

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF THE CALVERT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' RECEIPT OF A 2003 CHESAPEAKE BAY GATEWAYS NETWORK GRANT

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 3, 2003*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Calvert County Board of Commissioners. The Calvert County Board of Commissioners received a 2003 Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network Grant to makeover exhibits at a Gateways Network regional information center.

The Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network, which includes more than 120 museums, state parks, wildlife refuges and other sites in five States and the District of Columbia, was created to enhance the experience of visitors to the Chesapeake Bay and its many roads, rivers and trails. Authorized by the Chesapeake Bay Initiative Act of 1998, the Gateways Network is coordinated by the National Park Service in partnership with the Chesapeake Bay Program.

During the past four years, Gateways Network Grants have funded new maps, improved signs, and expanded trails that have made visits to parks, wildlife refuges and water trails even more exciting and enjoyable than they had previously been. These grants help enhance the public's ability to learn and enjoy the Chesapeake's stories and significance, explore its natural and cultural resources, and become involved in helping conserve and restore the Bay and its watershed. Through these projects and other Gateways Network efforts more and more people recognize the Chesapeake as a true national treasure.

In 2003, the National Park Service is awarding \$1,387,309 in grant funding, matched by over \$2 million in partner contributions. Thirty-two grants are being made to Gateways throughout the Bay watershed in Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia. The Calvert County Board of Commissioners is receiving a grant of \$24,520 and \$32,289 in partner contributions.

The project proposed by the Calvert County Board of Commissioners will bring about a complete makeover of exhibits at the Solomons Island Visitor Center, a Gateways Network regional information center. Calvert County will design, produce and install a series of interpretive displays on both the inside and outside of the building. Presently the building presents basic information on visitor sites in Southern Maryland. The new elements will enable the center to orient people to particular Gateway sites in the region and introduce visitors to Bay themes and resources in Southern Maryland. Calvert County will contribute labor and funding to match the Gateways grant.

Mr. Speaker, it is with the assistance and vision of organizations such as the Calvert County Board of Commissioners that the Chesapeake Bay and the entire region has become the treasure that we know it to be today. Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Calvert County Board of Commissioners on receiving this grant and wishing them the best of luck in completing their project.

TRIBUTE TO FLORIDA SHERIFF'S OFFICERS

**HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 3, 2003*

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, Mr. ROTHMAN and myself would like to call your attention to six brave officers from the Sumter County and Hernando County Sheriff's Departments who, at great risk to their own lives, pursued and engaged in an exchange of gunfire with a heavily armed suspect accused of shooting and killing a fellow police officer.

On Wednesday, July 23, 2003, the New Jersey Honor Legion honored Sergeant Scott Bierwiler, Sergeant Lanny Corlew, Corporal Lawrence "Bo" Amman, Deputy John Melanson, Sergeant Danny Button, and Deputy Thomas Williams for their valiant actions. It is only fitting that these six Florida Law Officials be honored in this, the permanent record of the greatest freely elected body on earth.

On Thursday, April 17, 2003, while assisting Clifton Police Officer Steven Farrell in a traffic stop, Fair Lawn Police Officer Mary Ann Collura was fatally wounded. The incident sparked what would become an interstate manhunt, culminating three days later with the death of the suspect during a gun battle in Sumter County, Florida.

After fleeing the State of New Jersey following Collura's murder, the suspect traveled via New York State down to Florida. On Sunday, April 20, 2003, Sheriff's officers in Hernando County, Florida, noticed a car matching the description of the suspect's car. When approached by the officers, the vehicle fled, leading six sheriff's deputies from Sumter and Hernando Counties on a 20 mile chase. The chase, during which the suspect repeatedly fired out of the back window of the car, came to an end when the suspect emerged from his car and opened fire at the police officers. The suspect was killed in the subsequent exchange of gunfire.

Mr. Speaker, the job of a United States Congressman involves so much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing the accomplishments of such brave and dedicated individuals as the members of the Sumter County and Hernando County Sheriff's Departments. Their selfless and unquestioning act of heroism is a tribute to the close bond

shared by law enforcement officials everywhere. Each of these officers deserves an expression of our immeasurable esteem.

Mr. Speaker, we ask that you join our colleagues, the members of the New Jersey Honor Legion, and us in honoring these brave men.

H.R. 2473

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 3, 2003*

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I intend to vote "no" on H.R. 2473 because it carelessly threatens the safety of American consumers. In a recent hearing before the House Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee, of which I am a member, we heard from numerous individuals including William Hubbard, the Associate Commissioner for Policy and Planning with the Food and Drug Administration. Commissioner Hubbard testified that since late 1996, the FDA has initiated 73 counterfeit drug cases that have netted in 44 arrests and 27 convictions. He further testified that they have seen an increase in drug counterfeiting activity targeting high volume, high cost drugs primarily those used for treating cancer and AIDS patients.

One case, cited by Florida's Assistant Statewide Prosecutor, revealed a 2001 investigation that discovered South Florida criminals had counterfeited Procrit, a drug used to boost the immune systems of cancer and HIV/AIDS patients. The criminals re-labeled approximately 110,000 bottles of low strength Epogen to make the bottles appear to contain high strength Procrit, a drug 20 times the strength of the Epogen in the bottles. The criminals re-sold the relabeled drugs into the wholesale market with forged pedigree papers, passing the drugs through four states. Investigators located 800 boxes of the counterfeit Procrit at a large Texas wholesaler, which had unknowingly purchased the counterfeit Procrit. In addition, investigators found some of the product in Kentucky. In all, investigators recovered less than 10% of the counterfeit Procrit.

In conclusion, "the imported drugs arriving through the mail, through private express couriers, or by passengers arriving at ports of entry are often unapproved new drugs that may not be subject to any reliable regulatory oversight. FDA cannot assure the safety of drugs purchased from such sources," stated Commissioner Hubbard. It is for these reasons that I can not support such legislation that we have no way of knowing of its content or origin. I am firmly committed to continuing efforts to reduce the out-of-pocket costs for pharmaceuticals for all Americans but H.R. 2473 and drug reimportation without any safety measures is the wrong approach.

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