

While we can never bring back the Dawson family and all those who carried a heavy burden of fear due to witness intimidation, we can honor their sacrifice by taking the necessary steps today to ensure that future tragedies are prevented. I urge my colleagues to join me in taking that critical step by cosponsoring the Witness Security and Protection Act.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE AND CAREER OF DR. DOROTHY FEREBEE AS THE NATION CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 17, 2005

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, few people have embodied the educational values and progressive nature of Massachusetts better than Dr. Dorothy Ferebee. Born Dorothy Celeste Boulding in Norfolk, Virginia on January 15, 1889, she was a distinguished African-American physician, administrator, and activist. The grandchild of slaves, she forged a path, overcoming countless obstacles, to build a career that would inspire many but could be replicated by none.

Though a native of Virginia, Dr. Ferebee spent the early part of life in Boston. At a young age her family moved north from Norfolk to Boston, Massachusetts where Dorothy and her brother Ruffin grew up in a middle-class neighborhood. The two siblings matured in a nurturing environment surrounded by relatives that served as role models and encouraged scholarship. One of Dorothy's uncles, George Lewis Ruffin, was the first African-American graduate of Harvard Law School and later became Massachusetts' first black judge. Despite the legal influence of her extended family, there were eight attorneys among them; Dorothy's sights were set on medicine. While her friends played with toys, she cared for sick and injured animals, "I would nurse and help the birds that fell out of trees, the dog that lost a fight."

A true daughter of Boston and its surrounding communities, Dr. Ferebee's secondary, undergraduate, and professional education came exclusively from institutions in Massachusetts' Eighth Congressional District. She graduated from Boston English High School with highest honors and went on to attend Simmons College. Upon completion, she applied to medical school and was one of the first black women accepted by Tufts University School of Medicine. Although she excelled, she was among the top five in her class, was elected a member of Zeta Phi, an honorary medical society for women, and was named Class Historian, she was denied access to internships at white hospitals. Never one to give up, she moved to Washington, DC, for an internship at Freedmen's Hospital, the precursor to Howard University and one of the few hospitals that would allow her to continue her education. There, in 1928, she married Claude Thurston Ferebee, a dentist and member of the teaching staff at Howard University.

Dorothy Ferebee had a very long distinguished career in the medical profession. After completing her internship in 1925, she began her own medical practice and became a professor at Howard University School of Medi-

cine. Not one to sit idly, she was also in charge of student health services at Howard University, directed a health care project for Black sharecroppers in Mississippi, and founded organizations that provided health care for Blacks and day care for children of working mothers.

Dr. Ferebee's time in Washington, DC, allowed her to grow professionally, but she never forgot her Massachusetts roots. Toward the end of her career, the connection to her home returned. President John F. Kennedy, former Congressman from the eighth district of Massachusetts, appointed her to the Council for Food for Peace. Though she could have concluded her career when she resigned from Howard University at the age of seventy-nine, she returned to her home state and continued to lecture about preventative medicine at Tufts University. Never digressing from her passion of selflessly helping others, she worked late into her life eventually passing away on September 14, 1980 of congestive heart failure.

Mr. Speaker, though Dr. Dorothy Ferebee's heart stopped working for her at the age of ninety-one, it never failed to work for others. As a physician and activist, Dr. Ferebee fought to break barriers that impeded progress for Blacks and women. The consummate humanitarian, she worked tirelessly to improve the lives of the downtrodden. Her efforts carried her to the far corners of the world and her legacy will continue to be felt globally, but she will always have her home and beginnings in Massachusetts' Eighth Congressional District.

HONORING THE WINTERS HIGH SCHOOL FFA LIVESTOCK JUDGING TEAM AS NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 17, 2005

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in anticipation of National Future Farmers of America Week, which we celebrate next week, to recognize the Winters High School Future Farmers of America Livestock Judging Team as National Champions. Jesse Beckett, Brenden Benson, Matt Hayes, Jacob Thorne, and their coach Kent Benson merit commendation for their high achievement, fine teamwork, and their leadership as members of the Future Farmers of America.

Last May, the team won the California State Champion Livestock Judging title in San Luis Obispo. Team members spent many hours each week studying for the written examination and traveling on weekends to practice evaluating livestock. On October 29, 2004 their team was named the winner of the National Champion Livestock Evaluation Career Development Event at the 77th Annual FFA National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. They competed against 43 other State Championship teams from the United States.

At the national contest, Mr. Hayes was the highest individual overall, Mr. Beckett was 7th, Mr. Thorne was 8th, and Mr. Benson 21st. The team placed first on the written exam, 1st in sheep, and 1st in reasons. Mr. Benson and Mr. Thorne each received a perfect "50" score on market lamb reasons. In June the Winters High School FFA Livestock Judging Team will

travel to the Royal Highland Show World Competition in Scotland.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we commend, Jesse Beckett, Brenden Benson, Matt Hayes, Jacob Thorne and coach Kent Benson for their skill and commitment in this endeavor and recognize their outstanding success in achieving their National Championship goal. Let us convey our hopes and best wishes to them as they prepare to represent our nation at the Royal Highland Show World competition a few months hence.

HONORING DR. MARY BELLE MCCORKLE

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 17, 2005

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Dr. Mary Belle McCorkle, a fine Tucsonan who has set a remarkable example for us all. This weekend, Mary Belle will receive an award that is much deserved; she will be named the 2004 Woman of the Year by the Tucson Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce (2004).

Over the years, Mary Belle has made a significant commitment to education in our community. Her hard work has provided us all with benefits of immeasurable worth. In her early years with the Tucson Unified School District, Mary Belle served as Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, Principal of both Borton Primary Magnet School and Erickson Elementary School and as a classroom and helping teacher. Her next move led her to become the Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Curriculum and Instruction in the Sunnyside Unified School District in Tucson, from which she retired in 1993.

Mary Belle then went on to serve on the Tucson Unified School District Governing Board for three terms, from 1993 through 2004. She was President of the Board four times and Clerk of the Board twice. In addition to these numerous important jobs, Mary Belle finds the time to mentor administrative interns and teach classes at the University of Phoenix. She has served as an educational consultant for five Arizona school districts, and currently is an Arizona Department of Education Solutions Team Leader. Indeed, Mary Belle has given her talents toward many causes and she has put forth her full effort into each and every one.

A few of Mary Belle's many accomplishments during her tenure on the Tucson Unified School District Governing Board stand out in my mind. In an effort to improve student achievement, Mary Belle led the charge to create an all-day kindergarten program and also to add counselors for elementary schools as she had done while at Sunnyside. Furthermore, she mediated a severe labor dispute which could have resulted in a work action.

Among other awards and recognitions Mary Belle has received in the past are the Ray Davies Lifetime Achievement Award from the Educational Enrichment Foundation (2004), the Frances Miller Community Action Award by the Southern Arizona Association for Education of Young Children (2003), the LULAC (League of United Latin American Citizens) Presidential Citation (2003), the Friend of the