

united in marriage April 30, 1949, and are celebrating 56 years of marriage; and

Whereas, Frank and Mary Fregiato were married April 30, 1949, at the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Wellsville, OH; and

Whereas, Frank and Mary Fregiato are the loving parents of two children and four grandchildren.

Therefore, I join with the residents of Martins Ferry, and the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating Frank and Mary Fregiato as they celebrate their 56th Wedding Anniversary.

RECOGNIZING DR. TEX MONIF, MS. KAREN HICKS, VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF OF WINNEBAGO DENTAL CLINIC

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 19, 2005

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, I wish to draw attention to the splendid contributions of Dr. Rex Monif, Director of the Winnebago Dental Clinic, and Karen Hicks, RDH, the Senior Dental Hygienist for the Clinic.

Through their efforts, they have been addressing in a meaningful way the dental health needs of the Winnebago tribe of Nebraska.

In March 2005 Dr. Monif and Ms. Hicks recruited 17 dental hygiene students from Iowa Western Community College, in affiliation with Creighton University, who volunteered as clinicians at the Winnebago Clinic.

The group conducted the first annual Children's Dental Sealant Project at the Winnebago Dental Clinic. As part of the project, they performed dental examinations, sealant placements, and fluoride treatments for students at the Winnebago Public School and St. Augustine School.

During the two-day project 320 children were examined and 1,300 sealants were placed. Most of the children also received a fluoride treatment. Parents were alerted to the need for further dental care for those students who were found to need follow-up dental care.

It is a pleasure to recognize Dr. Rex Monif, Ms. Karen Hicks, and the dedicated volunteers and professionals who have been and continue to devote their efforts to the improvement of dental health of the children of the Winnebago Reservation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 19, 2005

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 380, 381, and 382, I was delayed due to flight problems. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all three.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING MARION STEWART ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 19, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Marion was born in New Cumberland, West Virginia on July 19, 1905 and is celebrating her 100th birthday; and

Whereas, Marion Stewart, a graduate of Ohio University in Education, teaching kindergarten and first grade for many years; and

Whereas, Marion Stewart was a faithful and committed member of the Daughters of the American Revolution for 82 years; and

Whereas, Marion Stewart has dedicated her time to the Girl Scouts, Sunday School teaching, service activities, Beacon House activities, where she resides, and the Retired Teachers Association.

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in wishing Marion Stewart a very happy 100th birthday.

INTRODUCTION OF THE THOMASINA E. JORDAN INDIAN TRIBES OF VIRGINIA FEDERAL RECOGNITION ACT

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 19, 2005

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, last week representatives and leaders of Virginia's Native American tribes left their communities and flew to England to participate in ceremonies that are a prelude to the 400th anniversary of the first permanent English settlement in America. Some of the distinguished Virginia residents who are making this trip are the blood descendants and leaders of the surviving 25 tribes that once were a part of the Great Powhatan Confederacy that initially helped sustain the colonists during their difficult first years at Jamestown. Virginia's best known Indian, Pocahontas, traveled to England in 1617 with her husband John Rolfe and was received by English royalty. She died a year later of smallpox and is buried in the chapel of the parish church in Gravesend, England.

My colleagues, there is tragic irony that while the Kings and Queens of England have recognized the Virginia tribes, starting with Pocahontas and affirmatively with the Treaty of 1677, the United States Government has not. Today, the Virginia tribes even sport a T-shirt that says, "First to welcome, last to be recognized."

Mr. Speaker, it's long past time for Virginia's Native American people to be recognized by the Federal Government. Joining me today are my fellow Virginians: Representatives JO ANN DAVIS, TOM DAVIS, BOBBY SCOTT, and Representative DALE KILDEE, in introducing the "Thomasina E. Jordan Indian Tribes of Virginia Federal Recognition Act." This legislation will grant Federal recognition to six Indian tribes in Virginia: the Chickahominy Tribe, Chickahominy Indian Tribe Eastern Division,

the Upper Mattaponi, the Rappahannock Tribe, the Monacan Tribe, and the Nansemond Tribe.

As we approach the 400th anniversary of Jamestown, we are long overdue in recognizing the direct descendants of the Native Americans, who met these settlers. We must acknowledge these historic tribes, they have endured and remain a significant part of Virginia's heritage. Together, the men and women of these tribes represent a long neglected part of our Nation's history.

Like much of our early history as a nation, the Virginia tribes were subdued, pushed off their land, and, up through much of the 20th century, denied their full rights as U.S. citizens. Despite their devastating loss of land and population, the Virginia Indians successfully overcame years of racial discrimination that denied them equal opportunities to pursue their full rights as citizens of the United States, from public education, the right to vote, and even the most basic right to claim their own identity.

That story of survival doesn't encompass decades, it spans centuries of racial hostility and coercive State and State-sanctioned actions. Unlike most tribes that resisted encroachment and obtained Federal recognition when they signed peace treaties with the Federal Government, Virginia's six tribes signed their peace treaties with the Kings of England. Most notable among these was the Treaty of 1677 between these tribes and Charles the II.

In more recent times, this racial hostility culminated with the enactment and brutal enforcement of Virginia's Racial Integrity Act of 1924. This act empowered zealots, like Walter Plecker, a state official, to destroy records and reclassify in Orwellian fashion all non-whites as "colored." To call yourself a "Native American" in Virginia was to risk a jail sentence of up to 1 year. Married couples were denied marriage certificates and were unable to obtain the release of their newborn child from a hospital until they changed their ethnicity on the State record to read "colored," not "Native American." For much of the 20th century admission to public schools was denied. Even after federally enforced integration, the State and localities refused to provide bus service to the public high schools. These and other indignities are part of a shameful legacy experienced in our lifetime.

More to the point, this legacy has also complicated these tribes' quest for Federal recognition, making it difficult to furnish corroborating State and official documents. It wasn't until 1997 when then Governor George Allen signed legislation directing state agencies to correct State records that had deliberately been altered to list Virginia Indians on official State documents as "colored." I am proud to say that Senator ALLEN and Senator WARNER are two of Virginia's strongest advocates for seeking a legislative remedy for the Federal Government to recognize these tribes.

Federal recognition would provide what the government has long denied, legal protections and financial obligations, including certain social services and benefits the Federal Government provides the 562-recognized tribes.

I know that the gambling issue may be at the forefront of some people's concerns. For some of my colleagues there are sincere concerns about the morality and destructive effects of gaming. For others, it has been a convenient excuse to look no further and keep a closed mind.