

There are currently more than 68,000 Texans living with the disease.

Americans should be reminded that HIV/AIDS does not discriminate when it comes to who can catch the disease. In fact, HIV is taking a devastating and disproportionate toll on people of color.

Among women living with HIV in Texas in 2005: 19 percent are White, 18 percent are Hispanic, and over 60 percent are African American.

The Congressional Black Caucus will continue to lead the HIV/AIDS fight in Congress and support programs that are making progress against this devastating disease.

We can and must all do more. Governments, corporations, foundations, religious groups and private citizens must unite to win the war on AIDS.

There is no other moral or practical choice.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DETECTIVE  
MIKE THOMAS

**HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 27, 2006*

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a fallen policeman from Colorado, Mike Thomas.

This week thousands of Coloradans paid their respects to Detective Thomas, who was killed earlier this month while waiting at a stoplight. According to reports, officers came from as far away as Canada to pay their respects.

Mr. Thomas was a longtime dedicated public servant. He spent more than two decades serving the community as a policeman, and like his father Delbert, was an Air Force veteran. He will be sorely missed.

I was particularly moved by an account I read in The Denver Post about Mr. Thomas recounted by police Captain Jerry Hinkle. Hinkle told those gathered at the funeral about a card the department had received from a well-wisher named "George" after news of Mike Thomas' tragic death. In the card, George wrote about how when he was a teenage gang member whose future prospects looked bleak, he encountered Mr. Thomas. Thomas pulled up to the boy in his squad car, Hinkle said, and told him to get in. The two talked, and today George is the owner of a successful security company.

Mr. Speaker, all Coloradans owe a great debt of gratitude to Mike Thomas, and all of the men and women of law enforcement who risk their lives each day to guarantee our safety.

He will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

HONORING FIRST BAPTIST  
CHURCH OF CLARKSVILLE ON 175  
YEARS OF WORSHIP

**HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 27, 2006*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege for me today to take a moment and

honor a community of people in Clarksville, Tennessee. The First Baptist Church in Clarksville is celebrating a remarkable 175 years of worship and that's an achievement we ought to all applaud.

With a history of faithful and dynamic leadership, the First Baptist congregation has blessed the community of Clarksville with their ministry and prayer. Pastor Roger Freeman continues this legacy of good works through faith as the current Senior Pastor of First Baptist.

From an active Senior Adult Ministry to a tremendous Preschool Ministry, the church is making our community a better place every day. With strength and faith, the congregation reaches out to the community of Clarksville and offers many a beacon of hope and comfort.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Pastor Freeman and the congregation of First Baptist Church of Clarksville for their continued ministry and with them all the best for another 175 years of dedication to the Lord.

RECOGNIZING JIMMY SEEMAN OF  
DADE CITY, FLORIDA

**HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 27, 2006*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the amazing achievements of Jimmy Seeman of Dade City, Florida. Already exhibiting an entrepreneurial spirit at the age of 17, Jimmy runs his own 40-acre nursery, Gardens Wholesale Nursery.

Jimmy began to take an active interest in the agricultural field at the age of 13 while working alongside his father at his lawn maintenance business. Starting by growing a few plants on the side, Jimmy eventually expanded his operation and opened his own nursery. Today Gardens Wholesale Nursery includes several employees and 40-acres of plantable land.

Showing an amazing drive for personal growth, Jimmy has taken it upon himself to learn Spanish to better communicate with many of his employees, often waking at 3 a.m. to study and practice his Spanish. Jimmy has also taught himself to fix computers and install irrigation.

With the support of his parents, Cathy and Jimmy, and his two brothers, Michael and Jacob, Jimmy has shown that neither age nor experience are required to be an accomplished businessman. Through hard work and dedication Jimmy has proven to his family and friends that he is well on his way to achieving remarkable success in his chosen field.

Mr. Speaker, it is young men and women like Jimmy Seeman that should be congratulated for contributing to the American Entrepreneurial spirit. I look forward to following Jimmy's career as he runs Gardens Wholesale Nursery and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE**

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 27, 2006*

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, if I had been present to vote on Monday, September 25 and Tuesday, September 26, 2006, I would have voted in the following way:

Yes—H.R. 5059—New Hampshire Wilderness Act of 2006

Yes—H.R. 5062—New Hampshire Wilderness Act of 2006

No—H.R. 5092—Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (BATFE) Modernization and Reform Act of 2006

No—H.R. 4772—Private Property Rights Implementation Act of 2006

Yes—H. Res. 989—Commending the United Kingdom for its efforts in the War on Terror, and for other purposes

Yes—H. Res. 1017—Affirming support for the sovereignty and security of Lebanon and the Lebanese people

Yes—H. Res. 1038—Rule providing for H.R. 2679—Public Expression of Religion Act

Yes—H. Res. 1039—Rule providing for S. 403—Child Custody Protection Act

No—S. 403—Child Custody Protection Act

Yes—H. Res. 723—Calling on the President to take immediate steps to help improve the security situation in Darfur, Sudan, with a specific emphasis on civilian protection

Yes—H. Res. 992—Urging the President to appoint a Special Envoy for Sudan

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF  
HEALTH REFORM ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

**HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 26, 2006*

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge this Congress to redouble its efforts in the fight against cancer.

Over 33,000 people in my home state of Massachusetts will be diagnosed with some form of cancer this year.

I recently met with a number of constituents about the importance of increased funding for cancer research. One of my constituents, Judith Hurley, shared her cancer story with me. After extreme weight loss and extensive testing, Judith was diagnosed with stage 4 metastatic breast cancer, which had spread to her bones. Judith endured a variety of treatments, and made one thing clear to her doctors: she was not through raising her children.

Mr. Speaker, I am happy to report that in July, Judith became a 5-year cancer survivor.

Another one of my constituents, Sue Tereshko is a two-time breast cancer survivor.

Mr. Speaker, constituents like Judith and Sue are the beneficiaries of advances in cancer treatment.

Congress must do more to fund cancer research and treatment programs.

First, we should pass the National Institutes of Health Reform Act of 2006, which authorizes a 5% increase in funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Congress must also appropriate a 5% increase for the NIH in the

FY 2007 Labor-HHS Appropriations bill. A 5% increase over last year's levels would give an additional \$240 million to the National Cancer Institute alone. This funding would allow the Institute to further fund the basic research necessary to determine the root causes of cancer and improve care.

However, a 5% increase in NIH funding will only maintain pace with rising costs and inflation. It is essentially flat-funding for the NIH. Therefore, I challenge this House to support a 5% increase in NIH funding in addition to any increase to cover the cost of inflation, which Democrats have previously proposed.

Second, Congress should pass the Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Act and the Breast Cancer Patient Protection Act.

Next week will begin National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. While important advances have been made, we still do not know what causes this disease, or how to prevent it.

Breast cancer remains the second leading cause of cancer death among women. The American Cancer Society estimates that a woman in the United States has a 1 in 7 chance of developing invasive breast cancer during her lifetime—this risk was 1 in 11 in 1975.

Congress has failed to act on the Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Act, a bill with the overwhelming bipartisan support of 255 members. The Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Act will further our understanding of the impact that environmental factors have on breast cancer. For the 3 million women living with breast cancer and their families, we should pass this important legislation.

Congress should also pass the Breast Cancer Patient Protection Act.

My constituent Donna Carbone was lucky to have her surgeon override a hospital's decision to send her home less than 24 hours after her mastectomy in 1998. We must ensure that Donna's experience is no longer the exception to the rule, but instead becomes the standard quality of care.

The Breast Cancer Patient Protection Act, which has the bipartisan support of 180 members, would prohibit an insurer from limiting impatient care following a mastectomy to less than 48 hours.

On the eve of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, let's recommit ourselves to finding the root causes of breast cancer and improving patient care. Let's not offer just false hope, let us fight a real war on cancer by investing in the tools necessary to eradicate this disease.

#### HIV/AIDS

### HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 27, 2006*

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, in 2004, my state of Illinois, had the 4th highest numbers of African Americans living with AIDS—nearly 8,000—of the more than 35,000 people living with HIV/AIDS. Despite the improvements in the health outcomes of AIDS patients in the general population, in communities of color AIDS is the leading cause of death of African American women between the ages of 25 and 34 and the third leading cause of death among Hispanics between the ages of 35 and 44.

Mr. Speaker, last week, the House Energy and Commerce Committee, on which I serve, reported H.R. 6143, the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Act by a vote of 38 to 10. While the bill is flawed in several respects—particularly in the level of funding that it authorizes to provide essential treatment and services to victims of HIV/AIDS—the legislation did, for the first time, codify the Minority Aids Initiative (MAI) as a separate title of the Ryan White CARE Act reauthorization.

This means that for the first time in its history, the Minority AIDS Initiative will become permanent law when H.R. 6143 is enacted.

The Minority AIDS Initiative is specifically designed to bridge the gap in HIV service delivery by providing culturally competent and linguistically appropriate HIV care and support services provided for under the MAI.

Since communities of color still account for a disproportionate number of HIV/AIDS cases, I am pleased that the Committee's bill took the first step in directing resources to address the problem of HIV/AIDS in the African American community. It is my sincere hope that future Congresses will be able to more adequately address this epidemic.

#### THE STORY OF TED WILLIAMS—A NATIVE SON OF CALIFORNIA AND AN AMERICAN HERO

### HON. JOHN CAMPBELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 27, 2006*

Mr. CAMPBELL of California. Mr. Speaker, born on April 24th, 1921 in Hawthorne, California, Theodore ("Ted") Ralph Williams was delivered into a family divided by divorce and early hardships. Fortunately, the happiest years of his youth were spent with his mother, step-father and siblings on a 35-acre citrus nursery and farm which skirted the eastern border of the giant Irvine Ranch in Orange County, California. It was on the farm where Williams developed the strong work ethic and key survival skills which have served him so well over the course of his life.

Following the death of his beloved step-father in 1935 and his family's ensuing financial challenges, Ted Williams left Tustin High School during his senior year and enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. On January 18, 1940, he was sworn in as a "Boot Marine" and immediately deployed to the Philippine Islands where he was stationed in the Manila area near Clark Field, Cavite and Mariveles, part of the 4th Marine Regiment and home port to the 16th Naval District Fleet. Less than a year later, on December 7th, 1942, the United States was attacked by the Japanese at Pearl Harbor. The very next day, the Japanese attacked the Philippines; and Williams found himself cut-off from the rest of the world.

Alone, hungry and wounded, Williams and his military comrades waged a brave three-month fight against the enemy yet, ultimately, were forced to join a massive surrender—and the infamous Bataan Death March. For a week, more than 75,000 American prisoners marched 160 kilometers in the searing April heat toward primitive prison camps. Along the way, Williams and his fellow soldiers were aided by Filipino civilians, mostly women and children, who heroically provided water and

food to the survivors of the march. Ultimately however, more than 10,000 soldiers died at the hands of the enemy through torture, disease, starvation and murder. Surviving the march yet in failing health, Williams was eventually sent to The Zero Ward at Bilbid, a dilapidated prison functioning as a crude hospital. There he recovered from amebic dysentery only to suffer a host of new injuries brought on by harsh prison labor that lasted for nearly two years.

In June 1944, he was sent to a prison camp in the north at Cabanatuan where he was assigned to the torturous runway construction crew. A month later, Williams was shipped via prisoner boat transport (known as Hell Ships) to Camp 17 in Kyushu, Japan, where he served as a slave laborer in a coal mine, followed by time served at Camp 1 in Fukuoka, Japan. On August 25th, 1945, just weeks after the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Williams and his fellow POWs were released by their captors.

Discharged from the Marine Corps in 1946, Williams returned to Orange County and married Dolores Wallace, whom he later divorced. After a series of odd jobs, Williams built a steady career with Sears in Southern California. In 1972, he moved to Santa Ana, where he met and married Lillian May Phipps, his travel companion and fellow adventurer. It was Lillian who brought Williams back to the Philippines to retrace his POW experiences, a trip Williams has since made 21 times. In February of 1979, Williams underwent open heart surgery and, as part of his physical and emotional recovery, began work on "Rogues of Bataan," an autobiographical account of the Bataan Death March. Just one year later, Lillian died from liver cancer.

Inspired by his late wife's kind and generous heart, Williams embarked on a series of charitable efforts including the funding of an orphanage in Mexico and the founding of TERI, Inc. (Training, Education and Research Institute) in Oceanside, CA, a private nonprofit agency providing residential care, education, job training, employment, and other programs and services for people with all sorts of developmental disabilities and special needs. Upon a return trip to the Philippines with other survivors of the Bataan Death March, Williams spearheaded the effort to build, equip and staff an elementary school on the Philippine Island of Corregidor. During this period in his life, Williams returned to his writing and completed "Rogues of Bataan," which was first published in 1999 and has since been re-released with all proceeds benefiting TERI, Inc. In 2003, Williams embarked on the creation of the Corregidor School Fund which has since built and furnished the Llamas Memorial Institute in Mariveles, Bataan, Philippines, an educational library which was officially dedicated on July 4, 2006. In recognition of his charitable works, community service and humanitarian efforts to the Filipino people, Ted Williams was placed on the prestigious "Perpetual Honor Roll" for the Order of the Knights of Rizal (as chartered by the Philippine government) on March 16, 2006. Now, at age 85 and in failing health, Ted Williams is worthy of his own special recognition by the United States of America. This native son of Southern California is a true American Hero, a passionate patriot and a caring and humble community servant.