

example for one and all. Her extended arm holding the torch as a guiding light beckons us to follow her into the future. With her un-failing devotion to the preservation of this land, she reminds us that the future's brightness depends solely on those willing to bear the torch.

Mr. Speaker, I urge this body to identify and recognize others in their own districts whose actions have so greatly benefited and strengthened America's communities.

IN SUPPORT OF QUEEN NOOR'S
ADVOCACY OF ELIMINATION OF
DISCRIMINATION AGAINST
WOMEN

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 8, 2002

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the organizers of today's event for bringing congressional Members together to emphasize the role that United States adherence, and for that matter universal adherence, to the Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women could play in ameliorating the situation of women around the world.

Her Majesty, Queen Noor, has graced us with her presence and we so much appreciate her continuing leadership on this issue and on so many other humanitarian efforts.

It is high time that the United States took its rightful place among the nations adhering to this convention. It is not just the example we would set for those not adhering to it, but also the opportunity to play a role, as a state party to the convention, in the process of upholding the convention itself around the world in places where it is on the books but not really being enforced.

We have all heard the expression "women's rights are human rights." Because women have received short shrift around the world, we have long recognized the need for a special measure to address the empowerment of women. The United States should play its proper leadership role. I appreciate all the efforts of those present here today and urge support for their goals.

COMMEMORATING THE 150TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF SOMERVILLE HIGH
SCHOOL

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 8, 2002

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Somerville High School in Somerville, Massachusetts on the occasion of its 150th anniversary. The phrase, "dedicated to the preparation of youth for the responsibilities of life" is etched on the building's facade and this is truly an accurate description of its mission.

The Somerville Free High School was dedicated on April 28, 1852. When the doors opened on May 3rd, two teachers taught sixty-six students. In 1862, the first graduating class had six members.

The facility we now know as Somerville High School was once two institutions:

Somerville's Twin High Schools. Students from English High School were prepared for scientific, normal and business schools while students from Latin High School were prepared for college. Both the 1900 and 1904 World's Fairs in Paris and St. Louis featured the Twin High Schools in their educational exhibits. In 1902, Somerville spent three days celebrating their high school's 50th anniversary.

In 1911, the Twin High Schools were merged and became Somerville High School. The school was rebuilt and expanded from 1928-1929 to include a gymnasium and a space for 3,000 students.

In 1983, Somerville High School was renovated. A new vocational wing and field house were added to the facility. The Somerville Technical Trade School, established in 1910, merged with Somerville High School at this time. When the New England Association of Schools and Colleges issued its accreditation report in 1990 it praised Somerville High School, calling it: "the best kept secret in Massachusetts."

Somerville High School has a strong sports tradition that continues today. The school has won seven New England Technical Tournament basketball championships since 1944 and a New England basketball title in 1949. Several of its athletes were selected for All-Scholastic Teams, and several became individual State and New England champions in Indoor and Outdoor track. The girls basketball program has also enjoyed tremendous success and last year included the alltime scoring leader.

Somerville High School lives up to its bold crest, which proclaims Honor and Progress. It has been a tremendous asset to its students over the last 150 years. I am a proud graduate of Somerville High School and know that this fine institution will continue to serve Somerville's young people with distinction.

MATTIEBELLE WOODS: THE FIRST
LADY OF MILWAUKEE'S BLACK
PRESS CELEBRATES HER 100TH
BIRTHDAY

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 8, 2002

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate Mattiebelle Woods, a local treasure from Milwaukee, who will turn 100 years old on October 31.

For nearly 40 years, Mattiebelle has reported on the major social events and gatherings in Milwaukee's African-American community, building an impressive career and reputation that have earned her the title of "First Lady of Milwaukee's Black Press."

Writing for the Milwaukee Defender, the Milwaukee Star, the Milwaukee Globe and now with the Milwaukee Courier, Mattiebelle's articles continue to take the social pulse of the African-American community in our city. Her work has received dozens of awards and accolades, including recognition of her journalistic contributions from the Milwaukee Press Club.

In addition to a brilliant career in journalism, Mattiebelle has stood as a pillar of strength in our community through her many years of service and dedication to making a difference

in the lives of the people of Milwaukee. She was an original founder of the Wisconsin Black Teen Pageant, an event that has unlocked new opportunities for scores of young black women in Wisconsin. She remains a dedicated political activist, working on campaigns for nearly six decades and helping with voter registration efforts. While doing all of this, Mattiebelle continues to work in her church.

Her many accomplishments and contributions have made Mattiebelle a source of great inspiration for countless leaders in our community. It is a service she is happy to provide. Elected officials, neighborhood activists and civic leaders alike all credit Mattiebelle for empowering them with the confidence to pursue a life of service to the community, and thank her for her words of wisdom that have clarified their own personal and professional paths.

In a recent newspaper article, Mattiebelle described her vitality as she begins her second century: "I get up every day and eat and drink what I want. I can't believe I don't have the aches and pains that everyone else has. I don't take any medication. I don't have a wheelchair or a rocking chair, and I wear heels when I go out. It's ironic."

With such energy and vigor, Milwaukeeans can look forward to many more years of articles and service from our dear Mattiebelle. Mr. Speaker, I urge the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in saluting Mattiebelle Woods, and sending her best wishes as she begins her 101st year.

EXPRESSING SORROW OF THE
HOUSE AT THE DEATH OF THE
HONORABLE PATSY T. MINK,
MEMBER OF CONGRESS FROM
THE STATE OF HAWAII

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 2002

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a friend and colleague, the Honorable PATSY MINK. I have known PATSY since being elected to Congress nearly a decade ago, and it was with heartfelt sadness that I learned of her passing on September 28, 2002.

PATSY MINK, the first congresswoman of Asian descent, was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1964. Throughout her career, she earned a reputation as a fearless and outspoken advocate for minorities, women, and children. Even at the age of 74, PATSY continued to be a stalwart for social and economic justice in the House of Representatives.

In one of her proudest moments in 1972, PATSY coauthored and passed a landmark law prohibiting sex discrimination in federally-funded education programs, popularly known as Title IX. As a result, the number of girls participating in high school sports has exploded in recent decades, leading to increased opportunities for women.

PATSY MINK's tenacity and dedication to the Civil Rights movement during the 1960s and 1970s shaped the Democratic national agenda, making the interests of women and minorities a centerpiece of the party's platform. During the 1990s, her ability to build coalitions in