RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, it is an honor for me to help celebrate the Centennial Anniversary of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated. For the past 100 years, the ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha have served as leaders in the United States and throughout the world. Since their founding in 1908, Alpha Kappa Alpha has been one of the most successful historically Black sororities and continues its strong community work today.

In particular, I would like to recognize the South Atlantic Region of Alpha Kappa Alpha, which includes undergraduate and graduate chapters from the states of Georgia, Florida, and South Carolina. This Region's monumental history includes one of the sorority's original founders, Mrs. Marie Woolfolk Taylor, two former International Presidents, Dr. Mary Shy Scott and Dr. Norma Solomon White and the first honorary member, Mrs. Coretta Scott King.

Today through the leadership of Ms. Ella Springs Jones, current regional director, the ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha continue to leave their mark in the community. Through programs such as B.R.A.T.S (Brilliant, Responsible, Alert, and Talented Scholars) Program, high school students are provided academic, health and economic support to make their dreams viable and support the growth of the African American community.

Madam Speaker, I extend my deepest gratitude to the women of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority for their service to our communities, in the United States and across the world, on this historic day.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. WELLER of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I was absent on Monday, July 14th due to personal reasons.

If I were present I would have voted, ''aye'' on rollcall vote 486, ''aye'' on rollcall vote 487, and ''aye'' on rollcall vote 488.

HONORING THE BLUE MOUNTAIN LAKE BOAT LIVERY ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN M. McHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. McHUGH. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise today to celebrate the centennial anniversary of the Blue Mountain Lake Boat Livery. I am proud to represent the Boat Livery and the people of Blue Mountain Lake, which is located in the heart of New York State's majestic Adirondack Park. Likewise, I am pleased to associate myself with the remarks the gentlewoman from New York, Mrs. MALONEY, made to honor the Boat Livery.

Widely regarded as the cleanest lake east of the Mississippi River, Blue Mountain Lake has for over a century been a popular destination for tourists, including urban dwellers wishing to escape the city. In addition, thousands of visitors come through Blue Mountain Lake each year as they travel to other areas of the Adirondack Park.

The Boat Livery of Blue Mountain Lake began operating on August 2, 1908. It has since provided visitors with access to the breathtaking beauty of the Adirondack Mountains and Blue Mountain Lake through the use of an assortment of recreational watercraft. In fact, the Blue Mountain Lake Boat Livery offers visitors the opportunity to enjoy a scenic boat tour on one of three authentic 1916 wooden launches. Other activities guests can enjoy include canoeing, fishing, kayaking, paddle boating, tubing, wakeboarding, and waterskiing.

The Boat Livery's development on Blue Mountain Lake over the last 100 years has been integral to the area's culture and economy, which is largely based on tourism. Accordingly, I now extend my deepest congratulations to the Blue Mountain Lake Boat Livery upon its centennial anniversary.

IN RECOGNITION OF AVIATION SAFETY EXPERT EDWARD K. MILLER

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished career in aviation and aviation safety of Captain Edward K. Miller of Fairfax County in northern Virginia.

Captain Miller served for 6 years as a U.S. Air Force fighter interceptor pilot during the Korean War era and followed that service as a pilot for United Airlines, retiring in 1990. During his career with United, he became concerned with earthquake and volcanic ash hazards following the eruption of the Mt. St. Helens volcano in Washington State and served as a flight safety volunteer with the Air Line Pilots Association (ALPA).

After his retirement with United, he continued his air safety consulting activities with ALPA, focusing on volcanic ash and aviation safety. He became a recognized worldwide leader in this specialized talent and served on the Natural Hazards Committee chaired by the Office of the Federal Coordinator for Meteorology, which works with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the National Weather Service, the U.S. Geological Survey, the Federal Aviation Administration and other related agencies. In cooperation with ALPA, United Airlines, NOAA, NWS, FAA and USGS, earlier this year he was involved in the effort to produce a free volcanic ash aircrew training video for the aviation community.

We salute Captain Miller, who in June retired ''again'' from the aviation community, for his devotion to flight safety in a career that spanned almost six decades, and wish him the best in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained from voting on July 14, 2008. Had I been present I would have voted ''yea'' on the following rollcall votes: Nos. 486, 487 and 488.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ''TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING CHOICES FOR GAS PRICE RELIEF ACT''

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, the rapid rise in the price of oil is threatening American families, our economy, and our national security. Gas prices have more than tripled since 2001, taking an ever-larger bite out of the family budget. On average, transportation costs are now Americans' second largest expense after housing. Most economists as well as most American citizens believe that this is a long-term trend, rather than a temporary situation. We've seen the last of the cheap oil on which we've built our economy and our daily lives.

There is no single solution to the complex energy situation we are facing, but we can equip every member of the American family to live better with less oil. The Federal Government can help give families and communities more choices, level the playing field for people who want to be less auto-dependent, and encourage the Federal Government to become a better partner and to lead by example in these efforts.

This is why I am introducing the ''Transportation and Housing Choices for Gas Price Relief Act,'' which will provide consumers with, and educate them about, choices in how they get around and where they live that will reduce their dependence on gasoline. The bill will increase commuter choices and support less oil-dependent forms of transportation, help transit agencies cope with rising fuel prices and improve service to deal with increased demand, assist communities in providing transportation options for their residents, increase the availability of affordable housing near public transportation, and ensure that the Federal Government leads by example on these issues.

At $4.00 a gallon gasoline, most Americans are already changing their daily behaviors to decrease fuel costs: taking fewer trips, keeping their cars tuned, even trading in their gas guzzlers for more fuel-efficient models. More needs to be done to ensure that consumers have transportation and housing options that reduce their reliance on single-occupancy vehicle trips. These transportation options can include public transit, carpooling, biking, walking, and other alternatives. For example, at $4 a gallon gasoline, American families can save $5.6 billion each year on gasoline costs by using transit. Bicycle commuters annually save an average of $1,825 in auto-related costs,