

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mrs. MALONEY Mr. Speaker, on September 8, 2005, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall votes numbered 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, and 464. Rollcall vote 458 was on ordering the Previous Question for a bill providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules. Rollcall vote 459 was on agreeing to the Resolution providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules. Rollcall vote 460 was on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 3673, a bill to further Emergency Supplemental Appropriations, Hurricane Katrina, 2005. Rollcall vote 461 was on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 3669, a bill to temporarily increase the borrowing authority of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for carrying out the national flood insurance program. Rollcall vote 462 was on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 3668, a bill to provide the Secretary of Education with waiver authority for students who are eligible for Federal student grant assistance who are adversely affected by a major disaster. Rollcall vote 463 was on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 428, a bill expressing the sincere gratitude of the House of Representatives to the foreign individuals, organizations, and governments that have offered material assistance and other forms of support to those who have been affected by Hurricane Katrina. Rollcall vote 464 was on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 427, a bill relating to the terrorist attacks against the United States on September 11, 2001.

Had I been present I would have voted "nay" on rollcall votes 458 and 459 and "yea" on rollcall votes 460, 461, 462, 463, and 464.

#### HONORING MR. HYMAN BOOKBINDER: INDEFATIGABLE BATTLE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

#### HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mrs. CAPPS. I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Hyman Bookbinder, one of our nation's leading advocates for human rights and equality.

The terrible stories and photographs coming out of Louisiana and Mississippi remind us that, among other things, there still is a race divide in America. This is not to say that the response to the disaster was dictated by racial considerations. But it is to say that sadly no accident that the segment of the population that bore much of the brunt of the suffering was predominantly poor and black.

At the same time, we can say with some pride that our country has made significant

progress toward a more just society. It's far from enough but giant strides have been made, particularly in the area of social equality.

An article in Sunday's Washington Post reminded us that these advances did not just happen. They happened because heroes among us made them happen. I have attached a copy of the article for my colleagues.

The article tells the story about the successful 1960 effort to integrate Glen Echo Park, an amusement park in Montgomery County, Maryland, just outside the District line. Glen Echo was a fabulous place of swimming pools, dance halls, carousels, a roller coaster and other summer time amusements. It was so popular that a DC trolley from the Capitol Hill area—and neighborhoods east—was constantly full with kids heading northwest and up MacArthur Boulevard to this delightful recreation spot.

But not African American kids. They were allowed on the trolleys but banned from the park. And the ban was enforced by the Montgomery County police.

In 1960, a group of courageous Howard University students—Dion Diamond, Michael Proctor, and Gwendolyn Britt (now a Maryland state senator)—decided to test the race policy by riding the merry-go-round. They were abused and kicked out.

So they turned to ask for help from the prosperous white Bannockburn community living near the park. And, almost immediately, a movement erupted. Hyman Bookbinder, an AFL-CIO official, and long-time lobbyist for civil rights and Jewish causes, used his organizing and public relations skills to force the owners of Glen Echo Park to back down. Bookie, as everyone calls him, was later an aide to Presidents Kennedy and Johnson. Esther Delaplaine organized the mothers and Ida Leivick, a teacher at the local school, worked with her colleagues. Finally the Supreme Court stepped in and forced Glen Echo either to open up or shut down.

The Howard/Bannockburn coalition had prevailed.

This past Saturday, the people who made it happen gathered at Glen Echo to commemorate a moment in time when all things seemed possible in America.

They still are. We just need more people who are willing to stick their necks out the way these Howard University students and suburbanites did in 1960.

I particularly want to salute Hyman Bookbinder. He is now 89 and over the past sixty-five years, he has been at the forefront of the struggle for human rights, not just down the street in Montgomery County but throughout the world. I've been in the House of Representatives for eight years but I have heard about Bookie's years as a civil rights lobbyist when he was known as the 101st Senator. When people were suffering, he was here fighting, pushing, and cajoling to make things better.

He has helped change this country.

To put it simply, we need more people like Bookie. Thankfully he is still here, always

fighting the good fight and living the Biblical injunction: "Justice, justice, you shall pursue."

[From washingtonpost.com, Sept. 11, 2005]

MARKING A PARK'S SOCIAL REVOLUTION

(by Ann E. Marimow)

The last time Dion Diamond walked through the gates of Glen Echo Amusement Park, he was ushered out after two minutes. The last time Michael Proctor tried to ride the merry-go-round there, he was arrested.

That was in 1960, when blacks were not allowed to swim in the park's famed Crystal Pool, with its slide and fountain, and also could not ride on the roller coaster.

On Saturday, the two civil rights activists returned for the first time to mark the anniversary of the picket lines that led to the desegregation of the park and ultimately to a U.S. Supreme Court case.

"I was never in here for more than a couple minutes," said Diamond, 64, laughing and shaking his head in disbelief as he looked out at the same carousel, with its ornate woodcarved horses and cheerful organ music.

Even though the park's private owners quietly opened the gates to all in 1961, Proctor had never returned.

"I told my kids about it," the Hughesville doctor said. "But way down deep, there were some negative feelings."

The effort to integrate Glen Echo Park, in the summer of 1960, came after the first sit-ins at segregated lunch counters in North Carolina and during student protests throughout the region.

But Glen Echo Park was notable because of the support the protesters, black Howard University students, received from white residents of the nearby Bannockburn neighborhood, some of whom were experienced labor leaders. They walked side by side for five weeks that summer—and they came together again yesterday.

Browsing a collage of black-and-white photos and yellowed newspaper clippings, they recalled some of the most dramatic moments when Proctor and four other members of the D.C. Non-Violent Action Group were arrested for refusing to get off the merry-go-round.

In 1964, the Supreme Court ruled that the Montgomery County deputies had improperly enforced private segregation.

Outside the park gates in 1960, the students brought a sense of fearlessness and enthusiasm. Stay-at-home mothers from Bannockburn were the reliable foot soldiers on the picket line, and the labor leaders brought political connections and organizing strategies.

Esther Delaplaine, who lived five blocks from the park, mobilized fellow mothers. She recalled the intense pain and frustration of the time. "We could ride the merry-go-round, but [black students] got arrested," said Delaplaine, 81.

Her daughter Rocky led yesterday's gathering of 300 people in an emotional rendition of "O Freedom," a song that was sung on the picket line.

Hyman Bookbinder, then an AFL-CIO lobbyist for civil rights, was joined yesterday by his daughter and granddaughter. "The movement wasn't only for us old-timers. It was for our families," said Bookbinder, 89. "This event is a reminder."

For some involved in the sit-ins and picket lines, it was too painful to return. Those who attended said it was as if they were transported in time.

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