

Mr. Speaker, it is people like Amanda Davis that never allow me worry about the future of the United States. Every summer our congressional offices are filled with thousands of our brightest young minds, and they will be prepared to pick up the mantle of public service when their time comes. Amanda has already answered this call. As I stated earlier, I hope her example serves as a catalyst for others, and I thank her for all of her efforts on behalf of the people of Illinois.

HONORING CYNTHIA CARRINGTON-MURRAY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the skill and achievements of Cynthia Carrington-Murray. Her contribution to the health care community is incomparable.

After transferring from her native Trinidad and Tobago, she received her Bachelors Degree in Nursing and a Masters in Community Health Administration from Long Island University. Currently, Cynthia is the Executive Director of the Woodhull Medical Center in Brooklyn, a 428 bed public hospital that is part of the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation. Woodhull is the acute care hospital for the North Brooklyn Health Network with over 18,000 discharges and 240,000 clinic visits annually. The Center operates three free-standing residency programs in Internal Medicine, Primary Care Pediatrics and Dentistry.

A dynamic and personable leader, Cynthia brings over twenty years of progressive leadership to the formidable task of interpreting Woodhull's mission, vision and goals. A strong advocate of community health, she imbues her work with vigor, compassion, and a keen understanding of the needs of the North Brooklyn community. She has received numerous awards for her professional excellence and she is a member of the Board of the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce, President of the Trinidad and Tobago Nurses Association of America and the President of the East 45th Street Block Association.

As a wife and mother to two, daughters Camille and Kamika, Cynthia has managed the triumphs and pressures of those roles, and risen to excellence in the field of nursing.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Cynthia Carrington-Murray for all of her achievements, for being a woman who dares to be different, and for showing young women everywhere that they can do and accomplish anything.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, today is the date for the special election in California's 22nd Congressional seat, the race to replace my friend Walter Capps. The winner of today's race will be decided by the voters of Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties. The loser in

this race has already been decided, and it is the current campaign system.

The race for this seat has seen an unprecedented level of outside spending by special interest groups trying to influence the election. While the citizens of California's 22nd district have repeatedly said that education and taxes are their top priorities, outside groups have overwhelmed the district with television commercials that only impact their own narrow agenda's.

I am afraid that the spending in this race is only a sign of things to come. If we don't pass meaningful campaign finance reform the outside interest groups are going to spend unlimited amounts of money in each Congressional campaign, and each candidate will be forced to raise more money to combat that spending. We need campaign finance reform to stop this vicious cycle. Mr. Speaker the people of my district refuse to accept "no" for an answer.

HONORING THE PINK OYSTER INTEREST GROUP

HON. ALBERT RUSSELL WYNN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Pink Oyster Interest Group's service to Southern Prince George's County, Maryland.

In January of 1996, five sorors, Patricia Oliver Bell, Annette Oliver Boxley, Irene Bullock-Overton, V'Nell De Costa and Gloria McCray Watson were gathered at Pat's Exclusives Boutique. In conversation, the subject of starting a local graduate chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. in the Ft. Washington area surfaced. Soror Gloria McCray Watson was charged with determining the procedure for starting a new chapter.

As directed, later in the same month, Soror Gloria McCray Watson reported to the group advising them of the procedure for the formation of an interest group. A meeting was scheduled for March 29, 1996 at Pat's Exclusives Boutique.

On March 29, 1996, the group's first meeting was held at Pat's Exclusives Boutique. Soror Carmilla Watkins of Nu Zeta Omega was invited to serve as an advisor to the group. The meeting was attended by Sorors: Patricia Oliver Bell, Annette Oliver Boxley, Yvonne Bundley, Irene Bullock-Overton, V'Nell De Costa, Brenda Jones and Gloria McCray Watson.

On Sunday, April 21, 1996, the groups' next meeting was held at Pat's Exclusives Boutique. Soror Wilma Holmes Tootle, North Atlantic Regional Director, was our guest, where she most graciously sanctioned the formation of a formal Interest Group of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., in Ft. Washington, Maryland.

The group met at Pat's Exclusives Boutique again in the month of May. However, it soon became necessary to move the meetings to another location because of the tremendous response from sorors in the area. Soror Gloria McCray Watson was charged with securing a location for the meeting.

Officers were elected to conduct the business of the Interest Group. The Officers were: Irene Bullock-Overton—President, Gloria

McCray Watson—1st Vice-President, Patricia Oliver Bell—2nd Vice-President, Pamela Mohammed—Recording Secretary, Andriese Payton-Watson—Assistant Recording Secretary, Brenda Jones—Financial Secretary, V'Nell De Costa—Treasurer, Annette Oliver Boxley—Historian, Angela Roberts—Assistant Historian and LaKeisha Ratcliff—Philacter.

Soror Watson recommended and later secured Harmony Hall Regional Center for the third Thursday of each month. In June of 1996, 36 members strong, the Interest Group moved the meetings to Harmony Hall Regional Center in Ft. Washington, Maryland. Also at this meeting, it was recommended by Soror Angela Roberts that the group be formally known as, "The Pink Oyster Interest Group". The name was enthusiastically accepted by the sorors in attendance.

By August of 1997, the Group had initiated various programs and performed numerous community service projects. Some of the programs and activities included but are not limited to: an ongoing senior citizens project at Livingston HealthCare Center in Ft. Washington, Maryland; an Adopt-a-School partnership with Potomac Landing Elementary School in Ft. Washington, Maryland; a voter registration drive; an Adopt-a-Road partnership with Prince George's County; donated school supplies to the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., AKA-IFESH project; sponsored five Southern Prince George's County middle school students for the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Putting emphasis on Math and Science (PIMS) Camp held at Bowie State University; donated career clothing to the Anacostia Center for Mental Health; made a financial contribution to the Maryland Stallions Basketball league; awarded scholarships to two Prince George's County senior high school students from Crossland High School; sponsored a Minority Business Symposium; established an AKAdemy; donated books for the library for Potomac Landing Elementary School in Ft. Washington; donated career clothing to the Maryland State Department of Rehabilitative Services and participated in the AIDS WALK '97 in Washington, DC.

The commitment of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., is service to all mankind. The mission of this chartering shall be to extend Alpha Kappa Alpha's commitment to the citizens of southern Prince George's County.

HONORING RENEE POLLACK

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 1998

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the skill and achievements of Renee Pollack. Her contributions to education, particularly Bushwick High School, are incomparable.

Her philosophy is simple: "Students need to be able to dream the way I dreamed and I will try to help make those dreams come true." Early in her career she served as an assistant principal of Pupil Personnel Services at Park West High School in Manhattan. Renee was also a Spanish teacher, grade advisor, and served as a member of various task forces and steering committees.

Renee has realized her childhood dream of being a principal and it is clear that her students are as enthusiastic about her as she is