

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO NORTHEAST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY

HON. HAROLD L. VOLKMER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 1996

Mr. VOLKMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Northeast Missouri State University in Kirksville, MO, and to inform my colleagues of the university's exciting new name, Truman State University. The university's commitment to excellence has been recognized nationally, and with its mission as Missouri's liberal arts and sciences university, it is only fitting that its name honor the State's most famous native son, Harry S Truman.

Like President Truman, the university had humble beginnings when it was founded by Joseph Baldwin in 1867, as Missouri's first Normal School. In 1870, the Normal School graduating class numbered 15 students. In 1996, approximately 1,200 students will graduate from Northeast Missouri State University. Since its founding the university has educated more than 45,000 graduates who can be found in every State and throughout the world pursuing careers in education, sciences, public service, business, law, and the arts.

In addition to this explosive growth the university has expanded into new fields of study since those first graduates. In recognition of the university's strong emphasis on the liberal arts and sciences, it was designated Missouri's official liberal arts and sciences university by the Missouri State Legislature in 1986. Northeast has also distinguished itself as a leader in student achievement and has been repeatedly recognized as a national leader in excellent, cost-effective, education.

On July 1, 1996, Northeast Missouri State University will officially become Truman State University. It is with this change in mind that I offer my warmest congratulations on more than a century of outstanding education and the hope that Truman State will enjoy continued success as Missouri's liberal arts and science university.

TRIBUTE TO THE SOUTH JERSEY RADIO ASSOCIATION

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 1996

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to the South Jersey Radio Association [SJRA], which is celebrating its 80th anniversary this year. The importance of radio in this society is intangible. From reporting news stories at critical moments to stretching our mental capabilities with thoughtful commentary, the radio has played an integral role in the development of this Nation. As the oldest active amateur radio club in the United

States, the South Jersey Radio Association built the foundation of the radio industry.

The SJRA, originally known as the South Jersey Wireless Association, first met on June 12, 1916 at the home of William G. Phillips in Collingswood, NJ. The meeting was composed of 13 ambitious individuals who were eager to learn more about the technical development and operation of wireless communication. Harry William Densham presided at this historic meeting which was attended by William G. Phillips, George Haldeman, C. Waldo Batchelor, Leon W. Ashton, William A.F. Pyle, Gordon Kressel, William L. Kirby, Edward B. Patterson, Henry Wetzel, Henry S. Byam, Taylor Stokes, and Roger W. Barrington. The South Jersey Wireless Association grew in size to 40 individuals by the time World War I began. The group responded to the growing need of wireless operators brought about by the war by conducting a wireless school in the physics lab of the Collingswood High School. After the course, many members of the club went on to advanced training at the Harvard University Radio School. Soon after the war, the activity of the association declined because of the rise in broadcasting and neighborhood annoyance over interference from local wireless telegraph stations. However, a small group of dedicated pioneers still met at each others homes to continue their pursuit. During this time, Normal Wible, a member of the SJRA, gained national prominence by being the first North American amateur to communicate with a South American over shortwave and vacuum tube transmitters. This event rejuvenated the club and gave rise to what is now known as amateur radio. On March 17, 1932, the SJRA received a station license with the call number W3CTV. Twenty-one years after its inception, the association became incorporated under New Jersey law on March 17, 1932.

Over the past 80 years, the SJRA has taken the initiative to promote amateur radio. In 1993, they developed a special program to introduce amateur radio to over 2,000 fourth, fifth and sixth graders. The program set up an amateur station in each classroom and encouraged the students to talk with amateurs through the various pieces of equipment such as the SJRA repeater. SJRA members have also assisted in many special events such as the New Jersey Fall Festival, the New Jersey Apple Festival, and the New Jersey Cranberry Festival. The service of the SJRA to the community makes them worthy of special recognition.

I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the South Jersey Radio Association, an organization which has devoted its time and energy to the promotion of radio in the United States. With over 250 current members, the association has come a long way since its humble beginning back in 1916. I applaud the dedication of such an outstanding organization and I wish them continued success in the future.

INTRODUCTION OF THE POSTAL REFORM ACT OF 1996

HON. JOHN M. MCHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 1996

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, Monday, July 1, 1996, will mark the beginning of the 26th year of operations for the U.S. Postal Service under the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970. That act has worked well for the past 25 years. However, changing market conditions and advances in communications technology necessitate that Congress revisit the legislative infrastructure of the Postal Service to ensure its continued viability and financial well-being into the next century.

Today I am introducing the Postal Reform Act of 1996. This measure represents the first comprehensive reform effort involving the U.S. Postal Service since 1970. For the past year and a half the Subcommittee on the Postal Service, which I chair, has conducted in-depth and lengthy hearings on the U.S. Postal Service. During these hearings we heard from more than 60 witnesses representing all facets of the postal community. In addition, I have had the opportunity to meet with a variety of individual postal customers, postal employees, and business leaders from some of our Nation's major corporations regarding postal affairs. I have listened and attempted to absorb the varying comments and interests put forth on and off the record. Ideally, this legislation addresses many of those issues.

Before outlining the details of the bill, let me say that the one central point of consensus in all my discussions has been the continuing need to maintain universal postal service to all of our citizens at a uniform, affordable rate. Coming as I do from a predominantly rural area, I believe that maintenance of a universal postal system is the cornerstone of any reform measure. I strongly believe universal service at reasonable rates remains the primary mission of the U.S. Postal Service. However, shifting mail volumes and stagnant postal revenue growth require Congress to reexamine the statutory structure under which our current postal system now operates if we are to maintain this important public service mission.

During the conducting of our oversight hearings, the subcommittee heard a number of witnesses describe methods of communications that were not imaginable in 1970. At that time, who could have foreseen the explosion of personal computers, the Internet, and facsimile machines as methods of communication? There has been a steady erosion of what used to be standard correspondence moving through the U.S. Mail that now moves electronically or via carriage by a number of private urgent mail carriers.

According to reports of the General Accounting Office, the U.S. Postal Service controlled virtually all of the express mail market in the early 1970's; by 1995 its share had

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