

RECOGNIZING CHIEF QUARTERMASTER WILLIAM P. SHATRAW

HON. ROBERT A. WEYGAND

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 2000

Mr. WEYGAND. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize a truly outstanding Chief Petty Officer in our great Navy. Chief Quartermaster (Submarines) William P. Shatraw completes more than twenty years of service to our nation and transfers from our newest and most capable attack submarine, U.S.S. *Connecticut* (SSN 22) to the Fleet Reserve of the United States Navy. A ceremony is being held on Friday in his honor at the Historic Ship *Nautilus* in Groton, Connecticut. It is a pleasure for me to recognize just a few of his outstanding achievements.

A native of Albany, New York, he enlisted in the United States Navy after receiving his high school diploma from Christian Brothers Academy in Albany. Following recruit training in Orlando, Florida, he attended a series of schools to prepare him for his first assignment, in the Navigation department aboard U.S.S. *George Washington Carver* (SSBN 656) (Gold). Chief Shatraw completed five patrols aboard *Carver*.

Leaving the *Carver* in May 1985 he reported to the Naval Submarine School in Groton, Connecticut where he taught others the art of navigating the world's oceans.

In February 1989, he returned to sea aboard U.S.S. *Providence* (SSN 719) where he completed four deployments that were vital to national security. After a promotion to Chief Petty Officer in 1991, he was transferred to the attack submarine U.S.S. *Gato* (SSN 615) where he served as the Assistant Navigator until March 1994.

In April 1994 he reported to the Staff of the Commander Submarine Development Squadron Twelve in Groton, Connecticut, for duty as Assistant Operations Officer. During this assignment he provided assistance to assigned submarines in their preparation for extended deployments and he coordinated exercises and operating area management.

Chief Shatraw was selected as a member of the pre-commissioning crew for U.S.S. *Connecticut* (SSN 22), reporting for duty in April 1997. He organized and trained an inexperienced Navigation division, molding them into one of the finest teams in the Atlantic Fleet.

Even as Chief Shatraw enjoys his well-earned retirement in Hope Valley, Rhode Island, the Navy will continue to benefit from his service. He has left behind a legacy of excellence in the dozens of young submariners he has personally trained. They will continue to patrol the ocean depths ready to project power from under the sea.

Mr. Speaker, during Bill Shatraw's twenty year naval career, he and his family have made many sacrifices for this Nation. I would like to thank them all—Bill, his lovely wife Sharon, and their two children, Kendra and Billy—for their contributions to the Navy and to our nation.

As Chief Shatraw departs the Navy for new challenges ahead, I call upon my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to wish him every success, as well as fair winds and following seas.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF THE LALONDE FAMILY

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 2000

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a family that has reached a significant milestone. On May 7, 2000, the LaLonde family of Standish, Michigan celebrated 100 years of continuous family farming.

On May 7, 1900, Samuel and Helen LaLonde purchased and began farming a plot of land in Arenac County that once belonged to the Saginaw Railroad Company. They produced various crops and had a herd of dairy cows. Through hard work, long hours and complete dedication to farming they were able, over the years, to purchase additional surrounding land and expand their family farm.

In 1913, Samuel and Helen LaLonde passed the land down to Mose and Eva LaLonde, their son and daughter-in-law. The second generation of LaLondes continued to farm until Mose's death in 1951, when their son and daughter-in-law, Donald and Bernadine LaLonde, began managing the property. In 1961, they purchased the farm and continued to manage and reside on the LaLonde farm. In 1967 the barn that housed their dairy operation burned down. Unwilling to give up, the LaLonde family switched operations and increased their production of corn, soybeans, green beans and sugar beets.

The LaLonde family has been one of the lucky few who have held on to their farm through two World Wars, the Great Depression, and numerous other economically difficult times in American agriculture. They have responded to America's call for better conservation, vigilance in food safety and attention to nutrition while always making sure that the steady flow of food is uninterrupted.

Mr. Speaker, the LaLondes are a fine example of American farmers who have lived life with uncertainty in order to put food on our tables. Each day they rise before the sun in order to cultivate the land or tend livestock, not knowing what the weather will bring or how market conditions will affect their bottom line. Farmers and ranchers across the country provide a solid foundation for our nation by ensuring that our basic food needs are taken care of—they are the backbone of America.

One hundred years of family farming is a rare feat. I commend the LaLonde family for their hard work and commitment to American agriculture. I wish them another 100 years of prosperous and successful family farming.

CONGRATULATING AMBASSADOR STEPHEN CHEN UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 2000

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, after serving nearly fifty years as a diplomat for his country and his last two years as his country's Representative in the United States, Ambassador Stephen Chen will be resigning from government service and returning to Taipei.

Always gracious and diplomatic, Ambassador Chen has impressed everyone with his industry, his wit and humor, and his erudition. An expert on subjects familiar and arcane, Ambassador Chen is a diplomat's diplomat.

Even though Ambassador Chen represents a country that has no formal ties with the United States, Ambassador Chen, with the very able assistance of aide Leonard Chao, has overcome many formidable obstacles in maintaining proper contacts with our State Department, and in building many friendships on Capitol Hill. When it comes to working for his country and his people, Ambassador Chen says with a smile: "To make up our lack of access to executive branches, we must work with our friends on the hill. We must help lawmakers see that Taiwan is a full democracy, sharing many of the democratic ideals with the United States. We must stress to our friends that it is not necessary for the United States to sacrifice Taiwan's interests in order for the United States to improve its relations with the PRC." In my opinion, Ambassador Chen has achieved his objectives in Congress. He has made numerous friends on the Hill and has convinced many of us that both Taiwan and the PRC can be true beneficiaries of a wise U.S. East Asia policy.

Mr. Speaker, Ambassador Chen has earned our respect and genuine affection during his tenure in Washington. It has been my privilege to know Stephen and his charming wife Rosa and to enjoy their warm hospitality at Twin Oaks. I will miss their charm, their wit and their graciousness. I send Stephen and Rosa my best wishes for the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF MIKE CAUSEY, COLUMNIST FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 2000

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD the last column by Mike Causey, who is moving on to a new career after 36 years at the Washington Post.

As the Post's "Federal Dairy" columnist, Mr. Causey has been covering federal employee issues for years, and as a Member of Congress who has many federal employees in my district, it has been a pleasure working with him. He has always been fair and objective, and I want to wish him all the best as he moves on to a new career.

[From The Washington Post, May 8, 2000]

TODAY'S THE DAY DIARY COLUMNIST TURNS THE PAGE

(Federal Diary by Mike Causey)

Well, there comes a time, and this is it.

This is my last Federal Diary column for the Washington Post.

I leave this job pretty much as I entered it: still suspicious of the statistics that powerful organizations pump out. For example:

The usually reliable Washington Post—my longtime home—says I produced 11,287 bylines. It seems like more than that. But who's counting?

Also, The Post says I've been here for 36 years—as messenger, copy boy, reporter and columnist. They got the job titles right. But 36 years? It seems like only yesterday. Honest.