

HONORING THE WATER ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH FOUNDATION

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 2014

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a very important organization based in my congressional district. Founded in Alexandria, Virginia, in 1989, The Water Environment Research Foundation (WERF) coordinates unbiased, scientifically rigorous water quality research among teams of federal, state, and local agencies that represent over 75 percent of the U.S. population served by waste water treatment plants, of the U.S. Under the leadership of founding Executive Director Glenn Reinhardt, WERF has grown from a few employees to a highly respected national center of water quality research with a full-time staff of 23 and an annual budget of over \$10 million. The foundation's efforts have improved human and ecological health, fostered new water quality management processes and spearheaded the development of new technologies.

WERF has managed nearly 550 research projects, valued at more than \$130 million, with \$19 million (cash and in-kind) work ongoing annually. Its research has helped create many new tools for restoring water quality and informed better state and federal regulation, saving the U.S. water quality community well as much as \$2 billion over the last twenty years. For instance, WERF's watershed trading demonstration projects led to hundreds of millions in regulatory savings while its investment of only \$92,500 into new sewer designs, materials, and rehabilitation techniques reduced annual costs at wastewater collection systems nationwide by at least \$75 million.

In times when federal spending on wastewater infrastructure continues to fall in real and inflation adjusted terms WERF research provides one of the few means to control or reduce the staggering cost of essential infrastructure upgrades, which by some estimates approach \$500 billion over the next twenty years.

WERF focuses on the critical issues as identified by its subscribers, including wastewater infrastructure management, wet weather (runoff) control, biosolids handling, and wastewater utility responses to climate change. Newer challenges rising up the research agenda include nutrient removal, wastewater utility operations optimization, trace organics effects, wastewater services and costs, green infrastructure, and recovering energy from wastewater.

For many years, WERF received federal funding through Appropriation Committees on which I have served. Those funds have been leveraged at a 3:1 or better rate with monies largely from local wastewater treatment facilities. This highly successful public/private partnership should be celebrated and expanded, and I ask Congress to redouble its efforts to support water quality research. My congratulations to the entire WERF staff and volunteers for their fine work on behalf of us all and for reaching this significant milestone.

Mr. Speaker, congratulations are in order for a job well done.

HONORING COACH KEVIN SCHLAGEL UPON HIS 40-YEAR ASSOCIATION WITH ST. CLOUD STATE'S MEN'S BASKETBALL PROGRAM

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 2014

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Coach Kevin Schlagel of St. Cloud, Minnesota, upon his retirement after 40 years of service to the St. Cloud State University Men's Basketball Program.

Kevin Schlagel's dedication to Huskies basketball began when he was a player from 1972–1976 and helped bring home the Northern Intercollegiate Conference title his senior year. After 18 seasons as their top assistant coach, he was named the head coach of the Huskies during the 1997–1998 season. Under Coach Schlagel's leadership the Huskies earned a selection in the NCAA tournament eight times, and won the NCC Wells Fargo Finals Tournament twice, the NSIC Sanford Health Tournament twice, and the North Central Conference regular season title once.

In the Huskies' most prolific season ever, 2009–2010, they won a school record 29 games and made it to the NCAA Division II Final Four. After 17 years as the head coach, Kevin Schlagel is the winningest Men's Basketball coach in Huskies history with an overall record of 321–149.

Coach Schlagel is a great example of the important role that coaches play in our communities. He has been a true leader to young people, helping them develop skills that will enable them to be successful long after their last game.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body to join me in honoring Coach Kevin Schlagel upon his successful career at St. Cloud State University.

CELEBRATING GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY'S SESQUICENTENNIAL

HON. KEVIN YODER

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 2014

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Gallaudet University's sesquicentennial.

I am proud to serve as one of the U.S. Congress's members of their board of trustees during this momentous occasion. I acknowledge them both for their achievements as the Nation's premier institution for the Deaf, and for their storied history of excellence in education, improving access throughout America and the world.

In 1856, philanthropist and former postmaster general Amos Kendall donated land on his estate in northeast Washington, D.C. for a place to educate the city's Deaf youth, and, eight years later, President Abraham Lincoln signed a bill authorized by the U.S. Congress for the institution to grant college degrees.

Theology graduate Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet was inspired to dedicate his life to educating Deaf people after tutoring Alice Cogswell, a nine-year-old Deaf neighbor, and traveled to France, where he learned a man-

ual communication method of instruction developed by renowned French educators Abbe Sicard, Laurent Clerc, and Jean Massieu. Upon returning to the United States, Gallaudet established the American School for the Deaf, the nation's first permanent school for Deaf children, in Hartford, Connecticut.

In 1857, Gallaudet's youngest son, Edward Miner Gallaudet, took up his father's cause when he and his Deaf mother, Sophia Fowler Gallaudet, were invited by Kendall to run the newly established Columbia Institution for the Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind in Washington, D.C., and with Kendall's resources and Gallaudet's leadership and vision, the fledgling school grew and flourished, expanding to provide instruction for aspiring teachers of the Deaf and to become the world's first—and today retains the status of the only—institution of higher education devoted to Deaf and hard of hearing students, and to hearing students who pursue careers as professionals serving the Deaf community.

Gallaudet presided over the first commencement in June 1869. Those graduating that day received diplomas signed by President Ulysses S. Grant, and to this day the diplomas of all Gallaudet graduates are signed by the current U.S. President.

In 1969, President Lyndon Johnson signed the Model Secondary School for the Deaf Act (MSSD), and the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare and Gallaudet President Leonard Elstad signed an agreement authorizing the establishment and operation of the MSSD on the Gallaudet campus. One year later, President Nixon signed the bill that authorized the Kendall Demonstration Elementary School. Those two schools are part of Gallaudet's Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center, which is devoted to the creation and dissemination of educational opportunities for Deaf students nationwide.

By an act of Congress, Gallaudet was granted university status in October 1986 and presently Gallaudet's undergraduate students have their choice of more than 40 majors. Graduate programs offer certificates and master of arts, master of science, doctoral, and specialist degrees in many specialties regarding professional service to Deaf and hard of hearing people.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support for Gallaudet University and their essential mission here in our nation's capital. I congratulate all of the faculty, staff, students, and all involved with the Gallaudet community on their sesquicentennial.

TRIBUTE TO CARRIE CLOGG

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 2014

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Carrie Clogg of the Civic Music Association for being named a 2014 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers.