

provided the initial loan to establish the auxiliary. Over the past five decades, the auxiliary has successfully continued to raise funds to benefit both the fire company and the town of Clayton. A junior program for 16 to 18-year-olds was created in 1973, and today, membership in the Clayton Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary has grown to over 70 women, including 35 life members.

On this 50th Anniversary, I would like to recognize the unequalled devotion of the Clayton Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary. Since 1959, the women of the auxiliary have volunteered their time, their energy, and their hearts in support of the Clayton Fire Company and its surrounding community. I commend them for their tireless dedication and immeasurable contributions, and I wish them all the best on this momentous anniversary.

GENERATIONS INVIGORATING VOLUNTEERISM AND EDUCATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 18, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1388) to reauthorize and reform the national service laws:

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Chair, I rise to oppose H.R. 1388. The idea that it is legitimate for the federal government to take money from one group of citizens and use that money to bribe other citizens into performing "national service" violates the basic moral principles of individual liberty that this country was founded upon.

I would make three points to those of my colleagues who try to justify this bill by saying that participation in the programs are voluntary. First, participation in the program is not voluntary for the taxpayers. Second, nothing in the bill prevents federal taxpayer dollars from being used to support state and local programs that force children to perform "community service" as a condition of graduating from high school. Because an increasing number of schools across the nation are forcing children to provide "service" as a condition of graduating, it is quite likely that the funds authorized by this bill will be used to support mandatory service. Third, and most importantly, by legitimizing the idea that it is an appropriate role for the government to promote "service," legislation such as H.R. 1388 opens the door for mandatory national service. Today, influential voices in both major parties are calling for a national program of mandatory service as well as a resumption of the military draft. With the increased need for more troops for the administration's expanded military adventurism in Afghanistan, as well as the continuing movement to conscript young people not eligible for military service to serve the government at home, can anyone doubt that this bill is only the down payment on a much larger program of mandatory national service?

The moral case against national service was eloquently expressed by former President Ronald Reagan in the publication *Human Events* in 1979: "... it [national service and conscription] rests on the assumption that your

kids belong to the state. If we buy that assumption then it is for the state—not for parents, the community, the religious institutions or teachers—to decide who shall have what values and who shall do what work, when, where and how in our society. That assumption isn't a new one. The Nazis thought it was a great idea."

Mr. Chair, millions of Americans including many young people, are already volunteering their time and talents to help their fellow citizens and better their communities without being bribed by the government. In fact, to suggest that the young Americans need a federal check as an incentive to volunteer is an insult to the American people. I hope all my colleagues to join me in standing up for individual liberty, the great American tradition of true volunteerism, and the Constitution by opposing H.R. 1388.

A TRIBUTE TO BETHEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF PASADENA

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 19, 2009

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Bethel Missionary Baptist Church of Pasadena, California. Bethel Missionary Baptist Church is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary with the theme "The Church—Moving Forward in the Power of the Holy Spirit."

Established in February 1959, under the leadership of Reverend Freeman S. Stevens with seventeen members, Bethel Missionary Baptist Church was formally recognized in June of that year as a constituted Baptist Church. For a few months, the church held services at the Pasadena Buddhist Church and with Dr. J. W. Coleman at Community Baptist Church in Pasadena. In December of 1959, Reverend Stevens and church members moved into a small frame house at 1972 N. Fair Oaks Avenue in Pasadena, and with the assistance of architect Luther Eskijian, constructed a new church at the site.

Continuing to grow, the church underwent many renovations over the years, including the purchase of the adjacent property in 1984 which allowed for expansion and a major renovation of the church in 2007 under the leadership of the current pastor, Pastor John T. McCall.

Since its inception, Bethel Missionary Baptist Church has provided spiritual guidance and tangible support to the Altadena and Pasadena community. Some of the church's many programs include the Youth Scholarship Fund instituted by the last Pastor Kurling C. Robinson and Wednesday Family Night, established by Pastor John T. McCall. Other services include a food pantry for the community, Project Fatherhood—a mentoring program for fathers, a youth summer program and a youth fellowship group. In addition, the church actively supports D'veal Family and Youth Services agency's programs such as the Alive and Free Violence Intervention and Prevention program.

I consider it a great privilege to recognize Bethel Missionary Baptist Church on its fiftieth anniversary and I ask all Members to join me in congratulating the congregation for their fifty years of service to the community.

SUPPORT OF A BILL TO AMEND THE RADIATION EXPOSURE COMPENSATION ACT TO INCLUDE THE TERRITORY OF GUAM IN THE LIST OF AFFECTED AREAS WITH RESPECT TO WHICH CLAIMS RELATING TO ATMOSPHERE NUCLEAR TESTING SHALL BE ALLOWED

HON. MADELINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 19, 2009

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, today I have reintroduced a bill that would amend the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act, RECA, to include Guam in the list of affected areas for claims regarding and relating to atmospheric testing of nuclear weapons. My bill addresses a serious concern about the downwind affects of such testing that was conducted by the United States Government in the Marshall Islands from 1946 through 1962. This is an issue that concerns many of my constituents, and the bill I have reintroduced today would provide an avenue for redress and compensation for any illnesses that may have been contracted by individuals who resided on Guam during the testing period.

On April 27, 2005, a special committee of the Board of Radiation Effects Research of the National Research Council of the National Academies submitted a report to Congress entitled the "Assessment of the Scientific Information for the Radiation Exposure Screening and Education Program." The report, which was the result of a Congressional directive, stated, "As a result of its analysis, the committee concludes that Guam did receive measurable fallout from atmospheric testing of nuclear weapons in the Pacific. Residents of Guam during that period should be eligible for compensation under RECA in a way similar to that of persons considered to be downwinders." This is a critical finding.

The bill I have reintroduced today directly acts on this finding and would provide a process by which such residents of Guam who may have been affected by radiation fallout from the Pacific tests can file compensable claims under RECA with the Department of Justice. The bill conforms to the current process under RECA that is utilized for residents of certain counties in the Western United States mainland that were similarly affected and downwind of other atmospheric nuclear weapons testing conducted by the United States Government.

In reintroducing this legislation today I recognize the Pacific Association for Radiation Survivors, PARS, for their work and dedication to addressing this issue. Their support and continued efforts in raising public awareness about the legacy of United States testing of nuclear weapons in the Pacific is making a difference in our community and provides an informed basis from which we should take up our work in Congress to amend RECA.

I look forward to working with the Committee on the Judiciary in reviewing this legislation and the findings of the Committee to Assess the Scientific Information for the Radiation Exposure Screening and Education Program. I also look forward to this bill becoming law so that justice may be brought to those individuals who were adversely affected by the

atmospheric nuclear tests that were conducted by the United States Government in the Pacific.

HONORING THE ESCANABA DAILY PRESS ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 19, 2009

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the Escanaba Daily Press on its 100th anniversary. The Daily Press has survived the ups and downs the newspaper industry has faced over the past century and watched several local competitors fold, yet remained as a strong and independent voice for the Escanaba, Delta County and Schoolcraft County communities. Madam Speaker, I ask that you and the entire U.S. House of Representatives join me in honoring the Escanaba Daily Press and the men and women, past and present, who work so hard every day to bring the community its news on this historic milestone.

In 1909 the Escanaba Morning Press was founded by John Norton and Herbert Little. After only a few months of operation, Little left and Norton took over sole management of the paper. The first edition of the Morning Press was published on March 19, 1909 at 1119 Ludington Street. Within two years the paper was moved to its present building at 600 Ludington Street where it has operated ever since.

In 1922 the Escanaba Morning Press changed its name to the Escanaba Daily Press and became an afternoon paper on September 29, 1947. In 1954 the paper was sold to Frank Russell of Marquette, Michigan and George Osborn of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. In 1966 it was purchased by the Panax Corporation, which sold the Daily Press to Thomson Newspapers in 1980. Since 1998 the Escanaba Daily Press has been under the ownership of Ogden Newspapers.

Despite changes in ownership over the years, the Daily Press has remained an independent voice for the people of Escanaba and all of Delta and Schoolcraft Counties. As community newspapers across the country have confronted consolidation, closure and downsizing, the Daily Press keeps going strong because of this independent voice and the trust of their readers.

In the late 1970s it was the reporting of the Daily Press in a series on insurance scams that was the driving force in updating state insurance laws. In 1988 the Daily Press won the Associated Press sweepstakes award for doing the best work of any paper of its size in Michigan for a series on the shotgun slaying of four family members and the subsequent week-long search in local woods by the FBI for the suspect and his kidnapped ex-wife.

The Daily Press has won countless awards over the years for editorial writing. In one contest, Michigan Press Association judges said they were "well written editorials that take a clear position even when those positions might be unpopular." In another instance, the MPA wrote that the "Daily Press takes seriously its role as a government watchdog." In an AP annual news writing contest, judges commented, "Every editorial submitted dealt with local

issues, with two taking aim at city government. These are issues that newspaper editorial pages are supposed to address. Good job."

Madam Speaker, newspapers like the Escanaba Daily Press are a vital part of our communities. Their reporting is a valuable resource in tracking the history of our communities, reflecting and reporting on our daily lives. The Daily Press has served the Escanaba community and all of Delta and Schoolcraft Counties well over the past century. I ask that you, Madam Speaker, and the entire U.S. House of Representatives, join me in congratulating the Escanaba Daily Press and its past and present staff on 100 years of operation.

GENERATIONS INVIGORATING VOLUNTEERISM AND EDUCATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 18, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1388) to reauthorize and reform the national service laws:

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of the Generations Invigorating Volunteerism and Education (GIVE) Act which will renew our nation's commitment to service and volunteerism. Public service is something my family knows a little bit about. Countless Americans were called to public service by President Kennedy's famous appeal: "Ask not what your country can do for you but what you can do for your country." It is my hope that with the passage of the GIVE Act, Congress and President Obama will create a new era of public service that goes beyond any one group or generation. The bill we are considering today expands opportunities for volunteerism to include disadvantaged youth, seniors and people with disabilities. If we are going to regain a sense of community and shared responsibility in this country, we must encourage national service among all people. I'm a strong believer in the abilities of the American people to confront our biggest challenges with perhaps our biggest asset: our manpower.

The creation of new programs like the Clean Energy Corps, to focus on environmental conservation, will work with our economy as we forge a new direction on energy. I am pleased that this bill provides new incentives for middle and high school students to volunteer in their communities, and will allow them to earn a \$500 education award to be used for college costs. In addition, this legislation will increase the number of AmeriCorps volunteers and increase the education reward they receive to match the maximum Pell Grant scholarship award.

The benefits that this legislation would bring to our struggling communities, across this country, and in my home state of Rhode Island, are endless. When President Obama took office just a few short months ago, he called upon Congress to expand federally funded national service opportunities. Today, we fulfill that promise. I am proud to vote in favor of this bill.

A TRIBUTE TO JULI COSTANZO

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 19, 2009

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Juli Costanzo of San Gabriel, California. Every March we celebrate Women's History Month in recognition of the contributions and the sacrifices made by our nation's women. Accordingly it is my privilege to highlight Mrs. Costanzo as a woman whose extraordinary efforts are vital to my district.

Born in nearby Glendale, California, Juli first moved to San Gabriel in 1965. She began as the Owner and Manager of a local small business, Hammy's Hamburgers, went on to become the Executive Director and President of the San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce, and now has served as a San Gabriel City Council member since March of 2003. Juli is a past mayor of the City and is also the Vice President of her family's current small business, Champion Sports Collectables, Inc.

Juli's rise to the apex of San Gabriel leadership can be attributed to her unrelenting devotion to the economic and social welfare of her community. She has served as a board member and event coordinator for numerous local organizations, from the San Gabriel Mission Elementary School Board to the Mission District Mercado and the joint Family Festival and Farmers Market. In her role as a San Gabriel Parks and Recreation Commissioner, Juli helped maintain and improve the integrity of the City's beloved and historic public spaces.

In addition to Juli's City and small business endeavors, she remains an active community member. Whether assisting the San Gabriel Police Department's Neighborhood Watch Program and the San Gabriel Community Coordinating Council, supporting the West San Gabriel Valley YMCA and the Mission District Partnership, or just attending an AYSO Region 40 game, Juli is an ideal example of a friendly face and a helping hand.

Her steadfast dedication and selfless service are an invaluable addition to the legacy of Women's History Month. With gratitude and admiration, I ask all Members of Congress to join me in honoring an extraordinary woman of California's 29th Congressional District, Mrs. Juli Costanzo.

INTRODUCTION OF NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT AND ECONOMIC CONVERSION ACT OF 2009

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 19, 2009

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I am again introducing the Nuclear Disarmament and Economic Conversion Act (NDECA), as I have done since 1994, after working with the residents who were responsible for a ballot initiative passed by D.C. voters in 1993. NDECA requires the United States to disable and dismantle its nuclear weapons when all other nations possessing nuclear weapons enact laws to do the same. NDECA further provides that when U.S. nuclear weapons are dismantled, the resources for supporting nuclear weapon