

HONORING THE SUFFOLK COUNTY
POLICE

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 1996

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask all my colleagues to join me in supporting the Suffolk County police during their annual memorial service.

The Suffolk County Police Superior Officers Association, the Suffolk County Police Benevolent Association, and the Suffolk County Detectives Association, will be honoring their fellow officers who have given their lives on the line of duty. In particular, the associations will be dedicating a commemorative footstone in memory of Sgt. Timothy Henck.

Suffolk County Police Sgt. Timothy J. Henck passed away as a result of injuries received in the line of duty on August 6, 1995. Sergeant Henck sustained his injuries during a vehicle chase of a burglary suspect on the Long Island Expressway.

Sergeant Henck came from a family with a history of law enforcement and followed his father, the late Lt. Thomas Henck of the Suffolk County Police Department, into law enforcement. Sergeant Henck began his career in January 1986, as a member of the New York City Police Department, serving in Brooklyn. Later that year, Sergeant Henck joined the Suffolk County Police Department, where he was assigned to the 3d precinct and quickly won 15 departmental commendations.

In June 1994, Timothy Henck was promoted to Sergeant and earned the respect and admiration of all those who worked for and with him until his untimely death last year.

Sergeant Henck showed the full measure of his devotion to law enforcement and made the ultimate sacrifice while in the performance of his duty.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring Sergeant Henck and all the Suffolk County police officers who have given their lives in the line of duty.

AUTHORIZING ACQUISITION OF
PROPERTY FOR INCLUSION IN
AMAGANSETT NATIONAL WILD-
LIFE REFUGE

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, as a young man growing up on Long Island I have known of and visited Shadmoor. Purchasing this property is of great importance to me and my neighbors on Long Island.

The Shadmoor property consists of 98 acres of dramatic oceanfront property at Montauk, in the town of East Hampton, NY. Shadmoor supports one of the largest and most viable populations of the endangered and federally listed sandplain gerardia, New York State's rarest plant. Once widespread along the Northeast coast, sandplain gerardia is now known to inhabit fewer than 10 sites in the world, 5 of those on Long Island.

This important population of sandplain gerardia grows on privately owned property.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service [USFWS] targeted this site for acquisition in its 1991 Northeast Coastal Areas Study. But so far, money has not been provided. Meanwhile, the property owners are very close to obtaining final approval for a subdivision that would lead to development of home lots at Shadmoor, effectively ending years of effort to save this population of sandplain gerardia.

H.R. 1836 is a bill authorizing the Fish and Wildlife Service to include Shadmoor in the Amagansett National Wildlife Refuge. Shadmoor is currently threatened by creeping development at its edges and if action is not taken promptly it could be lost.

Over the last 20 years, Long Island, and New York State, have received almost no Federal dollars for the acquisition of lands to protect endangered species. Nationally, few Federal dollars have been used to protect the habitat of critically imperiled plant species, while tens of millions have been spent for other purposes. Saving this property would go a long way toward correcting this inequity.

Shadmoor represents a unique combination of habitat for federally and State endangered species, offering a half mile of Atlantic Ocean coastline and having historical significance. Adjacent to 17 acres of East Hampton Town Parkland, the Northeast Coastal Areas Study prepared by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service [USFWS] in 1991 targeted the Shadmoor property for protection.

The USFWS believes it is critical for local entities to contribute to our important effort and recently the Town Board of East Hampton passed a resolution supporting the Federal acquisition of Shadmoor and agreeing to consider appropriating town money to help acquire the tract. The Nature Conservancy has also pledged funds to help purchase Shadmoor.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sara Davison and Stuart Lowrie of the Nature Conservancy, Carol Morrison of the Concerned Citizens of Montauk, and Cathy Lester supervisor of the town of East Hampton for all of their hard work to protect Shadmoor.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to bring to your attention H.R. 2005, the bill I introduced to make technical corrections in coastal barrier resources systems map that is also being considered today as an amendment to H.R. 1836. H.R. 2005 is a bill of great importance to the residents of the Point O'Woods community on Long Island. It passed the House under unanimous consent on October 29, 1995. This legislation corrects the mapping error that designated private property on Fire Island as an otherwise protected area on the coastal barrier resources system [CBRS] map of the Fire Island national seashore, making individuals ineligible for flood insurance for new constructions or relocated houses. This designation prevented the Point O'Woods community from proceeding with their 30-year land use plan.

There was never any reason to believe that the mapping error was anything but inadvertent. In any event, common sense and equity dictated that this error be corrected and because CBRS boundaries cannot be adjusted without congressional approval, this legislation solves the problem.

Point O'Woods is a unique community in that it has worked with the town of Brookhaven and FEMA to move up to 17 houses from the beach, and to permit the re-

building of the dunes for future protection of the community.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1836 and H.R. 2005 are very important to the residents of Long Island and I want to thank you, Chairman YOUNG of the Resources Committee, Chairman SAXTON of the Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans for your support of these bills and for bringing them to the floor expeditiously for a vote.

SERVICE ACADEMY GRADUATES,
TOP ROTC HAVE EARNED A REG-
ULAR COMMISSION

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 1996

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend my colleagues in the House National Security Committee for their support for my amendment to H.R. 3230 in committee which restores the regular, active duty commissions to graduates of the Military Academy—West Point—Naval Academy—Annapolis—Air Force Academy and top Reserve Officer Training Corps—ROTC—graduates.

As many of my colleagues know, I introduced this amendment as a bill, H.R. 2016, of which Chairman Robert Dornan and Congressman Jack Reed are original cosponsors. I am pleased that my colleagues supported the amendment by voice vote when I offered it on May 1 in the committee.

As a result of a change in the fiscal year 1993 Department of Defense authorization bill, beginning October 1, 1996, graduates of the military service academies and top ROTC graduates will receive a Reserve commission, instead of a regular, active duty commission. At the time of the change, the rationale was that regular commissioned officers received advantages over Reserve commissioned officers during the drawdown. Subsequently, the services received permission from Congress to subject regular officers to involuntary separation on the same basis as officers with Reserve commissions.

The difference for officers between the two types of commissions has become largely honorary, but it is an important incentive. Granting regular commissions rewards the hard work and sacrifices of these top graduates. Service academy and top ROTC graduates deserve the recognition for their dedication and excellence.

The difference for Congress between the two types of commissions is significant. Since it is easier to resign with a Reserve commission, granting regular commissions to Service Academy graduates protects our investment in them. It will also save taxpayer money spent on convening boards to review the applicants for regular commission status. The academies and the ROTC programs currently do a fine job of screening unqualified officer candidates.

As the two Chambers go to conference on H.R. 3230, I urge my colleagues to support the restoration of the regular, active duty commissions. The Military Service Academy and top ROTC graduates have earned a regular commission.