

HONORING THE SERVICE OF SENIOR CITIZENS IN GRAYSON COUNTY

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2008

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise today to honor the Senior Citizens of Grayson County for all of their services rendered to the community, and I would especially like to acknowledge the dedication exhibited by Harold and Hazel Wright of Sherman, Texas.

Harold and Hazel have been extremely active and influential in their community for over 20 years. They represented the Texoma Council of Governments at the White House Conference on Aging two years ago and were crowned Mr. & Mrs. Senior Citizen of Grayson County. It is because of dedicated individuals such as the Wrights that President George W. Bush fittingly proclaimed the month of May, 'Older Americans Month' on April 22nd of this year.

During Older Americans Month, we recognize the many ways older citizens have enriched our Nation through their character, wisdom, and service. America's seniors provide an example for younger generations, and during Older Americans Month, we reflect on their efforts toward building a stronger and brighter future for all. Our country remains forever in their debt, as older Americans have provided a guiding light for the rest of the Nation to follow.

With this in mind, I and Rep. FRANK PALLONE introduced H.R. 3701, Keeping Seniors Safe from Falls Act in September of 2007. I was pleased when Congress approved the bill, which was later signed by the President of the United States and made public law. This legislation will develop effective strategies to raise awareness about elder falls, encourage research, and support demonstration projects to help prevent falls among senior citizens, as Elder falls are one of the leading risks for Americans 65 years old and above. The Secretary of Health and Human Services will oversee and support demonstrations, research projects, and grants for local and state education campaigns to help achieve these goals. The legislation was endorsed by the Falls Free Coalition Advocacy Work Group, led by the National Council on Aging, the National Safety Council, the Home Safety Council, AARP, the American Occupational Therapy Association, and the American Physical Therapy Association.

Our country remains strong because of the foundation our elders have helped lay, and we commend older Americans for the many contributions they have made and will continue to make to our Nation.

IN TRIBUTE TO LT. GEN. MICHAEL HAMEL

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2008

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, I rise in tribute to Lieutenant General Michael Hamel,

who will officially retire from the United States Air Force on July 1 after 36 years of distinguished service.

I first met General Hamel when he commanded the 14th Air Force, Air Force Space Command, and the Space Air Forces, U.S. Strategic Command, at Vandenberg Air Force Base, which is in my district. With a bachelor's degree in aeronautical engineering from the U.S. Air Force Academy, a master's in business administration, and a lifetime of service to the Air Force and its role within and beyond our atmosphere, General Hamel impressed me not only with his knowledge, but also with his ability to explain it in conversational terms. We quickly became friends.

General Hamel's illustrious career included assignments in a variety of command, acquisition, operations and policy positions involving space, system development, intelligence, space operations and launch. General Hamel has served in senior staff positions at Headquarters U.S. Air Force and Air Force Space Command, and he was the Vice President's military adviser on defense, nonproliferation and space policy.

General Hamel's final assignment was to command the Space and Missile Systems Center, Air Force Space Command, Los Angeles Air Force Base. While there, he was responsible for managing the research, design, development, acquisition and sustainment of space and missile systems, launch, command and control, and operational satellite systems.

General Hamel also was the Air Force Program Executive Officer for Space and was responsible for the Air Force Satellite Control Network; space launch and range programs; the Space-Based Infrared System Program; military satellite communication programs; the Global Positioning System; intercontinental ballistic missile programs; Defense Meteorological Satellite Program; the space superiority system programs and other emerging transformational space programs.

Madam Speaker, in his nearly four decades as an Air Force officer, General Hamel has played a major role in our nation's military and civilian space program. I know my colleagues will join me in thanking General Hamel for his many years of dedicated service and in wishing him a long and fruitful retirement.

RECOGNIZING MONICA NELSON FOR REPRESENTING MINNESOTA AT THE NATIONAL HISTORY DAY COMPETITION

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2008

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a truly special Minnesotan. Sixth grade student Monica Nelson from Ham Lake, Minnesota has been chosen to represent Minnesota at the National History Day competition taking place at the University of Maryland this week. Monica was selected from the nearly 30,000 students from Minnesota who take part in History Day every year.

The theme for this year's competition is "Conflict and Compromise in History." At this competition, participants get an opportunity to finally present their findings after an exhaustive and critical analysis of facts and figures

relating to their chosen topic. Monica presented her research on a famous St. Cloud, Minnesota resident, early abolitionist and women's rights advocate, Jane Grey Swisshelm. Presenting her research through an acted performance, Monica gave an account of Jane Swisshelm's life and contributions from the perspective of her daughter.

Thank you, Monica, for your hard work and passion for our Nation's history. You have paid a great honor to our American heritage, and your very own contributions have ensured that this early patriot's contributions to our Nation will never be forgotten. Minnesota thanks you and wishes you the best during the competition. We are all proud of you, Monica, and we look forward to seeing all that you do with your God-given talents in years to come.

TRIBUTE TO COMMANDER R. TREVOR KING, U.S. NAVY

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2008

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, let me take this opportunity to recognize Commander R. Trevor King, United States Navy, for his service to the House Armed Services Committee as a member of the Navy's congressional liaison team.

A native of Thousand Oaks, California, in 1991, Commander King earned an economics degree from the U.S. Naval Academy. Since that time, he has served his country well in various posts and in numerous operations. He has received the Commander Naval Surface Forces Battle Efficiency "E" for excellence award two years in a row.

In August, Commander King will begin the curriculum at the National War College during which time he will complete his Joint Professional Military Education. Following that assignment, he will likely be assigned as commanding officer of one of the Navy's surface combatants.

I am certain that the Members of the House will join me in honoring Commander R. Trevor King, his wife, Robynn, and his daughters, Erika and Caitlynn, for their outstanding and continued service to our country.

INTRODUCTION OF THE LEWIS AND CLARK MOUNT HOOD WILDERNESS ACT OF 2008

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2008

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join my Oregon colleagues in introducing the "Lewis and Clark Mount Hood Wilderness Act of 2008."

In 2003, we held the first Mt. Hood Summit at Timberline Lodge, inviting local stakeholders to share their vision for the challenges and opportunities facing the Mt. Hood National Forest. Over the past five years a committed group of citizens, organizations, Native Americans, local, state and federal jurisdictions, and private interests have spent countless hours negotiating a long term stewardship and protection plan for Mt. Hood's forests and rivers.