

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE BICENTENNIAL OF
LEBANON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 1, 2013

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my colleague, Representative JIM GERLACH (PA-6), to honor the County of Lebanon, Pennsylvania which we jointly represent. The citizens of Lebanon County are celebrating the County's Bicentennial this month.

The first German-speaking settlers came to the Lebanon Valley area in the early 1720's. Purchased from Native Americans by the Penn Family in 1732, the area that would become Lebanon County quickly drew the interest of both German and English immigrants seeking rich and inexpensive farmland. Those initial settlers would be proud to know 200 years later that the land they settled is still being used productively in agriculture. To this day, Lebanon County ranks in the top ten of most categories of crop and livestock production in Pennsylvania.

By 1810, the Lebanon Valley area had more than 16,000 inhabitants and they were a civic-minded people. Shortly after the American Revolution the six townships that would become Lebanon County—Annville, Bethel, East Hanover, Londonderry, Heidelberg and Lebanon Townships—felt too removed from the distant seat of government in Harrisburg and sought greater control over their own local affairs. They began petitioning the General Assembly for recognition as a county. On February 16, 1813, Lebanon was granted county status by the Pennsylvania General Assembly.

Two hundred years later, those men and women would be astounded to know that the 2010 census indicated that 133,568 people are living within the County's nearly 363 square miles.

They would be proud to know that Lebanon Valley College, founded in 1866, has consistently provided quality liberal arts education to thousands of students.

The people of the Lebanon Valley region were great patriots and supporters of the American Revolution. The area served as a supply depot for American forces during the War. During the Civil War, the people of Lebanon County raised the 93rd Regiment to support the Union's cause.

They would be proud to know of the role that Ft. Indiantown Gap plays in the role of supporting the Pennsylvania National Guard and the United States Army.

Mr. Speaker, Congressman JIM GERLACH and I are honored to represent Lebanon County in the House of Representatives. We congratulate the people of Lebanon County on their proud heritage and on their numerous contributions to the history and culture of not only the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, but of the United States as well.

With the blessings of Providence, may it be that another Congressman from Pennsylvania

stands in the Capitol one hundred years from today enjoying the privilege of honoring the people of Lebanon on their Tercentennial.

TOBYHANNA ARMY DEPOT

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 1, 2013

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Tobyhanna Army Depot, which will celebrate 60 years of service to the Warfighter on February 1, 2013.

The Tobyhanna Army Depot is the largest fill-service electronics maintenance facility in the Department of Defense and has served all branches of our Armed Forces since 1953. Today, it is a global enterprise specializing in the repair, upgrade and integration of Command, Control, Computer, Communications, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (C4ISR) systems. It is a leader in the areas of automated test equipment, systems integration and downsizing of electronic systems. The Army has designated Tobyhanna as its "Center of Industrial and Technical Excellence for C4ISR and Electronics, Avionics, and Missile Guidance and Control". The Air Force has designated Tobyhanna as its "Technical Source of Repair for command, control, communications and intelligence systems". Additionally, the depot has received several Shingo Medallions for Excellence in Manufacturing.

The Tobyhanna Army Depot is a crucial component of Pennsylvania's economy, having an estimated annual economic impact of \$4.4 billion. It is the largest employer in Northeastern Pennsylvania, providing employment for roughly 5,800 personnel with 130 different job skills. The depot has created 19,300 jobs in the region and posts 300 personnel at "forward repair activities" to support our military personnel abroad. On a national scale, the depot has saved American taxpayers \$187.1 million since 2002, as a result of their cost-efficient and industrious performance.

Mr. Speaker, for the last 60 years, the Tobyhanna Army Depot has acted as an important asset for our military as well as for Pennsylvania and the United States. Therefore, I commend all those personnel—military and civilian—who have faithfully served our community and our country while stationed at this important C4ISR systems center.

RECOGNIZING JOHNSON CITY
COUNTRY CLUB CENTENNIAL AN-
NIVERSARY

HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 1, 2013

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the centennial anniversary of the

Johnson City Country Club in Johnson City, Tennessee. Since 1913, the club has been a driving force for social, recreational, and cultural development in Johnson City. Having grown from the vision of a few local leaders into an establishment that has touched many thousands of lives, the club has carried its traditions into the modern era.

The Johnson City Country Club's centennial program began in June 2009 when a group of members envisioned the club to be more than simply a social and recreational entity. These members recognized that the club was sitting on a historic property that had influenced the growth of the city. As of November 15, 2011 the Johnson City Country Club was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in recognition of its rich history and contributions to society.

The club serves as a home to numerous non-profit organizations and has collected funds for both World Wars and other conflicts. Its facilities have helped Johnson City youth develop in golf, swimming, and tennis. As a result, the golfing program at East Tennessee State University is considered one of the top programs in the Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the Johnson City Country Club for their significant impact on both Johnson City and Tennessee's First District. I wish them the very best in their centennial anniversary celebrations and hope to see continued growth in the club's role in the community.

TRIBUTE TO EAGLE SCOUT
MATTHEW ALAN CHRISTENSEN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 1, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Matthew Alan Christensen of Boy Scout Troop 550 in Council Bluffs, Iowa for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

The Eagle Scout rank is the highest advancement rank in scouting. Only about five percent of Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout Award. The award is a performance-based achievement with high standards that have been well-maintained over the past century.

To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout is obligated to pass specific tests that are organized by requirements and merit badges, as well as completing an Eagle Project to benefit the community. For his project, Matthew organized a work crew to remove a half mile of fencing at the Hitchcock Nature Center in Crescent, Iowa. Matthew's efforts will help the center expand its borders as it continues to restore and promote the Loess Hills of Iowa. The work ethic Matthew has shown in his Eagle Project and every other project leading up to his Eagle Scout rank speaks volumes of his commitment to serving a cause greater than himself and assisting his community.

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