

TRIBUTE TO LIZA JACKSON  
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 11, 2003*

Mr. JEFF MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Liza Jackson Preparatory School in Fort Walton Beach, Florida on their recent designation as a Model Charter School. As one of only six schools in the state of Florida to receive this designation, Liza Jackson Preparatory has proven itself to be in a class of its own when it comes to the education of our young individuals in Northwest Florida. It is an honor and a privilege to express my sincere congratulations to the entire Liza Jackson Preparatory community on their well-deserved recognition.

Founded by a group of education professionals who wanted more from public education than what was available through the traditional district schools, dedicated staff and extraordinarily involved parents have built Liza Jackson Preparatory into the remarkable institution that it is today. It is a place where the children come first and are taught to obtain the highest levels of achievement that they can.

Liza Jackson Preparatory prides itself on bringing together its dedicated parents in an effort to help guide and design the school's mission. Liza Jackson Preparatory used information gathered by organized parent groups to write its charter, which was subsequently submitted to the Okaloosa County's school board in 2000 and unanimously approved. Initially, the school opened its doors to 560 students in August of 2001 and today I am proud to say that enrollment is filled to capacity with an additional 700 children on the waiting list.

Mr. Speaker, over its first 2 years, Liza Jackson Preparatory School has shown that it is succeeding in its mission; to provide a comprehensive approach to education in order for students to successfully compete in the global community. On this occasion, I offer my sincere and heartfelt congratulations to Liza Jackson Preparatory School on their designation as a Model Charter School, and wish them the greatest of success in all that is to come.

**YOUTH PRIDE DAY**

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 11, 2003*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, this Saturday, April 12 marks the culmination of Youth Pride Week in Washington, DC with our Seventh Annual Youth Pride Day.

Youth Pride Day occurs every April in Washington, DC. It is the annual celebration for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender young people, which has brought over 10,000 youth together since its start in 1997. The celebration has grown from just 900 participants in 1997 to over 2,800 young people last year. Youth Pride Day has evolved into Youth Pride Week, which comprises over a dozen events ranging from a conference, dances, and poetry readings, to Youth Pride Day on Saturday.

The Youth Pride Alliance sponsors Youth Pride Day. The Alliance was founded in 1996, and its mission is to celebrate the dignity and courage of all young people as they discover their identities as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, or straight. The Alliance challenges society to stop hate, violence, fear, isolation, and denial as it reminds us every young person deserves to live, to love, and to be loved.

We, who live in our Nation's Capital and are taxed without representation, feel a special affinity to any other group that has been denied the full rights and privileges, which most United States citizens enjoy. I remind the House that Washingtonians are taxed without representation.

I ask this House to join with me in welcoming all those attending Youth Pride Day.

**PERSONAL EXPLANATION**

**HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 11, 2003*

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was absent for roll No. 140 and 141. I respectfully request the RECORD to reflect that, had I been here, I would have voted "yea" on each.

**HONORING JOHN JACOB RHODES  
WITH THE CONGRESSIONAL  
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL**

**HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, April 12, 2003*

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to announce that John Jacob Rhodes, former Republican Leader of the House of Representatives, is one of the first recipients of the Congressional Distinguished Service Medal. Together with Leader GEPHARDT, I established this award to recognize former Members of the House who served the American people with extraordinary distinction and selfless dedication. Leader GEPHARDT chose to honor Louis Stokes as his first award recipient, and I can think of no better person than John Rhodes to share this first tribute.

John Rhodes was born in Council Grove, Kansas, attending public schools and eventually Kansas State University. After moving east and graduating from Harvard Law School in 1941, he practiced law in Mesa, Arizona. He started his service to our Nation early as a member of the U.S. Army Air Corps and a staff judge advocate of the Arizona National Guard. These experiences served him well during his thirty year career in the United States Congress.

First elected as a Republican to the 83rd Congress, John Rhodes went on to serve in fourteen succeeding Congresses. After twenty years in Congress, he had earned the respect of his peers and was elected Minority Leader of the House for the 93rd through 96st Congresses. These years saw John Rhodes lead his party from the dark days of Watergate to the resurgent presidency of Ronald Reagan.

And through it all, John Rhodes was considered a man of exemplary values, a true lead-

er, a great listener, and steadfast peacemaker. Those who know him best would say he has a quiet dignity, an implicit trustworthiness, and a tireless devotion to the people of America. Pulitzer prize-winning columnist George Will said it best:

One glance tells you. God had a Congressman in mind when he made John Rhodes. And he is just what the Founding Fathers had in mind when they designed the House of Representatives, the body intended to be the closest to the common man.

I can think of few equals to John Rhodes whose life and legislative careers merit the Congressional Distinguished Service Medal. We cannot thank him enough for his service to this Chamber and to our great country. I am truly honored to be able to present him with this award.

**TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH G. ROBERTS**

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, April 12, 2003*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Joseph G. Roberts, beloved husband of Lia Roberts. Joe will be laid to rest on Saturday, April 12, 2003, in Las Vegas, Nevada. Joe was born on September 19, 1915 in Springfield, Missouri and died on April 7, 2003 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Growing up during the depression, Joe was best known for being a man of great integrity and honor. In 1941, Joe enlisted in the United States Air Force and served as a captain and pilot during World War II. He was later discharged with honors.

In 1949, Joe moved to Las Vegas and founded Roberts Roofing and went on to become a very successful businessman in the Las Vegas community. His dedication and generous contributions to the many charities he helped support will not be forgotten.

Joe, we thank you for your true spirit of life and your gracious manner. You will be missed by your many friends and loved ones.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Lia and family during this time of sorrow.

**INTRODUCTION OF THE "STICK A  
CORK IN THE CORK TARIFF ACT  
OF 2003"**

**HON. ROB SIMMONS**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, April 12, 2003*

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to introduce my "Stick A Cork In The Cork Tariff Act of 2003," a bill that will assist small business and sportsmen by reducing the unfairly high import duty on cork.

Makers of fishing rods, and particularly fly-fishing rods, are under pressure to significantly increase the price of their equipment because of prohibitively high duties on cork. Cork is the primary component of a fishing pole's grip. It is not available domestically and must be imported. While the tariff on already-finished cork is 6 percent and lower, unfinished cork is subject to a 14 percent duty. Such unfinished cork is imported and subsequently handcrafted by

American workers onto the custom-made fly fishing rods that so many sportsmen enjoy. Mr. Speaker, it just doesn't make sense that Customs would charge a 6 percent tariff on a pre-finished product while levying a much-higher 14 percent duty on a good that is finished with American hands.

In my own district, REC Components of Enfield (CT) employs more than twenty highly skilled individuals to create such fly fishing rods. Mr. Speaker, REC Components and the working men and women at the company are dependent upon imported cork. The current duty being levied upon such cork jeopardizes this company and these jobs. Other manufacturers in this industry face the same problem. Whether in Wisconsin, Washington, Montana, or Georgia, small businesses are being made to bear this unfair burden for no good reason.

This is why my legislation has such bipartisan, national support, including the American Sportfishing Association, the American Fly Fishing Trade Association, and the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus.

Mr. Speaker, It has always been my understanding that Customs duties were established to protect American industry. If cork is not available in the United States and it is the only product that can be used to manufacture the grips on fly fishing rods, I fail to see why we are charging such a duty.

At a time when many Americans are still experiencing economic insecurity, it is critical that we take steps in the Congress to create more jobs and strengthen the ones we have. While Congress is working to craft a jobs and growth package, we also must consider other measures that, although less comprehensive, similarly take steps to boost our economy.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in support of small businesses, American workers, outdoor retailers, sportsmen everywhere. Support the "Stick A Cork In The Cork Tariff Act of 2003."

#### TRIBUTE TO TOMMY NELSON

##### HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, April 12, 2003*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to one of Nevada's finest. One of the legends of the west passed on to his reward last week. Ninety-year-old Tommy Nelson came to Nevada in 1931 to help build the mighty Hoover Dam and wound up being employed forty years on the site. Tommy was an outstanding individual who was admired by all who knew him. He was also an excellent musician and played his trumpet at many patriotic ceremonies and funerals of our service men and women.

Nevada has lost a great American whose spirit will live on in the hearts of Nevadans.

#### TRIBUTE TO PEGGY A. CROWTHER

##### HON. DOUG OSE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, April 12, 2003*

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, Peggy A. Crowther has served, with distinction, as the Executive

Director of the Rotary Club of Sacramento since August 1991. Established in 1913, this club is one of the oldest Rotary Clubs in the world, and the 12th largest, made up of nearly 500 members representing the top business, civic, and professional leaders in the region.

In May 2003, Peggy will be retiring to enjoy the personal passions of her life . . . husband Bob, her children, and grandchild, travel, and golf . . . to name only a few of her interests. What she leaves behind is a legacy of leadership that will be missed by all who came to rely on her professionalism, graciousness, and warm smile.

Devotion to the non-profit world has always been her passion, and is reflected throughout her life. Born in Green Bay, Wisconsin, she began her career as associate director of the YWCA, and YMCA, and then continued in that capacity in Salt Lake City, Modesto and Fresno, California. For a time she worked as director of development for Central Catholic High School in Modesto, before becoming district chief of staff for a State Assemblyman. Her next move was to Sacramento where she became the director of development of United Cerebral Palsy.

It was in 1988, that Peggy joined the Rotary Club of Modesto, but her involvement with Rotary began earlier when she assisted her husband with the leadership of a Group Study Exchange Team to Melbourne, Australia. As women were welcomed into Rotary, she was one of the first to join, and with the move to Sacramento, became a member here in April 1991.

During this past 12 years, with Peggy's dedication, patience, and guidance, the Rotary Club of Sacramento has continued to grow in membership, prestige, and has been a contributor of well over two million dollars to the local and world community. Leadership within the membership changes yearly, but Peggy has continued to be the one person that we have all come to appreciate as the significant contributor of our success. None of us will forget how we have come to rely on her organizational skills, her adeptness at multi-tasking, problem solving, and talent for diplomacy as she interfaces with hundreds of volunteers . . . all of which she greets by name at our weekly meetings.

We thank you, Peggy, and wish you and your family all the blessings life has to offer.

#### JOHN J. MCGUIRK DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS OUTPATIENT CLINIC

##### HON. ROB SIMMONS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, April 12, 2003*

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the naming of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Community Based Outreach Clinic, located on the grounds of the United States Coast Guard Academy in New London, CT, as the "John J. McGuirk Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic."

As an enlisted salvage diver in the United States Navy during World War II, John McGuirk worked his way across the South Pacific from Pearl Harbor to Manila, Philippines aboard the USS Layson Island. For his service, John was awarded the World War II Vic-

tory Medal, American Theatre Medal, Asiatic Pacific Theatre Medal and Philippine Liberation Medal.

When John J. McGuirk's contractual obligation to the United States Navy ended with an honorable discharge, his personal obligation to his country and fellow veterans' remained engraved upon his heart and became a lifelong commitment.

His efforts helped to contribute to the VA Connecticut Healthcare system planning and operating a series of CBOC's across the state, providing primary care on a daily basis. Additionally, John played an instrumental role in the opening of the Veterans' Outreach Clinic located at the Coast Guard Academy in New London, CT.

John actively served in Post #9 American Legion for the remainder of his life: twice as the Legion's Commander, additionally as the Finance officer and the Service officer. He was also a member of the Disabled Veterans of America and U.S. Submarine Veterans Inc.

Mr. Speaker, John J. McGuirk was constant in his mission to serve his nation and fellow veterans. On behalf of the Members of the Connecticut House delegation, Disabled Veterans of America, Paralyzed Veterans of America, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and AMVETS, I would like to extend the opportunity for Members of the Subcommittee to support this measure and honor the memory of John J. McGuirk.

#### RECOGNIZING BOULDER CITY

##### HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, April 12, 2003*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Boulder City on a number of awards it has received over the last year. I have had the tremendous honor of representing Boulder City as a Councilman, Mayor, and now as Congressman. The following awards show the quality of life Boulder City is famous for. These awards include: the Howland Award, given by the National League of Cities to the best small community in the country; the "Excellence in Aquatics Award" from the National Recreation and Parks Association. This honor was given for the exceptional quality of all the aquatic programs offered through the Parks and Recreation Department; the "Excellence in Education Hall of Fame Award" from the Clark County School District; the Boulder City Municipal Golf Course was recognized statewide as number 10 in top values throughout the State and best course under \$100 in southern Nevada by the "Las Vegas Golfer Magazine;" National Geographic Adventure Magazine named Boulder City's Bootleg Canyon Mountain Bike Trail facility as one of the top 50 Favorite Adventure Places, November, 2002.

I urge my colleagues in this House and people across the country to visit Boulder City, Nevada, and see this wonderful, award-winning community first hand.