

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

DALE SOWARDS TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dale Sowards of Manassa, Colorado. Mr. Sowards passed away on March 29, 2013 at his home, he was 95. A native and lifelong resident of Western Colorado, Mr. Sowards' story is one of public service and community involvement that lives on as an inspiration to us all.

Born in Manassa on May 7, 1917, Mr. Sowards went on to receive a degree in Forestry and range Management from Colorado State University and on Christmas Eve of 1937, he married his high school sweetheart Orva Nielson. Following college, Mr. Sowards spent five years serving Colorado with the U.S. Forest Service. He went on the teach biology, chemistry, and agriculture in Manassa and later taught the farm training program at Adams State College.

Mr. Sowards' life in civil service began as a member of the Manassa school board, he later served the President of the Cumbres-La Manga Cattle Association and the Manassa Land and Irrigation Company for 16 years. Mr. Sowards went on to become County Commissioner and, in 1976, was chosen as the Most Outstanding Colorado Commissioner. That same year, he was elected President of the National Association of Counties' Western Region (NaCo). As a NaCo President, Mr. Sowards played a pivotal role in the passage of Payments-In-Lieu-of-Taxes, or PILT, legislation which compensates counties for the tax revenue lost by federal holdings of land. Counties use these funds for education, public safety, and infrastructure projects. In recognition of his efforts, NaCo's annual award for outstanding service of public lands bears his name.

Mr. Sowards was an active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and served as Superintendent of the Sunday school late in his life. He is survived by two children in Manassa, 10 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Mr. Dale Sowards for his lifelong dedication to the people of Western Colorado.

RECOGNIZING THE WOOGMS MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Wellington-Oakdale Old Glory Marching Society's Annual Memorial Day Parade, a patriotic tradition in Chicago's Lakeview neighborhood. This

vibrant Chicago institution invites marchers of all ages to participate in Lakeview's only "do-it-yourself" parade, where everybody marches and nobody watches.

In 1963, Chicago resident Al Weisman began this annual tradition along with his son, Tony, and a half dozen friends marching around the block with an American flag. Today, the WOOGMS parade is led by Tony Weisman and regularly attracts more than 1,000 marchers. It is a wonderful way Chicagoans celebrate freedom and remember those who have served our country.

The WOOGMS parade's emphasis on inclusion and participation sets this wonderful event apart. Guided by Al Weisman's belief that children would rather participate in a parade than simply watch, the parade encourages Chicagoans of all ages to join in the parade and march; spectators are discouraged from sitting down and encouraged to participate. These annual parades attract parents, children and grandparents who are walking or riding strollers, bikes and wheelchairs down the parade route. Accompanied by the Jesse White Drum Corps, participants march towards St. Joseph's Hospital where they are greeted by welcoming volunteers.

As a longtime Lakeview resident, I've had the privilege of joining the WOOGMS parade since 1983. As the event has grown, so have the participants. It's been heartening to see the children who marched 30 years ago come back to join the WOOGMS parade with children of their own.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in recognizing the WOOGMS parade as one of Chicago's most unique events. Let us look forward to another 50 years of continued success for this patriotic tradition.

HOMES FOR HEROES ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2013

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 384, the "Homes for Heroes Act of 2013." I support this bill because it provides much needed assistance to more than 62,000 veterans who can be found homeless on any given night. I support this bill because it will help the 12,700 homeless veterans who were involved in Iraq and Afghanistan. I support this legislation because it is unacceptable that anyone who served this nation honorably in times of war should be without a home in times of peace.

The Homes for Heroes Act creates the position of Special Assistant for Veterans Affairs in the Office of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and charges him or her with the responsibility of ensuring that veterans have fair access to housing and homeless assistance programs at HUD in addition to coordinating HUD programs and ac-

tivities of the Department relating to veterans; serving as a liaison with the Department of Veterans Affairs; serving as HUD liaison to the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness and State, and local governments, and nongovernmental organizations concerned with veterans.

The Special Assistant also will provide veterans information and advice regarding special housing programs for veterans and assisting them in obtaining housing or homeless assistance under programs administered by the Department.

There are over 304,000 veterans in my city of Houston, and 11,000 homeless men and women, more than 3,600 of which are veterans. These homeless veterans have fallen victim to the effects of post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, and often faced difficulty entering the civilian workforce where experience in military occupations and training do not easily translate. Because of these and other difficulties, a veteran commits suicide every 65 hours.

These men and women are often single, alone, and with little family connections concentrated in large urban areas where living conditions are more likely to be poor. Forty percent of our homeless veterans are African American or Hispanic despite making up a much smaller percentage of the veteran community.

The welfare of homeless veterans of our nation, who fought in World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, Grenada, Panama, Lebanon, the Persian Gulf War, Afghanistan and Iraq, should always be one of our primary concerns. They should not be left to fend for themselves when they encounter difficulties upon returning home. The Homes for Heroes act help will ensure that more have a home to live in when they return home.

The sad reality is that too many of our veterans are homeless or jobless or poor. They grow younger by the year. They need our help and support. We owe it to answer the call for them.

I urge all members of the House to join in me in supporting H.R. 384, the Homes for Heroes Act of 2013.

IN HONOR OF THE STEWART HOME SCHOOL'S 120TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Stewart Home School in Frankfort, Kentucky, and to congratulate them on their 120th Anniversary. The mission of the Stewart Home School is the complete and total care of special needs students, as well as the fulfillment of all their needs—physical, educational, social, vocational and spiritual.

Since 1893, Stewart Home School has provided a community where people live in a nurturing environment and participate in programs

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