

RECOGNIZING DANIEL J. WILLIAMS FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2006*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Daniel J. Williams, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 167, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Daniel has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Daniel has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. In his service, Daniel was instrumental in the development of a basketball court in the Winston city park.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Daniel J. Williams for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2006*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my congratulations to the American Jewish Committee (AJC) as it celebrates its 100th anniversary.

The early 1900s were a very challenging and tumultuous time for Jewish-Americans. For decades prior, millions of Eastern European Jews immigrated to the United States to flee political and religious persecution. By coming to America, these brave people took monumental steps toward freedom, but even on America's more welcoming shores, they often encountered discrimination and economic hardship. Meanwhile, in the countries from which they fled, the persecution and danger against Jews intensified. The pogroms in Russia left thousands of innocent Jews dead, and many more wounded or without homes. In 1906, striving to end the senseless violence and discrimination perpetuated against their people across the world, a small group of Jewish Americans came together to create the American Jewish Committee, an organization committed to ending anti-Semitism, promoting pluralism and religious freedom, and protecting human rights.

Although the task before them was often daunting, they succeeded at raising national and international awareness to the crimes being committed in Europe this time. Often, this awareness was sparked by collaborative efforts with organizations of different faiths. As anti-Semitism spread prior to its horrendous climax in the Holocaust during World War II, the AJC was one of the first organizations to bring the issue to the forefront by lobbying political leaders, the international community, and appealing to the media.

Since that time, the AJC's positive impact has been felt around the world. The AJC was instrumental in developing many of the provisions included in the United Nations Charter, and later would advocate for the establishment of the International Criminal Court. They also provided invaluable research to the plaintiffs in the landmark Supreme Court case *Brown v. the Board of Education* which ended racial segregation. During the 1960s, the AJC worked tirelessly with the Catholic Church to foster a productive friendship between the two faiths. This culminated in the Church's release of *Nostra Aetate*, a document officially condemning any animosity by Catholics against Jews. And in 1965, the AJC recognized Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with the American Liberties Medallion in honor of his efforts to end racial intolerance.

The AJC's Jacob Blaustein Institute continues to work with international organizations to monitor war crimes and intolerance, as well as providing humanitarian aid to victims of natural disasters, refugees of war, and suffering around the globe. To this day, the AJC remains strongly committed to strengthening interfaith relations to ensure that when they speak on issues of great concern to the world, they are speaking on behalf of all humanity, not just the Jewish people.

Mr. Speaker, the American Jewish Committee's 100th anniversary is a tremendous achievement. Even more remarkable are the contributions the AJC has provided during its existence. The AJC has built a tremendous reputation, and continually strives for religious freedom, equality, and tolerance. Although it is called the American Jewish Committee, the goals they set forth and the feats they have accomplished are valued by members of all faiths, all nations, all people. I congratulate the AJC on its anniversary, and wish this extraordinary organization more success in the future.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF MRS. YVONNE E. MILLINER BOWSKY AND THE PEACE CORPS SCHOOL

**HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN**

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2006*

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding Virgin Islands woman, Mrs. Yvonne E. Milliner Bowsky.

Mrs. Bowsky's career of service and dedication to her family, her community, her students and to the Virgin Islands as a whole can be summed up in one word—phenomenal.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to being a devoted wife, mother and teacher—life's paths which taken separately or together are challenging in and of themselves—Mrs. Bowsky has also served the Virgin Islands community as a professor at the College and University of the Virgin Islands, an entrepreneur, a gubernatorial campaign manager, and as special assistant for audits and control to the Governor she guided to victory, the late Alexander Farrelly. In addition to these accomplishments, her premier role was principal of the Peace Corps Elementary School which has been named in her honor.

Mr. Speaker, just as she was not an ordinary campaign manager, entrepreneur or

teacher, she was not an ordinary principal. As the first principal of the Peace Corps Elementary School, she was the strong hand and determined intellect that guided what will now be known as the Yvonne E. Milliner Bowsky Elementary School from a complex of empty and abandoned dormitories turned over to the Virgin Islands Government by the Peace Corps into a vibrant elementary school which opened in 1973. Her vision made it possible to relieve the overcrowded conditions at other schools in St. Thomas and improve the educational environment for our children.

The school named in her honor is now a modern facility, with eight brand new buildings housing 400 students, and is a bulwark of the public education system in our islands. Since its beginning in 1973, the Peace Corps Elementary School campus has been destroyed several times by hurricanes and other unfortunate events. But, it has managed to rise several times from the ashes and today—in large part because of her legacy—it has achieved this milestone. Now, as its crowning glory, it has been named for its mother—Yvonne E. Milliner Bowsky. Beyond the buildings, everyone can attest that because of her vision and her dedication and those who followed and are still following in her footsteps, this school has become a place of academic excellence.

Mr. Speaker, the students of the Yvonne E. Milliner Bowsky Elementary School will always have in her an excellent role model to look up to and to be inspired by. Her excellence and achievement in so many areas is testament of what is possible if one works hard, is focused and is determined to serve and to do the best of one's ability.

For these reasons, Mr. Speaker, I am honored to come before this Congress and offer my profound congratulations to Mrs. Bowsky and her family for this most deserved honor.

I wish her and all who administer, serve and learn at the Yvonne Milliner Bowsky Elementary School God's richest blessings.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ONONDAGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE MEN'S LACROSSE TEAM

**HON. JAMES T. WALSH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2006*

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to praise the Onondaga Community College Men's Lacrosse Team on their NJCAA National Championship. Onondaga Community College, OCC, defeated Suffolk Community College by a score of 30–6, giving the school their first men's lacrosse national title.

The championship victory culminated a season in which the OCC Lazers went undefeated with an 18–0 mark, outscoring their opponents 445–80 along the way. With their display of dominance throughout the year, it is clear that OCC was the best junior college team in 2006 and arguably the best in history.

On behalf of all of my constituents, I congratulate these young men on their outstanding athletic achievement and praise Head Coach Chuck Wilbur, Assistant Coaches Mike Villano, Joe Villano, and Chris Brim on their team's success. I look forward to the 2007 season when the Lazers take the field to defend their national title.

No. 1, Brooks Robinson; No. 2, Ryan, Boda; No. 3, Dan Casciano; No. 4, Mike Difusco; No. 5, John Tysco; No. 6, Lee Nanticoke; No. 7, Brendan Storrier; No. 8, Kent Squires Hill; No. 9, Stefan Schroder; No. 10, Nick Gatto, captain; No. 11, Isaiah Kicknosway; No. 12, Pat Shanahan; No. 13, Kevin Bucktooth, Jr., captain; No. 14, David Cougler; No. 15, Mike Tracy; No. 16, Dave Maldonado; No. 17, Sid Smith, captain; No. 18, Matt Myke; No. 19, Craig Point; No. 20, P.J. Motondo; No. 21, Adam Orlandella, captain; No. 22, Jay Tranello; No. 24, Mike Diglio; No. 25, Rich Herrig; No. 26, A.J. Vaughn; No. 27, Casey Fellows; No. 28, Josh Groh; No. 29, Pat Dimatteo; No. 30, Kris Frier; No. 31, Scott Herrig; No. 33, Devin Rookey; No. 34, Pat Shiel; No. 35, Brandon Novak; No. 36, Nick Sigona; No. 38, Cody Jamieson; No. 39, Adam Clark; No. 40, Ross Buckingham.

RECOGNIZING ANDREW MICHAEL GRACE FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2006*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Andrew Michael Grace, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 376, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Andrew has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Andrew has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Andrew has served in the leadership positions of den chief, patrol leader, and troop guide, among others. He served on the staff of the H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservation in the summers of 2004 and 2005, while being elevated to runner in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. For his Eagle Scout project, Andrew planned and supervised the renovation of railings, lamp posts, and light fixtures at the Second Baptist Church in Liberty, MO.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Andrew Michael Grace for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING HARRIETT HOWARD'S SERVICE TO TENNESSEE VETERANS

**HON. BART GORDON**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2006*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Harriett Howard for her extraordinary service to Tennessee veterans. Harriett was recently named the 2006 Female Volunteer of the Year at the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs Voluntary Service National Advisory Committee's Annual Meeting in Sparks, NV. Harriett was selected out of 94,000 active vol-

unteers throughout the VA system of 154 facilities.

A retired Navy chief petty officer, Harriett has dedicated much of her life to serving veterans. Aside from the many hours she devotes in the Tennessee Valley Healthcare System, she has also served many years as WAVES national representative on the United Tennessee Veterans Association and on the Nashville-Davidson County Veterans Coordinating Council.

Harriett serves as a voice for our veterans. I know I can count on Harriett to keep me informed about the issues that concern Tennessee veterans, and I also know that if there is an opportunity to assist or recognize veterans, Harriett will be ready and willing to participate.

In fact, on Sunday, May 28, at the Middle Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery, Harriett will be conducting the "For Whom the Bell Tolls" ceremony, which includes reading the names of the 350 veterans buried there since last Memorial Day.

Harriett, I wish you well in your future endeavors, and I thank you for your dedication to serving our Nation's veterans.

HONORING THE LATE FAUSTO MIRANDA

**HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2006*

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the loss of an exceptional member of my community, the beloved Fausto Miranda. On Tuesday, May 9th, Mr. Miranda, the renowned Cuban sports reporter, passed away at the age of 91.

He was born on July 4, 1914 in the Cuban eastern city of Puerto Padre. He was forced to work odd jobs to survive. He worked as a street salesman, notary clerk, prison guard, band manager, janitor and a variety of other jobs. It was Mr. Miranda's resilience that enabled him to overcome the many obstacles he faced throughout his life.

After arriving in Havana in 1933, he began his life long contribution to journalism. Mr. Miranda worked with several Cuban newspapers: *Información*, *El Crisol*, *Alerta* and *Diario de la Marina* and he was a fixture on the radio. Soon after the arrival of the communist dictatorship, Mr. Miranda sought political asylum in New York. For fifteen years, he worked as a doorman. However, Mr. Miranda did not abandon his commitment to journalism. He simultaneously started working for the well known newspaper *La Prensa*.

In 1975, Mr. Miranda moved to Miami. A year later, he reached a high point in his career by founding the sports pages of *El Nuevo Herald*. Subsequently, he managed the sports department of the *Miami Herald/El Nuevo Herald* for close to twenty years.

After his retirement in 1995, Mr. Miranda was known for his famous column "You are old, truly old, if." In his last year, although he was very weak due to multiple respiratory and cardiac complications, the legendary writer submitted his weekly column every Monday. The Monday before he passed away was no exception. His passion and dedication for journalism, sports and Cuba, were unwavering even throughout his deteriorating health.

Mr. Miranda's life is the personification of the American Dream and a testament to the love Cubans share for Cuba. Mr. Miranda's dedication and ability allowed him to leave his mark on two countries. He witnessed Don Larsen's perfect game in the 1956 World Series. He captured the athletic eloquence of Mohammed Ali in his prose. An entire community opened their newspapers to read his account of the sporting events of the day. And later we relied on his column to recall the glory of the Cuban Republic. He became an integral part of the Cuban and the larger South Florida community. Miami-Dade County celebrated his 50th anniversary in journalism by declaring a "Fausto Miranda Day," on December 12, 1992. Mr. Miranda's remarkable life and columns will inspire generations to come.

I will forever remember the great Fausto Miranda!

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. VERNON J. EHLERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2006*

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, my vote for roll-call No. 168 on the amendment offered by Representative CHABOT to H.R. 5386, was recorded as a "no." This vote does not reflect my intent to have my vote recorded as an "aye."

RECOGNIZING JEREMY CHRISTOPHER WOOD FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2006*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jeremy Christopher Wood, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 395, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jeremy has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. He has served as a patrol leader and assistant senior patrol leader and achieved the rank of Brotherhood in the Order of the Arrow and Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Over the many years Jeremy has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

For his Eagle Scout Service Project, Jeremy designed and directed the installation of two specially designed firepit shelters at the Heartland Presbyterian Youth Camp in Platte County. These shelters protect the firewood that is used by the campers and visitors to have fun campfires while delivering their youth-oriented programs.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jeremy Christopher Wood for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.