

James Walsh.
Robert Underwood.
Bernie Sanders.
Eni Faleomavaega.
Henry Waxman.
John Lewis.
Ed Markey.
Ken Bentsen.
Jim Turner.
Karen McCarthy.
Doug Bereuter.
F. Allen Boyd.

THE BAY CONCERT BAND: MAKING
BEAUTIFUL MUSIC FOR 20 YEARS

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 1997

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I believe a community should not only be measured by its economic strength and the values of its residents, but also by the diversity and vitality of its artistic organizations. By these qualifications, I am proud to say that Bay City rises to the occasion through the help of groups such as the Bay Concert Band.

The Bay Concert Band is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year, which is a proud and memorable occasion for everyone involved with the band from the conductor to members to listeners. The band has become a staple of life in Bay City, as they have provided public entertainment every year with scheduled concerts and with a free concert at the band shell to kick off the Bay Arts Council community concert series.

The initial idea behind the Bay Concert Band, formulated 20 years ago, was to provide a venue for amateur musicians who had perhaps played throughout school but put down their instruments as adults. What a perfect idea to bring these individuals together so that they could once again enjoy the pleasures of playing in an organized band, and provide entertainment to the community at the same time.

Along with public performances, the Bay Concert Band contributes to the community in numerous other ways. It promotes scholarship awards for accomplished musicians and fosters both ensemble instrumental music as well as solo performances.

The original conductor of the band, Wally Cramer led these musicians for the first 5 years, and then Bob Story took over the reigns for 14 years before he retired this past year. The new band director, David Kjellberg, will continue the tradition his predecessors have set in the level of creativity and skill. I join with all of the greater Bay Area to wish them another 20 years of unqualified success.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO E.M. KNIGHT

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 1997

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Deacon E.M. Knight, Sr., a country boy from Odenberg, LA, born in 1912, a great community leader whose recent passing will leave a great void in the

18th Congressional District and the city of Houston. Deacon Knight moved to Texas after completing high school.

He had been a faithful member of South Park Baptist Church since 1976. He was the first black person chosen to be chairman of the Deacon's Board for 3 consecutive years. Prior to his service as deacon at South Park Baptist, he served as a deacon at East Macedonia Baptist Church.

Ellis M. Knight was married to Elease Jamison for 37 years until her death. He is survived by three sons; Ellis III, Ronald, and Alan Wayne. He also has two grandchildren; Sharmane and Andre Knight. His two living sisters are Mary Harris and Loys Davis Gatterson. He was married to Janet Jackson in 1988.

Deacon Knight's life was in constant motion. He was the product of a long lifeline. His mother missed the mark of 100 years of age by only 3 weeks. His lifeline provided him many memorable experiences. He served 4 years in the military, took many business and professional courses, and had many challenging jobs, including 37½ years as a union representative and worked with Southern Pacific Railroad.

E.M. Knight fostered black empowerment through his participation with the NAACP and voter registration efforts. He served on committees with local, State, and national elected officials and officers. Through these political involvements he had the opportunity to meet past Presidents Kennedy, Johnson, and Carter. He served on various boards. Among them was the Gulf Coast Community Services Board of Directors as Chair for 6½ years. During his lifetime membership, he served two terms as local branch president. Also, he served two different terms as president of the Harris County Council of Organizations [HCCO]. As Pct. 240 Judge he served on the Democratic Executive Committee since 1988.

Deacon Knight was also privileged to have extensively traveled. In the military he visited the Philippines, Australia, and parts of Asia. His travel with South Park Baptist Church on mission trips took him to Belize, Panama, San Andres Island, and Colombia.

Deacon Knight was quite enthusiastic. His drive came from his stated desire to help people less fortunate than himself. One of his favorite Scriptures, Matthew 25:35, says: "For I was hungry, and you gave me meat; I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink; I was a stranger, and ye took me in." He edifies this verse through his church and community service. He participated in community civic clubs and was chairman of the Harris County Hospital District's Martin Luther King Advisory Board. He also served as chairman of the South Park Baptist Church Food Ministry and creator and chairman of the South Park Church Community Service Center. He expressed a special love for the Church's Family Life Center. He was the Chairperson of the Together We Build financial drive to raise funds for the building of the FLC. Another special interest was the jail ministry which he was interested in implementing.

E.M. Knight best summarized his life this way: "I am blessed. Sometimes I'm sick, but I'm not tired. I feel the Lord is not finished with me yet." He kept this spirit until the very end and I am honored to have known and had as a friend Deacon E.M. Knight, Sr.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

IN HONOR OF WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL MONTH: RECOGNIZING OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE HISPANIC COMMUNITY

HON. ROBERT MENEDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 1997

Mr. MENEDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to six Hispanic-American women for their distinguished public service and selfless dedication to their community. These exceptional individuals will be honored by the National Association of Cuban American Women at its annual dinner on March 15, 1997, at Las Palmas Restaurant in West New York, NJ.

The National Association of Cuban American Women has a long history of recognizing the accomplishments of extraordinary women within the Hispanic community. Under the direction of President Siomara Sanchez Guerra, this organization has grown in stature through the profound impact of the work of its numerous members. These women have and continue to serve as positive role models for individuals in search of a better understanding of what can be achieved when people dedicate themselves to a lifetime of excellence.

This year's presentations are being made under two noteworthy categories: Outstanding Achievement Awards and the Elena Mederos Awards. Four exceptional women have been selected to receive the Outstanding Achievement Awards. Ms. Emma Moreno is a proficient member of the Census Bureau of the U.S. Department of Commerce. Zulima V. Farber, Esq., has served as a public defender and advocate for the State of New Jersey from 1992 to 1994. Estella M. DeLaCruz, Esq., was recently nominated for a judgeship in the State of New Jersey. Nilda C. Hernandez was the first Hispanic judge appointed to the State Division of Worker's Compensation. Each woman has made a significant contribution to the lives of everyone they have touched.

The two exemplary individuals who will receive the Elena Mederos Award come from diverse backgrounds. Natacha S. Millan serves the people of Miami as a commissioner for district 12 in Metropolitan Dade County, FL. Many of the residents of my district have ties to people in Commissioner Millan's area. Dr. Iris Martinez-Arroyo is a dean and professor at Kean College in New Jersey. She has had numerous community-oriented work assignments, including the directorship of the bilingual program of the Newark Board of Education until 1996. Their work transcends ethnic barriers and focuses most importantly on the human spirit. For these endeavors they have earned the admiration of their communities as well as my own.

I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring these remarkable women for all they have done for their respective communities. Each woman has contributed greatly to the varied interests of the residents of the northern New Jersey area. I am proud to have them working on behalf of the members of my district.