

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.