

BROOKLYN REMEMBERS

HON. VITO FOSSELLA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2005

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, on May 17th, I was joined by 9/11 families, elected officials, and community leaders to unveil Brooklyn's official memorial dedicated to the events of September 11, 2001. This memorial pays tribute to the 283 men and women of King's County killed on that horrific day. The air was filled with sadness in the days and months that followed. Because of this, in October of 2001, I along with State Senator Marty Golden, realized that a memorial was the best way to honor the lives of these brave men and women. Within days community leaders organized a committee to raise private funds and started the process to design a memorial and make it a reality. Realizing that this was not only a New York State issue but also a national one, I worked hard to secure \$50,000 to begin the groundwork for the memorial.

The memorial, entitled the "Beacon," soars 25 feet in the air and is shaped like a speaking trumpet to resemble the device once used by the volunteer fire brigades of New York City to transmit warnings to the crowd and give orders to the firefighters. The thoughtfulness and simplicity of the design is second to none. It directly reflects the Bay Ridge community and the residents of King's County New York. The memorial was placed at the 69th Street Pier. This was fitting with its broad vista's of the harbor and downtown Manhattan, as it was the location to which many Brooklynites went to watch the tragic events of September 11, 2001 unfold.

Those whose lives were lost on September 11 will remain in our thoughts and prayers forever. The "Beacon" will help all of us, not only New Yorkers, but those all over our great Nation keep alive the names and memories of those who are no longer with us. It will allow us to remember their sacrifice and honor their lives. The memorial will serve as a reminder to future generations that our freedom must be cherished and never taken for granted because so many gave their lives in its name.

I would like to personally praise the outstanding efforts of the memorial committee. They raised the necessary funding, established a selection process, chose an outstanding artist, and organized the beautiful ceremony. They devoted their time and efforts without any compensation or recompense. Without their continued efforts and determination this memorial would not have been possible.

I would like to enter into the RECORD the names of the Brooklyn Remembers Committee:

Stephen Harrison, Robert Howe, Basil Capetanakis, Richard Conti, William Guarinello, Patrick Condren, Gene Brody, Howard Feuer, Denise Virga, Serge Allegretti, Corrado Manfredi, Craig Eaton, Joseph Caruanna, Anthony Troia.

TEEN DATING VIOLENCE
EDUCATION ACT OF 2005**HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2005

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, while teenage dating violence often does not get the widespread attention that adult domestic violence receives, it is no less of an insidious epidemic. Currently, girls and women between the ages of 16 and 24 are the most vulnerable to domestic violence, experiencing the highest per capita rates of non-fatal intimate partner violence. One-third of teens report experiencing some kind of abuse in their romantic relationships and approximately one in five adolescent girls report being physically or sexually hurt by a dating partner.

Both CNN and ABC News have recently run reports on the tragic consequences of teen dating violence. In one such incident, an Austin, Texas 16-year-old star football player stabbed his 15-year-old girlfriend to death. The perpetrator of this crime had a history of teen dating violence that started when he was in the 8th grade. This horrifying incident may have been preventable had the victim of this crime or his previous girlfriends had full access to information about legal steps they could have taken to ensure they would not be in further danger.

Unfortunately, this act of violence is not an isolated incidence. These situations play themselves out across this nation. Dating violence cuts across ethnic, racial and socio-economic lines.

We can take affirmative steps to ensure that this type of tragedy is not repeated in other forms. Preventative action is necessary.

Today, I introduce legislation that will empower young victims of dating violence with information about their legal rights. The "Teenage Dating Violence Education Act of 2005" mandates that domestic violence educational programs geared towards elementary and high school students include information about the legal rights of teenage victims of dating violence.

It is not enough to tell students that abusive relationships are wrong. We also need to specifically inform them on the various ways they can get out of those relationships. The legal system is one place they can turn. They deserve to know about these recourses. For victims of dating violence, knowledge really is power.

Teenagers who engage in dating violence in this country need to know that there are legal ramifications for their actions. Teenage victims of dating violence need to know that mechanisms in the legal system exist to help them.

Educating teenagers in this area is a matter of safety and a matter of common sense. We can do our part to make sure the cycle of violence is not perpetuated. We must do our part.

I ask my colleagues today to join me in support of this vital piece of legislation.

CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF MISS
SARAH GRACE POTTER**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2005

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today, I am happy to congratulate Jim and Karen Potter of Potomac Falls, Virginia, on the birth of their beautiful baby girl. Sarah Grace Potter was born Wednesday at 12:37 p.m., weighing 7 pounds, 15 ounces and measuring 21 inches long. Sarah has been born into a loving home, where she will be raised by parents who are devoted to her well-being and bright future. Her birth is a blessing.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
TO NAME THE "JOHN LEWIS
CIVIL RIGHTS INSTITUTE"**HON. DAVID SCOTT**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2005

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to introduce legislation to honor the senior Member from the state of Georgia and my friend, JOHN LEWIS, for his work as an engineer of the civil rights movement. Along with my colleague in the other body, Senator SAXBY CHAMBLISS, I proudly put my name as the original sponsor of this bill to name a historic building near the center of the struggle for equality—Auburn Avenue in Atlanta, Georgia—as the "John Lewis Civil Rights Institute."

Without question, Congressman LEWIS' work in the civil rights movement was crucial to the success of that struggle. He grew up in Alabama, and was inspired to get involved after hearing reports of the Montgomery bus boycott, orchestrated by the young Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. As a student at Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee, Congressman LEWIS began organizing sit-ins at segregated lunch counters. He also participated in the freedom rides, challenging segregated bus stations across the South. For these simple acts of non-violent resistance, JOHN LEWIS was often violently physically attacked. But his resolve did not waver.

Congressman LEWIS served as Chairman of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) which students of history recall as the central group working to organize and publicize the demonstrations by young people which were occurring across the region. This increasingly high-profile work lead him to be named as one of the "Big Six" leaders of the movement, and brought about his role as a speaker at the March on Washington in August 1963, a political and cultural event that changed the course of the nation.

But Congressman LEWIS' life-threatening commitment to change did not end there. In 1965, Congressman LEWIS led over 600 non-violent protesters in the march across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama. Through the gripping media coverage of this disturbing event, the rest of America was finally forced to confront the violence and injustice being perpetrated against African Americans.

And his work for civil rights continues to this day. From his work during the height of the