

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 CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHBRIDGE 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

the purchase of these low emission vehicles. This policy has been very successful, as Northern Virginia has achieved rates of hybrid ownership that are among the highest in the country.

Hybrid ownership is important because most families take ten vehicle trips per day; when a family purchases a hybrid they not only reduce emissions during daily commutes but also during errands and other trips. Moreover, the purchase of hybrids helps create greater demand for these vehicles, expediting the rate at which car companies can reach economies of scale in hybrid production.

Data on lane usage of HOV lanes in Northern Virginia show that 60% of the vehicles in HOV lanes have 2 passengers, 20% are violators, and 20% are single occupant hybrids. Before prohibiting hybrids from using HOV lanes, we must enhance law enforcement to discourage cheaters from using these lanes.

Without passage of this legislation, federal law will pre-empt the General Assembly from having the authority to allow hybrids to use HOV lanes. It would be unfortunate if lack of federal action precluded the state from continuing a policy that has been so successful.

A TRIBUTE TO ROSE CARTER

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 Rose Carter, a strong upbeat presence in the Brooklyn community.

Rose Carter is a cheerleader. She has strong family values and from an early age demonstrated a deep commitment to her community.

Rose jump-started her community service at The Midwood Development Corporation, Brooklyn, New York, working as a youth coordinator. She took her job seriously and developed and implemented many multicultural programs. She also spearheaded workshops that highlighted self awareness, good citizenship, tolerance and volunteerism.

While at Midwood, she expanded her learning by taking advantage of an opportunity to work as a merchant liaison. In this role, she utilized the relationships which she had cultivated to provide resources for an intergenerational art show; she created the show in an attempt to bridge the gap between the young and the elderly.

Currently Rose Carter works at PS 260 Breuckelen School. There she is known for her hallway presence and commitment to motivating the school community. Rose Carter's everyday efforts are focused on rallying everyone she comes in contact with to have a good day. As the parent coordinator she is dedicated to improving the quality of life for the school population and their families. Rose Carter is very passionate about her work and gives beyond the required responsibilities of the job.

During the Hurricane Katrina disaster, Rose Carter was instrumental in helping victims who relocated to New York and had children enrolled in the school. She facilitated a connection of a Moroccan couple that spoke very little English with a Pakistani group that spoke their native language. This is just one example of her dynamism and devotion.

Rose seeks out civic minded people like herself and she inspires people of all ages and socioeconomic backgrounds to seek and celebrate excellence.

She is a mother, motivator and a consummate optimist.

EXTENSION OF METRORAIL'S ORANGE, YELLOW, BLUE, AND PURPLE LINES

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 authorize extension of Metrorail's Orange, Yellow, Blue, and Purple lines. I appreciate Mr. JIM MORAN's co-sponsorship of this legislation. I represent a district with the fourth worst congestion in the country. These traffic conditions diminish the economic productivity of our region while contributing to climate change.

While the local Board of Supervisors has worked to transform land use patterns in order to focus development around Metro stations, we only have five Metro stations in Fairfax County and thus have limited capacity to encourage Transit Oriented Development. In Prince William County, there are no Metrorail stations, and my constituents in Prince William must confront congestion nearly every day on their way to work. Fortunately, both Prince William and Fairfax County are served by the Virginia Railway Express. This commuter rail service is filled to capacity on a daily basis, as is the Metrorail system in Northern Virginia, suggesting a pressing need to expand transit service.

The Metrorail extensions that I have proposed would enhance transit service in the I495, I95, and I66 corridors. Residents of Centreville, Lorton, Woodbridge, and other communities that currently lack Metrorail access would have the option to commute on Metro, which would enhance the quality of life of my constituents while stabilizing housing values and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. During the present economic crisis, homes in Northern Virginia that are located near transit have maintained their value relative to homes only served by highways. For the sake of communities that are threatened by extremely high rates of foreclosure, extension of transit service can be a force for economic revitalization.

This proposed extension of transit service is consistent with local government policies. For example, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors supports extension of Metrorail in the I66 corridor and in the I95 corridor. This legislation is crafted to give local governments flexibility in locating the stations and determining what type of rail infrastructure to construct. This flexibility is essential to ensure that these transit extensions reflect the needs of Northern Virginia residents and to ensure that we maximize the economic development potential inherent in these Metrorail extensions.

I am proud to offer this legislation that may create the opportunity for our local, state, and federal levels of government to collaborate on extension of transit service. This legislation is essential for the long term vitality of Northern Virginia's economy, neighborhoods, and environment.

A TRIBUTE TO PAMELA TATE-MCMULLEN

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 Pamela Tate-McMullen a Parent Coordinator in the Department of Education.

Mrs. Pamela Tate-McMullen was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York where she presently resides with her husband, John and son Justin.

Mrs. Tate-McMullen is a Parent Coordinator in the Department of Education, serving at Bedford Academy High School in Brooklyn, New York. Since the inception of the position of Parent Coordinator (2003), Pamela has served in various capacities working both with the founding leader of Bedford Academy, Mr. George Leonard, and too with the present leadership of Mr. Adofo Muhammad. Her duties include, but are not limited to: (1) increasing parent involvement in the school by working closely with school-wide, parent and community organizations, (2) convening regular parent meetings and events around topics of key concerns to parents and other stakeholders, and (3) maintaining ongoing contact with community organizations that are involved with providing services to the schools' educational program such as the Bedford Stuyvesant YMCA, media contacts and key members of the public who are also interested in the ongoing success of Bedford Academy High School.

Mrs. Tate-McMullen and her family are proud members of Christian Cultural Center in Brooklyn, New York, where Pamela serves on the Hospitality Team. One of Pamela's favorite pastimes is singing with the renowned 50's group, the Bobbettes, where she has traveled both locally and internationally.

A vibrant, creative member of the Bedford Academy/Bedford Stuyvesant YMCA team, Pamela has consistently contributed to a congenial relationship between Bedford Academy High School and the governing members and staff of the Bedford Stuyvesant YMCA.

HONORING THE MILITARY POLICE COMPANY, QUANTICO MARINE CORPS BASE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 19, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, it is my great honor to rise today to recognize a group of outstanding public servants in Northern Virginia. These individuals have demonstrated superior dedication to public safety and have been awarded the prestigious Valor Award by the Prince William County Regional Chamber of Commerce.

It is with great pride that I submit into the Record the names of the recipients of the 2009 Valor Award serving in the Military Police Company at Quantico Marine Corps Base.

Recipients of the Lifesaving Award: Sergeant Adam J. Pieper, Sergeant David A. Eynon