

EXPRESSING SENSE OF THE HOUSE REGARDING SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

SPEECH OF
HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise on the eighth anniversary of September 11th to commemorate this momentous day in American history. My heart goes out to the thousands of innocent people who were taken from their loved ones and fellow citizens, and I am mindful of the many sacrifices made by the members of our armed forces and their families as they stand in harm's way to protect our great nation.

The victims of the September 11th attacks were a microcosm of America. In the Twin Towers, on the hijacked planes, at the Pentagon, there were mothers, fathers, sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, friends; there were millionaire bond traders and minimum wage busboys; there were service men and women, police officers and firefighters; there were people of every race and religion, from dozens of countries, all with their own dreams and disappointments; all bound by an invisible thread . . . our common humanity. And we are forever bound to them, and to each other.

September 11th, 2001 was one of our nation's darkest days. But it illuminated some simple and important truths . . . that it means something special to be an American—something more than the happenstance of where you were born. It relates to the unending quest on the part of “we the people” to “form a more perfect union” and to a concept of the common good. Being an American means having a commitment to our collective well-being.

In memory of all those who perished on September 11th, in respect to the survivors, in gratitude to the rescuers, and for the sake of ourselves and our posterity, I recall the words of President Kennedy: “Let us not be blind to our differences—but let us also direct attention to our common interests and to the means by which those differences can be resolved. And if we cannot end now our differences, at least we can help make the world safe for diversity. For, in the final analysis, our most basic common link is that we all inhabit this small planet. We all breathe the same air. We all cherish our children's future. And we are all mortal.”

Mr. Speaker, during the vote on H. Res. 722, a resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the terrorist attacks launched against the U.S. on September 11th, 2001, I was absent from the House. I want my colleagues and constituents of the 2nd District of Wisconsin to know that I intended to vote yes on this resolution. I am grateful to my colleagues, Mr. HOYER and Mr. BOEHNER, for their work in seeing it passed.

A PROCLAMATION CONGRATULATING FLORENCE LEWIS ON ACHIEVING HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 15, 2009

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker,

Whereas, Florence Lewis will soon celebrate her 100th birthday; and

Whereas, Florence Lewis continues to be a positive influence on the lives of others and contributes to her state and country; and

Whereas, she strives to continue her good works of public service and provides inspiration, grace, and love to her family and her community: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend and thank Florence Lewis for her contributions to her community and country.

RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 15, 2009

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 215 to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Minority Business Development Agency, a member of the Department of Commerce.

Established on March 5, 1969, the Minority Business Development Agency is the only federal agency specifically created to foster the establishment and growth of minority-owned businesses in America. With five regional offices in Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, New York and San Francisco, the Minority Business Development Agency network offers a broad range of services to minority entrepreneurs that are strategically located in areas with large concentrations of minority businesses. As a Representative of an area with a large concentration of minority-owned businesses, and as a business owner myself, I am especially aware of the necessity for the services provided by the Minority Business Development Agency business specialists.

Created in the midst of the Civil Rights Era, the Minority Business Development Agency has participated in many extraordinary events and left an impressionable footprint in its four decades of work. It participated with the International Trade Administration in the first trade mission to Bahrain, and many ITA missions with minority business delegations followed due to the success of this mission. Additionally, the Agency coordinated and supported disaster relief efforts for minority businesses following the devastating aftermath of the 1992 Los Angeles riots and the hurricanes that ravaged many of the coastal communities along the Gulf of Mexico.

With a current focus on access to capital for minority-owned businesses, I look forward to celebrating the future success of this organization. I urge my colleagues to join me in commending the Minority Business Development Agency on its 40 years of prosperity and endeavoring to advance minority businesses in our nation.

HONORING HISTORIC YELLOW SPRINGS

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 15, 2009

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Historic Yellow Springs on the 35th Anniversary of its founding as a non-profit organization committed to preserving and enhancing one of the true historical treasures in Chester County, Pennsylvania.

Thanks to the vision and leadership of Connie Fraley and other founders of Historic Yellow Springs, the organization purchased the picturesque 145-acre site and 13 historic buildings on the property in 1974.

The property traces its history back to the early 1700's when Lenape Indians first discovered “yellow water” bubbling from the ground. Stone ruins from America's first military hospital, which treated injured soldiers from the Valley Forge encampment during the Revolutionary War, are also part of the property. And the beauty of the property has inspired impressionistic painters and artists from the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts Country School during the early part of the 20th Century.

Since establishing Historic Yellow Springs as a non-profit organization in 1974, the talented staff and dedicated members of the Board of Directors have done a tremendous job of offering creative programming to teach generation after generation about the history of the property and to provide exceptional educational and artistic opportunities by holding classes in the library, Connie's House and the Barn Studio.

Staff and the Board of Directors will celebrate the 35th Anniversary during Founders Day on Sunday, September 20th and dedicate the recently restored Iron Spring Gazebo in the memory of Founder Connie Fraley.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in congratulating Historic Yellow Springs as it celebrates this memorable milestone and in expressing sincere appreciation for the exemplary work of the staff and Board of Directors.

COMMEMORATING MRS. MARGARET BROSETT WILLIAMS ON THE OCCASION OF HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 15, 2009

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise today to commemorate Mrs. Margaret Brossett Williams on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

On September 28, 1909, Williams was welcomed into this world by John and Vedaline Brossett in Cloutierville, La. She is the last surviving sibling of ten children born to this union.

She married James Houston Williams on October 12, 1928. They were the proud parents of four children: James Dewey Williams, Robert Earl Williams, William Ray Williams and Patsy Jean Williams.

At the very young age of 37, Williams became a widow when her husband passed away unexpectedly in 1946. Her considerable strength and determination was apparent as she raised her four children on her own.

Williams credits her happiness to being surrounded by family and friends. Today, as she has outlived her four children, Williams is encircled by the love of her grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great grandchildren.

Baptized on May 6, 1910 at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Cloutiersville, she is deeply committed her Catholic faith. Williams still recites her rosary every night before she goes to sleep and is a faithful member of St. Rita Catholic Church in Alexandria, La.

As her friends and family prepare to join together on September 27, 2009, for a mass in her honor, Williams continues to exemplify a strong character of dedication, compassion and devotion.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mrs. Margaret Brossett Williams on this truly significant birthday.

HONORING LOUIS T. CAMPESE

HON. MICHAEL A. ARCURI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2009

Mr. ARCURI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Louis T. Campese, a resident of my district in Upstate New York, for his heroic service during World War II and his ongoing work on behalf of our nation's veterans.

Mr. Campese served on the U.S.S. *Patterson* (DD-392), a naval destroyer stationed at Pearl Harbor during the Japanese attack of December 7, 1941. That morning, Mr. Campese and two of his comrades nearly lost their lives while rescuing a drowning sailor. For his extraordinary actions during the attack on Pearl Harbor and his service during World War II, Mr. Campese was awarded several medals, including the Pearl Harbor Medal, the World War II Victory Medal and the American Defense Service Medal.

Each year Mr. Campese reunites with other surviving shipmates of the U.S.S. *Patterson* to reminisce about their service together and reinforce the bonds of friendship. Mr. Campese served previously as treasurer for the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association, Inc., and remains active in various veterans' organizations.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize the extraordinary service Mr. Campese rendered on behalf of our nation during a time of great crisis. His bravery in the face of tremendous peril is an example for us all. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Campese and the many men and women willing to risk their lives in defense of the principles and freedoms we as a nation hold dear.

HONORING DOLPH CHIANCHIANO

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2009

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Dolph Chianchiano, Senior Vice

President for Health Policy and Research for his 30 years of service to the National Kidney Foundation.

As the co-chair of the Congressional Kidney Caucus, I have had the honor of working with the NKF and Dolph to educate my colleagues about the impact of kidney disease, and to shape policy and legislation to make the lives of patients better.

Being from Seattle, where dialysis treatments were first used, I have seen the power of research and innovation in the treatment of kidney disease. People live longer, more productive lives with kidney failure, and we continue to learn more every day.

Dolph Chianchiano has contributed to the understanding we now have about kidney disease in his role of administrator of NKF's research program, which has awarded nearly \$80 million in grants in his tenure. He made the important decision to expand the program to include not only physician research, but other members of the renal health care team: nurses, dietitians and social workers. He has cultivated a cadre of researchers, providing early career grants to researchers that go on to devote a career to improve the lives of kidney patients. Many kidney professionals have remarked, "I got my start through an NKF research grant."

Dolph has also been a tireless advocate for more research funding at the federal level, helping to guide the research agenda of the National Institutes of Health and other federal agencies. In the past three decades, we have seen many advances, and hopefully more will come, as we improve the treatment for kidney disease.

I have worked with the NKF for the 20 years I have been in Congress, and I look forward to many more years working with Dolph and the others associated with the Foundation. Congratulations on 30 years of service to kidney patients. I applaud you and wish you well.

IN HONOR OF SARA BIESIADNY OF GRAPEVINE, TEXAS

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2009

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sara Biesiadny of Grapevine, Texas. Sara has been selected as a regional winner of a ConvaTec Comeback Kids Award. This very important program honors annually a group of individuals living with intestinal diseases or recovering from ostomy surgery.

The Great Comebacks Awards Program honors the achievements of children and teenagers living inspirational lives with Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis and/or an ostomy. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Great Comebacks Program. Each year regional awards are given to 12 people throughout the United States who have struggled with a chronic condition and have shown extraordinary strength and courage. Recipients are selected for having managed, despite daily struggles with their conditions, to live full and productive lives. In March of 2010, one of these recipients will receive the national Great Comebacks Award.

My constituent Sara, born with birth defects of the spine, bladder and colon, received an

ostomy shortly after birth. Despite this rough start in life, Sara has never wasted a moment's thought on "why has this happened to me?" In fact, she has refused to let her ostomy and other medical conditions get in the way of pursuing her love of sports and science. Even though Sara has undergone continuous medical procedures and surgeries since birth, she won't sit on the sidelines, and enjoys playing softball and basketball and swimming. In fact, as a freshman, she set her mind to join the high school golf team and has enjoyed three solid seasons with the team. Sara also has excelled academically. Sara, 17, is currently a high school senior and encourages others suffering from bowel diseases to remember, "Having an ostomy or bowel disease does not define who you are, only you can do that."

The Great Comeback Awards Program raises awareness of quality-of-life issues for people with Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, colorectal cancer and other diseases that can lead to ostomy surgery. These diseases are painful and debilitating; and while ostomy surgery is a procedure that can be life saving, it is also life-changing for patients of all ages. The spirit and courage with which a patient embraces life after ostomy surgery is what the Great Comebacks Program celebrates. My best wishes to Sara and her family.

COMMENDING THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 3

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2009

Mr. ALEXANDER.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate The American Legion Post 3 for their hard work, service and dedication to the Alexandria/Pineville area, and to the nation.

In 2009 alone, The American Legion Post 3 donated \$34,500 to more than 30 laudable organizations throughout central Louisiana. Post 3 will be honored with a "Legiontown USA" program and subsequent ceremony on September 16, the anniversary of the organization's congressional charter, as American Legion Day.

The "Legiontown USA" campaign was recently introduced to increase awareness of the activities and efforts of local posts in communities throughout the United States and worldwide. This movement is beneficial for it gives our courageous veterans the recognition they deserve.

On a national level, The American Legion is a patriotic, non-profit organization devoted to advocating for our veterans on Capitol Hill. It is an honor and privilege to have such a prominent and compassionate institution in the 5th District of Louisiana.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending The American Legion Post 3 for their loyalty and dedication to our nation's veterans, as well as for their tremendous service to the communities of central Louisiana.