

the senior judge of the court. She is a former President of the Northern Ohio Municipal Judges Association and has served for the past seven years as its Secretary/Treasurer.

Judge Connally, formerly served as chairperson on the Youth Violence Committee of the Task Force on Violent Crime and the Mayor's Advisory committee on Gang Violence.

She is a former member of the Board of Trustees of her alma mater Bowling Green University and in 1994–1995 she served as president of their Board of Trustees and served as the chairperson of the presidential search committee. She also served as past president of the Northern Ohio Municipal Judges Association.

Mr. Speaker, the next person I want to recognize is Judge Mabel Jasper. She received her BS degree from Kent State University in 1956 and her JD from Cleveland Marshall Law School in 1977.

Prior to election to the Cleveland Municipal Court, she served as general trial referee for the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas—Domestic Relations Division. She was also an Assistant Attorney General for the state of Ohio, and was employed as a trial attorney for the Bureau of Workers Compensation for three years.

Judge Jasper is a member of many civic and professional organizations which include: Ohio State Bar Association; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority; and First woman member of the Rotary East club, a mostly all male organization.

The next person I want to honor is Judge Angela Stokes. Her name may sound familiar to many in this chamber because she is the daughter of my predecessor, Representative Louis Stokes.

Angela received her BS degree from the University of Maryland, College Park and her JD from Howard University School of Law in Washington, DC, and is admitted to the Supreme Court of Ohio, the United States District Courts and Northern and Southern Districts of Ohio and the United States Court of Appeals Sixth District.

Prior to being elected to the bench, Angela served as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Ohio where she was assigned to the Federal Litigation Section in Columbus and later in Cleveland. She also worked for the British Petroleum of America corporate law department. In 1995 she was elected to the Cleveland Municipal Court.

Judge Stokes remains active in the Greater Cleveland Community. She has dedicated her time and energy to a variety of professional and civic organizations: Active Member of the Junior League; Member of a non-profit task force SAMM (Stopping Aids is my Mission); she is member of the 11th Congressional District Caucus; board member of the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law Louis Stokes Scholarship fund; and member of the Board of Trustees of Cuyahoga County Library Board.

Judge Keenon is a graduate of the Cleveland Marshall Law School and received her BS degree from Tennessee State University. Prior to being elected to the bench, Judge Keenon was a teacher and social worker in the Greater Cleveland Area.

Upon earning her JD, Una became staff attorney for the legal aid society and was appointed Attorney in Charge of the Juvenile Division of the Cuyahoga county Public Defender Office. She also served as managing

attorney for the United Auto Workers legal services plan. Judge Keenon was appointed by then Governor Richard Celested fill a judicial vacancy. She subsequently was elected to another full term.

While on the bench, Judge Keenon established many programs within the East Cleveland Municipal Court: Curfew laws for children of the East Cleveland community and GED program for young offenders by sending them back to school.

She is a member of many civic and professional organizations: President of the Black Women Lawyers; 1st Vice President of the League of Women Voters; Co-Founder & 1st President of Black Women Political Action Committee; Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority; and National Council of Negro Women.

Judge Lynn Toler received her BA degree from Harvard University and her JD from the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

Lynn was elected to the Cleveland Heights Municipal court in 1994 and prior to that Lynn Toler had a distinguished career as an attorney. I have highlighted some of the civic and professional memberships as an indication of her commitment to her community: Cleveland Chapter of Links; Board Member—Board of Trustees Juvenile Diabetes Foundation; Cuyahoga County Criminal Justice Services which oversaw funding for services related to the criminal justice system; and Board of Trustees for the Goodwill Starting Program.

Another one of my sisters I want to mention during this special order is Judge Shirley Strickland Staffold who received her BA degree from Central State University and law degree from Marshall College of Law.

Prior to her election, Judge Staffold was in the criminal division of the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland, Public Defender's office. In 1994 she was elected to Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas.

I want to mention some of the Civic and Professional Associations that Judge Staffold is affiliated with as an indication of her commitment to our community: Member of the National Bar Association; American Judges Association; Ohio County and Municipal Judges Association; National Association of Women Judges; and First African American women to be elected President of the American Judges Association.

Judge Janet Burney received her BS from Skidmore College and her JD from Cleveland State University, Cleveland Marshall College of Law.

Prior to joining the bench this year, Judge Burney has a long and distinguished legal career that has spanned over twenty years.

Civic and Professional Associations: Member of the state bar of Ohio; United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio; United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit; United States Supreme Court; Board of Trustees; St. Luke's Foundation; Interchurch Council of Greater Cleveland; Dean of Christian Education at Open Door Missionary Baptist Church; and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.

In conclusion Mr. Speaker, I again want to thank my colleague, Representative BARBARA LEE for organizing this Special Order.

ACKNOWLEDGING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF ROBERT CONDON AND THE ROLLING READERS

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 1999

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I rise today to acknowledge the fine work of Rolling Readers USA and of its founder, Robert Condon, who died in January at the young age of 40.

In 1991, Mr. Condon, realizing the profound benefits of reading aloud to his sons, began reading to other children at a local homeless shelter and at a Head Start preschool. He was soon reading to children in Boys and Girls Clubs, after-school programs, and public housing sites. By recruiting 10 volunteers, Mr. Condon was able to rapidly expand this reading program to over 400 economically-disadvantaged children each week.

From this simple beginning, Rolling Readers USA was born! Eight short years later, 40,000 volunteers now read to and tutor 300,000 children each week and give \$3,000,000 worth of new books to children each year—often the first books these children have owned. Each volunteer in the Rolling Readers program reads to the same group of children each week, establishing a continuity, not only in tutoring, but in inspiring minds, touching imaginations, developing language skills, and assuring a positive impact on children's lives.

The Rolling Readers vision is very clear. We have a major crisis in our country—for 30 years literacy rates in the United States have been falling, with the biggest decline occurring in those children already in the bottom half in reading test scores. The work of Rolling Readers volunteers is critical to our nation!

Rolling Readers has grown from one man's ideals and commitment to service to become California's largest and one of the Nation's premier volunteer-based children's literacy organizations. Upon the death of its founder, Rolling Readers is sponsoring a national reading day on March 27, 1999 to commemorate his life and achievements.

I would like to add my voice to the many who are thanking Robert Condon for his vision, his leadership, and his outstanding contribution to the children of our nation.

DEATH TAX SUNSET ACT

HON. JOE SCARBOROUGH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 1999

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased today to introduce the Death Tax Sunset Act which would put an end to the Federal government's most outrageous form of taxation. Very simply, my bill would put an end to estate and gift taxes after the year 2002. Hard working Americans deserve no less.

The thought that our government can take over half of a person's life savings when they die should sicken every American. How can we justify taking 55 percent of Americans' life savings when they die? The answer, quite simply, is that we cannot.