

## 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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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

the discovery of approximately half the currently known objects in the area known as the Kuiper Belt.

Dr. Millis will remain an active pillar of the Flagstaff community. He will work with Flagstaff-area business leaders committed to improving the greater Flagstaff area and the State of Arizona by bringing together talent and resources to provide leadership on economic and quality of life issues in the region. I wish Dr. Millis the best of luck and look forward to seeing the greater Flagstaff community benefit from the energy and leadership that Dr. Millis provided to the Lowell Observatory for the past 40 years.

A TRIBUTE IN RECOGNITION OF  
OFFICER JOSE ENRIQUE VERA

**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 Officer Jose Enrique Vera, a trusted community partner in Brooklyn's safety.

Officer Vera, a native of La Ceiba, Honduras, migrate with his family to the United States in 1975 at the age of 12. He attended the August Martin High School in Queens, New York, graduated from Farmingdale State University with a major in Business Administration, and graduated from the Police Academy in 1991.

Officer Vera was assigned to the 80th Precinct in the Clinton Hill section of Brooklyn. He later worked in Brooklyn South Borough and the 84th Precinct.

Officer Vera now works on the Community Affairs Bureau, where he has expanded his role in working with the community as a Brooklyn North Crime Prevention Liaison, educating the community on personal safety and identity theft.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Officer Jose Enrique Vera, an individual committed to bringing diverse communities together and an inspiration to all of New York.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Officer Jose Enrique Vera.

HONORING MARTIN KAIDO FOR  
HIS APPOINTMENT TO THE  
UNITED STATES MILITARY  
ACADEMY

**HON. PHIL GINGREY**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2009*

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a young man from Georgia's 11th Congressional District who has distinguished himself as an excellent student and leader and has committed to serving his country. I am proud to announce that Martin Kaido from Marietta, Georgia, has received an appointment to the United States Military Academy.

For the past year, Martin has attended West Point's Preparatory School in Fort Monmouth, New Jersey. Martin worked very hard during his year in prep school, and the results speak for themselves.

Before the prep school, Martin attended St. Pius X Catholic High School. Martin was very involved athletically at St. Pius, participating in both wrestling and football, and has continued to excel in sports at the West Point Prep School. In addition to his scholastic and athletic achievements, Martin has also attained the rank of Eagle Scout and has even served as an assistant scoutmaster.

Further, Martin is very involved with his church, where he serves as a Faith Formation Teacher, a Eucharistic Minister, an Atlanta Chorister's Guild Camp Counselor, and participates in the Church Teen Group. He also volunteers for the St. Francis Table, the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store, and Habitat for Humanity.

Martin Kaido is an incredibly well-rounded young man, and I am honored to have the privilege to nominate him for an appointment to the U.S. Military Academy. I ask that my colleagues take this time to congratulate Martin as well as his parents, Michael and Mary Kaido, for his accomplishments. It is because of dedicated young people like Martin that America has the finest military in the world. Our Nation is fortunate to have his service.

FLAG DAY JUNE 14, 2009

**HON. NICK J. RAHALL II**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2009*

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, the 14th of June is an important day for all Americans, the day we celebrate the American Flag. The American Flag is a proud and prominent symbol of our great Nation and celebrating this important icon shows respect for the millions of Americans who consider the flag a representation of our nation's most fundamental traditions and beliefs.

As a member of Congress, I feel great pride when I see our striking stars and stripes flying over the majestic United States Capitol. Whether the Flag is flying among the mountains of southern West Virginia or above our nation's capitol, it is a sign of our nation's commitment to working together across our vast and diverse land to create one great nation. Our flag flies in every state and around the World at our embassies in foreign lands.

Today, the flag consists of thirteen horizontal stripes, seven red, alternating with six white, reminding us always of our Nation's humble beginnings as just thirteen colonies. The stars illustrate our one country with 50 independent and unique states each with a separate state government. Together, the stars and stripes reflect our efforts to create a unified nation with united principles joined together under one Flag for over 200 years.

In 1947, President Harry S. Truman signed legislation requesting National Flag Day become an annual event, and since that day we have been celebrating our stately Flag every year.

On Capitol Hill, the United States Flag is celebrated everyday. Flags are flown over the Capitol each day of the year in honor of birthdays, retirements, and, as well as in the memory of loved ones lost. These flags are then shipped directly from congressional offices with an official certificate from the Architect of the Capitol, declaring the date and occasion for which the flag was flown.

I ask that you join me in supporting House Resolution 420, thereby celebrating this American symbol, honoring our country, our men and women who have served and are currently serving in the United States Armed Forces, our veterans who bravely fought beneath flag, and all citizens who proudly fly the American Flag to show their support for our great country, and the ideals this great Flag represents.

ON THE PASSAGE OF H.R. 2200,  
THE TRANSPORTATION SECURITY  
ADMINISTRATION AUTHORIZATION  
ACT

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 10, 2009*

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, today I rise to voice my concerns with the Transportation Security Administration Authorization Act. While I supported this bill, I would like to make clear that I had concerns with the air cargo security language contained in Section 201 of H.R. 2200 and hope that as the bill moves forward that this provision is changed.

The 9/11 Commission recommended that the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) be given the necessary staff and funding in order to screen 100 percent of all air cargo by August, 2010. Currently there are serious deficiencies in the screening of inbound air cargo, which accounts for nearly half of the air cargo carried on passenger airplanes each year. Section 201 of H.R. 2200 creates a significant delay of two years until 100 percent of cargo must be screened from the enactment of this bill, even though there was a year left on the original deadline as passed when Congress implemented the 9/11 Commission recommendations. It makes no sense to grant an extension with over a year until the original deadline.

Outbound passenger air cargo is screened at a much higher rate, but in order to be fully secure, inbound cargo must be thoroughly checked as well. As the United States continues to confront the threats of terrorism since September 2001, we must be as cautious and careful as possible with our transportation security net to ensure that passengers on commercial airplanes are safe, and that cargo on airplanes is thoroughly checked.

Meeting the 100 percent screening mandate presents significant challenges in both funding and manpower, however, Congress should not be diluting the requirements recommended by the 9/11 Commission and should be providing the TSA with the required resources to meet the deadline, instead of extending the deadline into the future. In doing so, we will increase our safety and security as well as fully implement the 9/11 Commission's recommendation for air cargo.