

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO THE CREWS OF THE USS REGISTER AND THE USS INDIANAPOLIS

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 1998

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize that on September 15–21, 1998, survivors of the USS Register and Indianapolis will be having their reunion in El Paso, Texas at the Howard Johnson Lodge.

The USS Indianapolis (CA-35) was commissioned at the Philadelphia Navy Yard on November 15, 1932. The ship served with honor from Pearl Harbor through the last campaign of World War II, sinking in action two weeks before the end of the war. On July 30, 1945, while sailing from Guam to Leyte, the USS Indianapolis was torpedoed by Japanese submarine I-58. The ship capsized and sank in twelve minutes. Survivors were spotted by a patrol aircraft on August 2nd. All air and surface units capable of rescue operations were dispatched to the scene at once. The USS Register was among the several ships involved in the rescue. Upon completion of the day and night search on August 8th, 316 men were rescued out of a crew of 1,199.

The USS Register (APD-92/DE233) served in the Pacific Theater of operation as an attack personnel destroyer during World War II. On May 20, 1945, the ship survived a hit by a Japanese kamikaze plane off the island of Okinawa, sustaining casualties and heavy hull damages, after shooting down three enemy suicide planes. On August 3rd, the USS Register was among eight ships that rescued some survivors of the ill-fated USS Indianapolis.

After distinguished service, the USS Register was decommissioned March 31, 1946 at Green Cove Springs, Florida on the Saint Johns River. In the Spring of 1966 it was struck from the Naval Reserve Fleet and subsequently transferred to the Republic of China Navy and renamed the Tai Shan.

"We the surviving shipmates of the USS Register and the survivors of the USS Indianapolis value the memories of their service in the United States Navy and our shipmates who are no longer with us and are not forgotten for their distinguished service and eternal brotherhood. Rest in peace shipmates. On their behalf, we honor them and Paul James Register, for whom our ship was named for, who was killed in action while serving aboard the ill-fated USS Arizona, December 7, 1941 at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii."

SERVICE MEMBERS OF THE USS REGISTER AND
INDIANAPOLIS

The sailors of the USS Register and Indianapolis served the United States of America with honor and distinction. These veterans of WWII contributed to end the war in the Pacific and the war as a whole. They deserve a page in history, for their story is a reminder of all the servicemen and women who gave their

lives to preserve the freedoms that we take for granted today.

HONORING BRIAN WEIDEL

HON. BOB SCHAFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 1998

Mr. BOB SCHAFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Brian Weidel, a junior at Loveland High School, who recently joined an elite group of Boy Scouts when he earned the Eagle Scout Award. Weidel, a Boy Scout since 1992, joined the 2 percent of all Boy Scouts who attain this high honor. During Weidel's involvement with the Scout Troop 182 in Loveland, he participated in many local community service projects including gathering food for the needy, planting trees and collecting litter.

To reach the rank of Eagle Scout Weidel devised an individual project to construct bird and bat houses and place them along the Loveland Bike Trail. He chose this particular project because he uses the bike trail frequently and realized the impact for everyone who enjoys outdoor recreation along the path.

Weidel plans to continue his involvement with the Eagle Scouts and one day become a troop leader. As a Member of Congress representing the Fourth District of the State of Colorado where Brian Weidel has devoted so much of his time and energy, I am proud to congratulate him for this tremendous honor and wish him future success in any endeavor he seeks to pursue.

I hereby submit for the RECORD a copy of an article from the Loveland Reporter Herald describing Brian's accomplishment.

[From the Loveland (CO) Reporter-Herald,
June 10, 1998]

TRAIL BIRD HOUSES EARN EAGLE SCOUT (By Richelle Kerns)

Brian Weidel, a junior at Loveland High School, recently joined an elite group of Boy Scouts when he earned the Eagle Scout award.

Weidel, a Boy Scout since 1992, is one of 2 percent of all Boy Scouts who become Eagle Scouts.

"I've seen a lot of Eagles, and they get a lot of respect," Weidel said. "They get looked up to."

Weidel's favorite part about being a Scout is being able to participate in a wide variety of outdoor activities. He has been canoeing in the boundary waters of northern Minnesota and Canada, and backpacking at Philmont Scout Ranch in Arizona.

"(Being in Scouts) I've gotten to do a lot of things that I wouldn't have gotten to do if I wasn't in the group," he said.

This summer, Weidel is taking another trip with his troop to Arches National Park and Havasu Falls in the Grand Canyon.

During Weidel's involvement with Scout Troop 182 in Loveland, he has participated in many local community service projects, including gathering food for the needy, planting trees and collecting litter.

For his Eagle Scout project, Weidel constructed bird and bat houses that have been placed along the Loveland Bike Trail.

"I was looking to do something for the Loveland bike trail," Weidel said. "I use it a lot, and I wanted to make it nicer."

Weidel plans to continue with his involvement in Eagle Scouts and become a troop leader.

"I plan to stay on and teach what I've learned to others," he said.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CASS BALLENGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 1998

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, had I been present on June 16 for rollcall votes 232 and 233, I would have voted "yea." As a member of the Education and the Workforce Committee, I was glad that the House voted overwhelmingly in favor of House Resolution 401, putting the House on record against social promotion in America's schools.

HONORING MINNESOTA'S SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AWARD WINNERS

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 1998

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Small Business Administration's award winners from Minnesota. The accomplishments of these ten individuals are impressive, and they deserve recognition for their hard work and dedication.

There is nothing small about starting or owning a small business. In fact, small businesses are what fuel the economy of our nation. In the United States, small businesses employ 53 percent of the private workforce, contribute 47 percent of all sales, are responsible for 50 percent of the gross domestic product and are the principle source of new jobs.

The Small Business Administration has chosen ten Minnesotans whom they recognize as having excelled in various areas of endeavor. I applaud and acknowledge their achievements.

The Welfare to Work Award winner is Dr. Timothy Childs, President of TLC Precision Wafer Technology. This company is one of only a handful of firms worldwide that have perfected the technology to commercially produce gallium arsenide wafers. Besides being a leader in his industry, Dr. Childs established his business in the inner city with the goal of employing local residents. As a result of his dedication, numerous under-employed individuals have developed job skills and now have the means to support their families.

• 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.

The Minority Small Business Advocate Award winner is Jeff Locketz, CPA and partner with the firm of Lurie, Besikof, Apidus & Company. Since 1993, Mr. Locketz and his associates have provided, on a pro bono basis, more than 1,800 hours of professional services to minority entrepreneurs. As a result of his dedication to the advancement of minority entrepreneurship, more than 60 minority-owned firms in the Twin Cities have received professional counseling and training that is vital to the success of their business.

Charles Jones has been recognized as the Veteran Small Business Advocate. Mr. Jones is a vocational rehabilitation specialist with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs Twin Cities Regional Office. Currently, more than 675 veterans receive vocational rehabilitation under his direction. Through this program, veterans receive the training and career counseling needed to get back into the workforce. Vocational rehabilitation at the Department of Veterans Affairs generally involves helping disabled individuals find meaningful jobs. Mr. Jones modifies traditional job placement goals and recognizes self-employment as a realistic objective for some disabled veterans. His continued dedication has provided good jobs for many disabled veterans in his community.

Dee DePass has been recognized as the Media Small Business Advocate. Most recently Ms. DePass has had five years experience as a writer for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. Her intuitive writing addresses important business issues including capital availability, neighborhood business development, the White House Conference on Small Business, and the opportunities and challenges of moving from welfare to work. In addition, Ms. DePass has been a prime mover in organizing and directing urban journalism workshops. These initiatives have given junior and senior high school students hands-on experience in journalism and the broadcast media. Ms. DePass's newspaper efforts have provided a forum and insight into the fabric of small enterprise.

The Small Business Exporter of the Year is Peter Shortridge, President of Northland Organic Foods Corporation. Northland Organic Foods is a leader in exporting organic food products. Through its research, marketing initiatives and educational programs, it has opened doors for new exporting activities and helps to make them available to new exporters entering the market. In addition, ongoing training provides an educational background in exporting, learning to locate distributors. Northland Organic Foods Corporation is continually exploring markets and products that have special added quality, such as the organic foods so much in demand globally.

John Flory, Executive Director of the Whit-tier Community Development Corporation, has been recognized with the Financial Services Advocate of the Year Award. Mr. Flory is a long time advocate for creating new ways to finance hard to serve business entities. In the early 1980's he founded the North County Co-Op Development Fund in response to a handful of local co-op's inability to obtain financing. Through his stewardship, this fund has grown from a modest \$5,000 in assets to \$2 million in assets, serving a ten state area. Perhaps no function is so much needed as credit and financing for new ventures, and Mr. Flory's diligent efforts have led to innovation, effectively financing small businesses.

The Women in Business Advocate is Deb Winsor, the President of Winsor and Associates. This consulting firm specializes in working with financial institutions including credit unions and insurance companies. Ms. Winsor has dedicated a large amount of time and energy in determining exactly what women business owners want and need to become successful in their entrepreneurial endeavors. Upon completion of her research, she began to develop an initial strategy to create a seminar series named "Making Your Dream a Reality". Over the past two years, this program has provided thousands of hours of training, education and resources to over 300 business owners, and that translates into success.

Vernon Schmitz and Troy Leesberg, the President and Vice President of Greatland Cable TV Communications, Inc. are the Young Entrepreneur of the Year award recipients. The cable television construction industry is presently a booming business. This success is highlighted by the many private cable operators who are in the process of or planning for upgrades in their present systems. Greatland's payroll and number of employees has substantially increased since the first year. Currently, Greatland employs 8 people and plans to add 16 to 20 more employees. By utilizing their education and experience in the cable industry, Mr. Schmitz and Mr. Leesberg have been able to maintain quality service at competitive prices, while at the same time providing a great work environment.

I would especially like to congratulate Sue McCloskey, who has been named the 1998 Minnesota Small Business Person of the Year. Ms. McCloskey is the President and founder of Office Plan, a remanufacturer of office furniture. I've known Sue McCloskey as a civic election activist who has been very helpful to me personally, and many others. Starting her business in 1991 with three partners and one employee, she currently employs 33 personnel and has an annual revenue of \$4.5 million. Environmental sensitivity is a hallmark of Office Plan. Work fabric is recycled or sent out to be made into industrial rags. Recycled products and environmentally sensitive materials are used in production whenever possible. Our state and community takes great pride in Ms. McCloskey's success and we are pleased with this well-deserved recognition.

Thanks to the stewardship and dedication of all these small business talents, the spirit of entrepreneurship is alive and flourishing in Minnesota. My congratulations to the award recipients and to all small businesses in the state of Minnesota.

TRIBUTE TO RONALD WATERS

HON. FLOYD SPENCE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 1998

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of the House the heroic actions of Mr. Ronald Waters, of Lexington, South Carolina. Last September, Mr. Waters was traveling on Interstate 95, near Fayetteville, North Carolina, when he noticed a North Carolina Highway Patrol officer lying face down next to his patrol car, which had blue lights flashing. Nearby, were a Cumberland County Sheriff's patrol car and another vehicle. He

also observed two men moving between the patrol cars. Mr. Waters contacted emergency assistance from his cellular telephone and he stopped his vehicle. As he looked back, he heard shots being fired. At the scene, Highway Trooper Ed Lowry and Sheriff's Deputy David Hathcock were dead. While maintaining contact with the 911 dispatchers, Mr. Waters followed the two men as they left the scene and he tracked them as they traveled on and off of the Interstate highway. At one point, shots were fired from the suspect vehicle at Mr. Waters' vehicle, which disabled the Waters' vehicle. The bullets punctured a tire, hit the rear bumper, and severed a wire to the fuel pump of the vehicle which Mr. Waters was driving. Then, the suspect vehicle pulled alongside of Mr. Waters and one of the men aimed an AK-47 at him. Fortunately, the rifle jammed and the suspect vehicle drove off. However, Mr. Waters later observed that, when faced with a rifle being aimed at him at close range, he feared that he would never again see his wife and his infant son.

The information that was provided by Mr. Waters allowed law enforcement officers to apprehend the two suspects on charges of first-degree murder. At great risk to his own personal safety, Mr. Waters became involved in a tragic situation. Due to his actions, law enforcement officers were able to capture the persons who are suspected of the deaths of two law enforcement officers and, also, to prevent possible further injury to others. For his selfless actions, the Governor of South Carolina presented Mr. Waters with our State's highest civilian honor, The Order of the Palmetto.

Ronald Waters is a shining example of someone who answered the call of duty to his fellow man. He is truly a great American.

TAX REFORM

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 1998

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, as the House of Representatives continues the debate over tax reform, giving the states the flexibility they need to efficiently conduct their business must be a priority.

I hope my colleagues will seriously reflect on the wishes of the Colorado people as expressed by our state Legislature. I submit for the RECORD the text of this Memorial:

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 98-001

By Senators Coffman, Alexander, Ament, Arnold, Bishop, Blickensderfer, Chlouber, Congrove, Dennis, Feeley, Hernandez, Hopper, Johnson, Lacy, Lamborn, Linkhart, Martinez, Matsunaka, Mutzebaugh, Norton, Pascoe, Perlmutter, Phillips, Powers, Reeves, Rizzuto, Rupert, Schroeder, Tanner, Tebedo, Thiebaut, Wattenberg, Weddig, Wells, and Wham;

Also Representatives Adkins, Agler, K. Alexander, Allen, Anderson, Arrington, Bacon, C. Berry, G. Berry, Chavez, Clarke, Dean, Dyer, Entz, Epps, Faatz, George, Gordon, Gotlieb, Grampas, Grossman, Hagedorn, Hefley, S. Johnson, June, Kaufman, Keller, Kreutz, Lawrence, Leyba, Mace, May, McElhany, McPherson, Miller, Morrison, Musgrave, Nichol, Owen, Pankey, Paschall, Pfiffner, Reeser, Romero, Salaz, Saliman, Schauer, Sinclair, Smith, Snyder, Spradley,