

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A TRIBUTE IN RECOGNITION OF LAURAINÉ FERRIS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Lauraine Ferris, an active community member with more than twenty years of experience in social services.

Lauraine Ferris, a graduate of the John Jay College of Criminal Justice, is currently the Assistant Director of the Rose McCarthy Family Residence in the East New York section of Brooklyn. Ms. Ferris and her staff assist families with obtaining the necessary life skills to achieve and obtain independent living.

Lauraine Ferris also possesses a vibrant, creative spirit that thrives on the performing arts. Ms. Ferris is an accomplished actress, dancer, and model, winning several pageants. She shares her talents with the youth and seniors of her community, donating her time to teach African/modern dance.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Lauraine Ferris, someone whose ability to help her neighbors back on their feet through social services and through dance is an inspiration to all of New York.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Lauraine Ferris.

HONORING THE U.S. BORDER PATROL ON ITS 85TH ANNIVERSARY

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL T. MCCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 2009

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, as the lead Republican sponsor of this resolution I would like to thank the gentleman from New Mexico, Congressman TEAGUE, as well as Chairman REYES for all of their work on putting together this legislation.

The U.S. Border Patrol has been keeping this country safe from threats like terrorists, illicit drugs, weapons, illegal immigrants and criminals for 85 years. I would like to thank the border patrol and I commend them for their service.

In the early 20th century, control of the border was sporadic and piecemeal and included mounted guards, Texas Rangers, and military troops. After the prohibition of alcohol and the immigration reforms of 1921 and 1924, the Labor Appropriations Act of 1924 officially established the U.S. Border Patrol with an initial force of 450 officers to help defend our borders.

Today the Border Patrol uses state of the art technologies to aid in the performance of their duties; infrared cameras, remote video surveillance, unattended underground sensors, and ground radar.

CBP is responsible for guarding nearly 7,000 miles of land border the United States shares with Canada and Mexico and 2,000 miles of coastal waters surrounding the Florida peninsula and off the coast of Southern California. The agency also protects 95,000 miles of maritime border in partnership with the United States Coast Guard.

I would like to praise for their tireless efforts the 52,000 CBP employees including the over 18,000 CBP Border Patrol agents, 1,000 CBP Air and Marine agents, almost 22,000 CBP officers and agriculture specialists and the nation's largest law enforcement canine program.

I would also like to pay particular tribute to the 104 CBP employees who lost their lives in service to their country.

In sum, CBP performs the vital task of securing America's borders 24 hours a day, seven days a week while facilitating legitimate trade and travel. I congratulate them on their 85th anniversary and I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this Resolution.

RECOGNIZING CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE RECREATIONAL BOATING COMMUNITY

SPEECH OF

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 2009

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H. Res. 410. This resolution commends the recreational boating industry and boating community for their sizable contribution to the economy of United States, and for their stewardship of the environment.

There are more than 59 million boaters in the United States today, helping to generate \$33 billion dollars annually in economic activity. As a result, the boating industry supports an estimated 337,000 employees, who manufacture and sell boats and operate the harbors and marinas. The goods and services purchased to build and maintain boats come from each of the fifty states. Therefore, boating does not only help the water regions of our country, but benefits America as a whole.

That having been said, the boating industry and community are especially important to Michigan and to Michigan's economy. They provide invaluable assets to my district, which has Lakes Huron and St. Clair and the St. Clair River on its eastern border. Boating is not just an important recreational opportunity; for many, life on the water becomes a way of life. The impact of boating spills over into other sectors of the economy like tourism and hospitality industries.

Unfortunately, when the economy falters, it is often the recreational boating industry that feels the impact first. Many people think of boating as a recreation for only the rich, but in Michigan we know that is simply not the case. The people who make the boating industry

what it is are the working class individuals who spend their weekends out on the water with friends and family. When those people face economic challenges, you will find that the boating industry does as well.

In this climate, the boating industry is facing some difficult times, nowhere more difficult than in the state of Michigan. In Michigan, we were once the number one state in terms of total boat registrations, but we have since slipped to fourth. Given the challenges that have faced the Michigan economy over the last few years, this is no surprise. The boat manufacturers, dealers, and marina operators should all be commended for their efforts to keep going through this economic period.

Since coming to Congress, I have worked to promote issues that are important to maintaining a thriving and profitable boating industry. I am proud to co-chair of the Congressional Boating Caucus with GENE TAYLOR, and together we have worked on a number of issues to help the boating industry weather the storms that have come its way. This resolution will acknowledge the contributions of the boating industry as they fight through this difficult time.

I urge all of you to please join with me in supporting this bi-partisan initiative to recognize our boaters and recommend that President Obama issue a proclamation calling for the observation of National Boating Day.

TRIBUTE TO DR. ROBERT MILLIS ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE LOWELL OBSERVATORY

HON. ANN KIRKPATRICK

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2009

Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona. Madam Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Dr. Robert L. Millis who is retiring as director of the Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Arizona. During his tenure, Dr. Millis oversaw the Lowell Observatory—one of only a handful of private, independent research observatories in the United States—quadruple its staff, increase visitation tenfold, and construct major new facilities including the Steele Visitor Center, the McAllister Public Observatory, the John M. Wolff instrument facility, and, most recently, the 4.2-meter Discovery Channel Telescope now under construction in Northern Arizona.

As a researcher at Lowell, Dr. Millis concentrated on smaller bodies of the Solar System: asteroids, comets, planetary satellites, Pluto, and objects orbiting on the edges of our Solar System. Dr. Millis was a member of several two-person teams that discovered the rings of Uranus, noted periodic variation in the activity of Comet Halley, and proved the existence of an extended atmosphere on Pluto. He also led a multi-institutional team—the Deep Ecliptic Survey—in an eight-year endeavor to explore the region of the Solar System beyond the orbit of Neptune. That venture resulted in

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