

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.