

A Vietnam veteran, Donald Woods served in the United States Navy from 1962–1967. As a young Lieutenant, he was a pilot of anti-submarine aircraft aboard the USS *Bennington* aircraft carrier. From 1967–1982 he flew with Braniff Airlines as a flight engineer and pilot.

In 1989, he became a Certified Public Accountant. From 1990–1992, he served as an investigator with Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, FDIC. In 1992, he transferred to the Department of Justice, United States Attorney's Office, in Austin, Texas, as an auditor for bank fraud cases.

During the late 1980s, Austin was the site of numerous failures of federally insured banks and savings and loans. Donald Woods was actively involved in the investigation and prosecution of the owners, directors, and officers of these financial institutions. He utilized his accounting skills to investigate and later testify to financial statements and transactions used to defraud federally insured financial institutions and their investors.

Over the course of his career, Donald Woods has demonstrated his commitment to the American justice system and to maintaining the integrity of our financial institutions. Today I would like to recognize his outstanding service to the legal profession and his dedication to the people of Texas and the United States of America.

HONORING ADVENTURES IN
MURPHY'S BURROW

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2005

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the outstanding work of Nancy Phillips and all of the other talented individuals who help to create Adventures in Murphy's Burrow, a children's television show that airs on Murfreesboro, Tennessee's local cable station.

Children, parents and all residents of Murfreesboro can benefit from the educational content provided on Adventures in Murphy's Burrow. The show introduces children, as well as adults, to community leaders and government figures. In addition, children take an active part in the show by submitting questions to the show's featured guest.

I commend each and every individual who has worked to make Adventures in Murphy's Burrow successful. Nancy creates, writes, and produces the show. She is assisted by co-producer Steve Burris and Alan Bozeman, director of the Channel 3 cable station. Wayne White designed the show's star puppet, Murphy. Linda Gilbert was instrumental in involving the Murfreesboro City School System in the program, and Marilyn Mathis works to promote the program within the school system and community.

I thank them all for their wonderful service to the community, and I wish them continued success as they create new adventures for Murphy and the children of Murfreesboro.

HONORING LULA TAYLOR FOR
HER YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE
CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY LEGISLA-
TIVE DISTRICT 11

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lula Taylor, a resident of Chautauqua County for her service to the eleventh legislative district in the Chautauqua County Legislature. Ms. Taylor has had the opportunity to serve not only as a strong member of the legislature but to her community as a strong community activist.

The campaign trail is a difficult path to take. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Ms. Taylor traveled that path with her head held high and a smile on her face the entire way. I have no doubt that her kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the voters of district 11.

Lula is one of those people that leave a huge impact on her community. For many years her efforts to better Chautauqua County have left a lasting impression not only on the county itself but in its residents. Her face, voice, opinions and successes were a staple in the legislature. Our county and our residents are better for the undying work Ms. Taylor did during her tenure.

A true testimony to Ms. Taylor can be found in many areas of the county and in many people whose lives she touched. One doesn't have to look far to see what a strong work ethic can do.

Lula is one woman who never stops working for the things she believes in. She serves on the County Human Service Committee, Chautauqua County Board of Health, Chautauqua County Health Network Inc. Advisory Board, Office for the Aging Advisory Board, County Home Advisory Board, Safe House Committee, and is an AIDS Awareness Advocate. Her community activism is a true testament to her love of Chautauqua County.

Chautauqua County is blessed to have such strong individuals with a desire to make this county the wonderful place that we all know it can be. Ms. Taylor is one of those people and that is why Mr. Speaker I rise to honor her today.

RACISM OF INDIAN FOUNDER
EXPOSED

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, the unveiling of a statue of Mohandas K. Gandhi in Johannesburg, South Africa, set off a discussion about the anti-black racism of the founder of India.

When the eight-foot high Gandhi statue was unveiled, portraying him as a young human-rights lawyer, many leaders attacked Gandhi's anti-black statements. "Gandhi had no love for Africans," said one letter in *The Citizen*, a South African newspaper. "To him, Africans were no better than the 'Untouchables' of India."

As you may know, Mr. Speaker, the dark-skinned aborigines of the subcontinent, known

as Dalits or "Untouchables," occupy the lowest rung on the ladder of India's rigid and racist caste system. The caste system exists to protect the privileged position of the Brahmins, the top caste. Although it was officially banned by India's constitution in 1950, it is still strictly practiced in Hindu India.

Others have pointed out that Gandhi ignored the suffering of black people during the colonial occupation of South Africa. When he was arrested and forced to share a cell with black prisoners, he wrote that they were "only one degree removed from the animal." In other words, Mr. Speaker, he described blacks as less than human. We condemn anyone who says this in our country, such as the Ku Klux Klan and others, as we should. Why is Gandhi venerated for such statements?

In addition, G.B. Singh, a Gandhi biographer, has looked through many pictures of him and never seen one single black person. Gandhi also attacked white Europeans.

Gandhi is honored as the founder of India. These statements and attitudes reveal the racist underpinning behind the secular, democratic façade of India. It explains a worldview that permits a Dalit constable to be stoned to death for entering the temple on a rainy day, that allows the murders of over 300,000 Christians in Nagaland, over 250,000 Sikhs in Punjab, Khalistan, over 90,000 Muslims in Kashmir, tens of thousands of Christians and Muslims elsewhere in the country, including Graham Staines and his two young sons, and tens of thousands of Assamese, Bodos, Dalits, Manipuris, Tamils, and other minorities. It explains why the pro-Fascist, Hindu militant RSS is a powerful organization in India, in control of one of its two major political parties.

India must abandon its racist attitudes and its exploitation of minorities. It must allow the enjoyment of full human rights by everyone. Until it does so, we should stop our aid and trade with India. Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, the essence of democracy is the right to self-determination. India must allow self-determination for Kashmir, as it promised the United Nations in 1948, in Punjab, Khalistan, in Nagaland, and wherever the people seek to free themselves from the boot of Indian oppression. We should put this Congress on record in support of self-determination for the people of the subcontinent in the form of a free and fair plebiscite on the question of independence. Khalistan declared its independence on October 7, 1987. The people have never been allowed to have a simple, democratic vote on the matter. Instead, India continues to oppress the people there with over half a million troops.

Mr. Speaker, reporter Rory Carroll of *The Guardian* wrote an excellent article on the controversy about the Gandhi statue. I would like to place it in the RECORD at this time.

[*The Guardian*, Friday Oct. 17, 2003]

GANDHI BRANDED RACIST AS JOHANNESBURG
HONOURS FREEDOM FIGHTER

(By Rory Carroll)

It was supposed to honour his resistance to racism in South Africa, but a new statue of Mahatma Gandhi in Johannesburg has triggered a row over his alleged contempt for black people. The 2.5 metre high (8ft) bronze statue depicting Gandhi as a dashing young human rights lawyer has been welcomed by Nelson Mandela, among others, for recognising the Indian who launched the fight against white minority rule at the turn of the last century.

But critics have attacked the gesture for overlooking racist statements attributed to Gandhi, which suggest he viewed black people as lazy savages who were barely human.

Newspapers continue to publish letters from indignant readers: "Gandhi had no love for Africans. To [him], Africans were no better than the 'Untouchables' of India," said a correspondent to *The Citizen*.

Others are harsher, claiming the civil rights icon "hated" black people and ignored their suffering at the hands of colonial masters while championing the cause of Indians.

Unveiled this month, the statue stands in Gandhi Square in central Johannesburg, not far from the office from which he worked during some of his 21 years in South Africa.

The British-trained barrister was supposed to have been on a brief visit in 1893 to represent an Indian company in a legal action, but he stayed to fight racist laws after a conductor kicked him off a train for sitting in a first-class compartment reserved for whites.

Outraged, he started defending Indians charged with failing to register for passes and other political offences, founded a newspaper, and formed South Africa's first organized political resistance movement. His tactics of mobilising people for passive resistance and mass protest inspired black people to organize and some historians credit Gandhi as the progenitor of the African National Congress, which formed in 1912, two years before he returned to India to fight British colonial rule.

However, the new statue has prompted bitter recollections about some of Gandhi's writings.

Forced to share a cell with black people, he wrote: "Many of the native prisoners are only one degree removed from the animal and often created rows and fought among themselves."

He was quoted at a meeting in Bombay in 1896 saying that Europeans sought to degrade Indians to the level of the "raw kaffir, whose occupation is hunting and whose sole ambition is to collect a certain number of cattle to buy a wife with, and then pass his life in indolence and nakedness".

The Johannesburg daily *This Day* said GB Singh, the author of a critical book about Gandhi, had sifted through photos of Gandhi in South Africa and found not one black person in his vicinity.

The Indian embassy in Pretoria declined to comment, as it prepared for President Thabo Mbeki's visit to India.

Khulekani Ntshangase, a spokesman for the ANC Youth League, defended Gandhi, saying the critics missed the bigger picture of his immense contribution to the liberation struggle.

Gandhi's offending comments were made early in his life when he was influenced by Indians working on the sugar plantations and did not get on with the black people of modern-day KwaZulu-Natal province, said Mr. Ntshangase.

"Later he got more enlightened."

KEARA SAMMONS OF SMOKEY HILL HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2005

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I would also like to applaud the accomplishment of Keara Sammons of Aurora, Colorado. Keara Sammons won the individual high school women's cross country State title. Keara was

assisted by her teammates—Lisa Allen, Jeanette Ames, Stephanie Boehm, Steven Bolger, Lindsey Dezman, Nick Donkoh, Grant Duin, Eiger Erickson, Stasia Erickson, Alexander Evans, Luke Fischer, Zachary Fuller, Jennifer Gamboa, Jeanna Hanna, Michael Harris, Corey Jefferson, Michael Kasberg, Sarah Lyle, Andrew Matz, Daniel Mickey, Brittany Nelson, Miriam Olin, Hollee Pentico, Kallie Powers, Stephen Reagan, Matthew Robida, John Sawvel, Matthew Schulz, Matthew Sewick, Erica Smith, Thomas Smith, Erin Stratton, Carter Turnbull, Lauren Vail, Jacob Varey, Casey Vockrodt, Chanel Williams, Teddi Wold, Aaron Wood, Megan Woodworth and Eric Young. Keara and these student-athletes were coached by Greg Weich, Brian Manley, Jeff Bliven and Amy Fox.

Keara continued the impressive streak of Buffalo women who have won 6 of the past 7 State individual women's cross country titles. Keara won by more than 20 seconds, however, her victory was not enough for the Smoky Hill Buffalo girls to win the team title, the first time in 4 years they have not won.

The Buffalos have trained intensively while maintaining a standard of academic excellence throughout the season. It is my pleasure to honor their championship, and to wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

HONORING SUZANNE GRIFFITH

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2005

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the achievements of Suzanne Griffith. For 21 years Suzanne has served with the Bartlett, Tennessee Chamber of Commerce. She has truly helped make our community a better place to live and work, and for that we can't thank her enough.

Suzanne began her career with the Chamber as the first full-time employee, and today she serves as its President. That sort of dedication is rare these days and we should all take a moment to mark the occasion.

During Suzanne's years at the Chamber she helped foster remarkable commercial development in Bartlett. What started as a rural community has become a thriving, economically diverse town that has given thousands of families a wonderful place to live and grow.

From 1984 to 2004, Tennessee recognized Bartlett as a "Three-Star" recipient for consistent strong economic growth, expansion, and capital improvements. Suzanne was instrumental in helping Bartlett achieve this record of achievement, and it's a credit to her work that today Bartlett has surpassed the requirements of the "Three-Star" program.

The Bartlett we know and love is in no small part due to Suzanne Griffith's work. We thank her for her vision, her hard work, and wish her well as she retires from the Bartlett Chamber of Commerce.

HONORING ANTHONY TERESI FOR HIS YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 13

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Anthony Teresi, a resident of Chautauqua County for his service to the thirteenth legislative district in the Chautauqua County Legislature. Mr. Teresi has had the opportunity to serve not only as a strong member of the legislature but as chairman to subcommittees within.

The campaign trail is a difficult path to take. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Mr. Teresi traveled that path with his head held high and a smile on his face the entire way. I have no doubt that his kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the voters of district 13.

Anthony is one of those people that leave a huge impact on his community. For many years his efforts to better Chautauqua County have left a lasting impression not only on the county itself but in its residents. His face, voice, opinions and successes were a staple in the legislature. Our county and our residents are better for the undying work Mr. Teresi did during his tenure.

A true testimony to Mr. Teresi can be found in many areas of the county and in many people whose lives he touched. One doesn't have to look far to see what a strong work ethic can do.

Chautauqua County is blessed to have such strong individuals with a desire to make this county the wonderful place that we all know it can be. Mr. Teresi is one of those people and that is why, Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor him today.

IN MEMORY OF GARFIELD W. THOMPSON

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the Honorable Garfield W. Thompson, 89, a former state representative, a labor leader, and a friend to the Fort Worth community. Mr. Thompson passed away on Wednesday, December 7, 2005.

Garfield W. Thompson was born June 29, 1916, in Grandview, Texas. His family made Fort Worth its home when he was a young boy. He was a 1934 graduate of historic I.M. Terrell High School. At the outbreak of World War II he enlisted in the U.S. Army where he bravely served and was honorably discharged. In 1942, he married Dorothy Ruth Williams.

He worked as a waiter for Texas and Pacific Railroad until retirement after 28 years. He then worked as a custodian at the Tarrant County courthouse. There, he served as the president of the Tarrant County Courthouse AFL-CIO union, and he was later elected regional representative of the Tarrant County Central Labor Council.

Mr. Thompson was elected to the Texas House in 1984 and served District 95 for 10