

COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN CONVENTION TO BE HELD OCTOBER 7 TO 9 IN DETROIT

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, the Council of Khalistan will be holding its annual convention in Detroit next month. It will be held from October 7 through October 9. This is a very appropriate date because Khalistan declared its independence from India on October 7, 1987 and the Council of Khalistan was formed at that time to lead the struggle to liberate Khalistan, a struggle that continues to this day, 18 years later.

It is outrageous that this struggle has had to go on so long, but the Council of Khalistan has been tireless in keeping it going and keeping the flame of freedom for the Sikh nation burning. I salute them on their convention and I wish them success both with their convention and with their efforts to bring freedom to the Sikh people.

It is time for India to get out of Khalistan and allow the people there to live in freedom. Until then, Mr. Speaker, we should stop our aid and trade with India and demand self-determination for the people of Khalistan, for the Kashmiris, as India promised in 1948, for the people of Nagaland, and for all the people and nations of South Asia. That is the only way to bring peace and stability to that troubled region.

IN MEMORY OF RONALD HYATT

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember former Marine Ronald Hyatt, of Calera, Alabama for serving our country in Iraq.

Hyatt was based in southern Iraq as a security contractor for Triple Canopy and worked with the Bureau of Diplomatic Security. He was killed Wednesday, September 7th when a bomb went off in the lead vehicle of a motorcade escort from the airport to the U.S. Embassy in Basra.

In my recent visit to Iraq, Hyatt was a member of the detail that protected my mission. His group watched over the delegation as we traveled into dangerous territory. I was fortunate enough to have met him and honored to have him protect our unit. He was courageous, thoughtful and a true American. Today, I would like to recognize and celebrate his life.

He will be remembered as a family man, a former Marine, a reserve, and to those who knew him, just one of those guys you never forget. Please keep his wife, Robin, and their four small children in your thoughts.

It was my honor to have met Ronald Hyatt. I extend my deepest sympathies to his family and friends. He will be deeply missed and his service was greatly appreciated.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF JUDGE ANDREW BOYKO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Judge Andrew Boyko, dedicated husband, father and grandfather, friend and mentor, and WWII Navy Veteran. Judge Boyko's professional career as Municipal Judge, law director and assistant prosecutor in the City of Parma, reflects a legacy of grace and excellence that extended from the courtroom to the community.

Judge Boyko's unwavering work ethic and sense of service to others characterized who he was and how he lived his life. He grew up in Cleveland, graduated from West Tech High School in 1941, and served as a Navy Corpsman during WWII. After the war, he graduated from John Carroll University and in 1955, Judge Boyko earned a law degree from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law.

In the early 1960's, he settled in Parma with his family, where he served as an assistant prosecutor until 1963, when he was elected to the post of law director. Judge Boyko's political ingenuity shone through when he orchestrated a bid for the post of law director for the City of Parma through a write-in campaign, successfully clinching the Democratic Party's nomination. He served as law director until 1987, when he was appointed to the municipal bench, where he served until his retirement in 1993. Although his professional achievements were significant, family and community were a consistent priority in Judge Boyko's life. He was an active member of numerous civic organizations, including the Elks Club, American Legion Post 572, Municipal Judges Association and the Citizens League, and he served on the Board of the Parma Savings Association. Judge Boyko embraced his heritage through his involvement at St. Andrew Ukrainian Catholic Church, where he headed the Ukrainian Youth League.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Judge Andrew Boyko. His commitment to his family and to his community defined his life, and he will be greatly missed by those who knew and loved him well. I extend my deepest condolences to his wife of 55 years, Eve; to his sons, Chris, Tim, Greg and Jeff; to his ten grandchildren; to his brothers, Michael and Nicholas; and to his extended family members and many friends. Judge Boyko's life was lived with joy, energy and in service to others. His unyielding integrity and faith in our legal system will continue on as a guiding force of truth, fairness and justice for all.

A TRIBUTE TO THE CAREER OF JUDGE EDWARD THOMAS SMITHERMAN, JR.

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2005

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Judge Edward Thomas Smitherman, Jr. to Hot Springs, Ar-

kansas and congratulate him on his retirement.

For more than 16 years, Judge Smitherman served on the bench of the 18th Judicial Circuit-East, both as a circuit and chancery judge. He served with distinction as the circuit's first administrative judge, a member of the Ad Hoc Committee on Uniform Reporting of Case Information, and as chairman of the Board of Certified Court Reporter Examiners. Judge Smitherman has also given back to the Hot Springs community by serving on several civic boards including the Hot Springs Optimist Club, the Area Council of Aging, the Boys Club, the Salvation Army and the Hot Springs School Board.

I wish Judge Smitherman the best of luck and success in future endeavors and safe travels in his retirement.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3132, CHILDREN'S SAFETY ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2005

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of H.R. 3132, the Children's Safety Act of 2005. I can think of few offenses more horrifying than sexually assaulting or abusing a child. Children are among our society's most vulnerable and it's up to us, the adults, to protect them.

We have all heard the tragic stories about young children being kidnaped, assaulted, and too often murdered by sexual offenders who in some cases have been living in the same neighborhoods as these kids. Tragically, many of these offenders have committed multiple crimes against children. According to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, more than 500,000 sex offenders are registered in the United States and as many as 100,000 sex offenders cannot be located by law enforcement. Statistics from the Bureau of Justice show that child molesters who are released from prison are more likely to be rearrested for child molestation than other sex and non-sex offenders. Approximately 3.3 percent of 4,300 released child molesters in 1994 were rearrested for another sex crime against a child within 3 years. For those who had more than one prior arrest for child molestation, 7.3 percent were likely to be rearrested for the same crime. And 24 percent of released offenders were reconvicted for a new offense, encompassing all types of crimes.

The legislation before us today would accomplish several critical objectives including requiring sex offenders to register more often and for longer periods of time, providing the public with access to more information on sex offenders, creating new penalties, and requiring DNA to be used to identify and prosecute sex offenders. However, I do share the concerns expressed by some of my colleagues regarding the limitations contained in the bill regarding the review of habeas corpus petitions by Federal courts.

I would like to thank Ranking Member CONYERS for offering an amendment today that is based on legislation that I have introduced, H.R. 1193, the "Hate Crime Statistics Improvement Act," which would require the Attorney General to collect data about gender-

based hate crimes. With accurate data, local communities can identify gender-based hate crimes in their area and chart their progress toward eliminating them. Moreover, the inclusion of gender will send a strong message that gender-based hate crimes will not be tolerated. It is my understanding that Chairman SENSENBRENNER will accept this amendment, and I thank him as well.

We must be diligent in our efforts to protect children from those individuals who would steal their innocence, or worse, take their lives. I am hopeful that this legislation will enhance the efforts already in place so that parents and communities can take the necessary steps to ensure that their children will be safe.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF
ROBERT L. LEWIS, FOUNDER OF
CUYAHOGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Robert L. Lewis, beloved husband, father, friend and United States Veteran. Mr. Lewis leaves behind a brilliant legacy that reflects his personal passions and professional accomplishments as admired attorney, educator, author and long-time activist on behalf of the performing arts and educational opportunity for all.

Mr. Lewis was born and raised in New York. As a young boy, he performed song, dance and comedy routines with his family on the vaudeville circuit. His formal education in public school did not begin until age 12. Extremely bright, Mr. Lewis quickly ascended through the grade levels. He graduated from high school at age 15 and enrolled in college at age 16. Following his service in the army in Europe during World War II, Mr. Lewis studied law at Western Reserve University in Cleveland and graduated in 1948 with a law degree.

Mr. Lewis joined the law firm of Ulmer, Berne, Laronge, Glickman and Curtis and retired in 1996 after 46 years of outstanding work with the firm. He worked as a professor at Case Western Reserve University's Mandel Center for Nonprofit Organizations, and also taught corporate and contract law courses at what was then Cleveland Marshall Law School.

Throughout his adult life, Mr. Lewis maintained an unwavering focus on raising the lives of others into the light of possibility and achievement. He volunteered his time as past president of the Association of Governing Boards of Colleges and Universities; board member with PACE (Program for Action by Citizens in Education), and served on the board of the Fairmount Center for the Creative and Performing Arts.

His passion and belief that higher education should be affordable for everyone manifested itself in 1963 with the establishment of Cuyahoga Community College (CCC), an institution that continues to be a significant source of educational and career opportunities for thousands of students each year. Mr. Lewis served on the CCC Board of Trustees for 18 years and Chairman of the Board for 4 years. He also served as CCC's "resident scholar," and

taught courses in Greek mythology and drama.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor, remembrance and gratitude to Mr. Robert L. Lewis, whose life was defined by his steadfast commitment to his family, his significant contribution to our community and his boundless energy in promoting the performing arts and securing educational opportunities for everyone. I offer my condolences to his wife of 42 years, Joanne; his daughters, Pavia and Clea; his sons, Paul, David and Brian; his nine grandchildren and his extended family members and many friends.

The kindness, vision, energy and personal and professional excellence that flowed from the gracious life of Mr. Lewis will continue to serve as a fountain of learning and strength for the students and educators at Cuyahoga Community College, and his legacy will continue to raise our entire community into the light of hope, possibility and opportunity for all.

RETIREMENT OF VICTOR A.
MODEER

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2005

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Vic Modeer upon his retirement from the Illinois Department of Transportation, IDOT. For the past 20 years, Vic Modeer has served with utmost distinction at the IDOT.

After graduating from the Louisiana State University and receiving a masters in civil engineering from Purdue University, Vic worked in the private sector for a contractor and consultants prior to his employment at IDOT. Once at IDOT, he worked his way up from various positions within the Division of Highways to eventually become the director of Highways and chief engineer. IDOT's Division of Highways is a vast organization with over 5,000 employees, a \$490 million operating budget, and a \$4.5 billion construction budget.

While serving as the district engineer and as director of Highways, Vic was instrumental in overseeing many important highway projects in my congressional district and across the entire State of Illinois. As director of Highways, he helped lead IDOT to be the first State department of transportation in the Nation to meet and become certified under the process and quality management standards of the International Organization of Standardization, ISO 9001:2000. This is indicative of the dedication Vic and his staff have shown for professionalism, product quality, public accountability, and customer satisfaction.

Vic met the challenges of budget constraints and significant staff reductions during his tenure as director with a typical can-do attitude. He reorganized the division, improved communications, engineered process efficiencies to make up for lost work force, and employed innovative management and training methods to maintain productivity and continue delivering the highway program as promised, with no reduction in service, despite the loss of nearly 20 percent of his staff to early retirement and other attrition between 2002 and 2005.

Mr. Modeer's participation in numerous professional organizations, including the AASHTO

Standing Committee on Highways and the Task Force with Transportation Security, his service as a Navy veteran from Desert Storm serving in Saudi Arabia with the Seabees as an officer in the U.S. Navy Civil Engineer Corps, his long list of publicized articles regarding geotechnical engineering as well as teaching numerous engineering classes at Louisiana State University and Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville exemplify the strength of his leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in offering congratulations and gratitude for his long and successful career at the IDOT. Vic Modeer's meritorious service to Illinois and to our country will have a lasting legacy not only in steel and concrete, but his true legacy will be with the people who served with him and the lives he has helped and touched. I wish him well and hope he continues to achieve happiness, health and success in his future endeavors.

IN LASTING MEMORY OF JOHN H.
JOHNSON

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2005

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and legacy of John H. Johnson. Born in 1918 in Arkansas City, AR, Mr. Johnson passed away on August 8 at the age of 87. Mr. Johnson has set an example for us all by being both an entrepreneur and a philanthropist. I would like to recognize Mr. Johnson's lifetime of contributions to Arkansas and our Nation.

Mr. Johnson began his distinguished career in 1942 as editor and publisher of Negro Digest. Just 3 years later, he began publishing Ebony Magazine, one of the most influential African-American magazines in the world, with a \$500 loan. Mr. Johnson later became the founder, publisher, and chairman of Johnson Publishing Company, the world's largest African-American owned publishing company.

In 1982, Mr. Johnson was the first African-American to be named on the Forbes list of the 400 wealthiest Americans. Mr. Johnson's long list of awards and achievements include: the Black Journalists' Lifetime Achievement Award in 1987, the Wall Street Journal/Dow Jones Entrepreneurial Excellence Award in 1993, the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1996—the highest honor this Nation gives to a citizen, the Arkansas Business Hall of Fame Award in 2001, the Vanguard Award in 2002, and the Trumpet Award in 2002.

Arkansas City and the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff have worked together to create the John H. Johnson Cultural and Education Museum. On May 21 of this year, this museum was dedicated in Desha County, AR. The museum captures Mr. Johnson's life by restoring his boyhood home and includes period memorabilia, printed material, and video chronicles. I know it was a tremendous honor for Mr. Johnson to return to his home and see the great tribute dedicated in his honor.

I am deeply saddened by Mr. Johnson's death. His dedication, entrepreneurial spirit, and legacy will continue in Arkansas for the years and decades ahead. My heartfelt condolences go to his wife, Eunice, and their daughter, Linda Johnson Rice, and their granddaughter, Alexa Rice.