

CONGRATULATING THE RECIPIENTS OF "POSITIVE FAMILY IMAGE AWARDS"

HON. ROBERT MENEDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. MENEDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate six of my constituents who, for their service to the community, have been named the recipients of "Positive Family Image Awards" by the Urban League of Hudson County, New Jersey. Mr. Michael Yorker, Mrs. Ella M.G. Lawrence, Mr. George Wilson, Mrs. Henrietta Robinson Booker, Mr. Rhudell Snelling and Ms. Elizabeth Henry will be honored at the Urban League's Twentieth Annual Equal Opportunity Day Dinner, being held at the Meadowlands Hilton in Secaucus, New Jersey.

My colleagues, let me take a brief moment to tell you about these great people who are so vital to the Urban League and the entire community.

When Mrs. Henrietta Robinson Booker arrived in Jersey City, New Jersey from Statesboro, Georgia, she stayed in the House of Friendliness, the Branch of the YWCA for Colored women, as quarters were segregated back then. From that point on, Mrs. Booker has been the voice of hope, courage and strength for those in dire need. As a prominent member of numerous organizations—the NAACP, J.C. Title I Advisory Board, Council for Companions for Senior Citizens, the Red Cross and the Salvation Army—Mrs. Booker has enriched the lives of countless citizens of Jersey City. For her presence in the community, we are blessed.

Mr. Rhudell Snelling, a graduate of Lincoln High School in Jersey City has contributed to the community through his musical talents. As a member of St. John's Baptist Church, 'Rhudy' was named the director of the Church's choir and became minister of music in 1960. Rhudy has also volunteered his musical abilities as a member of the NAACP and has recorded with the Eastern Choral Guild of Montclair on United Artists Labels. For the sharing of his talents to benefit others, I thank Mr. Rhudy Snelling.

Elizabeth Henry is a dividend clerk at Sanford C. Bernstein & Co., and will soon be working on the New York Stock Exchange. This career woman serves as a wonderful example for all single mothers as she guides, encourages, and inspires her three boys Leonty Danzie, 17 years of age, Shawn, 14, and Antonio Farthing, Jr., her foster son and nephew. For her loving dedication to her children, I applaud Mrs. Henry.

Mrs. Ella M.G. Lawrence, a graduate of Seton Hall University, is a mother of five children and is retired after teaching English and being a guidance counselor in the Jersey City Public School System for thirty years. As one of the founding members of the organization, Citizens Against Rate Increases, a member of the Board of Trustees for the Model Cities program, and a lifetime member of the NAACP, Mrs. Lawrence has been a force in the community and well deserving of this award.

Mr. George Wilson, a native of Sumter, South Carolina came to Jersey City in search of a better opportunity for employment. In 1968, after attending Jersey City State College

and serving in the United States Army for two years, he ended that search as he was sworn in as a Jersey City Policeman. In 1989, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant, and in 1996 was appointed to the position of Under-sheriff of Hudson County, where he serves today. He has served his community as a leader in various ways including being a founding member and past president of the Interdepartmental Minority Police Action Council, the president and a successful coach of the Bergen/Lafayette Little League, and the president of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade and Scholarship Committee. He is married to Naomi Motley Wilson and has four children and eight grandchildren.

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude toward Mr. Michael Yorker. Mr. Yorker, a undergraduate and post graduate of Jersey City State College, has served in the Jersey City public schools system in a variety of positions over the last twenty years and is currently the acting principle of Public school 32/SSP. His community involvement includes serving as speaker for many organizational conferences such as Delta Sigma Theta, Block Associations, and various Church and youth groups. Not surprisingly, Mr. Yorker has received numerous awards for all his contributions to the community. He is married to Rene and is the proud father of five children.

These six fine citizens exemplify just what the Urban League of Hudson County is all about. It is an organization committed to the needs of the community, reaching out, being proactive, and taking real initiative to improve economic and social conditions and opportunities for African Americans and other minority groups in Hudson County, New Jersey. Again, my thanks and congratulations to these six awardees and all who are a part of the Urban League of Hudson County.

COMMEND KENNYWOOD AMUSEMENT PARK OF WEST MIFFLIN, PENNSYLVANIA ON ITS CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend congratulations to Kennywood Amusement Park on their centennial anniversary. This traditional amusement park is located within my congressional district in West Mifflin, Pennsylvania along the Monongahela River, where it has remained in operation for one hundred years. Originating as a small trolley park in 1898, Kennywood has survived through times of struggle and success to become a fine amusement park.

Andrew Mellon's Monongahela Street Railway Company established this trolley park in 1898. The turn of the century brought competition from several amusement retreats in the Pittsburgh area. The Pittsburgh Railway Company designated its lease to A.S. McSwigan and Frederick W. Henninger. Today, third and fourth generations of these individuals continue to manage the park.

Over the years, as numerous roller coasters and rides were added, the park grew in size and popularity. Many of the older rides, including wooden roller coasters from the 1910's

and 1920's are still in operation today, and are becoming endangered species in the amusement park industry. In 1987, Kennywood received national attention when it was designated as a National Historic Landmark.

Kennywood survived through adversity and several hardships. They endured the burden of the Great Depression, financial difficulties during World War II, and competition from million dollar theme parks in the 1960's and 1970's. Despite significant changes in history and cultures, Kennywood remains a traditional amusement park.

After one hundred years in the amusement business, Kennywood continues to prosper. One of the fundamental reasons for its survival is the goal it sets forth. Kennywood applies modern technology to new rides while maintaining the atmosphere of amusement parks of the past.

Having lived in western Pennsylvania all my life, I have personally enjoyed visiting Kennywood many times as a child and have enjoyed sharing the joy of Kennywood with my wife and children also. I want to congratulate Kennywood on their one-hundredth anniversary and commend the management for preserving a place that means so much to many people.

HIGHER EDUCATION AMENDMENTS OF 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 6) to extend the authorization of programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes:

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition of Rep. Frank Riggs's (R-CA) H.R. 3330, the "Anti-Discrimination in College Admissions Act" of 1998 which will be offered as an amendment during the House consideration of HR 6, The "Higher Education Authorization Act" of 1998. This amendment would prohibit colleges and universities that take race, sex, color ethnicity, or national origin into account in connection with admission(s) from participating in, or receiving funds under any programs authorized by the Higher Act of 1965 (HEA).

This amendment will not only have a devastating impact on postsecondary admissions at both public and private institutions, but also discourage institutions from considering race, even in instances where the purpose is focused on remedying past discrimination. This piece of legislation is far more sweeping than California's Proposition 209 in that HR 3330 aims to eliminate affirmative action in private, as well as public, colleges and universities. It will also constrain an institution's ability to satisfy constitutional and statutory requirements to eliminate discrimination in postsecondary education.

There is clear evidence of what happens when universities are forced to drop their affirmative action programs. When the University of California's board of Regents banned all affirmative action the acceptance rate programs