

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE 165TH AIRLIFT WING OF THE GEORGIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 23, 2013

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 165th Airlift Wing of the Georgia Air National Guard, marking their tenth anniversary of mobilization for wartime missions.

Since 2003, the 165th Airlift Wing has served in Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation New Dawn, with more than 80 percent of the wing's 900 airmen deploying during that time. Over the last ten years, the eight C-130H2 aircraft operated by the wing have seen 11,363 flying hours and 7,441 combat sorties.

When the 165th Airlift Wing was activated for the first time since the Korean War, its unit members responded admirably. Their first unit aircraft dispatched within 72 hours of notification. In 2004, the 165th Airlift Wing was the first C-130 unit to deploy and operate out of Iraq, flying under the famous "Red Tail" markings of the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing.

In 2005, the 165th Airlift Wing had the solemn honor of supporting the rescue mission of the 16 Navy SEALs and Army Special Operation Aviation Regiment troops whose MH-47D was shot down while attempting to reinforce four SEALs under attack by the Taliban.

The 165th continued its tradition of excellence in 2011 as a part of the 774th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron, during which time the 774th was recognized as the only squadron in the United States Central Command Area of Responsibility tasked at 100 percent. All 15 squadron aircraft flew every day for over 60 days.

In tribute to its outstanding service during wartime mobilizations, I am honored today to recognize the 165th Airlift Wing and its contributions to the United States of America.

102ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL DAY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)

HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 23, 2013

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, October 10th marked the 102nd Anniversary of the Wuchang uprising, which led to the establishment of the Republic of China (Taiwan) on January 1, 1912. National Day of the Republic of China marks a significant day for the Taiwanese people as they celebrate each year with parades, fireworks and military regalia. The United States and Taiwan have been fortunate to share such a dynamic friendship that I believe will only continue to grow.

As the U.S. seeks to rebalance our comprehensive foreign policy strategy, and we

look to pivot to the Asian Pacific region, I feel that National Day deserves an appropriate commemoration from Congress. I believe it is vitally important for the U.S. to continue to bolster Taiwan's efforts as they are one of the most promising democracies in the region. Such stable regional partners should be valued and held in the highest regard.

This significant anniversary also provides an opportunity for this Congress to reflect on the current state of our bilateral relationship with Taiwan and to take proactive steps to enhance it.

As the 10th largest trading partner with the United States, Taiwan's economic importance is continuing to rapidly increase in a growing 21st century global economy. As longstanding friends and allies, I am pleased to add my voice to congratulate Taiwan on this momentous occasion.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH AN- NIVERSARY OF THE BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 23, 2013

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 100th anniversary of one of my district's finest institutions: the Business and Industry Association of New Hampshire. For one hundred years, the BIA has represented and protected the interests of New Hampshire's business community as the statewide chamber of commerce. Over that time, it has helped to strengthen the Granite State's robust economy, and it has played an essential role in creating and upholding the state's unmatched pro-business climate.

First known as the New Hampshire Manufacturer's Association, the BIA was born in 1913 from the minds of several small business leaders concerned about government legislation and over-regulation of business. Since that time, the Association has grown to represent more than 400 businesses across New Hampshire's strongest industries. Together, those businesses employ more than 86,000 workers across the state's manufacturing, technology, health care, and financial services sectors, among many others, and they contribute more than \$4.5 billion each year to the state economy.

Through the strength of its advocacy, the BIA has helped to shape public policies that encourage businesses to succeed and the community to prosper, now and into the future. On October 23rd, the Association will celebrate its 100th anniversary with a dinner and awards ceremony. As New Hampshire business leaders mark this special occasion, I urge all Granite Staters and all Americans to join them in honoring this essential community institution.

CONGRATULATING UNITED NORTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN ALEX- IS, IL

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 23, 2013

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate United North Elementary School in Alexis, IL, which has been recognized as a 2013 National Blue Ribbon School and will be honored next month at a ceremony here in Washington.

As the mother of three sons who were educated by our public schools, I know firsthand the importance of a high-quality education and I am proud that students in our community are learning at one of the best schools in the nation. United North Elementary has implemented several programs that identify struggling students early and provide them with individual attention to make sure all students have an opportunity to succeed. They have seen great results in students' math and reading abilities and I am happy they have been recognized for their achievements.

United North also succeeds in involving the whole community in education. Along with regular parent-teacher conferences and an active PTO, the school hosts classroom visits during American Education Week and recently started a Very Special Person Day for students to bring adult visitors to the school.

Mr. Speaker, I again want to congratulate United North Elementary School and Principal Sue Wilson for this remarkable achievement and I thank them for their service to students in our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF YVONNE WRIGHT

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 23, 2013

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Yvonne Wright, who celebrates her 100th birthday on October 23, 2013.

Yvonne Angelle Vigeant was born on October 23, 1913 in Brookline, Massachusetts. Growing up with twin sister Helene, she graduated from Brookline High School and was working at Boston State Hospital when she met Lewis Wright, who she married in 1935. A twin himself, Lewis and his brother were local entrepreneurs, purchasing English's Dairy and establishing Wright Brothers' Sports Center, the popular Holbrook bowling center and golf driving range. Together, Yvonne and Lewis raised four children, and went on to welcome nine grandchildren, fifteen great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Wright has expressed a lifelong passion for art, having become an accomplished

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

oil painter. She is also well-known in her community as being passionate about the environment, often advocating for greater environmental protections and voicing her opinion in local newspapers. Yvonne loves to spend time with her large family, and is often be found at her grandchildren's soccer games and school events.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Yvonne Wright on her 100th birthday. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing her many more years of health and happiness.

IN HONOR OF WORLD POLIO DAY

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 23, 2013

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of the House that in many parts of the world, polio is on the run. What in the past was a worldwide epidemic is now a controlled, limited disease and the potential for total eradication is very real.

One of the groups that has dedicated much of its attention to this problem is our Rotary Clubs. Most of us think of Rotary as being that eclectic group of community volunteers who turn out at charity events or serve at pep rallies for the local high school football team. Their dedication to local goodwill is important, true, but they are actually much more.

In reality, more than 34,000 local Rotary Clubs throughout the world initiate and deliver service projects to address today's challenges, including illiteracy, disease, hunger, poverty, lack of clean water, peace and conflict resolution, and environmental concerns. Back in 1985 Rotary began a mission to eradicate Polio. At that time more than 350,000 children were stricken with Polio every year at a rate of nearly 1,000 people afflicted by the crippling disease every day. Today, the reality is much different. The number of countries which are polio-endemic has been reduced to just three—Afghanistan, Nigeria, and Pakistan. Polio cases have been reduced by 99% to fewer than 700 recorded cases in 2011.

This advancement in health is due to the effort of many governments and charities and even individuals around the world dedicated to public health. But key among them is Rotary which has taken on as one of its central missions a positive initiative to create awareness and to educate the citizens everywhere about the vital importance of eradicating polio worldwide.

Mr. Speaker, on October 24 Rotary Clubs will mark World Polio Day and I commend them on their contribution to the worthy goal of eliminating polio around the globe.

REMEMBERING WALLACE "WALLY" BELL

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 23, 2013

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I am saddened to learn of the death of Wally Bell of Austintown, OH in my Congressional district. Wally Bell was a very well known umpire who

had risen to the highest level of officiating in the MLB. Wally was another great sports product of the Mahoning Valley. I extend my heartfelt sympathy to all of his friends and family.

I submit the following article that appeared in the New York Daily News on October 15.

[From the Associated Press, Oct. 15, 2013]

MLB UMPIRE WALLY BELL DIES OF APPARENT HEART ATTACK AT AGE 48

NEW YORK.—Major League Baseball umpire Wally Bell, who worked the NL playoff series between the Pittsburgh Pirates and St. Louis Cardinals that ended last week, has died. He was 48.

The commissioner's office confirmed Bell's death Monday. He died of an apparent heart attack in his home state of Ohio. "All of us at Major League Baseball are in mourning tonight regarding the sudden passing of Wally Bell," Commissioner Bud Selig said in a statement.

"I always enjoyed seeing Wally, who was a terrific umpire and such an impressive young man. On behalf of our 30 clubs, I extend my deepest condolences to Wally's family, fellow umpires and his many friends throughout the game."

Bell became the first active MLB umpire to die since John McSherry passed away of a heart attack on the field in Cincinnati on opening day in 1996.

Bell worked the 2006 World Series and three All-Star games, including this year's event at Citi Field, where he was stationed at first base. A veteran of 21 big league seasons, he had also worked four league championship series and seven division series since joining the major league staff in 1993.

According to Bell's biography on MLB.com, his proudest moment as a big league umpire was returning to the field after having open heart surgery in 1999. "I am deeply saddened and shocked at the loss of umpire Wally Bell," said Joe Torre, MLB executive vice president for baseball operations.

"Umpiring was his life, and he touched so many people within the game of baseball. Aside from being an accomplished, All-Star-caliber umpire, Wally was a loving dad to his two teenage children. I extend my deepest condolences to them, his girlfriend Renee, the rest of his family and his admirers across Major League Baseball."

Bell was 34 and 2½ weeks from leaving for spring training in 1999 when his heart problem was detected. He had quintuple bypass surgery on Feb. 18, 1999, that left him with an 8-inch scar down the middle of his chest. Two of his arteries had been 100 percent blocked. Two more had been 80 percent blocked, another 70 percent. But he returned to work 11 weeks later in San Diego for a game between the Padres and Atlanta Braves. That night, plate umpire Mark Hirschbeck took the first ball out of play, and planned to have all the umps sign it before presenting the souvenir to Bell.

Seven years later, Bell was behind the plate for Game 3 of the World Series between Detroit and St. Louis at Busch Stadium. During the 2013 regular season, Bell was a member of Tim McClelland's crew.

"Wally was a great umpire, a great partner and a great friend. The umpiring community is deeply saddened by this tragic loss. He will be sorely missed by many," said major league ump Joe West, President of the World Umpires Association.

Bell is survived by his son, Jason, and daughter, Lindsey.

IN TRIBUTE TO HAROLD SHARP

HON. DAVID SCHWEIKERT

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 23, 2013

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Harold Sharp for his 44 years and 3 months of dedicated government service. Arizona is in sincere gratitude for the assistance, guidance, and leadership you have provided for the Federal Aviation Administration for so many years.

HONORING KA JOOG

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 23, 2013

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the organization Ka Joog, and to recognize its contributions to the Somali community of Minnesota through art, education, and political action.

Ka Joog launched in 2007 as an organization with no funding, but with an abundance of energy and dedication. The organizers, led by Mohamed Farah, worked tirelessly to establish an environment where Somali youth could gather and solve problems in their community. Their challenges were abundant—from the language and cultural separation of growing up in a foreign country, to the negative media attention of gang shootings and drug trafficking. The members wanted to help Somali teens "stay away"—the translation of Ka Joog—from "drugs, violence, radicalization and other negative influences, and instead to stay on the right path by attaining higher education and serving and volunteering in their communities."

And in that, they have been phenomenally successful. Last year, Ka Joog was awarded the FBI Director's Community Leadership Award by the FBI's Minneapolis Division, as well as the Ninth Ward's Youth Leader of the Year award. In just six years, Ka Joog has established itself as a political and cultural force in the Twin Cities.

Its programming is diverse and effective. Mentoring groups provide support and guidance to the youngest of the community through workshops, field trips and tutoring. A program called "Invisible Art" fosters discussions through prose, poetry and song, nurturing creativity and effective communication. A summer camp last year provided a new connection to Minnesota's natural environment for disadvantaged Somali youth, many of whom had never left the Twin Cities. Ka Joog regularly hosts conferences and roundtables on issues affecting the Somali community, gathering local, state, and federal officials to discuss gang violence, job opportunities, education, health and medical disparities, and the prevention of terrorism. Not only does their work solve many problems through discussion, coalition building, and personal engagement, it also demonstrates to youth who feel left out of the political process that they too can accomplish their goals by working hard and working together.

Ka Joog has already helped thousands of Minnesota youth, and it is poised to help even