

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION
SAFETY BOARD REAUTHORIZA-
TION ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 4714, the National Transportation Safety Board Reauthorization Act of 2010. This legislation authorizes appropriations for the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) to conduct investigations necessary to determine the causes of transportation incidents and accidents. H.R. 4714 also clarifies the NTSB's authority to investigate incidents and calls for a collaborative effort between NTSB and the U.S. Coast Guard when investigating major maritime accidents. Further, H.R. 4714 provides the NTSB resources needed to improve safety regulations.

I thank Chairman OBERSTAR for his dedication and skillful leadership in guiding this bill to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4714 will also confer upon the NTSB the authority to make essential safety recommendations when NTSB investigators identify a need for immediate safety improvements. Such authority has long been enjoyed by other international accident-investigation agencies.

This legislation benefits the 37th Congressional District of California, which I am privileged to represent. Improvements in transportation safety—whether for automobiles, airplanes, or ships—disproportionately affect my district, which is one of the most transportation-intensive in the nation. Within my district or on its borders lie five major freeways, three airports, and the largest port complex in the country. H.R. 4714 improves the safety of my constituents when they are traveling, commuting, and working.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 4714.

HONORING TOWNSHIP OF
DENVERVILLE'S ANNUAL SRI LANKA
DAY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Township of Denville's Annual Sri Lanka Day, which celebrated its 35th annual festival this summer.

Beginning in 1975 with around 300 families in attendance, Denville's Sri Lanka Day has grown into one of the largest events of its kind, attracting close to 2,000 families. Sri Lankans come from beyond the tri-state area, with some coming from as far away as Canada to attend the event.

The Sri Lanka Day festival started as a vision of Jay Liyanage, a Sri Lanka native who resides in Denville, and would not be possible without the outstanding support of the Denville Rotary Club and the Sri Lanka Association of New York.

The festival is a beautiful display of Sri Lankan culture. In addition to offerings of cultural foods, music and clothing, the event features many sporting events. The highlights this year were the cricket matches between the Sri Lanka Association of New York and the Sri Lanka Association of Washington, D.C., as well as a match between an all-Sri Lankan team and an all-Denville team. For the second consecutive year the Sri Lanka Medical Association of North America generously ran a free medical clinic. Organizers credit the cricket matches, health clinic and the ending of the long civil war that occurred over the past 25 years in Sri Lanka for the large increase in attendance over the past few years.

The festival theme of "togetherness" is always exhibited at Sri Lanka Day where people from all walks of life come together to celebrate the Sri Lankan culture.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Township of Denville's annual Sri Lanka Day for hosting their 35th Celebration.

HONORING CHRISTOPHER LEE ST.
CLAIR

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Christopher Lee St. Clair. Chris is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 175, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Chris has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Chris has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Chris has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Christopher Lee St. Clair for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING JUDGE JOHN SCOTT AS
AN ANGEL IN ADOPTION

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Judge John Scott for his outstanding advocacy of adoption. He is a selfless crusader for children who need a loving home, helping the dream of a family become a reality. Since becoming 19th West Judicial District Circuit Judge in 2001, Judge Scott has heard 578 adoption cases and says successful adoption cases are some of the most rewarding and enjoyable work that he does because the result is a stable and loving environment.

Judge Scott is truly an advocate for adoption, creating a warm and comfortable environment for the adoptive parents, their attorneys and most importantly, the children. Judge Scott has positively influenced many lives through the adoption process and he has helped loving parents bring home deserving children. He is to be commended for his many years of service and passion to placing children in loving homes.

Because of his efforts, I nominated Judge Scott as an Angel for The Angels in Adoption™ program. This program honors outstanding individuals who are dedicated to helping children find permanent, safe and loving homes. Judge Scott is well deserving of this honor and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing his service, dedication and efforts to making adoption possible.

HONORING ANN MANRY
RYNEARSON

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ann Manry Rynearson, recently retired Sr. Vice President for Culture and Community at the International Institute.

Ann has spent the bulk of her career building bridges across the increasingly diverse cultures of St. Louis. Most notably, Ann co-founded both the International Folkfest, which was held annually from 1992 to 2004, and the Festival of Nations, which is now in its 11th year.

Ann has focused on the arts in building those cross-cultural bridges. Even though she spent three years directing the Festival of Nations, she is actually best known as the Arts Director of both International Folkfest and Festival of Nations.

Her goal has always been to present the very best art forms of each culture. She has worked to seek out or develop artists and performers who represent their own cultural heritages. Over the years, Ann has spent countless hours attending arts events around our region. By doing so, she was able to identify new and emerging ethnic talent to invite to the Institute's festivals.

Ann's contributions to the ethnic arts and to cultural preservation have extended beyond the Institute's annual and truly spectacular festivals. She has organized mini-festivals around town, art exhibits, and built an extensive database of artists to share with other organizations seeking talent for their programs. She is beloved by so many in our ethnic communities who have been her colleagues, partners, and even her students when she taught English classes at the Institute in her early career.

Therefore, it is with great pleasure today that I formally recognize Ann's achievements in front of an audience that is benefiting from her dedication to the mission of sharing the very best of our community's ethnic arts. Ann has established relationships with ethnic artists and their communities that will ensure the festival's continued success and that will continue to build and reinforce bridges of cross-cultural understanding in our community for many years to come.