

RECOGNIZING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF CLEAN OCEAN ACTION

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 4, 2004

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, Clean Ocean Action, an organization dedicated to the protection of the coast of New Jersey and Long Island, celebrated its 20th anniversary on February 26th.

When COA was formed, there were eight ocean dumping sites off the coast of New Jersey and Long Island where all kinds of pollutants were dumped—sewage, dredge spoils, industrial waste, even toxic waste.

COA made it their primary goals to close these sites and find environmentally-friendly alternatives to ocean dumping. This was the time when New Jerseyans were first becoming aware of the serious consequences of ocean dumping—the impacts on marine life, the fishing industry, tourism, and the health and safety of the countless residents and visitors who enjoy the Jersey shore every summer.

Thirteen years later, COA achieved these goals when then-Vice-President Gore announced an agreement closing the dumping sites and creating the Historic Area Remediation Site to remediate the effects of the dumping.

COA, under the noteworthy leadership of Cindy Zipf, has not rested on its laurels, however. Today, they continue to take steps to protect the shore from leading beach cleanup efforts to lobbying Congress. I worked closely with them to fight against provisions slipped into the energy bill that would reverse the progress made towards keeping our shores clean.

COA marked its 20th anniversary by announcing an effort to create a Clean Ocean Zone off the coasts of New Jersey and Long Island, permanently protecting the ocean that is so valuable to New Jersey residents.

I salute COA for 20 years of hard work and effective work, and I would like to take this opportunity to bring to the attention of my colleagues this success towards cleaning up our shore areas. Now is not the time to reverse the progress of the last two decades.

IN HONOR OF JOHN O'DONNELL

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 4, 2004

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John O'Donnell for his years of service and appointment as Grand Marshall of the 23rd Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 21, 2004. Mr. O'Donnell was honored by the Bayonne Saint Patrick's Parade Committee at the annual Grand Marshall Brunch at 11 a.m. on Sunday, February 22, 2004, at the Chandelier Restaurant in Bayonne, New Jersey.

Mr. O'Donnell has been an active member of the Bayonne Saint Patrick's Parade Committee since 1988. For 15 years Mr. O'Donnell has been a hard working, dedicated, and true proponent for the promotion of Irish culture through the annual parade. Mr. O'Donnell is a

member of Ireland's 32 of Bayonne since 1984, serving as Secretary from 1990 to 1991 and as President from 1994 to 1996.

John O'Donnell displayed his leadership and commitment to promoting Irish culture by helping to save the annual post-parade party in 1993. His innovative idea of seeking financial support from local businesses helped preserve the tradition. Mr. O'Donnell is an active member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians Division #8 of Hudson County, serving as Vice President from 1998 to 1999 and President from 1999 to 2003.

Mr. O'Donnell is currently Sergeant with the Port Authority Police of New York and New Jersey. He is also the Offensive Coordinator for Saint Peter's High School Freshman Football team. Previously, Mr. O'Donnell was an English instructor at Marist High School from 1986 to 1988.

Mr. O'Donnell received his bachelor's degree and Master's Degree in Education from Seton Hall University. Mr. O'Donnell is a loving husband to his wife, Kathleen O'Donnell, and dedicated father to his six children, John Richard, Kelsey Marie, Shannon Kathleen, Tara Mary, Meghan Elizabeth, and Liam Charles.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring John O'Donnell for his distinguished public service, his dedication to promoting Irish culture in the City of Bayonne, and his outstanding leadership and devotion to his community.

COMMEMORATING NATIONAL PEACE CORPS WEEK

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 4, 2004

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate National Peace Corps Week, which runs from March 1st through the 7th.

In our currently expanding global community, it is important to recognize the integral role that the Peace Corps has played in our past, as well the vital role it will continue to play in our future. As our interaction and interdependence on many foreign countries continues to show its relevance to our own welfare, it is important that the United States have a network of ambassadors like the Peace Corps Volunteers to connect on a local level with citizens of other nations.

With a history dating back to 1961, and a portfolio serving 137 countries, the Peace Corps can boast over 170,000 Peace Corps Volunteers Alumni, who have worked around the globe promoting world peace and friendship. There are currently over 7,500 Volunteers serving in 71 countries, which represents the highest number of Volunteers in the past 28 years.

I am proud to say that the 6th Congressional District of California currently has 39 of its own as Peace Corps Volunteers. They are, in alphabetical order and followed by the countries in which they serve: Emily A. Alden, Tanzania; Nicole M. Arnone, Madagascar; Marion Basel, Ghana; Laura Brinkoetter, Bangladesh; Christine Callinan, Micronesia; Jenifer Clover, Uzbekistan; Ryan E. Crew, Swaziland; Janice M. Crowe, Bulgaria; Lindsay C. Culp, Philippines; Kathryn E. Davis,

Namibia; Katie M. Delahunty, Nicaragua; Charles S. Dietrich, Paraguay; Keith B. Ebright, Zambia; Jacob E. Fleming, Kyrgyzstan; Jennifer C. Galvin, Samoa; Alexandra, Geary-Stock, Swaziland; Tamara M. Gelvin, Morocco; Marcus A. Hawkins, Ukraine; Andrew B. Huston, Nepal; Joy Jacobs, Dominican Republic; Michael Y. Lee, Samoa; Laura J. Leones, Eastern Caribbean; Nickolette D. Patrick, Ukraine; Andrea R. Rask, Eastern Caribbean; Sara B. Riese, Burkina Faso; Leslie A. Schafer, Kenya; Sarah E. Schumacher, Macedonia; Mairead J. Schwab, Ghana; Jeremy B. Smith, Paraguay; Suzanne D. Smith, Philippines; Visalia T. Stanley, Haiti; Jill M. Talmage, Bulgaria; Eric J. Tawney, Vanuatu; Jenny K. Tegelvik, Honduras; Brian C. Vaughn, Nicaragua; Sarah F. Wiens, Kyrgyzstan; Tami M. Williams, Nicaragua; Heather J. Windom, Macedonia; Kenji A. Wright, Panama.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating National Peace Corps Week and honoring the men and women who have committed years of their lives to make our world a better place. It is with this sustained dedication, that lives will be changed, terminal diseases defeated, and poverty eradicated for citizens in every corner of the globe. I commend these brave and unselfish Volunteers and the spirit with which they are affecting change.

HONORING OHIO'S 21ST CENTURY LEARNING CENTERS

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 4, 2004

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Ohio delegation, I rise today to acknowledge and commend the accomplishments of the Ohio Department of Education and Dr. Mary Lou Rush for their work implementing Ohio's 21st Century Community Learning Centers.

Ohio's 21st Century Community Learning Centers offer programs and services that benefit the educational and related health, social services, cultural, and recreational needs of our communities. These centers provide academic enrichment opportunities to help students and to meet state and local student performance standards. In addition, they offer students a broad array of additional programs and activities, such as youth development activities, drug and violence prevention programs, counseling programs, art, music and recreation programs, technology education programs, and character education programs.

Dr. Rush, and those like her throughout the State of Ohio, are ensuring that all children, regardless of ethnicity, income, disability, or geographic location will meet with academic success. I am including in the RECORD a recent letter to Dr. Rush signed by members of the Ohio delegation to honor her accomplishments.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 27, 2004.

Dr. MARY LOU RUSH,
Ohio Department of Education,
Columbus, Ohio.

DEAR DR. RUSH: We are pleased to recognize Ohio's 21st Century Community Learning Centers and their commitment to excellence in education.