

and the United States of America. I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking the men and women of the 137th Space Warning Squadron for their unparalleled service to our community and our Nation.

KENTUCKY VICTIMS OF HOMICIDE
MEMORIAL

HON. BEN CHANDLER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 3, 2005

Mr. CHANDLER. Mr. Speaker, November 10, 2005 is going to be a very special, yet bittersweet day in Kentucky. After years of hard work and planning, the Kentucky Victims of Homicide Memorial is going to be brought to fruition. As former Attorney General I distinctly remember the beginnings of this project, and I regret that I must be voting in Washington during the memorial dedication.

I personally want to extend my heartfelt appreciation to the KY Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), the Kentuckians' Voice for Crime Victims (KVCV), Resthaven Memorial Park, Muldoon Memorials, and Dignity Memorial for their enormous efforts in seeing that this memorial became a reality.

This memorial will serve as a remembrance of all victims, a place of comfort for those who have lost loved ones and an ongoing tribute to the fight against crime. We must maintain hope in our struggle against violence. We must continue to raise public awareness. And we must always honor the tragic deaths of innocent homicide victims.

The Kentucky Victims of Homicide Memorial will send a powerful message to the citizens of Kentucky. It is the largest memorial and only memorial of its kind in all of the United States. It will serve as a place of inspiration, a place of hope and a place of peace. I thank those who made this memorial a reality, and I hope it will provide a small sense of comfort to those who have been affected by violent crimes.

HONORING THE REVEREND DR.
CALVIN E. OWENS, SR.

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 3, 2005

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate and honor Reverend Dr. Calvin E. Owens, Sr. as he marks his 29th Pastoral Anniversary. But 29 years is only one milestone in a life dedicated to the community, to others, and to God.

After 38 years as a preacher and a lifetime as a teacher, Reverend Dr. Calvin Owens has inspired and lifted so many to recognize the potential that God has invested in each one of us.

Reverend Owens's career has seen him travel through so many institutions, and like the Good Samaritan, leave his mark every step of the way.

His pastoral journey began at Unity of Tabernacle Baptist Church in Mt. Vernon and, in 1968 after being ordained as a minister of the Gospel, he went to First Corinthian Baptist

Church. It was there he served for six years as Director of Youth Development before moving on to the New Community Baptist Church of New York City as Pastor.

He served there honorably before being called to serve the Lord as Pastor of the Community Protestant Church in 1976, the place he still calls home.

But he has inspired and educated not only from the pulpit, but out in the community spreading the word of forgiveness, mercy, love and tolerance as part of the New York City Police Department's Police Clergy Liaison Committee; as the Second Vice President of the Riverbay Board of Directors of Co-op City; Treasurer of the Baptist Ministers Conference of Greater New York; and for eight years now as a member of Community Board #10. He is always serving his flock.

The good works of Reverend Dr. Owens have not gone unnoticed. A certificate of Award for Faithful Service from the New York Baptist Educational Center; the New York Baptist Educational Center Certificate of Appreciation for Outstanding Service and Contributions to the Department of Pastoral Care; the Bronx Ministers Evening Conference Scholarship Award; the Harlem Hospital Center Certificate of Appreciation for Outstanding Service and Contributions to the Department of Pastoral Care; as well as numerous other awards for Christian leadership and service.

But the awards most important to highlight are the one's provided by God—his three sons and three daughters. They are a living tribute to you, Reverend.

Therefore, on behalf of United States House of Representatives, I am honored to acknowledge and honor the life and contributions of Reverend Dr. Calvin E. Owens, Sr. as he celebrates his 29th Pastoral Anniversary.

H.R. 4179: JAPANESE BAN ON
AMERICAN BEEF

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 3, 2005

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 4179. This legislation would impose trade sanctions on Japan if the ban on American beef is not lifted by a reasonable date. For decades, Japan has been a friend and reliable trading partner with the United States, and I anticipate that relationship will prosper. However, in spite of our best efforts, our fine relationship has been strained by Japan's continued ban on imports of U.S. beef.

There is reason to be optimistic that this legislation will not be enacted if Japan takes reasonable action. Japan's Food Safety Commission gave a favorable report on Monday, October 31, 2005, and will continue to review the ban for a mandatory one-month comment period. After the one-month waiting period, the Japanese government may drop the ban and resume beef imports. However, should the Japanese not take favorable action, the trade sanctions would go into effect on December 15, 2005.

The December 15 date is not arbitrary. In fact, I believe it is a well-timed and necessary mechanism to encourage the ban to be lifted. The U.S. beef industry and the federal government have not only assured the Japanese

government of our stringent safety standards, but have also made every effort to exceed the requirements set forth by Japan's Food Safety Commission.

American beef continues to be the safest and the highest quality beef in the world. The American beef producers deserve the full benefit of our bilateral trade agreement. This legislation reserves our right to respond forcefully should Japan prolong this shortsighted ban. I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this legislation.

WELCOMING SOUTH KOREAN
AMBASSADOR TAE-SIK LEE

HON. VITO FOSSELLA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 3, 2005

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, as cochair of the Congressional Caucus on Korea, I would like to take the opportunity to formally welcome the Honorable Tae-Sik Lee as ambassador of the Republic of Korea to the United States and to congratulate him on his appointment.

Ambassador Lee's diplomatic credentials and legacy are entrenched in a life-long devotion to promoting, enlarging and broadening South Korea's stature and prominence at home and around the globe. He most recently served as vice foreign minister at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, MOFAT. His other notable diplomatic assignments include ambassador to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, ambassador to Israel and deputy executive director of the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization, KEDO.

It is clear that Ambassador Lee brings tremendous depth of experience and expertise to Washington. I was pleased to learn that, upon his arrival on Friday, October 14, he stated, according to the South Korean Embassy, that he "looks forward to working together to strengthen the U.S.-Korea alliance and improving Korean-American relations."

It is important to note that Ambassador Lee has the distinct honor of representing one of America's closest allies. For over 50 years, the United States and South Korea have enjoyed a broad and comprehensive alliance, a partnership dedicated to peace and stability, economic growth and prosperity through free enterprise, and democracy with respect for human rights and the rule of law.

South Korea has undergone a fundamental transformation within the past 50 years, having emerged from a worn-torn and impoverished nation into a full and mature democracy that has generated the world's 11th largest economy. South Korea now ranks as the seventh largest trading partner of the United States with over \$72 billion in trade volume annually and is also the fifth largest market for U.S. agricultural products. In this regard, South Korea would make an excellent candidate for a Free Trade Agreement, FTA with the United States.

South Korea remains an indispensable security partner to the United States, having stood alongside our troops in all four major conflicts that we have faced since the Korean War. Most recently, in the U.S.-led war on terror, South Korea has deployed more than