

IN RECOGNITION OF JULIE CAIN BURKHARD, CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL PANHELLENIC CONFERENCE

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2009

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of an outstanding individual, Julie Cain Burkhard, as she concludes her distinguished work as Chairman of the National Panhellenic Conference (NPC). This conference represents 26 sororities with a member base of more than four million women at 655 campuses and 4,500 alumnae chapters in the United States and Canada. Sororities and fraternities are the largest values-based organizations on college campuses and among the most successful leadership development programs for college students. As Chairman, Julie has led NPC's effort to provide support and guidance for its members, and acted as one of NPC's leading voices on contemporary issues of sorority life.

As a proud University of Georgia alumna and past national president of her sorority Alpha Chi Omega, Julie's unyielding passion for Greek life is reflected in her lifetime commitment to collegiate leadership. Under her leadership, NPC has increased their membership, created web-based advocacy tools, and furthered the organizational effectiveness of the conference.

Julie has been a great resource and advocate for women worldwide. Her long-term commitment to her Alpha Chi Omega chapter, its international organization, and the entire Greek community are tokens of the leadership, dedication, and loyalty that make her a role model for women leaders and incredibly deserving of this honor.

I have personally had the opportunity to work with Julie over the years as she has come to Washington to tirelessly advocate for students across the country. We have worked together on the passage of the Collegiate Housing and Infrastructure Act, a bill that would help improve not-for-profit housing for college students, as well as legislation dedicated to advancing college fire safety standards and student financial aid.

The National Panhellenic Conference is a stronger organization as a result of her unwavering leadership and steadfast commitment to the lives of Greek women. I am pleased to honor Julie Cain Burkhard's exemplary service and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO MR. JIMMY "PO WOODS" LEATHERWOOD, ENTREPRENEUR AND OWNER, WOODS, INC. OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2009

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great entrepreneur, community leader, humanitarian and family man, the late Jimmy Leatherwood who made his heavenly transition on Sunday, September 27, 2009. It

is often difficult to find words to express the depth of one's feelings with the passing of a good friend and constituent.

Mr. Leatherwood served with distinction for nearly 30 years as a member of the Cook County, Illinois Sheriff's Department. He was a Board Member of the Westside Association for Community Action of Chicago, a member of the famed Rat Pack-Chicago Chapter and served on the School Council of a local Chicago Public School. He worked tirelessly with various organizations to provide scholarship opportunities to young people and annually donated food to those in need in his home town of Leland, Mississippi.

Jimmy dedicated his life toward making a difference in the lives of other people. He was a shining example of how God can use a life to help make this world a better place. Indeed, many who have had the privilege of knowing him have come to recognize that they are a much better person as a result of his life.

Madam Speaker, I want to encourage his devoted wife Joann, their daughter Nazaree, the entire family and the many friends of Mr. Jimmy Leatherwood to always remember to look to the hills from which comes all of their help, trusting that their help will surely come from the Lord. I am truly blessed to have known and worked with him. I am honored to pay tribute to this outstanding gentleman.

COMMEMORATING NATIONAL JOB CORPS DAY

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2009

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate National Job Corps Day on Capitol Hill, which takes place September 23, 2009. This day-long event will recognize the 45-year anniversary of Job Corps, which has been dedicated to helping young people launch stable careers.

Since its start, Job Corps has been committed to helping young people, ages 16–24, get connected with the resources to be successful in the workforce. With 123 campuses, Job Corps is a nationwide tool for many young Americans to gain the essential education and work skills. I am pleased to have such a strong and active branch of the organization right here in Maricopa County, serving young people across the valley.

At its core, Job Corps exemplifies the importance and true value of education. As a former teacher, I believe education is the foundation for preparing our youth to thrive in the future. Through efforts like Job Corps, we can work together to make higher education and careers attainable for all youth.

Madam Speaker, please join me in celebrating the 45th Anniversary of Phoenix Job Corps.

ABILITY ONE

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2009

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize a program, which in

the last year, has helped more than 40,000 Americans who are blind or who have severe disabilities gain skills and training that has ultimately led to gainful employment; The AbilityOne Program.

The AbilityOne Program harnesses the purchasing power of the Federal Government to buy products and services from participating community-based nonprofit agencies that are dedicated to training and employing individuals with disabilities. This program affords Americans with disabilities the opportunity to acquire job skills and training, receive good wages and benefits, and gain greater independence and quality of life.

This comes in a segment of the population that has suffered from significant unemployment. But programs such as AbilityOne have come a long way in helping to bring people with disabilities into a working society. I am proud to acknowledge that REACH Inc. has played an active role since 1977 in helping employ people with severe disabilities and is one of the community partners to the AbilityOne Program within my state.

The history and mission of REACH Inc. stands as a true example of why this program is a winning proposition for all parties involved. REACH Inc. grew out of the dream of a group of local families who wanted to organize activities for their children with disabilities. Over 32 years ago, REACH Inc. opened its doors in the basement of the Resurrection Lutheran Church in Juneau. What started out as a small, family-run group meeting in a church basement has developed into an agency employing 200 people and serving over 400 individuals.

The direct impact of these organizations on the lives of Americans with disabilities cannot be overstated. For an individual with a severe disability who has never had the opportunity to hold a job, be independent, participate in the community, or play an important role in society; the AbilityOne Program and organizations like REACH Inc. are invaluable.

Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I extend my support to the AbilityOne Program. I also want to commend the dedication and commitment to the REACH Inc. Executive Director, Mr. Richard Fagundes, and his staff for helping individuals who are blind or have a severe disability find employment. Their work helps people live fuller lives and become more active members of society. I also commend each AbilityOne employee who works every day to improve their lives, support our Government, and make our country a better place to live.

COMMENDING HOMELAND SECURITY DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES AND ANTI-TERRORISM PARTNERS

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2009

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my support for the resolution introduced by my colleague from New York, Congresswoman CLARKE. House Resolution 731, of which I am a cosponsor, recognizing the month of September as National

Preparedness Month, also commends the employees of the Department of Homeland Security; other federal agencies; state, local, and tribal government officials; emergency response personnel; and law enforcement officers who defend our nation against acts of terrorism.

New York's 3rd Congressional District is home to many of the Department of Homeland Security's employees, including those who work at JFK and LaGuardia airports and in the Coast Guard. We are all grateful for the important work they carry out, in partnership with local law enforcement officers and other first responders, to protect our communities, particularly in light of several recently foiled terrorist plots.

Earlier this month, we commemorated the eighth anniversary of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. In these times, we cannot afford to be complacent, or to forget what it means to prepare ourselves, our families, and our communities to respond to the threat of terrorism. All Americans can help promote emergency preparedness by taking steps such as assembling emergency supply kits, creating family emergency plans, and staying informed about possible emergencies in their area.

We have come a long way since September 11th, but there is still much more to do to keep America safe. House Resolution 731 helps remind all Americans of the steps they can take to be prepared, and honors those on the front lines who tirelessly work to keep our communities safe.

HONORING THE THOMAS JEFFERSON NATIONAL ACCELERATION FACILITY ON ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2009

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Thomas Jefferson National Acceleration Facility in Newport News, VA, on the occasion of its 25th anniversary. Since its creation, the Jefferson Lab has welcomed scientists and researchers from across the globe to study the matter and forces which build and drive our universe.

The Jefferson Lab is committed to educating the next generation of scientists by increasing the number of teachers who have strong backgrounds in math and science, and in doing so increase student motivation in the subjects of engineering and technology.

Current Secretary of Energy and Nobel Prize winning physicist Dr. Steven Chu joined the lab in celebrating this momentous occasion. On Tuesday, September 29, Secretary Chu visited with the lab's scientists, and discussed the future of atomic research.

Recently, the Jefferson Lab began an expansion of its accelerated electron beam, and I was glad to attend the groundbreaking of this project in April 2009. This project creates a collision of atoms so that scientists may study protons and neutrons at the smallest level. The work done at the Lab is known around the world as second-to-none, and this initiative, also known as the 12GeV Upgrade, will ensure the Lab's worldwide leadership position for the next twenty years.

I continue to be impressed by the efforts of the men and women from the Jefferson Lab and their desire to lead the Nation and the world in research and innovation. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Thomas Jefferson National Acceleration Facility on its 25th anniversary.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CITY OF RICHARDSON'S 2009 NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2009

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Richardson and the Richardson Police Department for its efforts to combat crime and its 2009 National Night Out on October 13, 2009.

Since its inception twenty-six years ago, the National Night Out program has successfully reached out to numerous communities nationwide in its mission to raise crime and drug prevention awareness. The City of Richardson has utilized innovative methods to encourage citywide participation such as organizing neighborhood block parties, programs for the Hispanic and Asian communities, and activities at various senior centers. These gatherings unite citizens, law enforcement agencies, businesses, civic organizations, and local officials. It shows their resolve to fight back against criminals and their commitment to keeping our neighborhoods safe. The City of Richardson's high participation has resulted in their being the award winner for Category #3 in the Nation. National Night Out has helped the Police strengthen neighborhood spirit and build partnerships within the local community.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the City of Richardson and the Richardson Police Department for their hard work and dedication. Their efforts have made our community a safer and better place.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE PASSING OF DON PRIEST

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2009

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join in the celebration of the life of Don Priest, a local legend in my district in Northwest Florida. For over four decades, Don delivered broadcast news and his daily editorials to people in the Florida Panhandle and Alabama Gulf Coast.

Don's years of broadcasting made him one of the most recognized voices in the area. As news director of the radio station WCOA for 41 years, he knew the importance of keeping people in the area informed. He also recognized that the news is not one-sided, and as the first host of Pensacola Speaks, a local radio call-in show, he was instrumental to letting countless people over the years discuss what was on their minds, be it a national, local, or a personal issue. Don opened his radio show to anything people wanted to discuss, and people daily instantly recognized his voice as he took to the airwaves.

Don's radio broadcasting covered more than just the news. On Friday nights, his distinctive voice came on the air to cover local high school football games. He was a news director who was involved with all aspects of the news, and he worked hard to include people of all ages and walks of life in the community. Don's tireless work made sure that events in the area received the notice they deserved.

Madam Speaker, Northwest Florida will long remember the legacy of Don Priest. My thoughts and prayers are with him, and many will be forever grateful for Don having touched their lives. Northwest Florida has suffered a great loss, but we will fondly recall his voice on the airwaves for a long time to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CITY OF DALLAS AND 2009 NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2009

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Dallas and the Dallas Police Department for its efforts to combat crime and its 2009 National Night Out on October 6, 2009.

Since its inception twenty-six years ago, the National Night Out program has successfully reached out to numerous communities nationwide in its mission to raise crime and drug prevention awareness. The City of Dallas has utilized innovative methods to encourage citywide participation such as organizing neighborhood block parties, safety fairs, visits from police, contests, and rallies. These gatherings unite citizens, law enforcement agencies, businesses, civic organizations, and local officials. It shows their resolve to fight back against criminals and their commitment to keeping our neighborhoods safe. National Night Out has helped the Dallas Police strengthen neighborhood spirit and build partnerships within the local community.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the City of Dallas and the Dallas Police Department for their hard work and dedication. Their efforts have made our community a safer and better place.

RECOGNIZING THE TOWN OF ORANGE AS IT CELEBRATES ITS 275TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2009

Mr. CANTOR. Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize the Town of Orange as it celebrates its 275th anniversary.

The Town of Orange is located northeast of Charlottesville, near James Madison's estate at Montpelier, viewing the Blue Ridge Mountains.

The Town of Orange was a strategically important location during the American Civil War. Just north of town, the Rapidan River was effectively the northern border of the Confederacy for several years. Consequently, the area witnessed countless troop movements,