

CONGRATULATING PEREZ BROS, INC. ON BEING NAMED THE 2007 SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION JEFFREY BUTLAND FAMILY-OWNED BUSINESS OF THE YEAR FOR GUAM

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 5, 2007

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Perez Bros, Inc. of Upper Tumon, Guam on being named the U.S. Small Business Administration 2007 Jeffrey Butland Family-Owned Business of the Year for Guam.

Perez Bros, Inc. was founded by the late Frank D. Perez on September 1951. Perez Bros began as a hardware store outside his mother-in-law's home on Guam. It was a conglomerate comprised of a construction company, manufacturer of concrete block products, a hardware store and related services. In 1960, Frank D. Perez incorporated his company and opened a 12,000 square foot store in Hagatna, Guam. Perez Bros, Inc. now manufactures, supplies and transports ready-mix concrete masonry blocks, pre-cast concrete, limestone aggregates, and related concrete accessories. One of only two concrete manufacturers on Guam, Perez Bros, Inc. is the only locally owned concrete producer based on the founder and owner's indigenous background.

In the early 70's Perez Bros, Inc. started expanding, opening an asphalt and crusher plant. The company spent \$1 million buying a fleet of dump trucks, mixers and paving equipment. Perez Bros, Inc. won bids for major projects on four island roadways. In 1973 Perez Bros, Inc. was hit hard by the oil crisis and eventually in 1982 Perez Bros, Inc. had to shut down their asphalt plant and hardware store. Guam's economy started an upswing when a tourism boom began in the latter part of the decade. Soon construction cranes putting up high-rise hotels were the dominant feature of the Tumon, Guam skyline. Perez Bros, Inc. was quick to take advantage of the boom. "We own the land that we quarry, we own the crusher that processes the rocks, the dump trucks that bring it here and the mixers that deliver it to our customers. So we really don't have, with the exception of the asphalt plant, we don't have an ongoing battle with bureaucracy," said Tom, son of the late Frank D. Perez, in an interview for a business magazine. Perez Bros, Inc. revenues peaked in 1998 during the tourism boom and continues to peak with the impending military buildup starting in 2008. The military estimates \$10 billion will be pumped into Guam in the form of military and related construction projects over the next eight years.

Greg, Tom and John are three of the six sons born to the late Frank D. Perez. The brothers currently own and operate Perez Bros Inc. on Guam. Greg (the third eldest brother) serves as Vice President of Administration, Tom (the fifth eldest brother) is currently the President of Perez Bros, Inc and John (the youngest brother) have spent the last 20 years diversifying their business interests on Guam, creating hundreds of local jobs for Guam's workforce and strengthening Guam economy. Collectively, all three brothers

were groomed by their father to pursue various disciplines relevant to continuity and growth of the family business. They continue to follow their father's vision and they hope to instill in their children the work ethic that their father instilled in them. This is important for the survival of the family business. The brothers realize that it is up to them to map out the company's next 50 years.

IN HONOR OF RUDY FARBER

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 5, 2007

Mr. BLUNT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rudy Farber, who recently celebrated his 50th year of service at the Community Bank and Trust in Neosho, Missouri.

At the age of 16, as soon as he could drive, Rudy began working in the bookkeeping department of the Bank of Neosho. Over the course of his career he has watched the bank go from figuring interest by hand to the automated process that it is today. Rudy became president of the bank in 1979, taking over for his father who had served as president since 1942. Rudy's father was dedicated to the community and Rudy has followed in his footsteps by believing that community bankers should be involved in community improvement. In 1987, Rudy introduced an employee stock ownership program for the bank. The employees currently own half of the bank and Rudy plans that in the future the employees will purchase his interest and keep the bank employee owned. Before becoming president, Rudy worked as an assistant cashier, assistant vice-president and served in the United States Navy from 1963-1967. The bank changed its name to the Community Bank and Trust in 1993 and now operates branches throughout Southwest Missouri. Rudy continues to serve as president and chairman of the Community Bank and Trust. Rudy and his wife Dorothy have two children, Aaron and Nori Vial.

I am proud to congratulate Rudy Farber on his 50 years of service as a community leader in Neosho.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF CASIMIR PULASKI

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 5, 2007

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, today we salute and honor the life of Casimir Pulaski. Casimir Pulaski was born in Poland and gained extensive military experience there before moving to the United States in 1777. At that time, the U.S. was in the midst of the Revolutionary War, and George Washington's army was in need of experienced commanders. Casimir Pulaski bravely volunteered to serve with the American troops, famously stating, "I came here, where freedom is being defended, to serve it, and to live or die for it." Casimir Pulaski soon distinguished himself in battles at Brandywine and Charleston before being fatally wounded during the Battle of Sa-

vannah. However, his military legacy lives on, as he is still known as the "Father of the American Cavalry".

As Illinois celebrates Casimir Pulaski Day today, it is my honor to join in recognizing the life and achievements of that great patriot. In Congress, I am working with many of my colleagues to pass legislation that would make Casimir Pulaski a citizen posthumously. I believe this is a fitting tribute for a man who did so much to win the independence, rights and liberties that Americans enjoy today.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF 2ND LIEUTENANT MARK J.
DAILY

HON. JOHN CAMPBELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 5, 2007

Mr. CAMPBELL of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of 2nd Lieutenant Mark J. Daily—an honorable citizen and hero in our nation's War on Terrorism.

Lieutenant Daily grew up in Irvine, California, and graduated from Woodbridge High School in 2001. He was known among family and friends as having an amazing breadth of knowledge, a strong desire to serve, and a wonderful sense of humor.

In 2005, Lieutenant Daily graduated from the University of California at Los Angeles as a Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) cadet with a bachelor's degree in political science. His ability and work ethic was further exemplified that year when he was named as both the ROTC outstanding cadet and a Distinguished Military Graduate, the highest honor one can receive in the ROTC.

As a member of the United States Army's 4th Brigade Combat Team, he was stationed in Iraq's northern city of Mosul. Tragically, on January 15, 2007, Lieutenant Daily made the ultimate sacrifice when he was killed conducting operations in the city.

Lieutenant Daily is survived by his wife, Snejana; his parents, John and Linda; his sisters, Christine and Nicole; and his brother, Eric. He valued their love, and they miss him terribly now. On his webpage, Lieutenant Daily listed his interests as "family, peace, and progress." And it is in the value that he placed on these three things that we see the quality of his character.

The night before he left for Iraq, Lieutenant Daily wrote an online weblog to friends and family entitled "Why I Joined." In the post, he articulately stated the importance of fostering a stable democratic government in Iraq, and the harsh consequences of failure. He called upon all Americans to challenge themselves, to not just enjoy the blessings of liberty, but to act upon them.

In the wake of his death, Lieutenant Daily's web log was widely distributed in newspapers and on the internet. These words have served as an inspiration and encouragement to many. It is clear he felt passionately about what he was doing and why he was doing it. What better way to remember his heart for service and commitment to progress than by reflecting on his own words. Mr. Speaker, the following web log entry was posted on his website on October 29, 2006:

WHY I JOINED

This question has been asked of me so many times in so many different contexts

that I thought it would be best if I wrote my reasons for joining the Army on my page for all to see. First, the more accurate question is why I volunteered to go to Iraq. After all, I joined the Army a week after we declared war on Saddam's government with the intention of going to Iraq. Now, after years of training and preparation, I am finally here.

Much has changed in the last three years. The criminal Ba'ath regime has been replaced by an insurgency fueled by Iraq's neighbors who hope to partition Iraq for their own ends. This is coupled with the ever present transnational militant Islamist movement which has seized upon Iraq as the greatest way to kill Americans, along with anyone else they happen to be standing near. What was once a paralyzed state of fear is now the staging ground for one of the largest transformations of power and ideology the Middle East has experienced since the collapse of the Ottoman Empire. Thanks to Iran, Syria, and other enlightened local actors, this transformation will be plagued by interregional hatred and genocide. And I am now in the center of this.

Is this why I joined?

Yes. Much has been said about America's intentions in overthrowing Saddam Hussein and seeking to establish a new state based upon political representation and individual rights. Many have framed the paradigm through which they view the conflict around one-word explanations such as "oil" or "terrorism," favoring the one which best serves their political persuasion. I did the same thing, and anyone who knew me before I joined knows that I am quite aware and at times sympathetic to the arguments against the war in Iraq. If you think the only way a person could bring themselves to volunteer for this war is through sheer desperation or blind obedience then consider me the exception (though there are countless like me).

I joined the fight because it occurred to me that many modern day "humanists" who claim to possess a genuine concern for human beings throughout the world are in fact quite content to allow their fellow "global citizens" to suffer under the most hideous state apparatuses and conditions. Their excuses used to be my excuses. When asked why we shouldn't confront the Ba'ath party, the Taliban or the various other tyrannies throughout this world, my answers would allude to vague notions of cultural tolerance (forcing women to wear a veil and stay indoors is such a quaint cultural tradition), the sanctity of national sovereignty (how eager we internationalists are to throw up borders to defend dictatorships!) or even a creeping suspicion of America's intentions. When all else failed, I would retreat to my fragile moral ecosystem that years of living in peace and liberty had provided me. I would write off war because civilian casualties were guaranteed, or temporary alliances with illiberal forces would be made, or tank fuel was toxic for the environment. My fellow "humanists" and I would relish contently in our self righteous declaration of opposition against all military campaigns against dictatorships, congratulating one another for refusing to taint that aforementioned fragile moral ecosystem that many still cradle with all the revolutionary tenacity of the members of Rage against the Machine and Green Day. Others would point to America's historical support of Saddam Hussein, citing it as hypocritical that we would now vilify him as a thug and a tyrant. Upon explaining that we did so to ward off the fiercely Islamist Iran, which was correctly identified as the greater threat at the time, eyes are rolled and hypocrisy is declared. Forgetting that America sided with Stalin to defeat Hitler, who was promptly confronted once the Nazis were destroyed, America's

initial engagement with Saddam and other regional actors is identified as the ultimate argument against America's moral crusade.

And maybe it is. Maybe the reality of politics makes all political action inherently crude and immoral. Or maybe it is these adventures in philosophical masturbation that prevent people from ever taking any kind of effective action against men like Saddam Hussein. One thing is for certain, as disagreeable or as confusing as my decision to enter the fray may be, consider what peace vigils against genocide have accomplished lately. Consider that there are 19 year old soldiers from the Midwest who have never touched a college campus or a protest who have done more to uphold the universal legitimacy of representative government and individual rights by placing themselves between Iraqi voting lines and homicidal religious fanatics. Often times it is less about how clean your actions are and more about how pure your intentions are.

So that is why I joined. In the time it took for you to read this explanation, innocent people your age have suffered under the crushing misery of tyranny. Every tool of philosophical advancement and communication that we use to develop our opinions about this war are denied to countless human beings on this planet, many of whom live under the regimes that have, in my opinion, been legitimately targeted for destruction. Some have allowed their resentment of the President to stir silent applause for set-backs in Iraq. Others have ironically decried the war because it has tied up our forces and prevented them from confronting criminal regimes in Sudan, Uganda, and elsewhere.

I simply decided that the time for candid discussions of the oppressed was over, and I joined.

In digesting this posting, please remember that America's commitment to overthrow Saddam Hussein and his sons existed before the current administration and would exist into our future children's lives had we not acted. Please remember that the problems that plague Iraq today were set in motion centuries ago and were up until now held back by the most cruel of cages. Don't forget that human beings have a responsibility to one another and that Americans will always have a responsibility to the oppressed. Don't overlook the obvious reasons to disagree with the war but don't cheapen the moral aspects either. Assisting a formerly oppressed population in converting their torn society into a plural, democratic one is dangerous and difficult business, especially when being attacked and sabotaged from literally every direction. So if you have anything to say to me at the end of this reading, let it at least include "Good Luck."—Lt. Mark J. Daily, United States Army.

CONGRATULATING ST. JUDE MEDICAL CENTER ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 5, 2007

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the sisters, physicians and staff of St. Jude Medical Center, I rise to congratulate the hospital on its 50th Anniversary.

In 1957, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange opened a new hospital in Fullerton to continue their remarkable ministry of compassion and healing. Since then, St. Jude Medical Center, a nonprofit, faith-based facility, has grown into

one of Southern California's most respected and technologically-advanced hospitals. And the same excellence that it strives for within its walls, is apparent in its efforts to touch lives outside its walls.

St. Jude continuously improves the health and quality of life of the people in the communities it serves. One example is the St. Jude Neighborhood Health Center. Located in an underserved area, this new facility offers a full range of outpatient care to uninsured and low-income families.

St. Jude's commitment to improving lives is evident in each of the 14 hospitals within the St. Joseph Health System (SJHS), the Catholic healthcare ministry of the sisters. In Southern California, SJHS is considered the pre-eminent healthcare network and includes four hospitals, outpatient facilities, hospice and home health care agencies, and physician groups.

EMPLOYEE FREE CHOICE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 1, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 800) to amend the National Labor Relations Act to establish an efficient system to enable employees to form, join, or assist labor organizations, to provide for mandatory injunctions for unfair labor practices during organizing efforts, and for other purposes:

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Chairman, I rise today in support of a long overdue measure, the Employee Free Choice Act. This necessary bill gives America's hard workers basic rights that they have been denied for over 70 years.

My father was an ironworker, and a member of his local union. I saw firsthand the struggles employees went through in order to organize their workplace. I also saw how easy it was and how easy it still is to fire union organizers with impunity. This unlawful practice happens all the time, and the worst that can possibly happen to the employer is a slap on the wrist.

I was also a proud member of a union. I was a teacher and a guidance counselor in New York City, where I became a member of the American Federation of Teachers. I learned the personal benefits to collective bargaining, and I discovered the security of having thousands of other brothers and sisters of the union behind me if I ever needed them.

Unions were an integral part in making this Nation the economic superpower it is. And while this bill will not put laborers on an even footing with employers, it will help to bridge the chasm between workers' rights and corporate rights.

Madam Chairman, we owe unions and their members a massive debt of gratitude for everything they have done for this country. We can start paying back that debt by passing the Employee Free Choice Act. I strongly support this measure, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.