Tribute to Frank Prindle

Friday, January 5, 1996

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a great American, a great Army officer, a great Hoosier, and a great soldier. Last month Frank Prindle completed over 21 years of dedicated service to our country. As a soldier, leader, and finally as a trusted member of the Army’s Office of Congressional Liaison, House Division, he has provided dedicated and distinguished service.

Today as we honor his retirement, we reflect on the outstanding career which Frank started in 1970 when he entered the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and where he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in Signal Branch in 1974. Over the course of the past two decades he served in a variety of exceptionally challenging troop and staff assignments in the United States, Canada, Germany, and Korea. His positions of leadership include signal platoon leader, aviation service platoon leader, aviation company commander, and battalion operations officer during an exchange tour with the Canadian Armed Forces.

As a staff officer he saw duty in many tough and challenging positions, validating the confidence the Army placed in his demonstrated abilities. After serving in the field with many aviation units, Frank Prindle demonstrated his superb organizational skills while serving as the senior service college education officer, the aviation branch assignments officer for majors and as the executive officer to the Director of Officer Personnel Management Division, U.S. Army Military Personnel Command. His selection as a Congressional Fellow in 1991 further demonstrated the high regard which Prindle is held by the leadership of the Army. This 1-year tour led to his final assignment as a Congressional Liaison Officer for the Secretary of the Army, House Liaison Division.

During Frank Prindle’s tour in Army Legislative Liaison, he guided the Army’s relationship with a wide variety of committees and individual Members of Congress. His ability to remain calm and focused during a period of tremendous change was demonstrated continually in his dealings with both Members of Congress, professional staff, and personal staff. Through Frank Prindle’s involvement with the Veteran Affairs Committees, he ensured that the programs put in place during the downsizing of the Armed Forces continued to benefit the soldiers.

Frank Prindle’s career reflects a commitment to our Nation, characterized by dedicated selfless service, love for the Army and a commitment to excellence. Lt. Col. Frank L. Prindle’s performance, over two decades of service, personifies the traits of courage, competence, and integrity that our Nation has come to expect from its Army officers. On behalf of the Congress of the United States and the people of this great Nation, I offer our heartfelt appreciation and best wishes for a soldier who served his country so admirably.
The Circle of Elderly Care represents an innovative, model program of private and public community-based enterprises working together for our senior citizens. After two years of developing this program, Bertha (Betty) Villanueva, an owner of Indian Hills Senior Community, Inc., one of the largest privately owned, low income, senior community living complexes in the United States, has accomplished a creative and successful working network of programs and services for senior citizens to benefit from available local community resources.

Mrs. Villanueva identified the need for a comprehensive program of services to suit the unique needs of our senior citizens, such as medical, social, and transportation services. She then initiated efforts to bring together public and private entities to develop a network of quality services for senior citizens. The Circle of Elderly Care at the center of the Circle is Indian Hills Senior Community, located in Euclid, Ohio (a suburb of Cleveland) consisting of 37 acres of land and 10 residential apartments, which includes 101 residential buildings. Its 1,574 units are designed for senior citizens (55 and over) who can live independently. Not only does Indian Hills provide housing to its residents, but also a broad spectrum of services including health, security, transportation, and entertainment services. The Indian Hills complex also includes a senior apartment complex which includes 101 residential buildings. It has 1,574 units designed for senior citizens (55 and over) who can live totally independent. Across the street from the Indian Hills residential complex is Indian Hills Plaza which consists of several retail stores, including one of the largest drug store chains, a restaurant, medical center, ambulance service and senior day care, all of which are conveniently accessible to Indian Hills residents.

Now, due to Mrs. Villanueva's efforts, over a dozen different entities participate in the Circle of Elderly Care including:

**CITY OF EUCLID**

The City of Euclid has sponsored a seniors' program for its residents including a program at the Emeritus House, a multi-purpose senior center located in the center of the Indian Hills apartment complex. The program includes daily lunches and meals for homebound through the Western Reserve Area on Aging pursuant to the Older Americans Act), recreational programs, free transportation to stores, doctors, etc., and a specific senior employment program (sponsored through AARP), among others. These services are offered at no charge to Indian Hills residents.

**INDIAN HILLS NURSING CENTER**

The Indian Hills Nursing Center is a nursing home managed by Integrated Health Services, Inc., and is located across the street from the Indian Hills complex. It provides short and long-term care for senior citizens, and works with Indian Hills to assist Indian Hills' residents requiring a stay at the Center to return to independent living at Indian Hills, or assisted-living at Silverpointe. For example, Indian Hills will hold an apartment open if a resident needs a short stay in the Center.

**HEALTHWAYS, FAMILY MEDICAL CENTERS**

Healthways is a for-profit medical center affiliated with The Benjamin Rose Institute of Cleveland, Ohio. The Benjamin Rose Institute of Cleveland, Ohio, is one of the largest nonprofit psychiatric hospitals in the United States, providing on-site seminars to Indian Hills residents.

**BRI NORTHERN OHIO**

BRI Northern Ohio is a Medicare/Medicaid certified program for Indian Hills residents requiring medical care. An Indian Hills resident is treated at the University Hospitals emergency room, a University Hospitals social worker will contact the Indian Hills nurse to discuss the resident's return from the hospital to his or her residence. BRI Northern Ohio also has an office located at Indian Hills residents' apartment or the office, thereby providing complete accessibility to the senior citizens of Indian Hills.

**LAURELWOOD HOSPITAL**

Laurelwood Hospital is a non-profit psychiatric hospital providing in-patient care and outpatient counseling to senior citizens. Laurelwood Hospital has opened an office on Indian Hills' premises which is staffed by two psychotherapists. The psychologists provide psychiatric treatment to Indian Hills residents whether at the resident's apartment, or in the office, thereby providing complete accessibility to the senior citizens of Indian Hills.

**CUYAHOGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SENIOR AND ADULT SERVICES**

This Medicare/Medicaid certified program sponsored by Cuyahoga County, Ohio, provides non-protective, non-skilled home health services including nursing, physical and speech therapy and nutrition counseling. The County has designated a specific person to coordinate its available services with Indian Hills residents.

**OTHER MEDICAL SERVICES**

Indian Hills also has a dental office on the premises staffed by a dentist offering free dental exams, apart from calls and a discount to Indian Hills' residents. Additionally, it has a podiatrist with an office on-site offering discounted podiatry services to Indian Hills residents at their apartment or the office.

**AMERICAN RED CROSS**

The American Red Cross provides CPR and first aid training, disaster planning and blood pressure screenings on-site for Indian Hills residents.

This comprehensive model of care reflects the innovative networking of community agencies/services working towards a common goal—to give our senior citizens a choice of affordable, quality services and the ability to retain their dignity and independence. The Circle of Elderly Care at Indian Hills as its focal point is a novel and workable concept utilizing available community resources to serve our senior citizens.

I urge all my colleagues to give this information wide dissemination in their own districts.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**TONY LAKE ANOTHER UNSUNG HERO**

The Visiting Nurse Association of Cleveland has a non-profit agency providing home health care to residents of Indian Hills. The VNA has a social worker at Indian Hills two days a week to assist in coordinating home health care, mental health services and rehabilitation therapies. This social worker serves as the primary coordinator for Indian Hills residents with all of the other programs described here.

**TRI-CITY AMBULANCE, INC.**

This for-profit entity is located at Indian Hills Plaza and provides 24-hour emergency medical transportation staffed by licensed Emergency Medical Technicians and Para-medics. In addition, it has a wheelchair van service which offers transportation to Indian Hills residents for dialysis and other medical needs, and it offers Indian Hills residents a reduced price for its transportation services.

**WHY NOT NEW MEXICO HERO**

The City of Euclid has sponsored a seniors’ program for its residents including a program at the Emeritus House, a multi-purpose senior center located in the center of the Indian Hills apartment complex. The program includes daily lunches and meals for homebound through the Western Reserve Area on Aging pursuant to the Older Americans Act), recreational programs, free transportation to stores, doctors, etc., and a specific senior employment program (sponsored through AARP), among others. These services are offered at no charge to Indian Hills residents.

**MT. SINAI HEALTH CARE SYSTEM**

This nation recognized medical facility (named the number one hospital by Cleveland Health Quality Choice) works with Indian Hills to provide on-site lectures by physicians on geriatric related issues, and various medical screenings. A specific emergency room physician has been designated at Mt. Sinai to treat all Indian Hills residents to foster close contact between Mt. Sinai as the medical provider, and Indian Hills as the residence of the patient.

**VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION OF CLEVELAND**

The Visiting Nurse Association of Cleveland has a non-profit agency providing home health care to residents of Indian Hills. The VNA has a social worker at Indian Hills two days a week to assist in coordinating home health care, mental health services and rehabilitation therapies. This social worker serves as the primary coordinator for Indian Hills residents with all of the other programs described here.