

Bob, and I ask that my colleagues rise and join me in saluting Bob Rucker as Merced's Citizen of the Year.

HONORING STEVE DAVIS,
AVIATION LEADER

HON. CHRISTOPHER COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2000

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, today I join with each of my colleagues in recognizing Steve Davis for his extraordinary contributions to American aviation, his dedication to his country, and his commitment to excellence.

In just three years, we will celebrate the 100-year anniversary of the first powered flight by man. On December 17, 1903, Orville and Wilbur Wright broke the bonds of earth after conquering serious technological and scientific obstacles. But the biggest obstacle they faced was the absolute certainty of those around them that it "simply couldn't be done." Bishop Wright said, during a sermon in 1890, "If God meant man to fly, he would have given him wings." Yet, just 13 years after their own father ordained it impossible, the Wright Brothers proved that perseverance and faith can overcome even the greatest of seeming impossibilities.

Steve Davis is one of those rare men who, like the Wright Brothers, never listened to those who told him it "couldn't be done." As a Navy pilot in Vietnam, a key leader with Frank Borman at Eastern Airlines, the founder of his own airline, and a respected leader among his aviation colleagues in Orange County, Steve Davis has long been in the forefront of aviation. He has taken on each challenge with the absolute certainty that nothing is impossible.

Steve Davis has proven to every American that, with the right attitude, even the greatest obstacles can be overcome. Steve gives 110 percent effort, 100 percent of the time. He has served his country with distinction, his industry with honor, and his friends and family with love.

Steve Davis's efforts and can-do optimism are appreciated by all who know him. In behalf of every one of us in the United States Congress, as well as all of the people of Orange County whom it is my privilege to represent, I am honored to extend to Steve Davis a hearty "thank you" and warmest congratulations for a job well done—and a shining example for all of us to follow.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO TOFT'S
DAIRY ON THE OCCASION OF ITS
ONE-HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2000

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding business in Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. On Friday, June 23, 2000, Toft's Dairy will host an Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social to celebrate its one-hundredth birthday.

Toft's Dairy began in 1900, in Sandusky, Ohio, as the dream of Chris and Matilda Toft. The Toft's venture into the dairy business began as they started selling milk to customers in their rural area. With a great deal of hard work and determination, the Toft family was able to obtain a horse and wagon and began hauling large containers of milk to the city of Sandusky.

In 1935, the Toft family began to further expand its operation and purchased the Oswald Dairy. With the acquisition of this retail dairy, the Toft Dairy operation began and would continue as the business that we know today. Over the years, many members of the Toft family began to work in the dairy as it expanded its size and scope in serving the Sandusky area.

Toft's Dairy continued its efforts to diversify and grow as it began to pasteurize and homogenize milk and make its own ice cream. The 1960s and 70s brought enormous growth to the dairy as the company added new products, property, and equipment. In fact, in 1968, Toft's Dairy was the first dairy in the area to bottle milk in gallon plastic jugs.

Mr. Speaker, Toft's Dairy is the second oldest dairy still in business in the state of Ohio. That is quite an accomplishment. And, Toft's Dairy is the only locally owned and operated dairy on the Lake Erie shoreline between Lorain and Toledo. Toft's supplies products to more than 250 schools and 1,200 customers.

Mr. Speaker, it is often said that America succeeds due to the ingenuity and hard work of her sons and daughters. I think that is clear and true statement as the descendants of the Toft and Meisler families continue the Toft's Dairy tradition today. At this point, I would urge my colleagues in the 106th Congress to stand and join me in paying special tribute to Toft's Dairy. We congratulate you on your one-hundredth birthday and we wish you continued success far into the future.

HONORING KENNETH I. WARREN

HON. RONNIE SHOWS

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2000

Mr. SHOWS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a minute to tell my colleagues and the American People about my friend, Kenneth I. Warren of Mississippi. Ken is retiring this year from the Mississippi Department of Transportation where he has been working since 1963. Over these nearly four decades, Ken has been a driving force behind the incredible strides forward in transportation made in Mississippi.

It is easy to heap praise on Ken because he has contributed so much to his fellow-Mississippians over the years. Both professionally and personally, Ken has been a role model for his colleagues and friends. Whether leading the music at Porter's Chapel United Methodist Church, sharing his life at Cursillo, speaking his mind on the Transportation Research Board, or spending time with his family, Ken is always sincere, warm, and genuine.

When I arrived at the Mississippi Department of Transportation as Transportation Commissioner in 1988, Ken had already been around for 25 years, and he was more than willing to share his knowledge and offer his

advice. Ken leaves a void at MDOT that will not be easily filled.

I look forward to many more years of friendship and interaction with Ken Warren. It will not be through MDOT. Ken is moving on. But, our friendship will continue. To Ken Warren I say thank you for serving Mississippi in the fashion you did and for the contributions you have made to your state and nation.

THE NEA'S POLITICAL
PRODUCTIONS

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, in recent weeks, the House has spent considerable time discussing the Fiscal Year 2001 appropriations bills, and I have joined my colleagues in debating the best uses of the American taxpayers' hard-earned money. As we evaluate the Department of the Interior Appropriations bill, I believe it is necessary to bring to light an egregious misuse of taxpayer dollars.

In 1965, President Lyndon Johnson created a program intended to advance and promote artistic endeavors in this country called the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). On the surface, this seems a worthwhile cause. After all, who doesn't want to support ballet, theater, paintings and sculpture designed to enlighten and uplift audiences?

I am a strong supporter of the arts. In fact my office sponsors an art competition so students in my district can compete in the nationwide art competition sponsored by this House. I believe in supporting local artists to express their artistic talents. That is why I find it unfortunate NEA funding is often misused to support endeavors not intended to uplift and enlighten, but to advance ideas that are clearly obscene, anti-family and sacrilegious. This is more than unfortunate. It is unacceptable.

Just this past April, the Irondale Ensemble Project performed the play "The Pope and The Witch" at the Theater for New City in New York's East Village. This production was written by Dario Fo, an Italian satirist, communist and anti-Catholic activist. "The Pope and The Witch," portrays a paranoid pope addicted to heroin who is influenced by a witch dressed as a nun. As the play unfolds, various positions in the Catholic clergy are portrayed in an extremely sacrilegious manner including the portrayal of a drug-addicted pontiff promoting abortion and the legalization of drugs. In the play, he is gunned down by his own church. Fo's production maliciously describes the teachings of the Catholic Church and trivializes the role of its clergy, glorifying the use of narcotics. This production is offensive and a reprehensible use of hard-earned taxpayer dollars.

Is this the type of "art" the NEA had in mind when it gave the Irondale Ensemble Project a \$15,000 grant and the Theater for the New City a \$12,000 grant? As the representative of Colorado's Fourth Congressional District, I cannot approve \$27,000 of taxpayer money being allocated to a political production which attacks Catholicism and promotes illegal drug use. This is a travesty and complete violation of the trust the American people have placed in the Congress to spend their money wisely.

Mr. Speaker, I support the amendment to reduce the NEA's funding offered by Mr. STEARNS of Florida. Mr. STEARNS amendment would shift a small amount—2 percent—of the NEA funds to wildland fire management. The NEA is funded at \$98 million. Private funds for the arts are in excess of \$ 10 billion. This is \$10,098,000,000 for the arts. Mr. Speaker, just outside of my hometown of Ft. Collins, Colorado a massive wildfire is raging, destroying homes and wildlife habitat. This is only one of thousands of wildfires not just in the West, but the entire United States. Is 2 percent too much to ask for a serious threat which is affecting thousands of people? Is 2 percent too much to ask for when you contrast my plea with the highly offensive and political "productions" the taxpayers are involuntarily funding through the NEA? Clearly, such a small transfer is not too much to ask, and is the right and responsible action for Congress to take. How can anyone argue seriously for more funding for productions like "The Pope and The Witch" against fire management funds?

The Stearns amendment is a concerted effort to regain those federal dollars that were so egregiously misused. The amendment sends a clear message to the NEA: Congress will not support the use of taxpayer dollars to promote anti-Catholic hate speech or any other anti-religious bigotry. I am outraged, not only as a Catholic, but as a citizen of this country founded on principles of religious tolerance. The government of the United States has no place in financially endorsing the efforts of a communist playwright in his political mission of defaming a sacred institution which is embraced by millions of Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I am an ardent defender of free speech, and believe firmly in the right of free Americans to speak against any virtue, yet we must not confuse the right to "free speech" with the perversion of "subsidized speech." Mr. Fo's right to say what he will clearly does not entail a right to public funding. In fact the greater offense is to the conscientious Americans forced to subsidize Fo's bigotry at the hands of the NEA's despotic administrators.

It is time the United States government remove itself from the dangerous practice of supporting anti-religious campaigns of any kind whether in the name of art. The amendment is a necessary step in doing just that.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EVA M. CLAYTON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2000

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, June 21, 2000, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote No. 298.

Had I been present, the following is how I would have voted: Rollcall No. 298 (H. Res. 528) "yea". "Providing for consideration of H.J. Res. 90; Withdrawing the Approval of the Congress from the Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization."

HINCHEY AMENDMENT

SPEECH OF

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 21, 2000

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Chairman, I strongly support the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York Mr. HINCHEY.

Congressman HINCHEY has been a tireless crusader for the rights of our nation's veterans, and this amendment highlights this fact by forcing the VA to abandon its flawed funding formula for providing for the health care needs of America's veterans.

Under the current system, VERA bases its resource allocation on sending more dollars to areas where there are more veterans—not where the needs are the greatest.

While that may sound rationale—the result has been horrendous for areas of the country like Queens and the Bronx, where I represent.

The facts bare out that increasingly more VA dollars are going to the South and Southwest portions of the country where more veterans live—veterans who are often younger and healthier. The result is less resources in the areas of the country, like New York City, where the veterans are older, sicker, and in more desperate need of care.

I held a recent veterans Town Hall meeting in my district at the Eastern Paralyzed Veterans Association office in Jackson Heights.

There, a constituent informed me of a VA hospital he saw while on vacation in Florida.

It was a state of the art facility, with plenty of doctors and nurses on call—and no patients.

They informed me that the place was virtually empty—but they have the best money can buy.

In New York City, meanwhile, we continue to see lay-offs of the professional doctors and nurses at our VA hospitals and clinics; long lines for care; and a far too high ratio of nurses per patient.

I am not saying that we should deprive our veterans in the South and Southwest part of the country their fair share of resources—all we ask for this amendment is that the VA provide equal treatment and resources to all veterans regardless of where they reside.

It is a shame that the VERA system has pitted veterans in one region of the country versus veterans in other regions.

Therefore, I am supportive of the Hinchey amendment to prohibit any federal funds from implementing or administering the VERA system.

I ask all of my colleagues from throughout the nation to support this amendment that has caused so much pain for so many veterans.

IN HONOR OF THE LATE ROBERT TRENT JONES, SR.

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2000

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of one of the legendary figures in the world of golf, Robert Trent Jones, Sr. When Trent Jones died last week at the age of 93,

he was regarded as the greatest golf course designer in history and the patriarch of the first family of golf.

His accomplishments in golf course construction and design are stunning in both their scope and beauty. He created more than 350 courses and remodeled more than 150 others. In a profession where designing a half-dozen well-regarded courses is an achievement, 79 of Trent Jones's courses were used for national championships including the U.S. Open. Every continent in the world hosts one of his courses, and he was fond of saying, "The sun never sets on a Robert Trent Jones golf course."

The U.S. Open was played so many times on a Robert Trent Jones, Sr. course he became inextricably linked to this premier golf event. He was known as the "Open Doctor" because he frequently was called to change a course in anticipation of it hosting the world's top golfers at the Open.

And while the "Open Doctor" was a name he was pleased to be called in public, he was just as proud of the names he was called by golfers, privately muttered under their breath as they finished a round on one of his courses. Trent Jones believed a golfer needed to attack a course—and the course should attack back. His courses were beautiful to look at, but a challenge to play. He believed par meant par. To break par one should be an extraordinary golfer.

Golf is a game where stories and legends have a particular importance. Trent Jones enjoyed the stories professional golfers told about his courses and the challenge they presented. The great Ben Hogan called one of his courses a "monster" and at a reception for Hogan's U.S. Open victory Mr. Hogan told Mr. Jones's wife, Lone, "If your husband had to play this course for a living, he'd be on the breadline." Twenty years later at another U.S. Open a professional golfer said the course was too difficult. When the pro was asked what the course was missing he said, "Eighty acres of corn and a few cows."

In a now legendary story, at the 1954 U.S. Open, golfers were complaining that a hole Trent Jones had redesigned for the tournament was too difficult. Jones, himself an outstanding golfer, played the hole prior to the tournament with the club pro, the tournament chair and another golfer. Other Open golfers gathered around the tee in eager anticipation of tee shots going into a huge water hazard Jones had placed in front of the green.

After the first three golfers teed off and made it to the green, Mr. Jones swung a 4-iron and promptly made a hole in one. Turning to the golfers around him he said, "Gentlemen, the hole is fair. Eminently fair."

Mr. Speaker, in addition to all of these achievements, Robert Trent Jones, Sr. was the head of perhaps golfing's greatest dynasty. His two sons, Robert Trent Jones, Jr. and Rees Jones are also world famous golf course designers and are icons in the golfing world.

Robert Trent Jones, Sr. died last week on the eve of the 100th U.S. Open at Pebble Beach in California. The tournament, won by Tiger Woods, was one of the most memorable played and signaled the arrival of an outstanding champion.

One legend departing and one just arriving. Trent Jones would have understood the beauty and harmony of that. He knew that was