

RECOGNIZING THE AMERICAN RED CROSS CHISHOLM TRAIL CHAPTER ON THEIR 90 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2006

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Chisholm Trail Chapter of the American Red Cross as they celebrate 90 years of service in Texas, including my district in the Fort Worth area.

Chartered in 1916 in response to World War I, the American Red Cross Chisholm Trail Chapter has been present during both local and national events in U.S. history. The passionate volunteers and staff that make up the Chisholm Trail Chapter provide care, comfort and lifesaving skills to residents in my District. Headquartered in Fort Worth, the Chisholm Trail Chapter serves its neighbors by providing a variety of services throughout 23 counties, from the Tarrant County line to San Angelo.

The Chapter's variety of programs and services extend to all members of the Fort Worth community at home, in school, and in the workplace. Last year, over 111,000 people were helped by the WHEELS Transportation Service. This program assists older Americans and people with disabilities who need to help keeping their medical and vocational appointments by providing necessary means of transportation.

Constantly striving to ensure the health and safety of my constituents, the Chapter provides training in first aid, CPR, swimming, lifeguarding, and babysitting. Last year, the Chapter enrolled over 41,000 people in their Health and Safety Programs.

I am particularly impressed with their Armed Forces Emergency Services program. Twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year, the Chisholm Trail Chapter helps military members and their families stay in touch by providing timely, accurate and verified information following the death or serious illness of a family member, the birth of a child or other critical family matter.

The Chisholm Trail Chapter has touched me personally as well. On March 28, 2000, an F-2 tornado formed and took aim at Tarrant County. Five lives were lost and homes and businesses were destroyed. The tornado began just west of downtown and made a direct hit on the Cash America building, where my office was located. From there, the storm intensified into an F-3 twister and leveled an Arlington neighborhood.

The Chisholm Trail Chapter responded in force to the tornadoes, meeting the physical and emotional needs of thousands of families. An American Red Cross Emergency Response Vehicle made its way to my office building several times each day for nearly two weeks, distributing meals and bottled water to the work crews attempting to salvage what was left from the debris.

In addition to meeting local community needs through essential programs and services, the Chisholm Trail Chapter has responded to the needs of our nation and the world by sending volunteers into a terrorist attack site following the events of September 11, 2001, and raising nearly \$2 million locally to help south Asian tsunami victims in 2004.

Prior to landfall of Hurricane Katrina, the Chapter deployed local volunteers to Louisiana.

The Chisholm Trail Chapter met the call to serve those left devastated in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita by opening eight shelters, housing 1,200 evacuees and providing 576,137 meals. During the months of September and October 2005, the Chapter served over 7,000 families and offered 6,606 mental health contacts to those in need of emotional assistance. This coordinated response exemplifies the Chapter's dedication to guaranteeing the health and well-being of those who have experienced the effects of natural disasters.

Mr. Speaker and fellow Colleagues, please join me in recognizing the American Red Cross Chisholm Trail Chapter on its 90th birthday. With congratulations and gratitude for the excellent work they do to enrich our lives, I am pleased to acknowledge their service to our communities throughout the Fort Worth area and all corners of this great nation.

HONORING MS. JOY TRICKETT

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2006

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to recognize Ms. Joy Trickett of Leesburg, Virginia, for her outstanding work to address homelessness and poverty in northern Virginia. Ms. Trickett is currently board chair for the Good Shepherd Alliance (GSA) Emergency Homeless Shelters in Sterling, Ashburn, Leesburg, Luckettes and South Riding in Virginia's 10th District.

For many hours each week, she volunteers to make a difference, one person at a time. On any given day, you might find Ms. Trickett in the Good Shepherd thrift store in Sterling, working with her staff, or writing a grant proposal with her administrative director in Leesburg, or interfacing with other sister organizations like the Clothes Closet in Herndon, LINK in Sterling, Loudoun Red Cross and Northern Virginia Family Services in Fairfax. She serves on the board of directors for both GSA and LINK, and on the ecumenical council of her church. Joy believes we all have an inherent responsibility to serve the poor and needy. She is an energetic, God-loving woman who leads by example.

Joy has received several awards and recognition, including the Loudoun Volunteer Services 2005 Adult Volunteer of the Year award in Leesburg during April 2005 and the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) 2005 Outstanding Humanitarian Award in Washington, D.C., during October 2005. During the 2006 Virginia General Assembly, House Joint Resolution No. 316 was passed commending Joy Trickett. Individuals are nominated for this recognition based on efforts that are considered to be of local, state or national significance.

In short, Ms. Trickett has provided tremendous synergy for her work with Good Shepherd Alliance and LINK in Loudoun and Fairfax counties. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Ms. Trickett's work and accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO FIRE CHIEF REYNOLD "RENNY" SANTONE, JR.

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2006

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Fire Chief Reynold "Renny" Santone, Jr. of the Altoona Fire Department, in Altoona, Pennsylvania, who has been named "Person of the Year" by the Blair Bedford Central Labor Council. The distinguished fire chief was nominated for the award by his fellow members of the fire department. Chief Santone, marking 41 years of protecting the Altoona Area, was recently presented with this distinguished award at the Labor Council's annual awards dinner.

This award honors people like Santone "who work for a living and who are well respected and well-loved" for their contributions to employees, co-workers and the community, said the Blair Bedford Central Labor Council's President Robert Kurtz, while delivering remarks at the event. President Kurtz commended Fire Chief Santone, saying that he is "not a paper chief" who distances himself from his firefighters, but that "he's out there in the trenches with them."

Chief Santone joined ranks with the Altoona Fire Department in 1965, and looking back on the day he joined the force, said: "They hired me on April Fool's Day. What I was really waiting for was the red International Association of Fire Fighters sticker—to me that means I was a real professional firefighter."

Chief Santone has certainly proved his abilities as a firefighter in the Altoona Area. Fifteen years after joining the department, Firefighter Reynold Santone was named fire chief in 1984. Today, he leads the department's 4 fire stations and a standing staff of 13 on call firefighters. Chief Santone remarked, "I've always known what I've wanted to do and where I wanted to be," saying that he expects to retire from the same station on Washington Avenue that he joined in 1965.

Fire Chief Reynold "Renny" Santone, Jr.'s dedication to the protection of our local community, and its citizens, is admirable. We hope that others will follow in his footsteps and serve our community with the same pride and honor as Chief Santone has done for the past 41 years.

TRIBUTE TO BROTHER PAUL HANNON

HON. VITO FOSSELLA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2006

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, on October 8, 2006 Brother Paul Hannon will celebrate 25 years of service as a Christian Brother and educator.

For the past 25 years Brother Hannon has worked as a teacher, athletic director, and hockey moderator. He has spent the past 10 years of his service at my Alma mater, Monsignor Farrell High School in Staten Island, NY.

Over the last quarter century Brother Hannon has served as a Christian Brother