

Bernice was born on April 19, 1924, and subsequently moved to Gary, IN from Alabama in 1944 with her loving husband, Webster Mounia. After moving to Gary, IN, Bernice and Webster were blessed with the births of their 10 wonderful children. Her children, as well as people whose lives are touched by Bernice, admire her for devoting unselfish love, time, dedication, guidance, and spirit to her family, church, and friends.

As we'll as being dearly loved and respected by her family and community, Bernice was also well known for her ingenuity and prudence. Bernice currently resides in the same house at 2700 Jefferson Street that she and her husband built 48 years ago. She displayed ingenuity in constructing insulation out of dryer lint to plug cracks around windows and doors. Along with her many other accomplishments in her community, Bernice was also a pioneer in the practice of recycling. Due to her resourcefulness, Bernice invented ways in recycling aluminum, bread bags, cloths, jars, food, soap, wax paper, and cans of grease that were left over from her gourmet cooking.

Gourmet cooking on a frugal budget was definitely one of Bernice's fortes. Bernice made sure no one in her family went without a first class meal to eat. As well as providing the best meals available for her children, Bernice also wanted the best upbringing for her children. By providing unwavering guidance to her children, she instilled in them the morals and fortitude that have molded her children into successful adults who are raising families of their own.

Mr. Speaker, Bernice Mounia has given her time and efforts selflessly to the people of Northwest Indiana throughout her long and illustrious life. She has taught every member of her family and extended family the true meaning of service to all people in the community. I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating Mrs. Bernice Mounia for her outstanding contributions to Indiana's First Congressional District. I am proud to commend Bernice for her lifetime of service and dedication.

**GAY AND LESBIAN ACTIVISTS ALLIANCE OF WASHINGTON, DC,
33RD ANNIVERSARY RECEPTION
HONORING DISTINGUISHED
SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS**

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2004

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a Washington, DC institution that has been in the forefront of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered civil rights movement, and that I have the distinct honor and pleasure of representing in this body: the Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance of Washington, D.C. (GLAA), the oldest continuously active gay and lesbian rights organization in the United States.

Since its founding in April 1971, GLAA has been a respected and persistent advocate in District politics tirelessly asserting equal rights and social equality for lesbians and gay men living in the city through peaceful participation in the political process.

GLAA has long fought to improve relations among the District's gay, lesbian, bisexual,

and transgendered communities and the D.C. Government. GLAA has taken the lead in advocating better training for the D.C. Metropolitan Police Department and Fire and Emergency Medical Service employees. GLAA persuaded the D.C. Public Schools to implement and enforce an effective, antiharassment policy established to protect all students. GLAA advocated effective public health strategies in the fight against AIDS. GLAA fought to insure that treatments and medicine are available to those in need and that the District's spending on HIV/AIDS services be both open and transparent.

GLAA also has long been at the forefront of the efforts to strengthen enforcement of the D.C. Human Rights Act of 1977 by demanding all antidiscrimination policy statements in the D.C. Government reflect the full range of classes protected by that law.

On April 20, GLAA held its 33rd Anniversary Reception honoring the 2004 recipients of its Distinguished Service Awards: Sarah Kellogg, Deacon MacCubbin, The Mautner Project, Cheryl Spector, and Nadine Chandler Wilburn.

Sarah Kellogg is a director of D.C.'s Reel Affirmations film festival and a member of the board of its parent organization, One In Ten.

For 35 years Deacon MacCubbin has been a model community activist and business leader. He created the first D.C. Gay Pride celebration, the gay switchboard, the first D.C. gay youth support group, and his bookstore, Lambda Rising, serves as a de facto community center.

Since its founding in 1990, the Mautner Project has been the only national organization dedicated to lesbians with cancer, their partners and caregivers. Its mission is to improve the health and well-being of lesbians and their families by: delivering services and support to lesbians with cancer, their families and caregivers; educating lesbians about important health issues; educating healthcare providers about the needs and concerns of their lesbian clients; and promoting lesbian health through research, advocacy, and activism.

For over two decades Cheryl Spector has been a community activist. She has documented gay and lesbian life in Washington with her still and video photography.

Nadine Chandler Wilburn who performed excellent service to the LGBT community while she was interim director of the D.C. Office of Human Rights from 2002–2003.

GLAA's thirty-three year fight to secure equal rights for the LGBT citizens of Washington, D.C. is more poignant as United States Citizens living in our nation's capital, who have fought in every American war, including the present war in Iraq, are taxed without representation. Furthermore, GLAA's open and forthright advocacy for rights reminds us that LGBT soldiers, who have sworn to protect our country with their lives, must serve in silence, without the open support of their chosen families and communities, neither asking nor telling.

I ask the House to join me in congratulating the Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance and its honorees.

**HONORING MT. MORRIS HALL OF
HONOR 2004 AWARDEES**

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2004

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today on behalf of the Mt. Morris community to pay tribute to the 2004 Mt. Morris Hall of Honor inductees. The inductees, Linda Fishell, Jim Corbin, Fredrick Shannon, and Judy Neaves will be inducted into the hall on April 29, 2004, during a lavish dinner and ceremony to be held at the Masonic Temple in Mt. Morris, MI.

The Mt. Morris Hall of Honor was established in 1991. The honor is bestowed upon individuals, both residents and nonresidents who have made significant, long-term contributions to enhancing the quality of life in the Mt. Morris area. Since its creation, the community has inducted 31 individuals into the hall.

Hall of Honor inductee Linda Fishell is committed to the children of Mt. Morris. She has been a volunteer with the Girl Scouts of America for 20 years, and is currently serving as neighborhood treasurer and registrar. Linda is also a volunteer for the Tiger Cubs and Boy Scouts. She has been volunteering at the Mt. Morris High School for approximately 12 years.

Hall of Honor inductee Jim Corbin although no longer a resident of Mt. Morris still finds time to Give back to the community. He does so by donating his D.J. services to Mt. Morris local events, including the 125th August festival. Jim has been a Mt. Morris volunteer for 15 years. Hall of Honor inductee Fredrick J. Shannon has been a Mt. Morris area volunteer for 30 years. He donates his time and resources at the scene of accidents, fires and natural disasters by video taping, and photographing the efforts of rescue workers for documentation and training purposes. Hall of Honor inductee Judy Neaves is a dedicated member of the Mt. Morris Lioness club. She is active on both the local and district level. Aside from placing numerous volunteer hours within her own chapter, she also volunteers with the men's Lions Club by participating in their eye saving events. Judy has also volunteered with the Senior Winter Olympic for 12 years, Genesee County Fair for 10 years, and Crossroad Village.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today and ask my colleagues in the 108th Congress to join me in recognizing these outstanding citizens for their compassion and commitment to the community of Mt. Morris, MI.

HONORING RONALD E. STEARN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2004

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ronald E. Stearn on the occasion of celebrating 40 years of dedication and service to the city of Sonora as a council member. He was sworn into office on April 21, 1964. An event will be held in his honor on April 19 in Sonora, California.