

HONORING MARY MAXWELL

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 28, 1998

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, as we all know, all levels of government are large and it can be complicated for a citizen to find his or her way. Often the initial contract sets the tone for how that citizen sees government—as helpful or aloof and uncaring.

For many citizens calling Westchester County Government that initial contact was the cheerful and helpful voice of Mary Maxwell, a telephone operator whose friendly demeanor assured the caller that they were entering friendly territory.

She worked initially at Grasslands Hospital in Valhalla after which she moved to the medical unit at White Plains. Subsequently she worked in Yonkers and Mount Vernon before returning to White Plains.

She was universally recognized with the title of “friendly and happy person” by the many who worked with her and were greeted by her when they called.

Mary Maxwell lives in Yonkers where she has been active for many years at the Community Memorial Baptist Church.

Mary Maxwell is that person who puts a human face on a large organization; one who is friendly and helpful to complete strangers for the 35 years she was a telephone operator. Working in a medical organization often means having to deal with people in their sorrow and despair. She has done it and done it well.

She is known as a “mother to many” for her empathy and friendship and those people are gathering to wish her well in her retirement. I want to join with them in celebrating all the good and kind work that Mary Maxwell has done for all of us.

CONGRATULATING THE
CARDEROCK DIVISION OF THE
NAVAL SURFACE WARFARE CENTER
ON ITS CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY
IN 1998

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 28, 1998

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the Carderock Division of the Naval Surface Warfare Center for 100 years of service to the United States. The origin of this facility dates back to the establishment of the U.S. Navy's Experimental Model Basin at the Washington Navy Yard in 1898. The current model facilities were built in Carderock, MD, and dedicated in November 1940. The David Taylor Model Basin, named after its founder, Rear Admiral David Taylor, is one of the largest and foremost test centers in the world. The David Taylor Model Basin was designed and built by the U.S. Navy for reliable construction and testing of ship models. These models are maneuvered under special conditions in large water basins where their performance can be closely examined. The research of these models allows for the accurate prediction of a vessel's performance. Using the sophisticated

equipment at the model basin, scientists and engineers are able to research, develop, and test ship and craft designs for the Navy, Coast Guard, Maritime Administration, and maritime industry.

David Taylor resolved to construct the most modern Naval test facility when he pushed for the original Experimental Model Basin, and later, the Carderock facility. We realize his dreams and goals 100 years later. The model basin continues to be a premier site for Naval design and research. It is recognized around the world for its significant scientific and technical achievements. I am pleased to note that this centennial celebration will kick off on January 30, 1998, with the designation of the David Taylor Model Basin as a national historic mechanical engineering landmark by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. This organization has recognized the contributions that the David Taylor Model Basin has provided in critical support for the development of Naval architecture.

I want to recognize and congratulate the David Taylor Model Basin and the Carderock Division of the Naval Surface Warfare Center on the award of the national historic mechanical engineering landmark. Mr. Speaker, please join me in saluting the talented and dedicated staff as they are recognized for this award during the centennial anniversary.

HONORING FLORA RICHARDSON
WILHITE OF BAYTOWN, TEXAS

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 28, 1998

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Flora Richardson Wilhite, of Baytown, Texas, for 32 years of outstanding service to the community as director of Sterling Municipal Library. Mrs. Wilhite may be retiring on January 31, 1998, but her contributions to Baytown will endure.

Born in Port Arthur, Texas and a graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School, Flora Wilhite knew early on that she would become a librarian. At age 6, her favorite Christmas present was a date stamp and ink pad, and she had already begun to arrange her books alphabetically by author's name. Those early indications led her to a long and distinguished career of service to Baytown.

After receiving her degree in library science from North Texas State University, Mrs. Wilhite began her career as Engineering Librarian at Lamar University. She then served as a Command Librarian for the U.S. Army in Germany before becoming Director of Sterling Municipal Library in 1965. During her 32 years at Sterling, Mrs. Wilhite oversaw many changes and improvements to the library, including expanded services and renovations to the facility. She began the hugely successful Baytown Bookmobile, delivering library service to underserved areas, nursing homes, and off-site literacy projects. In addition, Sterling's nationally recognized Literacy Volunteers of America adult literacy program is the result of Mrs. Wilhite's dedication to improving lives and encouraging lifelong learning. Flora Wilhite's love of learning, enthusiasm, and list of achievements will be difficult to replace.

Flora Wilhite has shown an unwavering dedication to the Baytown community. She

most recently received Exxon USA's Refiner of the Year for 1977 for her outstanding service to the community. In 1988 she was named Library Director of the Year by the Texas Municipal League Library Directors Association, of which she was a charter member and second president. In addition, she was the first woman elected to the Board of Directors of the Baytown Chamber, and to the Board of Directors of the Rotary Club of Baytown. She was also named Rotarian of the Year in 1995-96, served on the Board of Directors of the United Way of Baytown, and was honored in 1995 by the Baytown chapter of the American Diabetes Association for her countless civic contributions.

In retirement, Flora will now be able to spend more time with her husband, Ross, in the hobbies and pastimes they enjoy, particularly fly fishing and camping. This is a well-deserved change of pace. We all wish her well as she embarks on her new endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Rosa Wilhite for her 32 years of outstanding service to Baytown. Her contributions to Sterling Municipal Library and all of Baytown will endure for years to come.

THE HUMAN CLONING RESEARCH
PROHIBITION ACT

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 28, 1998

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, today I will be introducing legislation to prohibit federal funding for the cloning of human beings. My bill also calls for an international ban on human cloning.

I would like to remind my colleagues that it took 273 tries to develop Dolly. But what about the other 272 animals? Most of them were either aborted, destroyed, or maimed. Do we want to do this with humans beings?

There are serious ethical and moral implications involved with cloning of humans. Theologians and ethicists have raised three broad objections. Cloning humans could lead to a new eugenics movement, where even if cloning begins with a benign purpose, it could lead to the establishment of “scientific” categories of superior and inferior people. Cloning is a form of playing God, since it interferes with the natural order of creation. Cloning could have long-term effects that are unknown and harmful. People have a right to their own identity and their own genetic makeup, which should not be replicated.

I, for one, do not think we can just sit idly by when there are people like Dr. Seed out there who look upon human life in much different terms than most Americans. I urge my colleagues to join me in this effort by cosponsoring my legislation.

TRIBUTE TO BET TZEDEK, ELI
BROAD AND THE SHOAH FOUNDATION

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 28, 1998

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Eli Broad