

of peace based on mutual respect and moderation. She willingly—and often—opens her home to promote peace in the Mideast. I've joined her personal peace process, and I can affirm that Jeri's involvement is a shining example of personal commitment and heroism.

Jeri's involvement in good and noble causes is well known and highly regarded in Seattle. Jeri is a founding member of the University of Washington Center for Women and Democracy. She is a strong advocate and community leader in many organizations, including: United Way; University of Washington Academic Medical Center; Harborview Medical Center; and, PONCHO. She serves on the board of the Cornish College of the Arts, and since 2000, Jeri has been involved with Steven Spielberg's Shoah Foundation. She is also a member of the International Women's Forum.

Jeri is a person of deep personal conviction and strong family bonds. Without hesitation she proudly proclaims her mother as her heroine. When asked who inspires her, Jeri quickly names her son. As to the world leader she most admires, Jeri names Anwar Sadat.

It is, therefore, worth recalling a passage from the historic speech that Egyptian President Anwar Sadat delivered to the Knesset on November 20, 1977: "I have come to you so that together we should build a durable peace based on justice to avoid the shedding of one single drop of blood by both sides. It is for this reason that I have proclaimed my readiness to go to the farthest corner of the earth."

I ask every American to join me in congratulating Jeri Rice on the honor the Israel Policy Forum will bestow upon her. Her unwavering optimism reminds me of the affirmation contained in the Book of Ecclesiastes, "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven."

This is the time for peace in Israel and throughout the Mideast. People like Jeri Rice will do everything possible to make it so. We honor them. We thank them.

HONORING BRANDON HOBON

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service and commitment of Mr. Brandon Hobon. Mr. Hobon has established himself as a leader and true patriot to the community of Denton, Texas.

Mr. Hobon was recently recognized by the Denton Police Department as "Volunteer Officer of the Year." After serving in the police department for 11 years, Hobon has received one of the department's most prestigious honors.

After graduating from college with a pre-law degree, Hobon turned down a bright future as a lawyer to better serve and protect his community. After graduation, Brandon Hobon entered the police academy where he finished second in his class, and earned advanced certifications and credentials in crime prevention, hazardous material response and terrorism training. In addition to serving and protecting our citizens, Mr. Hobon dedicates considerable amount of time mentoring young school children, and visiting and assisting in senior citizen programs.

It is with great honor that I stand here today to recognize an individual who has dedicated his life to protecting and assisting others. It is with the service and commitment of men such as Brandon Hobon that ensure the continuing protection and prominence of our communities and nation.

RECOGNIZING PROFESSOR MAUREEN STANTON, RECIPIENT OF THE 2005 UC DAVIS PRIZE FOR UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING AND SCHOLARLY ACHIEVEMENT

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2005

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Maureen Stanton, Professor of Ecology and Evolution at the University of California, Davis as the 2005 recipient of the UC Davis Prize for Undergraduate Teaching and Scholarly Achievement. The prestigious \$30,000 prize, funded by the UC Davis Foundation, is believed to be the largest award of its kind in the nation. The winner is selected on the recommendation of faculty members, students and research peers.

Professor Stanton has made significant contributions throughout her years of University service. She served as the dynamic and extraordinarily productive director of the Center for Population Biology from 1993 to 1998. She frequently advises National Science Foundation panels and has been a National Council member of the Society for the Study of Evolution. She is also the Vice President of the American Society of Naturalists and an elected member of the California Academy of Sciences.

Dr. Stanton began her research of the interactions between plants and insects as a sophomore at Stanford University. At Harvard University she earned her Ph.D. in five years. Dr. Stanton then accepted a position at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia, but missing the discovery of science, she soon relocated to Yale University for post-doctoral research. Her findings on the underappreciated importance of male characteristics in flowers lifted her into the top ranks of evolutionary ecologists.

In 1982 she joined the UC Davis faculty as an assistant professor of botany. At 28 she was younger than many of her doctoral students. In her teaching role she continually reshapes course curricula to provoke inquiry. She once stated, "I want to build critical thinking skills. That means I have to teach students to question pre-conceived ideas, to ask 'How confident are we of what we think we know?'"

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize Professor Stanton and her passion for scholarly achievement, university service and undergraduate teaching.

HONORING DR. WADE W. NOBLES & THE INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCED STUDY OF BLACK FAMILY LIFE AND CULTURE, INC.

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2005

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and achievements of Dr. Wade W. Nobles of Oakland California, and the organization he founded, The Institute for the Advanced Study of Black Family Life and Culture, Inc. This month our community comes together to celebrate the Institute's 25th anniversary, and to recognize the groundbreaking work of its founder.

Dr. Nobles is a prominent theoretical scientist in the field of African Psychology and is one of the leading researchers in the area of Black family life and culture. He holds a Ph.D. from Stanford University, and has a special interest in the social, ethnic and cultural relativity of social science, research and evaluation models.

Dr. Nobles is a full-time, tenured professor in the Department of Black Studies in the School of Ethnic Studies at San Francisco State University. He is also the founder and director of the Center for Applied Cultural Studies and Educational Achievement (CACSEA), a California State University System educational research center dedicated to studying and developing models of culturally consistent educational methods.

In 1980 Dr. Nobles founded the Institute for the Advanced Study of Black Family Life and Culture, Inc. to address overarching issues of human development and transformation, while simultaneously developing and implementing educational and informational systems. As the Institute's Executive Director, Dr. Nobles has written and conducted over 67 funded, community-based research, training and development projects, including the HAWK Manhood Development and Transformation Rites of Passage Training Centers Program, which has over 15 sites throughout the U.S.

Dr. Nobles' work is widely known and respected, and in recognition of this he has been invited to serve on a number of advisory groups for the California state and federal governments. He has served as a delegate to the White House Conference on Families, and was also a member of the President's Commission on Mental Health. Furthermore, Dr. Nobles was appointed to serve on the California State Commission on the Status of African-American Males, a commission I created and presided over as a member of the California State Assembly in the mid-1990s.

Also contributing to the success and innovations of the Institute are Dr. Nobles' various professional and international affiliations. He was a founding member of the Association of Black Psychologists, an organization in which he has served as President and received numerous awards, such as Distinguished Psychologist of the Year. Furthermore, in the course of his research he has traveled widely, particularly in Africa. In 1996 he received the high honor of being bestowed as the Nkwashene of Akwasihoh-Kwahu Region of Ghana in West Africa, where he works very closely with the Akwasihoh people on development issues.

On June 3, 4 & 5, 2005, we join together to celebrate the life and accomplishments of Dr. Nobles, as well as the impact his work and the work of the Institute have had on our society and institutions of higher learning. Structuring our education and socialization systems in a way that acknowledges the cultural background of the students that are to benefit from them is crucial to the intellectual and social development of our young people. Dr. Nobles' research, teachings and programs have truly revolutionized the way that education and development are now approached, and have made productive and happy lives possible for countless students who would not otherwise have had that opportunity. On behalf of the 9th Congressional District, I salute and thank Dr. Wade W. Nobles for his service to the Bay Area, the State of California, our country and the world.

TRIBUTE TO EARL PHILLIPS

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2005

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to honor an extraordinary public servant, Earl Phillips, as he says farewell to the Peace Corps and embarks on a new life journey. Mr. Phillips has diligently served as the Country Director for the United States Peace Corps for the Eastern Caribbean for 6 years. However, his lifetime achievements do not stop there.

Ranging from community revitalization to capacity building, Mr. Phillips' incredible generosity has touched many lives. As his wife, 5 children and 7 grandchildren can attest, he has dedicated his life to the betterment of others. So much so, that even after raising his children, he and his wife Victoria decided to join the Peace Corps and served as volunteers in Ghana, West Africa from 1996–1998. While at that post, Mr. Phillips played a significant role in the planning of President Bill Clinton and the First Lady's trip to Ghana—the first leg on their historic tour of the African continent.

He also has incredible ties not only to the great State of New Jersey but also my Congressional District. As a resident of Newark, he excelled as an athlete at South Side High School. After attending Howard University and serving in the military, he returned to our hometown where in 1970, he became President of the Urban League. From 1972–1973, he served as the Director of the High Impact Anti-Crime Commission. During his tenure, he designed and supervised a national program that reduced street crime by 20%. Upon leaving the anti-crime commission, he worked, for 5 years, as the Director of the Redevelopment and Housing Authority (RHA), also in Newark. He later went on to serve as the Executive Director of 4 additional housing authorities in large metropolitan cities.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in honoring Mr. Earl Phillips, as he leaves the United States Peace Corps, and in expressing appreciation to him and his wonderful wife Victoria for their service to our Nation. During his time in the Peace Corps, he served as an out-

standing spokesman and goodwill ambassador for his country. Beyond the Peace Corps, his life achievements speak volumes about his generosity and dedication to a cause bigger than himself. I am proud to have him as a dear friend and wish him never-ending success in his future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING ALIYA ROBIN DERI'S EXCEPTIONAL SHOWING IN THE SCRIPPS NATIONAL SPELLING BEE

HON. RICHARD W. POMBO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2005

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Aliya Robin Deri's exceptional showing in the Scripps National Spelling Bee. The sharpest young minds in America gathered to compete in this contest with 278 students competing in the 78th annual spelling bee. Overcoming a litany of complex vocabulary, Aliya tied for second place after 18 rounds of careful spelling and concentration. A resident of Pleasanton, California, Aliya is a champion of many skills. She plays violin, viola, and piano and is a member of two orchestras. She also swims competitively and also enjoys diving, Indian dance, and Tai Chi. While most contestants in the spelling bee were from the United States and its territories, fourteen were foreign students from Canada, Bahamas, Jamaica and New Zealand. Aliya misspelled "trouvaile," meaning windfall, in the 18th round, but I want her to know that our windfall is to have such a gifted and talented individual in California's 11th Congressional District.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the outstanding efforts of this bright and gifted young woman. I would also like to include the following article for the record.

[From the Associated Press, June 2, 2005.]

KASHYAP SPOelled "APPOGGIATURA" RIGHT TO WIN

WASHINGTON.—Bursting into tears, eighth-grader Anurag Kashyap of California became the U.S. spelling champ Thursday, beating 272 other spellers in a tough two days of competition. He said he felt "just pure happiness."

Anurag, 13, of Poway clinched "appoggiatura," a melodic tone, to take home some \$30,000 in prizes. He won in the 19th round of the 78th Annual National Scripps Spelling Bee.

Anurag, a straight-A middle-school student whose favorite subject is science, tied for 47th in last year's spelling bee. That experience "helped me to know what I should study to . . . like, win this thing," he said afterward, repeatedly hiding his face behind his cardboard number.

Tied for second place were 11-year-old Samir Patel, who is home-schooled in Colleyville, Texas, and Aliya Deri, 13, a Pleasanton, California student.

Aliya was tripped up in the 18th round by "trouvaile," meaning windfall. Just after, Samir fell to "Roscian," meaning skilled in acting. Two years ago, when Samir tied for third place, bee winner Sai Gunturi predicted that he would be a force to be reckoned with in future contests.

When the sixth round ended in the early afternoon of the second day, only 27 spellers remained, including a half dozen home-schoolers. Home-schooled students have won twice before, in 1997 and 2000.

After the 14th round, only three spellers still stood—Anurag, Aliya and Samir.

During the day, Anurag whizzed through relatively easy words such as prosciutto, an Italian dry-cured ham, and more difficult ones like hodiernal, meaning "of this day."

Needing only one more correct spelling to win, he began methodically, going faster and faster as he finished the long word: "A-P-P-O-G-G-I-A-T-U-R-A." He covered his face and rushed to hug his father.

Most of the contestants at the bee's start were from the United States and its territories, but 14 were foreign students. There were 11 from Canada and one each from the Bahamas, Jamaica and New Zealand.

It was in the fourth round Wednesday that Dominic Errazo got a word he could relate to, "emetic," which means inducing one to vomit.

"It sounds like the nervousness I get up here," said the seventh-grader from Goose Creek, SC. He spelled it correctly.

Each speller wins at least \$50. The first-place winner gets \$28,000 in cash, scholarships and bonds, plus books from Encyclopedia Britannica. That's about \$10,000 more than in previous years.

The contest is administered by E.W. Scripps Co. The youngsters all won local contests sponsored by newspapers.

CELEBRATING THE MARRIAGE OF JOHN ROTHROCK AND GLYNDAL BRITT MOSES

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2005

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with heartfelt joy that I rise today to offer my best wishes for the recent marriage of John Rothrock and Britt Moses.

For the last 6 years, John Rothrock has served loyally and faithfully as my Chief of Staff. In this capacity, I have witnessed firsthand the depth of John's love for Britt and the strength of his commitment to her. It has been my great fortune to personally observe the warm affection and special bond they share.

Last Saturday, June 4, 2005, John and Britt took their vows, expressing their mutual devotion and love for each other. I was extremely proud to join their friends and family in celebrating this special day.

Marriage is a wonderful institution and I am confident that the union of John and Britt will be another lasting testament to the sanctity of marriage. As they start their new life together, I trust John and Britt will be a blessing to one another, partners in all aspects of life, and forever mindful of the love they feel today.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the 109th Congress to join me in congratulating Mr. and Mrs. Rothrock on their recent union and in wishing this couple a lifetime of happiness together.