

TRIBUTE TO CONNIE ANN
VEILLETTE

HON. RALPH REGULA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2003

Mr. REGULA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Connie Veillette for her 20 years of dedicated public service in my Washington, D.C. office and to the people of Ohio's 16th Congressional district.

Connie began her career in my office just after completion of her college degree from Ohio University in 1982. Over the next 20 years, she became a vital member of my office staff, handling policy issues as diverse as foreign affairs and transportation. Connie also served as a key staff person handling Appropriations Subcommittee work in my office. Over the past 10 years, Connie has served as my Chief of Staff. In this role she managed the Washington office and oversaw the District offices, she acted as my principal policy advisor and continued to advise me on foreign policy matters, she served as my press secretary and coordinated all Ohio Delegation matters. During her tenure in my office I have valued her excellent management skills and relied on her good judgment with regard to policy and political matters.

During her tenure in my office, Connie also served as the Congressional manager of the Congress-Bundestag exchange, a 20 year program that promotes greater understanding of the U.S. legislative process and the German parliamentary system. This vital exchange program has allowed hundreds of Congressional staffers to visit Germany and hundreds of German Parliamentary staff to visit the U.S. The program has allowed participants to gain insights into our different political systems and to develop personal and professional relationships that benefit both nations.

Throughout her service in my office, Connie pursued her higher education goals, completing both a Master's Degree and most recently completing course work toward her Ph.D. in Political Science from the George Washington University. We were very proud when she completed her doctoral exams with distinction. These experiences have enabled Connie to develop an expertise in Latin American affairs which she will use in her new position as Analyst for Latin America with the Congressional Research Service.

We are glad that she has not traveled far and that we will still be able to call on her excellent research and analytical skills as will all Members and staff in Congress. We wish her much success in her new endeavors.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. RALPH
NURNBERGER, RECIPIENT OF
GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY'S EX-
CELLENCE IN TEACHING FAC-
ULTY AWARD

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2003

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask that my colleagues here in the U.S. House of

Representatives join me in congratulating a highly respected and accomplished professor, Dr. Ralph Nurnberger, on being selected as the recipient of the Excellence in Teaching Faculty Award at Georgetown University. Dr. Nurnberger received this outstanding honor at the University's 2003 commencement ceremonies.

For over 2 decades, Dr. Nurnberger has taught courses in the Liberal Studies Degree Program focusing on an array of issues including American foreign policy, congressional relations, and international affairs. Most recently, he has been teaching a course on the aftermath of September 11, considering the domestic and international ramifications for the United States. His teaching has been marked with extensive experience in domestic and international affairs. Dr. Nurnberger has held positions with former Senator James Pearson, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, the Center for Strategic and International Studies and the U.S. Department of Commerce. He currently holds the position of Counsel with the law firm Preston Gates Ellis and Rouvelas Meeds.

Following the signing of the Oslo Accords, Dr. Nurnberger was appointed to the position of Executive Director of the organization "Builders for Peace" to assist the Arab-Israeli peace process. Also an accomplished writer, his articles have appeared in The Washington Post, The Washington Times, Christian Science Monitor, Baltimore Sun and numerous journals.

Dr. Nurnberger is popular with students because of his reputation as an insightful educator who promotes lively and thought-provoking discussions encouraging the expression of all points of view.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that we here in the U.S. House of Representatives join Georgetown University in commending Dr. Ralph Nurnberger for his excellence in teaching and congratulate him on receiving such a prestigious award.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLIE PARKER

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2003

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of my friend and eastern Kentucky native Charlie Parker, president and CEO of Buckhorn Children's Foundation. Charlie is retiring after 21 years of service to the children and families of Kentucky. It is only fitting to take this opportunity to recognize all that he has accomplished.

Buckhorn Children's Foundation's mission is to alleviate the suffering of children and families and bring hope to otherwise hopeless lives in Appalachia. Through a variety of programs, Buckhorn has helped thousands learn about themselves, feel pride in who they are, and become successes in life. Although they actively seek out the most troubled of our youth, Buckhorn can boast of an over 70 percent success rate, which is far above the national average.

Coming on board in 1982, Charlie took over Buckhorn's one residential campus with a budget of \$650,000. Under his vision and leadership, that one residential campus has grown to three with a budget of \$18 million. Its reach has extended beyond the hills of Eastern Kentucky into more urban areas. Without question, this would never have been accomplished were it not for the tireless efforts of Charlie.

While we have taken much time recently to recognize our heroes that have defended our freedom abroad, we must also recognize our heroes at home. I know that the many young people that Charlie has positively affected consider him a hero, as do I. Thank you, Charlie, for giving young people one of the greatest gifts of all—a future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2003

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit this statement for the RECORD and regret that I could not be present today, Thursday, June 5, 2003, to vote on Roll Call Vote Numbers 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, and 248 due to a family medical emergency.

Had I been present, I would have voted:

NO on Roll Call Vote Number 243 on Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 256, Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1474) to facilitate check truncation by authorizing substitute checks, to foster innovation in the check collection system without mandating receipt of checks in electronic form, and to improve the overall efficiency of the Nation's payments system, and for other purposes;

NO on Roll Call Vote Number 244 on Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 258, providing for consideration of the bill (S. 222) to approve the settlement of the water rights claims of the Zuni Indian Tribe in Apache County, Arizona, and for other purposes, and for consideration of the bill (S. 273) to provide for the expeditious completion of the acquisition of land owned by the State of Wyoming within the boundaries of Grand Teton National Park, and for other purposes;

NO on Roll Call Vote Number 245 on H. Res. 258, providing for consideration of the bill (S. 222) to approve the settlement of the water rights claims of the Zuni Indian Tribe in Apache County, Arizona, and for other purposes, and for consideration of the bill (S. 273) to provide for the expeditious completion of the acquisition of land owned by the State of Wyoming within the boundaries of Grand Teton National Park, and for other purposes;

AYE on Roll Call Vote Number 246 on H. R. 1474, Check Clearing for the 21st Century Act;

AYE on Roll Call Vote Number 247 on S. 222, Zuni Indian Tribe Water Rights Settlement Act of 2003; and

AYE on Roll Call Vote Number 248 on S. 273—Grand Teton National Park Land Exchange Act.