

Mr. Speaker, these inspiring students have become important role models not only to younger children, but also to their communities. I hope my colleagues join me in congratulating them on their accomplishments and wishing them all the best as they continue their education and community involvement.

TRIBUTE TO DR. DELOIS WEEKES

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 2004

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the efforts of Dr. DeLois Weekes in ensuring quality cancer care in southwest Missouri and our Nation. Her unflagging commitment to improving cancer treatment should serve as a model, worthy of our admiration and appreciation.

Cancer is a complex, multifaceted disease that can often best be treated by a multidisciplinary health care team specialized in oncology care, including nurses who are certified in that specialty. As a two-time cancer survivor, I have firsthand knowledge of the clinical, psychosocial, and supportive care oncology nurses provide to patients and their families. For the past three years, Dr. Weekes has served as President of the Cox College of Nursing and Health Sciences in Springfield, Missouri. In the course of her work in pediatric oncology nursing, she has been a teacher, administrator, speaker, advocate, researcher and author. Dr. Weekes' role as an educator and administrator has provided her with a unique opportunity to train these intelligent, highly skilled individuals, like the ones who helped me wage my own battle with cancer.

The impact of Dr. Weekes' work, however, is not limited to southwest Missouri. She has helped advance the nursing profession by serving on the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) Board of Directors and developing grassroots programs that educate elementary school students about the meaningful and rewarding nursing profession. Her leadership within ONS, the largest organization of oncology health professionals in the world, has allowed her to help cancer patients around the globe. Since 1975, ONS has been dedicated to excellence in patient care, teaching, research, administration and education in the field of oncology. Dr. Weekes' position as a Director-at-Large on the ONS Board of Directors has enabled her to advance programs and policies that help ensure that America is has a well trained oncology nursing workforce. In Missouri alone, ONS has four chapters that serve the oncology nurses in the state and help them provide quality care to cancer patients and their families.

Dr. Weekes' service and the ONS mission have never been more essential. This year alone, 1.3 million Americans will be diagnosed with cancer. An additional 556,000 will lose their battle with this terrible disease. Today, more than two-thirds of cancer victims are over the age of 65, and the number of cancer cases diagnosed among senior citizens is projected to double by 2030. At the same time, many of our community-based cancer centers are facing significant barriers to hiring the specialized oncology nurses they need to treat their patients. It is estimated that there will be

a shortage of 1.1 million nurses by the year 2015. As this date steadily approaches, Dr. Weekes' efforts to educate and prepare America's caregivers for positions in nursing, both in her work at Cox College and ONS, are ever more important.

I commend Dr. DeLois Weekes for her commitment to providing and improving cancer care, and I urge all of my colleagues to support oncology nurses across the country.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE VOLUNTEERS AT THE SUNNYSIDE COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 2004

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedicated volunteers of the Sunnyside Community Service Center located in Sunnyside, Queens, New York during National Volunteer Week.

The Sunnyside Community Service Center has done an outstanding job of providing a range of social, recreational, and educational services to over 2,000 members. Its successful volunteer program helps the center achieve its goals, reaching hundreds of senior citizens each and every day.

The center offers lunches, Meals on Wheels, and about 30 weekly activities, including special celebrations, concerts, and performances. It also offers a variety of educational programs, such as English as a Second Language, conversational Spanish, citizenship preparation, and health classes.

At the center, seniors can receive assistance including benefits counseling, entitlements—Social Security, SSI, and Medicare—mental health services, and access to various support groups. In addition, the center has a special program for homebound seniors, allowing them to participate in activities and lunch with their peers, and an Alzheimer's day program that provides much-needed support.

The Sunnyside Community Service Center volunteers are, in many ways, the lifeline of the organization. These volunteers dedicate their time, energy, and compassion to enriching people's lives each and every day at the center. Therefore, it is with great enthusiasm that I ask you to join me in recognizing the following volunteers for their dedication and commitment to service in our community:

Ana Abreu, Reginaldo Acosta, Zoraida Aguilar, Ashraf Ahmed, Mario Alulema, Sixta Tulia Alvarez, Ana Arboleda, Clara Baquero, Martha Barjacob, Norma Benitez, Paul Bernaschina, Luisa Bonete, Dikran Bostanian, Novella Busetti, Maria Camisa, Zoila Caraballo, Margaret Carlucci, Dorothy Cavallo, Clemencia Ceballos, Haydee Ceballos, Ellie Chen, Joli Chowdhury, Ann Chuhuran, Christine Conety, Catherine Coscia, Michelle Cotrina, Emma Cristancho, Carrie Cunningham.

Anna Damis, Mary Davide, Stephane Dejean, Dora Delgado, Sigrid Doleske, Don Donner, Stephanie Dosantos, Clifton Duhaney, Alfonso Duran, Rosemary Eischeid, Headley Evans, Letty Fabre, Francesca Ferreira, Betty Gallino, Ru-Ze Gao, Mickey Garmendia, Ray Glantz, Paulina Gonzalez, Veronica Gonzalez, Mary Halvey, Ni Han, Eileen Hand, Nancy Hendley, Shyrene Hernandez, Hermilinda Hidalgo, Gloria Holder, Maggie Houston.

Ani Janikian, Idalie Jean-Jacques, Jennie Jesse, Jose Jimenez, Siria Jomarron, Valerie Jones, Yvonne Jones, Cierra Knight, Rodica (Denise) Kondan, Marie Konecko, Mildred Lang, Cecile Laroche, Tatiana Lavega, Laura Lecour, Maria Linan, Renato Lins, Glyn Lloyd, Haleyda Lopez, Juan Lozano, Carmen Luzarraga, Barbara Lynch, Rosa Macas, Paola Machicao, William Madden, Maria Maldonado, Bestina Marte, Joan Marus, Eugenia Matviyenko.

Jim McBride, Robert McCreanor, Gert McDonald, Felipa Miranda, Rakhshinda Moeen, Grace Montes, Betty Moore, Khosrow Moradian, Fanny Morales, Albert Mullakandov, Cortenie Murphy, Robert Murphy, Sara Najam, Lillie Navarro, Marzana Naz, Walky Nazon, Nga Nguyen, Ruben Nunez, Maria O'Grady, Oscar Orozco, David Ortiz, Gizem Ozelik, Kong Park, Ethel Parker, Dalia E. Perez, Emilia Pineda, Bertha Power, Amalia Priore, Rosario P. Priore.

Myriam Ramirez, Ana Restrepo, Maureen Rinaldi, Leopoldina Rodriguez, Celina Ruiz, Julio Salcedo, Karmin Sanchez, Maria Inez Sanchez, Mariana Sanchez, Marina Sanin, Nickola Saroff, Frances Schaefer, Mary Sesio, Jeanette Shane, Virginia Shaw, David Shin, Cynthia Singleton, Maria Sorenson, Juana Sosa, Elsa Spielvogel, Lillian Stanley, Gail Sylvester, Millie Taveras, Angeline Thayuman, Paris Torossian, Yasmin Torres, Zoila Torres, Catherine Trochelman, Ana Urbina, Ligia Vasquez, Abe Vilensky, Anne Walsh, Harry Werner, Maura Wilson, Maisie Wright, Elizabeth Youngflesh, and Christopher Zottarelli.

RECOGNIZING STAFF SGT. JIMMY ARROYAVE WHO WAS KILLED IN IRAQ, APRIL 2004

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 2004

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to pay tribute to Jimmy Arroyave, USMC, who was killed in the line of duty in Iraq on April 15, 2004. On his second deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Staff Sgt. Arroyave died in a motor vehicle accident northeast of Al Ramadi.

Serving with the Combat Service Support Battalion, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, which is stationed out of Camp Pendleton, this 30-year-old resident of Yolo County, CA answered his country's call and paid the ultimate price.

Born in Cali, Colombia, Staff Sgt. Arroyave moved to Woodland, CA, at an early age and enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1993. He was proud to be a Marine, loved the military life and had planned on making the military his career.

In addition to his deployments to Iraq, Staff Sgt. Arroyave served in Kuwait from October 2002 until June 2003, and in Japan for 12 months in 1999. He was the recipient of the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon and the Navy and Marine Corps Overseas Ribbon.

Staff Sgt. Arroyave was a devoted son, husband, and father. He is survived by his wife Rachelle, who is 3 months pregnant, daughters Vanessa and Natalia, all of Oceanside,