

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING KRISTOPHER JONES ON RECEIVING THE GREAT VALLEY YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR AWARD FROM THE GREATER HAZLETON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND THE GREATER WILKES-BARE CHAMBER OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2005

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Kristopher Jones of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, on the occasion of having been selected to receive the Great Valley Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award.

As a founder of Pepperjam.com, a 6-year-old internet-based company established by Mr. Jones and his brother to market their grandmother's 50-year-old jam recipes and other gourmet food products, Mr. Jones has demonstrated the kind of true entrepreneurial spirit for which this award was created.

A bright and talented young man, Mr. Jones possesses a diverse background in both his education and professional pursuits.

Kris served as an intern in my Washington office and for the Financial Services Committee during the summers while he was a law student. Upon his graduation, I hired him as my district director. We talked often about his interest in growing his family business, and I encouraged him to focus on pursuing the unique opportunities presented to him. Because of his deep love of Northeastern Pennsylvania, he promised to keep his company based in the area to help stimulate the local economy.

Recently, Mr. Jones has expanded his business into e-commerce consulting, a new field that has helped enable him to add new jobs to his company and to achieve national recognition in the field of affiliate marketing management.

Always one to give back to his community, Mr. Jones regularly speaks with college students and recent graduates about business opportunities that exist in Northeastern Pennsylvania, recognizing the need to be a good corporate citizen and community advocate.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Kristopher Jones on this auspicious occasion. The entrepreneurial spirit displayed by Mr. Jones has set a fine example for all potential young entrepreneurs and fledgling enterprises in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF DUSTIN A. NEDOLAST ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2005

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Dustin A. Nedolast of Fostoria, Ohio has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Dustin's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Air Force Academy this fall with the incoming cadet class of 2009. Attending one of our nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education and demands the very best that these young men and women have to offer. Truly, it is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

Dustin brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming class of Air Force cadets. While attending Saint Wendelin Catholic High School in Fostoria, Ohio, Dustin has attained a 3.8 grade point average which places him near the top of his class. While a gifted athlete, Dustin has maintained the highest standards of excellence in his academics. Dustin has been a member of the National Honor Society, earned scholastic First Honors for four years, and has earned awards and accolades as a scholar and an athlete.

Outside the classroom, Dustin has distinguished himself as an excellent student-athlete. On the fields of competition, Dustin has earned letters in Varsity Wrestling, Football and Baseball. Dustin has served as class representative during his junior year in high school as well as Senior Class President. Dustin's dedication and service to the community and his peers has proven his ability to excel among the leaders at the Air Force Academy. I have no doubt that Dustin will take the lessons of his student leadership with him to Colorado Springs.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dustin A. Nedolast on his appointment to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Dustin will do very well during his career at the Air Force Academy and I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him well as he begins his service to the nation.

TRIBUTE TO REPUBLIC OF CHINA PRESIDENT CHEN SHUI-BIAN

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 19, 2005

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to convey my best wishes to Republic of China President Chen Shui-Bian as he begins the sixth year of his presidency. I would also like to Congratulate President Chen on the re-establishment of diplomatic relations between Taiwan and the nation of Nauru. It is my sincere hope that the United States and Taiwan will soon re-establish formal ties as well.

The election of President Chen to his first term in 2000 was a watershed moment for Taiwan, signifying the first election of an opposition party candidate to that post since the establishment of the ROC nearly a century ago. He was re-elected last year.

Since President Chen came to office, he has maintained his commitment to the advance of democracy. Successful legislative elections, a referendum, a presidential election, and most recently a poll to elect members of a National Assembly that will undertake the monumental task of rewriting Taiwan's decades old constitution, have all been held.

Under President Chen's leadership, Taiwan has continued its progress by improving its status as the Western Pacific's flagship democracy and as one of its premier economic powerhouses. What is perhaps most astonishing, however, is that this has been accomplished in spite of the tense and ominous environment created by China.

Mr. Speaker, Taiwan's robust democratic institutions shine particularly brightly precisely because of their close proximity to the People's Republic of China. The PRC, after all, is a nation where open political discourse and the free exchange of ideas remain largely non-existent. It is this glaring contrast between Taiwan and the People's Republic of China that will continue to be a source of tension—regardless of how many Panda bears China's leaders might send to Taiwanese zoos, or how many Wax Apples they might purchase from Taiwanese farmers.

I think President Chen summed up the situation rather eloquently when he recently said, "The greatest obstacle between the two sides of the Strait lies in our democratic disparity—not in our political separation."

So, Mr. Speaker, I extend my congratulations to President Chen on the last five years of his presidency, and I wish him the best of luck in the future as he works to strengthen the historic and decades-long friendship between our two nations.

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