

TRIBUTE TO DR. ETHEL M.
HENDERSON TAYLOR

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2008

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Ethel M. Henderson Taylor, on the occasion of her retirement after 58 years in broadcasting, 51 years in public education and a lifetime of community service is a testament to her commitment to excellence and her personal belief that service to others is the key to happiness in life.

Dr. Ethel Taylor is the first female African-American radio announcer in South Carolina. Her voice was the first one heard on Columbia's heritage radio station WOIC—where she served in multiple capacities for 44 years. Mrs. Taylor then joined the staff of Glory Communications' WFMV/95.3 where she has hosted Golden Gospel Memories for the past 14 years.

Ethel Taylor used her barrier breaking achievement with WOIC in the 1950s, to connect WOIC with its African-American listeners and the community at large. She quickly made headway in the African American community with her weekly Saturday morning show A Date with Ethel. The program drew hundreds of listeners through its skillful mix of soulful music, highlights of community events, and its warm down-home feel that listeners could connect to throughout the midlands. Throughout her career, Dr. Taylor received numerous awards for her broadcast and community accomplishments.

A native of Laurens, SC, Ethel Taylor brings great pride to my home state. She is a 1946 Magna Cum Laude graduate of Benedict College, taught English in the Richland County Public School system for 30 years, earned her masters of education degree in English from the University of South Carolina, and now serves as assistant professor of English at Benedict College. Throughout these years, she served on numerous faculty and community boards in many roles of leadership.

Along the way, Mrs. Taylor and her deceased husband, John B. Taylor, raised nine children. She is a grandmother of 15 and great-grandmother to 4. Mrs. Taylor celebrates her 85th birthday on March 27, 2008.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in honoring the great lifetime achievements of Mrs. Taylor. Today, her retirement from broadcasting only means that Dr. Ethel M. Henderson Taylor is poised to write another chapter in her phenomenal story of service to God, her family and community. I wish her continued success and Godspeed.

HONORING THE DUBUQUE
WAHLERT GOLDEN EAGLES BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2008

Mr. BRALEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding results achieved by the Dubuque Wahlert Golden Eagles bas-

ketball team at the Iowa State Boys Basketball Tournament in Des Moines this past weekend.

With 2 seconds left in the championship game, No. 2 ranked Wahlert and No. 4 ranked Harlan were tied at 67. Wahlert called a time out and Billy Scherr threw a full-court inbound pass to teammate Eric May; Eric squared up to the basket and nailed a 35 foot 3-point-jumper at the buzzer. It was a magic moment!

I congratulate the Golden Eagles for winning the Iowa Class 3A state championship. This thrilling 70-67 victory by Wahlert gives Dubuque its first state champion since 1931. The Golden Eagles now have a third basketball state championship trophy to add to the case.

Madam Speaker, I am extremely proud of the accomplishments of the Wahlert basketball team, both on and off the court. Perhaps Paul "Bear" Bryant, the late, great coach of the Alabama Crimson Tide football team says it best: "Show class, have pride, and display character. If you do, winning takes care of itself." This past weekend, Wahlert proved just that.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2008

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from this chamber yesterday afternoon, March 12, 2008, due to an urgent family matter. I would like the record to show that, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, and 134.

HONORING KILEY SLATER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kiley Slater of Trenton, Missouri. Kiley is a very special young woman who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Girl Scouts of America, and earning the most prestigious award of Girl Scout Gold Award.

Kiley has been very active with her troop, participating in many scout activities. In order to receive the prestigious Gold Award, Kiley has completed all seven requirements that promote community service, personal and spiritual growth, positive values and leadership skills.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Kiley Slater her accomplishments with the Girl Scouts of America and for her efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Girl Scout Gold Award.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL WOMEN'S
HISTORY MONTH

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2008

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, throughout the month of March we

observe National Women's History Month, which pays tribute to the contributions of women in this Nation. I rise today to recognize the women of our country, who have played an important role in shaping America's history.

During the month of March we have the opportunity to take pause and celebrate the important contributions of all women, past and present. Not only have women been leaders in securing their rights of suffrage and equal opportunity, but they have played a crucial role in the abolitionist movement, labor movements and the Civil Right's movement.

Leading women in history from Abigail Adams, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Sojourner Truth, and Eleanor Roosevelt have paved the way for contemporary figures such as Nancy PELOSI, the first female Speaker of the House of Representatives. Connecticut has been the proud home of significant women such as Americas first female governor to be elected in her own right—Governor Ella Grasso, and the long-serving champion of the First District and my predecessor, Congresswoman BARBARA KENNELLY—the first woman in American history to serve as a Deputy Majority Whip and to serve on the House Intelligence Committee.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the contributions of Elizabeth Colt, often referred to as the "First Lady" of Connecticut. Elizabeth Colt lived in a pre-women's suffrage era, but she refused to surrender to the pervasive gender inequalities of her day. The wife of American inventor and industrialist Samuel Colt, she carried on her husband's dream and life's work after his death and successfully ran their industrial empire. She was an entrepreneur, patron of the arts, philanthropist, and staunch advocate for women's rights—she will long be remembered for her contributions to the Hartford area.

There are many women, named and unnamed throughout American history that have broken glass ceilings and gender barriers for the next generation. As the father of two daughters, I honor the historical women of our country and take great pride in the fact my daughters can grow up in a country where anything is possible for them.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the trailblazers who have paved the way for women's equality and recognizing the many contributions that women have made to our Nation and to the entire world by promoting the ideals celebrated in National Women's History Month.

RECOGNITION OF TIM HOFFMAN,
SUPERINTENDENT FOR THE
ADEL-DESOTO-MINBURN SCHOOL
DISTRICT

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the retirement of Tim Hoffman, Superintendent for the Adel-Desoto-Minburn School District, and to express my appreciation for his dedication and commitment to the youth of Iowa.

For the past 25 years, Tim has contributed his time and his talents to the betterment of young Iowans. During his time as superintendent there have been many district-wide

improvements, and a new high school was built. Over the years, the school curriculum has also been significantly modified to create greater consistency and to focus on essential learning material, which has in turn helped raise student achievement scores. He credits much of his success to having quality school board members, great administrators, and dedicated employees in the school district. Nearly all the current school district employees were hired by Tim.

During his service, Tim has made a significant impact on the students and the entire surrounding community. His leadership will certainly be missed. I consider it an honor to represent Tim Hoffman in Congress, and I wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

HONORING MURFREESBORO, TENNESSEE AS A NATIONAL AMERICAN MUSIC CENTER

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2008

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Murfreesboro, Tennessee as a national center for traditional American music.

The objective for the national center is to educate, market and preserve traditional American music, including old-time music. A learning center will offer concert and performance venues for individual artists.

The Uncle Dave Macon Day Festival has 30 years of experience promoting and developing the traditional music and cultural heritage of Middle Tennessee. Traditional American music includes folk music, blues, gospel, dance music and any kind of acoustic that is learned primarily from oral tradition.

With the aid of Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro can offer the community highly qualified graduates to manage and staff the national center for traditional American music.

MTSU College of mass Communication offers young people the chance to become major players in recording industry, journalism, photography, television and radio-all media on which Uncle Dave Macon Day depends.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO GLADYS MUHAMMAD-WARD OF SOUTH BEND, INDIANA

HON. JOE DONNELLY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2008

Mr. DONNELLY. Madam Speaker, today I pay tribute to an outstanding citizen of South Bend, Gladys Muhammad-Ward, who devoted her life to the service of her community. Her impact on the city is immeasurable, the result of her unflagging efforts to improve the quality of life for all its citizens. She has been a blessing to her large and loving family as well as to the extended family of those whose lives she has changed.

Whether on the grassroots or executive level, Mrs. Muhammad-Ward's vision, talent

and energy have benefited young and old alike. In 1978 she helped establish and became the first director of the YWCA's Battered Women's Shelter, a post she held for six years. Subsequently, as the Deputy Director of South Bend's Code Enforcement, she was instrumental in helping to develop what had been a drug infested and dangerous neighborhood into sixty-five units of affordable housing and cultivating the Charles Martin Youth Center.

Mrs. Muhammad-Ward's influence extends to the national level. She was in the first class of the Washington D.C.-based Center for Community Change's "Change Agent Project." She was also invited to participate in President Clinton's roundtable on neighborhoods held in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Locally, Mrs. Muhammad-Ward has lent her talents to many organizations and served on numerous boards, including The Martin Luther King Jr. Foundation, the Saint Joseph County Democratic Party, the African American Community Fund, the Indiana University South Bend Civil Rights Heritage Center, Bridges Out of Poverty Committee and the Memorial Health Foundation Board of Directors.

Gladys Mohammad-Ward was awarded the key to the City of South Bend in 2007 and the Sagamore of the Wabash in 1998, and in 1994 she was inducted into the South Bend Hall of Fame and named YWCA Woman of the Year. In addition, she was named Citizen of the Year by the National Social Worker Association in 1999 and received the Distinguished Alumni Award from Indiana University South Bend. She has been honored by WNDU-TV, The Indiana Black Expo, Essence Magazine, Kiwanis Club and the YMCA.

So, today, on behalf of the citizens of Indiana's Second District, I thank Gladys Mohammad-Ward for her years of selfless dedication. As she continues her work on behalf of all of our citizens, regardless of race, gender or socio-economic class, let us pay special tribute to this outstanding woman who serves as a role model to us all.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT IS VITAL TO HOMELAND SECURITY EFFORTS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2008

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, Homeland Security shouldn't be left strictly to the Federal Government but requires the vigilant assistance of State, county and city police departments. When local law enforcement agencies choose not to detain criminal aliens for immigration enforcement officials, it is like a city police officer ignoring a bank robbery because it is a Federal crime. That kind of head in the sand mentality is ridiculous and will not make our Nation safer.

In Houston, Texas, Harris County Sheriff Tommy Thomas is blazing a path with a common sense approach to dealing with illegal aliens arrested for committing crimes. Sheriff Thomas recently announced that employees at the Harris County's Inmate Processing Center will receive Section 287(g) training from U.S. Customs and Immigration Enforcement officials.

This program will train deputies to identify, process and detain illegal aliens arrested for criminal activity in Harris County. Instead of catch and release, this new training will allow deputies to catch and begin the deportation process for criminal aliens.

This program will help take more illegals off the streets and make the county safer for Texas families. For example, illegal aliens will no longer have the opportunity to continuously endanger lives by getting arrested multiple times for DWI. The deportation process will start in the county jail the first time they are arrested.

Besides trespassing into our Nation, illegal aliens commit many other crimes such as driving without car insurance, drug trafficking, human smuggling, theft, burglary and murder. As a result, American citizens and legal immigrants end up carrying the financial burden created by illegal aliens such as increased medical and prison expenses.

Empowering local law enforcement officials to start the deportation process immediately after an illegal alien is arrested, sends a clear message that international trespassing will not be tolerated. Protecting citizens and legal immigrants from criminal acts by illegal aliens is the essence of Homeland Security.

By not passing off responsibility for dealing with criminal aliens to the Federal Government, like in some cities, Sheriff Tommy Thomas is finding solutions to reducing crime in Harris County instead of making excuses. He is setting an example that other agencies should follow.

He is a great sheriff who's recent actions demonstrate that he is committing to protect our communities from both foreign and domestic criminals. It will take the leadership of other sheriffs like Thomas and police chiefs with the backbone to enforce all of our Nation's laws, instead of just the ones they prefer, for effective Homeland Security.

Today, I salute Sheriff Tommy Thomas for his local efforts and leadership in moving Harris County, and the rest of our Nation, in the right direction to protect citizens and legal immigrants from criminal aliens.

And that's just the way it is.

IN MEMORY OF THOMAS G. BOLERJACK

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2008

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Thomas Bolerjack's memory and his lifelong contributions to his community, family, and country.

Tom's passion for life was apparent to everyone who met him. A man with a tremendous love for flying, it should come as no surprise that, at 16 years old, Tom was sitting in the cockpit of a plane testing for his pilot's license. He later enlisted in the Air Force, where he worked his way through the ranks and retired as a Colonel.

Tom's enthusiasm, both for flying and serving others, did not diminish upon his retirement from the Air Force. Aviation was an interest that brought Tom obvious joy for the remainder of his life, and his penchant for service became focused on local endeavors.