

A TRIBUTE TO CAPT. IAN WALSH

**HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 14, 1995*

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, at 2:08 a.m. Central European time, on June 8, 1995, history was made. With unparalleled perfection that only comes with countless hours of training and preparation, a team of U.S. Marines rescued Air Force Capt. Scott O'Grady from behind enemy lines in Bosnia.

Among the Marines who risked their lives to save Captain O'Grady was Capt. Ian Walsh, whose parents, Laurence and Ellen, live in my congressional district in Providence, R.I. Captain Walsh, 28, who piloted the Cobra attack helicopter which led the rescue mission, is no stranger to life-threatening missions. Having flown in Somalia and Haiti, Captain Walsh has made a typical day's work out of flying into hostile territory.

The rescue of Capt. Scott O'Grady, who courageously eluded the enemy for 6 days, was by no means simple. Captain Walsh had to not only fly through dense fog and had to remain extremely low in order to avoid mountain ranges and power lines, but he also encountered missile and gun fire from the Serbians. All this was worth it in once Captain Walsh made the first audio contact with the downed fighter pilot. As Captain Walsh related later to the Providence Journal-Bulletin, "It's one of those things you train and train and train, and you finally execute, and it pays off. I feel like I've actually made a difference—helped pull a guy out and saved his life. And that to me is probably the best feeling anybody could have."

With Captain O'Grady back in friendly hands, there is indeed much to celebrate. In our joy, however, we should not forget that men and women are still putting their lives on the line for our country every day. They are truly heroes and should be recognized as such. I am proud to say that Capt. Ian Walsh is one of them.

As Captain Walsh finishes the remaining 3 months of his tour stationed off the embattled shores of Bosnia, I want to let him know that this country and his friends are behind him. I wish for Ian a safe tour and speedy return home for one of Rhode Island's true heroes. I also offer best wishes to his wife, Charlotte of North Carolina, and his parents, Laurence and Ellen, all of whom must be very proud of Ian's dedication and service to his country.

IN RECOGNITION OF SAN LUIS OBISPO MOZART FESTIVAL—25TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ANDREA H. SEASTRAND**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 14, 1995*

Mrs. SEASTRAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleagues to join with the 22d Congressional District of California as we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the San Luis Obispo Mozart Festival. Presented during the weeks of July 21 through August 6, 1995, the festival is a superior salute to the music and life of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

Over the past 25 years, San Luis Obispo residents and tourists from all over the world have enjoyed the festival's performances of works by composers of classical to contemporary. Audiences have a rare privilege to enjoy some of the greatest compositions of all time surrounded by the serenity and beauty of the San Luis Obispo County landscape. From vineyards to music halls and from quaint chapels to the historic Mission of San Luis Obispo de Tolosa, music lovers keep coming back year after year to enjoy the festival.

The San Luis Obispo Mozart Festival is also well known for its educational programs conducted in and around the performances. For adults, there is an Akademie lecture series which features music scholars from throughout the Nation. And for the children, the Akidamie provides an excellent opportunity for young people to gain an appreciation for music.

So, as the 22d Congressional District of California gears up for the 25th anniversary of the San Luis Obispo Mozart Festival, I remind my colleagues that they are all invited to the central coast to enjoy this truly classic event. And to the festival itself, I say congratulations on a successful history and good luck for continued success in the future.

TRIBUTE TO VFW POST NO. 4087 AUXILIARY

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 14, 1995*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to rise before you today to pay tribute to a very important organization in my district. The Davison Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, Post No. 4087 received its charter on June 24, 1945. I congratulate the auxiliary as it celebrates its 50th anniversary on June 24, 1995, and thank them for their many years of dedicated service to the community. The auxiliary was originally formed around a mutual desire to serve the community.

The auxiliary is known throughout the entire country for their involvement in projects that touch many lives. One of the first projects the auxiliary accomplished was distributing toys to needy children at Christmas. That original gesture of generosity has not only prevailed, it has expanded into many other programs to assist the needy. Individuals, families, and particularly children have benefited as a result of the magnanimity of the auxiliary. Clothing, toys, food, scholarships, and athletic equipment have been provided when and where needed. Various youth groups have been advantaged by the auxiliary's largesse. Essential items, equipment, and extended use of Post No. 4087's building, and other facilities have been made readily available to those groups.

The Davison Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, Post No. 4087 has traveled long distances, and donated many hours of time visiting veterans hospitals. These visits have served as a topic to the veteran who has been hospitalized as a result of illness, or from wounds received as a result of military service. The auxiliary has helped to carry the message of freedom by sponsoring the Voice of Democracy Program, and sponsoring flag presentations to local schools. The auxiliary color guard was formed in 1983, and since

then, has been invited to participate in parades and ceremonies throughout Michigan. The auxiliary color guard has also been the source of pride to the Davison community, as it has been the winner of numerous State and national awards, trophies, and commendations. The accomplishments of the auxiliary are too lengthy to list today. Suffice it to say they are great, and they are many.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I stand before you today, asking you and my fellow Members of Congress to honor the Davison Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, Post No. 4087. For 50 years they have stood firmly behind their commitment to each other, the community, and this Nation. Their steadfast devotion to promoting the human dignity of all Americans serves as inspiration to us all.

CELEBRATING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF BUREAU OF RECLAMATION COMMISSIONER DANIEL P. BEARD

**HON. BILL RICHARDSON**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 14, 1995*

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my high regard and appreciation for the performance and accomplishments of Daniel P. Beard and my sadness at his decision to resign from his position as Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner.

As many of my colleagues may remember, prior to his current service in the Department of Interior, Mr. Beard was a staff member in both the House and Senate, serving as administrative assistant to Senator Max Baucus and staff director for the Subcommittee on Water, Power and Offshore Energy Resources, and the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs. In his 2 years with the Bureau of Reclamation, he has served his country with distinction and unparalleled effectiveness.

As Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation, Dan was instrumental in turning the Bureau around and making it one of the premier agencies of the Department of Interior. In fact, Vice President Gore awarded the Bureau a Reinvention Hammer Award in 1994 for its reduced budget and effective downsizing of employees.

Commissioner Beard should be very proud of how well he has achieved his goal to make the Bureau of Reclamation the preeminent water resource management agency in the world. Dan led the Bureau to establish and support water conservation projects throughout the West, such as projects to bring new, drought-resistant water supplies to communities in arid areas, particularly in southern California. The Bureau also implemented a native American trust asset project policy and substantially expanded technical assistance to native American tribes in the West.

Our Bureau reforms instituted by Dan include a revision of agency operations to delegate greater decisionmaking authority to field personnel and the involvement of headquarters in everyday operating decisions. These changes have resulted in the elimination of several layers of management within the Bureau and the reduction of redtape. It is fair to say that customer service is now the foundation for the Bureau's operations.