

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2001

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 221, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present I would have voted "aye."

I ask unanimous consent that this statement appear in the RECORD following the announcement of the vote.

TRIBUTE TO AMANDA PARKER OF QUINCY, MI—LEGRAND SMITH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2001

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence she has compiled in academics, leadership and community service, that I rise to salute Amanda Parker, winner of the 2001 LeGrand Smith Congressional Scholarship. This award is made to young adults who have demonstrated that they are truly committed to playing important roles in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Congressional scholarship, Amanda is honored for demonstrating that same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan.

Amanda Parker is an exceptional student at Quincy High School and possesses an impressive high school record. Amanda has received numerous awards for her academic achievement and her success as a young athlete. She is active in student government, as well as volunteering her time to various community service projects, such as helping to collect donations for a food drive to provide area families with a traditional Thanksgiving Day dinner.

Therefore, I am proud to join with her many admirers in extending my highest praise and congratulations to Amanda Parker. This honor is also a testament to the parents, teachers, and others whose personal interest, strong support and active participation contributed to her success. To this remarkable young woman, I extend my most heartfelt good wishes for all her future endeavors.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF MASTER POLICE OFFICER JOSH BROWN

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2001

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker: I rise today to honor a gentleman who has devoted a great deal of his time and energy to Fairfax County, Virginia.

Master Police Officer Josh Brown will retire Friday, July 13, 2001 after 23 years of service with the Mason District Station of the Fairfax County Police Department. He also gave 17

years to the Crime Prevention and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED).

With his prominent role as an officer of the law, MPO Brown has been able to bring many topics to the attention of his community. He has given many lectures on the importance of school security, as well as a variety of other safety lectures, including: lighting, commercial security, risk assessments, violence in the workplace, and community crime prevention. He has spoken at state, national, and international conferences on community crime prevention, lighting, and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED).

MPO Brown specializes in risk assessments of schools, businesses and communities. The Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services and the International Society of Crime Prevention practitioners have certified him as a Crime Prevention Specialist. He has also been awarded the Meritorious Service Award by the Fairfax County Police and was named Officer of the Year by Police and Citizens Together, a division of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

His knowledge of crime and its prevention has enabled him to write brochures on commercial robbery prevention, substance abuse, and trail safety. He has also produced literature on rape and assault prevention, as well as Neighborhood Watch training guides. His dedication to keeping his community as safe as possible is extremely admirable, and I am proud of his achievements.

MPO Brown has many interests outside the department. He is married with three children, who take up much of his space time. In years past he has given his time to being a Scoutmaster, coach, and fundraiser for children's school groups.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I am glad to pay tribute to MPO Josh Brown who has given so many years to the police department as well as being a devoted father and member of the community. I hope my colleagues join me in saluting such a remarkable individual.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2001

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 216, on agreeing to the amendment. Had I been present I would have voted "no." Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 217, on agreeing to the amendment. Had I been present I would have voted "yea." Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 218, on agreeing to the amendment. Had I been present I would have voted "no."

INTRODUCING THE TROPICAL CYCLONE INLAND FORECASTING IMPROVEMENT AND WARNING SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT ACT

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2001

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to improve the fore-

casting of inland flooding associated with tropical storms and to develop an inland flood warning system to alert residents of dangerous flooding.

The people of North Carolina are all too familiar with the death and devastation that can come from the heavy rains that hurricanes and tropical storms often bring to our state. In 1999, Hurricane Floyd killed forth-eight people and caused nearly \$3 billion worth of property damage, primarily through flooding in inland communities. Recently, Tropical Storm Allison cut a path across the nation, killing more than 50 people.

If Floyd and Allison taught us anything, it was that we have been more successful preparing coastal communities for these types of storms than in preparing inland communities. Too many folks think of hurricanes or tropical storms as something that affects only the coast and beach cottages. These storms hit us where we live.

Floyd and Allison demonstrated all too clearly that the greatest threat posed by these storms are the torrential rains that often do the most damage hundreds of miles inland. A new study by Ed Rappaport of the Tropical Prediction Center shows that since 1970, freshwater flooding caused 59 percent of storm deaths in the United States, whereas only one percent lost their lives in coastal storms surges.

Inland residents need a warning system that raises the awareness of the destructiveness of these storms so they can protect their families and their property.

Currently, technology exists to help track and prepare coastal communities for the wind, rain, and storm surge damage associated with tropical cyclones. But, now we must move forward with efforts to improve inland flood forecasting and warnings. This bill will provide the funds and the road map to get us there. Ultimately, we can save lives.

This legislation builds on work being done by National Weather Service (NWS), emergency management officials, meteorologists and others to reduce the risks of injury due to inland flooding. The bill authorizes \$5.75 million over five years for the National Weather Service to improve its ability to forecast inland flooding associated with tropical storms and hurricanes and to develop and deploy an inland flood warning index or system—such as one similar to the Saffir-Simpson scale for wind speed familiar to coastal residents.

Joe Allbaugh, Director of the Federal Emergency Management Administration, recently expressed a too prevalent view about storm damage when he said, "I don't think that we can fault the forecasters. No one can predict 36 inches of rain."

We must do better than that. It's time to develop the tools so forecasters can warn the public and emergency management officials of the potential for flooding associated with tropical cyclones. We are in the middle of hurricane season, and a deadly storm could occur any day now. I am pleased that my bill has the support of so many Science Committee members including Chairman BOEHLERT and ranking member HALL. I hope we can see action on this life-saving bill soon.