

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO THE GARY, INDIANA, BRANCH OF THE NAACP

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to take this time to recognize the members of the Gary, Indiana branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, NAACP. On Monday, October 30, 2006, the Gary NAACP held its 90th anniversary dinner, while also celebrating the 45th Annual Mary White Ovington Freedom Fund Awards at Saint Timothy Community Church's Fellowship Hall in Gary, Indiana.

The NAACP was founded on February 12, 1909, with the mission to end all racial discrimination and to secure the political, economic, and social rights of all African-Americans. As the Nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization, the NAACP has worked successfully with allies of all races who believe in and continue to carry out this mission still today. The Gary NAACP, the largest branch in the State of Indiana, was organized by those who felt there was a need for an organization that would monitor and defend the rights of African-Americans in northwest Indiana. The members of the Gary NAACP, who so selflessly serve the community, share the goals of the national organization. They fight each and every day to combat injustice, discrimination, and unfair treatment in their community.

This year's fundraiser event and anniversary dinner featured Dan Parker, Indiana State Democratic Committee chairman; and Murray Clark, Indiana State Republican Committee chairman, as the evening's keynote speakers. The theme for this year's event was, "Remembering the Past. Preparing for the Future. Voting to make a Difference." The featured speakers addressed the importance of voting while promoting their respective party members.

This year, several honorees were recognized at the event with a special awards presentation. Denise Dillard, State Senator Earline Rogers, the Gary Cultural and Historical Society, Willie Watkins, New Mount Moriah Baptist Church, First African Methodist Episcopal Church, Saint Timothy Community Church, the Gary City Clerk's Office, and Marshanelle Hill were among those being honored with various awards for their service to the community and to the branch.

In addition, the Mary White Ovington Award, the most distinguished award of the evening, was presented to Gary residents Jonathan Comer and Cherrie B. White. This very special award annually recognizes those making the greatest contributions to sustaining civil rights.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending the members of the Gary NAACP for the efforts, activities, and leadership they have championed to improve the quality of life for

all residents of Indiana's First Congressional District. I also ask that you join me in commending the community leaders who, through their unwavering commitment to their community, are so deserving of the special honors bestowed upon them.

TRIBUTE TO RETIRING BARTON COUNTY OFFICIALS

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that a number of officials from Barton County, Missouri, are retiring this year after serving the public for a number of years.

I have had the privilege of representing Barton County in the United States Congress on two occasions. Barton County lies in the southwestern part of the Fourth Congressional District. Its county seat of Lamar is the birthplace of President Harry S Truman, and the people who live there today personify the same common sense, hard working, Show-Me State values that made President Truman an outstanding president and global leader. I am honored to represent these fine Missourians in the United States Congress and to have had the privilege to work with many of these outstanding public officials.

Presiding Commissioner Gerald Miller was born in Idaho but moved to Missouri as a child. He graduated from Lamar High School in 1958 and has been active in the community since that time. Since 1999, Mr. Miller has served as Presiding Commissioner and has worked tirelessly to improve the communities he represents. He is a member of the Lamar Metro Club, the Abou Ben Adhem Shrine, and the Lamar Masonic Lodge. He is a successful businessman who is married to Brenda Rinehart and has two sons, Mark and Matt.

County Clerk Bonda Rawlings is a lifelong resident of Barton County. She graduated from Lamar High School in 1961 and has dedicated much of her life to bettering her community. Since 1983, she has served as the Barton County Clerk and has been a leader in the State Association of County Clerks, serving as president in 1996. While working full time, she is also a member of the Barton County Chamber of Commerce, the Lamar Art League, the Barton County Historical Society, the Truman Area Transportation System, and the Lamar High School Booster Club. In all of these organizations, Mrs. Rawlings has held a leadership position. Bonda is married to Bill Rawlings and has two sons, Stan and Steve.

Circuit Clerk Jerry Moyer has spent his adult life serving Barton County and is a graduate of Golden City High School. In 1976, he graduated from the College of the Ozarks with a degree in criminal justice administration. Mr. Moyer has served as the Clerk of the Circuit Court in Barton County since 1983 and has been a leader among his colleagues, serving

as president of the Circuit Clerk and Record-ers Association in 1994. Mr. Moyer previously served as Deputy Sheriff, a police officer, and a Deputy Juvenile Officer. He is active in the First Assembly of God Church, the Lamar Rotary Club, and the Freedom Singers gospel choir. Jerry Moyer is married to Jena Moyer and has a daughter named Tiffany.

Recorder of Deeds Jean Keithly has lived in Barton County all her life and is a graduate of Lamar High School. From 1984 to 2003, she served as the Deputy Recorder of Deeds in Barton County. In 2003, she became the first elected Recorder of Deeds in Barton County since 1935, when the office had been combined with the Circuit Clerk's office. Mrs. Keithly has been an active member of the Recorder's Association of Missouri for 22 years. She is a long-time member of the Hopewell Cumberland Presbyterian Church and has been an outstanding charitable volunteer. Mrs. Keithly is married to Bob Keithly and has two children, Michael and Teresa.

Deputy Assessor Ona Mullinax has lived in Golden City, Missouri, for the past 41 years and has worked at the Barton County Courthouse since 1983. Throughout her tenure, she has capably worked through many changes within her office and was especially instrumental in assigning emergency 911 addresses to rural Barton County homes. In 1998, Mrs. Mullinax received the Employee of the Year award, which was presented by the Lamar Rotary Club. She and her husband, Rusty, have a shared family of seven children and ten grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, these five individuals represent the outstanding Missourians who live and work within Missouri's Fourth Congressional District. As they each prepare to spend time with their families and enjoy retirement, I know that my colleagues will join me in wishing them well.

HONORING MR. TOM BENSON, RECIPIENT OF THE CHARLES E. PIPER AWARD

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Tom Benson, recipient of the 2006 Charles E. Piper Award for exceptional business achievement. Mr. Benson is currently the owner of the World's Largest Laundromat in Berwyn, IL and also serves as president of the Berwyn Development Corporation. His outstanding leadership, receiving both local and national acclamation, has greatly impacted the local community and its businesses.

Since 1999, Benson has owned the World's Largest Laundromat—a business that is technologically innovative and community centered. After a devastating fire in 2004, he rebuilt the facility and powered it with state-of-the-art solar energy, which significantly saves financial and energy resources. The World's

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Largest Laundromat is as an exceptional model of a cost-effective, energy conserving business—the best of both worlds.

Tom Benson's resourcefulness and visionary outlook extends to the social atmosphere of his laundromat as well. Aside from a spacious interior and 15 flat-screen TVs, the facility offers free wireless access, free pizza on Wednesday nights, and hosts many special events. Additionally, the World's Largest Laundromat has a reputation for promoting community programs that encourage education. One program, Read to Ride, awards bikes to children who read books during the summer.

On November 4, 2006, Benson was presented with the Charles E. Piper Award for his efforts and positive influence on the Berwyn business community. It is my privilege and pleasure to congratulate Mr. Benson on this award and acknowledge his contributions to the community. His unique approach, dedication, and determination serve as an inspiration to the business community, as well as all citizens.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CHARLES
WILLIAMSON

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Charles H.K. Williamson, a long-time educator and winner of the Carnegie Foundation's 2006 Professor of the Year Award for New York State.

Professor Williamson, during his 16 year tenure in the School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at Cornell University, has impacted countless individuals, from undergraduates to Ph.D. candidates to fellow professors. As a colleague states, "Professor Williamson is the most creative and talented educator I have encountered . . . he has no equal on our faculty in integrating research into teaching and teaching into research."

It seems fitting that Professor Williamson began his teaching career among royalty, tutoring Prince Pavlos of Greece before leaving London to emigrate to Pasadena, California, and Caltech in 1984. In 1990, he found himself an assistant professor at Cornell, apprehensively standing in front of 100 students in a thermodynamics class. "I remember coming out of that first class on a high," he recalls. "I realized that the students really want to learn and are eager to know that the teacher genuinely wants the same thing."

From that point on, Professor Williamson has been a trailblazer, pioneering new approaches to lecturing. His classes are unpredictable but always educational, using anything from footlong smoke rings to Beatles albums to jet engines to demonstrate the principles of thermodynamics and fluid mechanics.

Professor Williamson's unique teaching methods, combined with his love of the subject, touches students in a way that educators seldom do. His student evaluation scores are by far the best in his department and among the highest in the university: His average over 16 years at Cornell is 4.57 out of 5, an unequaled level of consistency and excellence.

In addition to being an entertaining lecturer, Professor Williamson is also a true mentor to

students, inspiring and supporting them throughout their education, even attending student sporting events. "Without the confidence and skills I learned from Professor Williamson, I never would have . . . received a doctorate in plasma physics," a former advisee recounts.

Professor Williamson is an inspiration to us all, an individual who truly makes a difference in the lives of those around him. I am honored to congratulate him on receiving the Carnegie Foundation's 2006 Professor of the Year Award.

TRIBUTE TO MR. JOHN SELESKY

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents who has distinguished himself through service to his country, his State and his community. Mr. John Selesky has been selected as "Ogemaw County Veteran of the Year" by the Ogemaw County Veterans Alliance. Mr. Selesky is truly deserving of this unique honor.

Mr. Selesky enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps as an Aviation Cadet in 1942. He was trained in Oxnard, California, and Roswell Army Airfield. After flight training, Mr. Selesky was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Air Corps.

In 1943, Mr. Selesky left on a night flight at 11 p.m. After takeoff, Mr. Selesky's plane underwent engine failure causing him to undergo a forced landing at the end of the runway.

Injured, Mr. Selesky walked back to the runway and then back to the flight line. The staff in the flight office called the base hospital, which dispatched an ambulance. Mr. Selesky awoke on an operating table where surgeons were sewing up cuts on his head and face. Sadly, Mr. Selesky lost his left eye in the accident.

After being discharged from the Army in 1943, Mr. Selesky returned home to Grayling, Michigan. A member of the greatest generation, Mr. Selesky did not take much time to rest after his discharge. Instead, he almost immediately went back to work in the family store. He also started a family of his own. Ultimately, Mr. Selesky and his wife, Virginia, would have five children, John, Jr., Verna, Barbara, Jeffery and Mike.

After purchasing a small farm, Mr. Selesky went back to serving his state and his country by joining the Conservation Department as a Forest Fire Tower Lookout out of the Mio District Office in Mio, Michigan. In 1957, Mr. Selesky was promoted to Conservation Foreman and supervised a prison inmate labor crew at the Southern Michigan State Forest Nursery near Brighton, Michigan.

In 1963, the State of Michigan eliminated the Fire Tower Fire Watch system and began using aircraft for fire detection. With his military flying experience and additional flight time he had accrued thanks to the GI Bill of Rights, Mr. Selesky was promoted to District Pilot at the Mio District Office. Mr. Selesky piloted one of only four planes used by the State of Michigan. In 1980, Mr. Selesky retired after 29 years of service as an employee in the State of Michigan having served as Conservation Foreman and as a pilot.

Mr. Speaker, with our brave men and women deployed abroad, it is more important than ever that all of us observe Veteran's Day. By honoring past heroes, we salute those who serve today. With that in mind, I ask that all of my colleagues join me in saluting Mr. Selesky for his service and in congratulating him for being awarded Ogemaw County Veteran of the Year.

TRIBUTE TO THE ASIAN-
AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with sincere admiration that I recognize the Asian-American Medical Association, which hosted the 30th Annual Asian-American Charity Ball on Saturday, November 4, 2006, at the Avalon Manor in Hobart, Indiana. Each year, the Asian-American Medical Association pays tribute to prominent, outstanding citizens for their contributions to the community. In recognition of their efforts, individuals are honored at this annual banquet and are awarded the prestigious Crystal Globe Award.

The Asian-American Medical Association has always been a great asset to Northwest Indiana. Its members have selflessly dedicated themselves to providing quality medical service to the residents of Indiana's First Congressional District, and they have always demonstrated exemplary service through their many cultural, scholastic, and charitable endeavors.

At this year's charity ball, the Asian-American Medical Association presented Surjit S. Patheja, M.D., with the Crystal Globe Award. Dr. Patheja was born in Pakistan in 1947 and graduated from Rangoon University Medical College in 1959. He practiced medicine in Burma for several years until immigrating to the United States in June 1964. After practicing medicine in locations such as Connecticut, New York, and Baltimore, Maryland, Dr. Patheja relocated to Northwest Indiana, where he has resided for the past 35 years. Although now retired from his practice, Dr. Patheja, board certified in Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, has been an invaluable member of the medical community since his arrival in Northwest Indiana, even serving as President of the Porter County Medical Society and the Tenth District Medical Society. Aside from the many accolades he has earned in the area of medicine, Dr. Patheja has also been instrumental in establishing scholarships and endowments for young adults. As if these accomplishments were not impressive enough, Dr. Patheja has always remained an active member of the community, donating his time through membership in several clubs and associations, including the Valparaiso Rotary Club, the Sikh Religious Society of Chicago, the Indian Medical Association of Northwest Indiana, and, of course, the Asian-American Medical Society. He is also a member of the American College of Radiology and the Radiological Society of North America.

Although Dr. Patheja has devoted so much of his time to medicine and to the Northwest Indiana community, he has always made a special point of sharing as much time as possible with his loving wife of 61 years, Mindy,

and their three children. Aside from spending time with his family, in his spare time, Dr. Patheja has always enjoyed golfing and photography.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending the Asian-American Medical Association, as well as this year's Crystal Globe Award recipient, Surjit S. Patheja, M.D., for their outstanding contributions to medicine and to the community. Their unwavering commitment to improving the quality of life for the people of Northwest Indiana and throughout the world is truly inspirational. For these reasons, they are to be praised, and I am proud to serve as their Representative in Washington, DC.

IN MEMORY OF MAJOR GENERAL
KATHRYN G. FROST

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I inform the House of the death of Major General Kathryn G. Frost.

General Frost was an inspiration to many people. She was the wife of The Honorable Martin Frost, she was a sister, an aunt, a friend to the military, and a hero to many. General Frost consistently urged joint service officers and enlisted persons to be the very best they can be and worked hard to transfer her commitment to service to the soldiers with whom she came in contact.

Her distinguished career spanned three decades, and her duties included tours as Chief, Military Personnel Office/Deputy Adjutant General, Berlin Brigade/United States Army, Berlin, Germany; Commander, Eastern Sector, United States Military Entrance Processing Command, Great Lakes, Illinois; Adjutant General/Commanding General, Physical Disability Agency/Executive Director of Military Postal Service Agency, Alexandria, Virginia; and Deputy Legislative Assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Washington, DC.

General Frost's awards and decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal with Oak Leaf Clusters, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with 6 Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal, and Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification Badge. She also was named one of USC's Distinguished Alumni in 2002.

Mr. Speaker, Major General Kathy Frost was a respected leader who will be greatly missed by her family, her friends, and her colleagues. She and her husband were dear friends of mine and I know the members of the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to Major General Kathy Frost's family.

HONORING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE JOHNSON-PHELPS ALL AMERICAN VFW POST #5220

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 60th anniversary of the Johnson-Phelps All American VFW Post #5220 in Oak Lawn, IL. Since its establishment, Post #5220 has enriched the lives of its members and faithfully served the community. Today, Post #5220, under the guidance of Commander Joseph Stachon, has over 600 members and is one of the most active VFW Posts in the Chicagoland area.

Area veterans, returning from the Second World War, formed the Johnson-Phelps VFW Post between 1944 and 1945 and received a formal charter in 1946. Initially, members gathered at the Oak Lawn Public Library and later held functions at Brandt's Dug-Out. In 1951, the Post moved into its current location at 52nd and Yourell Drive.

Throughout its history, Post #5220 has successfully brought veterans of all ages and backgrounds together. Members of the Post and its Ladies Auxiliary have a strong reputation for participating in community service events, performing volunteer work at hospitals, and spearheading donation drives and fundraisers for charity. Through the work of its members, the Post continues to make a difference in the lives of countless individuals and has a tremendous impact on the surrounding community.

It is my great honor to recognize the 60th anniversary of the Johnson-Phelps All American VFW Post #5220 and commend the outstanding work of its members. As we celebrate the members' accomplishments today, we also thank them for their dedicated service in defending everything that our great Nation represents. Our society is forever indebted to our Nation's veterans for their unyielding bravery, courage, and perseverance.

TRIBUTE TO ARCH T. DOTSON

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of an inspiring man and longtime constituent, Professor Arch T. Dotson, who passed away last April at the age of 85. Over the course of his remarkable life, Prof. Dotson ("Arch") served as teacher, friend, and mentor to all who knew him.

Professor Dotson truly is an exemplar of the American success story. Born the second of three sons to tenant farmers in Kentucky, he graduated from Transylvania University in 1941 and joined the U.S. Air Force as a test pilot throughout World War II. In September of 1945, he decided to go to Harvard University for graduate school. He would recount the story of his experience with the associate dean: "She looked at my transcript and she looked at me in my full officer's uniform and finally said, 'Harvard can afford to take a few chances.'" Five years later, Arch left Harvard Square with a Ph.D. in government.

His career at Cornell University spanned 50 years, during which he had an immeasurable impact on the campus and its students. In 1969, 18 years after arriving in Ithaca, Prof. Dotson was named Chair of the Department of Government. In 1979 he became founding Director of the Cornell in Washington program, and in 1984 undertook the same role for Cornell Abroad. From 1991 to 1996 he served as Director of the Cornell Institute for Public Affairs. During this time, he also consulted internationally, helping India with regional development, assisting with the opening of a College of Public Administration in the Philippines, and working for the United Nations.

Professor Dotson had a tremendous impact on all whose lives he touched. The Cornell in Washington and Cornell Abroad programs are now cornerstones of the Cornell experience, with over 1,000 students participating in them each year. A former student says, "He deeply loved all of his students . . . he encouraged us to recognize within ourselves the ability to succeed even if the odds seemed stacked against us." Dedicated to public service, Arch truly believed that everyone, no matter their roots or circumstances, could make an impact on the world they lived in.

Professor Dotson serves as a model for what we all may aspire to become. I am honored to pay tribute to him today, and send my thoughts and prayers to the family and friends of this inspiring figure.

TRIBUTE TO SAYKLLY'S
CONFECTIONARY AND GIFTS

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a business and a family in my district that, in many ways, exemplify the American dream. The Saykly's family business has been in the same family for 100 years. Through hard work, perseverance and an admirable entrepreneurial spirit, the family has built an Upper Peninsula institution.

In 1906, a young Lebanese immigrant named Joseph Saykly opened his own shop in Escanaba, Michigan. The shop, "Saykly's," carried groceries and homemade candy and ice cream. Eventually, that little store would blossom into a thriving landmark, recognized throughout the Escanaba area. In 1916, Joseph married his wife, Mary, who was also a Lebanese immigrant. Together, Joseph and Mary would have nine children—Josephine, Marge, Angeline, Louise, Elizabeth, Marie, Martha Jean, Fred and Edward. All of the children helped in the business and all of them lived in a small apartment above the store.

Over the years, Saykly's grew in popularity. Local residents in Escanaba would stop by the store to take home a bag of Saykly's famous candy or linger at the soda fountain to savor treats made with hand-cranked ice cream. In the early days of Saykly's, some of the most popular products sold were peanut brittle, hand-pulled taffy, hand-dipped chocolates, peanut clusters and fudge. Many of these same delights are sold today.

When Joseph Saykly passed away in 1943, Mary maintained the business with the help of her children and Mary's sister Martha Jean. In

1959, Fred moved the candy-making part of the business to Third Avenue North from its original Ludington Street location. Fred also separated the store Saykly's from the candy production facility.

Shortly thereafter, Marge and Josephine began operating the store, then known as "Saykly's Confectionary and Gift." Around 1960, Saykly's stopped selling groceries and concentrated on selling the candies and gift items for which the store has since become so famous.

In 1983 Debbie and Jim Kirby purchased Saykly's Confectionary and Gifts from Josephine and Marge. Debbie was the granddaughter of Joseph, the original founder of the business. Operating Saykly's was a homecoming for Debbie who began working in the store at age 12 when her aunts, Marge and Josephine were the proprietors. Today, Debbie fondly recalls how her Aunt Marge instilled into her a sense of customer service, always reminding Debbie to put a smile on her face for customers by saying, "Smile, God loves you."

Today, Saykly's remains in the same family that started it 100 years ago. Since the enterprising Joseph Saykly opened the store in 1906, it has been a mainstay in downtown Escanaba. The store continues to be an institution for everyone who lives in Escanaba and throughout the Upper Peninsula. Locals and visitors alike delight in Saykly's famous chocolates.

Saykly's has grown over the years. The business now employs 28 people year round and that number increases when extra help is needed during busy sale times such as Christmas, Valentine's Day and Easter. In addition to renovating the store on Ludington Street in Escanaba, the Kirbys have opened Saykly's outlets in the Delta Plaza Mall in Escanaba as well as the Westwood Mall in Marquette, Michigan.

However, just as the business has grown over the years, the owners have never forgotten their commitment to quality. Saykly's uses only premium ingredients, still heats candy in big copper kettles and hand-dips all of its chocolates.

Saykly's remains an anchor of the Escanaba community. As Debbie Kirby notes, what she enjoys most about owning and operating Saykly's are her customers. Generations of families have gathered at Saykly's to buy treats, visit with their neighbors or simply see a friendly Saykly face.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to admit that I too have been bitten by the Saykly chocolate bug. Over my 14 years in Congress, I have handed out hundreds of Saykly chocolate bars, known as "Yooper Bars" to people in Washington, D.C. A "Yooper Bar" is a chocolate bar in the shape of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Everyone from Members of Congress to President Clinton to troops recovering in Walter Reed Hospital from wounds incurred in Iraq have enjoyed a delicious Yooper Bar from Saykly's.

Mr. Speaker, we all know how challenging it can be for a family to build a small business. Growing a successful business, while also keeping it in the same family for over 100 years, is truly an impressive accomplishment. I ask that the entire U.S. House of Representatives join with the people of Escanaba to observe Saykly's centennial celebration. Please join me in saluting the Kirbys and all the generations of the Saykly family who have made

"Saykly's" into a special place that is enjoyed by so many of my constituents.

TRIBUTE TO HOLY TRINITY
HUNGARIAN CHURCH

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor and enthusiasm that I recognize the Holy Trinity Hungarian Church in East Chicago, Indiana, as its members celebrate the church's 100th anniversary. The festivities began on Sunday, October 22, 2006, with Holy Mass, and were followed by a jubilee dinner at Casa Maria Banquet Hall in Dyer, Indiana, to celebrate this exceptional milestone.

Around the turn of the 20th century, the Hungarian neighborhood in East Chicago, Indiana, was centered around family, religion, and a yearning for a church of their own. On July 4, 1904, a group met in the home of Stephen Farkas on Alexander Avenue to share ideas for beginning what is now the Holy Trinity Hungarian Church. On November 11, 1906, the cornerstone was laid for the first church building, which was followed by its dedication on the feast of the Holy Trinity in 1907. On Christmas Eve 1907, the first resident pastor arrived, Father Oscar Szilagyi. Though his tenure was short-lived due to the regulations of the Religious Order, Father Szilagyi has the distinction of performing Holy Trinity's first marriage, baptism, and funeral. Though this church, as well as Holy Trinity's second church building, was eventually destroyed by fire, the parishioners and their spiritual leaders forged on. Through their faith, hard work, and dedication, the cornerstone of the third and present church was laid on May 30, 1920, and dedicated on May 22, 1921. Following the rebuilding of the church, Holy Trinity went on to open a school in 1922, and by 1927, Holy Trinity, continuing to expand, saw the development of several organizations, including: Holy Rosary Circle, Altar Society, Holy Name Society, Knights of Holy Trinity, Children of Mary, and Young Ladies Sodality.

The parishioners at Holy Trinity continued to share their faith in communion with one another, surely not without their share of continued struggles. In February 1957, the newly formed Diocese of Gary was established, and Holy Trinity joined the neighboring Catholic parishes in welcoming the Most Reverend Andrew G. Grutka as its first Bishop. Throughout the years, Holy Trinity and its leaders have achieved many milestones and accolades. None, however, was seen as more prestigious than that which occurred on July 10, 2004, when Holy Trinity was honored with a visit from Peter Cardinal Erdo, Primate of Hungary.

Another outstanding milestone in the parish's history took place on May 1, 2005, when the present pastor, Father Alphonse Skerl, celebrated his 50th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood. Through all of the support, generosity, and leadership of Father Skerl for nearly 35 years, along with the dedication of the parish council, staff, parishioners, and organizations, Holy Trinity has reached their most momentous celebration with the 100th anniversary.

Holy Trinity Hungarian Church has been a mainstay in the city of East Chicago and is

worthy of this recognition as it celebrated its 100th anniversary on Sunday, October 22, 2006. The church offers an invaluable service to its parishioners and community, providing numerous opportunities for all to join together to experience its rich heritage.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring and congratulating Holy Trinity Hungarian Church on their 100th anniversary. Throughout the years, the clergy and members of Holy Trinity have dedicated themselves to providing spirituality and guidance through the protection of the Hungarian traditions and faith. Their constant dedication and commitment is worthy of our admiration.

TRIBUTE TO LAVEDA CROSS

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that a longtime community leader in Lexington, MO, has been recognized for her commitment to the Daughters of the American Revolution. LaVeda Cross has been a member of this distinguished organization for twenty-eight years and recently served as Regent of the Lafayette-Lexington Chapter for the past eight years.

Under the leadership of LaVeda Cross, the Lafayette-Lexington Chapter more than doubled its membership while at the same time promoting the City of Lexington and its local businesses. Notably, she traveled the state raising funds for the restoration of the Madonna of the Trail monument in Lexington.

LaVeda Cross not only was active in her local chapter, she also has held many leadership positions with the state chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She has served as the Missouri State Corresponding Secretary, Missouri State Registrar, and Chairman of the Missouri Madonna of the Trail Monument. Her leadership continued at the national level where she served as the National Vice Chairman of the Flag of the United States of America.

As a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Ms. Cross devoted much of her time to traveling. She has represented the Lafayette-Lexington chapter at district meetings, fall forums, at the Missouri State Conference, and at the National Continental Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank LaVeda Cross for her leadership to the community of Lexington, MO, to the State of Missouri, and to her country. I know the members of the House will join me in wishing her well.

CONGRATULATING COACH CHRISTOPHER DONFIELD ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. Christopher J. Donfield, a resident of Washington Township, New Jersey, for his

devoted service to Bergen Catholic High School as an English teacher, guidance counselor, and basketball coach for 46 years.

Christopher Donfield grew up in Teaneck, New Jersey and earned a full academic scholarship to attend Fordham Prep in the Bronx. He continued on to Fordham University, where he majored in both English and Accounting. Shortly after graduating, Chris sought a teaching position at Bergen Catholic High School, where he quickly became a favorite of both students and colleagues alike. He also became coach to the high school basketball team. During his 40 year tenure as the Varsity Head Coach of the boys' basketball team, the Crusaders, Chris led the team to an astounding 648 wins in his 878 game career. This includes a streak of 31 straight winning seasons that began in the 1968–69 season. In addition to his accomplishments as a Varsity Coach, Chris led his team in an unprecedented achievement of 30 straight Bergen County Jamboree appearances, as well as qualifying for the State Tournament 33 times in 34 seasons and winning the Sectional Crown 7 times.

The most significant accomplishment of Chris's career, however, is the impact he had on the thousands of students that he has taught and coached over the years. Chris put his heart and soul into everything he did while he was at Bergen Catholic High School and it shows in the heartfelt respect and admiration the student body and the entire Bergen Catholic community have bestowed upon him.

Today, I would like to recognize Christopher Donfield's dedication to the Bergen Catholic High School community and congratulate him on his impressive coaching achievements. I send him my best wishes on his retirement.

TRIBUTE TO STAFF SERGEANT
JONATHAN ROJAS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect and deep sadness that I wish to commend United States Army Staff Sergeant Jonathan Rojas for his bravery in the field of battle and his willingness to fight for his country. Staff Sergeant Rojas was killed in action when his vehicle came under attack by small arms fire near Baghdad, Iraq on October 3, 2006. His sacrifice will be remembered by a community that has been struck hard by the devastating loss of one of its own.

Born in Mexico City, Mexico, Jonathan Rojas moved to Hammond, Indiana in 1990 to be with his family. Following his graduation from Hammond High School in 1997, he attended college for a year and eventually went on to work for several years at a local glass company, prior to joining the Army in 1999.

Jonathan's friends and family recall him as always being playful, the type to never refrain from cracking a joke. They also remember him as a good kid who was never in trouble and loved to spend time with his family. Jonathan was an avid sports enthusiast who participated in soccer and baseball while in school, and as with so many of his generation, he was a true video game aficionado.

Staff Sergeant Rojas leaves behind a loving family that misses him very much. He is sur-

vived by his devoted wife, Tasha (Sullivan) Rojas. The couple would have celebrated their fourth wedding anniversary on October 25, 2006, and planned to start a family upon Jonathan's return to civilian life. Jonathan also leaves to cherish his memory his adoring parents, Jose and Catalina Rojas, his brother, William (Norma) Rojas, his sister, Isaura Rojas, and his nephew, William Rojas, Jr., as well as his treasured companions, Diamond, Tyson, and Joker. Staff Sergeant Jonathan Rojas also will be greatly missed by a saddened but proud community and a grateful nation.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring a fallen hero, United States Army Staff Sergeant Jonathan Rojas. Staff Sergeant Rojas is the sixteenth service member from northwest Indiana to sacrifice his life during Operation Iraqi Freedom, and his passing comes as a setback to a community already shaken by the realities of war. Staff Sergeant Rojas will forever remain a hero in the eyes of his family, his community, and his country. Thus, let us never forget the sacrifice he made to preserve the ideals of freedom and democracy.

IN HONOR OF MARLAND
"MARLEY" LYLE HOLTE

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the achievements of my good friend Marland "Marley" Lyle Holte, who was admired by many for his commitment to better the lives of the residents of San Benito County. Marley passed away Saturday, September 16, 2006 at the age of 80, but left a long history of community service. Holte moved to Hollister in 1966 where he was a teacher at R.O. Hardin School for several years before becoming its principal. He served in that position, and later at Rancho San Justo School, for a total of 18 years. Although he retired from teaching in 1987, he never really retired. He started a new vocation in the real estate business and in 1994 opened Crown Realty. That same year, he won election as mayor of the City of San Juan Bautista.

Marley was a familiar face in the community for decades, thanks to his efforts on behalf of the local youth, minorities and particularly the homeless. Friends remember him as a modest person who was reluctant to take credit for his good deeds. Marley served as President of the San Benito County Little League; Commissioner of Hollister's Parks and Recreation Commission; Director of the San Juan Bautista Chamber of Commerce; Member of the San Juan Bautista Planning Commission; President of 33rd District Agricultural Fair Board; and Chairman of the San Juan Bautista Rotary Club.

Marley founded the Community Assistance Program and provided free dinners on Thanksgiving and Christmas. He started the Christmas dinner tradition about 20 years ago after he and his wife decided to combine their money and feed the needy instead of buying gifts for each other. Several years later they started organizing Thanksgiving dinners as

well. The Holiday Dinners began in 1985 and have continued ever since. The annual dinners, which have more than doubled in size since their inception, are funded entirely by donations from area businesses and residents. Holte said the success of the dinners is the result of widespread community support.

Marley was well-liked by many for his ability to build consensus and transcend political, cultural and personal borders. He earned the admiration of the Latino community for his good deeds and was elected President of the San Benito County League of United Latin American Citizens, where he served in that position for 5 terms. Many in the Latino community referred to Marley as the "Norwegian-Latino" because of his love of the culture, music and most of all, its people. In addition to serving on nearly every local community organization, Holte had piled up an astounding collection of accolades, including "Realtor of Year" in 1993 and the LULAC "Outstanding Man of the Year" Award in 1996.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge all the wonderful things that my good friend Marley gave to all of us. He will be missed by many including his son, Dan. His departure fills us with sadness but his outstanding work is an example to the generations that come.

RECOGNIZING NEW AMERICA MEDIA'S FIRST NATIONAL ETHNIC MEDIA AWARDS

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize New America Media (NAM) and The First National Ethnic Media Awards. From its inception, NAM has worked to create a more inclusive public forum and to bring visibility and economic viability to ethnic media, a critical sector of American journalism that covers and serves our country's growing ethnic and immigrant communities that are often marginalized by barriers of culture and language.

NAM has continued to build the profile of ethnic media by developing first a California and now a national awards program to recognize journalists working in the ethnic media and covering stories critical to their communities.

NAM conducted a nationwide poll of ethnic communities in multiple languages that found 52 million adult Americans access ethnic media regularly; ethnic media represent the forefront of civic and independent journalism; it is where ethnic and immigrant Americans turn to find information about their communities, their states, their government, their healthcare, education for their children, their civil rights as citizens in our society—yet ethnic media has received only marginal recognition from the public and private sector.

NAM's work to highlight the important role that ethnic media plays is commendable. NAM's work to create bridges between ethnic media and the mainstream as well as cross-cultural understanding between ethnic communities is praiseworthy. NAM's commitment to honoring the ethnic media through an increasingly prestigious Awards Program is admirable.

Mr. Speaker, I commend New America Media and the First National Ethnic Media Awards for its courageous goal to create a more equitable and integrated American society.

HONORING MR. JOHN STENCEL,
PRESIDENT OF THE ROCKY
MOUNTAIN FARMERS UNION

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. John Stencel, a tireless ally of rural America and the hardworking farmers and ranchers that call it home.

Mr. Stencel was born and raised on a farm near Greeley, CO, and from the beginning his commitment to agriculture was clear. He was active in 4-H, the Future Farmers of America, and the Farmers Union Youth Program. After graduating from Colorado State University in 1964 he began a career with the Rocky Mountain Farmers Union (RMFU). A few years later John served two years in the U.S. Army and was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for Outstanding Service. After his return, John was elected RMFU President in 1970. His strong leadership abilities were repeatedly demonstrated during his 23 years as president, and in 1993 President Bill Clinton appointed John as the Deputy Administrator for the Farm Service Agency in Colorado. He later worked in Washington, DC, at the Grain Inspection, Packers, and Stockyards Administration as Special Assistant to the Administrator. John then returned to Colorado in 2000 and was once again elected president of the RMFU in 2001.

Unbelievably, through all of this John Stencel also found the time to serve as the president of the Colorado 4-H Foundation, as the vice president of the Colorado Future Farmers of America Foundation, and as a member of the Colorado State University Board of Agriculture. His versatility, dedication, and uncharacteristic leadership are admirable.

I remember sharing time with John on the road during a series of renewable energy tours throughout rural Colorado over the past couple years. I learned quickly of the remarkable ability of this man. Whether the topic was wind power and methane digesters or crop subsidies and cooperative development projects, his grasp of the issues was second-to-none.

Mr. Stencel's forward thinking policies and actions have set an example in the agriculture world. He acknowledges and promotes ideas that need to be brought to the attention of small and large farmers alike. His pending retirement will mark the end of an exceptional career, and finding a worthy successor will undoubtedly be difficult.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring John Stencel for his accomplishments, his dedication, and his legacy. Citizens of Colorado and the United States as a whole have benefited from this man's service, and we owe him our gratitude.

TRIBUTE TO THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDIANA DUNES NATIONAL LAKESHORE

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect and admiration that I wish to congratulate the members of the Save the Dunes Council as they celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. To commemorate this special occasion, the Save the Dunes Council hosted a 40th Anniversary Gala Event on Saturday, October 21, 2006, at Valparaiso University's Brauer Museum of Art in Valparaiso, Indiana.

From its humble beginning, the Save the Dunes Council, created in the Ogdens living room of Dorothy Buell and a mere dozen of her female neighbors, has become one of the most knowledgeable, involved, and respected organizations in Northwest Indiana and beyond. Founded in 1952 with the mission of protecting and preserving the Indiana Dunes, the Save the Dunes Council worked tirelessly toward their goal of creating a National Lakeshore, which they accomplished in 1966. Since that time, the Save the Dunes Council, comprised of local citizens, has continued to fight to protect the lakeshore from man-made intrusions and preserve the environment. Through the efforts of these dedicated individuals, the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore has nearly doubled in size. Currently, the National Lakeshore consists of more than 15,000 picturesque acres of land, while plans for continued expansion are in place.

The Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore has, for many years, been a popular tourist destination as well as a place where local families and groups can enjoy an afternoon together. Its scenic lake views and magnificent sandy beaches have made the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore a focal point of Northwest Indiana, while the spectacular Mount Baldy, the largest of the lakeshore's moving dunes at 126 feet, is a sight that visitors are sure to remember. In addition to the magnificent nature views, the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore offers a wide array of activities to satisfy the interests of all nature-lovers, including: hiking, swimming, bird watching, fishing, camping, and horseback riding, as well as many guided tours and other gatherings.

On Saturday, October 21, 2006, the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore 40th Anniversary Gala took place and featured a social hour and exhibit tours of the artwork of Frank V. Dudley, an artist who dedicated forty years of his life to the preservation and promotion of the Indiana Dunes. The evening proceeded with a silent auction, formal dinner, speakers, and music.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring the efforts of the members of the Save the Dunes Council, past and present, and in celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the establishment of the Indiana Dunes as a National Lakeshore. These selfless individuals continue to dedicate their time and unrelenting efforts to serve their community through the preservation of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, and I am proud to represent them in Congress.

TRIBUTE TO THE HOUSTON DYNAMO AND THE CITY OF HOUSTON FOR WINNING THE 2006 MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER (MLS) CUP

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Houston Dynamo and the city of Houston for winning its first 2006 Major League Soccer Cup.

In front of thousands of soccer fans at Pizza Hut Park, the Houston Dynamo emerged victorious against the New England Revolution with a score of 4 to 3 on penalty kicks after the teams played to a 1-1 draw through regulation and extra time.

This is a fitting conclusion to an amazing season. Congratulations to Kelly Gray, Stuart Holden, Dwayne De Rosario and Brian Ching who successfully converted from the penalty spot in the shootout. Brian Ching was recognized as the match's Most Valuable Player.

This is the Dynamo's first season in Houston, and they have surely made a warm welcome for themselves. The team is led by 2005 Major League Soccer Coach of the Year, Dominic Kinnear. Let me acknowledge Dynamo investor/operator Philip Anschutz for the time and commitment he has given to U.S. soccer and the city of Houston. I also congratulate the players and their families for making the transition (from San Jose) to Houston. For the players and their families to pick up and come to Houston, Texas and do what they've done this year is impressive. We welcome you with open arms, and we remain devoted to your success. Also, a big thank you and congratulations to Oliver Luck and the entire Dynamo management team family!

The team was created on December 15, 2005 when the San Jose Earthquakes were relocated, allegedly due to San Jose's failure to secure a soccer-specific stadium. Even though all of San Jose's players and coaches moved to Houston, the team's name, logo, history and statistics were not transferred.

The name "Dynamo" refers to Houston's industrial economy and is an allusion to the various Eastern European soccer teams who are called "Dynamo", most notably Dynamo Dresden, FC Dynamo Kyiv and FC Dynamo Moscow. Although unrelated, there was a previous professional soccer team called the Houston Dynamos that played in the old United Soccer League in 1984. The team colors are orange, white, and black.

The Houston Dynamo play their home matches at Robertson Stadium—a 33,000-seat sports stadium located on the University of Houston campus in southeast Houston. A three-year lease was signed to play at the stadium while plans for a soccer-specific stadium are finalized.

This is the Dynamo's first championship in this league, though several of their players won titles with the team's previous incarnation, the San Jose Earthquakes.

My heartiest congratulations, and I look forward to many more celebrations with Houston Dynamo in Houston, Texas.

I look forward to a community-based celebration in their home stadium in the 18th Congressional district at Robertson Stadium.

A TRIBUTE TO JOHN BROWNE

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, today, I am proud to honor John Browne, a courageous cancer survivor and citizen from the great state of New Jersey. After winning his battle with cancer, Mr. Browne tirelessly worked to bring hope to others afflicted with this terrible disease. He is truly an inspiration to others and it is my privilege to honor him today.

Diagnosed with a rare form of cancer, John Browne needed a liver transplant to save his life. Now healthy, John is working to make others aware of the importance of organ donation. He works as a volunteer for the Gift of Life Donor Program, an organization that matches donors with patients. Today about 90,000 people in the United States are awaiting an organ transplant. Making the decision to be an organ donor can save lives.

I want to thank John for all that he has done. He was given a second chance at life and selflessly used it to help others in need. John's story proves that one person can make a difference in the world. His volunteer efforts have given hope to cancer patients, and he has made our community, and our Nation, a better place.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES AND JUSTINE DAVIS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate James and Justine Davis on the celebration of their 70th year of marriage. James and Justine Davis were married January 3, 1937 at St. John's Rectory in Fresno, California.

James Davis was born in Madera in 1914 on the same property that he lives on today. He is the son of James L. and Gertrude Davis, both long time Madera residents. James was the Madera County Agricultural Commissioner from 1964 until his retirement in 1976. He started working for the agricultural department in 1949. James also farmed cotton, alfalfa, and cattle on his home ranch.

Justine Nicolini was born on a farm in Fresno in 1912 on property that is now adjacent to the Fresno Convention Center. She is the daughter of Jose Nicolini, from Italy, and Rosa Ylarraz Nicolini, from Spain. She worked for Gottschalks Department Store before marriage and held various office positions in Madera after moving to Madera.

James and Justine met on a blind date arranged by friends. The Davis's have one daughter, Patricia Sunia, two grandchildren, and three great grandchildren. James and Justine live in the same house that they moved into after their marriage. Following retirement, James and Justine traveled extensively throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, Mexico, Caribbean, Australia, and Great Britain.

Their devotion to one another is a model for all married couples to follow. As evidence of

this devotion, James and Justine have always agreed to not go to sleep angry. They have always maintained a strong love for one another and can often be seen holding hands to this day. I wish James and Justine Davis continued health and happiness in their marriage.

REMEMBERING FRANK LAMBERT

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, last week Loudoun County in Virginia's 10th District lost a loyal public servant. Frank Lambert, a former Loudoun County supervisor, passed away on Wednesday, November 8, at the age of 77.

I was honored to call Frank Lambert a friend and to work with him on issues of importance to Loudoun County when he served on the Board of Supervisors during the 1980's.

Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD an obituary from the Leesburg Today newspaper of November 10 which describes the public service of Frank Lambert. We send our condolences to his wife Ruby and all his family.

[From Leesburg Today, Nov. 10, 2006]

FORMER SUPERVISOR FRANK LAMBERT DIES

(By Margaret Morton)

A longtime Waterford area resident, Frank Lambert, 77, died early Wednesday morning at Inova Loudoun Hospital's Cornwall Street campus in Leesburg.

Colleagues and friends were surprised by the news of Lambert's death. Attorney Steve Stockman, who served with Lambert on the county board when Republicans were a rare breed in Loudoun, knew he had been ill, suffering from pneumonia, but he said Wednesday he had visited him in his home north of Waterford less than a month ago. "He seemed strong," Stockman said.

The two Republicans served on the board of supervisors together from January 1984 to December 1987, along with Jim Brownell and Andrew Byrd, with Lambert representing the Catoclin District.

"He was a very nice man, the epitome of a Virginia gentleman," Stockman recalled. He described his former colleague as being "very, very astute, with a brilliant mind." Despite a bit of occasional acerbity, "when he had to," Lambert did not try to force his opinions on others. "He would lay it out and give a brilliant analysis," Stockman said.

Stockman, who was some years younger than Lambert, said he was also very friendly. "I learned a lot from him," he recalled, describing Lambert as almost "Reaganesque" in his warmth and ability to communicate, with a big deep baritone voice.

His political philosophy was "very conservative," according to Stockman. After both had left elective office Lambert and former Leesburg mayor and Leesburg District Supervisor Frank Raffo, a staunch Democrat, did a weekly radio talk show and Brownell recalled Wednesday the two had some "heated exchanges."

"He was very principled, very true to his cause," Brownell said of his former colleague. "If ever there were a loyal and faithful Republican, he was it," he said. Describing Lambert as "very, very conservative," Brownell, whose support for moderation often put him at odds with GOP stalwarts, said that looking back, however, "Frank was probably right about a lot of things."

After Democrat Betsey Brown defeated Lambert as part of the 1987 slow-growth

movement, he left active politics, although he remained an ardent Republican, according to Brownell. He also continued in public service as a member of the Loudoun County Library Board and currently as a member of the Loudoun County Animal Control Advisory Board.

Winston "Win" Porter was chairman of the Loudoun Republican Party when Lambert was on the board of supervisors. He echoed the opinions of Lambert's colleagues, calling him "very intelligent and capable, with a lot of ideas."

Don Walker, of Walker and Clarke Construction, recalled another of Lambert's contributions, calling him "the father of communications in Loudoun." Fascinated with radio communications as a youth, Lambert established one of the area's first successful pager companies, Metrocall. Since 1969, he has been president of the Great Eastern Communications Company. He also was a Ham radio operator and held a FCC first class radio telephone license. In the 1960s, Lambert was part owner and manager of WEER in Warrenton and later worked for WAGE in Leesburg.

Lambert's pioneering paging business was not without controversy, and some opposed it, especially the tall radio tower that was erected at his home north of Waterford. "But, no one at the time had instant communications," including those who would most need them, such as doctors, nurses or fire and rescue workers, Walker said. Ironically, he recalled, one of the opponents had a heart attack and it was one of Lambert's pagers that helped save her life.

But Lambert was more than just a successful businessman to Walker. "He was my neighbor and friend, from the day he moved here in the mid-1970s," he said. It was a friendship that lasted from the first day. Walker, as a young man, met the older Lambert, when he went up to help him move into his house, to Wednesday morning's news that he had died.

Describing Lambert as "a very professional and academic man, a caring member of the community and a great lover of animals," Walker asked him to be godfather to his two sons.

"I would trust him with anything I had, or would hope to have, in my life," he said this week.

He is survived by his wife Ruby; sons Roger Lambert of Andros Island, Bahamas, and Christopher Lambert of Waterford; grandsons Michael and James Lambert; granddaughters Constance and Angela Lambert; and brother Roland Lambert of Connecticut.

Graveside services will be held at 1 p.m. Monday, Nov. 13 at Union Cemetery with the Rev. Edwin Urban officiating.

COCAINE IN EUROPE A WAKE UP CALL

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, last September, the Committee on International Relations' Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere and the Committee on the Judiciary's Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security held a joint hearing on the increased cocaine drug flow to Europe, in an effort to encourage our European friends and allies to provide more help to the Andean region, and Colombia in particular.

At a November 2, 2006, Shared Responsibility Conference in London, which was sponsored by the Government of Colombia, the UN Office of Drugs and Crime, UNODC, Executive Director Antonio Maria Costa sounded similar alarm bells on the massive increase in cocaine flow to Europe from Colombia and the Andean region. He said, regarding cocaine, among many important things, "Wake up Europe! You are heading for a crisis."

I ask that the full text of the UNODC official's statement on this important subject be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, and urge all my colleagues to see how the burden of our drug-fighting efforts in Colombia and elsewhere in the region ought to also be shared by our European friends as well.

UNITED NATIONS

Office on Drugs and Crime

Antonio Maria Costa, Executive Director
COCAINE IN EUROPE: A WAKE-UP CALL

Dialogue on Shared Responsibility and the
Global Problem of Illicit Drugs

Ladies and Gentlemen, I have some good news and some bad news. The good news is that in most of the world, demand for cocaine is stable or even dropping. Coca cultivation has been slashed by a quarter in the past five years. And seizures of cocaine have almost doubled during that period. An astounding 42% of an cocaine produced was seized in 2005.

The bad news is the upward trend in Europe. I am not afraid to name and shame the worst offenders—Spain, England and Italy. The level of cocaine use in Spain which is 3% among those aged 15 to 64—now exceeds (for the first time ever) levels of cocaine use in the United States. And the UK is not far behind. In 2005, annual prevalence for cocaine use in this country was 2.4%, up from 0.6% a decade earlier.

Look at another leading indicator. Ten years ago, in the Netherlands 20% of all new clients entering treatment for drug abuse were addicted to cocaine. Less than a decade later the proportion was 40%. In Spain, the proportion in 1995 was 7%. In 2002 it was 42%. and I would bet that the proportion has continued to rise since then.

Wake up Europe! You are heading for a crisis. We are facing a pandemic, and not only because of coca addiction by high profile entertainers, executives, models or socialites who flaunt their illicit drug, use in words and deeds. This is a symptom of a deeper problem—one made worse by uncritical reporting in the media.

What will it take to get people to take the problem seriously? A phone call from a hospital that your child or colleague has had an overdose? Or was caught in the cross-fire of a drug-related shooting? Or killed in an accident under the influence of drugs? That's what happened in America's cities in the 1980s, especially as coca turned into crack. If we are not careful it is coming to our neighborhoods.

Europe's growing cocaine problem is due to a number of factors.

First, drug addicts are switching from narcotics, heroine, to psychoactive substances. Coca is fashionable because it is attractive: white not dark; sniffed not injected; taken in a living room; not in a dark alley; symbol of success not evidence of failure. Second and because of all of the above, cocaine users are in denial, no chance of AIDS, a trendy white collar habit. Celebrities get away with it so when is the problem? Well, there is a problem as recognized by a 17 year old inmate I met in a prison in Naples: "I thought that I could control the white lady—la signora bianca—that I could have her whenever I

wanted. But soon she controlled me, and I became her slave."

Secondly, governments are in denial. Too many governments—particularly in rich countries—fail to invest political capital to prevent and treat drug abuse. As a consequence, their societies have the drug problem they deserve.

Interesting is the case of Sweden. Over the past three decades, successive governments have invested consistently and significantly in drug treatment and prevention. As a result, Sweden has been one of the cleanest—most drug-free—societies in Europe. Well; but even there, cocaine abuse is creeping in.

Economists have recognized for centuries that bad money chases away good money. Bad habits spread quickly; especially in affluent, fast-paced societies. Emerging economies, in particular, should be on the alert for a rise in cocaine use, including in Russia and China where health ministers have told me that there are no problems with cocaine in their countries. My response? Brace yourself. It's on the way.

Europe's cocaine habit is not only causing problems on this continent. It is making life difficult for President Uribe and other Andean leaders, not to mention all states between here and Latin America affected by drug trafficking.

So we face a problem of credibility. How can Europe urge the Andean countries to reduce supply when its drug habit is driving cultivation?

We all need to get serious about assuming our responsibility for the drug problem. I therefore applaud the Colombian Government's efforts to promote a dialogue on shared responsibility. What are some ways that we can work together?

Surely we should do more to support alternative development. Most illicit crop growers (Afghanistan, Colombia or Laos), live in some of the poorest communities in the world. Crop eradication will not work over the long term if there is no legal economy to replace it. Drug control and development must therefore go hand in hand.

International donors should provide more assistance to coca farmers. For its part, I urge the Government of Colombia to involve a broad range of ministries in developing a coherent alternative development strategy that will assist coca farmers.

More attention should be devoted to the environment. Coca farmers and producers slash and burn forests, pollute streams and damage fragile ecosystems (by the use of toxic chemicals). The Andean region has less than 1% of the world's land area, but more than 15% of the world's plant life. At a time when we are all so concerned about climate change. I urge all Europeans to think about the destruction done to our habitat for the sake of a line of cocaine.

The billions of dollars made through the narco-economy are empowering cartels, funding insurgency and financing terrorism. Cocaine ruins everything along the trail from the Andean countries through the Caribbean, Mexico, and West Africa to lucrative markets in Europe and North America, where gun crime and gang violence associated with the drug trade have turned some urban neighborhoods into war zones.

Ladies and gentlemen. The alarm clock is ringing. Europe, it is time to wake up and get going. Supply control is not enough. Imagine that this year we seize all 900-odd tons of Andean cocaine. Well as many tons will be produced next year.

Imagine if Andean farmers gave up all their coca crops. Francisco, this is your dream!! That is not enough, since demand by the world's 13 million cocaine addicts will generate as much cultivation somewhere else.

Plainly speaking, the mother of all drug control challenges is drug prevention, treatment and rehabilitation. This too is a shared responsibility in our communities. Drugs are too big a problem to be left to drug experts. Society at large should be actively engaged.

Only by working together on all aspects of drug control will we be able to move towards a healthier and safer world.

Thank you for your attention.

HONORING HIS EXCELLENCY
EURIPIDES EVRIVIADES, AMBASSADOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to honor the departing Ambassador of the Republic of Cyprus to the United States, His Excellency Euripides Evriviades.

Ambassador Evriviades has served in this post since December 2003, but his diplomatic career is long and distinguished. Prior to serving as Cyprus' Ambassador to the United States, he served as the Ambassador to the Netherlands, August 2000 to October 2003, and Ambassador to Israel, November 1997 until July 2000. Since 1976, he has served in a variety of diplomatic positions, proudly representing Cyprus and her citizens.

It has been my honor and privilege to work with Ambassador Evriviades on issues important to Cypriots. I have come to regard him as an effective, determined, and passionate advocate for his country, a man who remains committed to the reunification of Cyprus and who has pursued this goal even when it put him at odds with others.

I want to bid a fond farewell to Ambassador Evriviades and offer him my congratulations and appreciation for his 3 years of service in our Nation's Capital. I praise the Ambassador for his tremendous efforts and contributions to raise awareness among Members of Congress and administration officials of Cyprus' desire to be reunified. He will be greatly missed, and I wish him all the best in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING HANS GEISSLER OF
DADE CITY, FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Hans Geissler, the founder of Morning Star Fishermen. Mr. Geissler was recently selected from a group of volunteer and service organization workers aged 60 and older who were nominated to participate in a symposium at Stanford University. This symposium highlights community service and the use of business experience in the volunteer service field.

Since leaving the French Foreign Legion and retiring from a career as a plumbing contractor, Mr. Geissler has worked tirelessly to help solve one of the world's biggest problems—world hunger. Based out of his 11-acre facility in Dade City, Florida, Mr. Geissler

teaches aquaculture classes to people from around the world. Morning Star Fishermen also works to help establish tilapia-breeding tanks in foreign nations. Students who travel to the Dade City facility learn how to raise tilapia as a high-protein food source back home in their own communities around the world.

Civic Ventures, a think tank based in San Francisco, noted Mr. Geissler's work. Civic Ventures asked for nominations of people over the age of 60 who are using their experience to solve social problems. The think tank received 1,200 nominations, and named 71 Purpose Prize Fellows.

Mr. Geissler will attend the symposium in September and hopes to work with other participants to gather new ideas on how best to grow Morning Star Fishermen into the future.

Mr. Speaker, civic-minded individuals like Hans Geissler help make our cities and municipalities better places to live and work. The motto of Morning Star Fishermen is "Give a man a fish, he eats for one day. Teach a man to raise fish, the whole community eats." People like Hans Geissler prove that one person can indeed make a positive difference throughout the world.

TRIBUTE TO DR. J. OTIS
WILLIAMS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a doctor, who has had a tremendous impact on his profession and his colleagues. Dr. J. Otis Williams is a renowned chiropractor in South Carolina, who is being honored on November 19, 2006 by his peers with a Trailblazer Award.

It is clear why Dr. Williams would receive this recognition. He was instrumental in insuring a good scope of practice for South Carolina chiropractors in the 1980s when an examining board for the profession didn't exist. He remains dedicated to the cause of high quality chiropractic care, and has served on South Carolina Chiropractic Board of Directors. He has been very involved with legislative matters governing the profession.

Otis Williams was born in Ridgeland, South Carolina in 1947. He was raised by his grandmother, until she died when he was just 11 years-old. From the time he was young, Otis Williams knew he wanted to be a doctor. He graduated from Robert Smalls High School and Morehouse College, and went on to pursue his chiropractic degree at the National College of Chiropractic (now National University of Health Sciences).

Dr. Williams returned home to South Carolina and began his practice on Lady's Island in 1978. He sees a wide range of patients from infants to centenarians. He has done post-graduate work in chiropractic orthopedics, acupuncture, addictionology and compulsive disorders, nutrition, and is presently studying for board certification as a chiropractic internist.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me today in congratulating Dr. J. Otis Williams on this recognition by his peers. He is truly a trailblazer, who is dedicated to continuing his personal development and the development of his pro-

fession. I commend Dr. Williams for his remarkable work.

TRIBUTE TO BENITA A. ALLISON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Benita A. Allison, a distinguished citizen of Brooklyn, New York. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding woman and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing her many accomplishments.

Born to the late Lamonias Smith-Ody and William Smith, Benita A. Allison remains a part of the Brooklyn community today. Ms. Allison is a product of the New York public school system and has received certificates from Brooklyn College and New York University.

Ms. Allison has had many firsts in her career and life, among them; she was the first Black woman to be an Institutional Stock Trader for a major bank in New York City. She was accepted in one of the first classes that included woman of color to enter and graduate from the New York City Police Academy as a New York City Police Officer where she served 18 months.

Ms. Allison has been very involved in the community. She represents her church, 1st Baptist Church of Crown Heights, as a "Mission Advocate". Ms. Allison holds numerous memberships and sits on many community boards. She sits on the Economic Development Board of Community Board 8 and is a member of the Service Corp of Retired Executives. Ms. Allison is a lifetime member of Church Women United in Brooklyn and is a past member of the National Council of Negro Women (Flatbush Section). Ms. Allison served as a Regional Resource Consultant for U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, where she was responsible for providing capacity building services to the minority community/faith based HIV/AIDS population. She has also served on the Mental Health Advisory Board for Brookdale University Hospital in Brooklyn, New York and the Pastoral Care HIV/AIDS Advisory Board for Kings County Hospital in Brooklyn.

Since 2003, Ms. Allison has worked as a Parent Coordinator for New York City Department of Education. As a Parent Coordinator she works and partners with community organizations to assist parents and families with such issues as housing, employment, adult training and education. She has held workshops to address such topics as adult education training, immigration and conflict mediation.

Ms. Allison's work has not gone unnoticed and has earned her recognition from the New York City Conference of Mayors, the New Jersey HIV Care Network and Barber-Scotia College.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the work of Benita A. Allison. Her deep commitment to her family and community makes her most worthy of our recognition today.

IN MEMORY OF WOODROW WILSON
HOWARD

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Woodrow Wilson Howard died October 10, 2006, at his home. He was 94 years old. He was born in Catawba County, North Carolina, to the late Cleveland Franklin and Antha Leona Sigmon Howard.

Mr. Howard began his retail career in 1934 with Belk Department Store and, in 1938 with Belk as partner, he founded Howard's, located on Assembly Street in Columbia. He stayed with Belk for 64 years. He moved the Assembly Street store to Parkland Plaza in Cayce in 1977. Ultimately, the Howard's doubled in size and expanded to include Howard's Sports. Mr. Howard retired from Belk in 1998. Over the years he sold everything from basic work clothes to high fashion trends. He claimed he never took a coffee break.

Mr. Howard was a vital member of the community. He had been a member of Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church for 66 years. He was a charter member and past president of Cayce-West Columbia Lions Club and was named the World Champion Broom Salesman by the national Lions Club in 1976. He served on the Advisory Board and was an original stockholder of Lexington State Bank (now BB&T), served on the Board of Directors of the West Columbia-Cayce Chamber of Commerce, was a member of the Central Midlands Regional Planning Council and its Committee of 100, served on the Board of Directors for the Lowman Home, was a lifetime member of Sinclair Lodge No. 154 and was named "Citizen of the Year" by the City of West Columbia in 1985.

Mr. Howard was elected to West Columbia City Council in 1961 and served for 30 years. He acted as Mayor Pro Tem for 28 years. While campaigning, his slogan for re-election was "If you don't know me ask your neighbor." He was honored with the Order of the Palmetto in 1998.

Mr. Howard is survived by his wife of 68 years, Elizabeth G. "Lib" Howard; his son and daughter-in-law, Jerry and Mary Howard of Lexington, his son and daughter-in-law, Tommy and Gloria Howard, also of Lexington, and his daughter and son-in-law, Marianne and Larry Yoder of Newton, North Carolina. He is also survived by his grandchildren, GG Howard and Robert Culpepper of Atlanta, Georgia, Chip Howard of Lexington, Melissa and Jim Henshaw of Isle of Palms, Shannon and Bert Pooser of Columbia, Amy and Jason London of West Columbia, Michael Howard of Columbia, Nathan Yoder of Regensburg, Germany, Joshua Yoder of Hickory, North Carolina, and David and Krissy Yoder of Pinehurst, North Carolina; as well as his great-grandchildren: Cate Simmons, Jerod and Lucy Culpepper, Bane London, Sam Henshaw and Maddox Pooser. Mr. Howard was predeceased by his brothers, Harry, Ray, and Franklin Howard and his sister, Alice Howard Cooper.

At the funeral services on October 13, 2006; a eulogy was lovingly delivered by his granddaughter GG Howard which highlighted his many achievements.

HONORING HERITAGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOR BEING NAMED A NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Heritage Elementary School located in Colleyville, Texas for being named a 2006 No Child Left Behind—Blue Ribbon School. Only 26 public schools in Texas will receive this coveted award this year.

The No child Left Behind Blue Ribbon Schools program recognizes schools that make significant progress in closing the achievement gap or whose students achieve at very high levels. Schools must make adequate yearly progress in reading, language arts and mathematics.

Heritage Elementary is no exception as Principal Stacy Voigt, her staff, the students and their families have poured dedication and heart into creating a fertile learning environment in Colleyville. They have realized the immense potential of all those involved in making a school Blue Ribbon-worthy.

The No child Left Behind Act is the bipartisan landmark education reform law designed to change the culture of America's schools by closing the achievement gap offering more flexibility to States, giving parents more information and options and teaching students based on what works. Under the law's strong accountability provisions, States must describe how they will close the achievement gap and make sure all students, including those with disabilities, achieve academically.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Heritage Elementary School for receiving this award. This school's contribution and services should serve as inspiration to us all.

TRIBUTE TO DR. VICTOR RODRIGUEZ

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor Dr. Victor Rodriguez, a native of Edna, Texas in my congressional district. Dr. Rodriguez's achievements in, and dedication to, education are an inspiration to us all. As detailed in his autobiography, *The Bell Ringer*, Dr. Rodriguez developed endurance and perseverance at an early age when his third grade teacher assigned him the task of ringing the bell for the St. Agnes Catholic Church.

For nine years, Victor Rodriguez woke up at 4 a.m. and jogged two miles to the church to ring the bell before the 5 a.m. mass. While this was obviously a difficult responsibility for a child, Dr. Rodriguez later said that he "came to accept ringing that bell as an honor . . . whenever I was tired and didn't feel like getting out of bed, I remembered my mom's encouragement. She used to say that if you do something, do it to the very best of your ability."

The importance of hard work, endurance, and dedication that Victor Rodriguez learned

as a bell ringer stayed with him throughout his life. Dr. Rodriguez was a star athlete who set many records and won numerous trophies at Edna High School, Victoria College, and North Texas State University. After earning his Ph.D, Dr. Rodriguez began a successful career as a teacher and as a coach of several championship track teams. In his work as a teacher and coach, Dr. Rodriguez inspired his students to strive to achieve their goals and dreams.

During Dr. Rodriguez's 12 years as superintendent of the San Antonio School District, the dropout rate was reduced from 50 percent to less than 10 percent. Applying the lessons in perseverance he learned as a young bell ringer, then superintendent-elect Dr. Rodriguez promised San Antonio School District's kindergarten class that he would stay as superintendent as long as they were in school. Of course, Dr. Rodriguez kept that promise, not retiring until 1994 when the kindergartners of 1981 were seniors in high school.

During his tenure as superintendent, Dr. Rodriguez won numerous awards and honors, including an achiever award from the Alamo Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America, representative from Texas in the 1989 National Superintendent of the Year Award Program sponsored by the American Association of School Administrators and the Service-Master Company, induction into the National Hispanic Sports Hall of Fame; and honoree in Ford Motor Company's Hispanic Salute recognizing San Antonio Hispanics for outstanding contributions to education and literacy. Executive Educator magazine twice named Dr. Rodriguez one of the Hundred Top School Executives in the nation. Just last month, Dr. Rodriguez was honored by his alma mater by being named a 2006 inductee into the University of North Texas's Athletic Hall of Fame.

Dr. Rodriguez's application of the lessons he learned, as a young church bell ringer should serve an example to all of us. It is a pleasure to offer my congratulations and thanks to Dr. Victor Rodriguez for all of his efforts to help Texas schoolchildren.

HONORING JULIA PON ON THE OCCASION OF HER 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a woman who whose quiet contributions in her support for her family make her community of supporters proud.

A native Californian and the daughter of immigrants, Julia Pon grew up on the orange groves of San Juan Capistrano, and after graduation from San Francisco College for Women, came to Santa Clara Valley to join her husband, Joe, in working and caring for the orchards for which our valley was world famous. As a great tribute to her patience and understanding, Julia Pon raised 9 children with her husband.

As Julia celebrates her 80th birthday on December 10, 2006, we celebrate a strong and courageous woman who has raised family members who have become successful members of society and who has lived a demonstrable life.

RECOGNIZING BOB AND SHARON BLANCHARD OF DADE CITY, FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a husband and wife from Dade City, Florida who were recently awarded the prestigious 1000 Friends of Florida Award. Bob and Sharon Blanchard are the owners of a two thousand plus acre working ranch in the heart of Pasco County. In addition to breeding horses and cattle and hosting an annual steeplechase event, the Blanchards have taken the extra step to provide environmentally sensitive stewardship of their ranch.

Little Everglades Ranch has been reforested and is a conservation easement, assuring it will be protected from development. The Blanchards have also taken leadership roles in the Coalition to Protect Our Water Resources.

During his acceptance of the award, Bob Blanchard said that after his retirement, he was wondering what to do with the rest of his life. He credits his wife for being the driving force behind their efforts to make waves for the good of the community.

1000 friends of Florida promotes healthy urban and natural places by wise management of growth and change. 1000 Friends of Florida helps citizens have the technical knowledge and access needed to ensure that public and private decisions lead to livable communities.

Mr. Speaker, environmentally engaged citizens like the Blanchards are to be commended for not only maintaining a working ranch in the midst of a growing suburban region of Florida, but for also doing so in a way that protects our fragile ecosystem. I applaud the Blanchards on earning the 1000 Friends of Florida award and wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JOHN HENRY PORTER, JR.

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a doctor and educator, who works every day to expand the chiropractic profession. Dr. John Henry Porter, Jr., is a highly-regarded chiropractor in my home State of South Carolina, and he is being recognized by his peers on November 18, 2006 as a trail-blazer.

John Porter is a native of Spartanburg, South Carolina, where today he has a successful practice and teaches aspiring chiropractic students at his alma mater, Sherman College of Straight Chiropractic. As an Associate Professor of Clinic Sciences, Dr. Porter teaches Toggle Recoil and Full Spine. He has been with the college since 1979, and enjoys helping students enter the exciting and rewarding career of Chiropractics.

While teaching students, Dr. Porter has also continued his education by taking courses in Chiropractic Radiographic Interpretation, Adjusting Methods, and Chiropractic Principals.

He holds state licenses in both South Carolina and Tennessee.

Dr. Porter attained his undergraduate degree from Claflin University and he studied Business and Data Processing at Spartanburg Technical College. He is married to the former Errie Bobo, and the couple has three adult children.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in thanking Dr. John Henry Porter, Jr., for his commitment to chiropractics and his desire to teach a new generation the skills needed to succeed in the profession. Dr. Porter is a tremendous advocate for chiropractors, and very deserving of his recognition as a Trailblazer by his peers.

TRIBUTE TO WAYNE C. WILTSHIRE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the jazz musician, Wayne C. Wiltshire, distinguished artist of the music industry. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding artist and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing his impressive accomplishments.

Wayne C. Wiltshire has spent his entire 33 year career trying to improve access to healthcare for thousands of New Yorkers. First, as administrator for Emergency and Ambulatory Care Services at Cumberland Hospital and then as Associate Executive Director at Woodhull Hospital, which he helped open in 1982. Mr. Wiltshire then returned to renovate the new Cumberland D&TC, and served as their first Executive Director for 8 years. He later was transferred to Bellevue Hospital where he served for 5 years as the hospital's first African-American Associate Executive Director for Psychiatry and Emergency Services. During this time, Mr. Wiltshire was also an adjunct professor at St. Joseph's College in Brooklyn and owned his own ambulette service—Health Link, Incorporated with his father Cuthbert Wiltshire and brother David Wiltshire. With a Master's Degree in Community Health from LID and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Urban Politics from Shaw University, Mr. Wiltshire, a Canarsie High School graduate, is currently the Chief Executive Officer for the Paul J. Cooper Center for Human Services, Inc., formerly the Brownsville-Oceanhill Mental Health Service.

Mr. Wiltshire celebrated his twenty-first wedding anniversary in July with his wife Donna, who is also a twenty-nine year health professional. They have four children—Marc, Ngina, Kelli-Lin and Victor. From Fort Greene to Williamsburg, and now Brownsville, Mr. Wiltshire has helped shape the health care landscape of Brooklyn, which has helped improve access to health care for thousands of New Yorkers.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Wayne C. Wiltshire. His commitment to improving healthcare access makes him most worthy of our recognition today.

IN MEMORY OF RICK DANIEL

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the pro-Second Amendment community lost a true friend last month, with the passing of Herman Richard Daniel of Irmo, SC. "Rick" died due to complications from aortal heart issues. He was 45.

He was the son of Evelyn Spires and the late Herman Daniel. Rick was a member of the New Heights Baptist Church.

A longtime aide to South Carolina Comptroller General, Richard Eckstrom, Rick had a distinguished and passionate career in the service to causes in the defense of freedom. Rick served ten years as the President of Gun Owners of South Carolina and the NRA State Association. He was the only non-legislator in South Carolina to be named "Defender of Freedom" by the National Rifle Association and was also named the first ever NRA Member of the Year by "America's First Freedom" magazine. Rick was known for his powerful essays and articles on the subject of freedom and was recently awarded the Second Amendment Foundation's "James Madison Award" for excellence in writing. Rick was also a proud officer in the South Carolina State Guard.

Rick is survived by his loving wife Esther and two daughters, Heather Rhea and Kara Nina; his brother Jim and wife Tonette with niece Jamie, and sister Linda and her husband Charley Butler.

Rick was a patriot, loving father, devoted son, and dedicated servant of the Lord. His quick wit and personal charm will leave us all missing him.

HONORING ROCKENBAUGH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOR BEING NAMED A NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rockenbaugh Elementary School located in Southlake, Texas for being named a 2006 No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School. Only 26 public schools in Texas will receive this coveted award this year.

The No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon Schools program recognizes schools that make significant progress in closing the achievement gap or whose students achieve at very high levels. Schools must make adequate yearly progress in reading, language arts and mathematics.

Rockenbaugh Elementary is no exception as Principal Karen White, her staff, the students and their families have poured dedication and heart into creating a fertile learning environment in Southlake. They have realized the immense potential of all those involved in making a school Blue Ribbon-worthy.

The No Child Left Behind Act is the bipartisan landmark education reform law designed to change the culture of America's schools by

closing the achievement gap, offering more flexibility to States, giving parents more information and options and teaching students based on what works. Under the law's strong accountability provisions, States must describe how they will close the achievement gap and make sure all students, including those with disabilities, achieve academically.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Rockenbaugh Elementary School for receiving this award. This school's contribution and services should serve as inspiration to us all.

STATEMENT ON HELEN CHENOWETH-HAGE

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, with the passing last month of Helen Chenoweth-Hage, America has lost one of its true champions of liberty and constitutional government, and I have lost a valued friend and colleague. When Helen served in the House of Representatives, she gained a national following for her principled and uncompromising defense of private property, the Second Amendment, American sovereignty, and limited federal government.

Unlike all too many people who come to Washington, Helen never forgot the principles that inspired her to seek office. I was honored when Helen became the first member of Congress to join my Liberty Caucus. She understood the importance of creating a support system to help members of Congress resist the constant pressures to "go along to get along."

I will always cherish my memories of the time Helen and I served together in the House, and I thank the Lord for enriching my life and the lives of so many others by granting us the opportunity to know Helen. I hope that knowledge of how many freedom-lovers across the country join Helen's family in mourning her loss provides some measure of comfort to Helen's family.

HONORING DENNIS KENNEDY UPON HIS RETIREMENT AFTER 30 YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO THE CITY OF MORGAN HILL

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. Dennis Kennedy who has served the City of Morgan Hill in various capacities for the past 30 years.

Since 1977, one year after Mr. Kennedy moved to Morgan Hill, he has been involved in various roles within the City of Morgan Hill's local government. He served three terms on the Planning Commission and two terms on the General Plan Update Committee.

In 1990 he stood for election and won a seat on the City Council. He has served four terms as the mayor of the City of Morgan Hill. He was appointed to his first term in 1992. In 1996, he became the first directly elected mayor and was re-elected in 1998, 2000, 2002 and 2004.

He is past chairman of the South County Regional Wastewater Authority, has served two terms on the Board of Directors of the Valley Transportation Authority and is a past-president of the Santa Clara Cities Association.

Mr. Kennedy has always been mindful of his commitment to the Santa Clara Valley and, although he was born in Nebraska, he has acted like a true local when community interests were at stake. Mr. Kennedy moved to San Jose, California during his high school years and attended Bellarmine College Preparatory School in San Jose. He earned a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from Santa Clara University and served as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Army.

Professionally, it has been a pleasure to work with Mr. Kennedy because he sincerely cares about the residents of the City of Morgan Hill and their interests. I know I stand with many other thankful constituents in congratulating Mr. Kennedy on his years of service and wishing him the very best for his retirement.

HONORING THE RETURN OF BATTERY B, 2ND BATTALION, 116TH FIELD ARTILLERY

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exploits of one of Florida's National Guard Units—Battery B, 2nd Battalion, 116th Field Artillery.

In April of 2005, 139 soldiers from Battery B began a deployment that would take them to Afghanistan. For over a year, the unit brought security to the Afghani people by conducting patrols, guarding critical military bases, and providing a presence to deter Taliban insurgents. This past July, after their heroic service, elements of Battery B began returning to the United States. Thankfully, during their deployment, the unit suffered no fatalities.

Last month, I had the privilege of meeting with these brave individuals, many of whom live within my congressional district. The courage and selflessness of our soldiers never ceases to amaze me. I was also touched when I learned that during its tour, Battery B used an American flag that flew over the United States Capitol—a little piece of home halfway around the world.

Mr. Speaker, the war on terror is a long-term commitment, one that will require courage, sacrifice, and hard work. When I see the steadfast resolve of soldiers with Battery B, I know that we will prevail in this conflict. In closing, I want to thank the men and women in our Armed Forces, as well as their families, for making tremendous sacrifices to defend our freedom. May God bless you all.

TRIBUTE TO DR. BEATRICE GAMBLE-FRANKLIN

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable doctor and South

Carolinian, who, on November 19, 2006, will be the only female recipient of the Trailblazer Award for her contributions to the chiropractic profession. Dr. Beatrice Gamble-Franklin is a native of South Carolina, who has spent her career helping others.

Beatrice Gamble was born in Georgetown, South Carolina and excelled as a student. She graduated first in her class from Choppee High School, and was selected for the MARC (Minority Access to Research Careers) honors program, which enabled her to pursue undergraduate and graduate degrees from Benedict College and Atlanta University. Beatrice then attended Life Chiropractic College in Marietta, Georgia.

Dr. Gamble-Franklin has been in the chiropractic field for 20 years. She holds the distinction of being the first African American chiropractor in South Carolina, and has been voted the best chiropractor in the state. At one time, Dr. Gamble-Franklin had six practices. Today, she and her husband, Dr. Gregory Franklin, have two practices in Columbia and Orangeburg.

In addition to her work in chiropractics, Dr. Gamble-Franklin is using her training in scientific research to develop hair products. She has invented the VictoriUs Silk Protein Relaxer, which is highly recommended by hair stylists.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me today in applauding the trailblazing spirit of Dr. Beatrice Gamble-Franklin. Her recognition by her peers is a testament to the extraordinary contributions she has made as a chiropractor, and the difference she has made in the lives of her patients.

A TRIBUTE TO THE AUSTRIAN CONSULATE GENERAL IN NEW YORK AND THE RAV TOV INTERNATIONAL JEWISH RESCUE ORGANIZATION

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to the Austrian Consulate in New York as they honor one of my district's outstanding human rights groups, The Rav Tov International Jewish Rescue Organization.

Founded in 1973, at the behest of the former Grand Rabbi of Satmar, Rabbi Joel Teitelbaum of blessed memory, in 1973, Rav Tov was initially established to rescue the persecuted Jewish community living in the former Soviet Union. Rabbi Teitelbaum, himself a survivor of the Holocaust, saw his family perish at the hands of the Nazis. He envisioned Rav Tov as the protective shield for the global Jewish community living in tyrannical regimes.

Rav Tov's heroic accomplishments of rescuing and resettling Soviet Jewry was only possible with the unflinching cooperation and support of the Austrian government, which hosted the refugees as they waited for their final resettlement. It is estimated that 367,000 Jews stayed in Vienna between 1968–1989 rebuilding their often shattered lives in free countries. Following the fall of the Soviet Union, the focus of Rav Tov's and Austrian efforts have been to save other endangered Jewish communities that still exist around the world.

As a result of the enduring bonds between Rav Tov and the Austrian government, the Austrian Federal President, Dr. Heinz Fischer, has decided to confer the prestigious Grand Decoration of Honor in Gold to Rabbi David Niederman, Rav Tov's Chief Executive for over three decades, which will be presented to him at a ceremony today at the Austrian Consulate in New York. This wonderful event is not only a testament to the resolve of the Austrian government in saving Jews in peril, but a celebration of the strong relationship between the United States and Austria.

Mr. Speaker, as Rav Tov's representative in Congress, I have been privileged to work with them and the Austrian government on many pressing issues facing Jews in danger. I would like to particularly make mention of Austria's New York Consul General Brigitta Blaha and the Deputy Consul General Andreas Launer for their tireless work on Rav Tov's behalf. I encourage all of my colleagues to join me today in commending the Austrian government and Rav Tov for their phenomenal partnership in rescuing Jews around the world living in fear and danger.

IN MEMORY OF PASTOR BOB KELLEY

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, services for Dr. Bob Kelley, 65, were held Wednesday, November 1, 2006, at Grace Baptist Church in West Columbia, South Carolina. Officiating were Rev. Milton Ker and Dr. Charles Walker. Thompson Funeral Home of Lexington handled the arrangements. Interment was Thursday, November 2, 2006, at Lakewood Memory Gardens, East Chattanooga, Tennessee; Turner Funeral Home handled the arrangements in Tennessee.

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints. Psalm 116:15. Upon using every treasured moment that God had graciously granted him in laboring and pasturing his Lord, loving and providing for his family, and living for and proclaiming his Savior, Dr. Robert Earl Kelley gained his entrance into heaven on Saturday, October 28, 2006. Born in Rossville, Georgia, he was the son of the late Clarence Day Kelley and Daisy Lou Hall. Known to most as "Pastor Kelley" he spent the last 43 years preaching and pasturing in West Virginia, Tennessee, and in West Columbia, South Carolina, where he recently retired as the pastor of Grace Baptist Church after 15 fruitful years of ministry. Pastor Kelley received many prestigious awards including The Order of the Palmetto, from Governor Mark Sanford, and The Order of Palmetto Patriot, from Lieutenant Governor Bauer and Senator Jake Knotts.

Survived by his loving wife, April Allene Scott Kelly of West Columbia; daughters and sons-in-law, Rachel Star Kelley Bancroft and John Bancroft of West Columbia; Laura Dawn Kelley Phillips and Chris Phillips of Charleston; Sharon Daye Kelley Goforth and David Goforth of West Columbia; sisters, JoAnn Kelley Tillman and Betty Jewel Kelley Tate both of Ooltewah, Tennessee; brother, Kenneth "Buzz" Kelley of Hixon, Tennessee. He is

also survived by eleven grandchildren, John Robert Bancroft, Nathaniel Scott Bancroft, Abby Kristine Phillips, April Lauren Phillips, Alyson Kate Phillips, Zachariah Thomas Phillips, Holly Daye Goforth, Kelley Daye Goforth, Bailey Daye Goforth, Chloe Daye Goforth, and Amy Daye Goforth. Dr. Kelley was predeceased by his brother, Clarence Day Kelley, Jr.

We all look forward to the day our faith will become sight and we are united with Christ and reunited with Pastor Kelley.

RECOGNIZING THE KLINGER
FAMILY

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an accomplished family with nurseries in several of the agriculture hotspots of Florida's 5th District. The entire Klinger family has taken a leadership role in growing the Florida agriculture industry, including fighting for increased relief funding for communities devastated by natural disasters.

The Klingers own and manage the lake Brantley Plant Corporation of Longwood, working as a team to grow their business and give back to their friends and neighbors. The family owned company currently has locations in Lake Brantley, Center Hill and Windermere.

Started by Paul Sr. and his wife Regina in the 1970s, the Klingers today boast three generations working in the family business. Paul's four sons Bill, P.J., Dan, and John run the nursery operations, but still rely on Paul Sr.'s years of experience and advice.

In addition to his active role in the nursery, Bill also served as the 2004 President of the Florida Nursery, Growers and Landscape Association. He is involved in politics and is a tireless advocate for the green industry and Florida agriculture.

P.J., who is the Director of Research and Development at the Center Hill operation in Sumter County, has also taken a leadership role in the community and serves on the Extension Advisory Board. He oversees growing practices at all three sites and monitors compliance with Best Management Practices. P.J.'s three sons also work for the family business. Ben is the dispatcher at the Lake Brantley plant, Brad is in sales and Barrett is the Assistant Nursery Manager at Lake Brantley.

Serving as the manager of the Center Hill nursery, Dan is joined by his son Adam, who serves as the Nursery Manager at the Windermere location, and a daughter Ashley who is in customer service.

John manages the Longwood nursery and has three children, Caroline, Katie and Jack, who are eager to join the family business one day as well.

Mr. Speaker, families like the Klingers deserve recognition for their hard work and dedication to Florida's agricultural community. They have dedicated their lives to grow their business, improving the lives of area residents by growing and expanding their plant operations, and bringing quality jobs to the entire region. The Klingers are to be commended for

their work and I wish them the best of luck as they continue operations in the future.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JERRY HARDEE

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a lifelong educator, who has made a tremendous impact on young Chiropractic students. The leadership of Dr. Jerry L. Hardee has prompted South Carolina Chiropractors to honor him with a 2006 Trailblazer Award.

Although his background is education, not Chiropractics, Dr. Hardee's role as President of Sherman College of Straight Chiropractic led to the college's tremendous growth and financial stability. He has officially retired as President of Sherman College, but remains Chancellor in a part-time capacity responsible for fund-raising, public relations and enrollment services.

Jerry Hardee began his career as a teacher in 1960. Ten years later, he took his first administrative job as a principal and Title I Gifted Program Coordinator in the Garfield School District in Maywood, Illinois. Before coming to Sherman College, Dr. Hardee served for a quarter of a century as an executive administrator at three different institutions in the University System of Georgia. He also came out of his first retirement in 1999 to serve as the Director of the Center for Teaching and learning at Albany State University in Georgia.

Dr. Hardee spent 35 years as an education administrator. He holds a doctorate degree in education and a certificate of advanced study in educational administration from Northern Illinois University, a master's degree in science education from Fisk University, and a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Clark College.

While president of Sherman College, Dr. Hardee was renowned for his work to attract more African American students to the profession of Chiropractics. He often met with students, faculty and health care profession advisors at Historically Black Colleges and Universities to encourage more minority student interest in a profession dominated by non-black practitioners. His goal is to make the field more accessible to African Americans as a career option.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me as I pay tribute to this trailblazing educator, who believes in promoting Chiropractics in minority communities. His leadership on this issue demonstrates his dedication to the profession and qualifies him for this outstanding recognition by practicing Chiropractors.

LETTER OF CLARIFICATION FROM
THE BURT LAKE BAND OF OTTAWA
AND CHIPPEWA INDIANS

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, during hearings held in 1997 by the House Resources Com-

mittee, representatives of the Burt Lake Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians provided testimony that confused some land rights claims in Northern Michigan.

These statements were not approved by the Burt Lake Band's Tribal Council. As a result Mr. Curtis Chambers, Chairman of the Burt Lake Band, has written an open letter to members of Congress, to correct the record on this issue.

Without objection, I request that the following letter from the Chairman of the Burt Lake Band be included into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

THE BURT LAKE BAND OF
OTTAWA AND CHIPPEWA INDIANS, INC.,
Brutus, Michigan, October 25, 2006.

DEAR MEMBERS OF THE U.S. CONGRESS: During June 24, 1997, hearings held before the House Natural Resources Committee, the individuals who were charged with presenting the Burt Lake Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians' formal position on the Michigan Indian Lands Claims Settlement Act, P.L. 105-143, made some statements which require correction. Those statements suggested that the Burt Lake Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians was and is claiming rights in lands in Michigan's Emmet and Charlevoix Counties, Beaver Island, High Island and Garden Island. Unfortunately, those statements were made without the prior approval of the Burt Lake Band's Tribal Council and they were and are factually inaccurate.

During those same hearings, those same Burt Lake representatives also presented the House Resources Committee with a map which they suggested was an accurate representation of the Burt Lake Band's aboriginal territory. That map was not an accurate representation of that territory and it should never had been presented for that purpose.

To complete this clarification, the Burt Lake Band would like to note that its research has confirmed that the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians did, in fact, received allotments in southwestern Cheboygan County, Michigan and that the Burt Lake Band respects the Little Traverse Band's right to assert any and all rights which stem from the award of those allotments.

Because the historical records of the United States Congress are often used by law makers, attorneys and historians, we would greatly appreciate your assistance in seeing that this letter is printed in the Congressional Record of the United States House of Representatives to make the above stated corrections.

Cordially,

CURTIS CHAMBERS,
Chairman.

RECOGNIZES JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON, JR. OF BROOKSVILLE,
FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Joseph E. Johnston, Jr., the winner of the 2006 Great Brooksvillian of the Year Award. The Award is presented annually to a current or former resident who has made a significant impact on the city of Brooksville.

Mr. Johnston has a long record of service to the city and to the entire community. Born in

1922, Mr. Johnston has served with distinction as a Florida State Senator and the attorney for the city of Brooksville and the Hernando County School Board.

In addition to his personal service to the city, Mr. Johnston's son, City Council member Joe Johnston III, has continued the family's commitment to public service. At the council meeting where Mr. Johnston's award was first announced, it was his son Joseph who thanked his fellow council members on behalf of his family.

Mr. Speaker, the city of Brooksville is lucky to have a man like Joseph E. Johnston, Jr. to take an active role in our community. I am proud to recognize his accomplishments, and congratulate him on being named the 2006 Brooksvillian of the Year.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES AND CAROL
MCDOWELL

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituents James and Carol McDowell on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary, October 27, 2006.

Jim and Carol were high school sweethearts in Petaluma, CA, where they met when Jim was a senior and Carol was a sophomore. Recently, the couple's 17-year-old granddaughter learned that they had been married when Carol was right out of high school and exclaimed, "Gram, you got married at 18! How could you?"

Jim was the third generation to operate the family dairy ranch just outside of town. His son Michael, "Mike," now runs the operation as an organic farm, adding strawberries and tomatoes to the dairy operation. Mike and his wife Linda have two children, Ryan and Shannon.

Patrick, "Pat," the couple's other son, is Asian editor for the Associated Press, covering 34 Asian countries. He and his wife Solzck live in Bangkok, Thailand.

Mr. Speaker, 50 years together is a wonderful testament to Jim and Carol's love and commitment. Jim summed up what makes it work when he told me, "Carol has always been special." Congratulations to them on this happy occasion.

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT MICHAEL
R. WEIDEMANN

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sorrow that I rise to recognize the loss of a brave soldier in Iraq, SGT Michael R. Weidemann, a resident of Newport who served his country with dignity and honor. I join his family and the people of Rhode Island in mourning this great loss.

Sergeant Weidemann was born in Canada and moved to Middletown, RI, with his family when he was 7. In 2001, he graduated from Rogers High School, where he attended the Newport Area Career and Technical Center

and participated in the automotive program. He was also an honor student and an active member of the JROTC program.

One month after graduating from high school, Sergeant Weidemann pursued his interests by enlisting in the Army as an auto mechanic and joined the 1st Battalion, 36th Infantry Regiment of the 1st Brigade, 1st Armored Division. After serving one tour in Iraq, Sergeant Weidemann was nearing the end of his second tour when, on October 31st, he was killed while on patrol near Hit, in Anbar Province.

Those that knew Sergeant Weidemann remember his optimistic personality, his loyalty, his hard work and willingness to fix everything. Most importantly, he had a positive impact on all who knew him. This loss certainly causes us all to reflect on the bravery demonstrated by our men and women in uniform as they carry out their obligations in the face of danger. When Sergeant Weidemann's Nation called him to duty to preserve freedom, liberty and security, he answered without hesitation. We will remember him as a patriot who made the ultimate sacrifice for his country.

Sergeant Weidemann is survived by his grandmother, Gertrude K.C. Miller; his sister, Catharine E. Weidemann; and his brothers, Richard L. Weidemann and Edward R. and Benjamin J. Berriault. May we keep his loved ones in our thoughts and prayers as they endure this difficult period, and may his memory live on forever.

We will also continue to hope for the safe and speedy return of all of our troops serving throughout the world.

RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE CITY OF
BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, 150 years ago two rural communities, Melendez and Pierceville, merged to form the city we know today as Brooksville, FL. Located in the heart of Florida's Nature Coast, since its founding in 1856, Brooksville has grown into a community with a rich history and unique traditions.

Unlike many Florida towns, Brooksville is not named for a local resident or indigenous Indian Tribe, but for one of the 19th century's foremost spokesmen in the halls of Congress, Preston Brooks. Mr. Brooks of South Carolina was a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives from 1853 to 1856, and is the city's namesake. The citizens of Hernando County admired his defense of States' rights and voted to give the county's largest settlement his name.

In 1856, the city of Brooksville was still in an unsafe part of the State. Located in the north-eastern corner of the city is the historic Fort Desoto. This fort was used as a trading post and a military fort, providing protection as well as leading the economic growth of the region.

Originally settled by four families, Brooksville eventually grew into a flourishing commercial and residential community. The Howell family settled in the northern part of the city, the Mays family in the eastern sec-

tion, the Hale family in the western section and the Parson family in the southern region. These four families helped contribute to the growth of the city and of the entire region.

Today Brooksville houses numerous modern medical facilities, a community college, three city parks, an outstanding library, thriving shopping centers, and a regional airport.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the city of Brooksville on its 150th anniversary. It has taken the combined efforts of generations of proud Brooksvillians to grow and strengthen this great city and make it what it is today. I wish the city of Brooksville the best of luck with their anniversary celebrations and good fortune during their next 150 years.

TRIBUTE TO OFFICER JERRY A.
HOWARD

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Jerry A. Howard on his retirement from the United States Capitol Police. Securing the United States Capitol Building and ensuring the safety of all individuals who work and visit here is a great responsibility that Officer Howard faithfully undertook for 33 years of honorable and dedicated service. While Officer Howard's presence on Capitol Hill will be missed, his retirement is a celebratory occasion and I wish him and his family continued success as they embark upon this next chapter in life.

Officer Howard began his career with the United States Capitol Police on November 12, 1973 with the House Division Second Relief, working traffic duty until 1994. He was then transferred to inside details until his retirement. Officer Howard received numerous awards and citations during his years of service.

Officer Howard is a charter member of the U.S. Capitol Black Police Association, where he served as Chaplain, and for the last six years was Vice President of that association.

Prior to working for the United States Capitol Police, Officer Howard served two years in the United States Marine Corps from 1968 to 1970, including 13 months in Viet Nam. He joined the Marine Corp Reserves in 1975 and retired in 1995 as a Gunnery Sergeant in the VFMA-321 Air Wing.

Officer Howard and his wife Gloria will celebrate their retirement years in the new family home in Goldsboro, North Carolina.

This is a special occasion for Jerry and Gloria's five children; Frank, Trey, Larry, Sherry and Shannon, and their four grandchildren; DaJuan, Jayme, Taveon, and Kameron, two daughters-in-law; Gloria and Quianna and their extended family members; Lorie and Paul Southern. Officer Howard is thankful to his parents, the late Robert and Alean Howard, who encouraged him to succeed in life, and his nine siblings for their continued support and encouragement.

Officer Howard protected this Nation during wartime overseas and at home, here at the U.S. Capitol. He is a patriot, guided by loyalty, honor and duty. This Nation is indebted to Officer Howard for a lifetime of service. His retirement is well deserved, and I congratulate him on achieving this milestone.

IN HONOR OF MRS. MARY BALL
MORTON

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Mary Ball Morton upon her retirement after 28 years of dedicated service working for the Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families.

The Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families mission is to provide and manage a range of services for children who have experienced abandonment, abuse, mental illness, neglect, or substance abuse. Its services include prevention, early intervention, assessment, treatment, permanency, and after care. The Department attracts and retains proud and talented individuals who are motivated to "Think of the Child First" in all that they do.

Mrs. Morton has been an inspiring example of a person who "thinks of the child first" all of her professional life. Mrs. Morton's distinguished career has had many different facets, yet they all reflect back to a person who has been steadfastly dedicated to improving the lives of children. Initially, Mrs. Morton worked to develop foster care policy, and ensure that the foster care throughout the State was adequate and working to improve and enrich children's lives. During Mrs. Morton's career, she has overseen the administration of the State of Delaware's adoption program, court liaison services, quality assurance and improvement programs.

Mrs. Morton's commitment to children is constant; now that Mrs. Morton is retiring from State employment, she is focusing her energy and support on the 21st Century Fund for Delaware's Children. The 21st Century Fund for Delaware's Children will provide a critical bridge between the limited resources of State and non-profit agencies and underserved children by supporting activities that will help children develop socially and academically.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to wish Mrs. Morton success in all her future endeavors, and I would like to thank her for her years of dedicated advocacy and for her years of personal friendship.

INTRODUCING DR. SHELLEY
SEKULA-GIBBS

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to introduce and welcome Dr. SHELLEY SEKULA-GIBBS, the newly elected Member of Congress from the 22nd Congressional District who will be sworn in tonight.

Dr. SEKULA-GIBBS is a 5th generation Texan and a medical doctor and teacher. Tonight, she will make history when she becomes the first female physician to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives.

She has dedicated herself to serving the citizens of Houston for several years. Before her election, she served for three terms as an

At-Large member of the Houston City council. In that role, she helped advance property tax reform and strengthen the city's police force. She also helped found the Ellington Field Task Force, which kept Ellington Field open and operating as a Joint Reserve Base.

She has also volunteered countless hours to serve the citizens of south Texas. She served as a volunteer medical doctor and teacher at the Baylor College of Medicine, she shapes the next generation of healers.

She helped found the Provider Health Network, a group that cares for uninsured patients. As president of the "Healthy Houston Foundation" she raised money for clinics that provide medical care to the needy. She has also volunteered her time to take care of our Nation's veterans in several Veterans Hospitals across the Nation.

As a businesswoman and community leader, Dr. SEKULA-GIBBS has brought together municipalities, organizations, and businesses to create jobs and economic development in the south Texas region. She understands the importance of reforming our current tax code and reducing our debt.

As a founding member of the Sylvan Rodriguez Foundation—an organization that provides students in the Houston area with the opportunity to study space, medicine, and science—she is committed to advancing America's technological and scientific leadership. As a mother and grandmother, she also understands the importance of strengthening families and communities.

While Dr. SEKULA-GIBBS will be sworn in today, she will only be with us in Washington for a short time. She had a very successful special election—she received over 77,000 votes en route to victory. She ran a good campaign for the 110th Congress, but she faced many difficult procedural challenges.

Despite her short run, the future looks bright for Dr. SEKULA-GIBBS. I look forward to working with her in the final weeks of this Congress, and I wish her the best of luck in the future.

A TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN
JAMES CLYBURN

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, in the past I have often had the delight of saluting my departing colleagues with a tribute in Rap poetry. At this point, however, circumstances have been reversed and I am departing. As I leave it will be my pleasure to offer some brief portraits in words describing the very able women and men I leave behind. I would like to begin with JIM CLYBURN. I visited his State on two different occasions and I was impressed by the fact that everyone had very strong opinions about JIM. They either feared him or they admired him. That is one sign of true greatness. The composite opinion of JIM which emerged was one of a great conciliator, a leader with a keen understanding of the fact that politics is the art of compromise but the compromise must always be an honorable and productive one.

A lighthearted summary of JIM's special assets is reflected in the following Rap poem.

MISTER JIM

With a bounty of transportation bucks
Freshman Clyburn showed he was clever;
All the South Carolina clubhouse boys
Danced Dixie up and down
Cheering Mister Jim and diversity forever.
Mister Jim
Made Mister Charlie look cheap,
Sowing his seeds of sunburned charm
A lots more dollars
Congressman Clyburn managed to reap.
Before he agrees to negotiate
Mister Jim dangles the right bait;
From smoke filled rooms
He emerges with fat surprises;
Mister Jim
Never despises compromises.
Mister Jim rescued
Bill Clinton's Black politics career;
When affirmative action fumbling
was about to end it
Mister Jim talked to Bubba
And convinced him to merely mend it.
Mr. Jim can display
Warm understanding affectionate appeal
But the world is a better place
Cause Mister Jim
Knows how and when to deal.

TRIBUTE TO ANTHONY ZAGAMI

HON. NICK J. RAHALL, II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Anthony J. "Tony" Zagami, a true public servant who will retire from the U.S. Government Printing Office at the end of this year.

I have known Tony since the mid-1960s, when I was an intern in the office of Senator ROBERT C. BYRD, D-WV, and Tony was a Senate page. Over the years, Tony has been a great friend to me, to my family and to the people of West Virginia, and he will certainly be missed here in the legislative branch.

However, let no one argue that Tony has not earned his retirement. After spending 25 years working for the U.S. Congress, Tony left Capitol Hill to become the General Counsel of the GPO. When he departs at the end of the year, he will have set a record as the GPO's longest-serving General Counsel.

Throughout his career, both here on the Hill and at the GPO, Tony was known for his dedication and commitment to public service. He has been the recipient of numerous awards and recognitions for outstanding performance and achievement.

I thank Tony for his outstanding service and for his friendship over years. The qualities he embodies are getting harder and harder to find nowadays.

May God bless this admirable man and his family as he begins his next chapter.

TRIBUTE TO BUCK O'NEIL

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Buck O'Neil, an internationally renowned, distinguished Kansas Citian, who died on October 6th at the age of 94.

John Jordan "Buck" O'Neil was born the grandson of slaves in Carrabelle, Florida, on November 13, 1911. He acquired his love for baseball at a young age from his father, who played for the local team when he wasn't working as a foreman in the celery fields. As a teenager, Buck realized that he wanted to do something more with his life, but times were difficult throughout the country during the Great Depression, and he had received little formal education because the local high school was segregated.

When his father told him that, "There is something better, but you can't get it here, you're gonna have to go someplace else," Buck made the decision to try his luck as a baseball player in the semi-professional barnstorming leagues that traveled the entire country. It didn't take him long to attract the attention of the Memphis Red Sox of the Negro American League, who signed him to his first professional contract in 1937. After a year of playing for the Red Sox, Mr. O'Neil's contract was purchased by the Kansas City Monarchs—the team with which he would spend the rest of his playing career.

The Monarchs were the most successful team in the history of the Negro Leagues, winning the most titles and producing the best players. While playing for Kansas City, Mr. O'Neil won batting titles in 1940 and 1946 and led his team to a convincing victory in the 1942 Negro World Series. He batted .353 as the Monarchs swept the Homestead Grays, 4–0. He was also selected to play in three Negro American League All-Star Games, and would likely have accomplished more during his playing career had it not been for World War II; Mr. O'Neil dutifully served his country for 2 years by completing a tour in the United States Navy from 1943–1945.

Buck stayed with the Monarchs through the end of the 1955 season, serving both as a player and as the team's manager for the final 8 years of his time in Kansas City, all the while facing the harshness of separation and discrimination in a country that was still segregated. Thanks in part to the significant accomplishments of his Monarchs teammate Jackie Robinson, who broke down racial barriers by joining the Brooklyn Dodgers of Major League Baseball in 1947, Buck too was able to join a rapidly-integrating MLB as a scout for the Chicago Cubs. In 1962, he became the first African American coach in the Majors. During his storied career with the Cubs, Mr. O'Neil was responsible for the development of many great major leaguers, like Joe Carter, and he also signed two future Hall of Fame players—Lou Brock and Ernie Banks. After 33 years with the Cubs, Buck returned home in 1988 to scout for the Kansas City Royals.

Despite his myriad accomplishments on the field as a player, manager, and coach, it is Buck O'Neil's accomplishments off the field that demonstrate his love for the game of baseball and his commitment to the essential role that the Negro Leagues played in the integration of both American sport and American society. In 1990, O'Neil was a leader in the effort to create the Negro League Baseball Museum in Kansas City, Missouri. The Museum, located in the historic 18th and Vine district of downtown Kansas City, has excelled for nearly a decade in its mission of educating all Americans about the rich and important history of the Negro Leagues. Buck served as the Board Chairman for the Museum and actively pro-

moted its messages of understanding and triumph over adversity. In addition to his work with the Museum, Mr. O'Neil served as a member of the Baseball Hall of Fame Veterans Committee from 1981–2000, working hard to ensure that many of the Negro League players who had been denied entrance into the Major Leagues because of segregation were able to gain a deserved entrance into the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown.

After devoting so many years of his life to promoting the accomplishments of others, many believed that the time for Buck's recognition had finally arrived in the spring of 2006, when he was on a special ballot for entry into the Hall of Fame. Shockingly, the Committee chose not to induct Mr. O'Neil, to the dismay of many—but not Buck. Unaffected by the Hall's decision, he took the high road and offered to speak at the induction ceremony on behalf of those selected, because many of them had passed on. On June 30, 2006, Buck selflessly honored all 17 individuals related to the Negro Leagues who were inducted, giving an inspiring speech and instructing all audience members to hold hands and join him in song. The ovation he received was the loudest and longest of the ceremony.

At the time of his death, Buck O'Neil's efforts were focused on the John "Buck" O'Neil Education and Research Center. Scheduled for completion in late 2007, the Center will be an expansion of the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum devoted to teaching people of all ages many different aspects of the Negro leagues and baseball. The 45,000 square foot facility will house extensive archives and promises to devote much of its space and funding to state-of-the-art technology and programs that will teach many different things to many different people.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have this opportunity to honor the life of Buck O'Neil, because of his accomplishments while playing and managing in the Negro and Major Leagues, because of his work with the Negro League Baseball Museum, because of his devotion to those who shared in his struggle, valuing their legacies more than his own, and most of all, because of his immense contributions to the game of baseball and American society. When acclaimed documentary filmmaker Ken Burns made his film *Baseball* in 1994, he chose Buck O'Neil as the narrator, because no other individual better captures the history and legacy of our American pastime. He was truly the game's ambassador, and his spirit will be sorely missed.

A TRIBUTE TO PAUL DE LA GARZA

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Paul de la Garza, a hard charging newspaper reporter for The St. Petersburg Times with a generous heart of gold who died on October 29, 2006.

Many of our colleagues worked with Paul as he reported on stories affecting our national security and the health care of our country's veterans. Paul was an outstanding investigative reporter who mined his many sources to

effect necessary changes in the way in which we deliver medical care at our Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers. He also spent time earlier this summer in Iraq as he did extensive reporting on the war there and the role U.S. Central Command plays in managing our troops on the ground.

Paul was more than a reporter though. He was first and foremost an outstanding husband to his wife Georgia and a loving father to his two children Monica, 12, and Carlos, 11, both of whom he adopted from Mexico.

His is the story of the American dream, growing up poor in a small Texas town. He worked 40 hour weeks as a fourth grader to help out his family. Later he delivered newspapers and waited tables to put himself through college at the University of Texas. He was a reporter with the Associated Press and Chicago Tribune before becoming a regular on the front pages of The St. Petersburg Times as a reporter in the Washington and Tampa bureaus.

Following my remarks, Mr. Speaker, I would like to include tributes to Paul from The St. Petersburg Times, The Tampa Tribune and The Chicago Tribune. They speak to Paul's success as a reporter but more importantly his compassion and love for his family, his friends, and for those most in need of help.

Mr. Speaker, I knew Paul de la Garza as a reporter, but I will forever miss him as a very special friend who always kept life's priorities in order. My prayers go out to Paul's family, especially to Georgia, Monica and Carlos, as they deal with the loss of a great man, a great husband and a great father.

[From the St. Petersburg Times, Oct. 30, 2006]

PASSIONATE REPORTER "NEVER MET A STRANGER"

Paul de la Garza, a hard-driving St. Petersburg Times reporter whose passion for the big story was matched by love of family, died Sunday (Oct. 29, 2006) after an apparent heart attack.

Mr. de la Garza, 44, who had survived a heart attack 2 years ago, collapsed at his Davis Islands home about 10 a.m. after complaining of chest pains. He was taken by ambulance to Tampa General Hospital, where he died about 1 p.m.

As a journalist, Mr. de la Garza was widely respected for mining sources and breaking big stories, most recently about VA hospitals and the Special Operations Command at MacDill Air Force Base.

"He was a driving investigative reporter. This is very shocking," said U.S. Rep. C.W. Bill Young, a frequent source for Mr. de la Garza, sometimes dinner companion and occasional target. "He was very respected by the folks I know. They trusted him."

Young's wife, Beverly, recalled tears running down de la Garza's face, as she led him through VA wards full of wounded soldiers.

"Paul is really compassionate. He really cares," she said Sunday. "He's the most wonderful Democrat I ever knew. I can't believe this has happened to him and Georgia and the kids. This is wrong."

TEXAS UPBRINGING

Mr. de la Garza was born in Port Isabel, Texas, near Brownsville, one of six children.

His father was a shrimper and his heritage was Mexican, though he sometimes pointed out that some ancestors lived in Texas before the United States annexed it. His given name was Jesus Pablo, but friends called him Jesus only when they wanted to annoy him.

By fourth grade, he was working 40 hours a week, collecting bait for fishermen, his wife, Georgia, said.

He waited tables and worked at the school newspaper to earn his way through the University of Texas. Then he worked his way up the ranks of the Associated Press, with stints in Chicago, Southern Illinois and Newark, N.J.

Mike Konrad, now *Hernando Times* editor, was managing editor of the *Southern Illinoisan*, in Carbondale, when Mr. de la Garza was posted there for the AP.

"This was a guy who could work sources like nobody I've ever seen in my life," Konrad recalled. "Within weeks of getting there, he was getting stories our reporters were missing, just because he had met so many people. And there was nobody in the world who would not talk to Paul."

Sometimes, boldness and charm was all it took. As the *Chicago Tribune's* Mexico City bureau chief, Mr. de la Garza interviewed Latin American presidents and rebel leaders alike. On assignment in Cuba, he ran into Milton Berle and asked him for a cigar-smoking lesson.

"I still have the cigar box that Milton Berle signed for him," said Georgia de la Garza. "They smoked Cohibas together."

Once, when Mr. de la Garza was vacationing in New Orleans, a limousine driver pointed out Fats Domino's house. Mr. de la Garza jumped out with a video camera and talked his way in, where Domino's band was practicing for a Jazz Fest performance. Fats, himself, stayed in back of the house.

"Paul never met a stranger," recalled *Times* colleague Tom Scherberger, who witnessed the scene. "He introduces himself and we are hanging out with Fats Domino's band. Finally, one of the band politely says that Fats won't come out until we leave. Only later, did we discover that Paul had pushed the button wrong on the camera and we never got any video."

Mr. de la Garza first worked at the *Times* from 1992 through 1994, where he covered Tampa police news, wrote a column, and helped edit the Tampa section.

Then he worked for the *Chicago Tribune* for six years, both in Mexico City and in Chicago, where he was a reporter and assignments editor.

He returned to the *Times* in 2000, in part, because he and his wife wanted a more stable environment for two orphans they had adopted in Mexico City—Monica, now 12, and Carlos, 11.

"The two things he cared the most about were his family and his work," said John Dunn, longtime friend and Tampa General spokesman. "Just about every conversation we had sitting over pints were about Georgia and the kids."

"No matter how bad a day he had, that put him in good spirits."

It wasn't just the children. The de la Garza house often was opened to extended family. When Georgia's brother died, they took in her niece. When Paul's father had a stroke, they took in his parents.

During his second stint at the *Times*, Mr. de la Garza covered the Pentagon, the military and veterans affairs. Last summer, he wrote a detailed, insider's look at Army Gen. John Abizaid, head of U.S. Central Command, as he toured Afghanistan and Iraq.

"This is a heartbreaking loss. He really went after stories because they would make a difference in the lives of goodhearted folks," said Paul Tash, *Times* editor, chairman and CEO. "He had so much to offer both as a father and husband and also as a reporter."

CANCER SURVIVOR

In 2001, Mr. de la Garza was diagnosed with Hodgkin's disease and underwent extensive cancer treatments. After 2 years with no recurrence, he and his wife rented a B&B in his

beloved New Orleans and celebrated with about 40 friends from around the country. One photograph shows him in a colorful hat, a Jazz Fest scarf around his neck and sunglasses.

"Paul the journalist was very different than Paul, the regular guy," recalled Sandra Gadsden, the *Neighborhood Times* editor.

"The journalist was a stickler for detail. He would hang on every sentence. Paul the man was just a fun-loving laid-back guy."

Mr. de la Garza is survived by his wife; daughter Monica and son Carlos; mother, Jesusa de la Garza and sister Via Camacho, both of Austin, Texas, and brothers Eduardo of Houston and Alberto of Galveston, Texas. Funeral services have not been set.

[From the *Tampa Tribune*, Oct. 30, 2006]

TIMES' MILITARY REPORTER DIES

(By Mark Holan)

TAMPA.—Paul de la Garza, military and veterans affairs reporter for the *St. Petersburg Times*, died Sunday of an apparent heart attack. He was 44.

A cancer survivor, de la Garza was described by his friend and editor, Pat Farnan, as a strong reporter who enjoyed spending time with his family.

He is survived by his wife, Georgia, and two children, Carlos and Monica.

For a September profile of Army Gen. John Abizaid, de la Garza spent five days traveling in the Persian Gulf, Afghanistan and Iraq.

"Paul was definitely among the more assertive, if not industrious, journalists who had the military beat," said Lt. Col. Mike Escudie, media affairs officer for Central Command. He said the Abizaid profile got good reviews from the military.

"It was a testament to his professionalism," Escudie said.

"He had tremendous passion for his work," said Farnan, the *Times'* interim metro editor who supervised de la Garza in recent years.

De la Garza joined the *Times'* Tampa bureau in 1992 after eight years of reporting for *The Associated Press*. He left to work as a Mexico City correspondent for the *Chicago Tribune*, then rejoined the *Times* in August 2000 in Washington, DC, as the national security and foreign affairs reporter. He later returned to Tampa and lived on Davis Islands.

De la Garza earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Texas in Austin.

In June 2002, de la Garza was diagnosed with Hodgkin's disease, a form of cancer. Soon he was physically and mentally worn out by his chemo treatments.

A five-minute meeting at the White House that September with cancer survivor and Tour de France champion Lance Armstrong, a fellow Texan, led the reporter to an unexpected inspiration for his recovery.

"I don't have to turn to the rich and famous, to the heroes of the sports world, to get me through the anxiety, the depression, the fear of the what-ifs," de la Garza wrote in the *Times*. "My heroes are right in front of me, ordinary folks who every day make my life better."

[From the *Chicago Tribune*, Oct. 30, 2006]

JOURNALIST KNOWN FOR EMPATHY

(By Flynn McRoberts and Tonya Maxwell)

Paul de la Garza, the son of a shrimper who rose from the poverty of south Texas to become a columnist and foreign correspondent for some of America's top news organizations, died of a heart attack Sunday in his Tampa home.

Mr. de la Garza, 44, drew on his modest circumstances to bring an empathy to his stories for the *Chicago Tribune*, the *St. Petersburg Times* of Florida and the *Associated Press*. Whether it was revealing computer-

system fiasco at the Department of Veterans Affairs or chronicling the ragged life of a street vendor on Chicago's West Side, Mr. de la Garza cared intensely about the people he wrote about, said his wife, Georgia.

Mr. de la Garza spent more than two decades in journalism, working as a police reporter, a wire-service editor, a columnist and a foreign correspondent. Most recently, he was a reporter for the *St. Petersburg Times*, where his stories about the VA's troubled computer system resulted in the massive project being shut down.

"He always wanted to get to the truth. He was very passionate about it," his wife said. Of his VA coverage, he had recently told her: "I know I've made a lot of headway, but there's so much more to do—so much more to do."

Last month, the *St. Petersburg Times* published Mr. de la Garza's account of visiting Qatar in July with Army Gen. John P. Abizaid, Commander of U.S. Central Command. Mr. de la Garza had been trying to accompany the general for years, said Mike Konrad, an editor at the *St. Petersburg Times* and friend since 1986, when the men met as journalists in Carbondale, IL. "It was one of his coups," Konrad said. "He told me when he came back how the general told his staff to give him access to everything on the trip."

As a journalist, Mr. de la Garza was a master at cultivating sources and connecting with people, be they office workers, political figures or top generals, Konrad said.

"He'd been writing a lot about problems at the VA, it was so symbolic of the type of work he did. He really believed in the mission of journalism. When he saw wrongs, he really wanted to make them right. He wanted to expose wrongdoing."

Mr. de la Garza was born in Port Isabel, Texas, where his father was a shrimper and his mother worked as a hotel maid.

He began working in the 4th grade, selling bait to shrimpers along the Gulf of Mexico waters off South Texas. One of six children, Mr. de la Garza, known as Chuy to friends and family, first considered writing as a career in junior high school.

Intending to study political science at the University of Texas at Austin, Mr. de la Garza took a journalism class and loved it. He worked as a reporter and editor at the student paper and then was offered a job in the Chicago bureau of the *Associated Press*.

"He had a nickel in his pocket when the AP offered him a job," his wife said. "His mom bought him a suit at Sears, and his brother gave him the money to fly to Chicago. When he first got there, he slept on his trench coat until he got his first paycheck. And some colleagues at the bureau gave him furniture."

Mr. de la Garza met his wife, a chef and artist, while he was working in southern Illinois for the *Associated Press*. She said she fell in love with him on their first date, Valentine's Day, when he serenaded her at a restaurant. In 1994, Mr. de la Garza came to the *Chicago Tribune* as a metro reporter, and later became a foreign correspondent in the Mexico City bureau, an assignment he relished, said George de Lama, then the associate managing editor for foreign and national news.

"Paul was someone who was always willing to do any story no matter where it took him. He was one of the first Latinos on our staff to be a foreign correspondent," said de Lama, now deputy managing editor, news. "Paul loved being a foreign correspondent, where the assignment is more of a life than it is a job. I think he was happiest when he was living that life on the road looking for stories." While serving as the *Tribune's* Mexico City bureau chief, Mr. de la Garza and his

wife adopted two children in 2000—Monica, now 12, and Carlos, 11.

He left the Tribune in 2000 and moved to Washington, DC, to return to work for the St. Petersburg Times before moving to the newspaper's Tampa bureau.

A jazz music fan, Mr. de la Garza made an annual pilgrimage to the New Orleans jazz fest with a group of acquaintances. One of those festivals stood out for friends and family: the 2003 version, when loved ones converged from around the country to celebrate Mr. de la Garza's having beaten Hodgkin's lymphoma.

In addition to his wife and children, Mr. de la Garza is survived by his mother, Jesusa, two brothers and a sister. Services are pending.

TRIBUTE TO TANYA RAND

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Tanya Rand, a distinguished citizen of Brooklyn, New York. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding woman and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing her impressive service.

Born to Natalie and Caesar Campbell in Brooklyn, New York, Tanya Rand remains a part of the Clinton Hill community today. Ms. Rand is a product of the New York public school system and currently attends New York Technical College where she is working towards a Bachelor's degree in Technology.

In 1992, Ms. Rand joined the Health and Hospital Corporation as a part-time receptionist/clerk at one of Cumberland Diagnostic and Treatment Center's off sites. While with the Health and Hospital Corporation, Ms. Rand has enjoyed numerous promotions. She has worked in the Cumberland Diagnostic and Treatment Center Chemical Dependency Department, the Office of the Director of Community Affairs, and the North Brooklyn Health Network Community. Ms. Rand's many talents did not go unnoticed. In 2004, Tanya was asked to manage the Community Affairs Office and became the liaison to both the Community Advisory Board and Auxiliary Board for Cumberland Diagnostic and Treatment Center.

Ms. Rand is the proud mother of two children, Lindsey Marie, age 17, and Jassiem Jahi, age 13. Although Ms. Rand was busy with her job and raising two children, she also found time to be active in her children's education and her community. She was PTA President for the District 13 PTA Council and was recognized as a "Parent on the Move". The Board of Education changed and her children moved on to different schools, but Ms. Rand still found time to help parents that were in need of support. She also helps in the political arena. Most Brooklyn elected officials know they can count on Ms. Rand whenever they call on her.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the work of Tanya Rand. Her deep commitment to her family and community makes her most worthy of our recognition today.

TRIBUTE TO HECTOR B. FERNANDEZ

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Hector B. Fernandez, an accomplished professional and model citizen of New York. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding man and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing his impressive service.

Hector B. Fernandez was born in the Dominican Republic to Mercedes and Benjamin Fernandez. At the age of 7, his family immigrated to the United States and settled in the borough of Manhattan, New York. He was reared in a traditional Latino home where hard work and education is valued and rigorously enforced.

Mr. Fernandez received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the Metropolitan College of New York and has over 25 years of professional experience with the New York City Health and Hospital Corporation and local not-for-profit organizations. He has dedicated the past 20 years of his life to serving individuals and their families afflicted with the illness of addiction. His strong convictions and compassionate nature serves him well in supporting those individuals that are less fortunate.

As the Addiction Program Administrator for Chemical Dependency Services in the Department of Psychiatry at the North Brooklyn Health Network, Mr. Fernandez is responsible for planning, creating and delivering innovative programs and initiatives. He is driven by the affirmations of the successes and accomplishments of those he serves. One of his strongest attributes is his ability to build and sustain relationships with key stakeholders to increase the quality of services and resources at Woodhull Medical Center. His determination to succeed is supported by his team of staff as they collectively develop ideas and strategies for the clients and the community at large.

Mr. Fernandez is a certified New York State Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Counselor, and he has been recognized for his exemplary work ethic by the North Brooklyn Health Network Department of Social Work. His success is built on a strong family nucleus consisting of his wife Nancy, and three children of whom he is very proud: Jeremy, Natalie and Xavier.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the work of Hector B. Fernandez. His deep commitment to family and community makes him most worthy of our recognition today.

TRIBUTE TO HENRY BOLUS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Henry Bolus, a model citizen of Brooklyn, New York. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding American and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing his impressive service.

Henry Bolus voluntarily enlisted in the U.S. Army, proudly serving our country during the

Korean Conflict as a Paratrooper with the 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team. He is a product of the New York City public school system and later enrolled at New York City's Kingsborough Community College for undergraduate studies. His success at Kingsborough Community College earned him Presidential level membership in the National Society of Leadership and Success, Sigma Alpha Phi.

Mr. Bolus recently reached a personal milestone by becoming the president of Brooklyn's renowned Thomas Jefferson Democratic Club. He was also elected delegate to the New York State Judicial Convention. Mr. Bolus is an honorary life member of the Knights of Columbus. He is also an active member of Canarsie's Shrine Church of St. Jude, where he serves as an usher and member of the finance committee.

Mr. Bolus has been the loving husband of Josephine Bolus since 1954 and is the proud father of Sabrina Jo Bolus and Michael Henry Bolus.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the work of Henry Bolus. His deep commitment to his family and community makes him most worthy of our recognition today.

TRIBUTE TO PATRICK WILLIAMS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Patricia Williams, a community leader and entrepreneur. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding woman and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing her impressive service.

Born to the Honorable Kathryn Williams and the late James Williams, Patricia Williams credits living and growing up in evolving neighborhoods like Harlem, Bedford Stuyvesant and East New York as an inspiration to work for social and economical change.

Ms. Williams knows hard work is an investment. She currently is the President/CEO of Ecotech Enterprises, Inc., a firm she established to provide consultant services to government agencies, private sector corporations, and small, minority-owned business enterprises. In the past, Ms. Williams provided community outreach and event planning for the Brooklyn Museum of Art Construction Project. She has delivered bottom line services such as marketing and sales to well known small businesses and she provides fundraising and workshop development assistance to several non-profits. Ms. Williams has been called upon as a panelist and guest speaker on numerous occasions and is considered an authority on business development.

Prior to starting her own consulting firm, Ms. Williams was executive Director of the Minority Business Opportunity Center under the U.S. Department of Commerce, Minority Business Development Agency where she provided business services to more than 70,000 minority/women-owned and small businesses. As senior Administrator of Equal Employment Opportunity and Diversity for Morse Diesel International, she successfully implemented policies to ensure 100 million dollars of contracting opportunities for minority-owned and

small businesses where she exceeded labor force and contracting goals set for women and minority skilled workers at JFK Airport's Terminal 4 construction project. She was Senior Employment Specialist and Career Development Instructor for Non-Traditional Community College, Operations Manager for Madison Avenue firm Durham Temporaries Inc., and has

several years of experience at the U.S. Small Business Administration, Finance Division.

Ms. Williams attended John Jay College where she majored in Criminal Justice and Labor Law. Her work has not gone unnoticed. Ms. Williams has been recognized by several government agencies and community organizations. She is also the recipient of the Co-

lumbia University Non-Profit Executive Management Scholarship. Ms. Williams is the proud mother of two, Leah and John.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the work of Patricia Williams. Her deep commitment to her community makes her most worthy of our recognition today.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, November 14, 2006 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

NOVEMBER 15

11 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

Business meeting to consider the nomination of Alex A. Beehler, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, Environmental Protection Agency.

SC-4, Capitol

2:30 p.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the current situation and U.S. military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan; to be followed by a closed session in SH-219.

SH-216

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the December 2005 report from the President's Task Force on Puerto Rico's status.

SD-106

Appropriations

Legislative Branch Subcommittee

To resume hearings to examine the progress of the Capitol Visitor Center construction.

SD-138

3 p.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine current challenges and new ideas to safeguard consumers relating to food safety.

SD-430

NOVEMBER 16

Time to be announced

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider proposed Iraq Reconstruction Accountability

Act of 2006, the nominations of James H. Bilbray, of Nevada, and Thurgood Marshall, Jr., of Virginia, each to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service, Dan G. Blair, to be Chairman, Postal Rate Commission, and Stephen Thomas Conboy, of Virginia, to be United States Marshal for the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

Room to be announced

9:30 a.m.

Judiciary

To hold oversight hearings to examine the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice.

SD-226

Armed Services

Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine Department of Defense business systems modernization and financial management accountability efforts.

SR-232A

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the reauthorization of the Pipeline Safety Program.

SR-253

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Kevin M. Kolevar, of Michigan, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability).

SD-366

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine proposals to improve drug safety and innovation.

SD-430

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Investigations Subcommittee

To resume hearings to examine Department of Defense travel policies and practices, focusing on the cost benefit analysis of the Defense Travel System.

SD-342

10:30 a.m.

Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing regarding intelligence matters.

SH-219

2 p.m.

Finance

Health Care Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the States' perspective of the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

SD-215

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Public Lands and Forests Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 3636, to establish wilderness areas, promote conservation, improve public land, and provide for high quality economic development in Washington County, Utah, and S. 3772, to establish wilderness areas, promote conservation, im-

prove public land, and provide for high quality development in White Pine County, Nevada.

SD-366

DECEMBER 6

2:30 p.m.

Judiciary

Administrative Oversight and the Courts Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings to examine implementation of the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act (Public Law 109-8).

SD-226

POSTPONEMENTS

NOVEMBER 15

4 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 2475, to establish the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of the American Latino Community, to develop a plan of action for the establishment and maintenance of a National Museum of the American Latino Community in Washington, DC, S. 2645, to establish the Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Heritage Area, S. 2822 and H.R. 5057, bills to authorize the Marion Park Project and Committee of the Palmetto Conservation Foundation to establish a commemorative work on Federal land in the District of Columbia and its environs to honor Brigadier General Francis Marion, S. 3805, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of including in the National Park System certain sites in Monroe County, Michigan, relating to the Battles of the River Raisin during the War of 1812, and H.R. 323, to redesignate the Ellis Island Library on the third floor of the Ellis Island Immigration Museum, located on Ellis Island in New York Harbor, as the "Bob Hope Memorial Library".

SD-366

NOVEMBER 16

10:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold a closed briefing on the Naval Criminal Investigative Service Report of events from November 2005 in the Iraqi town of Haditha and on the probe by Army Major General Eldon Bargewell on how the chain of command handled the initial reporting of the incidents.

SR-222