

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

NATIONAL HOSPICE MONTH

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2002

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize The Hospice of Moorestown Visiting Nurse Association and join with them and the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization in recognizing November as National Hospice Month. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Medicare Hospice Benefit, which has enabled more than 4 million patients and families hospice services at little or no cost. This hospice care has allowed patients with terminal condition to die in their homes surrounded by family and friends, while at the same time receiving the necessary medical attention that they need.

Each year, approximately 775,000 terminally ill patients and their families rely on end-of-life care provided by the 3,200 hospice locations in communities throughout the United States. Professional staff and volunteers provide comprehensive care to not only the patients, but also to their families who receive counseling and bereavement care to help them cope with the loss of their loved one. Hospice care recognizes the need of every person, regardless of age, health, or social status to be treated with the utmost care in his or her final days of life.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing November as National Hospice Month, in recognition of those who serve in our nation's hospices, whose hard work and selfless attitude care for the older generation of Americans as they reach the end of their lives.

HONORING CHARLES W. BEGG

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2002

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to pay tribute to a wonderful member of the Goleta community, Mr. Charles W. Begg, better known as Chuck. On October 26, 2002, Chuck was honored by the Goleta Valley Girls Incorporated. The event was held at the future site of the Girls Inc. new center, which Chuck has been very supportive of.

Born and raised in Goleta, Chuck has been an active member of the community throughout his life. He played on Santa Barbara County's first football team while attending Santa Barbara High School. He was then drafted in 1941 and served in the Army Air Corps. Following his service in the military, Chuck returned to his home on California's central coast and proceeded to pursue a variety of professions, including a stint as a lobster fisherman, a ranch superintendent and an orchid grower.

While professionally he has been a valuable figure in the agricultural community, Chuck has also generously contributed to many local clubs and non-profits. He has supported the Boys Club, the 4-H Club, Girls Inc., the Goleta Amvets, the Scottish Society and the Goleta Cemetery. He is also a familiar face on the planning committees of countless BBQs for schools, churches, and other community organizations.

His sense of humor and generosity are two of the many attributes that make Chuck such a treasure of Santa Barbara County. By supporting the Boys Club and 4-H Club, Chuck has helped to enrich the lives of thousands of children. It is plain to see why Girls Inc. chose to honor this dedicated man.

Chuck Begg truly is a treasure of the Goleta community and I am honored to have the opportunity to pay tribute to him today.

HONORING JOSEPH A. STEGER AS HE ANNOUNCES HIS RETIREMENT AS PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2002

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Joseph Steger, a friend and constituent, who will retire as president of the University of Cincinnati next year.

Dr. Steger has been president of U.C. for more than eighteen years, beginning his service on July 6, 1984. He has served longer than any of U.C.'s former presidents except one, and his accomplishments on behalf of the University have been described as nothing short of phenomenal.

His success touched every segment of the University, from academics and research to fundraising. Dr. Steger brought the University into the digital age. Credited with bringing the Internet into the University's academic programs, Dr. Steger created a \$1.5 million fund to help the faculty to adapt the new technology to the school's programs.

Under his direction, the University became a research powerhouse. Research funding quadrupled to more than \$260 million, and the University's important National Science Foundation research ranking rose from 76 to 47. It was Dr. Steger who pioneered the international co-op program because, he said, a world class university should have a global presence. The University signed affiliation agreements with more than fifty universities from China to France, and he introduced requirements for language and cultural studies.

Dr. Steger believed the university should operate more like a private institution, so he worked to increase fundraising from \$15 million annually to \$73 million in the most recent fiscal year. During his tenure, the University's endowment grew from \$150 million to nearly \$1 billion. He initiated major physical changes

to the campus, including new academic and research buildings designed by world renowned architects.

Dr. Steger graduated from Gettysburg College and earned his masters and doctoral degrees from Kansas State University. After working for Prudential Life Insurance, Dr. Steger began his academic career at the State University of New York-Albany, where he was named Outstanding Educator of the State University of New York System. He went on to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York, where he served as professor, vice president for administration and budget, and later dean and acting provost. Dr. Steger was director of organizational development and human resources for New York-based Colt Industries Inc. when he was named provost of the University of Cincinnati in 1982.

Joe Steger and his wife, Carol, are a formidable team. We hope they will stay in our area.

All of us in Greater Cincinnati appreciate the remarkable contributions of Dr. Steger. We will miss him as president of the University and we wish him great success in the new challenges to come.

TRIBUTE TO LUKUS CLINTON DUNKIN

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2002

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give my sincere commendation to Mr. Lukus Clinton Dunkin, a native of Lawrenceburg, Tennessee and a sophomore at the University of North Alabama, for his heroic actions on October 26, 2001 that saved the life of Mr. Robert Justice of Opelika, Alabama. Luke Dunkin would never admit his heroism, but the people of North Alabama and the United States Coast Guard know that he was a hero on that day.

Luke was fishing in a protected harbor on the Tennessee River during rough weather when he heard the cries of a fisherman, Robert Justice, whose boat had capsized across the lake. Braving the 25 miles per hour winds, 55 degree weather, and three to six foot waves, Luke navigated his fishing boat to reach the distressed fisherman in less than 20 minutes. Risking his own life, he fought to pull Mr. Justice into his own boat and managed to get back to "Safety Harbor" where he rendered first aid until the Florence-Lauderdale EMAs arrived and took Mr. Justice to the hospital, where he made a full recovery.

Mr. Speaker, the United States Coast Guard has honored Luke Dunkin for his heroism. He is being awarded a Silver Lifesaving Medal from the Admiral Thomas H. Colins, Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard. This is the second highest award a civilian can receive for heroic deeds from the Coast Guard, and only 2,080 of these awards have been bestowed upon Americans in history.

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