

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.

It is with great pleasure that we acknowledge and commend the Ohio Department of Education as the national leader in 21st Century Community Learning Center program implementation. In particular, we want to commend you for your exemplary leadership in developing Ohio's network of safe and supportive learning environments for all children, both during and outside the traditional school day. A tireless and committed advocate, your singular ability to focus Ohio's diverse communities on the educational needs of all children is assuring that Ohio's education system is the best in the nation.

On behalf of the Ohio delegation, we extend our thanks to the Ohio Department of Education for supporting a program that has impacted the lives of so many children. We congratulate the individuals behind the 21st Century Community Learning Center program and wish them continued success in their efforts to create appropriate educational opportunities for the children of Ohio.

Sincerely,

Members of Congress: Bob Ney, Marcy Kaptur, Sherrod Brown, Steve Chabot, Paul E. Gillmor, Stephanie Tubbs-Jones, Dennis Kucinich, Steven C. LaTourette, Robert Portman, Timothy J. Ryan, Ted Strickland, Patrick J. Tiberi, and Michael R. Turner.

SUPPORTING GOALS OF CERTAIN
COMMUNITIES IN RECOGNIZING
NATIONAL DAY OF REMEM-
BRANCE

SPEECH OF

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 4, 2004

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 56. This bill supports the creation of a Day of Remembrance for persons of German, Italian, and Japanese descent who had their civil liberties egregiously curtailed by the United States Government during World War II.

This bill has important implications not only for these communities but also for all of us in this country. When our Nation was gripped by the fear of war coming to our shores, we made an unconscionable mistake in the form of Executive Order 9066. Signed on February 19, 1942, this order restricted the freedom of Japanese-, German-, and Italian-Americans along the west coast. Members of these communities were forced to carry identification cards, had travel restrictions, and found their personal property seized with little pretense and no due process. Families of citizens and legal residents alike were forced to leave their homes and live in deprivation behind barbed wires and guard towers in internment camps.

History has taught us that the United States was wrong to utterly obliterate civil liberties during World War II. The fear of spies and saboteurs was unfounded. It turns out that, though gripped by the most destructive and most divisive war of the 20th century, the United States had little to fear from American citizens of ethnic backgrounds. The infringement of constitutional rights for the stated purpose of homeland security was based more on racial discrimination than a credible security threat.

Japanese-, German-, and Italian-Americans deserve, at the very least, a Day of Remem-

brance, not only to ensure that the memory of this terrible time period lives on in their respective communities, but also to ensure that all Americans are aware of the grievous mistakes committed in the name of security. We all have important lessons to learn from the internment camps.

Mr. Speaker, the internment camps were one of the worst travesties this Nation has ever committed. We must learn from this shameful episode and apply these lessons for the future. Today we face our own war on terrorism and phrases like "homeland security," "terrorist cells," and "imminent threat" have become commonplace. The security of this great Nation can only be safeguarded if America's basic values are also defended. In pursuit of security, we must never threaten the rights of liberty and freedom that are guaranteed by the Constitution. We must not hold an entire culture or society responsible for the actions of a few members. We must not restrict the rights of everyone for fear of a few. Above all, we must make every effort to ensure the stability of our Constitution even during the difficult times of war and terror.

TRIBUTE TO GERRY GETTY

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 4, 2004

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I want to take a moment to recognize the recent passing of Gerry Getty, a noted elementary school teacher and community leader in Franklin County, Kansas, which is located just to the south of the Third Congressional District of Kansas.

Gerry Getty taught elementary school for 32 years, was active in the National Education Association, and founded the Franklin County Literature Festival. I am saddened by her death at the young age of 53 and want to bring to the attention of our membership an article about her that ran in the Ottawa Herald on February 12th and her obituary from the Topeka Capital-Journal of February 13th. Dedicated educators like Gerry Getty are essential to the success of our children and grandchildren. Through their selfless work on behalf of their students they foster a love of learning within our local communities. I commend Gerry Getty to my colleagues in the House and I hope we all will be inspired by her efforts to make life better for her students and for her neighbors in Franklin County.

[From the Ottawa Herald, Feb. 12, 2004]

LITERATURE FESTIVAL FOUNDER DIES

(By Andy Gassaway)

Gerry Getty, a retired elementary teacher and founder of the annual Franklin County Literature Festival, died Wednesday after a long illness. She was 53. She spent 22 of her 32 years as an educator teaching elementary students in the Central Heights school district, instituting the district's Parent-Teacher Organization and its Reading Is Fundamental program, in which students received free books to take home each year.

"When she saw something she thought would be good for kids, she went for it," Vickie Hall, Lincoln Elementary fifth grade teacher, said. "She has left quite a legacy of the love of literature."

She graduated from Kansas State Teaching College in Emporia in 1971. In 1992, she re-

ceived a master's degree from Kansas State University. Before coming to Franklin County, Getty taught in Overbrook, and Tipton. During her tenure at Central Heights, she also taught adult classes at Neosho County Community College's Ottawa campus.

Beginning in 1994, Getty organized a literature festival at Central Heights that brought children's authors to the area to meet with students. In 2002, the event was transplanted to Ottawa University and included students from all of Franklin County.

"She had a passion for reading," Steve Getty, her husband, said. "Her dream was for every student to be able to read. She wanted to bring it home to Franklin County, and wanted all students to see the wonderful world of literature, meet authors and bring a little culture to their lives."

Last year, the event brought together more than 1,500 students on the OU campus to visit with 13 authors, illustrators and storytellers who took the day to discuss their craft with the young readers. Steve Getty said his wife enjoyed reading the same books she read to her students. Her favorite authors included Mary Downing Hahn and Vicki Grove, he said.

Getty led the way in affiliating the local teachers' association with Kansas National Education Association and National Education Association in 1990. She served several years as president of the association and its negotiating team, and was a delegate to the state convention and three national conventions during her tenure. Her efforts earned her the Viking of the Year award, as voted upon by her fellow teachers at Central Heights. Other honors included being recognized in Who's Who Among America's Teachers, the 2001 Outstanding Reading Educator award from the Franklin County Reading Council and the 2002 Kansas Reading Association Professional Literacy Award.

"She's a very well-respected teacher," Central Heights elementary principal Mary Bogart said. "She may have led a short life, but she was a real doer."

Funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m. Monday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Ottawa.

Getty has been cremated. A Rosary will be said at 2 p.m. Sunday at Dengel & Son Mortuary, Ottawa, followed by a family visitation.

[From the Topeka Capital-Journal, Feb. 13, 2004]

GERRY ANN GETTY

Gerry Ann Getty, 53, Ottawa, died Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2004, at the University of Kansas Hospital, Kansas City. Funeral mass will be 10 a.m. Monday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with the Rev. Tod Ziegler officiating.

She was born July 21, 1950, to Mathias and Marie (Haug) Roeder in Seneca. She grew up on a dairy farm in Nemaha County. She graduated from Baileyville-Benedict High School in 1968. She graduated from Kansas State Teachers College, Emporia, in 1971. In 1992, she received a master's degree from Kansas State.

She married Steven Getty on Oct. 3, 1970, at Seneca. He survives.

She was an elementary school teacher for 32 years. She taught in Overbrook, McDonald, Tipton and Central Heights. She also taught adult classes at Neosho County Community College's Ottawa campus.

She was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church. She founded the Franklin County Reading Festival in 2000. She was president and chief negotiator for her local chapter of the National Education Association and served as a national delegate. She received several education awards, including Who's Who Among America's Teachers, 1995 Viking of the Year, 2001 Outstanding Reading Educator from the Franklin County Reading