

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF SOUTHEASTERN ILLINOIS COLLEGE

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Southeastern Illinois College in Harrisburg, Illinois, on the 50th Anniversary of this educational institution.

Discussion and planning for a college began in 1959. At that time, the State of Illinois rejected the plans, but a review was granted. The Harrisburg High School Board of Trustees created an advisory committee to help found the college. On June 21, 1960, a public vote was taken and over 93 percent of the more than 2,500 voters were in favor of the college. In September 1960 the name Southeastern Illinois College was officially adopted.

Instruction at the college began on September 11, 1961 with 314 students enrolled. The classes were conducted in a wing of Harrisburg Township High School. In 1965 the Illinois Junior College Act passed, and Southeastern officially became a Class II Junior College. In 1967 a referendum to become a Class I college carried, and the district was expanded to include five counties.

In 1968 the first Board of Trustees was elected and assumed governance of the college. The first President, Mr. Joe Deaton, was appointed. In 1976 the college was granted full accreditation by North Center Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. Also that year, the permanent facilities, still in use today, were completed and occupied.

Today, Southeastern Illinois College provides educational opportunities to a number of high school graduates and those returning to school in an ever expanding campus. I am please to congratulate this fine institution on 50 years of success. I look forward to the bright future in store for Southeastern Illinois College.

CONGRATULATING LOGISTICS HEALTH INCORPORATED FOR RECEIVING THE EMPLOYER SUPPORT FREEDOM AWARD

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Logistics Health Incorporated for receiving the 2010 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award. Logistics Health, based in La Crosse, Wisconsin, joined 14 other employers across the country in being recognized for their outstanding support of employees who serve in the Guard and the Reserves.

For many years, our Guard and Reserve forces were seen as a "force of last resort," but recent conflicts have demonstrated just how vital the Guard and Reserves are on a day-to-day basis. In fact, since 2001, more than 775,000 members of the Guard and the Reserves have been activated for military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. These families have gone through enormous sacrifice to

serve their country and too many have given the ultimate sacrifice. We as a nation will be forever grateful to them for their contributions.

As an employer, Logistics Health has gone above and beyond the call of duty in assuring our Guard and Reserve servicemembers that they don't have to worry about their jobs back home. Logistics Health ensures that Guard and Reserve servicemembers won't lose their seniority, salary, and benefits while they are serving their country.

Logistics Health also regularly sends care packages, letters, and emails to its servicemember employees, sponsors community events and fundraisers for care package drives for the military as a whole. Logistics Health has contributed \$120,000 to military support organizations and fundraisers.

For its patriotic commitment to the Guard and the Reserves, earlier this year Logistics Health won Wisconsin's "Above and Beyond" award and received the state's "Pro Patria" award.

Employers across the nation should take a close look at the good work Logistics Health and others are doing in providing members of the Guard and the Reserves with the flexibility they need when they leave to serve their country and for when they come back ready to resume civilian life.

CONCERNING FLOOD ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today out of concern for the people of Pakistan who have been affected by the catastrophic flooding this monsoon season. As reports continue to emerge detailing ever-increasing numbers of displaced families and deaths, I want to express my deepest sympathy for the victims of this tragedy.

Estimates indicate that over 20 million people are affected by the flooding and over 1,600 have died. In addition, almost 900,000 homes have been destroyed or damaged. According to the UN, millions of people went unaided in the days and weeks after the flooding began. We must also remember that even after the waters recede, the lack of shelter, food, and clean water may bring ongoing suffering. And as croplands and farming equipment are destroyed, the threat of future famine looms.

The devastation these floods have wrought is widespread and affects people in multiple Pakistani provinces. In the Sindh province alone, estimates from August 10th indicate that 1.4 million people and 2,534 villages have been affected by the floods, and as of August 18th new flood warnings continue to be issued. Through communications with the Sindh-American community over the past year, I have learned of the challenges that the Sindh and other provinces face. These floods have exacerbated the situation. We must ensure that our relief efforts reach all affected people and do not inadvertently neglect the individual regions.

The U.S. has responded rapidly trying to provide relief assistance, and it is my hope that our efforts will continue to ensure that the

death and disease tolls do not rise as winter approaches. Through September 14th, total U.S. government assistance reached over \$300 million. Much of the assistance provided by the State Department and the U.S. Agency for International Development has been distributed in partnership with several international agencies including the United Nations and the Red Cross.

While the U.S. continues to play a leadership role in the global effort to assist the people of Pakistan in this difficult time, it is my sincere hope that our efforts reach all those affected by this tragedy. I raise this concern in light of troubling reports that followed the 2005 earthquake in Kashmir. Even one year after that devastating event, Oxfam reported that administrative bottlenecks and corruption had stymied progress toward reconstruction. We must ensure that such an occurrence is not repeated.

Last year, Congress passed The Enhanced Partnership with Pakistan Act of 2009 which is now public law. Title III of this legislation was written to ensure that U.S. assistance reaches all the people of Pakistan fairly and equitably. I wish to reiterate the concerns that prompted this title and to urge the agencies spearheading our relief efforts to follow appropriate protocols for monitoring the assistance related to the recent floods.

AN EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIP

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, in 2006 and again in 2009, I brought to the attention of the House of Representatives law enforcement's new tactic of using billboards to deliver information to the public about wanted fugitives. Today, I will provide an update on progress regarding this effective partnership.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) now has the capability to send alerts nationwide via more than 2,000 high-tech electronic (digital) billboards. The first such nationwide alert posted on digital billboards was activated on August 2, 2010, as part of the FBI's manhunt in a serial bank-robbery case.

The results, according to federal officials, were impressive. Soon after the suspect's photo was displayed on digital billboards, an FBI field office in Virginia received information from a tipster identifying the fugitive and providing, among other things, photographs. The suspect, dubbed the "Granddad Bandit," was apprehended on August 11 in Baton Rouge, LA.

Authorities had been chasing the "Granddad Bandit" for nearly two years. Based on bank videotapes and other evidence, he is suspected of robbing at least 25 banks in 13 states starting in 2008.

"A tip to the FBI made today's arrest possible," said US Attorney Neil H. MacBride in the Eastern District of Virginia. "This is a great example of how the public and law enforcement must work together to keep our communities safe."

Michael Morehart, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI Richmond Division, thanked the Outdoor Advertising Association of America (OAAA) for coordination of digital billboards, and also publicity on radio and in print.

We hear the term “partnership” used frequently. I would like to explain to my colleagues what partnership means in this instance.

The space and time on digital billboards are donated. The FBI worked closely with the outdoor advertising industry to develop computer software to facilitate the transfer images and text to digital billboards. Specifically, Young Electric Sign Company (YESCO) based in Utah built the computer software.

At the FBI, management has shown a willingness to innovate. In 2007, the FBI—working with a fugitive task force—posted images of wanted fugitives in the Philadelphia area. Based on success there, the agency and the outdoor advertising industry expanded this tactic to other areas.

On March 20, 2009, FBI Director Robert S. Mueller presented a Director’s Community Leadership Award to outdoor advertising companies participating in the partnership.

This month, Mr. Mueller presented a Director’s Award of Excellence to Harry Coghlan of Clear Channel Outdoor’s Spectacolor for his role in assisting the FBI in Times Square. As an example, the FBI announced on September 12, 2010, that an alleged mobster who was featured on a large high-tech billboard in Times Square was arrested in Yonkers, NY.

Meanwhile, the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, an arm of the Justice Department, has distributed more than 400 AMBER Alerts to digital billboards since June of 2008.

I commend the partners in this effective use of technology to deliver information quickly in a mobile society on behalf of public safety.

ON THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THIRD BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. ROBERT C. “BOBBY” SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the enduring legacy of a faith institution in the city of Portsmouth. This year, Third Baptist Church is celebrating its 125th anniversary, and in recognition of this milestone I would like to take a moment to reflect on the history of this esteemed church and its contributions to the greater Portsmouth community.

The original seeds of Third Baptist Church were planted in a schoolhouse on Portsmouth’s Chestnut Street in 1885. It was there that Rev. J.W. Godwin and a group of women conceived of the church and held its first services. From this humble beginning, the church grew under the pastorship of Rev. James Garris. It was during the tenure of the third pastor, Rev. Harold Anthony, that the church moved to its present location on the corner of Queen and Godwin streets, then the frontier of the city.

Third Baptist’s congregation grew considerably at the new site under the leadership of fourth pastor Rev. Frank Campbell. Rev. Campbell saw the location of the new church, a neighborhood populated by saloons and other morally questionable establishments, as a blessing and opportunity to spread the Word and enlarge the Third Baptist Church family. Due to revivals and outreach efforts, the

church outgrew its building, and a new sanctuary was built in 1911, the sanctuary Third Baptist uses to this day.

Third Baptist continued to grow under the leadership of fifth pastor Rev. B.W. Dance. During his 18 years at Third Baptist, the church knew both success and setback. The \$10,000 mortgage was burned in 1920, a pipe organ was installed, and massive improvements to the sanctuary were completed. As the Great Depression swept the country, the Church was not able to escape its effects. But financial hardship was not powerful enough to close the doors of Third Baptist. When the church could not pay the salaries of Rev. Dance, the church organist, sexton, and clerk, they all continued to serve God and the congregation without a paycheck. This continued until the church could afford to pay them half their wages and finally restore their full salaries.

The Church’s sixth pastor, Rev. C. J. Washington, was installed in 1939. Under his direction, the church established a building fund and secured property for and erected a parsonage on the southeast corner of Elm Avenue and Glasgow Street.

Third Baptist’s seventh pastor, Rev. C.H. Jordan, was installed in 1947. His 31 years of service encompassed the postwar growth of the city of Portsmouth, and many of the institutions of modern Third Baptist were founded under his leadership. One of the Church’s greatest accomplishments of this period was the establishment of a kindergarten and Adult Education Program. Originally housed in the first small Queen Street sanctuary, by 1951, the program had outgrown its facilities, and a new educational building was constructed. Third Baptist continued to expand in the neighborhood, buying a building across Queen Street and renovating it into a Fellowship Hall. Eventually this hall was the only Third Baptist building large enough to hold the education program, and in 1974 the repurposed, renovated, and fully air conditioned facility was dedicated. Rev. Jordan served Third Baptist until his death in 1978.

Third Baptist Church’s eighth and current pastor is Rev. Joe B. Fleming. Since 1981, Rev. Fleming has led the church into the 21st century. During his tenure, the position of Youth Minister was established to coordinate a program to meet the needs and expectations of the young members of Third Baptist. The church ushered in a new era in service in 1994 when it named its first two female Deacons to the Diaconate. In October of 2004, the Fleming family added another generation of service to Third Baptist. Rev. Joseph A. Fleming, the son of Rev. Fleming and Mrs. Johnnie Fleming, became the Assistant to the Pastor of Third Baptist Church and currently serves as Supervisor of Ministries.

The Church continues to minister to its community to this day. The education program now includes after school homework assistance. The newly renovated kitchen helps facilitate the weekly feed-the-hungry program and the Meals on Wheels ministry. This enduring legacy of service is due to the efforts of the congregation, some of whom have been members of Third Baptist for over 60 years.

I would like to commend Pastor Fleming and the congregation of Third Baptist Church as they celebrate their 125th anniversary. I hope that their next 125 years of service will be as fruitful as their first 125 years.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF SOUTHERN ILLINOIS REGIONAL SOCIAL SERVICES

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. COSTELLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 50th Anniversary of Southern Illinois Regional Social Services (SIRSS).

The origin of SIRSS can actually be traced to February 10, 1958, with the meeting of a temporary committee whose purpose was to organize a mental health association and clinic in Jackson County, Illinois. Through the dedicated work of a small group of individuals, the Southern Illinois Mental Health Clinic (SIMHC) was opened in October of 1959 with the first full year of services in 1960.

As the organization evolved to meet its service offerings and geographic area, its name would be modified to reflect that growth. Jackson County Community Mental Health Center was the name adopted in the 1960’s and then, in the 1990’s, it became Southern Illinois Regional Social Services (SIRSS).

SIRSS has always been a dynamic organization, adding new services and evaluating existing services to make sure they are effective, in line with their core mission and addressing the needs of their clients. Substance abuse prevention and treatment programs, wellness education, Big Brothers/Big Sisters and satellite offices are all examples of the variety of services SIRSS has added through the years.

One of the earliest annual reports listed an average clinic caseload of 58 community patients. This has grown to over 2,000 people served annually today. Clearly the need is great and SIRSS has grown to meet that need. Through 50 years of growth, however, they have stayed true to their founding commitment to Build Better Lives and their promise: “You are not alone. We care. We know how to help.”

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the board of directors, administration and staff of Southern Illinois Regional Social Services on their 50th Anniversary and wishing them the very best for many more years to come.

TRIBUTE TO JENNIFER DOAK

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Jennifer Doak, an active-duty Specialist with the National Guard from Boone County, Iowa, and to express my appreciation for her dedication and commitment to her country.

The Boone News Republican is currently running a series of articles that honors one Boone County veteran every Tuesday from Memorial Day to Veterans Day. Jennifer Doak was recognized on Tuesday, June 8. Below is the article in its entirety:

BOONE COUNTY VETERANS: JENNIFER DOAK

(By Alexander Hutchins)

Jennifer Doak, a specialist with the Iowa National Guard, pursues her personal goals