

education in January of 1973. She attended Andrews University in Berrien Springs Michigan where she graduated with a Bachelors Degree in Biology and minor in Chemistry in June of 1977. After graduation she attended New York University in September of 1977 to study Public Health with a focus on nutrition and alcoholism as well as international health. During her two years at New York University, she traveled to the University of the West Indies in Jamaica, West Indies to study their health care system. During her time as a student she worked at Long Island College Hospital Alcoholism center and graduated with her Masters degree in June 1979.

In December 1980, she joined the staff at the Brooklyn Jewish Hospital as data manager for the Oncology department. She supported the Oncologists and Hematologists in their investigative trials of experimental drugs in the hopes of finding a cure for cancer. In 1982 she applied for and was hired as a data coordinator for cancer research at the Montefiore Medical Center. The team of doctors, pharmacists, drug company representatives joined with researchers to look closely at experimental drugs and trying to find a cure for many cancers such as lung, ovarian, breast, cervical, lymphomas and leukemia to name a few.

In October 1984 she joined the Department of Health as a Health Coordinator in Middle School 35 in Brooklyn. Her focus was on adolescent health issues in particular, pregnancy prevention, nutrition education, health referrals and management and suicide prevention. She received training in AIDS education and worked closely with teachers to promote healthy living by junior high school students. After feeling the need to make a greater impact on the education of the young, she began a career with the Department of Education in 1987 as an elementary school teacher at PS 250 in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. After 2 years she accepted a call to return to middle school this time as a mathematics teacher at IS 33, Bedford Stuyvesant, Brooklyn. For the next 13 years she worked as a mathematics teacher, academic intervention teacher and staff developer.

In 2002 she became the Assistant Principal for mathematics at MS 88 in Park Slope, Brooklyn. The school had just been identified as a SURR school (School Under Registration Review) for below performance literacy and mathematics. She worked with three other Assistant Principals to change the culture of the school and support high expectations for teaching and learning. In the fall of 2004 the school had improved students' performance in both literacy and mathematics and was removed from the SURR list. This was celebrated in a press release done by the Mayor and Chancellor at the school. In February of 2005 she was recruited to be the Principal for the Samuel C. Barnes Elementary School, PS 54. After being in middle school for most of her career, she was hesitant to take on the responsibility as Principal for an elementary school. However, with much prayer and thoughtfulness she accepted the challenge and has been working to bring change to her community. Her goal is to promote an environment where everyone is valued and respected.

It has been a fulfilling time for her as a teacher and administrator and she will continue to do her best to support high levels of teaching and learning for students at this level.

#### FOOD SAFETY IN RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES

### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 19, 2009*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to ensure that food served in nursing homes is safe and nutritious. Recently a constituent from my district visited me to discuss food safety and nutrition in nursing homes. He is a Director of Dining Services at a nursing home in Prince William County. Based on his experience, he suggested that requiring Medicare and Medicaid food service facilities, like nursing homes, to have Certified Dietary Managers or qualified dietitians as food service managers would ensure that food served in these facilities is safe and nutritious.

The legislation I have introduced today would require that Medicare and Medicaid food service facilities have either a qualified dietician or Certified Dietary Manager as director of food services. A qualified dietician has four years of training in college, and a Certified Dietary Manager must complete a rigorous food preparation program. This is a commonsense requirement to ensure that senior citizens have safe food, and is particularly important as our population ages.

I would like to emphasize that this proposal came from a local business, and has the support of other companies that operate nursing homes in my district. I am pleased to have the opportunity to work with our partners in the business community to introduce this legislation, which could help protect the health of seniors across the country.

#### CONGRATULATING THE CALI- FORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE BASKETBALL TEAM

SPEECH OF

### HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 18, 2009*

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the California State University, Northridge (CSUN) men's basketball team for winning the Big West Conference title and earning a spot in the prestigious NCAA Tournament for the second time in its NCAA Division I history.

The Matadors reached this year's tournament by winning a hard-fought Big West Conference title game against University of the Pacific. The Matadors amassed an impressive 17–13 overall record and 11–5 conference record. CSUN led all team categories in the Big West Conference in scoring, rebounding, field goal percentage defense, 3-point field goal percentage defense, rebound margin, and steals.

The Matadors men's basketball team is led by head coach Bobby Braswell, Big West Coach of the Year for a second straight season. He is assisted by a talented and skilled coaching staff including Danny Sprinkle, James Blake, Ryan Dodd, Steve Grech, Bob Vazquez and Louis Wilson.

CSUN is a vibrant, diverse university community of nearly 34,000 students and more than 4,000 faculty and staff, sited on a 356-acre campus in the heart of Los Angeles' San Fernando Valley—a region of over 1.8 million people.

CSUN was founded in 1958 as San Fernando Valley State College and adopted its current name in 1972. Today, it is one of the largest universities in California.

Madam Speaker, I wish to congratulate the Matadors for winning the Big West Conference title and earning a berth in the NCAA Tournament. I am proud of their sportsmanship, athletic excellence, and winning spirit during the regular season, and I wish them all the luck in the NCAA Tournament.

#### A TRIBUTE TO GENISUS THOMPSON

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 19, 2009*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Genisus Thompson. Genisus, a native of Greenville, North Carolina, has lived in the East New York community for the past 20 years. Married to the late Dwight Thompson, the love of her life is her son, Anthony. Genisus graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School, attended Kingsborough Community college and then proceeded to study Labor Law at Harry Van Arsdale Jr. Institute.

As an East New York resident, she has devoted a great deal of her time to helping the community to be a better place to live. For example, Genisus has been a member of the 75th Precinct Community Council since 1980 where her efforts and devotion has been instrumental in uplifting her community. Genisus received an award from the 75th Precinct Community Council for outstanding service and dedication. She attended and graduated from the Citizens Police Academy in June of 2007.

Genisus was employed at the Metropolitan Jewish Geriatric Center for 32 years as Chief Switchboard Operator, she was also a shop delegate for Local 1199, 114 division, and retired in June, 2006. In addition to these daily responsibilities, she is an active member of Liberty Baptist Church. Genisus's civic activism includes membership in the Milford Street Block Association and member of the North Brooklyn Democratic Party.

#### OPERATION OF HYBRID VEHICLES IN HIGH OCCUPANCY VEHICLE LANES

### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 19, 2009*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation that would allow the Commonwealth of Virginia to continue permitting hybrid automobiles with a single occupant to use High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes in the state. Virginia's General Assembly passed legislation allowing hybrids to use HOV lanes in order to encourage