

Inspiration Awards. May each year be more competitive than the last.

LEWISBURG RECOGNIZED AS ONE OF THE NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION'S DOZEN DISTINCTIVE DESTINATIONS

HON. NICK J. RAHALL, II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2004

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, Lewisburg, one of West Virginia's proudest attractions known for its history, beauty and hospitality, offers a bit of everything for those seeking attractive destination spots to visit, and recently, the National Trust for Historic Preservation named Lewisburg one of its Dozen Distinctive Destinations.

The City of Lewisburg is a cultural and artistic center in West Virginia. Downtown Lewisburg is designated as an historical district, with many of its buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and the city has won acclaim as one of the best small-town arts centers in America. History buffs, theatre goers, music lovers, shoppers and fine diners alike can delight in Lewisburg. It is no wonder why West Virginia holds its annual State Fair on the outskirts of this splendid city.

Just down the road from Lewisburg is the world-famous Greenbrier Resort, a source of pride for every Southern West Virginian, and so important nationally that for years it was intended to be the American government's home away from home.

The recognition of Lewisburg by the National Trust for Historic Preservation is a great honor bestowed upon one of West Virginia's best kept treasures. West Virginians have always known the beauty, the history and the draw of Lewisburg. It was just a matter of time before the rest of the world took notice.

Lewisburg is a prime example of the best West Virginia has to offer. Our countryside is filled with historic treasures, grand vistas, wild whitewater, towering mountain ridges, and numerous trails that cater to horseback riders, ATV users, hikers and bikers. Travelers and tourists can find a cornucopia of activities and adventures across Southern West Virginia, as we offer attractions that appeal to a wide variety of interests and tastes.

Today, as more Americans than ever are looking for exciting, yet safe, places to vacation, and West Virginia, my home State, has become even more attractive as a destination to many adventurers and vacationers alike. Half the people in the whole country live within 250 miles of the Mountain State, making it an easy day's drive for all who wish to visit.

RECOGNIZATION OF THE YOUNG ONSET PARKINSON'S ASSOCIATION AND THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MS. GINA REILLY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2004

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I have the opportunity to recognize the outstanding achievements of Ms. Gina Reilly and the Young Onset Parkinson's Association (YOPA). The YOPA is dedicated to providing support as well as raising public awareness about Parkinson's disease. Ms. Reilly is one of many volunteers whose tireless efforts help to make the foundation a success.

Parkinson's disease is a debilitating disease that affects 4 in every 1,000 Americans, and while the disease is more prominent in older people, five to ten percent of all Parkinson's cases are early-onset. Parkinson's has no known origin or method of prevention; but with the assistance of organizations like the YOPA and the American Parkinson's Disease Association, treatments and a cure are coming closer to becoming a reality.

The YOPA's mission is to raise public awareness and to offer support for those living with early-onset Parkinson's disease. In addition, the association has coordinated with local, regional and national Parkinson's organizations in fundraising efforts for Parkinson's research. Ms. Gina Reilly is one of the most prominent volunteers who has helped make this mission a reality.

Prior to her diagnosis, Ms. Reilly was a renowned competitor in U.S. adult ice dancing competitions. In addition to being a champion ice dancer, she was also a ballroom dancer, nightclub singer, and owner of a successful graphic arts and computer embroidering business. After her diagnosis in 2003, Ms. Reilly refused to let her disease prevent her from further achievements. In addition to continuing her pursuits in athletics and business, Ms. Reilly has begun working with the YOPA. Her incredible courage and fortitude provide a role model of how one can live their life while afflicted with Parkinson's disease.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues recognize the outstanding work of the Young Onset Parkinson's Association, and I congratulate Ms. Reilly for her outstanding achievements and bravery.

CONFIRMATION OF PAUL ANDERSON FOR THE FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2004

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, it was my pleasure to appear before the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee on March 30, 2004 to introduce Paul Anderson of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, at his confirmation

hearing for the post of Federal Maritime Commissioner. President George W. Bush nominated Paul for the position on Oct. 1, 2003.

In nominating Paul Anderson, President Bush has chosen someone who possesses a rare blend of work experience and background that makes him an asset to the commission. With a background in both government and the maritime industry, Mr. Anderson is positioned well as a knowledgeable and forceful advocate for a strong United States maritime industry.

I have known Paul for more than 20 years, working with him in the Senate with former Senator Paula Hawkins when I was chief of staff. He is well qualified with Senate experience, 8 years with Hvide Marine, a U.S.-flagged diversified marine transport company in Florida and 9 years with JM Family Enterprises, the nation's largest distributor of Toyota vehicles. Clearly his knowledge of business in addition to the maritime industry will be invaluable in his position. He balances knowledge of government responsibilities and the needs of private companies.

If it was my own son being considered, I couldn't be more proud of Paul Anderson. It was my honor to introduce him to the Senate committee.

I'm confident the administration has made a fine choice in nominating Paul Anderson for this important post and I urged the committee to act favorably on the nomination.

HONORING SERGEANT JONATHAN N. HARTMAN

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2004

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, as we pray for all those in our armed services who find themselves in harm's way, I rise to pay tribute to a soldier from my home state who gave his life to his country during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Sergeant Jonathan N. Hartman, age 27, of Jacksonville, Florida, died April 17, 2004 in Dwanian, Iraq. Sergeant Hartman was assigned to the Army's 2nd Battalion, 37th Armored Regiment, 1st Armored Division, based in Friedberg, Germany.

Mr. Speaker, Sergeant Hartman is the epitome of a great American. He served his country with pride. He served his country without question. Sergeant Hartman served his country because he loved his country. For his service, his honor, his dedication, and his sacrifice, I know I speak for the entire Congress and for good Americans everywhere when I say, thank you.

Mr. Speaker, there are no words that can be said here today that will erase the sorrow and pain of this loss. What we can say, and what we can do, is continue to support this mission, the men and women who are fighting for this great country, and pray for his loved ones. It is the service and dedication of men and women like Sergeant Hartman's that make the United States safer, more secure, and a great nation.