

Much like World War II, we find ourselves a nation at war. However, instead of having a clear picture of our enemy, we find them cloaked and hidden in terrorist camps and harbored by rogue nations. They do not have a country to call their home and their motives cannot be understated. They abhor the human virtues of freedom, liberty, and democracy and aim to destroy America and our way of life.

Four Oklahoman's from the 1st Congressional District have died in operations overseas in Iraq. To honor their service and sacrifice, I would like to take a moment to pay tribute to them.

Army Specialist Kyle A. Brinlee, 21 of Pryor, Oklahoma, died serving his Country in Iraq on May 11, 2004;

Army Specialist James E. Marshall, 19 of Tulsa, Oklahoma, died serving his Country in Iraq on May 5, 2004;

Army Private Jason M. Ward, 25 of Tulsa, Oklahoma, died serving his Country in Iraq on October 22, 2003;

Marine Lance Corporal Thomas A. Blair, 24 of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, died serving his Country in Iraq on March 24, 2003.

These men gave their lives to bring freedom to a Nation which has never known it and end the scourge of terrorism around the globe. My prayers and condolences go out to all the families of those brave men and women who have fallen to make our homeland and the world a safer place. They gave their lives selflessly to protect the virtues of freedom and protect our way of life. Our debt to them will forever be beyond our power to repay. It is vitally important that we keep them in our memory and remind future generations of their selflessness and heroism.

RECOGNIZING UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 3, 2004

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Upward Bound program. Upward Bound is a college preparation program aimed at helping high school students who are from low-income families and students who are from families where neither parent graduated from college. Upward Bound is designed to increase the rate at which these students enroll and graduate from college. This U.S. Department of Education program enables students, who wouldn't normally have the opportunity or information, to attend a post-secondary school due to their life circumstances. Testimonials from students involved with the California State University of San Marcos Upward Bound program express the impact this program has had on their lives through tutoring, friendships, and college trips. These testimonials highlight the lives that this program has touched and the opportunities this program has given to students.

Upward Bound provides tutoring for its students in literature, composition, math, and science. Tutoring provides a way for Upward Bound to be involved in these students' lives and ensure their success. Fermin Soto, an Upward Bound participant, from San Marcos High School states, "If Upward Bound was taken away from us our grades would go

down, because we need the tutors. They help us so much and push us study and do homework." Another participant, Adrian Blount, feels, "Upward Bound is a program with tremendous opportunity. It supplies tutors for those who need extra help and they motivate you to do your best."

The tutoring Upward Bound provides has given many students the motivation to reach their potential in high school to enable them to continue their education. Megan Day from Escondido High School believes, "Upward Bound is a group that motivates you to go to college. They have tutors to help you after school two times a week. Upward Bound helps let me have time after school to do homework or help study for tests and quizzes." This time set aside for students to concentrate on their schoolwork is very valuable to them and their future, as well. Mia Bryson from Camino High School feels the tutoring has been imperative for her success, "The tutors at Upward Bound have helped me out a lot. Everyone is so motivated it helps when you're around people with the same goals as you."

Many of these students feel that without tutoring college would not be an option for them because they would not have the study skills or knowledge to excel in college. Recia Comfort from Rancho Buena Vista High School feels the tutoring has given her a brighter future, "Since Upward Bound holds tutoring twice a week, it provides us with needed skills. So if the Upward Bound program was no longer available I wouldn't feel like college would be in my future." Megan Moore acknowledges the importance of the study skills she learned from tutoring, "Upward Bound has helped me by being forced to go to tutoring because without that I would not have the study skills I do now." One tutor also believes, "Through tutoring that is provided, students are able to strengthen their knowledge, hence alleviating the weight of new information offered in college."

Tutoring helps keep the students focused on their goals and teaches them self-discipline, when it comes to challenging schoolwork or difficult decisions in life. Raven Rogers is thankful for the discipline Upward Bound has taught her, "Upward Bound has made me dedicate myself more to my schoolwork, I guess that's why I feel thankful for being accepted in the program. It has really shown me how to deal with stuff in life. So in my opinion I feel that in the long run it will really help me." Raquel from El Camino High School says, "My favorite part of the Upward Bound program is the tutoring. The tutors help me with all my work when it can be challenging."

The tutors provide support for the students on a personal level as well as educational level. Jose Aguilla from El Camino High School states, "I'm so successful now because of the program and if it no longer existed then I would not know who to get help from. The staff and tutors are great and they show that they care for us and it makes me feel good." The support the tutors provide for the students increases their confidence in their schoolwork and their goals in life.

Another beneficial aspect for students involved in Upward Bound is its Summer Residential Program, which gives students a chance to visit colleges. This experience provides the students with valuable information about college life and what they should expect in the future. If Upward Bound did not give

their students the chance to visit colleges most of the students wouldn't have the chance to visit colleges or know the options available to them for college. Belen Aduino from Ocean-side High School appreciates this sneak preview of college life, "I like the classes they give us during summer, it's like we are there at the university and taking real classes. I like to experience how it is like to go to college at least during summer. During summer Component I learned many things such as how real college students live, the classes they study, and how their classrooms and colleges look."

Many students would not receive much information about college without the support of Upward Bound, which would decrease the chance these students would enroll in college. Elyana Sotelo from San Marcos High School feels the information she receives about college is very valuable, "So if the program, Upward Bound, were to be taken away from us, students, we probably won't get a lot of information about college as we are getting right now. And we won't be able to get prepared and have the possibility about going to college." Michelle Sevilla from San Marcos High School also feels she wouldn't know much about college without Upward Bound, "Without the Upward Bound program I wouldn't know much about colleges, financial aid, and tests. Upward does an excellent job keeping their students informed with what's going on with universities."

The students enjoy the opportunity to visit colleges because it gives them a chance to experience the way college life is, first-hand. For Shanea Blout of El Camino High School, her favorite part of Upward Bound is the summer program, "I have met a lot of new people this year because of the summer residential component which has always been one of my favorite parts of Upward Bound. We have the chance to go to different colleges and experience what it is like living on our own and taking college classes." Another fan of the Summer Residential Program is Michaelangelo Medina, "My favorite part about the program is when we spend time in the university during summer. The reason I like it so much is because you experience the college life in the dorms." Alex Pantoja from Oceanside High School also appreciates the opportunity to receive support and information about college, "My favorite part of Upward Bound is I meet new people and visit colleges. Upward Bound has helped me out by picking out the best college."

Many students would not know about the application process, financial aid, or scholarship options without these informational college trips. Sandra Virias attributes her knowledge about college to Upward Bound, "It taught me to communicate with other people and to learn how to apply and information about colleges and universities. If Upward Bound was taken we wouldn't have anywhere to learn and be taught." River Resendiz from San Marcos High School also says, "My favorite part of Upward Bound is that we get help from college students and also field trips that we take to go see colleges. I also like that they help you with college and scholarship applications."

Summer college trips let the students experience a part of the ultimate goal, attending college, they are aiming to achieve. Nayeli Borja from Escondido High School uses the college trips to keep her focused on her goals,

"When we go visit universities that encourage me even more to keep my education up and maintain my grades as high as possible." Ashli Tiller uses the college trips to absorb as much information as possible, "The best part of the program is the summer component. It gives me a taste of what living on a college campus may be like. This program has helped me in many ways from financial aid to seeing what university is right for me." This "taste" of college as Ashli puts it, helps the students to remain focused and motivated towards their schoolwork because they get to experience the goal they are working towards.

Upward Bound does not only provide these students with educational resources, but gives them a sense of community and belonging. Juan Muro says, "Upward Bound has become a part of my life. Upward Bound is like, my family, if I was to lose that part of my life I would not know what to do. Upward Bound gives me confidence everyday, and I am afraid to lose that." The community of Upward Bound encourages the students and gives the students more confidence in their academic as well as personal lives. Yadira Estrada from Oceanside High School said, "Upward Bound taught me to value the things that I have and the opportunity of being in this program. I have developed my self-esteem and I know that I can make it as far as I would like to."

Upward Bound helps students stay focused, when they may be experiencing problems at home or at school. Aydee Reyes from Vista High School says, "This program I would say helps me when I have school problems, sometimes even home or family problems." Danil McGill from San Marcos High School also feels this sense of comfort of Aydee, he states, "Upward Bound has helped me, because when I get sidetracked, they're the one's that call and ask what's going on, and help me figure out what I need to do to get back on track. They also encourage me and make the best out of sometimes bad situations." Erin Hedgecock, a tutor for Upward Bound, also notes the sense of family Upward Bound provides for its students, "Every week the students meet for tutoring and also meet every other Saturday. On these Saturdays all of the students from different community high schools come together to learn and study. These Saturday meetings also give the students a chance to get to know one another and to have fun. This is very important for the students to know that no matter what is going on in their lives at the moment; they still have a group of people that they belong to."

This community encourages the students to follow their dreams and set high goals because they know there is always someone there for them. Samantha Sandoval from Oceanside High School uses this support system to her full advantage, "Upward Bound has helped me to follow my dreams and not let anything stop me from doing it. It also taught me not to be shy and always act like myself. If the program was taken away I would feel like my whole life is taken away because Upward Bound is like a big family that gets along really well." Jasmine Clark from Rancho Buena Vista High School also says, "The Upward Bound program has helped me create steady goals that will help me reach my goal." The students rely on the people at Upward Bound to help them set and one day achieve their future goals.

Upward Bound is not just a program, but it is an inspiration. It gives students the tools needed to set goals and fulfill their dreams. These honest and heartfelt testimonies from students involved with Upward Bound show the importance of this program in their lives. Without the support and information provided by Upward Bound for students many of these students would not be aware of their full potential and not view college as an option in their future. This program strengthens the futures of the individual students involved, as well, as the communities these students are from. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this program, and I thank these students for taking the time to share the importance of the program.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. MELVIN L. WATT

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. WATT. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate this opportunity to honor all those who have died in military service with a moment of silence. I am particularly reminded of the courage and sacrifice of our World War II soldiers as we celebrate the long-awaited opening of the monument to those who died in that war. As Americans we express our gratitude to them this year as we reflect on the fact that men and women are again fighting and dying for our country.

Almost 800 American soldiers have died since the beginning of hostilities in Iraq. I would like to recognize four of these individuals, all reservists and residents of the 12th Congressional District of North Carolina, who died this past year. Specialist Mark A. Bibby, a twenty-five year old student at North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro, NC, was killed on July 21, 2003 when a bomb exploded near his Humvee in Baghdad. Specialist Lunsford Brown, also a native North Carolinian and student at North Carolina A&T, died on September 20, 2003, in a mortar attack at the Abu Ghraib Prison in Baghdad. He was twenty-seven years old and the father of a three-month-old baby girl, Amber.

On April 23rd, 2004 the remains of Army Sergeant Elmer C. Krause, also a resident of Greensboro, North Carolina were identified. Sergeant Krause had been listed as missing on April 9th when his convoy came under attack. He was forty years old and had a nine-year-old son, Jonathan. Relatives said he wanted to go to Iraq "so someone else could come back home." Most recently, on May 3rd, Sergeant Gregory L. Wahl, of Salisbury, North Carolina, died when his vehicle flipped into a canal in Balad, Iraq. He was thirty years old and the father of four-year-old Alexis. I extend my condolences to the families, friends and communities in my congressional district who mourn the loss of these men.

Today, I honor all our fallen heroes and sincerely hope that our soldiers in Iraq will soon come home safely and honorably.

TRIBUTE TO HOWARD J. RUBENSTEIN ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF RUBENSTEIN ASSOCIATES

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 4, 2004

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the exceptional contributions to New York City and to our nation made by Howard J. Rubenstein. Tonight his outstanding firm, Rubenstein Associates, Inc., will mark half a century of success in public relations. Joining in the celebration will be leaders in the national, state and local government, as well as the worlds of commerce and culture—and what a fitting tribute this broad selection of friends and admirers will be!

Howard Rubenstein's name is associated with quality clients across the nation, from the San Francisco Opera to the Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau. But most typical of his long and impressive list of 450 clients are the unique institutions of New York, such as the Yankees, the Guggenheim Museum and the Plaza Hotel. Howard has stood by New York City through thick and thin, hard times and flush times, and always he has displayed a unique talent for making the world see New York through his loving eyes. He's helped the city in its quest to be the quintessential American metropolis of our time.

The investment he has made in the future of New York—and by extension in the country at large—has helped to further the concept of public-private partnerships. Nobody better understands the symbiotic inner workings among business, the media, politics and the civic sector than Howard does. His ability to see the big picture enables him to understand where different entities can form alliances for the betterment of all. One of Howard's most significant successes is his participation in the co-founding of the Association for a Better New York. ABNY, which remains as influential today as when it was formed 30 years ago, is a civic organization that brings together leaders from every facet of New York life to work together to improve all aspects of the City.

Mr. Speaker, my respect for Howard Rubenstein was made all the more profound by his response to the September 11th attacks. Howard worked tirelessly to help the city and our nation recover. He threw himself into the task of expeditiously rebuilding downtown at a time when people worried that it might never recover. And he worked energetically to bring tourism back to New York after that terrible day.

But Howard Rubenstein doesn't need a crisis to inspire his vision. He has been an instrumental force in the city's bid to bring the 2012 Summer Olympic Games to New York City. He helped transform the New York Marathon from a four-lap road race in Central Park into the most significant running event in the world. His firm has also been a huge factor in the phenomenal success of the Tribeca Film Festival—another boost to Lower Manhattan. And his efforts have brought about and transformed important institutions—for example, Howard was one of the original founders of the Museum of Jewish Heritage—A Living Memorial to the Holocaust.