

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING JAMES "JIM"
VANDERFORD

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 29, 2004

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. James "Jim" Vanderford for his many years of service to Lake Mead National Recreation Area (NRA). Mr. Vanderford is both an amazing ambassador for the National Park Service and Lake Mead NRA and a dedicated public servant. I have worked with Jim throughout my career and am also proud to call him one of my good friends.

After serving our Nation in the U.S. Marines from 1960–1963, Mr. Vanderford began his civilian Federal career with the Bureau of Land Management in 1971. In May of 1974, he accepted a position at Lake Mead NRA and began his long career of service at one of Nevada's most important natural resources. He has served as the Chief of Maintenance and Engineering since August of 1994.

During his 30 years of service at Lake Mead NRA, Mr. Vanderford designed and supervised the construction and upgrade of many of the park's facilities, including picnic areas, launch ramps, courtesy docks, restrooms, and water and wastewater treatment facilities. He also supervised millions of dollars in Federal Highway Administration road construction projects.

The work Jim Vanderford did during his time at Lake Mead NRA has impacted each one of the more than 9 million people that visit Lake Mead each year. His work ethic and institutional knowledge will be greatly missed.

I wish Jim the very best in his retirement and look forward to seeing him and his wife Jeri Lynn as they continue to reside in Boulder City, Nevada. I am proud of all that Jim has done for Southern Nevada and commend him for all his years of service.

CONGRATULATING 2004 CENTRAL
VALLEY COMMON THREADS
AWARD WINNERS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 29, 2004

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Lillian Draxler, Debbie Jacobsen, Margaret Jensen, Mary Wickstrom and Bernice Woolf, the recipients of the 2004 Central Valley Common Threads Award. This award is presented to women in agriculture who have made a remarkable contribution to their community through volunteer work and philanthropy.

Lillian Draxler has been dedicated to the dairy industry her entire life. She helped establish the JCJ Dairy 30 years ago. For 38 years, Lillian has been engaged in the 4-H program both in Fresno and Kings counties

serving in every capacity and coordinating every major event on the 4-H calendar. She provides leadership and funding to the Make-A-Wish Foundation, helps the Kings County Dairywomen amass scholarship funds for needy agriculture students, and is involved with the Dairy Herd Improvement Association. Lillian also assists the Farm Bureau and its Education and Agriculture Together programs.

Debbie Jacobsen has been active in the grape and teaching industry for more than 20 years. She is one of several principles in the family-owned J&L Vineyards and is teaching at Washington Union High School. Debbie currently serves as president of the Fresno County Farm Bureau and is the first woman to hold the position. She is a leader in the Farm Bureau's Ag in the Classroom program, speaking in classrooms and inviting school tours to her farm. She serves as co-chairman of the Fresno Fair Ag Education Fabulous Food Machine. Debbie is also on the Board of Directors for the California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom and received the group's prestigious Volunteer Educator Award in 1995.

Margaret Jensen has been involved in agriculture throughout her life. She helped plant and develop the pistachio industry in Madera County and was involved in the first commercial citrus planting in Madera County in 1958. Margaret is involved with Fresno State's Ag One Foundation and has been a member of the Fresno County Farm Bureau since 1935. She has contributed to numerous projects that have helped to benefit Fresno and the entire San Joaquin Valley. Some of these include the Break the Barriers building fund and helping to fully fund the chapel at Children's Hospital of Central California, a place that provides comfort and quiet for all faiths. Mary Wickstrom has been a tireless advocate for agricultural advancement during her life. She established her own dairy in Chicago and, along with 11 other dairy families, formed the Hilmar Cheese Company. For several years, Mary shared the buying duties for items to be sold there. She is devoted to the preservation of productive farmland through good land use planning, and she puts those values to work. Mary participates as a member of the Merced County Planning Commission and as a charter member of the Merced County California Women for Agriculture. Mary has also been involved in the Hilmar FFA Booster Club and served as a leader in the 4-H program.

Bernice Woolf has been involved in numerous agricultural activities during the course of her life. She served three terms as a board member of the California Agricultural Education Advisory Board and currently serves on the board of the family businesses, Woolf Farming and Woolf Enterprises. These entities have her involved in the production, processing, and marketing of numerous agricultural products. Bernice is also a member of the Central Valley Chapter California Women for Agriculture, American Agri-Women, and served as director of Children's Hospital of Central California, the Fresno Arts Museum, and the Fresno City/County Historical Society.

She also contributed to West Hills Community College Farm of the Future.

Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize the 2004 Central Valley Common Threads Award winners. These women have shown outstanding involvement, not only in agriculture but also in strengthening their respective communities. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing these honorees a bright future and continued success.

IN MEMORY OF SGT. 1ST CLASS
RICHARD STEVEN GOTTFRIED

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 29, 2004

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with sadness that I inform the House of the death of Sgt. 1st Class Richard Steven Gottfried of Lake Ozark, Missouri. Sgt. Gottfried was killed when the Humvee he was riding in was hit by a bomb near Tikrit, Iraq.

In Sgt. Gottfried's family, military service was a tradition. His grandfather was a prisoner of war during World War II, his father was wounded in Vietnam, and his brother retired from the service. He was proud to serve his country, and he did so with courage and distinction.

Sgt. Gottfried was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. But these medals were by no means the extent of the honor bestowed upon him. The more than 400 people who attended his funeral, the tears of pain and the sounds of laughter as friends and family remembered the good times they shared with Steven all commemorated a life of kindness and service to others.

Mr. Speaker, when Sgt. Gottfried was killed he was nearing 20 years of service to his country in the U.S. Army and was preparing to retire. I know the Members of the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to his wife, Mary Jo; his son, Eric; and his daughter, Ashley.

CONGRATULATIONS TO STEWART
E. SUTIN, PH.D.

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 29, 2004

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Stewart E. Sutin, Ph.D., upon his appointment as president of the Community College of Allegheny County (CCAC). I am confident that Dr. Sutin will be an excellent addition to CCAC, as well as to the community of southwestern Pennsylvania.

Dr. Sutin was previously employed by Mellon Financial Corp. as the senior vice president and head of the international department.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

He is a member of the Research Advisory Committee for Carnegie Mellon University and a member of the Bosch Institute for Applied Studies in International Management, one of Germany's largest international corporations. Dr. Sutin also serves on the advisory boards for the Center for International Studies, the Center for International Business Studies, and the Center for Latin American Studies, all at Duquesne University. Currently, he is a part-time lecturer at the Katz School of Business at the University of Pittsburgh.

Dr. Sutin brings extraordinary management experience, including a history of working with CEOs and motivating large and diverse staffs. He has energized business, as well as developed strong ties to all levels of the Pittsburgh business community, including significant relationships with area business and community leaders. One of Dr. Sutin's main focuses will be to ensure that CCAC's educational programs and workforce development initiatives meet local, national, and international economic trends. This will help to ensure that the nearly 81,000 credit and noncredit students that annually attend CCAC will remain among the region's most prepared to meet the challenges of the business world.

I ask my colleagues to join with me in commemorating Stewart E. Sutin, Ph.D., for his recent appointment as the new president of Community College of Allegheny County. His success serves as an inspiration to all of western Pennsylvania, as well as CCAC.

HONORING CORPORAL ROBERT
TOMCZAK FOR HIS ACTIONS
DURING OPERATION IRAQI FREE-
DOM

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 29, 2004

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the bravery and courage of Marine Reserve Corporal Robert Tomczak for serving our Nation during Operation Iraqi Freedom. For his actions in the face of heavy fire from the enemy, Corporal Tomczak was recently awarded the Bronze Star. I offer my thanks and the thanks of all Nevadans for Corporal Tomczak's dedication to his fellow Marines and for his willingness to serve our country in battle.

Corporal Tomczak served as the machine gun team leader for the Las Vegas-based Fox Company, 2nd Battalion, 23rd Marines. In the face of heavy enemy fire, Tomczak fought bravely and honorably to disrupt a flank assault and to silence incoming rocket-propelled grenade fire. While firing from behind sandbags, an armed gunman in a vehicle rammed his position, and falling sandbags from the vehicle's impact caused Corporal Tomczak to temporarily lose hold of his weapon. While still under enemy fire, he crossed into the open to retrieve his weapon and redeploy against the enemy.

Southern Nevada is proud to have men like Corporal Tomczak serving in our Nation's armed services. It is my distinct honor to commend Corporal Tomczak for all that he has done in his service to our country and for the State of Nevada.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF ROBERT
N. BROWN

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 29, 2004

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, Robert N. Brown's story began in Columbus 83 years ago on May 7, 1920, when he became the second baby born at the Bartholomew County Hospital. He was born the son of Raymond S. and Anna Newell Brown. He married Alice Elizabeth "Betty" Frantz on Aug. 9, 1947, in Columbus. He married Eloise Albert Sears on May 7, 1994, in Columbus. He was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife on August 19, 1991; and a sister, Elizabeth Marshall.

And Bob Brown was a family man who loved his family. He is survived by his second wife, of Columbus; a son, Jeffrey N. Brown of Columbus; daughters, Peggy A. Brown of Fountain Hills, Arizona, Rebecca E. Brown Thompson of Christchurch, New Zealand, and Susan A. Brown of Downers Grove, Illinois; stepchildren, Susan Sears of Briarcliff Manor, New York, and B.J. Sears of Los Angeles; a brother, Dr. Richard Brown of Phoenix; grandchildren, Zoran and Alex Gvojcic, both of Downers Grove, Sarah DeClue of Chandler, Arizona, Erin Boggs of Scottsdale, Arizona, Cameron Thompson of Christchurch, and Christi and Ian Brown, both of Columbus; and two step grandchildren, Kelsey and Sayre Sundberg, both of Briarcliff Manor.

Please know that each of you have our deepest sympathies and prayers in your loss.

His daughter Susan told me this week, "Dad always had time for us, and until I grew up, I never knew how unusual that was."

His professional accomplishments are equally extraordinary.

Mr. Brown was the former publisher of The Republic newspaper and chairman of Home News Enterprises.

A Purdue University graduate, he was a U.S. Army veteran serving in World War II and during the Korean War.

He was named to the Indiana Newspaper Hall of Fame and received the Community Service Award from the Chamber of Commerce and the Mayor's Arts Award.

Professionally, he served as president of Hoosier State Press Association and the Inland Daily Press Association and was deeply involved in the American Newspaper Publishers Association and the American Press Institute.

He was an inventor, obtaining patents for a copy-cutting device and a composing room system for classified advertising.

Among his community affiliations were Bartholomew County Hospital Board trustee, Hospital Foundation, North Christian Church, United Way, Rotary Club, Heritage Fund, Columbus School Foundation, Foundation for Youth, Columbus Jaycees and the Boys Club Council. He and his wife, Betty, established the Robert and Betty Brown Awards for Vocal Excellence. An instrumental scholarship also was added.

And we will enjoy the product of that philanthropy throughout this service.

His story ended Friday, March 19, 2004, at Shell Point Pavilion in Fort Myers, Florida.

But that hardly tells the story. There is so much more to tell because Bob Brown was

also a hero and an inventor and that story needs to be told as well.

Bob Brown was a soldier. After graduating from Purdue in May of 1941 Bob Brown went to work but would write in the family history, "Overshadowing everything we did was an ominous cloud of war."

Duty called. He enlisted in Army in 1942. Enrolled in the army school of advanced electronics at Chicago University and 2nd Lt Bob Brown, US Army Signal Corp reported to Fort Monmouth, New Jersey on 3 Dec 1942. An engineer by training, Lt Brown was schooled to operate a dramatic new top-secret technology known as Radar.

On 22 January 1944, Lt Bob Brown shipped out for the European theatre aboard the Queen Mary. He arrived in England and helped assemble Starting Point, the first early warning radar system in the history of modern warfare.

And he was there on 6 June 1944: D-Day. He wrote of that experience in the family history and I quote generously from his account of that time:

One of the most dramatic days of my life was 6 June 1944. I awoke to a deafening roar and leaped out of my pup tent to find the sky filled with planes from horizon to horizon. There were bombers and fighters from the Allied countries of every size . . . All were either going or returning across the channel. 'My God! It's here'—the long awaited invasion had actually come. We knew we were part of it, but when and where?

On 10 June 1944, four days later, the word came down. "Board an assigned landing craft with all vehicles at dawn 11 June and be prepared to land at Omaha Beach." The tension and excitement were unbearable. Our time had really come . . . As the beach neared, we all became quiet with apprehension. What would it be like to face enemy fire?

When we arrived at the beach we were relieved to see the fighting had moved in land . . . For 100 miles around us, including the southern coast of England, the northern coast of France and the Channel between I could clearly see every ship in the water and many vehicles moving on the land.

. . . For that brief period the magnitude of the operation overwhelmed me. We had actually landed in France! This invasion had to be the greatest feat in history.

Lt. Brown would serve courageously from D-Day to the Battle of the Bulge. After WWII, he returned to the service during the Korean War to train new heroes in the use of radar in combat operations at bases around the country.

Years later, as the illness that would take his life clouded his mind, according to Peggy, it was the memories of his service in World War II that, "Were the last memories to go." Almost until the end, he spoke with affection of the men and the times when his generation won freedom for the people of Europe and every generation that would follow.

His son Jeff told me that even 50 years later, "He felt his military service in World War II was the greatest contribution of his life."

And he was right. Lt. Brown was a hero.

Accordingly, and in recognition of his service to the people of France, I have been authorized to posthumously present the Medal of the Jubilee of Liberty, minted on the 50th anniversary of the D-Day invasion to Robert N. Brown on behalf of the Regional Council of Normandy and the grateful people of France