

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING BRANDON JAMES
HELLYER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Brandon James Hellyer of Excelsior Springs, Missouri. Brandon is 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 6123, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

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

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Brandon James Hellyer for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE RECOGNIZING THE 40TH
ANNIVERSARY OF TELACU AND
THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF
TELACU'S EDUCATION FOUNDATION

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize TELACU, an organization based in East Los Angeles in my 34th Congressional District, on the occasion of its 40th anniversary and to recognize TELACU's Education Foundation on the occasion of its 25th anniversary.

TELACU, which stands for The East Los Angeles Community Union, is a pioneer in empowering and revitalizing communities in our great State of California and throughout our Nation. In 1968, TELACU was born as a Community Development Corporation (CDC) through seed money appropriated by Congress. Since then, TELACU has grown to become the largest CDC in the Nation with more than \$500 million in assets.

For 40 years, under the innovative and dynamic leadership of David C. Lizárraga who serves as Chairman, President and CEO of TELACU, this corporation has provided our young people and families with the tools they need to achieve the American dream. Through its core businesses, TELACU has created thousands of jobs, affordable homes, loans to small businesses and families, and most importantly, numerous educational opportunities for our Latino community.

In response to crisis-level dropout rates for Latino students in college, TELACU created

the TELACU Education Foundation 25 years ago. Working in partnership with a vast network of colleges, universities, corporations and individuals, the TELACU Education Foundation has awarded millions of dollars in scholarships to thousands of deserving students.

As the centerpiece of the foundation, the TELACU Scholarship Program annually provides scholarships to 600 college and graduate students who are the first in their families to access higher education. Realizing that financial resources alone cannot fully meet these students' needs, the program also provides the scholars with comprehensive academic and career guidance to ensure that all of them graduate.

The foundation also serves an additional 2,000 elementary, middle and high school students, nursing students, and veterans. Through comprehensive educational programs, these scholars are not only inspired to pursue higher education, but are also equipped to meet the rigorous expectations of college. As a result, 100 percent of TELACU's high school students earn their high school diploma and continue on to pursue post-secondary education.

Madam Speaker, on the occasions of TELACU's 40th anniversary and its Education Foundation's 25th anniversary, I join today with fellow leaders throughout my State in commending David Lizárraga and these dynamic institutions for their extraordinary efforts to empower our young people and our communities, and I wish them many years of continued success ahead.

CONGRATULATING THE CHESTNUT
LOG MIDDLE SCHOOL READING
TEAM

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor another great accomplishment by students in my Congressional district. Congratulations to members of the Chestnut Log Middle School Reading Team of Douglasville, GA, for their back to back wins at the Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl. This competition was held at the University of Georgia in Athens on March 1, 2008.

For the competition, students read twenty books recognized as Georgia Book Award Nominees and earned the most points by correctly answering questions from each of these novels. Chestnut Log's team qualified for the state competition by first competing at the Douglas County Reading Bowl in January, followed by the regional competition at the University of West Georgia in Carrollton in February. Last week, they became consecutive state champions.

I want to recognize the members and coaches of the Chestnut Log Middle School Reading Team. Many of last year's winners

participated again including Seth Blair, Isaac Carter, and Zachary Fowler, as well as new participants Hannah Drosky, Jordan Raley, Rashard Leonard, Gavin Finch and Andrew Hater. I also wish to recognize coaches Jan Easterwood, Margaret Robbins and Susan Bissell for their continued guidance of this team and their strong devotion to fostering good reading habits among youth in the 13th Congressional District.

In closing, Madam Speaker, I am thrilled to once again recognize Chestnut Log Middle School's Reading Bowl team for their continued success. I want to commend these students for this achievement and I wish them much success in their future academic pursuits.

15TH ANNUAL PATRIOTIC DAY
CELEBRATION

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Annual Patriotic Day Celebration at Kyrene Akimel A-al Middle School, taking place this Friday, April 4, 2009. The Parent Teacher Student Organization has organized this wonderful event for Kyrene Akimel A-al for the past 15 years.

Since its inception in 1992, Kyrene Akimel A-al has been committed to educating their students about the responsibilities of citizenship and about the sacrifices and bravery of those who make our freedom possible. In 1994, Kyrene Akimel A-al was named a World War II Commemorative School. It is the only middle school in Arizona to achieve this honor. This was also the first year that Patriotic Day was designated by Kyrene Akimel A-al to honor the contributions and sacrifices of all of America's Veterans.

I am hopeful that this event will teach the students of Kyrene Akimel A-al Middle School, and its surrounding community, to honor the actions of our nation's veterans for years to come. I commend the school and its excellent Parent Teacher Student Organization for taking on this amazing project.

SUPPORTING THE RECOGNITION
OF NATIONAL FOOT HEALTH
MONTH

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Ms. DEGETTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Foot Health Awareness Month and the critical role that podiatric physicians play in our national health care system. Combined, two feet contain one

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