

HONORING GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS FOR THEIR DECISION TO SERVE THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AS A MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor forty-seven high school seniors in Camden County for their commendable decision to enlist in the United States Armed Forces. Of these forty-seven, ten are with the New Jersey Army National Guard; their names are Gabriel Gonzalez-Galarza, Baruch Zepeda, Adam Knight, Carlos Watson, Kourtney Scott, Esamuel Tutt, Louis Alcantara-Narvaez, Timothy Johnson, Resheena Whittington, James Sheridan. Sixteen have joined the Marine Corps; their names are Peter Cuoco, James Baume, Robert Distefano, Ashley Fitzgibbons, Nicholas Lentz, Kyri Chandle, John McConnell, Mark Wyatt, Natasha Rodriguez, David Nguyen, Matthew Deeney, Donato Cancelli, Daehan Bong, Erick Mistretta, Pedro Aldebol, Jasmin Ramos. Three have joined the Air Force; their names are Marc Eisenmann, Jade Bates, Efrain Cardona. Five have joined the Navy; their names are Matthew Wilson, Nicolle Morris, Wayne Young, Nicholas Lugo, Eric Jacot. And fourteen have joined the Army; their names are Chelsea Hunter, Erik Coates, Francis Ayala, Jacob Lambeth, Zachary Tavani, Ryan Langley, Joseph Olivo, Alexander Gonzalez, John Wilson, Elizabeth Vollmar, Matthew Kline, Matthew Lincoln, Jacob Colman II, and David Reeves. All forty-seven will also be recognized on June 2nd at "Our Community Salutes of South Jersey."

Later this month, these young men and women will join with many of their classmates in celebration of graduation. At a time when many of their peers are looking forward to pursuing vocational training or college degrees, they instead have chosen to dedicate themselves to military service in defense of our country.

Naturally, many may be anxious about the uncertainties that may await them as members of the Armed Forces. But, they should rest assured that the full support and resources of this chamber, and of the American people, are with them in whatever challenges may lie ahead.

It is thanks to the dedication of untold numbers of patriots like these forty-seven that we are able to meet here today, in the House of Representatives, and openly debate the best solutions to the many and diverse problems that confront our country. It is thanks to their sacrifices that the United States of America remains a beacon of hope and freedom in a fractious world.

Madam Speaker, their decision to serve our country will not go unrecognized. I want to personally thank these forty-seven graduating seniors for the selflessness and courage that they have shown by volunteering to risk their lives in defense of others. We owe them, along with all those who serve our country, a deep debt of gratitude.

IN HONOR OF LIEUTENANT DAVID CURLIN

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a true American hero and dedicated community servant. Lieutenant David Curlin of the Pine Bluff Fire & Emergency Services Department in Arkansas. Lieutenant Curlin passed away on May 22, 2010, in Little Rock at the age of 40 from injuries sustained while fighting a fire in Pine Bluff on January 4, 2010.

Lieutenant Curlin was raised in Watson Chapel, AR, where he graduated from high school in 1988. After graduation, David joined the United States Marine Corps and served in Operation Desert Storm. Following his service in the Marine Corps David joined the Pine Bluff Fire & Emergency Services Department eventually rising to the rank of Lieutenant. Lieutenant Curlin served in Pine Bluff for 14 years while also volunteering with the Watson Chapel Volunteer Fire Department.

Lieutenant Curlin demonstrated the best of Arkansas and of America. As a Marine, he defended and served our great country with honor and pride. As a first responder, he dedicated his life and career to serving his neighbors and protecting his community. We need more heroes like Lieutenant Curlin. His presence will be deeply missed.

My deepest thoughts and prayers are with Lieutenant Curlin's wife Pamela; daughters, Tarah, Katherine and Kaylee; step-daughter, Haley; father and step-mother, George and Phyllis Curlin; mother and step-father, Rita and Joe Gronwald and his entire family during this extraordinarily difficult time.

Our nation is safer and stronger because of brave service members and first responders like Lieutenant Curlin. Today, I ask all Members of Congress to join me as we honor the life, legacy and service of Lieutenant David Curlin.

HONORING DR. FRANCES L. WHITE

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Frances L. White, a community college educator for 32 years who is retiring as the Superintendent/President of the Marin Community College District. Dr. White is a distinguished leader who is herself a community college graduate. She is a dedicated educator committed to the community college mission and to the welfare of students, particularly those in the 112 public community colleges in California.

A former full-time faculty member in the Peralta Community College District, Dr. White earned her Ph.D. in education administration from the University of California at Berkeley. As an administrator she has served in a variety of roles including President of Skyline College in San Bruno, California and Executive Vice Chancellor at City College of San Francisco. She is the recipient of many awards

and recognitions, the author of scholarly publications, and has directed numerous workshops on college leadership, mentoring, and institutional effectiveness. In March, the Association of California Community College Administrators awarded her the prestigious 2010 Harry Buttmer Distinguished Administrator Award.

Starting at College of Marin during a period of considerable turmoil, Dr. White is credited with working with the Board of Trustees and the Faculty to successfully stabilize a district plagued by decades of declining enrollments, crumbling classrooms, financial instability, poor community connections, and on the brink of accreditation loss. Capitalizing on her powerful personal qualities, White put a recovery plan in place and implemented a strategic direction that arrested the downward spiral and set the college on a visionary course.

A leader with considerable collaborative skills, Dr. White is a compassionate mentor, both to students and to colleagues. With her dedicated support, the Academic Senate developed and implemented Student Learning Outcomes and Program Review, essential for the institution to reestablish accreditation in good standing and what led the Academic Senate leaders to receive statewide recognition for their outstanding efforts.

Not one to shy from challenges, three weeks after taking the helm at College of Marin, the Board of Trustees passed a resolution to place a countywide facilities bond on the ballot. While most thought it would fail, under Dr. White's guidance and tireless work, the Measure C Bond was successful and received broad community support. The \$250 million bond made it possible for the College to undertake long-deferred facilities renovation and modernization creating newly designed and energy efficient, student-centered learning environments on both the Kentfield and Indian Valley campuses, which helped generate a 15% enrollment increase at Kentfield and a 135% enrollment increase at Indian Valley.

In addition to being a very competent administrator, Dr. White understands the importance of raising private funds for the College of Marin, and has been innovative in creating opportunities for friends of the college to support its mission. Launching the highly successful "President's Circle" as well as the "Education Excellence Innovation Fund," Dr. White has established an enviable budget reserve of 12 percent. The College has been very fortunate Dr. White came at a critical time and was able to initiate significant change and a notable shift in the institutional culture.

Madam Speaker, Dr. White is a gracious woman of remarkable talent and considerable commitment, and it is therefore appropriate to honor her today and to wish her well in her next endeavor. Congratulations, Fran White—you will be missed.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF TRINITY LUTHERN CHURCH IN SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

Mr. BLUNT. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Trinity Lutheran congregation of