

I Can! Foundation is to encourage, enhance, and empower children with disabilities, as well as young individuals with special gifts or talents, in the pursuit of their individual goals and dreams.

For the past 31 years, the Foundation's mission has been to design and implement programs that help to improve the quality of life of children with disabilities. Yes I Can!, through the administration of several national programs, has been dedicated to building interdependent communities that value and support these children.

The Foundation recognizes the accomplishments of extraordinary children and youth, widely sharing stories of their successes, and activating a supportive network of strategic partners and activities.

It is my honor to recognize Miss Rosalie Platt for her exceptional contributions to the community and for having great confidence in herself to overcome adversity. In addition, I commend the Yes I Can! Foundation for its commitment to giving those who are challenged the hope and means to overcome those challenges.

CONGRATULATING THE VOLUNTEERS OF THE SOMERVILLE CENTRAL HOOK AND LADDER COMPANY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Somerville Central Hook & Ladder Company, in the Borough of Somerville, New Jersey, a patriotic community that I am proud to represent! On August 27, 2005, the good citizens of Somerville will celebrate the Hook & Ladder Company's One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Anniversary with special festivities.

For one hundred and twenty-five years, the Somerville Central Hook & Ladder Company has been protecting and serving the residents of their community. In celebration of their anniversary, festivities will include an apparatus judging contest during which invited neighboring fire companies will show off their rigs for a trophy prize. They will also introduce a new truck, the newest addition to their company.

The Hook & Ladder Company was created when, in the summer of 1880, several members of the Somerville Engine Company #1 recognized the need for a hook and ladder truck. They resigned from the Engine Company, and with several other volunteers created the Central Hook & Ladder Company. Funds for the purchase of their three-story brick building were raised by using their team, who refer to themselves as "Hooks," and a dump truck to collect garbage in town at the cost of 25¢ a week per customer. The Division Street Building was built in 1902, to house the hand-drawn "Wonder" fire truck. In 1909, the company upgraded to a horse-drawn Seagrave truck.

Currently the Central Hook & Ladder Company is led by Deputy Chief Todd Starner and has about 50 members of which about a dozen are second generation or more Central Hook & Ladder families.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the volunteers of the Somerville Central Hook & Ladder Company on the celebration of 125 years of a rich history in the protection of one of New Jersey's finest municipalities!

INTRODUCTION OF THE CORAL REEF CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION ACT OF 2005

HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, in introducing an earlier version of this bill into the 108th Congress (2003–2004), I remarked that I was grateful for being able to take an action both long overdue and truly needed. I still feel that way as I reintroduce the Coral Reef Conservation and Protection Act of 2005, except that this proposal is now far longer overdue and far more needed.

As I said last Congress, my childhood was spent among the rich diversity of the coral reef ecosystems of my native Island of Hawaii. It was a time of budding wonder at what nature had wrought, the living corals and other reef life existing in mutual dependency and sustainability. But just weeks ago, when I returned, as I often do, now with my children, to those same reefs, they're not what they were. Still beautiful, yes; still wondrous. But there is not the same diversity of coral nor the same luster; the fish and other marine life not as plentiful nor diverse; the presence of new, alien species is apparent.

Of course, there are simply more of us in those marine environments than there were, and so our cumulative impact over my fifty years in those waters has become apparent, even at the level of recreational and subsistence use. But it's more, for these reefs have become a significant business, their coral exoskeletons, their living creators, and the shells and fish that live in and among them valuable collectors' items for the aquariums and curio shops of the world. And the purposeful and accidental introduction of marine invasives in isolated instances over the last decades have magnified into a critical mass of statewide presence and threat.

In relevant terms, though, we in Hawaii are among the lucky ones, for at least we still have living, albeit threatened, coral reefs, with declining but at least remaining marine life. At least we have marginally protective state laws, and a culture of arguable sustainability.

But in much of the rest of the marine world, especially throughout the temperate zones of the Pacific and beyond, the world of the coral reef is past endangered and into destroyed, wiped out by a wave of commercial overfishing, overcollecting, dynamiting, cyanide poisoning, and other forms of ecological pilage. In these worlds, laws do not exist to provide even minimum protections or, if they do, they are spurned.

Some say that that's their business; what do we care if they wreck their marine ecosystems? First, of course, in today's interdependent world, our global environment is everyone's business. But beyond that, we can't turn our backs because we are the chief facilitator; ours is the largest market for the

products of this stripping of the world's coral reefs.

None of this is new: we've known all of this for decades. We've even set out to do something about it. In 1973, we became a party to the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), which sought to clamp down on endangered species trafficking. But although some of our world's coral reef life has been designated as covered under it, the enforcement mechanisms are frankly ineffective.

More recently, in 1998 President Clinton issued the Coral Reef Protection Executive Order (No. 13098) establishing the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force. That entity was directed to strengthen our stewardship and conservation of our country's reef ecosystems, and to assess our role in the international coral reef products trade with the goal of taking actions to promote conservation and sustainable use of coral reefs worldwide.

The Task Force conducted its evaluations, made its reports, and outlined what was needed. That was in large part comprehensive legislation to institute common protective standards for our nation's coral reefs, but, equally important, rules to discourage international coral reef abuse and encourage sustainable practices by allowing imports only of non-endangered products collected by sustainable practices and pursuant to integrated management plans.

The Coral Reef Conservation and Protection Act of 2005 I gratefully reintroduce today embodies the principal directions of the Task Force and more. It establishes a comprehensive scheme for the domestic and international protection of our world's coral reef ecosystems. The regime's key ingredients are the disallow of any domestic taking, transport in interstate commerce, or import of the endangered marine life of our coral reefs, unless that life is collected in non-destructive ways or subject to sustainable management plans or otherwise exempted from coverage by administrative actions.

Mr. Speaker, we have to start somewhere; our world's coral reefs are crying out for our help. This bill is that start, and I urge its prompt deliberation and passage.

Mahalo, and aloha!

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROSE CITY

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a community in my district that is celebrating its 100th anniversary as a city. On September 3rd, 2005 the residents of Rose City, Michigan will partake in their annual end-of-summer ox roast and pay tribute to its citizens and their city's history that consists of the All-American boom town tales as well as those more tragic stories.

The first settlers to the area worked their way from Saginaw Bay along the Rifle River to what would become Ogemaw County in the 1870s. Ogemaw County, named after local Chippewa Chief Ogemaw-Ke-Ke-To, was home to several family names including Beck, Rose, Zettle, Rau and many others still residing in the region. Among those original settlers

was William Rose who founded Rose City, then known as Churchill.

Lumber and agriculture brought droves of people to the area where several lumber mills and a flour mill were amongst the more than 30 businesses in the Rose City downtown district. Son of the Churchill founder William Rose, Allen S. Rose partnered with banker M.H. French to establish the French and Rose Land and Lumber Company. According to the local newspaper, in 1893 Rose was instrumental in bringing the first commercial railway, the Mackinaw & Detroit Railroad, to Rose City to service the area's lumber operations. The railroad made its first stop to Rose City that year on Christmas day.

The eventual Mayor of Rose City and Michigan State Senator, H.S. Karcher, worked to incorporate the city on April 13, 1905. The city was named after Allen Rose who was also the local Postmaster at the time. During the peak of the lumber period, Ogemaw County contained 30 post offices. Of the many cities incorporated in the region by the State of Michigan in that same year, only two have survived, Rose City and West Branch. This year on April 13th, Rose City's current mayor, William Schneider, and Rodney Mason, the great-great-grandson of Allen Rose, reenacted the signing of Rose City's charter.

Rose City has not survived the past 100 years unscathed, however. The famous fire that broke out in D.W. Benjamin's grocery store on April 3rd, 1910 would scar the city's economy and morale for years. The fire that began in the grocery store was not discovered until 3:00 a.m. when flames had engulfed the building. The small town "bucket brigade" was not able to fight the fierce fire and one hour later the entire business district was destroyed.

That night, 30 of 32 businesses were lost causing an estimated \$175,000 worth of damage. The few items salvaged from the businesses were stolen. In his valiant effort to save all the U.S. mail, Postmaster O.F. Honeywell lost all of his personal belongings aside from the clothes on his back and two dollars in his pocket to the fire.

Mr. Speaker, Rose City has experienced an All-American history with tales of the best of times and the worst of times. As the entire city gathers this September to celebrate the end of summer with their annual ox roast, it is quite apparent that they have risen from the ashes of their most tragic event to embrace their best assets—one another. I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Rose City and its residents on their first 100 years and in wishing them well through the next century.

COMMEMORATING THE EFFORTS
OF PASCAL MORETTI IN HON-
ORING OUR WORLD WAR II VET-
ERANS

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, as we prepare next month to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II, Americans will again turn their thoughts to those who sacrificed on the battlefield and the home front.

The Greatest Generation of soldiers came from cities and towns all across our Nation. They were ordinary men called to a great crusade. Their mission was nothing short of making the world safe for democracy.

Six decades ago, the soldiers of the 95th Infantry Division slogged their way through German-occupied France—one field, one bridge, one city at a time. They went to Europe, not as part of a conquering army, but as liberators to restore freedom to the land of Lafayette.

Some of the men in the 95th Infantry Division never made it home. They rest in fields once made infamous by the fury of war, and now where peace holds its gentle sway. These men made the ultimate sacrifice for a noble idea. A simple, immutable truth as old as our Republic: That all people, everywhere, have the right to life and liberty.

We're reminded of their sacrifice whenever we see children in a cemetery planting small flags near the headstones of our fallen soldiers; or in the expression of an aging veteran summoning all his strength to stand at respectful attention during the national anthem.

They offered the last full measure of devotion to ensure our liberty for posterity.

However, we are not the only ones who are grateful for their sacrifice. All around the globe, monuments and plaques recount the acts of bravery that secured for an oppressed people freedom from their Nazi occupiers. No where is this more evident—and appreciated—than in the villages of France.

These commemorations have taken on a new significance this year as the world celebrates the 60th Anniversary of V-E Day.

In one particular French town, Metzervisse, the Police Chief, Pascal Moretti, has made it his personal mission to remind succeeding generations about the critical role of American troops in liberating the community. When asked why he was interested in organizing these celebrations, "Our children must understand the price of liberty," Moretti said. "The blood they shed. What they did for us is wonderful. They gave us the most beautiful gift in the world: freedom."

Toward this end, he created the Moselle River 1944 Organization to honor the Allied soldiers who liberated the cities and towns that border the East Bank of the Moselle River. Last month, more than 50 veterans returned to Metzervisse. This time instead of being met with a hail of gunfire or the thundering sounds of artillery, they were greeted with bands and a chorus of thank-you.

For his work, Chief Moretti has been recognized with the Freedom Award at the America's Freedom Festival in Provo, Utah. Yet perhaps his greatest reward comes from the satisfaction of knowing that a new generation of French children is learning about a time when it seemed that liberty in their country was about to be eradicated by the Nazi regime, and the world responded to beat back the darkness.

American school children learn that in the 18th century it was Lafayette and the French who helped secure the establishment of the United States. It seems altogether fitting that French school children in the 21st century should learn that the Smiths and Messinas of the United States returned the favor during World War II.

I commend Chief Moretti for his efforts to honor our veterans of World War II and doing his part to sustain the historic bonds of friendship between our two nations.

With preparations underway to commemorate the 60th anniversary of V-E and V-J Day next month at the National World War II Memorial, this admirer of the Greatest Generation, reminds us all that we should take a moment and thank those who served—and are now serving. And we must never forget those 400,000 Americans who gave their lives during the War so that the lamp of liberty would continue to shine.

USA PATRIOT AND TERRORISM
PREVENTION REAUTHORIZATION
ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 21, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House of the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3199) to extend and modify authorities needed to combat terrorism, and for other purposes:

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to H.R. 3199, the "USA PATRIOT and Terrorism Prevention Reauthorization Act of 2005."

While I strongly agree that we must take every step possible to keep our nation secure, we should not be trampling on the rights of innocent Americans. When the original PATRIOT Act was passed in the weeks following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, sixteen provisions were scheduled to sunset this year because a matter of this importance deserves to be carefully reviewed by Congress.

The bill before us today would make permanent fourteen of those sixteen provisions thereby relinquishing this body of its oversight responsibilities. This is unacceptable. I have serious concerns about how this Administration has applied and may apply in the future the provisions included in this bill. Our constituents should be able to trust that we will actively work to protect their civil liberties by fighting against any abuses of those rights.

I am disappointed that the Rules Committee denied two amendments that I offered, including one that would give the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, created by the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act, the teeth to do its job, and one that would make permanent the temporary relief given to non-citizens, who were lawfully present or a beneficiary of the September 11th Victims Compensation Fund, in the original PATRIOT Act. I believe that these very worthy amendments at least deserved an open debate on the House floor.

Moreover, an amendment offered by Representatives Sanders (I-VT), which already has passed this body, was denied by the Rules Committee. His amendment, which I strongly support, would prohibit the FBI from using a USA Patriot Act Section 215 order to access library circulation records, library patron lists, book sales records, or book customer lists, and it would help to restore the privacy that library patrons had before the passage of the USA Patriot Act four years ago. Law enforcement should spend its time going after the terrorists, not spending its time reviewing the records of innocent people who are visiting their local libraries.