

which is celebrated each year on the first day of spring.

With more than 8,000 farms, Madam Speaker, agriculture plays a critical role in the economy of the Third District. We lead the state of Indiana in the production of cattle and calves, dairy products, sheep, and goats. As a state, Indiana has long been among the leading producers of corn and soybeans—planting more than 11 million acres—and we are first in the nation in duck production, supplying approximately 30 percent of the nation's total.

Because of the hard work and dedication of farmers and ranchers, Americans have become accustomed to a safe, abundant, and affordable supply of food and fiber. Even more remarkable, and often overlooked, is the fact that farmers and ranchers feed and clothe this nation with an increasing levels of concern for environmental stewardship and animal welfare. The well-being of livestock and the sustainability of the land is a top priority. Indeed, I have seen firsthand in my district the adoption of best-management practices to conserve soil, nutrients, and water, as well as crop protection products that not only improve the viability of agriculture but also prevent flooding and improve water quality for cities and towns downstream.

In addition, as we are all aware, our country is now turning to the American farmer and rancher to help solve our energy crisis. We have placed a new interest in ethanol, and the agriculture industry has responded with vigor. Our goal of 7.5 billion gallons of ethanol will be attained by 2009 rather than 2012 as was expected. Some may say that our food supply is threatened by the push for ethanol. However, our farmers and ranchers have risen to the call before and will become an important part of our energy solution.

Madam Speaker, agriculture's contributions to America's economy, culture, and history should be celebrated, and I ask that my colleagues join with me in wishing our farmers and ranchers continued success in the years ahead.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP ROGER L.
JONES, SR.

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 21, 2007

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bishop Roger L. Jones, Sr. as he is appointed Jurisdictional Bishop of the Southeast Michigan Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the Church of God in Christ.

After graduating from Saints College Church of God in Christ at Lexington, Mississippi in 1960, Bishop Roger Jones Sr. moved to Flint Michigan and founded Greater Holy Temple COGIC in 1963. Bishop Jones quickly established himself as an up and coming leader in the Church of God in Christ. Appointed District Superintendent in 1965 by Bishop J.S. Bailey, he also served as the Chair of the State Finance Committee the same year. Over the next several years Bishop Jones has also served in the following capacities: Chairman of State Expediting Committee, Vice-Chair and Chair of the State Elders Council, the National Platform Chair for the International Youth Congress, Vice-Chair of the International Trustee Board, and Chair of the International Trustee Board.

Bishop Jones was consecrated a Bishop of the Third Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of South West Michigan in 1985. Along with his wife, Evangelist Sandra Smith Jones, Bishop Jones continues to affirm his faith every day and espouse the guiding principles of the Church of God in Christ. He strives to bring all to know Jesus Christ as their personal Savior.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Bishop Roger L. Jones, Sr. as he is appointed the Jurisdictional Bishop of Southeast Michigan and pray that he continues to work diligently to make a better life and future for his congregation and the people of Michigan.

HONORING LANCE CORPORAL
NATHAN WINDSOR

HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 21, 2007

Ms. HOOLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a fallen American hero. Last Saturday, Lance Corporal Nathan Windsor made his final sacrifice on behalf of a grateful nation while on patrol in the Anbar province of Iraq.

Nathan understood that citizenship meant responsibility and that great sacrifices would be required in order to secure our freedoms and to serve our country in its time of need.

Well aware of the danger and more than willing to endure the risks, Nathan selflessly charged into chaos to help the people of Iraq secure a peace and work toward a self-governing society.

It saddens me, Madam Speaker, to come before you again to ask that my colleagues join in mourning the loss of yet another young American who has made the ultimate sacrifice.

Nathan gave his all before fully experiencing the many freedoms for which he fought. His aspirations to become a movie producer will never be realized because his life and dreams were tragically cut short.

Words alone cannot express the anger, frustration and pain felt by the thousands whose lives he touched, but we have an obligation to ensure that future generations of Americans inherit a land worthy of his sacrifice.

We are all indebted to Nathan's spirit and sacrifice. It is now, and will be forever, our turn to repay the debt. Let us recommit ourselves in this chamber to work even harder and to do our part to make sound decisions about matters of peace and war.

I join all Oregonians, and all Americans, in expressing my deepest condolences to the family of Nathan Windsor for their loss. Our community is greater because of Nathan's short presence and we are certainly lessened by his passing.