

a cultural treasure that serves to remind us of the profound sacrifices made by soldiers during the Civil War, and of the resolve of post Civil-War America the sacrifices of its veterans would not be ignored. That buildings of the National Home have much to teach us about the past, but perhaps even more importantly, offer Americans valuable lessons for veterans care that apply to today and to the future."

More than 100 historic VA buildings from all eras are underutilized or vacant and are threatened with deterioration and ultimate destruction. Those buildings include an impressive row of Victorian lodging quarters from Ford Howard in Baltimore County, Maryland, and an elaborate Victorian theater in Milwaukee which hosted all the big stars of the day, including a child pianist who lived across the street, Liberace. An entire series of 39 Georgian and Romanesque Revival style structures by master builder James McGonigle in Leavenworth, Kansas, was so close to demolition that in 2000 the National Trust for Historic Preservation included the buildings on its list of America's 11 most endangered historic places. Those buildings are still threatened.

I represent Dayton, Ohio, which was the headquarters of the National Home and its largest branch. A number of buildings in my district are in danger of deterioration and ultimate demolition, including the building that housed the national administrative offices for the National Home and the first permanent church constructed by the Federal government—a building which was constructed by the veterans themselves. My constituents—veteran and non-veteran—are concerned about this potential loss to their historical heritage.

Mr. Speaker, providing for the Department of Veteran Affairs' historic preservation requirements in no way need to diminish funding for the Department's other missions and is fully consistent with the Department's broader goal of honoring and caring for the Nation's veterans. It will require some money and it will require a lot of will. With this legislation, I hope to provide a framework for the VA to better carry out its responsibility to preserve the historic legacy under its control that belongs to veterans and to all Americans.

HONORING PASTOR DOUGLAS P.
JONES

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2002

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise before you today on behalf of the congregation of Welcome Missionary Baptist Church in Pontiac, Michigan, to recognize and congratulate Reverend Douglas P. Jones, who celebrated his 13th anniversary as the pastor of the church on June, 18, 2002.

Upon graduation from University of Cincinnati, Pastor Jones continued his studies in pastoral care administration at Cincinnati Bible College. On April 8, 1989, the Church voted to call Reverend Jones as their pastor. Pastor Jones accepted and was installed on June 18, 1989. During his years of service, he has earned certificates in various workshops and counseling sessions, as well as special training in administration, management, and planning.

Pastor Jones' time and dedication with the ministry has allowed him to develop strong support that extends throughout the city of Pontiac, including serving as the Chaplain of the Oakland County Sheriff Department, and acting as a board member for the United Way Oakland County. Additionally, the diligence he has shown over the years has led to the expansion of the church and its congregation. Pastor Jones is more than deserving of the numerous honors and awards that he has received over the past 13 years, including commendations from the City of Pontiac and the State of Michigan, among many others.

The work that Pastor Jones has accomplished on behalf of the community is tremendous. Through his creation of the Greater Pontiac Community Coalition, he has helped generate programs that have guided our youth to a brighter future. Programs such as Youth in Government and Invent America, as well as scholarship programs through the Church and the Coalition, have helped open doors of success for hundreds of young men and women.

Mr. Speaker, Pastor Douglas P. Jones' devotion to spreading God's Word is an inspiration to us all. As a former seminarian, I understand the important role the Church plays in our lives, and I am proud to call him my colleague and my friend. Self-evident is his lifelong commitment to enhancing the dignity and nurturing the spirits of all people, and our community is a much better place because of him. I ask my colleagues in the 107th Congress to join me in congratulating Pastor Jones.

ON THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE NEW GLARUS FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2002

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to the New Glarus Volunteer Fire Department of Wisconsin, which is celebrating 100 years of excellence. This outstanding achievement is marked by the New Glarus Volunteer Fire Department's commitment to providing safe, efficient, and effective emergency services.

New Glarus Volunteer Fire Department's standards of excellence were first instituted in 1902 with the formation of Company No. 1. From the incorporation of the village in 1845 until 1902, fires were fought by means of a bucket brigade. Company No. 1 replaced the old fashioned bucket brigade with the latest technology, circa 1902, a hose cart and hand-drawn ladder rig. Staffed by 24 dedicated firefighters, the equipment was housed in the New Glarus Town Hall, in which the first arriving firefighter rang a bell, alerting the remainder of the company to call.

Today, the New Glarus Volunteer Fire Department is fully modernized, serving a 71-square-mile fire protection district that covers the village of New Glarus as well as the towns of York, Perry and Primrose in the rolling hills of Green and Dane Counties. In 1981, the current fire station was erected just west of the village hall, and has the capacity to hold up to ten pieces of apparatus. In addition to responding to fires, the totally volunteer depart-

ment of 36 members, now reacts to motor vehicle, hazardous materials incidents and assists the New Glarus EMS.

Although the bell has been replaced by a modern siren system, the call to tirelessly safeguard the lives and property of area citizens remains the same for the New Glarus Volunteer Firefighters. These courageous volunteers join the prestigious though often under-appreciated ranks of the "everyday hero." Now, more than every, our nation is comforted by the knowledge that such citizens are prepared to protect our communities. So, when the siren sounds, those citizens served by the New Glarus Volunteer Fire Department are assured that they will receive the best possible assistance.

I wholeheartedly congratulate the New Glarus Fire Department for 100 years of protecting their community and recognize their continuing commitment to excellence.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2002

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, on July 23, 2002, I was granted a Leave of Absence due to a family emergency. I was not present for rollcall votes Nos. 330, 331, 332, 333, and 334.

If I had been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall No. 330 an amendment by Representative GOSS to limit the use of funds to enforce the ban on travel to Cuba; "yes" on No. 331 an amendment by Representative FLAKE to prohibit the use of funds to enforce the ban on travel to Cuba by U.S. citizens; "yes" on No. 332 by Representative FLAKE to prohibit the use of funds to enforce restrictions on remittances to nationals of Cuba; "yes" on No. 333 by Representative RANGEL an amendment to prohibit the use of funds to implement, administer or enforce the economic embargo against Cuba; and "yes" on No. 334 passage of H.R. 3609, the Pipeline Safety Act.

HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY TO JULIUS
WADE KING

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2002

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, eighty years ago on August 2, 1922, Julius Wade King was born in Lockhart, MS, to James and Clara King. Julius, better known as Judy, has led a life devoted to business, education, service, church, and family.

A product of public schools, Judy graduated Heidelberg High School in 1940 and entered Jones County Junior College (JCJC); Judy then received his B.S. degree from the University of Mississippi in 1943. Upon leaving Ole Miss, Judy attended U.S. Naval Midshipman's School at Notre Dame and was commissioned as an officer. But graduating from JCJC, Ole Miss, and Notre Dame would not end Judy's association with education, for he has devoted more than 6 decades to the field.

Active in the South Pacific until 1946, Judy was discharged from the Navy and moved to