

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO BANU SINAR

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2001

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of Banu Sinar of New Hyde Park. I have named her Citizen of the Month in the Fourth Congressional District for August 2001 in recognition of her outstanding abilities and growth as a student in the Literacy Volunteers of America—Nassau County (LVA-NC). LVA-NC is a non-profit organization that recruits and trains volunteers to work one-on-one or in small groups of students to improve their English language skills.

I hope Banu's example and her desire to improve her English and literacy skills will encourage people to volunteer their time to the Literacy Volunteers. With over 400 students waiting for help, I encourage the residents of the Fourth District to become involved.

Banu was selected as 2001 Literacy Volunteers Student of the Year. Today, there are more than 1,000 students currently studying with the organization, free of charge.

A Turkish immigrant who arrived in the United States two and a half years ago, Banu's fluency in Turkish enabled her to perform well at the international trade company where she works as a purchasing and sales agent. However, in order to feel more at home in the United States and to help her young daughter with homework, she wanted to learn to speak English. Banu enrolled with LVA-NC, and was assigned to tutor Marion Legler, also of New Hyde Park.

Banu's accomplishments are truly remarkable, and is an example of how tutors can make a difference in people's lives. I applaud her motivation and extraordinary commitment to her studies.

Wanting to contribute something to the organization that had assisted her so greatly, Banu helped to found LVA-NC's new Student Advisory Council. The group was established as a forum for students to help develop programs to aid new adult learners.

Banu lives with her husband Hankan and daughter Asli in New Hyde Park. I congratulate Banu and her family on this achievement, and on the impending birth of their second child in October.

IN HONOR OF MS. VERA HALL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a great woman who has led a distinguished life of humanitarian activism, Ms. Vera Hall.

Ms. Hall is the daughter of Russian Immigrants who migrated to Ashtabula County

where she grew up on a farm. Ms. Hall attended Ohio State University and later transferred to Radio School during World War II and began a career communicating and recording vital information to airline pilots. During the next 40 years Vera worked for the commercial airlines Pennsylvania Central which eventually became United Airlines. Throughout the four decades she was active in the labor movement first as ACEC and then CWA.

Her hobbies include gardening and the environment along with issues concerning peace. Ms. Hall is an expert organic gardener whose colorful perennial flower gardens are breathtaking. She is a dedicated environmentalist in her daily lifestyle as well as in her political beliefs. She is serious, committed, informed, and articulate on the issues of her concerns. She has served as the treasurer for both Womens International League for Peace and Freedom and for the Racial and Economic Equality. Ms. Hall has protested war, nuclear armament, racism, apartheid, and sexism.

Ms. Hall also enjoys spending her time enjoying the arts. She supports the theater, museums, music venues and other cultural institutions.

Mr. Speaker, please rise today and join me in applauding an individual who has made numerous contributions to the Cleveland area, Ms. Vera Hall.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO AUTHORIZE THE USE OF A VESSEL TO TRANSPORT THE FORMER NAVAL MEDIUM HARBOR TUG U.S.S. HOGA TO PORT EVERGLADES, FLORIDA, FOR USE AS A MEMORIAL TO VETERANS AND FOR PROVIDING VOCATIONAL SEAMANSHIP TRAINING

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2001

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to introduce a bill which authorizes the use of a vessel to transport the naval harbor tug U.S.S. *Hoga* to Port Everglades, Florida, for use as a memorial to veterans and provide vocational seamanship training.

This bill will carry out the longstanding intent of Congress in preserving and protecting historic landmarks and national monuments. The U.S.S. *Hoga* is recognized by the United States Park Service as a national monument, and appears in the national register of historic places. Unfortunately, the U.S.S. *Hoga* is no longer seaworthy, and cannot safely be towed on the open sea. If towed through the water, it may fall apart, and we stand to lose this national monument forever. Thus, I encourage you, Mr. Speaker, and my colleagues here in Congress, to support this initiative that will allow a means to transport the U.S.S. *Hoga* on a transporter vessel, enabling the ship to arrive undamaged to the state of Florida.

Veterans have long been the thread holding together our nation, defining American independence, and ensuring American freedom. Despite the high concentration of World War II veterans in Florida, with the majority of them calling South Florida home, the state of Florida is the only coastal state without a commemorative World War II warship. This legislation will assist the U.S.S. *Hoga* Association in transporting the U.S.S. *Hoga* to its final resting place at the New River in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

Mr. Speaker, in the next two decades, the last of the World War II veterans will have passed on. As an immobile World War II veteran, the U.S.S. *Hoga* will be a place for future generations to pay homage to those who fought bravely under and for the United States flag. The U.S.S. *Hoga* is indeed a national treasure, and will serve many additional uses in the state of Florida. Currently, boatyards are underemployed, and fewer Americans consider a calling to defend our great country. In addition to being a memorial, the U.S.S. *Hoga* will be used to train students in seamanship duties and promote national defense by preparing young Americans for service in the United States Navy.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, let me say that I take a great deal of pride in the fact that South Florida boasts one of the nation's highest percentage of World War II veterans. I would also like to commend the U.S.S. *Hoga* Association for the tremendous work and effort it has contributed to attain this goal. As we approach the 65-year mark commemorating the beginning of World War II, I ask that we fulfill a small request made by Florida veterans to aid them in transporting a tribute to those citizens who fought for our country.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING WAYNE BEVILL

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2001

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr./Rev. Wayne Bevill who is retiring after twenty-five years of dedication and service to the Macon Rescue Mission. Dr. Bevill has been such an inspiration to everyone he comes in contact with and will be loved and missed by the staff and Board of Directors.

I have been pleased since my election to the House of Representatives to have served on the Advisory Board of the Macon Rescue Mission and to have participated in the Grand Opening ceremonies for their fine new facility in Macon. After working so closely with Wayne Bevill on a number of faith-based endeavors, I have learned what an outstanding man he really is.

His extensive list of contributions to the community is astounding. He graduated from

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Rice Seminary and served as a chairman of multiple foundation, including the Bibb County Child Abuse Protocol, the Task Force Against Domestic Violence, the Middle Georgia Task Force for the Homeless, and the Bibb County Commission Task Force. He has received numerous awards for his service in helping victims of domestic violence, abused children, and homeless people. In fact, he opened the first shelter for battered women. By serving as Executive Director of the Macon Rescue Mission, he started the Macon Area Food Bank and ran the Dove Center for five years. Because of Dr. Bevill's commitment and hard work, the Macon Rescue Mission moved into its new facility in October of 2000, where it remains one of the finest and up to date facilities in the state of Georgia. In honor of his many accomplishments, Dr. Bevill received an Honorary Doctorate from Toccoa Falls College in May of 2001.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to call to the attention of the House of Representatives the many accomplishments that have followed in the path of Dr. Wayne Bevill. I feel privileged to know such a dedicated and upstanding citizen. I thank him for his efforts to improve the lives of so many others in Macon and across Georgia.

TRIBUTE TO BILL EMMEL

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2001

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of Bill Emmel, lifelong blood donor and community advocate for blood donations, who I have named as Citizen of the Month in the Fourth Congressional District for July 2001.

The significance of Bill's commitment is profound. Particularly now, when Long Island is faced with a blood shortage crisis, his example is so important. He has helped to inspire a whole new generation of blood donors.

Bill has regularly donated blood since 1981. In his lifetime, he has donated 68 pints of whole blood and has made 91 platelet apheresis donations, for an incredible total of 159 donations as of July 12, 2001.

His extraordinary dedication is only one part of Bill's commitment to ensuring an adequate blood supply in the New York area. Understanding that his own enormous contribution is only a part of keeping Long Island adequately supplied, Bill advocates for blood donations both at work and at home. Upon learning that the Sewhanaka Union Free School District was not sponsoring blood drives due to liability concerns, Bill decided to pursue this great opportunity to recruit young donors. A resident of the school district, one of the largest in Nassau County, he met with insurance representatives, lawyers, Long Island Blood Service personnel, the superintendent and school board members, orchestrating a resolution in which the Sewhanaka School District would endorse blood drives. The effort paid off, and blood drives at the five Sewhanaka high schools have resulted in 775 donations since December 1999.

Not content to leave any stone unturned, Bill is working to get other districts which do not currently hold blood drives, such as the West

Hempstead School District, to do so. He also serves as the blood drive chairperson for the Information Technology Department at the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, where he has worked for fourteen years.

Long Island is lucky to have a person like Bill Emmel working so hard for such a noble cause. With any luck, the students in the Sewhanaka district that he inspired will become lifelong blood donors, helping to avoid another crisis in the future.

A 26 year resident of Floral Park, Bill hopes to make his 100th platelet donation this year. He is a single parent with two sons, Chris, 20, a student at St. John's University and Floral Park EMT, and David, 24, a St. John's graduate and web designer. I congratulate Bill and his sons on this achievement.

IN HONOR OF MR. JASON, J.
SANUK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Jason J. Sanuk, who will be honored for his attainment of Eagle Scout on August 8, 2001.

The attainment of Eagle Scout is a high and rare honor requiring years of dedication to self-improvement, hard work and the community. Each Eagle Scout must earn 21 merit badges that focus on self-improvement, social skills, and outdoor living.

In addition to acquiring and proving proficiency in those and other skills, an Eagle Scout must hold leadership positions within the troop where he learns to earn the respect and hear the criticism of those he leads.

Most importantly, the Eagle Scout must live by the Scouting Law, which holds that he must be: trustworthy, loyal, brave, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, clean, and reverent. The International Scouting Association strives to instill values to develop leadership in young men, and teach them the benefits of a strong character. Scouts are taught to follow and uphold these 12 pillars of the Scout Law in their daily life and treat all people with respect and dignity. At the start of every meeting, scouts hold high their right hand and recite the scout oath, a pledge to remain physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight. These three guiding principles instill strong values in young leaders and teach them of respect, dignity, and equality for all.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Mr. Jason J. Sanuk, an exceptional young man, on his dedication to improving the lives of others and his attainment of Eagle Scout.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PRESCRIPTION DRUG CONSUMER INFORMATION ACT OF 2001

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2001

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, with health care costs rising astronomically and

millions of Americans feeling abused and neglected by their health care providers, it is high time that we in Congress do something to alleviate this situation. Americans feel vulnerable to the financial whims of the health care industry and they worry that their health will suffer because health care providers are more concerned with the bottom line on their quarterly reports rather than the line on a patient's heart monitor. I feel that it is my duty to stand up for the American people to protect them from runaway costs and abusive health care services.

I rise today to introduce the Prescription Drug Consumer Information Act of 2001. This bill directs the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to prepare and publish an annual consumer guide detailing prescription drug prices. This catalog will prove invaluable both to consumers and to health care providers. This is a logical and necessary step in the process of ensuring affordable health care of every person in this country who buys prescription drugs. I submit that every single one of us is currently paying too much for quality health care.

Health insurance programs in the United States cover tens of millions of elderly and disabled persons. While these programs do provide quality coverage for many health care services, they often lack effective prescription drug benefits for the people who need them the most. This bill is a wonderful and significant first step in the process of providing those benefits.

Under the Prescription Drug Consumer Information Act of 2001, a complete consumer guide to all current and available prescription drugs will be distributed across the country. This catalog will contain a list of prices for all prescription drugs in an easy-to-understand format organized by therapeutic category so that the reader will be able to quickly peruse the various drugs for his or her specific condition. This catalog will be updated annually, and additional updates may be sent out during the year if a change were to occur in a drug's availability or price.

Mr. Speaker, this catalog will have numerous advantages for both consumers and health care providers. The most obvious advantage is that this catalog will enable the reader to quickly determine what drugs are available to treat his or her condition. Consumers will also be able to reduce their expenses for prescription drugs by comparing the prices of various drugs side by side. The convenience of being able to look up any prescription drug on the market for information about its price and effectiveness will prove to be an invaluable coup for the health care consumer.

My bill will also have advantages for health care providers. With this catalog, health care providers will be able to determine very easily the cost-effectiveness of certain prescription drugs as compared to other prescription drugs and therapies. This will result in a lower cost overall for both the health care provider and the consumer, as health care providers will be able to choose the most cost-effective prescription drug for their patients.

Mr. Speaker, I implore my colleagues to vote favorably on this important piece of legislation. My bill is a meaningful, proactive, and decent effort on our part to help the people that need our help. How could anyone possibly be against providing the American people