

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING NOLAN K. STARK
FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF
EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Nolan K. Stark, 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 41, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

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

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

HONORING THE NATIONAL ASSO-
CIATION FOR THE ADVANCE-
MENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
(NAACP)

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2006

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People—NAACP—for its 97 years of faithful service as champions of social justice on behalf of African-Americans and for fighting for almost a century so that all Americans could realize and experience the American dream. The NAACP has always been comprised of dedicated people who would not stand still while the rights of Americans of color were denied and they have built a legacy on ensuring that every single American was able to carry out their lives under the full protection of the law.

From the ballot box to the classroom, the dedicated workers, organizers, and leaders who make up this tremendous organization and maintain its status as an immense civil rights organization have been continuously fighting on the frontlines for social and economic justice.

Since the foundation of this great organization was laid down more than a century ago alongside the banks of the Niagara Falls, this movement has fought long and hard to ensure that the voices of African-American women and men would be heard. The legacy of pioneers such as W.E.B. DuBois, Thurgood Marshall, Rosa Parks, Mary Mcleod Bethune, Mary White Ovington, Joel Elias Spingarn and Roy Wilkins, along with the hundreds of thou-

sands of nameless faces who worked tirelessly can not and must not be forgotten.

The history of the NAACP is one of sacrifice and suffering. From bold investigations of terrorist lynching, protests of mass murders, segregation and discrimination, to testimony before congressional committees on the vicious tactics used to bar African-Americans from the ballot box, it was the talent, determination, and tenacity of NAACP members that saved lives and changed many negative aspects of American society.

Mr. Speaker, Medgar Evers was a World War II veteran and a field secretary for the NAACP. This proud member of the NAACP was one of the many martyrs of the civil rights movement and his assassination at the hands of a white supremacist from Mississippi in 1963 helped prompt President John Kennedy to ask Congress for a comprehensive civil-rights bill, which President Lyndon Johnson signed into law the following year. Because of the continuous sacrifice of NAACP leaders and members like Medgar Evers, America is a better place than it was 40 years ago and because of the continuous effort of the NAACP America will provide a better tomorrow for all of our citizens.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to honor the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People—NAACP—for its 97 years of faithful service on behalf of African-Americans as champions of social justice and for its leadership in the continuous struggle for civil and human rights for all.

MARRIAGE PROTECTION AMENDMENT

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2006

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, once again this Republican led Congress is exercising an election year ploy with their attempt today to demonize gay and lesbian Americans. H.J. Res. 88 is an attempt to write hate and discrimination into our Nation's Constitution and disgracefully use this House to advance a cynical and cruel political agenda. While my Republican colleagues are actively working to transform the Constitution into a document of discrimination by passing H.J. Res. 88, the rest of America is concerned about very real and serious issues that this Congress is ignoring.

American families are concerned about real issues that affect their daily lives like the price of gasoline as it rises above \$3 per gallon, the deteriorating situation in Iraq that is costing the American people the lives of their loved ones and \$3 billion per week, and they are deeply concerned about the skyrocketing cost of healthcare and prescription drugs while at the same time insurance and drug companies report massive profits. The American people

are not threatened by men and women in loving and committed relationships. They are threatened and at risk by a do-nothing Congress that ignores the real challenges facing America.

President Bush and his followers seek to permanently enshrine discrimination and hate as part of our Constitution. Nothing could be more disgraceful and fundamentally un-American. I am committed to defeat this intolerance and work tirelessly for equal rights, justice and respect for all Americans. Gay and lesbian Americans are citizens who must never be treated as second class citizens, as H.J. Res. 88 proposes. They must be guaranteed what America's founding fathers called for in the Declaration of Independence when they stated, "all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness."

I urge my colleagues to reject discrimination and hate by voting against H.J. Res. 88.

RECOGNIZING JEFFREY AARON
WULFF FOR ACHIEVING THE
RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jeffery Aaron Wulff, 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.

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

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

HONORING BENJAMIN L. HOOKS

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2006

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor the life, legacy, and leadership of Benjamin L. Hooks. For 15 years Benjamin L. Hooks presided over America's largest and most influential organization for African-Americans, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, NAACP. Under his leadership, the influence of this organization was greatly enhanced, adding several hundred thousand new members to its

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