EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL KENNETH O. McCREEDY

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 9, 2008

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Colonel Kenneth O. McCreedy, Installation Commander at Fort Meade in Maryland. Colonel McCreedy holds a bachelor's degree in history from Washington and Lee University, master's and doctorate degrees from University of California, Berkeley, a Master of Military Arts and Sciences degree from the U.S. Army Command and Staff College, and a Master of Strategic Studies from the Army War College. He is also a graduate of both the Army's School of Advanced Military Studies and the Advanced Strategic Art Program.

After over twenty years in the service, Colonel McCreedy took command of Fort Meade in June 2005. Since then, Colonel McCreedy has worked closely with business leaders and elected officials, to consider how his decisions would affect the communities both inside and outside of the Fort Meade gates.

Fort Meade, located halfway between Baltimore and Washington, DC, is the fourth largest army installation base in the continental United States with approximately 40,000 military, civilian, and contractor personnel. The base thrives not only as a military installation, but also as a leading contributor to Maryland's economy.

Colonel McCreedy has played a large role in planning and preparing for the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process, which will cause a projected 25 percent population increase and 5,700 jobs at Fort Meade alone. He also has worked closely with the Fort Meade Alliance, an advocacy membership organization created to promote and support Fort Meade as an economic asset and resource to the region.

Among his countless awards and decorations, Colonel McCreedy has earned the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, and the NATO Medal.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Colonel Kenneth O. McCreedy in his retirement from the position of Fort Meade Installation Commander. His legacy as a brilliant military commander will be forever remembered in his service to one of our nation's largest military installations. It is with great pride that I congratulate Colonel McCreedy on his exemplary military career and his outstanding leadership at Fort Meade.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. CON. RES. 70, CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2008

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of S. Con. Res. 70, the Concurrent Budget Resolution Conference Report for 2009. I want to commend Chairman SPRATT for his outstanding work in moving this blueprint for fiscal responsibility to fruition.

This budget is a recipe for fiscal integrity, reaching balance in 2012 while maintaining a smaller deficit in 2009 and over the next 5 years as opposed to the Bush Administration proposal. With the adoption of this budget resolution, this Congress will reject the misplaced priorities of the Administration by restoring funding to vital programs for our Nation's citizens.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, I have been an ardent supporter of the Low Income Housing Energy Assistance Program, LIHEAP, and I am particularly pleased that this budget takes significant and necessary steps to strengthen the safety-net for those families most in need, including boosting funding for home energy assistance to help millions of low-income families and funding housing assistance for low-income families, the elderly, and the disabled.

I am further pleased that we increase funding to make college more affordable, thereby reversing the Administration's underfunding of education in our Nation. This budget substantially increases veterans' funding, invests in renewable energy and energy efficiency initiatives, provides funding for green collar jobs, rejects the Administration's cuts to Medicare and Medicaid, expands children's health insurance coverage and accommodates additional middle class tax relief.

Mr. Speaker, S. Con Res. 70 will serve as an important guide as we set spending priorities for our Nation over the next few years and I am pleased to join in support of it.

CELEBRATING FRANKLIN COUNTY, NEW YORK'S BICENTENNIAL

HON. JOHN M. McHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 9, 2008

Mr. McHUGH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincere congratulations to the fine people of Franklin County, New York, as they celebrate the county's bicentennial. I am proud to represent them and to have the opportunity to take a moment to reflect upon the county's characteristics and rich history, which includes the War of 1812 and the Underground Railroad.

Franklin County was formed on March 11, 1808, from Clinton County, when it became apparent that travel to Plattsburgh to conduct legal business was too burdensome. Franklin County, which encompasses 1,631.49 square miles, was named after Benjamin Franklin. Its neighbors are Quebec, Canada to the north, Clinton County to the east, Essex and Hamilton Counties to the south, and St. Lawrence County to the west. Franklin County's nearly 51,000 residents live in 19 townships: Bangor, Bellmont, Bombay, Brandon, Brighton, Burke, Chateaugay, Constable, Dickinson, Duane, Fort Covington, Franklin, Harrietstown, Malone, Moira, Santa Clara, Tupper Lake, Waverly, and Westville. In addition to the County seat, Malone, Franklin County is home to five other villages: Brushton, Burke, Chateaugay, Saranac Lake, and Tupper Lake.

Potash production was the earliest industry in the county; other early industries included agriculture, iron ore mining, logging, mills, sanitariums, and tourism. Today, agriculture continues to play a vital part in the county's economy; in 2002, Franklin County's 530 farms produced agricultural products with a market value of about $48 million including dairy, cattle and calves, vegetables, aquaculture, and nursery and greenhouse. Likewise, the world class Trudeau Institute, which was originally founded in 1884 as a tuberculosis sanitarium, is still making breakthrough discoveries to improve human health as the incredible Adirondack Mountains continue to draw tourists who enjoy bird-watching, camping, canoeing, fishing, hiking, hunting, and other outdoor activities.

Franklin County's residents are known to be generous, independent, proud, resourceful, and resilient. Perhaps its most notable native son is William Almon Wheeler, who was born in Malone on June 30, 1819, and was elected as our nation's Vice President in 1876 after serving as District Attorney, State Assemblyman, State Senator, and U.S. Representative. Other noteworthy former residents include Tom Browning, who pitched a perfect game and won a World Series game for the Cincinnati Reds, and Almanzo Wilder, whose boyhood on a Burke farm later became known to the world through Farmer Boy, which was written by his wife, Laura Ingalls Wilder. Again, it is a great honor to have the opportunity to join with the residents of Franklin County, New York, as they celebrate their bicentennial.

HONORING ANTHONY BORBA

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 9, 2008

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Anthony Borba upon his retirement as the superintendent of Salida Unified School District. Superintendent Borba will be honored at a reception on May 31, 2008.

Superintendent Anthony Borba graduated from California State University, Stanislaus, in