

Mr. Speaker, becoming a member of the Huver I. Brown Trial Advocacy Team is one of the highest honors a Howard law student can earn. The Team is named for Huver I. Brown, an African American attorney who in 1939 sued the District of Columbia Bar Association to gain access to the District of Columbia Bar Association Law Library.

During a trial, the presiding judge asked Attorney Brown to provide legal support for an argument he made. Because at that time only white attorneys were allowed to use the law library, African American attorneys had to skillfully argue without the aid of legal precedent.

In his suit, Attorney Brown asserted that a private bar group could not deny black lawyers access to the law library because it was located in a federal courthouse. Therefore, the denial of access was unconstitutional. In 1941, the lawsuit was settled, and African Americans were allowed access to the library.

In winning that lawsuit, Huver I. Brown achieved a phenomenal victory for the entire country and generations yet unborn.

Mr. Speaker, the impressive win by Huver I. Brown students at the national ABA Mock Trial Competition this year is a testament to their commitment of honoring the legacy for which the team is named.

The victory is also a solid confirmation of the recognition of Howard University as a national power. Such success is worthy of our admiration and praise.

Let the triumph of the Huver I. Brown students remind us of the rich tradition of African American excellence in the mastery of law. I look forward to meeting these future Thurgood Marshalls and Johnnie Cochrans one day, here in the halls of our nation's Capitol, where they would clearly serve well.

Again, I congratulate the members of Howard University School of Law's Trial Advocacy Team on their victory over Harvard Law School in the American Bar Association Mock Trial Competition.

ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 70TH  
BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION OF  
BISHOP J.E. REDDICK

**HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 27, 2005*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of Eastern North Carolina's great public servants, Bishop J.E. Reddick on the occasion of his seventieth birthday celebration.

Bishop J.E. Reddick was born on Easter Sunday afternoon on April 21, 1935. After completing high school in 1953, Bishop Reddick received his collegiate and professional training at Shaw University, A&T State University and Hampton Institute. He is the recipient of the Bachelor of Bible Degree and the Master of Bible Philosophy Degree from the American Bible Institute of Kansas City, Missouri and has received two honorary Doctor of Divinity Degrees from the Universal Bible Institute of Alamo, Tennessee and Shaw University Divinity School respectfully. The United Christian College in Goldsboro, North Carolina awarded him the Doctor Humane of Letters.

Aside from his talents as preacher, teacher and leader, Bishop Reddick's main forte is his

ability as a builder and administrator. He has set Free Will Baptist precedents in the area of church renovation, construction and programs. Bishop Reddick is founder of the Mt. Calvary Free Will Baptist Church, which today is revered as one of the most functional, practical and attractive churches in the Free Will Baptist connection. He led Maury Chapel Free Will Baptist Church congregation from a deteriorating building into a new church structure. Piney Green and Union Grove Free Will Baptist Churches were remodeled under the leadership of Bishop Reddick.

Bishop J.E. Reddick remains highly active in his community. He presently serves as President of the National Convention of Free Will Baptist USA, General Bishop of the United American Free Will Baptist Denomination and Presiding Annual Bishop of North West "B" annual Conference. He also serves as Board Member for Millennia Community Bank (Greenville, NC) and Kinston Housing Authority. He previously served as a Board Member Chairman for the North Carolina Department of Social Services. Bishop Reddick retired from the Lenoir County Public School System after serving 30 years. Bishop Reddick was awarded the "Legion of Honor Award" by the National Chaplain's Association, which is presented to a clergyman for outstanding achievements and accomplishments, and has served 58 years as a Minister of the Gospel.

Bishop Reddick credits his success to faith in God, Christian principles, love from family and support of friends. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating this fine man on seventy years of accomplishments, and wish him many more.

CONGRATULATING LLOYD HILL ON  
HIS INDUCTION TO THE TEXAS  
HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL HALL  
OF FAME

**HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 27, 2005*

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Mr. Lloyd Hill on his induction to the Texas High School Football Hall of Fame. Lloyd played high school football at Odessa Permian.

In his senior year of high school, Lloyd Hill was a vital cog in Odessa Permian's high powered offense in 1989. The Panthers outscored their opponents 620-97 and won the Texas 5A state championship with a 16-0 record. Permian defeated Houston Aldine 28-14 in the Texas State title game that year. Hill was an all-state receiver in 1989 and was a two-time all-district pick. He was also selected to play in the Texas High School Coaches Association All-Star Game. Lloyd Hill lettered at Texas Tech University from 1990-1993 and still holds school receiving records for—yards in a season (1,261), most 100 yard games in a season (7), and most TDs in a season (12). He ranks second on the Red Raider career yardage list. Hill played professional football for the Shreveport Pirates in the Canadian Football League and with the Houston ThunderBears of the Arena Football League.

Again congratulations to Mr. Lloyd Hill on receiving this recognition for his high school career.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS  
OF MARY SILVERS, MT. VALLEY  
SCHOOL TEACHER OF THE YEAR

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 27, 2005*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the many accomplishments of Mary Silvers, Mt. Valley School Teacher of the Year.

Mary Silvers holds a Bachelor's degree from the University of Texas at Austin. She currently runs the Title I reading program at Mt. Valley School in the Comal Independent School District.

Ms. Silvers is not only in the business of teaching her children reading; she also teaches them good character and social skills. She seeks to teach her students tolerance, and the value of individual differences. She organizes her classroom into small cooperative groups, teaching her children how to work together as she teaches them how to read.

Ms. Silvers wants her classroom to be a pleasant place to learn, a place where her students can feel safe and accepted. Her methods have brought her the recognition and thanks of her school and her community.

Ms. Mary Silvers is an exceptional educator, and the message of cooperation and tolerance she brings to her students will stand them in good stead throughout their lives. I am proud to have had the chance to honor her here today.

HONORING RITA K. RONEY

**HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 27, 2005*

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, this Saturday the Girl Scouts—Tip of Texas Council will honor Rita K. Roney with the Woman of Distinction Award. This award is given to someone who exemplifies the ideas and characteristics of the Girl Scout movement and Rita Roney is truly deserving of this honor.

A native of McAllen, Texas, Mrs. Roney joined the Girl Scouts as a child and has continued to support this fine organization as an adult. Working with the Girl Scout board of directors, she has been instrumental in raising the needed funding for the amphitheatre at the new Rio Grande Valley Girl Scout Camp. The amphitheatre will be used for ceremonies, chapel services and other programs.

Rita Roney has not just confined her efforts to supporting the Girl Scouts. She is wellknown throughout the region for her dedication to the community. She serves on numerous boards including the Rio Grande Valley Community Foundation, the McAllen International Museum, the McAllen Medical Center Auxiliary, the McAllen Opera Guild, the Rio Grande Valley International Music Festival and the McAllen Performing Arts.

She has a talent for fundraising that she began honing at the age of 10 when she organized a school fundraiser for the March of Dimes. Over the years, she has been instrumental in raising millions of dollars for groups such as the Boys and Girls Club, the Muscular Dystrophy Association, Mujeres Unidas,

McAllen Junior League, and the St. John's Day School.

Rita has a particular concern for improving the lives of young people and has been involved with anti-drug campaigns and with improving educational opportunities for local children. She has also been an advocate for seniors and can often be found at local nursing homes visiting residents.

Rita Roney has truly exemplified the highest level of community service and is an outstanding role model for young people. I join the Girl Scouts in congratulating her on being the recipient of this year's award.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHNNIE  
COCHRAN, JR., ESQUIRE

**HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 27, 2005*

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, "You are empowered to do justice. You are empowered to ensure that this great system of ours works. Listen for a moment, will you, please."—Johnnie Cochran, Closing Statement, O.J. Simpson Trial.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Johnnie Cochran, Jr. who died of a brain tumor on March 29, 2005. The New York Times called him "fierce," "flamboyant," and "electrifying." Johnnie certainly was fierce, flamboyant and electrifying. He was also nuanced, principled, and persuasive—a giant in the legal profession.

Mr. Speaker, throughout his life, Johnnie Cochran believed wholeheartedly in the power and promise of the American judicial system. He was born in a charity hospital in Shreveport, Louisiana. His great grandparents had been slaves, his grandparents were sharecroppers, and his father was a pipefitter. When he was still a child, the Cochran family moved to California in search of opportunity and a better life. It was from California that the 11-year-old Johnnie watched Thurgood Marshall prosecute Brown vs. the Board of Education. Inspired by the trial, Johnnie, at only 11 years old, decided he wanted to be a lawyer. As he said in an NPR interview toward the end of his life, "After Brown vs. Board came along, I knew I wanted to use the law to change society for the better."

Mr. Speaker, throughout his life, Johnnie Cochran was on the frontlines where race, politics and the law intersected. There are some detractors who mistakenly believed Johnnie fostered race divisions, but, in truth, he spent his life as an integrator. He was one of two dozen black students to desegregate Los Angeles High School in the 1950s. As a young lawyer, he served as an inspiration to many African Americans who watched him, a lone black face amidst a sea of white lawyers, as he crusaded against corruption and racism in law enforcement. When the riots broke out after a verdict was reached in the Rodney King trial, Cochran represented Reginald Denny, a white truck driver who had been attacked by a mob, arguing that his civil rights had been violated.

But, Mr. Speaker, Johnnie made a career out of defending African Americans—from the O.J.s to what he called the "No Js," cases in which the "chances for getting paid are actu-

ally pretty slim." High profile trials made Johnnie Cochran a celebrity, but it was the victories for justice that made him proud. In 1978, Johnnie Cochran traded in his \$300,000 salary for a \$49,000 job as an Assistant District Attorney in Los Angeles County because he wanted to effect change from inside the system. His most cherished triumph was the vindication of Elmer "Geronimo" Pratt, a former Black Panther who served 25 years in prison for murder before being exonerated. In 1997, when the judge read the verdict that set Pratt free, Johnnie said, "It doesn't get any better than this."

Mr. Speaker, Johnnie Cochran was a courtroom wizard with a practical sensibility and a lyrical lilt. He was a champion of racial justice, with just a touch of the razzle dazzle. We will miss him.

If I may, I would like to close the way I began. Let Johnnie Cochran's words serve as a reminder to us today and everyday. "You are empowered to do justice. You are empowered to ensure that this great system of ours works. Listen for a moment, will you, please."

A TRIBUTE TO BROOKLYN  
COLLEGE

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 27, 2005*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the seventy-fifth anniversary of "Brooklyn College of the City University of New York, who I am proud to represent in the House of Representatives. Concurrently, the Council of the City of New York is scheduled to adopt a resolution congratulating Brooklyn College and its President, Dr. Christoph M. Kimmich, on their anniversary and outstanding efforts on behalf of the Brooklyn community.

Mr. Speaker, Brooklyn College was founded on May 15, 1930, upon the merger of the Brooklyn branches of Hunter College and City College as the first coeducational public college in New York City. At its inception it was a modest institution that has developed tremendously and flourished marvelously.

Brooklyn College provides superb education in the arts and sciences and has served the community by graduating, over the past seventy-five years, more than 140,000 ethnically and culturally diverse students, reflecting New York City's rich sociological fabric. Brooklyn College has been recognized nationally for its outstanding faculty, rigorous academic standards, innovative curriculum, and beautiful campus, and was recently ranked third among America's Best Value Colleges by the Princeton Review.

Mr. Speaker, Brooklyn College will be holding many special events throughout the year in celebration of this anniversary, including a birthday party on May 10, 2005, on the College Quadrangle.

Mr. Speaker, I believe it is incumbent upon this body to recognize the activities celebrating the seventy-fifth anniversary of Brooklyn College and its ongoing dedication to providing excellence in education. I encourage my colleagues to join the residents of Brooklyn in honoring Brooklyn College and its many alumni, students, faculty, and staff upon this very momentous occasion.

HONORING ARABELLA MARTINEZ

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 27, 2005*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Arabella Martinez, a remarkable individual who is retiring after many years of exemplary service and dedicated community involvement in Oakland, California. On May 11, 2005, the community will celebrate Ms. Martinez "The legacy of a Living Legend" at a dinner in her honor.

Arabella Martinez has extensive experience in a wide range of activities affecting the role of minorities and women in the economy and larger society. Her experience in social work, community action programs, and community development led to her conviction that economic development, evolving from strong, community-directed institutions, was the most effective path toward economic self-sufficiency and empowerment. President Jimmy Carter recognized Ms. Martinez's talent and experience and appointed her Secretary for Human Development Services in the Department of Health Education and Welfare. She became the first Hispanic woman to hold this position.

Ms. Martinez was one of the founders and the first Executive Director of the Spanish Speaking Unity Council. After a fifteen-year absence, she returned to the Unity Council in December 1989, to rescue it from near bankruptcy. The Spanish Speaking Unity Council is now one of the largest and most successful community development corporations in the nation. Besides founding the Unity Council, Ms. Martinez helped build the Women's Initiative for Self Employment as a Board member and consultant. She raised over \$800,000 for the Oakland YWCA's capital campaign to save its historically significant Julia Morgan building.

Over the past ten years, Ms. Martinez has successfully worked to revitalize the Fruitvale district, an inner-city neighborhood in Oakland, California. The revitalization includes major real estate development projects, community building activities, and a range of community and family asset development programs. Ms. Martinez's major responsibility has been the successful development of a \$100 million mixed use, transit-oriented development around the Fruitvale BART station. The Transit Village includes 245,000 square feet of community facilities, child development and senior centers, a community clinic, a library, technology center, retail space housing and podium parking in two multi-level complexes, bisected by a pedestrian plaza.

The Fruitvale Transit Village has transformed the community and its residents. It provides social services as well as community empowerment for individuals and businesses to thrive.

Arabella Martinez is truly a living legend who continues to work tirelessly for the benefit of others. I join the community in expressing heartfelt appreciation for her noteworthy contributions. She leaves a legacy of talent and commitment that is hard to match.