

Rep. C.A. Dutch Ruppensberger makes mother proud at Towson retirement community



Recommend

Share New (0)



Congressman Dutch Ruppensberger addresses residents at Edenwald Retirement Community in Towson on May 17. Ruppensberger, who is a part of the Gang of Eight congressional intelligence committee, visited the facility to speak about counterterrorism and the death of Osama bin Laden. (Staff photo by Sarah Pastrana, Staff photo by Sarah Pastrana / May 24, 2011)

By Steve Schuster, sschuster@tribune.com
May 24, 2011 | 8:51 a.m.

Congressman **C.A. Dutch Ruppensberger**, who represents **Maryland's** 2nd District that includes portions of **Baltimore County**, spoke Tuesday afternoon in **Towson** at the **Edenwald** Retirement community before a group of 100 seniors, including his own mother, Peggy Ruppensberger.

She lives in the community and is president of the residence association.

Peggy Ruppensberger said seeing her son speak before her community was a source of great pride.

"I was most proud when he said we are not Democrats, we are not Republicans, we are Americans," when discussing how partisanship was put aside during the **Bin Laden** mission, she said.

Several residents posed questions to the congressman, ranging from national security interests to the recession.

Former **Annapolis** Del. George Price, who was is now an Edenwald resident, asked about the national debt.

"How is that there are 535 people over in Washington that can't get together and settle this debt problem?" Price asked.

"It's a real serious issue ... we almost went into a depression," Ruppensberger said.

"If we don't raise the debt limit and we default, it will have a worldwide repercussion," he added.

"We're going to have pain, but we're not going to throw the baby out with the bath water," Ruppensberger said.

But most of the nearly 90-minute discussion centered around national security topics, including counter-terrorism efforts.

Ruppensberger, serving his fifth year in Congress, was recently named ranking member on the House Intelligence Committee, which is responsible for providing oversight to several agencies, including the **CIA** and the **National Security Agency** based at **Fort Meade**.

"All of the agencies that come together to protect our country from terrorism ... we get the most secretive issues that face our government as it relates to national security,"



Topics

- Osama bin Laden
- Defense
- National Security

[See more topics »](#)

ADS BY GOOGLE

Mormon.org

Learn more about the Church of Jesus Christ
www.mormon.org

Long Term Care Insurance

Consider it wealth insurance. Don't drain your savings paying for care.
www.FreeLTCQuotes.com

My God can whip your God.

My God is better than your God. My God is more likely to exist.
www.sanityquestpublishing.com

ExploreBaltimoreCounty on Facebook

Like

Sign Up Create an account or **log in** to see what your friends are recommending.

<http://www.explorebaltimorecounty.com/community/113328/struggle-with-muscular-dystrophy-cannot-suppr>
121 people shared this.

Ruppertsberger said.

Ruppertsberger's role on the intelligence committee has turned him into a world traveler, which has made him appreciate the homeland even more.

"Our country is such a great country ... all you have to do is travel to understand that. I've been to Iraq six times, Afghanistan, **Pakistan**, Yemen ... Whenever I come back to the United States, I think, 'Oh my God, this is such great country.' I'm glad I'm back here; I'd like to kiss the ground."

Ruppertsberger described the importance of our nation's efforts to hunt and kill Bin Laden.

"Bin Laden was a man that attacked us on **9/11**. He coordinated the attacks. He killed Americans and his whole goal in life was to attack the United States of America," he said.

Ruppertsberger credits good coordination and communication in the intelligence community in finding Bin Laden.

"Why we were so effective is team work. We had the CIA, which is on the ground. We have NSA, who once they identified people that are close to Bin Laden ... We don't realize today how much satellites help our whole system," he said.

"And then we have the military. Our special operations (units) ... are the best in the world at what they do," Ruppertsberger said.

Ruppertsberger said that once the intelligence was in place, it had was up to the president to make a tough choice.

Relying on advice of advisors, the president understood that "if you want to kill a snake, you cut off its head," Ruppertsberger said.

Now that Bin Laden is dead, "We can send a message to the rest of the world now. If you are going to attack the United States, if you are going to come in and kill our people, we are going to find you and bring you to justice," Ruppertsberger said.



Recommend

Share New (0)

« Previous Story

More Explore Baltimore County: Towson Times

Next Story »



Anne Arundel fire officials unveil 26-patient, bus-style ambulance



Baltimore TV stations brace for impact as Winfrey departs

ADS BY GOOGLE

Encuentra Tu Universidad

Hay universidades cerca de ti. Find yours now! On campus & online. Colleges.CampusCorner.com

Protect Your Business

with a TSS vulnerability assessment and security awareness training now www.tsspro.com

FBI - Intelligence Degree

100% Online Intelligence Studies Degree. Accredited and Affordable www.StudyatAPU.com/Intelligence

Related stories



From the Baltimore Sun

- **Ruppertsberger describes viewing photos of bin Laden's body**

Comments (0)

Add comments | Discussion FAQ

Currently there are no comments. Be the first to **comment!**

COMMENTING POLICY: Readers are encouraged to post comments that are germane to the article. We reserve the right to remove any user, and to delete comments that contain abusive language or personal threats, as well as those that are racist or demeaning. Readers may report comments by clicking "Report Abuse." Once a comment has been flagged, a Baltimore Sun staffer will investigate. **Click here** for more information on commenting.