

to the sites of many of the civil rights struggles of the 1950s and 1960s. It was an unforgettable experience. All of the Members of Congress felt as I did, how lucky we were to visit these sites: the Edmund Pettus Bridge, the Dexter Avenue King Memorial Church, the 16th Street Baptist Church, the Civil Rights Institute and the Rosa Parks Museum, with some of the activists who led the movement. To see these places through their eyes, to hear them describe what it was like when the very church we were sitting in was under siege by an angry mob of segregationists, to witness tears come down their cheeks as they thought of where they had been and where we were standing.

As we reflected on the moving events of the pilgrimage, the Members of Congress—many like me, too young to remember well the civil rights movement—kept asking ourselves two questions: What would I have done? Would I have been an activist, or, like so many Americans, simply indifferent? And what about today? What is the contemporary relevance of the civil rights movement?

The more we pondered what we would have done, black or white, had we been born into 1960's Alabama, and the more we asked ourselves about what we could do to advance the civil rights movement today, the more I began to realize that the two questions were really interconnected.

The best window into what we would have done, the best insight into what might have been, can be gleaned from what we do in the future. While America today provides all of its citizens with more opportunities and better protects those most vulnerable, too many still face vestiges of bigotry. We can look to the Civil Rights Movement to inspire us to build a greater and more just society, but we must learn from the example set by Rosa Parks that each of us must take an affirmative step to ensure that our country remains faithful to the ideals of its founding. If we dedicate ourselves to the cause of racial justice, arm ourselves with an appreciation of history, and commit ourselves to the provision of equal opportunity to all, we will stand on the frontier of the new civil rights movement. And that would be the most fitting pilgrimage of all.

#### THE DEATH OF RICHARD PENN KEMBLE

#### HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 27, 2005*

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, all too seldom we are blessed with a person of extraordinary talent, vision and blinding commitment to social justice who devotes his entire life—selflessly and completely—to the public interest, and to spreading the values of his nation all across the planet. Penn Kemble, who died October 15th after a fierce year long struggle with brain cancer, was that rare kind of American.

Penn devoted his life to ideas. He fought with passion for what he believed, and he sometimes fought alone. He was a college socialist who battled against the Stalinists who led the Soviet Union; a hardliner on defense and foreign policy issues who came to become a leader in the fight to negotiate an end to the war in Vietnam. He was a Scoop Jack-

son Democrat, a Hubert Humphrey Democrat, a Bill Clinton Democrat—always a Democrat working within our Party to make it more committed to social and economic justice and more committed to a strong and realistic national security policy. Some talked change—Penn caused it: a civil rights leader who put his life on the line fighting for racial equality, but confident enough in himself and his values to lead the fight against racial quotas; an internationalist who was not afraid to confront and challenge what he perceived to be dangerous isolationism within his Party. Through the difficult decades of the 1970s and 1980s, some chose to cut and run when they did not have their way. Penn Kemble chose to stay and fight. No one fought harder and with more conviction.

And nothing exemplified his commitment to values, to ideas and to the strength of the American experience more than his work as Deputy Director and Acting Director of the United States Information Agency, where he created and executed the brilliant and unique international CIVITAS program to promote civil society and civic education around the world. Like so many things that Penn developed, he created CIVITAS to break out of the worn mold of traditional West-to-East assistance in democracy building by replacing it with an innovative participatory network to develop civil society and free markets in emerging democracies through civic education and grass roots civic participation. CIVITAS was thinking “outside the box.” It was, in the words of one of its Russian participants, “a unique possibility to see the full context of what we can do to support democracy, in concrete terms, now and in the future.” CIVITAS is an international dialogue, not a monologue by the U.S.

Penn's vision can best be summarized in his own words. In Prague, in 1995, Penn Kemble said that “today there is an emerging recognition that what we usually think of as the civic realm and the economic realm are interlinked, and that when one is strong the other is generally strong, and that when one is weak or broken the other is in danger, too . . . One thing we surely have neglected is education. Education is the principal means for transmitting and strengthening the values and understandings—the subjective element, the culture—on which the institutions of all societies rest. Perhaps democratic society more than any other depends on the quality of its education.”

At USIA Penn Kemble saw that our embassies and public diplomacy posts abroad would work with local NGOs to foster civic education as a transformative element to grow democracy from the grass roots. He understood that a truly international movement for civic education could take an issue and give it life, a place on the international agenda of the community of democratic nations—whether it was human rights, sensible environment policies, or equal protection, treatment and opportunity for women in modern society. He internationalized national issues. He was nobly committed to the globalization of social democracy.

Participants in the most recent gathering of the CIVITAS consortium in Amman, Jordan in June 2005, were struck with the realization that the group that Penn Kemble first convened in Prague 10 years before was still at it, plugging away in the trenches to build support for teaching democracy in schools and building a culture of democracy from the bottom up.

Robert F. Kennedy once said that “the future does not belong to those who are content with today, apathetic toward common problems and their fellow man alike, timid and fearful in the face of new ideas and bold projects. Rather it will belong to those who can blend vision, reason and courage in a personal commitment to the ideals and great enterprises of American Society.”

That future—the future of the universal dream of social justice that should be the dream of all people everywhere—belongs to Penn Kemble. The very definition of CIVITAS is Penn's legacy: “the concepts and values of citizenship that impart shared responsibility, common purpose and a sense of community among citizens.” He will be missed, but the power of his ideas makes him immortal. Time, justice and the forces of history are on Penn's side.

#### AMERICAN INGENUITY AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

#### HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 27, 2005*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise with my colleagues Representative BEN CARDIN of the Third Congressional District of Maryland and Representative STENY HOYER of the Fifth Congressional District of Maryland today to bring to our colleagues' attention an excellent article that appeared in the Inside Annapolis Magazine this month about a family business in Galesville, MD. The business, Smith Brothers, Inc., is an excellent example of American ingenuity and entrepreneurship. We are proud to know Kenneth Smith and his son Jeff Smith and would like to congratulate them on the recent acknowledgement of their value to the community. America needs more people like the Smiths, who have a can-do attitude and are willing to work hard to excel. We have attached a copy of the article, which explains some of the history of the company and family and how their attitude has helped them in business and life.

#### SMITH BROTHERS: BUILDING ON A FIRM FOUNDATION

(By Kathy Bergren Smith)

When the makers of the upcoming romantic comedy starring Matthew MacConaughy and Sarah Jessica Parker came to Maryland scouting locations and resources, one of their first stops was in the quiet village of Galesville; just south of Annapolis. The film includes multiple scenes of frolicking dolphins and the marine coordinators needed a way to transport the radio-controlled “stand-ins” as well as millions of dollars worth of camera and sound equipment around the Bay. They found what they were looking for at Smith Brothers, an eighty-seven-year-old family business that provides tugboat and barge services for customers as diverse as Paramount Pictures, the Lincoln Tunnel and the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant. The company's extensive fleet of charter equipment is the largest between Baltimore and Norfolk. Marine contractors rent Smith Brothers equipment to build piers and bulkheads, dredge channels and shoot off fireworks. The story of how Smith Brothers became the “one stop shop” for tugs, barges, cranes, anchors and chains goes back . . . way back . . . and is best told by the company's president, Kenneth Smith, the last of the Smith Brothers.