

strong role in making both Florida and this nation better.

The same can be said of CARRIE MEEK. CARRIE has dedicated her professional and personal life to the people of Florida, as a public servant, college administrator and educator. CARRIE has been a true champion to her constituents. She has been a person that would reach out to the neediest and be their strongest advocate. I will always admire her commitment and loyalty to her convictions. Surely, CARRIE'S contributions to the lives of all Floridians will continue to pay dividends for generations to come.

With the retirement of DAN MILLER, I am not only losing a colleague but a longtime good neighbor of mine in Washington.

DAN'S dedication to public service and his commitment to the idea of less government, of conservative government, has been unwavering and will be greatly missed. Even my own sigh of relief at losing a staunch opponent of the sugar program—a program vitally needed by many of my constituents—is a testament to DAN'S doggedness when he is pursuing what he deeply believes is the right course.

The years of service by all three of these Florida members—KAREN THURMAN, CARRIE MEEK and DAN MILLER—are years of contributions. And I want to join all my colleagues in thanking them for that.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
JUSTICE WILLIAM COUSINS, JR.

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2002

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay special tribute to the distinguished life and career of the Honorable William Cousins, Jr., Justice of the Illinois Appellate Court. A scholar, patriot, and gentleman, Justice Cousins has never rested in the ivory tower that his distinguished academic and professional achievements could afford him. Instead, he has chosen at every stage of his life, to use his tremendous gifts to engage and serve his country, city, and community in the pursuit of social justice. He is truly a source of inspiration not only for the residents of the 1st Illinois Congressional District, but for all Americans everywhere.

Born on October 6, 1927 in Swifton, Mississippi, Justice Cousins moved to Chicago where he graduated from DuSable High School in 1945. After graduating from the University of Illinois in 1945 with honors in Political Science, and Harvard Law School in 1951, Justice Cousins answered the patriotic call to duty and served in the United States Army from 1951 through 1948 as a combat Infantry 2d and 1st Lieutenant during the Korean conflict. He would continue on in his military service until 1975, when he retired from the United States Army Reserve Corps as a Lieutenant Colonel.

While serving his country in the military, Justice Cousins began to build an impressive, multifaceted legal career as an attorney with Chicago Title & Trust Company. He then went on to serve as an Assistant State Attorney of Cook County, Illinois before going into private practice. Justice Cousins was then elected Alderman for Chicago's 8th Ward. He served as

a Circuit Court Judge of Cook County, Illinois from 1976 until his election in 1992 to the Illinois Appellate Court. His tenure on the Illinois Appellate Court includes service as Chairman of the Executive Committee, First Appellate District, Presiding Justice of the First District, 3d Division and 2d Division, and Chair for the Illinois Appellate Judges Annual Meeting. He was appointed by the Illinois Supreme Court as a member of the Executive Committee of the Illinois Judicial Conference since 1983 and was appointed Chairman of the Illinois Judicial Conference from 1989 to 1990. Justice Cousins is also a member of the Special Supreme Court Committee on Capital Cases.

Aside from his distinguished legal career, Justice Cousins has lent his immense talents to several civic organizations by serving as a board member of the Citizens' School Committee, Parkway House as well as the Chicago Area Planned Parenthood Association. He was also president of Chatham-Avalon Park Community Council, and is a founding member and former Board Member of PUSH. Justice Cousins is a Deacon at Lincoln Memorial Congregational United Church of Christ, and was an Assistant Moderator and former member of the Executive Council of the United Church of Christ. He is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity and Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity.

Justice Cousins' status as a pillar of civic and professional responsibility has not gone unrecognized, as he has been honored by well over one dozen organizations. It is only fitting that Justice Cousins be recognized and honored by the United States Congress.

IN HONOR OF DR. SOPHIE C. WONG
WHO WILL BE RETIRING AFTER
12 YEARS OF SERVICE AS AN
ELECTED BOARD MEMBER OF
THE ALHAMBRA SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2002

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sophie C. Wong.

Dr. Sophie C. Wong was the first Asian American to serve on the Alhambra School Board. Elected in 1990, Dr. Wong has held to her commitment to preserve and advance the quality of education for all students. Among her many achievements as a Board Member, Dr. Wong was the founder of the Alhambra School District Educational Foundation, co-founder of the Human Relations Advisory Committee, and founder of the Asian American Association of the Alhambra School District.

Immigrating to the United States in 1956, Dr. Wong has been a resident and homeowner in Monterey Park since 1961. Dr. Wong is married to Mr. Norman J. Wong and is the mother of two daughters, Cheryl and Debbie. Dr. Wong also has one granddaughter, Blythe.

Since 1996, Dr. Wong has been the President and Chief Executive Officer of Chinese for Christ Calvin Chao Theological Seminary in Alhambra, California. The seminary is a professional graduate school for Christian leaders, pastors and missionaries. On August 7, 1985, the Seminary received authorization

from the State of California to grant M.A., M.Div., D.Min., and Ph.D. degrees, making it the first Chinese seminary to be authorized by the State to grant a Ph.D. degree.

In addition to being an active and important member of her community, Dr. Wong is a successful entrepreneur. She is the president of Sophie C. Wong & Associates, a business development, management, real estate, marketing and public relations firm, which matches people with business opportunities. She is also the co-founder, director, chief financial officer and past chairman of Golden Security Bank since 1982. Dr. Wong was named one of "ten Important Power Brokers and Emerging Leaders in the San Gabriel Valley of Southern California" in the December 1997 issue of the Los Angeles Business Journal. In 1986 and again in 1996, Dr. Wong was elected to the White House Conference on Small Businesses.

It is with pleasure that I ask all Members to join with me in congratulating the Honorable Sophie C. Wong for her accomplishments on behalf of the students and staff of the Alhambra School District as well as her leadership in numerous activities in the community.

CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF
JAY, FLORIDA

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2002

Mr. JEFF MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the residents of Jay, Florida.

On the 30th of November, Jay will celebrate its centennial anniversary. Named after its first postmaster, Mr. J.T. Nowling, this small, Northwest Florida town near the Florida/Alabama border was established one hundred years ago primarily as a farming community. Even today, many residents of this Santa Rosa County community follow in their ancestors' agrarian footsteps.

In 1940, a small group of farmers embarked on a venture to create a livestock market in the area. Sales brought revenues of up to \$1 million by 1950 and the industry continues to thrive today. Jay boasts about their peanut buying and warehouse facility as well as Florida's only two cotton gins, making this one of Florida's finest and most progressive agricultural towns.

In the early 1970's, the discovery of oil changed the life of this small community. The Jay oil field has approximately 67 oil wells that have provided profits of more than \$400 million. The revenues generated from Jay's entrepreneurial spirit have funded a new city hall, fire department and recreation complex.

In spite of its brisk development, Jay remains steadfast in its roots, distinctive in its identity, and carries on all that America cherishes about its small towns. Much like my nearby hometown of Chumuckla, these 700 residents live in a place where life centers on church, work and family. It is a place where the people are loving, friendly and neighbors help neighbors in times of need.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to congratulate the people of Jay, Florida on their centennial and wish them the best as they continue to move and prosper through the 21st century.