, the second vote was H.R. 1973—Water for the Poor Act of 2005, and the third vote, H. Res. 444—Gynecological Resolution for Advancement of Ovarian Cancer Education.

If present, I would have voted "yea" on these rollcall votes.

A PROCLAMATION CONGRATULATING MRS. BONNY HUFFMAN UPON HER RECOGNITION AS A GREAT PHILANTHROPIST

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Bonny Huffman was nominated by Marianne Campbell, Board Chair of the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio; and

Whereas, Bonny Huffman has displayed a commitment to education, the Wellston City Schools, Junior Achievement, the United Fund, the Hope United Methodist Church and the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio; and

Whereas, Bonny Huffman is a blessing upon her community and has been a bottomless well of generosity for all those she meets.

Therefore, I join with family, friends and the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in