

account in a month's time without being assessed financial penalties. As hard as it is to believe, the Federal Government actually forces banks to punish people for accessing their own savings too many times in a month. This bill also repeals a regulation that requires bank customers to receive a written monthly financial statement from their banks, regardless of whether the customer wants such a communication.

These regulations exceed Congress's constitutional powers and violate individual property and contract rights. Furthermore, these regulations insult Americans by treating them as children who are unable to manage their own affairs without Federal control. I urge my colleagues to show their respect for the Constitution and the American people by cosponsoring this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO VETERAN CONGRESSIONAL AIDE JUDITH BREWER

HON. JOHN M. McHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 1, 2007

Mr. McHUGH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my Legislative Director, Judith Brewer, for her 34 years of excellent service as a Congressional staff member and to wish her well upon her retirement. I also wish to thank her for the 26 years she served the citizens of northern New York, 14 of which were as a member of my staff.

After graduating from the University of Maine cum laude with a B.A. in political science, Judi began her career in 1973 when she joined Congressman Fred B. Rooney's staff as a Staff Assistant. Five years later, she joined the House Select Committee on Aging's Subcommittee on Retirement Income and Employment, where she served as a liaison between the subcommittee chairman, older Americans, and Federal agencies. Judi next served as Projects Assistant in Congressman Harold T. Johnson's office.

Judi began serving the people of northern New York in 1981 when she became a Legislative Assistant in my predecessor, Congressman David O'B. Martin's office. In that capacity, Judi developed significant expertise in policy areas of great importance to northern New York, including dairy, education, health care, and labor.

When I came to Congress in 1993, I was fortunate that Judi decided to continue her excellent service to the people of northern New York as a member of my staff. For the past 14 years, they, as well as I, have been the beneficiary of Judi's compassion, dedication, expertise, kindness, humor, and professionalism. Accordingly, I profoundly thank Judi and wish her the very best as she enters retirement.

HONORING KATHERINE CARNEY

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 1, 2007

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Katherine Carney upon receiving the Commonwealth Academy's Recognition for Educators, CARE, Award.

The CARE award honors outstanding educators from across the United States for their unrelenting work to enhance the lives of their students. Kathe, a teacher at Neabsco Elementary School, is honored for her work in promoting diverse learners in the spirit of the "No Child Left Behind Act."

Although she began her career teaching English literature, Mrs. Carney's passion and gift lay with teaching the neediest students. In 1994, at PACE West, a self-contained special education school, she taught students with serious emotional and behavioral needs. In addition to the 8–13 subjects she taught a day, she took on roles as a mentor, advisory committee member, and the school's administrator of various special education testing regimens. Devoted to reading, Mrs. Carney noted a void of books at her school, and was shocked to find no library at PACE West. She took it upon herself to initiate, organize, and develop the PACE West library, which housed 2,000 volumes upon her departure.

After 7 years at PACE, Mrs. Carney joined the staff at Swans Creek Elementary School. She taught a self-contained class for students in the 2nd–5th grade with learning disabilities, speech, language and vision impairments, and other health challenges. Again, Mrs. Carney mentored her fellow teachers and established the school's Learning Disabilities Program.

In 2003, Mrs. Carney joined the faculty at Neabsco Elementary School, teaching 4th and 5th graders who are emotionally disturbed. The administration at Neabsco quickly realized her abilities and tasked her to be the case manager of the Instructional Consultant Team and a member of the Child Study Team. Mrs. Carney has received numerous commendations at Neabsco, including being named 2007 Neabsco Teacher of the Year and was nominated to be 2007 Dale City Teacher of the Year.

Over her distinguished career, Mrs. Carney has demonstrated great resolve, patience, and a unique ability to make a positive difference in the lives of her students. Working with students with these needs is trying; however, every day is a new opportunity for Mrs. Carney and her students. No incident or past history is ever carried back into the classroom; this includes the time where an inadvertent swing of a baseball bat left her in a full leg cast for months.

It is dark when Mrs. Carney arrives at school and dark when she leaves. Her devotion to her students is immeasurable. Whether it is tutoring for the science fair on a Saturday, meeting with a concerned parent late at night, or counseling former students on life altering decisions, Mrs. Carney always makes herself available to those in need. Through her tender approach and no-nonsense outlook, Mrs. Carney has made a difference in the lives of countless youths in Prince William County.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to commend and congratulate Mrs. Carney for being recognized as one of the 2007 CARE awardees. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding Kathe on all her accomplishments and in wishing her continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUBLIC OF GHANA

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 1, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 50th anniversary of the independence of the Republic of Ghana. On March 6, 1957, Ghana became the first country in Africa south of the Sahara to gain independence from colonial rule. The theme for the anniversary is: Championing African Excellence. There are three main objectives for the jubilee celebrations, which are: celebrate and commemorate Ghana's landmark achievement as the first country in Black Africa to attain independence from colonial rule; reflect on the evolution, development, achievements and drawbacks of the country over the past 50 years; and to look forward to the future vision of excellence in all fields of endeavor in the next 50 years towards the centennial anniversary of the nation.

Year-long activities marking the Golden Jubilee have been scheduled, beginning in January 2007 and ending in December 2007, with monthly themes including: Reflection, African Unity, and Heroes of Ghana. April's theme is "Our Nation, Our People," and I would like to enter into the RECORD this article, regarding another "first" for Ghana, reported by BBC News International on April 24, 2007, entitled "La Scala Brings Beethoven to Ghana." It details the recent visit to Ghana by Milan's La Scala orchestra and chorus and speaks about the hopes of expanding the appreciation of classical music to other countries in sub-Saharan Africa.

The Republic of Ghana continues to experience economic growth and the government continues to work on improving the energy generating capacity of the country. Recently an Educational Reform Program has been implemented, which primary vision is to align education to national aspirations to develop disciplined, socially conscious and well-rounded Ghanaians who can hold their own as global citizens anywhere. All these efforts promise that Ghana will reach its goal of excellence in all fields as they look towards the centennial anniversary. I urge fellow members to continue to support Ghana's independence by working towards victory over poverty, disease, gender in equality, and lack of education.

LA SCALA BRINGS BEETHOVEN TO GHANA

(By David Willey)

Italy's famous La Scala orchestra has played in sub-Saharan Africa for the first time.

The venue: Accra's 1,400 seat ultra-modern National Theatre.

The occasion: celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of Ghana's independence.

The cast: Daniel Barenboim and 160 members of the orchestra and chorus of Milan's La Scala.

The programme: Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, the Choral, whose Ode to Joy has become the official anthem of the European Union.

ELECTRIC

The evening began in an unusual way, with the beating of a traditional tribal drum, a traditional Ghanaian welcome.

It ended with a standing ovation for the prestigious orchestra and their equally famous conductor.

A member of the Ghanaian organising committee told me he remembered having music appreciation lessons at school 50 years ago, when Ghana was still a British colony, but he could not remember any similar event in his lifetime.

Most of the audience were invited to attend, with the few hundred tickets actually put on sale costing between US \$30-50, well beyond the reach of the pockets of the average Ghanaian.

In sub-Saharan Africa, 60 per cent of people live on less than two US dollars per day. So, unsurprisingly, the auditorium was packed with local officials and diplomats.

A quick trawl around Accra's teeming markets confirmed earlier suspicions—that the Ghanaian capital completely lacks CD shops selling classical music.

While African faces on the crowded stage were limited to two, one the African-American bass-baritone Kevin Deas, and the other, the soprano Measha Brueggergosman, a Canadian national.

The impact of the music on those lucky enough to be present was, however, electric.

Daniel Barenboim, the musicians and the four soloists (who included La Scala newcomer and rising British star, tenor Ian Storey) gave their all. They had time for only a single rehearsal, but their performance was impeccable.

Barenboim told me during rehearsal: "The problem is, you cannot articulate the content of music in words. This can only be expressed through sound. This is what I hope we are bringing to them."

This extraordinary event was the result of a casual invitation to Daniel Barenboim in New York last December by Ghana's highest-profile international figure, Kofi Annan, former UN Secretary General and a friend of La Scala's new "maestro" conductor.

The president of Italy, Giorgio Napolitano, and the Mayor of Milan, Letizia Moratti, also helped to make Kofi Annan's dream come true.

SPIRITED RENDITION

Annan was beaming afterwards at the Ghanaian President's post-concert party in Accra's State Banqueting Hall.

"In international affairs, you have to learn how to create pillars and foundations in order to realise dreams," he said.

At the post-concert party some of La Scala's violin players playfully took over from a local Accra orchestra, giving a spirited rendition of Guantanamara.

But was it really worth the vast expense (\$500,000) to charter an Airbus and fly this huge and talented company 6,000 miles across the Mediterranean Sea and the Sahara desert to Ghana, and back, for a single Beethoven performance?

Barenboim says emphatically "yes". He would like to return to Africa, either with La Scala or to give a series of solo piano recitals in various African countries.

The former child prodigy, who has replaced Riccardo Muti as conductor at La Scala, and who built up the now famous West-East Divan orchestra of Israeli and Palestinian musicians, believes music may hold the key to bridging the North-South cultural, and even economic, divide.

"You have to listen to the other players if you want to play in an orchestra," he said.

But as one of the first violins in the orchestra whispered to me as we were flying back high over the Sahara desert, while she had enjoyed this unique experience, she was not so sure that a charity concert in Milan to raise money for Ghana might not have been preferable.

The audience shouted for more after the Accra concert, but a performance of this quality of Beethoven's Ninth hardly lends itself to an encore.

Now we shall have to see whether Daniel Barenboim's ambitious dream of stimulating a demand for classical music in Africa is going to be fulfilled.

It will require a lot of money, and a lot of politics. The encore is not yet assured.

TRIBUTE TO MR. RONALD CALERY

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 1, 2007

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor a constituent and friend of mine, Mr. Ronald Calery, who has spent a lifetime fighting poverty, serving as a voice for those least fortunate and defending the powerless in our society. This week, Mr. Calery will be recognized for his efforts with the prestigious Terrence DuVernay Award, which recognizes career excellence in the field of affordable housing.

Mr. Calery has served for 35 years as Executive Director with the Chippewa-Luce-Mackinac Community Action Human Resources Authority (CAHRA) Inc. Before his appointment to the position of Executive Director, he served the agency as a founding member of the board of directors. The Chippewa-Luce-Mackinac CAHRA administers a number of critical programs that attack poverty head on. Among its vital services, the organization provides quality housing that is affordable to low income and moderate income persons.

Ron Calery's leadership of the Chippewa-Luce-Mackinac Community Action Human Resources Authority has strengthened this organization, making it one of the most effective community action agencies in the state. Under his leadership, the Chippewa-Luce-Mackinac Community Action Agency has assisted local entities to improve existing housing and develop new housing units.

Perhaps one of Mr. Calery's most notable contributions was the construction of Avery Square Complex, a project that served to help revitalize downtown Sault Ste. Marie. The project has been widely recognized as a housing model throughout the State of Michigan. Mr. Calery has also worked closely with county and local governments, helping to spur the construction of moderate cost housing in several rural communities. He planned a housing development in Sault Ste. Marie, and is currently planning moderate cost housing in St. Ignace.

While the Duvernay award which Mr. Calery will receive focuses upon efforts to provide affordable housing, Mr. Calery's service to the public, the Eastern Upper Peninsula (V.P.) and the State of Michigan extends well beyond affordable housing issues. His service to the state and his community has been extensive.

At one time or another, he has been a driving force in just about every organization that plays a positive role in the Eastern U.P. He served on the Tri-County Small Business Loan Committee, helping to spur small business in Chippewa, Luce and Mackinac Counties. As President of the John F. Kennedy Chippewa County Retarded Children's Association, he helped to expand activities and programs for handicapped children. He served on the State board of directors for the Michigan Association for Retarded Children. He spent 4 years in a

non-partisan position as an elected City Commissioner for Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. As the Chairman of the Tri-County Recreation Commission and the Sault Ste. Marie Parks and Recreation Commission, he helped ensure that positive recreation opportunities abound in the Sault Ste. Marie region. He also coached Soo PeeWee Hockey.

No matter what project Mr. Calery takes on, he never takes "no" for an answer. He never retreats from a challenge. Instead, Ron Calery is known for pausing, examining the various obstacles, assembling a new coalition, seeking different funding arrangements, and ultimately finding a solution to achieve the goal. Regardless of what it takes, once he decides that a project or program can have a positive impact on his fellow citizens, he is relentless in seeing the project brought to fruition. The affordable housing projects, programs to eliminate poverty, and efforts to improve the living conditions for residents of Michigan have all been challenging, but never once has Ron Calery shirked from the challenge.

When a project he has worked upon is complete or a program is successful, this humble man does not leap forward to take credit. Instead, Mr. Calery always steps aside to commend the work of others and compliment the fine leadership they have provided.

On Tuesday, May 1, 2007, Mr. Calery will be recognized by his colleagues for a career spent helping others. His many friends will gather to say thank you for all that Ron Calery has accomplished. Across Michigan, many other citizens will be unable to attend, but they, too, will be thanking this warm man for his many kindnesses. Madam Speaker, as Ron Calery receives this well-deserved award, I would ask that you and the entire U.S. House of Representatives join me in saluting, congratulating, and thanking him for his selfless service to others.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION AMENDING STATUTE ESTABLISHING EISENHOWER MEMORIAL COMMISSION

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 1, 2007

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, joined by Representatives JERRY MORAN, THORNBERRY, BOSWELL, TIAHRT and BOYDA, I am today introducing legislation which would make a variety of technical changes to the statute establishing the Eisenhower Memorial Commission.

The Eisenhower Memorial Commission was created by the U.S. Congress in 1999 as a bipartisan commission for the purpose of considering and formulating plans for the location, design and construction of a permanent memorial to Dwight D. Eisenhower to perpetuate his memory and his contributions to the United States. Since being fully appointed in 2001, the Commission considered 26 different sites in the District of Columbia. In 2005, it selected a site between the Department of Education and the National Air and Space Museum, two institutions resulting from and greatly influenced by President Eisenhower's leadership. In 2006, Congress approved the memorial's location within Area I, in compliance with the