

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING SUE WAGNER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 15, 2005

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Sue Wagner of Saint Joseph, Missouri. Ms. Wagner is a retired teacher of the Saint Joseph School District and in a few days will receive the Saint Joseph YWCA Women of Excellence Award for Women in Community Service and Volunteerism.

Although she retired from teaching, Ms. Wagner is still extremely active in the community. She regularly reaches out to and positively impacts students throughout the Saint Joseph area. Ms. Wagner currently serves as a student mentor, a Cotillion for Achievement committee member, and a volunteer docent for the Albrecht-Kemper Art Museum. Through her hard work, Ms. Wagner has touched the lives of over 500 students this year.

Ms. Wagner also serves as an affiliate director for Missouri Future Problem Solving, directing a competition program for the State of Missouri. She serves on multiple committees and organizations ranging from Community LINK, to SAGE, to Trails West, to the Landmarks Commission. In addition to all of these commitments, Ms. Wagner still finds time to serve as president of her local neighborhood association.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in congratulating Sue Wagner. Her commitment to the Saint Joseph community exemplifies the qualities of service and dedication. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress.

TRIBUTE TO LONNIE MCCOY BRIGHT

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 15, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the accomplishments of Lonnie McCoy Bright. Lonnie McCoy Bright, affectionately known as "Coy," is a native of Belleross, North Carolina. He is the son of the late Zerus and Lona Mae Bright, and was raised in New York City. He received his education in the New York City public schools, culminating with his graduation from George Westinghouse Vocational High School. Then, he devoted 30 years of loyal service to United States Postal Service.

Mr. Bright is a former Board member of the NAACP Brooklyn Branch, a founding member and Treasurer of Congressman Edolphus Towns' Men's Caucus, former Treasurer and Worshipful Master of the African 459 Lodge #63, and President Emeritus of the Masters Council.

Currently, Mr. Bright is an active, dedicated member of the Berean Baptist Church. He is

on the Trustee Board and serves as the Treasurer of the church. He has organized numerous voter registration drives in his community, East New York, and the Bedford-Stuyvesant sections of Brooklyn. He has also sponsored "Making Books Come Alive" a day of reading and dramatizing stories for children. He loves to cook and is an annual participant in the Men Who Cook-Cook-Offs.

His greatest love, after his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, is his wife Vivian Y. Bright, and they are the proud parents of Teresa, Gary, James (deceased), Marvin Jamal and Tiffany.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize Mr. Bright's remarkable leadership and service.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE COLORADO GOLF HALL OF FAME

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 15, 2005

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Colorado Golf Hall of Fame and its newly acquired home at the Riverdale golf courses in Brighton.

As an avid golfer I could not help but notice this news, and at the risk of allowing my love of the game to get the better of me, I think it is appropriate to acknowledge the positive contributions that golf has made to communities.

The Colorado Golf Hall of Fame has been in operation for 33 three years and has honored 107 members. Yet, due to a space constraint, the golf memorabilia had been stored in boxes at the Colorado Golf Association headquarters, unavailable for public viewing. Thanks to the combined efforts of the Riverdale Golf courses, Adams County Board of Commissioners, the Colorado Golf Association and the Hall of Fame President, John Edwards, the Colorado Golf Hall of Fame is now featured in a prominent display within the Riverdale golf courses clubhouse.

The Hall of Fame honors the 107 deserving members who have made important contributions to Colorado's sports history. Pictures of each hall of fame member are now front and center under glass in the clubhouse of the Riverdale golf courses. In addition, the Hall of Fame showcases multiple displays honoring golf greats, highlights in golf history and a golf history timeline. The current displays honor female golfer Mildred "Babe" Zacharias and the history of Cherry Hills Country Club.

Hall of Famer and winner of three Colorado Opens, Bill Bisdorf remarked, "If you don't have something like this, it's forgotten, just like everything else. It's out of sight, out of mind."

Thanks to the hard work of many, Colorado's rich golf history will no longer be "out of sight, out of mind." It is very exciting for golf-enthusiasts like myself to have access to that history. What is more, it provides just another excuse to play at the Riverdale courses,

the Dunes and the Knolls—two of the finest public courses in Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in thanking Riverdale Golf Courses and the Colorado Golf Hall of Fame for creating a fitting location to preserve and display Colorado's golf history and artifacts.

RECOGNIZING AMANDA GUMM

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 15, 2005

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Amanda Gumm. In a few days, Ms. Gumm will receive the Saint Joseph YWCA Women of Excellence Award for Future Leaders.

Amanda is currently a student at Benton High School and has served as Student Body President. As Student Body President, Amanda was responsible for reading the daily announcements to all of Benton High School; I've been told that one faculty member cited Amanda as quite possibly the best public speaker Benton has seen in years. She is also widely recognized for her positive attitude and dynamic personality, and motivates her peers to excel.

Amanda aspires to be the Governor of Missouri, and recently received the 2005 Missouri Award for Outstanding Achievement in Citizenship. Amanda will soon join the other recipients of the award and their families for a luncheon at the Governor's Mansion in Jefferson City.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Amanda Gumm. Her commitment to excellence exemplifies the qualities of service and dedication. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress.

A TRIBUTE TO THOMAS E. CAVE, SR.

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 15, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge Thomas Cave for his outstanding community service. Mr. Cave is a native of Augusta, Georgia, and has been a resident of the Bedford-Stuyvesant community for the past fifty-five years. In Bedford-Stuyvesant, he has volunteered his time and shared his experience in order to improve the quality of life of his community. He is particularly concerned with the plight of youth and senior citizens.

Mr. Cave has served the Unity Democratic Club for over twenty-five years as Chairperson of the Men's Council and President of the Club for four years. Under his tutelage several programs were created, including the Scholarship Program at Boys and Girls High School, and the Chess Club Program at P.S. 5.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Mr. Cave has received many awards, including Learning Leader from P.S. 5 for his dedication and commitment to the school and community. He has also secured a Certificate of Recognition from State Senator Ada L. Smith and the Exemplary Service Award from Unity Democratic Club.

In addition to his political and civic involvement, Mr. Cave is an avid traveler and devoted family man. As a result, we proudly recognize him today.

CONGRATULATING ROCHE ON ITS
100TH ANNIVERSARY IN THE
UNITED STATES

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 15, 2005

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations in honor of the 100 Anniversary of Roche, one of the leading healthcare innovators in the world. Roche is a specialty care company that employs over 10,000 people in America and 60,000 globally. I am pleased that Boulder is home to Roche Colorado, which employs over 300 people, all of whom are dedicated to improving the quality of health care for millions of people.

For a century now, Roche has invested in advanced research and manufacturing techniques that have yielded breakthroughs in healthcare. Founded in Switzerland in 1896, Roche's roots in America are deep and strong, dating back to the opening of its New York office in 1905. From its start in Manhattan in 1905, Roche has extended its reach to nine sites across the United States, in Colorado, New Jersey, Indiana, South Carolina, and California.

As an industry leader, Roche Colorado researches and manufactures products such as the first in an entirely new class of drugs to combat HIV, a potent oral antiviral that is our most promising weapon against the threat of pandemic influenza, and a treatment that preserves the sight of people with AIDS infected with a virus that usually leads to blindness. These inventions are just a few examples of how Roche helps provide Americans with the highest quality medical treatment in the world.

Roche's ties to Boulder date back to 1946 as Arapahoe Chemicals and subsequently Syntex, which joined Roche in 1994. I applaud Roche Colorado for being an active corporate citizen, supporting the Boulder County AIDS Project, the Women's Health Project, and the Grillo Information Center which provides educational help to individuals suffering from cancer, all efforts that truly enhance our quality of life in Boulder and build our sense of community.

I commend the people of Roche Colorado in Boulder and Roche employees worldwide for their impressive achievements, and wish them the very best on this special 100th Anniversary.

THE AMERICAN FOREIGN SERVICE
WITHDRAWAL OF AMBASSADOR
EVANS' AWARD

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 15, 2005

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to express my disappointment with the American Foreign Service Association, and its decision to withdraw awarding a "Constructive Dissent" award to U.S. Armenian Ambassador John Evans.

Ambassador Evans was due to receive the Christian A. Heter Award for intellectual courage, initiative, and integrity later this week. The award was a result of courageous statements he made regarding the recognition of the Armenian Genocide.

In a series of public statements, Ambassador Evans, who has studied Russian history at Yale and Columbia and Ottoman history at the Kennan Institute, stated, "I will today call it the Armenian Genocide." Mr. Speaker, Ambassador Evans has studied the history of Armenia, and based on his substantial studies of the issue, he was willing to go on the record and define the actions taken against Armenians as genocide.

The Armenian Genocide was the systematic extermination—the murder—of one-and-one-half million Armenian men, women and children.

To this day, the Republic of Turkey refuses to acknowledge the fact that this massive crime against humanity took place on soil under its control, and in the name of Turkish nationalism.

Unfortunately, some 90 years later, the U.S. State Department continues to support Turkey's denials despite all evidence to the contrary. It's not likely that the State Department was happy with their Ambassador to Armenia acknowledging the Armenian Genocide. Therefore, Evans retracted his remarks after receiving substantial pressure from the State Department.

Well, now the selection committee at the American Foreign Service Association has decided to withdraw the award with no reason for its actions. I find the timing of the decision peculiar. The sharp turnaround came right before Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan arrived in Washington for a meeting with President Bush. Based on past history, it's clear that the State Department, the Bush Administration, and the powerful pro-Turkish lobby pressured A-F-S-A to withdraw Ambassador Evans' Award.

It is simply unacceptable for this administration to continue to penalize the ambassador for his comments. Ambassador Evans did a courageous thing; his statements did not contradict U.S. policy, but rather articulated the same message that this Administration has sent to the public. The only difference in this case is that Ambassador Evans assigned a word to define the actions taken against the Armenians.

This was a refreshing break from a pattern on the part of the State Department of using evasive and euphemistic terminology to obscure the full reality of the Armenian Genocide, Ambassador Evans pointed out that, "No American official has ever denied it," and went on to say that, "I think we, the U.S. govern-

ment, owe you, our fellow citizens a more frank and honest way of discussing this problem."

Ambassador Evans was merely recounting the historical record, which has been attested to by over 120 Holocaust and genocide scholars from around the world. By doing this, he earned a prestigious award that was taken from him because of politics and denial.

I want to add my voice to all those who, in Ambassador Evans' own words, (and I'm quoting) "think it is unbecoming of us as Americans to play word games here. I believe in calling things by their name." Evans was right, and the American Foreign Services Association was correct in awarding him the Christian A. Heter Award. We should encourage our Ambassadors to speak the truth, and, more boldly, end, once and for all, our complicity in Turkey's campaign of genocide denial.

Mr. Speaker, Ambassador Evans has been penalized for telling the truth. The American Foreign Service Association has set a terrible example by retracting Ambassador Evans' award. I guess even in America the Turkish Government is able to stifle debate.

[From the California Courier]

RESCINDING OF "DISSENT" AWARD TRIGGERS
INTERNATIONAL UPROAR
(By Harut Sassounian)

Last week, in this column, I disclosed the news that the American Foreign Service Association had just reversed itself, taking the unprecedented step of withdrawing the "Constructive Dissent" award from John Evans, the U.S. Ambassador to Armenia.

This was a shocking development, as this award is given to high-ranking diplomats for their "intellectual courage, initiative and integrity in the context of constructive dissent [and] for demonstrating the courage to speak out and challenge the system on a subject related to their work."

Last February, Ambassador Evans had forthrightly and appropriately referred to the Armenian Genocide, as a genocide, to the chagrin of the Turkish government and its supporters in the Bush administration. It was highly ironic that the U.S. Ambassador would lose this award for the very reason that it was given to him in the first place—"dissent." So much for encouraging honesty and integrity at the State Department.

I posted my last week's column on the group web site in the evening of June 6, a couple of hours after being informed by AFSA that it had just decided to rescind the award. Little did I know then that within a couple of days, my column would trigger a national and international uproar and would be picked up by scores of newspapers and wire services from around the world, such as the Washington Post, the Associated Press, the UPI, Hurriyet, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, Turkish Daily News, AzerTag (Azerbaijan), Webindia123 (India), and Armenian newspapers in several countries. Even the spokesman for the State Dept., Sean McCormack, was asked about this controversial issue during his daily press briefing on June 9.

Despite attempts AFSA and State Dept. officials to cover up the real reasons for the withdrawal of the award, it has become clear that the award was rescinded after direct pressure was brought to bear on AFSA from the State Dept. When John Limbert, the president of AFSA, was asked by the Washington Post to explain the reason for his group's action, he replied: "State Department officials would have to explain their concerns." The Award Committee is composed of current and former State Department officials. L. Bruce Laingen, who