

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING NAPA VALLEY
GRAPEGROWERS

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2005

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Napa Valley Grapegrowers organization as it celebrates its 30th anniversary.

The Napa grapegrowers, or NVG as they are commonly referred to, started in 1975 as a group of 7 local farmers and now boasts over 400 members. Since that time the NVG has worked passionately with one goal in mind: to serve and protect the grapegrowers of the Napa Valley. The members of the NVG are dedicated, hard working individuals who care very deeply about the Napa Valley and the communities in which they live and work. They truly understand what it is that makes the Napa Valley so unique and special.

Mr. Speaker, the NVG has contributed to numerous efforts across the Napa valley and beyond, providing a powerful voice for grapegrowers in Sacramento and Washington, DC. In 1976, just one year after its foundation, the NVG played a crucial role in writing the rules that brought about the recognition of truly unique grapegrowing regions through the creation of the American Viticultural Area designation. As a result, these standards have enhanced the quality and reputation of Napa Valley Wines.

When not fighting for grapegrowers' rights, the NVG is busy on the home front conducting monthly forums, seminars, and outreach programs in order to educate the public on wine related issues. The NVG has always believed that educating its membership and the public is the best way to grow and protect their wonderful industry.

Most recently, the NVG has been an integral part of the Federal, State and local partnership that is fighting to stop the spread of the Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter and Pierce's Disease. If it is not contained, Pierce's Disease, which is spread by the Sharpshooter, could threaten the life-blood of the Napa Valley's economy and California's \$45 billion a year wine industry.

Mr. Speaker, under the leadership of many outstanding individuals, the NVG has become a vital part of our local community. As a life long resident of the Napa Valley, I understand the many challenges of being a successful grapegrower and a responsible steward of our land. I speak for grapegrowers and citizens throughout the Napa Valley when I say that we are truly grateful to have the NVG looking out for our best interest. It is certainly appropriate that we take this time to recognize and honor the success of the Napa Valley Grapegrowers as they celebrate 30 years of service to the community.

REGARDING THE RECENT RUNNING OF THE HONOLULU MARATHON AND GREAT ALOHA RUN BY OUR BRAVE SOLDIERS IN AFGHANISTAN

HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2005

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to provide some good news out of Afghanistan.

On December 11, 2004, members of the 2nd Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment of the United States Army organized and completed an Afghanistan adjunct to the Honolulu Marathon in the Tarin Kowt area of the country. Subsequently, on January 30, 2005, the 25th Infantry Division (Light) Headquarters Company personnel organized the running of Honolulu's Great Aloha Run in-country.

Both races were resounding successes. On February 15, 2005, I wrote to the President to ensure that he was aware that these events had occurred. I am including a copy of my letter to follow these remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that you and our colleagues are as impressed as me that members of our Armed Forces were able to organize and conduct such multi-faceted events, given the perilous security situation throughout most of the country and these soldiers' many other duties. I urge all other members to join me in lauding these troops for their accomplishments and spirit.

WASHINGTON, DC, February 15, 2005.

The Hon. GEORGE W. BUSH,
President of the United States of America, The White House, Washington, DC

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: This is to ensure your awareness of two recent events in Hawaii and Afghanistan that I am sure you will agree represent the best of our country.

As you know, my Hawaii is ideally suited and dedicated to physical fitness. It is also home to a larger component of our country's armed forces, over 10,000 of whom are now serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Two major events on Hawaii's outdoor calendar are the Honolulu Marathon, reportedly the third largest marathon event worldwide, and the Great Aloha Run, an event attracting thousands of residents and visitors. This year, the organizers of both events teamed with our military to recognize our troops serving overseas, many of whom participate in these and other events when they are home in Hawaii, in organizing and conducting these events in Afghanistan as well. Specifically, on December 11, 2004, Honolulu Marathon day, members of the 2nd Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment, USA organized and completed the Honolulu Marathon—Afghanistan in the Tarin Kowt area of the country. And on January 30, 2005, Great Aloha Run day, the 25th Infantry Division (Light) Headquarters Company personnel organized the running of the Great Aloha Run—Afghanistan.

All 153 participants in the Honolulu Marathon—Afghanistan were treated like every finisher of the Marathon: each received the same medals, certificates and tee-shirts. An

official timing system was flown in and the finishing times were placed on the Marathon's website along with all other finishers from the race in Honolulu. I would like to highlight the reaction of the winner of the Marathon, First Lieutenant Mike Baskin; he burst into tears as he remembered his four fellow soldiers who had recently been killed.

While only military personnel ran in each race, those who ran in the Great Aloha Run—Afghanistan endured sub-freezing temperatures and, more importantly, raised money for local Afghan charities, including an orphanage in downtown Khowst. Because of its shorter distance, the race was conducted in four separate locations throughout the country, including Bagram Airfield and Forward Operating Base Salerno.

I wanted you not only to know of these heartwarming efforts, but also have the opportunity to provide whatever recognition you may wish to the organizers of both events in both Hawaii and Afghanistan and, more important, to our great troops, who demonstrated the finest spirit of our armed services under difficult circumstances. Mahalo nui loa!

With Aloha,

ED CASE,
*U.S. Congressman,
Hawaii's, Second District.*

IN RECOGNITION OF STAFF
SERGEANT EUGENE WELSH

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2005

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Eugene Welsh. During World War II, Eugene Welsh served for 19 months in the Asia-Pacific Theater with the U.S. Army's 19th Infantry Regiment. In one single battle, he rose from the rank of private to staff sergeant and went on to fight in four more major combat actions. As a squad leader, he directed 12 men in combat. During his service, he received numerous wounds and each time was patched up and returned to duty.

Staff Sergeant Welsh's commitment to the United States Army and his fellow soldiers is truly commendable. Among the awards he received are the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star and the Combat Infantry Badge. His actions during the Second World War exemplify the spirit of the infantry soldier go well beyond the call of duty and deserve nothing less than the highest recognition and honors.

Helping ease the burden of combat was a friend back home, Bettye Cavazos. The two wrote to each other as often as possible. Following the war, on June 14, 1946 the two were married and settled in Ceres, California where they raised two sons, Michael and Ronald. Ronald is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Welsh have eight grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

After the war, Mr. Welsh committed his life to his family and community. He was the owner of Ceres Body Shop and Towing for many years. During the 1950s he served as

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

the commander of the American Legion's Ceres Post and was the Boys State chairman numerous times.

Among his recognitions and honors are Ceres Citizen of the Year, Rotarian of the Year and Stanislaus County Senior of the Year for the 5th District.

Mr. Speaker, it is among the finest traditions and honors to rise today and recognize Mr. Welsh. His commitment to our nation, our community and his family sets an example we all should seek to follow. I wish he and his family all the best.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARY
MARANGOS AND THE
PANCYPRIAN ASSOCIATION'S
WOMEN'S ISSUES NETWORK

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2005

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the achievements of the Pancyprian Association's Women's Issues Network (WIN) on the occasion of its annual Woman of the Year Award dinner dance. WIN's 2005 honoree, Dr. Mary Marangos, is a longtime community leader and dedicated public servant.

WIN was founded in 1996 to serve the Cyprian-American community, promote the Hellenic Cypriot culture and provide opportunities for future generations of Cyprian women. The organization sponsors health lectures, health fairs, cultural events and breast and cervical cancer screening for women with no health insurance. Additionally, WIN has worked against the Turkish occupation of Cyprus since 1974.

This year, WIN is honoring the noted community leader and civic activist, Mary Marangos. Dr. Marangos has served the people of the New York's 14th Congressional District with distinction, providing a critical link between the residents of western Queens and their representation in the United States Congress. She has worked to gain access for New Yorkers to constituent services and educational and cultural programs in those communities. Active in numerous causes and community organizations, Dr. Marangos has devoted herself to the Women's Issues Network and other organizations that promote and protect the Hellenic culture.

Dr. Marangos is a recent retiree of the N.Y.C. Public School System where she has served as an educator, administrator and coordinator in vocational and alternative high schools; additionally, Dr. Marangos served as a coordinator of the G.E.D. program of the Vocational Training Center at LaGuardia Airport. Dr. Marangos also coordinated an AIDS Prevention Program on the high school level, training teachers on AIDS prevention instruction, organizing conferences and workshops on the epidemic and promoting staff development on the elementary level.

A graduate of the City's public school system, Dr. Marangos earned an Associate Degree in dental hygiene from Brooklyn Community College and a Bachelor of Science degree in dental hygiene/education from the New York State Education Department. Dr. Marangos went on to earn a Masters Degree in high school administration and supervision

from Fordham University and a Ph.D. from Florida State University in International-Intercultural Developmental Education under a U.S. Department of Education full fellowship.

The loving and devoted daughter of Pantelis Marangos from Kalavassos, Cyprus and Despina Kyriacou, descendant from Lesvos, Greece and Cyprus, Dr. Marangos was steadfast in her devotion to her parents.

Dr. Marangos truly exemplifies the tradition of community involvement that makes America the greatest nation in the world. On behalf of the residents of the Fourteenth Congressional District of New York, I would like to extend to Dr. Marangos, the Pancyprian Association and the Women's Issues Network my continuing respect, admiration and support.

Mr. Speaker, I request that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to this wonderful organization and its 2005 Woman of the Year, Dr. Mary Marangos.

EXPRESSING CONCERN WITH THE
CUTS IN THE PROPOSED BUDGET
OF THE SMALL BUSINESS AD-
MINISTRATION

HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2005

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my continued disappointment with the proposed budget for the Small Business Administration. The budget request for fiscal year 2006 is \$593 million, nearly \$100 million below what was requested last year, representing a ten percent decline in program funding. These funding cuts are coming from some of the most important programs within the SBA, including the 7(a) loan program, Disaster Loan Program, and the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs (PRIME).

Mr. Speaker, I hope that as this House considers the budget resolution, we can remember the important service that the SBA provides to all of our constituents. To remind my colleagues of the importance of the SBA, I have included an article that appeared in the March 16, 2005 edition of the Honolulu Advertiser. Entitled "SBA Faces Budget Cuts," this article highlights several individuals in my home state whose businesses would not have survived without the timely assistance of the SBA.

[From the Honolulu Advertiser, Mar. 1, 2005]

SBA FACES BUDGET CUTS

(By Catherine E. Toth)

If Pablo Gonzalez didn't get \$30,000 worth of government-backed loans over the past five years, he would have had to shut down his juice bar.

Fortunately, the U.S. Small Business Administration provided guarantees for two loans—one in 2000, another in 2002—that allowed Gonzalez to expand his business.

Since then sales at Lanikai Juice Co. have increased nearly 15 percent every year, Gonzalez said. He hopes to open a second location sometime soon.

"As a small business, your chances to survive are more difficult," said Gonzalez, who moved to Hawai'i eight years ago from Barcelona, Spain. "You have to live with higher prices and less profit. . . . If it weren't for SBA, honestly, I don't think I'd still be here."

Nearly 20 million small businesses nationwide have benefited from technical assist-

ance, loans and grant programs offered by the SBA. Its current business loan portfolio of about 219,000 loans worth more than \$45 billion makes it the largest single financial backer of U.S. businesses in the nation.

But the agency may find it harder to carry out its mission next year if Congress approves proposed cuts to its fiscal 2006 budget.

The proposed budget for SBA is \$593 million, a 13 percent decline from the agency's 2005 request and a 36 percent drop over the past five years.

More than 50 small-business programs, including those in Hawai'i, are slated for cuts or elimination in the proposed budget, up from 35 last year.

Among those slated for elimination are the agency's Microloan program, its startup loan program for low-income entrepreneurs, and the SBIC Participating Securities program, its flagship venture capital program.

(As in fiscal 2005, the 7(a) loan guarantee program—the agency's primary business lending program—will not be subsidized. Instead of taxpayer funds, it will be sustained entirely on an increase in fees by lenders and borrowers.)

This doesn't bode well for entrepreneurs who can't get conventional loans, especially with the Hawai'i Community Loan Fund, a lender of last resort, filing for bankruptcy last month.

"(The Microloan program) is very worthwhile because you're helping people who couldn't get a start," said Dr. Tin Myaing Thein, executive director of the Pacific Gateway Center, which administers SBA's microloans. "This is for people who don't have a chance with the bank, who would have no chance at all to start their own business. We have so many success stories here."

Abracadabra Cabinets at Campbell Industrial Park fell into a slump after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11. Owner Joanne Gibeault needed some extra cash to keep her business going.

But she couldn't get a loan or a line of credit from her bank. So she turned to SBA.

Through the agency's Community Express loan program, which offers microloans to small-business owners, Gibeault got \$15,000 last year to pay bills and grow her business.

Since then the business has grown nearly 50 percent, she said. Her biggest problem now is finding experienced cabinet-makers to hire.

"We had a hard time recovering after 9/11, like everybody did, but it took a little longer for us to catch up," said Gibeault, who lives in Makakilo. "We struggled for a while. . . . The loan was just enough to get us over and keep the business going."

Gibeault started her custom cabinet company 10 years ago in Kailua. A journeyman cabinet maker, Gibeault had no experience operating a business. She took classes and attended seminars offered by the Hawai'i Women's Business Center.

Funding for these centers also is slated for cuts in the proposed budget.

"I can build stuff," Gibeault said. "But I didn't know how to run a business when I started. These programs are definitely needed."

As with the Women's Business Centers, funding for the agency's Small Business Development Centers may be cut or, at the least, remain flat, despite a request to increase its funding to \$109 million from \$88 million the year prior, said SBDC state director Darryl Mleynek.

The Hawai'i SBDC receives \$500,000 from the federal government and \$638,000 from the state annually. That amount hasn't changed for more than five years.

This year the Hawai'i SBDC requested another \$584,000 in funding from the state to help with growing operating costs. Expenses

have increased about 17 percent over the past four years, Mleynek said.

“What we do is extremely important,” Mleynek said. “Working with small businesses offers state governments the fastest opportunity for creating sustainable economic development. And the reason is because small businesses are such a large part of our economy and when they get assistance, they increase their sales rapidly, they hire new people, and all of that comes back very quickly.”

While his program competes with others, in particular social programs, for funding from the state, Mleynek is confident that lawmakers will realize the value of investing in small business to the overall health and growth of the economy. And he’s hoping for extra money in light of potential cuts to federal funding for the center.

“I believe the Legislature understands the value of putting money into our program, but money these last few years has been very tight,” Mleynek said. “To put money into one program and not another, those are very difficult choices. . . . But I’m cautiously optimistic.”

RECOGNIZING HANS-PETER KLEIN OF UKIAH, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2005

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Hans-Peter Klein for his nearly three decades of distinguished public service as Counsel for Mendocino County in California. Peter’s devotion and service have left a lasting impression on Mendocino County.

Born in Germany, Peter immigrated with his parents to the United States at the age of four. He received his Bachelors Degree from the University of California before he was drafted into the United States Army during the Vietnam War. Upon his military discharge, Peter enrolled in an evening law school program. At the time, he worked for the Port of San Francisco and volunteered with Marin County Legal Aid. He received the Demetrius Sepatsis Award for Academic Excellence upon graduation.

Peter joined the Mendocino County Counsel’s office in 1978, one month after its creation. In 1983, he was appointed as Mendocino’s County Counsel, a position in which he has served with dedication and distinction for the past 22 years. Peter also served on the Board of Directors for the California State County Counsel Association, where he has been a long time member of the Association’s Ethics Committee. The Association is dedicated to the maintenance of the highest professional standards in the practice of governmental law and service to the public.

After so many years of serving others, I know that Peter is looking forward to spending more time with his wife Toni, and their three grown children.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate that we recognize Hans-Peter Klein for his commitment and dedication to his profession and for his service to the people of Mendocino County and his country.

THE DEATH OF POPE JOHN PAUL II

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2005

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I join my fellow Catholics and all citizens of the world in mourning the passing of Pope John Paul II. Though he is no longer with us, his extraordinary influence and tremendous contributions to the fight against tyranny and oppression will live on.

Pope John Paul II was the 263rd successor to Saint Peter, and was elected on October 16, 1978. He was the youngest Pope in 132 years at age 58. He was also the first Polish Pope and the first non-Italian Pope in 450 years. He was seen as active and charismatic, and could often be found on the ski slopes of Europe.

Throughout his papacy, Pope John Paul II worked tirelessly on behalf of human rights and the dignity of all mankind. In contrast with the Vatican’s preoccupation with Europe, he was the most traveled Pope in history and involved the Church in world issues.

He visited Africa more than a dozen times, yet refused to visit South Africa until it had ended its apartheid system. He sought to end religious and ethnic violence in Sudan and Rwanda. In Latin America, John Paul pressured Chile’s General Augusto Pinochet to hold free elections and helped defuse a dispute between Argentina and Peru. He also visited Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, the Philippines, Haiti, North America, and Scandinavia, among other destinations.

Pope John Paul II is widely credited with helping depose Eastern European communism. He helped inspire the worker rebellions and the Solidarity movement in his native Poland soon after he was elected. Twenty million Poles greeted the Pope during his nine day homecoming, an exceptional show of discontent with the one-party dictatorship that ruled the country.

He also insisted that the Catholic Church confront its past misdeeds, including the Inquisition in the 15th century. In 1999, he ordered the Vatican to issue an “act of repentance” for the church’s failure to prevent Nazi genocide against Jews in World War II and acknowledged centuries of preaching contempt for Jews. The pope expanded upon this in March 2000, when he asked forgiveness for many of his church’s past sins, including its treatment of Jews, heretics, women and native peoples. While John Paul believed in the infallibility of the church, he recognized that its servants are human and sometimes stray from the teachings of Jesus.

Along with John Paul’s involvement in human rights, I have been moved and personally strengthened by his active engagement in papal duties in spite of the development of Parkinson’s disease. He did not shrink from activity or the public eye though his body began to shake and become unsteady. In fact, it became part of his mission: to show the world the value of each life, even in those who are suffering from physical pain and the aging process.

The world is now coming to grips with the passing of Pope John Paul II. We are comforted that his teachings live on as he moves

to his final resting place. May he rest in peace.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF HIS HOLINESS POPE JOHN PAUL II AND EXPRESSING PROFOUND SORROW ON HIS DEATH

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the loss of a great spiritual and moral leader for the world. Throughout his lifetime, he experienced Fascism, Communism and rampant materialism. He never lost sight of his own values and beliefs and lived his life as an example that all of us regardless of faith could look to.

The earthly light of this Pope has been lost but his eternal light will shine forever. The millions of pilgrims flowing into St. Peter’s Square reflect the genuine warmth and respect this man of God had throughout the world. He spoke for the poor, the homeless, the infirmed, the oppressed and everyone listened. His message of caring and love certainly played a major role in many of the changes we have seen across the global map. Walls came down and individual freedom arose from rubble.

To me it was especially noteworthy to watch the Pope reach out to the youth of the world and how warmly they returned his affection. Their bond will long be remembered.

In life Pope John Paul II showed us how to live and in death, showed how to die. He has returned to his Lord and Savior having earned the reward of “Welcome home my good and faithful servant.” We have been blessed by his presence on earth and his legacy will be a strength for generations to come.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE COLLEGIATE HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE ACT OF 2005

HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2005

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I am today introducing legislation, along with my colleague Congressman BEN CARDIN, that would allow charitable and educational organizations to make grants to fraternities, sororities, and other collegiate organizations to provide housing and student facilities to the same extent that tax-exempt colleges and universities may provide such facilities for students. We introduced this legislation in the 108th Congress and it enjoyed wide bipartisan support.

By way of background, taxpayers may generally deduct contributions to nonprofit educational organizations (i.e., educational organizations described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (“Code”)) such as colleges or universities. These colleges and universities may expend their funds (including donated funds) on student facilities such as dormitories, dining halls, study areas, libraries,

computers, laundry facilities, physical fitness facilities, and social or recreational areas without jeopardizing their tax-exempt status.

State and private colleges and universities do not, and cannot, provide all of the housing and related student facilities necessary for their student bodies. Collegiate organizations such as fraternities, sororities, and other student associations (e.g., Muslim Students Association, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and Hillel) fill a large part of the collegiate housing gap. Fraternities and sororities alone provide housing for more than 250,000 students each year. These student associations take on significant financial burdens in order to provide student housing without cost to affiliated colleges and universities.

Fraternities, sororities, and student associations provide collegiate housing through tax-exempt organizations, but their exemption comes under Code section 501(c)(7), with the result that direct contributions to these organizations are not deductible. However, educational organizations established to benefit these fraternities, sororities, and other student associations may qualify under Code section 501(c)(3) to receive deductible contributions.

The current IRS position is that it will not give a tax-exemption ruling to these educational organizations unless they limit student facility grants to those that are solely for educational use (with exceptions for minor social or recreational use). According to this IRS position, a fraternity foundation, for example, may make grants to a fraternity for the construction (or for annual operating expenses) in a fraternity house of a library, study area, computer area, or instructional area. The fraternity foundation may also make grants for computers, computer desks, and chairs, if similar to what is provided by the specific college with which the fraternity is associated, and for Internet wiring, if the specific college also provides Internet wiring. However, the IRS says that fraternity foundations may not make student facility grants for the construction or operation of sleeping quarters, dining areas, laundry facilities, or dedicated social or recreational areas (such as physical fitness facilities or equipment), or hallways or rooms used for both educational and other purposes.

Under the current IRS position, a charitable organization could not make a grant to a section 501(c)(7) collegiate housing organization (or to an affiliated section 501(c)(2) or (c)(7) organization) to provide fire safety upgrades unless those upgrades were limited to areas that are solely for educational use. However, fire safety upgrades will not provide necessary protection unless they are made throughout an entire building. It has been estimated that just the cost of installing sprinklers in fraternity and sorority housing is over \$300 million nationwide.

There is no policy reason for distinguishing between the types of student facilities that may be provided by a tax-exempt college and those that may be provided by another tax-exempt charitable or educational organization to a collegiate organization for the benefit of individuals who are full-time college students. The current IRS position, which we believe is an incorrect interpretation of the law, puts collegiate organizations at a significant disadvantage in obtaining the funds necessary to provide or maintain housing and infrastructure, including the funds necessary to provide fire safety upgrades.

I believe that clarifying that tax-exempt charitable or educational organizations may make collegiate housing and infrastructure grants will encourage private sector contributions to address student housing needs, thus relieving a burden that would otherwise fall on financially strapped colleges and universities. Accordingly, this bill provides that charitable and educational organizations may make grants to collegiate housing organizations (including affiliate organizations holding title to property) for the construction or operation of collegiate housing and infrastructure facilities that are of the type tax-exempt colleges are permitted to provide for their students, including, but not limited to, sleeping quarters, fire safety equipment and upgrades, dining areas, social and recreational areas, study areas, libraries, and computers and related furniture and wiring.

I urge our colleagues to support this important legislation.

HONORING KOREAN WAR VETERAN
HAROLD ARENDT, JR.

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2005

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to honor Mr. Harold Arendt, Jr., Korean War veteran and Oregon resident. While in service, Harold Arendt sustained an injury inflicted by enemy forces. Now, 54 years later, it is my pleasure to award the actual Purple Heart medal for one of Oregon's treasured veterans. On Friday, April 8, 2005 Harold Arendt will be presented with this prestigious honor in recognition of his service to our nation during the Korean War. Though his injury has stayed with him throughout the years, he has been without this well-deserved recognition far too long. Today, we honor the extraordinary service of this courageous individual and recognize him and his family for their sacrifices. I am also very honored to congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Harold and Karen Arendt on their recent 50th wedding anniversary. On behalf of the Congress, I wish them our most sincere congratulations and best wishes.

HONORING PRIVATE FIRST CLASS
MICHAEL ARCIOLA

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2005

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Private First Class Michael Arciola who gave his life in service to our country in Ar Ramadi, Iraq.

Michael, a resident of Elmsford, New York, was the epitome of a dedicated citizen, knowing from the day he entered high school that he wanted to serve his country as a soldier in the U.S. Army. While Michael's initial plans included attending the United States Military Academy at West Point, his priorities shifted after the terrorist attacks of September 11th. Michael instead entered the U.S. Army deferred entry program in the summer of 2002, where he received Army training during his senior year of high school, allowing him to immediately enlist upon graduation.

Less than two weeks after graduation, Michael left for Basic Training at Fort Benning, Georgia. After weeks of training, Michael emerged as a full-fledged infantryman and reported to his first unit, A Company, 1st Battalion, 503rd Parachute Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, based in South Korea.

In July of 2004, Michael and his unit were deployed to Iraq as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. On February 15th of this year, Michael died of injuries sustained from enemy forces using small arms fire.

Michael was a true patriot who paid the ultimate price for loyalty to his country. All Americans are truly fortunate to have had a person of Michael's caliber working to defend our nation and keep it safe, strong, and secure.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Private First Class Michael Arciola along with all of our nations' other fallen heroes.

MOURNING THE LOSS OF POPE
JOHN PAUL II

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2005

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, like many of my colleagues, I mourn the loss of Pope John Paul II.

However, I thank God for blessing us with the gift of such an incredible world leader. He was a wonderful moral and political leader for Catholics and non-Catholics alike, and I know he will be dearly missed by millions of Americans and billions of others around the world. He was a man of great faith and conviction, and his legacy as a servant to the Lord is sure to carry on for many years to come.

I consider him a personal role model for his courage in the face of adversity, his unwavering devotion to his beliefs and values, and his piety in everyday life.

I stand here today in support of House Resolution 190, honoring the life and achievements of His Holiness, Pope John Paul II. No one person has touched as many lives as he, and no one has been more loved. May he rest in peace with his Lord and Savior, and may we continue to be inspired by his grace and humility.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2005

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, March 17, I missed rollcall votes Nos. 82-89. Had I been present on this date, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes Nos. 83, 84, 88 and 89. I would have voted "no" on rollcall votes Nos. 82, 85, 86 and 87. On this date, I delivered a eulogy at the funeral of my friend, Alamance County Commissioner Worthy B. "Junior" Teague.

Additionally, on Sunday, March 21, I missed rollcall vote No. 90. Had I been present on this date, I would have voted "aye," but I was traveling on official business with International Relations Committee Chairman HYDE in Mexico

and Panama. As chairman of the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security, I met with numerous government officials to discuss efforts to combat drug trafficking, prevent global terrorism, and to promote fair trade.

Finally, on Tuesday, April 5, I missed rollcall votes Nos. 91–93. Had I been present on this date, I would have voted “aye” on each of these votes. My mother, Mrs. Johnnie Holt Coble, died on April 2, 2005, and funeral services were conducted on April 5, 2005.

TRIBUTE TO COMMISSIONER DR.
BARBARA CAREY-SHULER: A
TRUE PUBLIC SERVANT

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2005

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to one of the most dedicated public servants I have had the pleasure of working with, Miami-Dade County Commissioner Dr. Barbara Carey-Shuler.

Dr. Carey-Shuler has served in many capacities—as a teacher, counselor, adminis-

trator, university professor, assistant superintendent for Dade County Public Schools, and most importantly, “a leader of community leaders.” In October 2002, Dr. Carey-Shuler made history when she was selected by her peers as the first African-American woman to serve as Chairperson of Miami-Dade County Board of Commissioners—a position in which she served with distinction.

Throughout her elected service, which dates back to her appointment to the County Commission in 1979, Dr. Carey-Shuler has truly been a groundbreaking elected official. She introduced and led the effort to pass the set-aside law and affirmative action policy in Miami-Dade County, the latter of which was argued all the way to the Supreme Court. Both policies were enormously successful in producing more jobs and more business opportunities for minorities and women.

Among her many triumphs, Commissioner Carey-Shuler created the infill housing ordinance to provide clean-title lots to non-profits for the construction of low-income housing; initiated the “No More Stray Bullets” campaign to educate New Year’s Eve revelers of the dangers of shooting weapons as part of the celebration; and established the Youth Crime Task Force which provides funding for new

prevention and intervention programs to benefit at-risk youth.

During her 30-year career of service to this community, Dr. Barbara Carey-Shuler has been recognized for her outstanding service. She has received major appointments to boards, committees and task forces by U.S. presidents and state governors. She has also received hundreds of honors and recognition for her service and contributions.

Most recently she has been honored by the International Committee of Artists for Peace, a coalition supporting the United Nations International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, and by the Dean of the Martin Luther King, Jr. International Chapel at Morehouse College in Atlanta for her work in promoting peace and non-violence. Her district includes much of the City of Miami, including the communities of Liberty City, Little Haiti, Overtown, the Upper East Side, Allapattah and Wynwood, as well as Miami Shores.

Dr. Carey-Shuler has made and continues to make significant contributions to the growth and dynamism of South Florida, and I take great pride in acknowledging and thanking her for all that she has meant to our community.