

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMMEMORATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROUND LAKE AREA PARK DISTRICT

HON. BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2014

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to honor the Round Lake Area Park District, and to commemorate its 40th Anniversary. For four decades, the Round Lake Area Park District has been an integral part of the surrounding community, providing unique recreational and environmental opportunities as well as important support programs and services.

In March 1974, members of the Round Lake, Round Lake Beach, Round Lake Heights, Round Lake Park and Hainesville communities banded together to create the Round Lake Park District. In the forty years that followed, the Round Lake Park District has expanded dramatically, increasingly assuming more land, constructing new facilities and providing a greater number of programs and recreational opportunities.

Along with the public parks, golf courses and green spaces, the Round Lake Area Park District offers a tremendous amount of services and opportunities that reflect the values of our communities. In the 1980s, the park district expanded recreational services to individuals with disabilities. In the 1990s, it created facilities to promote the importance of environmental sustainability. In the 2000s, it increased the resources and programs available to local teens, and established the Huebner Fishery Management Foundation.

For forty years, the Round Lake Park District has been a tremendous source of pride for the Round Lake area, fostering a profound sense of community, harmony and cultural understanding. I am confident that it will continue to serve this vital purpose for decades to come.

IN HONOR OF STARR SEIP'S PROMOTION TO COLONEL IN THE UNITED STATES NATIONAL GUARD

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2014

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lieutenant Colonel Starr Seip of Pine Grove, Pennsylvania, on her promotion to Colonel in the U.S. National Guard, for which a ceremony will occur tomorrow, July 26.

LTC Seip has served our country honorably, having been assigned to the 28th Division Support Command (DISCOM) in the International Zone of Baghdad at the Embassy of the United States during Operation Iraqi Free-

dom. In preparation for that military assignment, LTC Seip left home for training at Fort Dix in New Jersey on Mother's Day 2006. Upon the completion of her training, she returned home for a brief period before leaving for Iraq on Memorial Day 2006.

Additionally, LTC Seip served as the mayor of the Ocean Cliff section of Baghdad and had an integral role in the preparation of the mass casualty plan for the Embassy. LTC Seip's deployment ended on July 14, 2007 and, upon her return, she was greeted on the Pennsylvania House Floor along with her colleague Captain Cara Walters.

LTC Seip is the youngest of 5 children born to Frank and Patricia Dubbs. She is married to Tim Seip and is mother to Elisa Seip. LTC Seip's current assignment is to be the Deputy Commander for the 28th Division Medical Detachment.

On behalf of all of the citizens of Pennsylvania's 17th Congressional District, I offer my thanks for impressive and dedicated service in the defense of our country, I congratulate Lieutenant Colonel Seip on her promotion, and ask all my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring our invaluable service members like Starr Seip.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM MARINO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2014

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 406, I was unable to get back in time to vote because my daughter was very ill. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING HEAVENLY ANGELS DAYCARE CENTER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Heavenly Angels Daycare Center.

The Heavenly Angels Daycare Center opened on August 8, 2006 with Mrs. Emma Bell as owner and director, in Port Gibson, Claiborne County, Mississippi on Church St.

Mrs. Bell loves children and started Heavenly Angels Daycare Center with 8 enrolled from 6 months to 3 years old. She also had an After School Program with 6 children up to 12 years old.

Through the years, the Heavenly Angels Daycare Center has grown and in 2008 a Pre-K Center was included to better equip children who started in the center to be able to successfully start 1st grade.

Heavenly Angels Daycare Center has been progressing for 8 years with a current full ca-

capacity of 87 children, who are enjoying the process of learning and the After School Program has 27 children.

Mrs. Bell, because of her hard and diligent work at Heavenly Angels Daycare Center has received a trophy honoring her as Businesswoman of the Year.

Mrs. Bell has been married for 25 years to a husband that loves and supports her. They have 5 children: 4 boys and 1 daughter, Janice, who has worked with Heavenly Angels Daycare Center since its opening and graduated from Jackson State University with a Business Degree.

Heavenly Angels Daycare Center's slogan is: To look, listen and learn and every child succeeds. Mrs. Bell stated that "When they come through our doors, we make sure that they get the learning that they need. They all are smart children."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Heavenly Angels Daycare Center for caring and educating children.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2014

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the 40th anniversary of the Legal Services Corporation (LSC).

LSC was established by Congress in 1974 to provide civil legal aid to millions of Americans who would otherwise be unable to afford it. Congress gave the Corporation the mission of ensuring equal access to justice for all Americans, and the Corporation has worked tirelessly to achieve that goal. With nearly 800 offices serving every Congressional district and U.S. territory, LSC offers support to mothers trying to obtain child support, veterans seeking the benefits they earned, and to many other individuals facing an array of issues.

It is noteworthy that three out of four legal aid clients are women, and domestic violence is one of the top issues LSC clients face. Without the efforts of legal counsel from LSC, victims across the country would have no way to seek legal recourse for domestic disputes, enforcing child support payments, or maintaining custody of their children.

In addition, during Superstorm Sandy, when thousands of Americans had their homes and belongings damaged, LSC provided storm-related services to low-income victims to assist in filing claims with insurance companies and help retrieve documents such as insurance and mortgage paperwork that had been lost or damaged in the storm.

Mr. Speaker, every American, regardless of wealth, deserves quality representation before the courts. The work that LSC does to ensure that those most in need receive legal counsel and due process before the courts is invaluable. I am proud to recognize the Legal Services Corporation and LSC-funded attorneys for

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

the vital work they do every day on behalf of Americans who desperately need their counsel. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring their tremendous accomplishments.

ENDING GLOBAL CORRUPTION

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2014

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of my colleagues an article by Judge Mark L. Wolf in the July 23rd Washington Post. Entitled "Ending Global Corruption," the article describes the adverse effect that grand corruption by high officials has not just on matters of governance, but on the basic human rights of a nation's citizens. Judge Wolf proposes establishing an international court on corruption as a possible solution. This is a proposal that merits our close attention and investigation. We must find better means to address massive corruption, and the impunity and human rights abuses required to sustain it. I submit the article in its entirety.

ENDING GLOBAL CORRUPTION

(By Mark L. Wolf)

It was hard to miss Daria at the World Forum on Governance in Prague in April. The 28-year-old lawyer and mother from Kiev was wearing a "Ukraine: [expletive] Corruption" T-shirt. Such a frank message was understandable. Indignation at "grand corruption"—the abuse of public office for personal profit by a nation's leaders—inspired Daria and many others to risk their lives in the Maidan protests that toppled President Viktor Yanukovich in February.

In too many nations, corruption is endemic at the highest levels of government. Then-U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan was correct in characterizing such behavior as an "insidious plague" in his 2003 statement upon the adoption of the U.N. Convention Against Corruption.

Corruption is extraordinarily costly, consuming more than 5 percent of the global gross domestic product. Developing regions lose more than 10 times in illicit financial flows than what they receive in foreign aid. Russia's corruption-fueled "shadow economy" makes up an estimated 44 percent of its GDP.

Corrupt governments also often provide havens for international criminals, including drug lords in Mexico and terrorists in countries such as Afghanistan and Yemen.

Nevertheless, the most serious consequence of grand corruption is that it destroys democracy and devastates the human rights that governments are constituted to protect. Countries recognized as among the world's most corrupt—including Somalia, Afghanistan, Sudan, Iraq and Syria—repeatedly violate the human rights of their citizens. The poor and powerless are victims of corrupt regimes throughout the world.

As Ukraine and Egypt exemplify, opposition to grand corruption is destabilizing many countries and, indeed, the world. International efforts to combat grand corruption have obviously been inadequate. Similar circumstances concerning the evils of genocide and other intolerable human rights abuses led to the creation of the International Criminal Court (ICC) in 2002. An International Anti-Corruption Court (IACC) is now equally necessary.

Grand corruption depends on the culture of impunity that exists in many nations. An

IACC would provide an alternative and effective forum for the enforcement of the laws criminalizing grand corruption that exist in virtually every country, while giving force to the requirements of treaties such as the U.N. Convention Against Corruption and the obligations of organizations such as the World Trade Organization. Like the ICC, an IACC would operate on the principle of complementarity, meaning that only officials from those countries unable or unwilling to prosecute grand corruption properly would be subject to prosecution. This would give many nations a significant incentive to strengthen and demonstrate their capacity to combat grand corruption.

An IACC would be comparable to the approach that has served the United States well. In the United States, we do not depend on elected state prosecutors to address corruption by state and local officials because such prosecutors are often part of the political establishment they would be called upon to police and, in any event, generally lack the necessary legal authority and resources. Instead, we rely primarily on federal investigators, prosecutors and courts to deal with corrupt state and local officials.

Similarly, an IACC would employ an elite corps of investigators expert at unraveling complex financial transactions and prosecutors experienced in preparing and presenting complicated cases. It would also include experienced, impartial international judges.

The IACC's impact would be enhanced if, like federal courts in the United States, it were also empowered to hear civil fraud and corruption cases. An international "whistle-blower" statute enforceable at the IACC would increase the resources that would be devoted to combating fraud and corruption and enhance the potential for restitution for victims.

Notably, an IACC should have strong support from the United States. U.S. companies generally behave ethically and, in addition, are significantly deterred from paying bribes by the threat of prosecution for violating the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act. They would benefit from the more level playing field an IACC would create.

Finally, an IACC would provide the potential for more effective prosecution and punishment of corrupt officials who commonly abuse human rights. Fraud, corruption and associated money laundering can often be proved based on documentary evidence, which is easier to acquire than eyewitness testimony of victims of human rights abuses, who are unlikely to have knowledge of the criminal responsibility of their nation's leaders.

There are practical impediments to establishing an International Anti-Corruption Court and principled concerns to be addressed. But the status quo is intolerable. An IACC could erode the widespread culture of impunity, contribute to creating conditions conducive to the democratic election of honest officials in countries with a history of grand corruption and honor the courageous efforts of the many people, like Daria, who are exposing and opposing corruption at great personal peril.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2014

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took of-

ice, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,599,231,161,990.50. We've added \$6,972,354,113,077.42 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$6.9 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM MARINO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2014

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 405, I was unable to get back in time to vote due to my daughter being very ill.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

THE CHICAGO DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF OLDER PERSONS

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2014

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate John Marshall Law School in Chicago for spearheading a critical discussion about the needs and rights of older persons. Along with Roosevelt University in Chicago, John Marshall Law School has led the drafting of a model international convention to provide legal protections and guarantee human rights for older people. That model convention, the Chicago Declaration on the Rights of Older Persons, will be presented on August 1 before the 5th Session of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing at the United Nations.

According to Ralph Ruebner, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at John Marshall and a leader of the effort, "It is vital that the world's aging citizens receive comprehensive legal protections and support under international law. This proposed convention will go a long way in helping achieve this." The drafting of the document involved months of work by experts and advocates in Chicago and from around the world, including Australia, Canada, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Paraguay, and United Kingdom.

On July 10 & 11, 2014, the 21st Belle R. and Joseph H. Braun Memorial Symposium hosted by John Marshall Law School, together with East China University of Political Science and Law and Roosevelt University, brought elder law and policy experts from around the world to Chicago to discuss issues from social protection and income security to fighting elder abuse to health care and caregiving.

As co-chair of the House Democratic Caucus Seniors Task Force, I work hard every day to ensure that older Americans can remain productive, participate in their communities, and age with dignity. I also know the importance of ensuring that ageism and other forms of discrimination are addressed and that legal rights are incorporated within a comprehensive framework. The Chicago Declaration on the Rights of Older Persons embodies those concepts, and I hope that next week's