

A TRIBUTE TO MR. WILLIAM
"BILL" GOODWIN

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 2, 2011

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bill Goodwin in recognition of his 75th birthday this Wednesday, November 2nd.

Bill Goodwin served as a page in the United States House of Representatives during the 83rd Congress. Sponsored by former Michigan Representative George Dondero, he began his time as a bench page in January of 1953 at the age of 15 in an effort to support his widowed mother and four siblings back home. Bill was quickly moved to work in the Democratic Cloakroom where he answered calls, organized the transportation of documents and later guarded lobby doors and access to the House floor. Additionally, he participated in the page glee club, sang for page graduations, and was even asked by members of Congress to sing the Lord's Prayer on the Floor while the House was in recess.

Most notably, Bill can be remembered for his valiant efforts during the 1954 Puerto Rican shootings in the House Chamber where he assisted in carrying stretchers from the House floor. In a widely popularized photograph of the events, he can be recognized carrying a stretcher bearing Representative Alvin Bentley down the House steps.

In 1955, Bill graduated from the Capitol Page School and returned to Michigan to finish his studies. He entered Wayne State University as a veterinarian student, but left two years later to return home to support his family. He worked as a technician at National Cash Register for several years, and left the company to begin his own cash register business.

An avid entrepreneur, Bill later delved into the hovercraft business, where he secured several patents for the vehicle over the years. Ever the businessman, Bill currently operates his own landscaping business and enjoys taking part in activities such as hunting, and singing in the church choir.

Bill Goodwin's contributions to his family, the State of Michigan, and this House of Representatives have been truly remarkable. On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District of Michigan, I am honored today to recognize Bill Goodwin in celebration of his 75th birthday. I hope the year to come will bring him health, happiness, and special times with family and friends.

HONORING STORIED GAY RIGHTS
LEADER FRANKLIN KAMENY

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 2, 2011

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce a recent editorial by Nick Benton, editor and publisher of the Falls Church News Press. His editorial, which appeared on October 19, 2011, reads as follows:

It was by a remarkable and gracious coincidence that the first weekend after the passing of our gay movement's greatest pioneer,

Franklin Kameny, the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial was dedicated on the National Mall.

The ceremony included a viewing of the entirety of Dr. King's 17-minute "I Have a Dream" speech delivered on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial to 300,000 in the "Great March on Washington" of August 28, 1963, the year of the 100th anniversary of Lincoln's signing of the Emancipation Proclamation.

Seven of the handful of original gay members of the Mattachine Society of Washington, led by Kameny, attended that historic rally and heard that speech. It was with its echoes ringing in their ears that in 1965, Kameny and a tiny cadre of fellow homosexuals carried out the first-ever organized picket line demanding homosexual equality held at the White House gates.

In his 1963 speech, Dr. King welcomed the racially-diverse makeup of the rally. "Many of our white brothers, as evidenced by their presence here today, have come to realize that their destiny is tied up with our destiny. They have come to realize that their freedom is inextricably bound to our freedom," he intoned.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal," Dr. King declared. "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character."

That speech directly inspired the rise of our modern gay movement, led by Kameny (May 21, 1925–October 11, 2011), Lilli Vincenz, Barbara Gittings and a handful of others, as chronicled in the film documentary, "Gay Pioneers" (2004), produced by the Philadelphia Equality Forum.

Frank Kameny, I am proud to say, was my friend in recent years. He was arguably the single most seminal influence in the history of our movement, so claimed at a Rainbow History Project forum last week. Kameny was scheduled to speak at that forum before his untimely death at age 86 just two days before.

His was the strident, compelling force that led the effort against the 1950s McCarthyite anti-homosexual witch hunts in the government (David K. Johnson, "The Lavender Scare, The Cold War Persecution of Gays and Lesbians in the Federal Government," 2004).

He organized picket lines when no one else was doing it and carried on a relentless, life-long fight for equality. He ran for public office and railed loudly against injustice in an era when no one, except in rarefied circles of literary or artistic elites, dared publicly declare their homosexuality.

His crowning achievement was his relentless, eventually successful campaign to get the American Psychiatric Association to remove homosexuality from its list of mental disorders in 1973. That signal achievement changed the public perception of homosexuality, laying the groundwork for growing public acceptance and affirmation since.

Kameny invented the slogan, "Gay is Good," far more controversial in its time than it seems now. I defended it then against objections of dedicated gay friends who considered it too radical.

When I first met Frank, I was a young gay activist in 1970 in San Francisco. Dr. King's speech permeating the national ethos, I'd made two life-changing decisions, entering seminary in 1966 and joining Kameny and his San Francisco counterparts prior to Stonewall in early 1969 to "come out" and join the struggle for gay, and human, liberation.

Our fight, I wrote in the editorial for the first Gay Sunshine newspaper, "should harken to a greater cause, the cause of human liberation, of which homosexual liberation is just one aspect."

Regrettably, about that same time, the onslaught of the right wing, socially-engineered anarcho-hedonist counterculture hijacked our movement, dashing Dr. King's appeal to the "content of character" in the process. We've had to live, and die, with the consequences of that since.

I reconnected with Frank in recent years, while his contributions became more recognized and appreciated. A milestone came when the many picket signs, leaflets, speeches and photographs he'd kept from his earliest activist days were formally received as a special collection at the Smithsonian Institution. He was honored at the White House by President Obama, and a photo of him and me with Vice President Biden hangs in my office.

Along with another other early activist and mutual friend, Lilli Vincenz, and her long-time partner Nancy Davis, I hosted Frank as my guest at the national dinner of the Human Rights Campaign in 2005, and often invited him to lunches at The Palm restaurant in downtown D.C.

Those many lunches were not only to enjoy his company, but to provide opportunities for my friends, especially younger ones, gay and otherwise, to meet and appreciate this genuine hero of our movement. Recently, of this "Gay Science" project, Kameny smiled and quipped, "I think we wind up in the same place." I concurred.

TO RECOGNIZE 18TH ANNUAL YOM
HASHOAH-HOLOCAUST COM-
MEMORATION PROGRAM FOR
THE STATEN ISLAND JEWISH
COMMUNITY

HON. MICHAEL G. GRIMM

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 2, 2011

Mr. GRIMM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the incredible sacrifice made by the victims of the Holocaust. On the 27th Day of Nissan, Jews around the world stood in respect and memoriam to honor the senseless slaughter of so many. On Staten Island, the 18th annual Yom Hashoah-Holocaust Commemoration Program for the Staten Island Jewish Community was held at Temple Israel Reform Congregation, Randall Manor. Holocaust survivor Inge Auerbacher—a woman of remarkable bravery—gave the keynote address.

While humanity vowed never to repeat the atrocities committed during the Holocaust, we must recognize that genocide continues in places like Darfur and Rwanda. With the memory of the Holocaust permanently in our minds, we must maintain an intense focus on the present and future to put an end to these unconscionable crimes.

HONORING THE WASHINGTON
STATE'S NISEI VETERANS

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 2, 2011

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Japanese-American veterans who served so courageously during World War II in the 100th Infantry Battalion, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and the

Military Intelligence Service. In recognition of their extraordinary service, they are being honored with the Congressional Gold Medal.

I am especially proud to join 26 veterans, six widows of veterans, and more than 320 family members who are here today to attend the award ceremony on behalf of Washington State's Nisei Veterans Committee. We come together to acknowledge and to thank the Nisei veterans and their families for their sacrifice and their patriotism.

As an Honorary Nisei Veteran, I have had the opportunity to talk to many of these veterans, their children, and their grandchildren as we remember the soldiers and their proud, fearless service to our country, which is all the more exemplary given that some of their families were held in U.S. internment camps solely because of their race.

Mr. Speaker, the Nisei Veterans have helped to enrich the Seattle community and strengthen our country. Their service and legacy are an inspiration to us all. I am privileged to be a part of the ceremony in Emancipation Hall at the Capitol Visitor Center.

HONORING WORTHINGTON WHITTREDGE AND THE HUDSON RIVER SCHOOL OF PAINTING

HON. DAVID N. CICILLINE

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 2, 2011

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw my colleagues' attention to a recent change nearby at the Capitol Visitors Center. Two paintings by Albert Bierstadt, "Discovery of the Hudson River" and "Entrance into Monterey," are now on public display in the CVC. These paintings capture the beauty of the American landscape, and, as part of the Hudson River School of Painting, symbolize an important time period in our country's history that impacted culture, recreation, and conservation in the United States.

The Hudson River School was comprised of painters who created detailed landscapes of the American wilderness. One of these men, Worthington Whittredge, is connected to my district. His work "Sakonnet Point, Rhode Island" captures the calm and color of our country's smallest state. His paintings of my district's coastline reflect his studies with other American artists and European influences. This vibrant landscape is very emblematic of many of the School's ideals.

Whittredge, like many Hudson River School painters, garnered acclaim and traveled widely both abroad and throughout the United States. However, his works of the American West are not of mountainous scenes, but of the plains. One of these works, "Crossing the River Platte," resides in the White House Art Collection and has been displayed in the Roosevelt Room.

As part of the first indigenous American schools of painting, the School's painters used small brush strokes to create highly detailed paintings that accurately portrayed the landscapes around them. This technique contributed to one of the School's most important legacies.

Another way the Hudson River School influenced American history and culture is through the creation of several National Parks. Many

of Whittredge's contemporaries, like Bierstadt, helped support environmental conservation. Primarily through the artists' travels to the American West, and also to other parts of the United States, we can still see the dramatic landscapes they captured on canvas of Yellowstone, Yosemite, Zion, and Acadia National Parks, among others. These landscapes were also later used to help our predecessors create the National Park Service in 1916.

Another legacy of the Hudson River School of Painting is the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. Many of the School's painters, like Whittredge, spent considerable time traveling in the grand capitals of Europe and were inspired by the cultural and artistic scenes. Together with local businessmen, lawyers, and educators, they formed the Met in 1870. Several of the School's painters served as trustees or as members of the executive committee. Today, many of their works, including some by Whittredge, hang in the Met.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Worthington Whittredge and the Hudson River School of Painting made significant contributions to American art, culture, and conservation that have spanned three centuries.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN ARSENAL RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 2, 2011

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the members of the Rocky Mountain Arsenal Restoration Advisory Board in Colorado, who are dissolving as a board this month after more than 17 years of service to the nation.

As the primary community advisory board for the U.S. Army at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal, the members have ensured that the community was informed and involved during each phase of the design, remediation and transformation of this environmental cleanup site into a premier urban national wildlife refuge. Given the importance of the task and the many years of work it required, their dedication deserves our recognition and thanks.

Their work is particularly remarkable because of the unique role the site has played in the history and defense of our nation. The U.S. Army built the Rocky Mountain Arsenal following the attacks on Pearl Harbor to manufacture chemical weapons as a deterrent against the Axis Powers. After the war, the U.S. Army leased some of the facilities to Shell Chemical Co., which manufactured agricultural chemicals at the site. As the decades unfolded, the Rocky Mountain Arsenal played critical roles in allowing our nation to win the Cold War, put men into space and complete a historic demilitarization program.

These achievements came at a price, however. Although the U.S. Army and Shell used accepted waste disposal methods of the time, some contamination of the structures, soil and groundwater occurred. The communities of Brighton, Commerce City and Denver, which surround the Rocky Mountain Arsenal and are represented on the Restoration Advisory Board, help forged consensus around the environmental restoration and future use of the site.

Together with representatives from the U.S. Army, Shell Oil Co., U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Environmental Protection Agency, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and Tri-County Health Department, these citizens held more than 130 public meetings. They reviewed countless technical documents, shared community questions and perspectives and served as liaisons with the larger community to ensure public concerns were addressed throughout the environmental restoration program.

They also provided critical support for the future use of the site as a national wildlife refuge once remedial actions were complete. Today, the Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge encompasses more than 15,000 acres and offers habitat to more than 330 wildlife species, including American bald eagles and wild bison. Just as importantly, the refuge offers exhibits to educate visitors about the historic use and legacy of the site.

Now that the environmental restoration and transformation of the Rocky Mountain Arsenal is complete and the board has completed its oversight role, the Restoration Advisory Board has decided to dissolve. Please join me in thanking the members for their service and in congratulating them on a job well done.

IN RECOGNITION OF SHILOH COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP UNITED HOLY CHURCH OF AMERICA'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 2, 2011

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Shiloh Community Fellowship United Holy Church of America (UHCA) as members of the congregation gather to celebrate its 75th Anniversary. Since its humble beginnings in 1920, the organization has grown structurally and in membership, while continuing to provide outstanding spiritual leadership to members of the community. This organization's service and dedication is highly deserving of this body's recognition.

Shiloh Community Fellowship began hosting church services at the home of the late Reverend Henry Jeffers in 1920. The steady increase in membership later encouraged and supported the decision to relocate the organization to Dewitt Avenue in Asbury Park, New Jersey. In 1938, the late Bishop H.L. Fisher brought the church into fellowship with United Holy Church of America (UHCA), a title which the organization retains today. Throughout its tenure, Shiloh Community Fellowship UHCA was governed by various administrations. In 1976, Reverend Sarah Wright assumed leadership on behalf of her ill husband, Rev. Thomas Wright, and became the first female to serve at Shiloh Community Fellowship. In 1987, the Board of Trustees unanimously agreed to build a new church at 142 Dewitt Avenue in Asbury Park to better serve constituents and members of the congregation. The dedication service of the new building was held on May 22, 2004 under the direction of Elder Felton Miller. In October 2008, Reverend Mark E. White, Sr. was appointed to minister various services at Shiloh Community Fellowship and was later installed as the new