

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### TRIBUTE TO RUTH COLE DUSENBURY

#### HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ruth Cole Dusenbury whose life was a shining example of responsible citizenship. Born in Maryland in 1929, Ruth's busy life led her to Holyoke, Colorado in 1974 where she became part owner of Speer Cushion Company and was an active participant in numerous professional organizations and civic groups.

Ruth was an energetic advocate for small business concerns. From 1976–1987 Ruth served in the local Business and Professional Women's Organization in all offices as well as District Chairman. She served as State Legislative Chairman for 2 years and she attended 3 national conventions as well as 6 state conventions. She was a member of a delegation of businesspeople from throughout the United States to the Republic of China in 1986. Mrs. Dusenbury participated in the State Leadership Initiative sponsored by then Secretary of State Natalie Meyers.

In 1993, Ruth was a member of the State-house Conference on Small Business and, in 1995, she was elected as a delegate to the White House Conference on Small Business in Washington DC. Ruth was an active member of the National Federation of Independent Businesses, serving as a delegate to national meetings in 1996 and 1998.

Ruth also had a deep love of the arts. She was a board member of the Holyoke Community Arts Council for 30 years. She was a charter member of the Colorado Arts Consortium and participated in regional activities as well as at a national level with the National Association of Local Arts Agencies. Additionally, Ruth was President of the Colorado Arts Coalition for 2 years, an advocacy group for the arts.

The Republican Party also consumed a great deal of Ruth's time and energy. She was a campaign worker for Nixon/Agnew, Senator Hank Brown, Representative and Senator WAYNE ALLARD, Senator Ben Nighshore Campbell, Governor Bill Owens, and numerous state and local candidates. Ruth was the Republican chairman of Phillips County, Colorado and served as a delegate to the state conventions numerous years. She was an alternate to the Republican National Convention in 1984.

Ruth led by example and her enthusiastic community involvement demonstrated her passion for making a positive impact on the world around her. We have been saddened by the recent loss of this woman. She gave so much to her community and her state for so many years. Ruth Dusenbury was also well known as a loving wife and mother. She is leaving behind her loving husband Wally and two beautiful daughters.

### HONORING THE EDUCATORS HALL OF FAME

#### HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to my colleagues' attention an important event in my congressional district. On February 27, 2006, the African-American Chamber of Commerce in Lubbock, Texas, is holding the third annual induction ceremony for the Educators Hall of Fame. This unique event honors Lubbock's local educators and recognizes the essential role they play in the community.

This year, the Educators Hall of Fame will honor six teachers who, among other accomplishments, prepared students for leadership before and during the civil rights movement. These educators are unsung heroes who helped build a foundation during those turbulent times for the march toward full equality promised by our Constitution. For the first time, three non African-Americans will be honored for their commitment to help African-American youth during that time. This year's inductees into the Educators Hall of Fame are Dr. Sam Ayers, Ms. Lottie Barrow, Lubbock Independent School District Superintendent Wayne Havens, Ms. Nora Hutchinson, Ms. Rose Mediano, and Ms. Mae Phea.

The Lubbock African-American Chamber of Commerce should be commended for their initiative to recognize the important work done by education professionals. These educators are being honored because they believe that America can be made a better place through education. Their years of service have touched the lives of many and improved our community, State and country.

### CONGRATULATING J.H. ROSE HIGH SCHOOL'S 2005 VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM

#### HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, though it is now 2006, I want to take the opportunity to recognize a great success story from my district last year.

One great story of accomplishment from Eastern North Carolina in 2005 is an outstanding athletic achievement by the Rampants of Junius H. Rose High School in Greenville, North Carolina.

This past December, the Junius H. Rose High School varsity football team finished an undefeated season by claiming their third consecutive North Carolina High School Athletic Association 4–A state football title.

Rose High School is one of only four 4–A teams in North Carolina to win at least three

consecutive titles, with a total of four state titles.

I am very proud of the Rose High varsity football team's hard work and determination in establishing this winning tradition. Rose coach Greg Thomas, the 2004 AP state prep coach of the year, has declared that the ultimate goal of his team each year is winning a state championship.

I wish to congratulate all of the team's coaches and players:

Coaches: Greg Thomas, Todd Lipe, Lee Nicholson, Walt Pollard, Stephen Walters, Ronald Pugh, Ron Jones, Nick Anderson, Ty Nelson, Brent Jamison, Phoenix Evans, Will Wiberg, Robert Grant, Bill Grimm.

Players: Jonathan Williams, Maurice Weaver, Josiah Andrews, Rashard Green, Brian Blick, Jamie Williams, Chris Townsend, John Wilhelmsen, Scott Hodges, Cameron Johnson, Brandon Taylor, J J Bryant, Marcus Best, Adam Carraway, Malcolm Blount, Demetrius Dixon, Anthony Adams, Phillip Turner, Montrel Miles, Brandon Cox.

Carter Gagnon, McGiver Nicholson, Akeem Thomas, E J Gilbert, Eborn Rawl, Matt Board, Drew Batts, Gabe McCuller, Byron Tyson, Javan Burney, Beau Corey, Danny Jones, Joe James, Billy Cates, Beau Benfield, Jonathan Little, Mike Royston, Bryan Deans, Jameson Bryant, Taylor Ward.

Ian Baro, Tyrone Spinks, Larry Chamblis, Charlie Craigle, Brentley Richardson, William Batts, Malcolm Rook, Jimmie Booth, William Brewington, Demarus Williams, John Phillips, Jake Oviatt, Clay Douglas, Garrett Oakley, Morgan Randall, Max Joyner, Louis Muldrow, Sammy Becirovic, Trey Coleman, Anthony Williams.

Mr. Speaker, I, like many of my colleagues in Congress, have had the fortunate opportunity of playing on a high school state championship team. More than 40 years later, I can still vividly recall in my mind the wonderful memory of the night my high school basketball team at Hargrave Military Academy won the Military League Championship.

I close by once again congratulating the J.H. Rose High School coaches and players for their hard work and their success in achieving an athletic victory which they will remember with pride for years to come.

### REGARDING THE INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO REQUIRE ACCREDITING AGENCIES AND ASSOCIATIONS TO COMPLY WITH DUE PROCESS THROUGHOUT THE ACCREDITATION PROCESS

#### HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, according to recent reports, 46 percent of all U.S. undergraduates are enrolled in a community college. Community college is an important alternative for our students, especially minority students. Over 47 percent of African

• 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.

American undergraduates, 56 percent of Hispanic undergraduates, 48 percent of Asian/Pacific Islander undergraduates, and 57 percent of Native American undergraduates are enrolled in community colleges.

Why do community colleges serve an increasingly vital role to the students in our districts?

For many students, tuition to a 4-year college or university is prohibitively expensive. Community college tuition is at least one-tenth that of 4-year colleges and often maintain transfer relationships with nearby colleges and universities.

For others, financial constraints require students to work long hours at one or more full-time jobs while attending school. Community colleges provide more lenient enrollment requirements that allow students to attend school around their work schedules and attain a degree, albeit in longer than the traditional 4-year time frame.

For still others, community college offers students the ability to obtain technical and vocational training while enrolled in academic courses for credit toward an associate degree.

In short, community colleges offer the flexibility and accessibility that are essential to ensuring that all of our students, not just the ones who are able to attend 4-year colleges and universities, obtain postsecondary educations.

Public community colleges receive 40 percent of their revenue from State funds and 5 percent from Federal funds. Over 37 percent of community college students receive financial aid of some kind.

These funding sources are dependent on the school maintaining its accreditation. It would then make sense that any attempts to revoke accreditation would be highly regulated and easily appealed.

This is not the case in my district. Compton Community College is in grave danger of losing its accreditation. One would think that school officials would have received fair and adequate notice of the deficiencies that may lead to its loss of accreditation. One would think that a thorough due process standard would apply to any attempts to appeal a decision to revoke accreditation. One would think that the community at large would be able to attend a public hearing where the fate of their community treasure would be decided. One would think all of these things, but the fact is that none of these standards apply.

That is why I have introduced a bill that will strengthen the due process available to community colleges nationwide that face threats of accreditation revocation.

Community colleges are community treasures. Accreditation boards should be doing all they can to keep community colleges alive, rather than taking steps to summarily cement their failure. In the event that a determination is made to revoke accreditation, every school in this Nation should have access to a full and fair review of their cases and every member of the community should have the ability to witness and participate in the process. This bill will strengthen those rights.

Electing to close down a community college, which is what loss of accreditation effectively means, is a serious decision and it must be accompanied by serious oversight. That is what this bill will put in place.

CONGRATULATING MIKE POTTER  
FOR WINNING THE CELLFLIX  
FESTIVAL GRAND PRIZE

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a young constituent of mine who recently demonstrated his creativity and technological prowess on a very large stage. Mike Potter of Broomfield, Colorado, now a junior at Ithaca College, recently won the Grand Prize in the "Cellflix Festival," a prize that included \$5,000 and a tremendous amount of respect for individual ingenuity and creativity.

The "Cellflix Festival" is a competition that asks participants to submit a short film shot entirely on a cellular telephone camera. Within these constraints, Mike Potter submitted a film called Cheat, a charming and short exhibition that celebrates his grandparent's loving relationship. In it, Mike's grandfather quizzes his grandmother on newspaper headlines, offering her a kiss as a prize for each time she correctly guesses whether a headline is true or false. Sometimes, Mike's grandfather confesses at the end, he cheats. Described by one contest judge as "contagious," Mike Potter's creative short shows how much can be accomplished artistically with a limited medium, and one in which most of us are only vaguely aware.

I don't know about all my colleagues, but I have only barely mastered the use of a blackberry and my cell phone is still just a convenient technology for communicating. It never occurred to me until I saw the story about Mike Potter that the device I take for granted could be used as a means of artistic expression.

What's really intriguing about Mike's work is that it shows how young people, better versed in the ways of technology than any previous generation, may be blazing new trails of innovation and creative expression that will have implications for our economy and the entertainment industry.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mike Potter on his recent award and in wishing him well in his future endeavors. I certainly look forward to seeing what else he can produce, and I am proud to represent such a creative young person in Congress.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS  
OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

SPEECH OF

**HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 8, 2006*

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support H. Res. 657, a resolution honoring the contributions of Catholic schools to our Nation.

I rise today in support of this resolution and in recognition of the teachers, parents, and schools administrations who dedicate themselves to the difficult task of creating a strong learning environment for students in Catholic schools everywhere.

I have dedicated my time in Congress to the issue of education and have worked to try to improve our educational system by supporting such initiatives as the creation of incentives for new teachers and increased funding for pre-school programs.

It is in honor of this same pursuit by the Catholic schools of this Nation that I rise today. These schools are charged with the most important responsibility in our society: Educating our children. The pursuit of excellence in education and opportunities for students in the area of music and the arts put these schools and educators in a class of their own.

The future of the American educational system is tenuous. To quote the former Chair of the Federal Reserve Bank Alan Greenspan in a recent congressional hearing regarding solving the education problem in this country, "if you don't solve it, nothing else is going to matter."

Many thanks to the Catholic school system for all it does to help meet this challenge and I call on my colleagues in Congress to join me in working to put the education of our children at the top of our legislative priorities.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF  
HARRY T. MOORE

**HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, as our Nation celebrates Black History Month, I rise today to pay homage to the life and legacy of Harry T. Moore, a devoted husband, father, educator, and one of the first civil rights martyrs of our time. His tireless efforts and unselfish sacrifice in the name of social justice continues to inspire and empower Americans of all stripes, even now, over fifty years after his death.

Harry Tyson Moore was born in Houston, Florida on November 18, 1905. After his father's death his mother sent her only son to live with his three aunts in Jacksonville, Florida. In the prosperous and intellectual community of Jacksonville, Mr. Moore cultivated his intelligence and excelled. After graduating from Florida Memorial College in 1925, he moved to Cocoa, Florida. He settled in Brevard County teaching fourth grade at the only African-American elementary school in the area.

While there, he went on to meet his future wife, Hariette Vyda Simms. In time, Mr. Moore became principal of the Titusville Colored School, which taught children from the fourth to ninth grade. In March 1928 and September 1930, the Moore's welcomed two daughters into the world. With his family and professional life in place, Mr. Moore began an additional career in political activism.

In 1934, Mr. Moore founded the Brevard County NAACP chapter. In 1937, by working with the Black Florida State Teacher's Association and NAACP attorney Thurgood Marshall, he catalyzed a movement to equalize the salaries of Black and White teachers. Although he lost the court battle, he would ultimately win the war. Make no mistake, his actions inspired many others and ultimately, Mr. Moore helped achieve pay parity among teachers of color and their White counterparts.

In 1941, he organized the Florida State Conference of the NAACP and worked as an executive secretary without compensation. His platform also broadened as he began to add his voice to issues such as Black voting disenfranchisement, segregated education, and later in 1943, lynchings and police brutality. He began to organize protests, and write and circulate letters voicing his concerns about the issues.

He also organized the Progressive Voter's League and with his persistence and diligence, in 1948, helped over 116,000 Black voters register, which represented 31 percent of the African-American voting population in the Florida Democratic Party. In 1946, due to his role in the League, Mr. Moore and his wife were terminated from their jobs. Mr. Moore then took on a full-time paid position as an organizer for the NAACP. However, in 1949, over Mr. Moore's objection, the national NAACP office raised the dues from \$1 to \$2, causing a substantial amount of members to revoke their membership. This marked only the beginning of a strained relationship between Mr. Moore and the national NAACP office.

During that same year, the landmark Groveland rape case occurred, in which four African-American men were falsely accused of raping a White woman. Although the men were brutally beaten and no evidence suggested that the woman was raped, one of the men was killed, one was given a life sentence, and the other two were sentenced to death. With Mr. Moore's assistance in conjunction with the legal counsel of the NAACP, the case went to the U.S. Supreme Court and the conviction for the two sentenced to death was overturned. However, Sheriff Willis McCall, a known White supremacist, shot the two men to death as he was driving them to their pre-trial hearing. Recognizing this tragic injustice, Mr. Moore vigorously advocated for the indictment of Sheriff McCall.

Sadly, Mr. Moore never lived to see the outcome of his work in this case. On the eve of his 25th wedding anniversary and Christmas Day 1951, Mr. Moore and his wife were killed when a bomb placed underneath their bed in the floor detonated. Mr. Moore died in his mother's arms on the way to the hospital while Harriet died only nine days later.

Following the Moores' murder, there was a public outcry in the African-American community. Despite massive amounts of mail sent to President Truman and the Florida Governor in protest and the many protests and memorials organized demanding justice, no arrests were made in relation to the horrendous crime.

In no uncertain terms, Harry T. Moore led without permission, without acknowledgement, and without fear. What made his vision so tangible was the fact that he believed he could achieve what he set before himself. In a speech his daughter gave in 2002, she stated, "Daddy started the movement. He had absolutely nobody but us, and yet he accomplished all of those things—the voting, the teacher salaries all of the lynchings that he investigated. That's a very important part of history."

Mr. Speaker, Harry T. Moore's story is one of such importance as we celebrate Black History Month and reflect on the success of past and present leaders. For these stories are not only told to recall the achievements of African-American trailblazers, but to offer the next Harry T. Moore the hope, promise, direction,

and purpose needed to rise from the ordinary to achieve the extraordinary.

I shall conclude with an excerpt of the heartfelt words written by Langston Hughes in memory of Harry T. Moore:

In his heart is only love  
For all the human race,  
And all he wants is for every man  
To have his rightful place.  
And this he says, our Harry Moore,  
As from the grave he cries:  
No bomb can kill the dreams I hold  
For freedom never dies!

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND  
IDEALS OF NATIONAL MEN-  
TORING MONTH

SPEECH OF

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 8, 2006*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the important contributions of mentoring programs such as the One Star Foundation, an initiative established by the State of Texas, and the program HOSTS, Helping One Student to Succeed, in the Laredo Independent School District, which help students who are at risk of failing reading and or math by mentoring them with members of the community, and the Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Texas program. The National Mentoring Month is important, and it serves as a guide to us in our communities to reach out to youth, to show them there is another way, that they should not give into despair, but instead give into the hope of a better future.

Every time you reach out and mentor a child, you provide that child with a positive example of what an adult role model should be. Mentoring can be an invaluable resource for single-parent families, and low-income families, and it helps give the children the ability to succeed in school. There are over 156 mentoring programs in the State of Texas, and over 50 mentoring programs in my district working to give hope to children in urban and rural communities. These are excellent examples of how communities should come together to ensure that children have the best chance to succeed in their lives.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have had this opportunity to honor the value of H.R. 660, which supports the goals and ideals of National Mentoring Month.

TSUNAMIS, FLOODS AND EARTH-  
QUAKES, SEEN AND UNSEEN

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to enter into the RECORD "Witness for Justice # 248" entitled Tsunamis, Floods and Earthquakes; Seen and Unseen, published December 26, 2005 by the United Church of Christ of Cleveland, Ohio. The article eloquently written by Rev. Sala W.J. Nolan, Minister for Criminal Justice and Human Rights of this Church on 700 Prospect Ave. in Cleveland re-

minds us of the existence of unseen tsunamis, floods and earthquakes that continue to overrun communities around the world—stifling the voices of those forgotten. Recalling the 2005 Indian Ocean tsunami that killed nearly 300,000, and Hurricane Katrina that took the lives of more than 1,000 Gulf Coast residents, leaving even scores more homeless and displaced, Rev. Nolan speaks of unseen tsunamis, floods and earthquakes that manifest throughout the world in the form of racism and other forms of injustice. "They take place in U.S. prisons, which house one-fourth of all prisoners in the world and young Black men exist at 8 times the population rate of the Black men of South Africa at the height of Apartheid," explains Rev. Nolan. The "invisible flood of incarceration" as described by Rev. Nolan—the imprisonment of our Black and Hispanic youth—is robbing our communities of future entrepreneurs, doctors, lawyers, political and community leaders and tearing them away from their families—leaving them to languish and surrender their dreams within a less-than-colorblind criminal justice system with a swift, revolving door.

I also join Rev. Nolan in her concern over the erosion of freedoms not protected in a political environment where the Republican-controlled White House and Congress have mistakenly justified the infringement of personal freedoms for the sake of a safer America. Rev. Nolan says that since the PATRIOT Act has passed, "our government has acquired vastly broadened authority to monitor, arrest and detain citizens. We have learned that freedoms not protected will erode." Since the 2001 terrorist attacks, the Bush administration has jailed and deported immigrants who have been living in our country for many years, obeying our laws, contributing to our society and working hard to support their families. It has created an atmosphere of fear and suspicion of anybody who seems to be a foreigner. We must force this secret tsunami to retreat off our lands and we must restore freedoms to those left most victimized by the misplaced political zeal for power—the poor, the enslaved, and the tortured.

I join Rev. Nolan in all her concerns and her wish for a more just America free of unseen tsunamis, floods and earthquakes. Witness for Justice #248, Dec. 26, 2005.

TSUNAMIS, FLOODS AND EARTHQUAKES: SEEN  
AND UNSEEN

(By Sala W.J. Nolan)

As 2005 draws to a close, we have much suffering to address. The tsunami of last December 26 still reverberates throughout the world. The worst hurricane season in U.S. history has damaged the Gulf Coast in ways that will extend to generations. And an earthquake has devastated Kashmir, where relief is terribly complicated by Indian and Pakistani political claims.

The events were life shattering and will leave enduring legacies. They are especially notable because of the human suffering that was unmasked. We saw aging and African-American citizens in the wake of Katrina, without food and water or medical care, left abandoned on bridges and in nursing homes and sports arenas. The visible poverty among so many citizens of the richest country in the world—and their utter abandonment by the institutions obligated to serve them—shocked the planet.

Every day there are unseen tsunamis, floods and earthquakes. They take place in U.S. prisons, which house one-fourth of all

the prisoners in the world and young Black men at eight-times the population rate of the Black men of South Africa at the height of Apartheid. They happen among immigrants in the housing projects of France. They occur among the farmers of Vieques and fishers of the Marshal Islands whose livelihoods and health have been damaged by years of bomb testing and with school-aged children in broken neighborhoods; with Afghan nationals in the cells of Guantanamo; and in secret prisons in Eastern Europe and Saudi Arabia. All over our world, where governments and institutions fail to protect their citizens or actively harm them, the earthquake happens. And when those who suffer are forgotten, the devastation is terrible.

Consider the political activists who were imprisoned in the late 1960s and 1970s. Richard Williams was one of them. Following 9/11, he was placed in isolation for 15 months without cause. He was given poor medical care, which often occurs in prison. He passed this month, at the age of 58, and we remember him. Remember Marilyn Buck, Leonard Peltier, Oscar Lopez and others who have languished in prison. Remember Assata Shakur, who has a price on her head. In June, ten environmental and animal protection activists from the San Francisco Bay area were subpoenaed to a grand jury after police raids failed to produce evidence of criminal wrongdoing. Since the Patriot Act passed, our government has acquired vastly broadened authority to monitor, arrest and detain citizens. We have learned that freedoms not protected will erode.

Recently, I traveled to the Gulf Coast after the hurricanes, carrying supplies and assessing what we could do to help. I met a little boy, about 10 or 11, collecting toys for his younger brother and sister. When his turn came, there were no appropriate toys in the can for him. He turned away, dejected. Then I remembered that my 5-year-old niece had given me her most precious rubber frog and told me to give it to somebody special. I pulled the frog out of my pocket and gave it to the boy. His face lit up and he ran off with it, laughing and teasing his little brother. In that moment, the disaster was forgotten and he was just a boy again.

The prisons of the U.S. hold fathers and mothers whose children, more likely than not, will grow up in an earthquake of poverty and chaos. You probably know some of them, because the invisible flood of incarceration is enormous, but you may not know the secrets that keep because discrimination is a powerful force in their lives. Remember them. What could you do for the children? What could you do for someone who is ill? How much could be done by remembrance and a well-placed word for political prisoners and indigenous peoples of contaminated lands. Remember those who suffer from the secret tsunamis of our world today, and consider that is in your hand. What will you do with what you have?

#### CONGRATULATING BREEANNA AND SADIE LANCASTER

##### HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate sisters Breeanna and Sadie Lancaster for their outstanding performance in the Pony of the Americas Horse Show.

Breeanna and Sadie both placed in the top 10 of the recent show and received awards at

the State Chapter Banquet on January 15, 2006.

Breeanna placed first overall in the 9-to-12 years-old category. She scored first place in showmanship, reining, western riding, trail, bareback equitation, and horsemanship and jumping competitions; second place in western pleasure and junior English pleasure, and third place in junior western pleasure, junior trail and open and Indian costume competitions.

Sadie placed second overall in the 9-to-12 years-old category. She placed first in times and senior English pleasure competitions; second place in reining.

At the banquet, Breeanna was named "Top Rider" for the Texas POA Club for 2005 and Sadie was the third overall in the State chapter. Breeanna was also given the Lance P. Scott Award for the most overall points in a year. She was also awarded the Diane Goodman Tennant Showmanship Traveling Award given annually to the point exhibitor who accumulated the most showmanship points in their age group for that year.

These young ladies exemplify hard work and a commitment to excellence. Both ladies have overcome obstacles to persevere and to have winning seasons.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Ms. Breeanna and Ms. Sadie Lancaster for their extreme dedication and persistence to their extra curricular activities. These young ladies serve as an inspiration for all.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, February 9, 2006, I was unable to be present to vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 670, congratulating the National Football League champion Pittsburgh Steelers for winning Super Bowl XL, rollcall vote 5; on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 657, honoring the contribution of Catholic schools, rollcall vote 6; and on the motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 4297, the Tax Relief Extension Reconciliation Act, rollcall vote 7. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on motions to suspend the rules and pass H. Res. 670 and H. Res. 657 and "nay" on the motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 4297.

#### TRIBUTE TO BONNIE TERRY

##### HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a dear friend who left us far too soon. On January 27, 2006, Bonnie Terry lost her long struggle with breast cancer despite drawing on the same determination she had used to change the lives of many others. I miss her laugh and her belief that any problem was solvable so long as we worked together. Bonnie Terry was a community activist, a pillar of faith for the United Methodist Church, and a shining example of the power of people to make the world a better place.

This is a loss not only for her family, friends, and colleagues but also for San Antonio. We lost a relentless yet optimistic advocate for a range of causes. The causes she fought for reads like a master list of different organizations to help the disadvantaged. Bonnie worked with Habitat for Humanity, United Way, American Red Cross and Network Power/Texas, which promotes women's issues. During and after the 1998 floods, Bonnie served as executive director of the San Antonio Interfaith Flood Recovery Alliance. Our community is now poorer for her absence.

So relentless was her drive, not even illness stopped Bonnie from working. While fighting breast cancer, she visited my office during the Alamo Breast Cancer Foundation's annual visit last May. She told her story to me and to other lawmakers. Like so many other Americans, she had fallen into the widening fissures of our health care system and found herself in need of the type of help she had spent her life providing to others. Bonnie testified for the need for insurance support for cancer treatment at a National Breast Cancer Coalition meeting in Washington seeking legislative policy for access for quality care. Moreover, Bonnie made a point of attending the coalition's meeting with Senator HILLARY CLINTON.

Like many in our city, Bonnie hailed from elsewhere, but there should be no doubt that she made San Antonio her home. Born in Germany, Bonnie was the child of a military family that eventually settled in San Antonio. She graduated from Jefferson High School, San Antonio College, and the University of Texas at San Antonio. However, even while working on her bachelor's degree, it was apparent that Bonnie would match her education to her faith in making her life's work. People will always seek a higher purpose in life. Bonnie found hers in serving others and in doing so making their lives better.

If Bonnie's determination was the vessel for her actions, faith was her North Star. Steeped in the United Methodist Church, Bonnie sought to implement the teachings of the Lord. She served as an urban missionary at Travis Park United Methodist Church where she energized a food bank and outreach program, which the Reverend Bert Clayton, a long-time friend, said this was one of her greatest feats. Her next project focused on the downtown's homeless community. The Reverend John Flowers, pastor at Travis Park, said Bonnie helped envision a day center for homeless or transitional people there that opened in 2004.

My prayers and thoughts go out to her sisters, brothers, nieces and nephews. I hope it comforts them in their time of grief that Bonnie was a beloved figure in San Antonio. We will miss her.

#### TRIBUTE TO MRS. SALLY FOX

##### HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the public service and remarkable community involvement of Mrs. Sally Fox.

Born in Denver, CO, to school teachers, Mrs. Fox devoted much of her life to public schools in Colorado. In addition to other volunteer efforts, Mrs. Fox served as president of

the Burlington Elementary School PTA in Longmont.

Mrs. Fox also dedicated much of her life as a local grassroots activist. She served as secretary for House District 52, as well as secretary for Colorado Representative Ron Strahle. Mrs. Fox also served as a Precinct Committee person since 1979 and has been a delegate to Fourth Congressional District and State assemblies.

In addition to her grassroots involvement and volunteerism, Mrs. Fox currently manages the Oak Ridge Federal Government Office Building in Fort Collins. She has also worked as mall manager at The Square and as manager of maintenance at the Market Place, both in Fort Collins.

Beyond her community involvement, it is her love and devotion to her family that is most impressive. April 2006 will mark Sally's 43rd wedding anniversary to her husband, Charles. She is the proud mother of a son and daughter, and a grandmother of three. Mrs. Fox has a special appreciation for family heirlooms. She is especially proud of an African violet given to her by her mother. It has bloomed continuously since her mother's death in 1991.

Mr. Speaker, the grassroots involvement and love of family by women like Mrs. Sally Fox is what makes our country great. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Fox and her tremendous contributions to her community.

CONGRATULATIONS TO PAUL R.  
BEANE

**HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, on February 17, 2006, a legend in Lubbock radio will celebrate 50 years in the broadcasting business. Mr. Paul R. Beane currently serves as general manager and morning radio program host at KRBL, 105.7 FM.

Mr. Beane's long career began in 1956 at KGVL in Greenville, TX, and he has worked in all aspects of radio since that time. Over the years, he has worked at 18 radio and television stations in Texas and Louisiana, spending the majority of time in and around my hometown of Lubbock. He is a familiar face and voice to the people of west Texas and we appreciate his efforts to bring us news, information and entertainment.

Many Lubbock residents have fond memories of Paul's broadcasts. I particularly remember his "News Flash" announcements before giving the news update.

In this day and age of weblogs, podcasts and e-mail updates, it is refreshing to turn on the radio, hear Paul's voice and get the news from a genuine reporter and trusted member of the community.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Paul Beane on his 50th anniversary in broadcasting.

CONGRATULATING FARMVILLE  
CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL'S 2005  
VARSITY BASEBALL TEAM

**HON. WALTER B. JONES**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, though it is now 2006, I want to take the opportunity to recognize, on two separate occasions, two great success stories from my district last year.

One great success story from eastern North Carolina in 2005 is an outstanding athletic achievement from my hometown of Farmville.

Though Farmville Central High School's 2005 boy's varsity baseball team began their season with a rocky start, the Jaguars were able to turn their season around and capture the school's very first State baseball championship.

I am very proud of my hometown team's record and their historic victory in the North Carolina High School Athletic Association State I-A championship in June of 2005.

I wish to congratulate all of the team's coaches and players: Head Coach John Galeazzi; Assistant Coaches Ed Hines and Brian Perry; Statistician Joe Allen; Athletic Director Dixon Sauls; Players: Justin Bagley, Chad Bagley, Brad Bagley, Bill Fisher, Cameron Moore, Robbie Jones, Spencer Albritton, Jonathan Landen, Brandon Cox, Landon Walker, Tommy Cobb, Chris Tomlin, Jordan Corbett, Will Rhem, Mike Dail, Warren Rhem, and Craven Taylor.

Mr. Speaker, I, like many of my colleagues in Congress, have had the fortunate opportunity of playing on a high school State championship team. More than 40 years later, I can still vividly recall in my mind the wonderful memory of the night my high school basketball team at Hargrave Military Academy won the Military League Championship.

I close by once again congratulating the coach and players of the 2005 Farmville Central High School varsity baseball team for their hard work, and for their success in achieving an athletic victory which they will remember with pride for years to come.

COMMEMORATING NATIONAL  
HEART MONTH

**HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, heart disease and stroke, the largest threats to women's lives are largely preventable.

Prevention is easy: eating a healthy diet, exercising frequently, refraining from smoking, and maintaining weight, cholesterol and blood pressure are all ways that women can protect themselves against heart disease and stroke which kill 1 in 2.4 women annually.

But most women in the United States do not know that they are at a higher risk for deadly heart attacks, hypertension, and strokes than they are for any other disease.

According to an American Heart Association survey, only 57 percent of American women know that heart disease is the leading killer of

women. The women who have yet to learn of these deadly diseases are the women who are at the greatest risk.

Only 38 percent of African-American women and 42 percent of Latina women know about the dangers posed by heart disease and stroke.

All women need this knowledge. They need to know that they are at risk and they need to know there is a causal connection between the lifestyle choices they make and their personal risk for death by heart disease and stroke.

That is why I am here to announce my firm commitment to National Heart Month and that is why I co-sponsor forward thinking legislation like the HEART for Women Act that will contribute to heightened awareness.

Efforts like National Heart Month, the American Heart Association's "Go Red for Women" initiative, and the National Institutes of Health's "The Heart Truth" awareness campaign all contribute to a greater awareness among women about the dangers posed by heart disease and stroke.

The more women know about how their everyday choices affect their long-term health, the better those choices will be. This information is a part of a national movement that will save women's lives.

We must do our part to ensure that every woman in our communities, especially the ones who are at the greatest risk, is touched by these campaigns. We encourage all women to visit their doctors and talk about the many positive steps they can take towards heart disease prevention.

Knowledge is power and we need to ensure that outreach efforts are made to African-American and Latina communities so that they can share in this power.

National Heart Month is timely, it is necessary, and the information it seeks to impart is a matter of life and death.

HONORING ROBIN BOHANNAN AND  
HER LEADERSHIP AT BOULDER  
COUNTY AIDS PROJECT

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Ms. Robin Bohannon, the outgoing executive director of the Boulder County AIDS Project. Ms. Bohannon's career at BCAP is a remarkable example of compassion, public service, and personal dedication.

Ms. Bohannon began her career at the Boulder County AIDS Project in an important and appreciated voluntary role. Still a small organization at this time, BCAP built its foundation on the strength of volunteers just like her. As she spent more time volunteering, Ms. Bohannon became an indispensable part of BCAP and was able to take a full-time paid position as a case manager in 1991.

In the early 1980s and even into the 1990s HIV/AIDS was not only a burgeoning health crisis, it was a defining issue of social conscience. Workplace and housing discrimination, severe social stigma, and public ignorance merged with a terrible and often baffling array of medical challenges to create terrible

obstacles for those living with the illness. Robin Bohannan was an early warrior in the battle against HIV/AIDS and all these years later, her efforts serve as a model for how one person can make a lasting contribution to the greater community.

For her years of service, her devotion to others, her role in building a community of support, and her ability to harbor equal parts courage and compassion, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Ms. Robin Bohannan upon her resignation as executive director of the Boulder County AIDS Project. I am sure that her future endeavors will continue her legacy of service to Colorado.

SALUTING C. THOMAS KEEGEL

**HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. C. Thomas Keegel. Mr. Keegel joined the Teamsters in 1959 as a member of Local 544 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He was a driver for the Sterling Cartage Company.

From driver to recording secretary of Local 544, Mr. Keegel has held elected office for 25 out of the 47 years he has been a member of the Teamsters Union.

Since being elected to general secretary-treasurer in March of 1999, Mr. Keegel has not only balanced the union's budget for the first time in nearly a decade, but has helped set an example of clarity and ethics for local union chapters.

In addition, Mr. Keegel has taken a leading role in continuing the Teamster's comprehensive anti-corruption policy, instituting sweeping reforms and safeguards in every area of the union's finances, as well as initiating legal actions to recover money stolen from the union in past years.

It is for these reasons that I stand in recognition of the work and dedication Mr. C. Thomas Keegel has demonstrated to labor workers across this country and especially the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF  
HATTIE McDANIEL

**HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Hattie McDaniel, a woman of firsts, whose career as an acclaimed singer and actress on film, television, and radio inspired and illuminated the lives of many. Her dynamic career afforded her the opportunity to break barriers in the entertainment industry, which allowed her to inevitably create a path for other gifted and aspiring African-Americans in the arts to travel.

Ms. McDaniel was born on June 10, 1895 in Wichita, KS, to Henry McDaniel, a Baptist minister and freed slave and Susan Holbert, a spiritual singer. She was raised in Denver, CO, and was the 13th child of the family. Realizing her talents at an early age, her father

put her in the family performance troupe he organized and managed.

Her experience aided her in winning a medal in dramatic art at age 15. However, in 1910, she dropped out of school and gained employment as a band vocalist with Professor George Morrison's Negro Orchestra. She toured the country and in 1915 became the first African-American to sing on network radio in the United States.

Ms. McDaniel worked in minstrel vaudeville shows until the Depression. During this time, she moved to Milwaukee and worked as a domestic. In 1930, while working as a bathroom attendant, her vocal abilities were discovered by the club manager. Subsequently, she landed a job in the club singing for a year and never looked back.

In 1931, Ms. McDaniel moved to Hollywood in pursuit of a film career, a time in which many African-Americans were solely portrayed as domestics and servants. These roles were often deemed to be stereotypical and insulting in the African-American community. However, Ms. McDaniel did not share this belief, and instead of turning her back on the roles, she worked against the stereotype from within the system.

As a result, she was able to build a remarkable three-decade career comprised of over 300 movies, and was able to accomplish what many others would still consider unattainable. She was praised for many of her roles including the role of Queenie in *Show Boat* in 1936; however, her most memorable role and greatest achievement was through her portrayal of Mammy in *Gone with the Wind* in 1939.

Similar to the characters she played in other movies, she portrayed Mammy as a humble, submissive, and trusted servant that also possessed an assertive and chastising attitude. Her subservient yet stern demeanor gained her immense respect both on and off the camera. In fact, her clever and brilliant performance in *Gone with the Wind* led her to becoming the first African-American Best Supporting Actress nominee and winner at the 1940 Academy Awards. She became the first African-American guest to be invited to the ceremony and was also the first and last recipient of the prestigious honor for 25 years.

Unfortunately, Ms. McDaniel's accomplishments were not revered by everyone. Although heavily criticized by African-Americans, some whites were equally condemnatory. Many blacks protested at the movie premiere describing Mammy as a symbolic reminder of slavery. In fact, Ms. McDaniel had to make the painful decision not to attend the *Gone with the Wind* premiere in Atlanta because of the highly charged racist climate in the South at that time.

In response to critics of her career, she simply stated, "it's better to get \$7,000 a week for playing a servant than \$7 a week for being one." In fact, as her career progressed, Ms. McDaniel was able to broaden her career and shift into playing more dramatic, less stereotypical roles which encapsulated the depth of her talents.

Ms. McDaniel was also an advocate for racial equity and integration. When Whites tried to block her from moving into her Los Angeles home, she rallied her Black neighbors and they took the case to the Supreme Court and won. Additionally, she served as the chair of the African-American sector of the Hollywood Victory Committee, which provided entertain-

ment for segregated black soldiers. She also organized fundraisers for African-American youth education.

In 1947, she was cast as a regular in *The Beulah Show* radio show. In 1951, *The Beulah Show* expanded to the small screen. Unfortunately, Ms. McDaniel appeared in only three episodes before she lost her battle with breast cancer and died in 1952.

Her dying wish was to be buried in the Hollywood Cemetery on Santa Monica Boulevard but because of her race, the owner at the time refused. However, in 1999, the new owner overturned the decision and asked that her remains be transferred to the cemetery. The family did not want to disturb her remains and respectfully declined. Nevertheless, the cemetery was dedicated to honoring her wish and as a result erected a cenotaph memorial on the lawn overlooking the lake in her memory.

Ms. McDaniel was a resilient, gifted, and witty figure in American history and her accomplishments are merely the testimonies of her diligence. She has two stars on the Hollywood Walk of Fame—one for her contributions to radio and one for her motion pictures contributions.

One of Hattie McDaniel's favorite and most famous sayings was, "Humble is the way." Although she had an admirable career, she had to travel an arduous path to attain it. However, through her humility and determination, she was able to carve her rightful place in American history. That is why I introduced legislation in the 108th Congress seeking to have her image memorialized on a postage stamp. As a result, on January 26, 2006, the Postal Service did indeed select to honor this great woman by making her the 29th image to appear on the Black Heritage commemorative stamp series. I also congratulate fellow Marylander, Ms. Ethel Kessler of Bethesda, for designing the stunning image on the stamp.

Mr. Speaker, though her spirit is gone with the wind, her legacy will always resonate through her artistic works and thus will continue to live on forever.

TRIBUTE TO THE SESQUICENTEN-  
NIAL OF ATASCOSA COUNTY

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the sesquicentennial of Atascosa County, which is a county in the 28th district of Texas and was founded in 1856. This year marks the 150th anniversary of Atascosa's beginnings and we will kick off a year long celebration at the annual Tux and Boots Ball on Saturday, January 28, in Pleasanton, TX.

Mr. Speaker, Atascosa County is south of San Antonio on the Rio Grande Plain region of south central Texas. The first census taken in Atascosa County was in 1860 and counted 1,578 people. Today, Atascosa County's population is at more than 43,000 residents.

The earliest schools in Atascosa County were organized around the time of the Civil War. By 1914, there were 37 schools in the county. By the 1940s the school districts had begun to consolidate. The total number of persons over the age of 25 who had completed 4 years of high school rose from 1,300 in

1950 to 2,083 in 1960. In addition, the number of residents with some college rose from 395 in 1950 to 473 in 1960. By the year 2000, when the census counted 38,628 people living in Atascosa County, over 65 percent of residents age 25 and older had 4 years of high school. Agriculture, government services, and some light manufacturing are key elements of the area's economy. The largest communities in the county are Jourdanton, the county seat, and Pleasanton, the county's largest town. Other communities include Campbelton, Poteet, Lytle, Charlotte, Christine, Leming, McCoy, and Peggy. Some of the county's wonderful attractions include the Poteet Strawberry Festival, the Jourdanton Days Celebration, and the Cowboy Homecoming and Rodeo in Pleasanton. As we look back on the last 150 years with pride, we also look forward to a promising future for Atascosa.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Atascosa County on their 150th anniversary and all of their accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LAUNCHING OF THE CARIBBEAN SINGLE MARKET ECONOMY

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Caribbean leaders for their achievement of the Caribbean Single Market Economy and to enter into the RECORD a Caribnews editorial celebrating this milestone. The CSME—the initial phase of a historic regional economic integration project uniting 13 countries within the Caribbean—culminates a movement that was years in the making.

With the creation of this newest trade bloc that includes Barbados, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, the countries have agreed to lift tariffs and allow all citizens to open businesses. In conjunction with Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts-Nevis, St. Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines, the countries will also be able to provide services and move capital throughout the single market without restrictions. The implications of the CSME are sweeping, with plans advancing to replace national travel documents with a regional passport and the possibility of a common currency to be used by participating countries and a consolidation of economic policies.

The CSME is a fitting and progressive response to the evolving global environment characterized by disappearing borders. I have full faith that CSME will create a larger spectrum of opportunities for employment, investment, production and trade for the people of the Caribbean islands. The coming together of regional economies into one bloc will undisputedly give the countries strength in facing other trade blocs and superpowers across the negotiating tables.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in congratulating the leaders of the participating Caribbean nations for forging ahead with the CSME and wishing them well in their next steps.

CARIBBEAN SINGLE MARKET: SEALED, SIGNED AND DELIVERED

"Sealed," stated one front-page newspaper headline in the Caribbean on Tuesday morning.

"Caribbean leaders sign on formal document," hailed another paper.

And a third publication completed the process when it made it clear that the pact had been "delivered."

In effect, the Caribbean Single Market, the long awaited important step towards deep economic and social integration had moved closer to completion when several CARICOM leaders signed on the dotted line on Monday, committing their countries to be bound by and live up to the provisions of the treaty establishing the CSME.

The signing took place, quite appropriately, on the Mona campus of the University of the West Indies, the quintessential Caribbean educational institution, and the occasion wasn't simply historic but vital if the countries of the region are to realize their full potential.

Admittedly, there were some unfortunate aspects of the ceremony. One of them was a hard fact of Caribbean life: at least one nation, the Bahamas, opted out all together while Haiti, a country in chaos with a dysfunctional interim government wasn't invited to the party. Another setback, of sorts, was the decision by the members of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States to push back the deadline for their implementation of the CSM. Originally, the deadline was January 1, then it was moved to March and now we are being told that it would be the end of June. Don't be surprised if the OECS countries demand another extension.

The countries, which are moving ahead with the CSM, are Barbados, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago. Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts-Nevis, St. Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines, the OECS nations are coming on board during the second half of the year.

The pact, a work in progress, calls for the removal of all barriers to trade in goods and services, limited freedom of movement by a handful of skilled people, such as UWI graduates, sports figures and journalists, the setting of a regional standard for goods being produced in or entering the region from other countries and recognition of Caribbean Court of Justice. Eventually, it could result in a common currency and the harmonization of economic policies.

What it wouldn't involve is a political union.

These desirable and important objectives should become a reality by 2008, the year when the CSME should become fully implemented. No one should underestimate the complexity and the challenges the region faces as it moves forward.

Jamaica's Prime Minister, P.J. Patterson, underscored that point when he cautioned the leaders and others at the signing ceremony "formidable challenges still exist as we move boldly forward in the pursuit of closer regional collaboration within a global economy that is admittedly hostile to the interest of small island developing nations."

The problem for small states is that global competitiveness can undermine economic growth, slowdown social development and diminish competitiveness. As if those weren't bad enough, the mountains of red tape and the foot-dragging by some countries can reduce the CSM's effectiveness and appeal.

But there is little reason to despair.

When Caribbean Free Trade Agreement, CARIFTA, the forerunner of CARICOM and CSME, it started with three countries—Antigua, Barbados and Guyana. The list grew in later years. That's likely to happen with the CSME.

Secondly, the Caribbean Court of Justice is now a functioning judicial body. Yes, it's true that only Barbados and Guyana have so far accepted the CCJ as their court of last resort, relinquishing the necessity to turn to

the Privy Council in London as the final arbiter. Again, foot-dragging is standing in the way of a broader court. Political considerations in Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago have turned out to be roadblocks for expansion but that's not the case in the OECS.

A word about the OECS and its reasons for not signing the final acceptance on Monday. The members are pushing for the creation of a Caribbean Development Fund, which would help bridge the gap in finance, which the elimination of tariffs would create. That's a realistic situation, one that the larger economies have recognized and are trying to solve. The Fund must be established, no ifs, ands or butts.

Interestingly, Edwin Carrington, CARICOM's long-serving Secretary-General, in his speech on Monday borrowed from the lyrics of one of Bob Marley's most popular songs, "One Love," and invoked the memory of that great Caribbean icon when he insisted "Let's get together and feel alright, I say let's stay together and be all right."

We may be some distance away from achieving that togetherness but at the very least we are on the road to it becoming a fact of life.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FLOWER MOUND LIBRARY

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Flower Mound Public Library for their receipt of the 2006 Alibris Collection Award.

The Alibris Collection Award is an annual grant of up to \$3,000 worth of books to an academic, public, special, or K-12 library supporting specific collection development projects that advance the mission, priority areas, and goals of the selected library.

The purpose of the award is to help provide materials for libraries with replacement projects, retrospective collection development projects, or routine collection building needs.

The library tied for first place with the College State School Library in Anchorage, Alaska. Both schools were presented this award on January 22, 2006.

The library will be contributing the prize money to the—"Sit! Stay!! READ!!! Program." This program is designed to help kids with reading disabilities. Working in conjunction with Delta Society trained dogs, the program pairs children with a pet, which helps the children relax and improve their confidence. This creates a non-judgmental audience and thus a lighter stress load on the children allowing them to truly embrace and improve their skills.

I extend my sincere congratulations to the Flower Mound Public Library for their contributions to the community and youth education as well as their dedication to excellence. This truly original program deserves much applause.

SUPPORT FOR ANIMAL FIGHTING PROHIBITION ENFORCEMENT ACT

**HON. ELTON GALLEGLY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my support for H.R. 817, the Animal

Fighting Prohibition Enforcement Act. More than 150 local police and sheriff's departments have requested this legislation and I am pleased that the committee is considering it.

A few years ago, Congress enacted legislation to tighten Federal law and close some loopholes that allowed the barbaric practices of animal fighting to thrive nationwide, in spite of bans in virtually every State.

But Congress didn't finish the job. We left in place weak penalties that have proven ineffective. Misdemeanor penalties simply don't provide a meaningful deterrent. Those involved in animal fighting ventures—where thousands of dollars typically change hands in the associated gambling activity—consider misdemeanor penalties a “slap on the wrist” or merely a “cost of doing business.” Moreover, we've heard from U.S. Attorneys that they are reluctant to pursue animal fighting cases with just a misdemeanor penalty.

In recent years, we have seen a marked rise in the frequency of animal fighting arrests in communities across the country. Local police and sheriffs are increasingly concerned about animal fighting, not only because of the animal cruelty involved, but also because of the other crimes that often go hand-in-hand, including illegal gambling, drug traffic, and acts of human violence.

In addition, there are concerns cockfighters spread diseases that jeopardize poultry flocks and even public health. We in California experienced this first-hand, when cockfighters spread exotic Newcastle disease, which was so devastating to many of our poultry producers in 2002 and 2003. That outbreak cost U.S. taxpayers “nearly \$200 million to eradicate, and cost the U.S. poultry industry many millions more in lost export markets,” according to Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman.

It is time Congress finishes the job and helps State and local law enforcement officials who have requested stronger Federal laws to rid animal fighting from communities that do not want it.

TRIBUTE TO THE PAISANO 25TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 25th anniversary of the Paisano, the student newspaper at the University of Texas at San Antonio, UTSA. The Paisano is the oldest independent student newspaper in the State of Texas. In January 1981, the first issues of the Paisano were distributed to the UTSA community. A quarter of a century later, the Paisano often publishes 7,000 to 10,000 issues a week for the downtown and 1604 campuses.

Because UTSA is a young school, student enterprises like the Paisano were important in creating a sense of community. Other schools have longer histories but few have more school pride. Students know that the Paisano is their forum to celebrate their college years and examine their community and world.

Put simply, students run the paper. They write the stories, sell the advertising, and create budgets for the paper. But they receive neither college credit nor compensation from

the university for their efforts. Yet, the invaluable experience of running a business has compensated them far more than a paycheck ever could.

Through the Paisano Educational Trust, dedicated students, faculty, and staff publish the Paisano. All overhead for the paper's publication, including rent, equipment, utilities, and printing costs are funded through advertising revenues. Countless hours of student work have kept this paper operating.

Many of the former student staff now serve San Antonio and south Texas in numerous capacities. They are school teachers, writers, journalists, editors, accountants, lawyers, website creators, hotel managers, and environmental researchers. Over these last 25 years, they have helped transform San Antonio into the vibrant city poised for greater things on the verge of the 21st century.

The Founders knew that a free press was essential to democracy as a medium for free expression. The Paisano allows students to voice their concerns and to articulate their disparate experiences. This newspaper has provided a forum for students to participate in the give-and-take exchange of ideas vital to an academic institution and our society.

As UTSA continues its transformation into a flagship university, I expect that the Paisano will continue to reflect the richness and diversity of the student body and South Texas. Today, I celebrate their first 25 years and wish them many more.

TRIBUTE TO MR. JIM BEATTY

**HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the contributions and life-time achievements of Mr. Jim Beatty. He is an outstanding member of his community who has shown dedication through his endless service and volunteer efforts.

After graduating from Adams State College in Alamosa, CO, he served in the Air Force as an intelligence officer during the Korean war. Following his service in the military, Mr. Beatty used the G.I. bill to attend law school at the University of Colorado.

Soon after receiving his law degree, Mr. Beatty became senior partner at the Fisher & Beatty law office. Mr. Beatty also became very involved in the Fort Collins community. He was a member of the Fort Collins Junior Chamber of Commerce and, at age 35, was youngest president of the Rotary Club. He was also actively involved in the Fort Collins PTA and coached Little League. Mr. Beatty frequently volunteered his legal services to local service clubs and organizations.

Mr. Beatty has been actively involved in State and local politics. In the 1960's and 1970's, he served as a precinct committee person and successfully motivated every Republican in his precinct to vote.

In 1980, Mr. Beatty was elected to the Colorado State Senate, where he served until 1988. During his time in the State Senate, Mr. Beatty proved himself to be an intelligent and very effective legislator. He served as chair or vice-chair of eight legislative committees, including the Judiciary, Finance, Legal Affairs, Appropriations, and Joint Budget committees.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent Mr. Beatty in Congress and I am very grateful for his unselfish and prolific service to his community. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the many contributions and achievements of Mr. Jim Beatty.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF MAEDGEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to bring an important anniversary to my colleagues' attention. My elementary school, Maedgen Elementary School, in Lubbock, TX, is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. Maedgen first opened in the spring of 1955 and has been educating Lubbock's youngest citizens ever since. The school was named in honor of Charles Ernest Maedgen—1882–1964—an early resident of Lubbock who had a strong interest in the community and in education.

I am proud to be a Maedgen alumnus and am looking forward to attending the anniversary commemoration on February 24, 2006. I have many fond memories of my elementary school years. Mrs. Dunn, my first grade teacher, had a big influence on my life. I particularly remember a chart she placed in the front of the classroom to teach reading. Mrs. Dunn, using that chart, unlocked the world of reading for me. I also have memories of Mr. Ford, my principal. Some days I think I spent as much time in his office as he did

Many things have changed in our world and in education over the past 50 years. Teaching methods have changed, and technology that we never could have imagined 50 years ago now plays a big role in students' education. For example, computers, instead of charts, are used to teach reading now. I am pleased that Maedgen Elementary School is still serving the Lubbock community by teaching our children and giving them the tools to build a successful life. Congratulations to all who have worked over the past 50 years teaching and serving Lubbock children at Maedgen, and best wishes for much success to all future students, teachers and administrators.

SALUTING JAMES P. HOFFA

**HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mrs. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute James P. Hoffa, president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. Mr. Hoffa has spent the past 47 years in diligent and loyal service to the Teamsters Union and workers across the country.

Sworn in at the age of 18 by his father, James has been a member of the Teamsters Union since 1959. He learned early in his life the importance of workers' rights as he joined his father on picket lines as a young boy.

Since taking office in March of 1999, Mr. Hoffa has been rebuilding the International

Brotherhood of Teamsters. During his tenure as President, union membership has increased and the budget has been balanced for the first time in nearly a decade.

The Teamsters have also increased their global outreach, creating a new office of global strategies to focus resources on building alliances with workers from around the world, and by holding meetings of the International Transportation Workers Federation, ITF, with union leaders representing 624 transport unions that consist of 4.5 million workers from 142 countries.

Most recently, Mr. Hoffa faced intense challenges while the union family chose to take different directions for its future. It is my hope that these changes will be positive for the Teamsters and provide Mr. Hoffa with a continued opportunity to lead.

It is for these reasons that I stand to recognize the work and dedication of Mr. James Hoffa, and his commitment to workers and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

PRESIDENT CHEN'S LUNAR NEW  
YEAR'S DAY REMARKS

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, in his Lunar New Year's Day remarks to the nation, Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian expressed his concern over Taiwan's lack of representation in major international organizations and the Taiwanese people's need to revisit the issue of national unification with China.

Taiwan has tried to rejoin the United Nations and the World Health Organization but its efforts have been blocked by China and its diplomatic allies year after year. To break out of China's diplomatic suppression of Taiwan, President Chen was wondering if Taiwan should apply for membership in the United Nations under a new name, "Taiwan."

Apart from Taiwan's lack of international presence, Taiwanese people have developed a strong feeling that the balance of power in the Taiwan Strait has shifted to China's favor. Last spring, China passed its antiseccession law codifying the use of force against Taiwan. In recent years, China's military build-up along the coast of Taiwan has engendered suspicion and deep distrust of China's intentions toward Taiwan.

The Taiwanese people fear a military confrontation in the Taiwan Strait. It is therefore not surprising that their president would voice their apprehensions in his Lunar New Year's Day remarks. President Chen was wondering aloud if Taiwan should consider abolishing the National Unification Commission and the Guidelines for National Unification in view of China's repeated hostile actions taken against Taiwan. At the moment, this issue is being studied by Taiwan's National Security Council. President Chen must seek to explore venues, other than the National Unification Commission and the Guidelines for National Unification, to safeguard Taiwan's future.

To help ease Taiwanese apprehension, we, as friends of Taiwan, must ask President Bush to assure the people of Taiwan that America will adhere to its commitments to Taiwan under the Taiwan Relations Act and that

America would defend Taiwan if China were to invade Taiwan. Also, I think it is worthwhile for President Bush to further express America's strong concern over China's passage of the antiseccession legislation. The enactment of the law has in effect changed the status quo in the Taiwan Strait, thereby threatening the stability of the region.

Once again, President Bush should openly inform Chinese leaders that the future of Taiwan must be solved through peaceful means and with the consent of the people of Taiwan. Last but not least, President Bush should encourage Chinese leaders to resume a meaningful dialogue with Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian over cross-strait issues under the principles of sovereignty, democracy, peace and parity.

Mr. Speaker, Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian has not reneged on his inaugural pledges to his people. In the last 6 years he has not declared independence for Taiwan. He would like Chinese leaders to openly pledge to the world that China would not use force against Taiwan either now or in the future—a statement that we here in the Congress would welcome as well.

TRIBUTE TO COACH GENE BESS

**HON. JO ANN EMERSON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishment of Three Rivers Community College basketball coach Gene Bess. Coach Bess is a fixture of the southern Missouri community of Poplar Bluff and a legend of college basketball coaching. This season, he will accomplish a tremendous feat for a coach in any sport at any level: Coach Bess will win his 1,000th game.

Three Rivers Community College is lucky to have a great coach—a model of perseverance and service. In Coach Bess, the Three Rivers Raiders have a mentor, a leader, and a friend to coach them both on and off the court. For southern Missouri, Coach Bess is more than an expert on basketball and leadership—he is a student of the game of life. He is also a reminder that accomplishing our goals requires planning, hard work and plenty of sacrifice. After notching 1,000 wins, Coach Bess has also become an expert on sportsmanship. His players are instructed in the art of fair play right along with the other fundamentals of the game.

Most remarkable about Coach Bess to me and to many is that the basketball team is not the first priority in his life. He is proud of the fact that his faith and his family always come before his work. This is just one secret of his success.

But today I join with Coach Bess's family, his friends, his colleagues at Three Rivers, the hundreds of young men who have played on his teams, and the proud fans of the Eighth Congressional District to congratulate Coach Bess on achieving a rare milestone. In his long tenure as coach of the Three Rivers Raiders, Coach Bess has never had a losing season. His 1,000th victory marks a record that is unsurpassed at any level.

We are proud of this tradition, proud of this record, and most proud of Coach Bess.

IN HONOR OF BETTY FRIEDAN

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the resolution introduced by Congresswoman SOLIS to honor the late Betty Friedan, an influential and inspirational feminist pioneer, author, and leader who passed away on February 4. Throughout her life, Ms. Friedan fought for gender equality and social justice.

Ms. Friedan was born on February 4, 1921, in Peoria, IL. She graduated summa cum laude from Smith College in 1942 and did graduate work in psychology at the University of California at Berkeley. Ms. Friedan is best known for her 1963 book *The Feminine Mystique*, a groundbreaking work, which exposed for the first time the contradiction between expectations for women and the reality they were living. This best-seller challenged the prevalent assumption that women's interests were limited to housework and child rearing and called for greater opportunities for women in the workplace. *The Feminine Mystique* is viewed as one of the primary triggers of the second wave of feminism.

Betty Friedan played a significant role in the women's movement of the late 1960s and 1970s. In 1966, she co-founded the National Organization for Women, NOW, which remains one of our country's largest feminist organizations, and served as NOW's first president from 1966 to 1970. Ms. Friedan tirelessly advocated for equal treatment for women. She was a powerful voice for a multitude of reforms ranging from laws against sex discrimination to equal pay for equal work. Under her leadership, in 1968, NOW became the first organization to announce support for legalization of a woman's right to choose.

Women and men have benefited from the bravery and leadership of Betty Friedan. *The Feminine Mystique* continues to be read in college classrooms around the country, inspiring young people to continue Ms. Friedan's pursuit of equality.

It is with great sadness that I send my deepest condolences to the Friedan family. Ms. Friedan's lasting contributions to women's rights and social justice will always be remembered. Let us honor Ms. Friedan's memory by committing ourselves to promoting equality for all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to the life of Ms. Betty Friedan.

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE  
PROGRAM ENHANCED BOR-  
ROWING AUTHORITY ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Wednesday, February 8, 2006*

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Congress should act to increase the borrowing authority for the National Flood Insurance Program to honor the debt incurred by the United States.

If we do not act, people who have paid their flood insurance premiums will not receive their

claims for their flood damage. No one wants to live in a nation that does not honor its debts.

In addition, I am concerned that Congress is reacting to the unprecedented flooding damage of 2005 by blaming the victims and innocent parties.

Federally backed flood insurance is necessary because the private sector will not supply this product since the damages are too concentrated geographically and chronologically for the risk to be sufficiently spread by private firms.

We recently passed a Federal flood insurance reform bill in 2003 and many of those provisions have not come into force, so I think it is premature to require Congress to approve more "reforms" before honest, premium paying policy holders are allowed to receive their payments.

The Katrina disaster was a tragedy, because the mass New Orleans flooding was probably preventable; if the levees had been built and maintained as they should have been.

Now my constituents in Houston, who do not live below sea level and do not live on the ocean coastline, will have to pay the price.

There are over 120,000 families in the 100-year floodplain who are required to have flood insurance. In Harris County we have updated our maps using airborne infrared radar, so they are accurate. There are another 155,000 families in the 500-year floodplain.

These people did not develop irresponsibly, in fact many of them didn't move into the floodplain, but the floodplain moved to them. Subsidence and later development has expanded floodplains and put innocent homeowners in the floodplain.

We should not blame these people for geographic factors beyond their control. Reforms of the NFIP should focus instead new development in floodplains, eliminating flood insurance for beach houses, and ensuring that the program keeps its commitments to its policy holders.

If we greatly increase premiums or expand the number of people required to have flood insurance, we should take into account the shock this can have on low-income families, and consider my legislation, H.R. 103, to offer 50 percent discounts for the first 5 years to low-income homeowners who suddenly have to pay premiums after a floodplain is redrawn to include them.

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#### GREAT LAKES INVASIVE SPECIES CONTROL ACT

**HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced a bill to require all vessels, including those with no ballast water on board (NOBOBs), to undergo ballast water exchange before entering the Great Lakes.

Invasive species pose a dangerous threat to the Great Lakes. These creatures can cause irreparable ecological and economic damage to a variety of locations and industries. Al-

though no federal agency accumulates such statistics comprehensively, an estimate by the American Association for the Advancement of Science put damage to the U.S. economy at \$123 billion annually. We must do better to prevent the introduction of invasives into the Great Lakes environment.

One method by which these species enter the Great Lakes is through ballast water tanks. Current law requires ships carrying ballast water to undergo ballast water exchange to flush out invasive species before entering the Great Lakes from another port. However, 90 percent of all ships entering the Great Lakes have no ballast water on board. These NOBOBs are not subject to the same ballast water exchange laws, even though they still have ballast tanks. Invasive species often survive in the sediment at the bottom of these tanks. When these ships operate in the Great Lakes, they may add and then pump out new ballast water before leaving. This mixes with residual ballast water and sediments, and provides an unregulated pathway for the introduction of new invasive species when the ballast water is released.

In other words, the contamination begins.

We must not leave 90 percent of ships entering the Great Lakes untreated. This bipartisan legislation requires all ships with ballast tanks, including NOBOBs, to undergo ballast water exchange. In addition, the bill commissions a study of the effectiveness and environmental soundness of other ballast treatment options. The language fixes a current problem and works towards an even stronger solution for the future.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation, while small, has enormous consequences for the health and safety of one of our national treasures. I am proud to introduce this ballast water legislation to significantly reduce the infiltration of invasive species into the Great Lakes.

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#### NATIONAL PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORTS WEEK

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, as obesity and the associated health risks continue to increase in America's youth, it is important to encourage children to participate in physical activity.

To help spread this message, today I am introducing with Congressman ZACH WAMP of Tennessee, a resolution urging the declaration of a National Physical Education and Sports Week and National Physical Fitness and Sports Month.

This resolution notes the increase in childhood obesity along with the negative consequences of extremely overweight and obese people including a decrease in the average life span and rising health care costs stemming from obesity related illness. It also includes findings from the United States Surgeon documenting that regular physical activity is associated with improved health-related quality of life. It resolves the sense of the House of Representatives regarding "National Physical Edu-

cation and Sports Week" and "National Physical Fitness and Sports Month."

Research shows that sound physical education programs can help students learn healthy habits for life. Through regular exercise and information on proper nutrition, children can develop habits for maintaining a healthy weight into adulthood. We must encourage our children to adopt healthier lifestyles because America's children are experiencing obesity in growing numbers, and data continues to highlight the link between obesity and diabetes, heart disease and other life-threatening medical conditions.

"National Physical Education and Sports Week" and "National Physical Fitness and Sports Month" would remind citizens of the importance of maintaining a consistent exercise program and healthy lifestyle.

I urge the support of this resolution and look forward to its consideration.

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#### TRIBUTE TO GEORGE DUNKLIN, SR.

**HON. MARION BERRY**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise here today to pay tribute to one of my father's great friends, Mr. George Dunklin, Sr., who is a true leader in Arkansas' agriculture community. With more than 60 years of work in the cottonseed oil and fertilizer industries, George Dunklin, Sr. is one of the state's most gifted businessmen.

As the former President of the most successful cottonseed oil mill in the country, George Dunklin, Sr. knows how to run a successful business. From the day his father bought the Planters Cotton Oil mill in 1935, to his days as President of the cooperative, George Dunklin Sr. has worked hard to transform the cottonseed industry. He spent 66 years building a profitable enterprise, and left a lasting mark on MidSouth agriculture.

Years of hard work earned George Dunklin Sr. distinguished positions as the President of the National Cottonseed Association in 1975, a member of the Cotton Advisory Committee to the Secretary of Agriculture, President of the Mississippi Valley Oilseed Processors Association, and recipient of the 1990 Harvey W. McGeorge Award for Distinguished Service to Agriculture. But George Dunklin, Sr.'s talents did not stop there. He was even elected to the Arkansas Sports Hall of Fame in 1991 for his accomplishments in tennis.

George Dunklin has been married to the former Mary Elisabeth Black of DeWitt, Arkansas for 57 years and is the father of two children, Deborah Tipton of Memphis and George Dunklin, Jr. of DeWitt. He and his wife have five grandchildren, Megan Dunklin, Robert Tipton, Mary Tipton, Hillary Dunklin and Lauren Dunklin.

On February 21, 2006, our community will meet in Pine Bluff, Arkansas to honor George Dunklin, Sr. for his remarkable contributions to Arkansas agriculture. I ask my colleagues in Congress to join me in congratulating him on this occasion and thanking him for over half a century of dedicated service, as a great friend, and a great American.

TRIBUTE TO DR. TOM BLACKWELL

**HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the great work of one of my constituents, Dr. Tom Blackwell. Dr. Blackwell is a credit to the medical community in Charlotte, North Carolina, where he serves as an emergency room physician and EMS specialist at Carolinas Medical Center.

In early September, Dr. Blackwell and his team took their hospital on wheels—Carolinas MED-1—to Waveland, Mississippi to care for sick and injured Hurricane Katrina victims.

This mobile medical unit is a one-of-a-kind creation, originally devised by Dr. Blackwell to respond to terror attacks and other national disasters. Its two tractor trailers transform into a 14-bed hospital with operating facilities, radiology, and pharmacy support.

More than 350 doctors, nurses, and other North Carolina medical professionals spent about 2 months in Mississippi—caring for nearly 5,000 patients in a debris-strewn K-mart parking lot. They bravely dealt with life-threatening injuries and other medical needs—from attending to heart attack patients to delivering babies.

Our mobile hospital workers were praised for their effectiveness in the Final Report of the Committee to Investigate the Response to Hurricane Katrina, released on February 15, 2006. Charlotteans and Carolinians alike can be very proud of their neighbors who participated in MED-1's mission to the Gulf Coast, and I thank them for their outstanding service to fellow Americans in need.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MAJOR R. OWENS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I was absent on Tuesday, February 14, 2006, due to unavoidable circumstances in my Congressional District. Had I been present, I would have voted: Yea to H. Con. Res. 322—Expressing the Sense of Congress regarding the contribution of the USO to the morale and welfare of our servicemen and women of our armed forces and their families; and Yea to S. 1989—the Holly A. Charette Post Office Designation Act.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. FREDDIE HART

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Freddie Hart, a well known Alabamian who will soon have a street dedicated to him in his honor on Friday, February 17, 2006.

Mr. Hart was born Fred Segrest on December 21, 1926 to sharecropper parents in Lochapoka, Alabama. He was later raised in

Phenix City, Alabama. He taught himself to play the guitar at the age of five and only finished school past the second grade. He later pursued his musical interests by getting involved in bands, and landed his first recording contract with Capitol Records. In 1959, his first hit recording was "The Wall." In 1971, his song "Easy Lovin'" went to number one on the charts, won two Grammys, and was named "Song of the Year" for 1971 and 1972 by The Country Music Association. In 1991, he was awarded the Governor's Achievement Award, and in 2001 was inducted in the Alabama Music Hall of Fame.

I am delighted Mr. Hart will soon be honored with this important recognition, and congratulate him for his many accomplishments. It is my honor to pay tribute to Mr. Hart today in the House, and wish him many more years of success.

HONORING THE UTAHNS COMPETING IN THE 2006 WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES

**HON. JIM MATHESON**

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, all Utahns have watched with pride and anticipation as the U.S. Olympic team began competing at the Torino Winter Olympic Games this month. I am especially proud of the Utah athletes on the team.

They are Alpine skiers Steve Nyman, Ted Ligety, and Erik Schlopy; Nordic skiers Brett and Eric Camerota, Carl Swenson and Wendy Wagner; Ski jumper Anders Johnson; Freestyler Joe Pack; Bobsled members Shauna Rohbock, Steve Holcomb and Bill Schuffenhauer; and Luge team member Preston Griffall.

Utah is home to a long and distinguished tradition of winter sports. Names like Alf Engen and Stein Erikson are two of the winter sports icons that have helped make Utah synonymous with skiing.

When Utah welcomed the world to the 2002 Winter Olympic Games, we showcased the greatest snow on earth and the finest hospitality. By building world-class winter sports venues, such as the Kearns Skating Oval and the Bear Hollow Bobsled and Luge track and Nordic ski jumps, Utah also became a vital link in our country's support and training system for young athletes.

It has been said—and rightly so—that the Olympic Games are all about the athletes—about the gifted and dedicated men and women who display the drive, the courage and the integrity to represent America on the world athletic stage. With so much tension and trouble around the world today, it is heartening to see the best and the brightest from 80 nations coming together in peaceful competition, celebrating each other's culture and contribution to their sport.

I would like to salute all the athletes, especially my fellow Utahns, who bring us this inspiring and heart-warming interval from the beauty of winter.

HONORING STEVE MESLER, U.S. BOBSLED OLYMPIAN FROM BUFFALO, NY

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize 2006 Winter Olympian Steve Mesler. Steve, originally from the West Side of Buffalo, is to compete in the four man bobsled race Friday, February 25. This will be his first time competing in the Winter Olympics, as he served as an alternate in the 2002 games.

Steve Mesler is truly a scholar-athlete. Born and raised in Buffalo, he graduated from City Honors High School in 1996 after participating in four consecutive city track and field championships. He also received the Buffalo Bills Academic/Community Service/Athletic Scholarship. Steve attended the University of Florida with a track and field scholarship. He graduated from the University of Florida, where he is still ranked six all-time among University of Florida decathletes with 6,817 points, with honors for a degree in Exercise and Sports Science.

After ending his track and field career in 2001, Steve traveled to San Diego for bobsled training camp. Although he was new to the sport he learned quickly. Four months after beginning the sport he was selected to travel with the 2002 men's Olympic Bobsled team to Salt Lake City, Utah as an alternate. Steve won his first World Cup medal in 2002–2003 season.

The men's bobsled competition consists of four runs, two runs per day for two days timed to hundredth of a second. The final standings are determined by the total time over the four runs; the winner is the sled with the lowest time. As a part of the nine man Olympic bobsled team, Steve Mesler is expected to push for Todd Hays, the 2002 Olympic silver medalist. Steve has much courage and determination—he and his team have come back from their four man sled crash at the November 2005 World Cup in Lake Placid, NY.

Steve is truly a member of the City of Good Neighbors. He describes himself as a kid from Buffalo having grown up playing street hockey and soccer. He is a die-hard Buffalo Bills fan; his favorite bill was Thurman Thomas, and his family partakes in Buffalo traditions such as tailgating—even when temperatures reach as low as 30 degrees.

The 2006 men's Olympic bobsled team is expected to bring home a medal, and I am proud to have Steve Mesler represent my district, my state, and our country at the 20th Olympic Winter Games in Torino, Italy.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained yesterday and missed Rollcall votes #10 and #11. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Rollcall vote #10 and "yea" on Rollcall vote #11.

SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING  
PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY**HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, this resolution is an important first step to cut off direct aid to the Palestinian Authority now that Hamas will be in power. However, it is only one component of the dramatic overhaul that needs to take place as we redefine our relationship with the new Palestinian government.

Responsible for attacks that have murdered hundreds and injured thousands, Hamas is first and foremost a terrorist organization. Its fund raising and training operations run through the same shadowy networks as Al-Qaeda and Hezbollah. Its philosophy and practice are grounded in the spread of extremist hatred, anti-Semitism and violence.

The United States must set a strong example and be firm in urging the international community to join us in cutting off all funding and diplomatic contacts with the Palestinian Authority once Hamas takes control.

The Palestinian election may have been conducted in a free and fair manner, but it does not make the Hamas victory any more legitimate. Until it disarms, renounces violence, and recognizes Israel's right to exist, the group should continue to be dealt with as a rogue entity.

There is no room for ambiguity. Governments that wage the global war on terrorism should not be propping up a terrorist regime. International organizations that believe in the peace process should not be financing a Palestinian leadership bent on Israel's destruction. Nations that disavow anti-Semitism should not be providing assistance that would give an even greater pulpit for Hamas to spew its hatred.

It is alarming that despite these realities President Putin and others have made overtures to Hamas leaders. There should be no distinction between terrorists in Chechnya who target Russian school children and those from the West Bank and Gaza who blow up Israeli pizza stores and public buses. Equivocation only emboldens their use of such heinous tactics.

If there is hope of pressuring Hamas to change, the world must unite behind a clear message: We will not support a terrorist-state, but stand ready to assist when and if a Palestinian government emerges that is ready, willing and able to embrace a peaceful future.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION  
REGARDING THE LABELING OF  
INDOOR TANNING DEVICES**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, the American people are not aware that indoor tanning is dangerous. While many people understand that tanning outside is harmful, they mistakenly believe that tanning in a salon is a safe alternative to sunbathing. It's time we examined the labeling requirements for tanning de-

vices. Today I, along with my colleague from Florida, Representative GINNY BROWN-WAITE, introduce the Tanning Accountability and Notification Act, which would require the FDA to determine whether the current labeling of indoor tanning devices communicates sufficient information about the risks indoor tanning devices pose for the development of irreversible skin damage, including skin cancer.

According to a 2005 survey conducted by the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD), in their quest for a sunless tan, almost 30 million Americans visit indoor tanning salons each year. Of these 70% are women between the ages of 16 and 49. The dermatologists have concluded that indoor tanning is not safe. One of the reported side effects of indoor tanning is an elevated risk of skin cancer. According to the AAD, regular tanning bed use was associated with a 55% increase in the risk of developing melanoma, especially in women between the ages of 20 and 29. FDA and numerous leading United States' and international health care organizations have expressed concerns that the consuming public is not aware that indoor tanning devices emit ultraviolet radiation that is similar to and sometimes more powerful than UV radiation emitted by the sun. This legislation will ensure Americans make informed choices about preserving the health of their skin.

## TAIWAN: LUNAR NEW YEAR

**HON. PHIL GINGREY**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, last Spring the People's Republic of China passed an anti-secession law targeting the Republic of China on Taiwan. This law gives Communist leaders the right to use force against Taiwan if they suspect separatist activities. In addition to the enactment of the anti-secession law, Communist China's rapid military build-up has brought substantial concern to the Taiwanese people. With 700 Communist missiles posted along the coast of Taiwan, mainland China makes a bold statement that military action is a viable possibility. In response to China's unilateral change of the status quo in the Taiwan Strait, it is my understanding that President Chen has expressed concern about Taiwan's future in his Lunar New Year's Day remarks.

If China really wants to unify Taiwan, it is my hope that they will listen to the advice of President Chen who requests mainland China to relinquish the use of force, listen to the people of Taiwan, and stop obstructing Taiwan from participating in international organizations like the United Nations and the World Health Organization. It is also my understanding that President Chen has, on many occasions, stated that the development of cross-strait relations must conform to the principles of sovereignty, democracy, peace and prosperity. China has no right by the principle of self-determination to change the status quo either through the anti-secession law or military intimidation. Like President Chen, I believe Taiwan's future must be made by the free will of the 23 million residents of Taiwan.

Taiwan is a free and democratic nation and deserves to be treated properly and with respect from the international community. Exclu-

sion from the United Nations has deprived Taiwan its international identity. The Republic of China on Taiwan is content on returning to the international community and it is speculated that President Chen might even reapply to the United Nations under the new name of "Taiwan."

It is my understanding that in the last six years, President Chen has not broken any of his pledges and has, in turn, offered many goodwill gestures to the People's Republic of China. I believe President Chen's remarks deserve our undivided attention and consideration.

Maintaining the status quo is currently the peaceful alternative and it is my understanding that President Chen once again reaffirmed his 2000 inaugural pledge to maintain status quo with mainland China, not declare independence, not change the name of the government, or add any other language to the Republic of China's Constitution that promotes an independence referendum.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support peace in the region and hope that the People's Republic of China will reciprocate President Chen's goodwill by renouncing the use of force against Taiwan. However, should the need arise, we must not forget our responsibilities under the Taiwan Relations Act to make sure the Republic of China on Taiwan has the military capability to defend itself and assert its free voice to the international community.

HONORING GABRIEL AND SARA  
MATOS**HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Gabriel and Sara Matos, for their dedication to citizen activism and crime prevention. Mr. and Mrs. Matos have been dedicated to preventing crime and protecting their community for many years, and have worked to encourage and spread citizen activism through their efforts.

On September 30, 2005, Mr. and Mrs. Matos were recognized for their dedication as recipients of the Citizens Crime Watch of Miami-Dade County's top award, the "Miami-Dade County Citizens' Crime Watch Chairperson of the Year." Their hard work through this organization has protected the community by allowing them to work closely with law enforcement and politicians on zoning and crime issues.

The couple have been leaders of the Concerned Citizens of West Dade, Inc. since they created it nearly fifteen years ago. They were instrumental in the adoption of an anti-graffiti ordinance, and as chairpersons of their neighborhood crime watch, have helped to keep their neighborhood safe, as well as motivating other neighborhoods in their community to set up Crime Watch groups.

I congratulate Gabriel and Sara Matos, and on behalf of the residents of Miami-Dade County, I thank them for their dedication to their community.

RECOGNITION OF LANCE CORPORAL JONATHAN KYLE PRICE

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Lance Corporal Jonathan Kyle Price who was recently killed in action fighting for freedom in Ramadi, Iraq.

Lance Cpl Price was a 19 year-old from Woodlawn, Illinois and was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 10th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C. He graduated from Woodlawn High School in Woodlawn, Ill.

Price paid the ultimate sacrifice for his country. He is survived by his mother and stepfather, Cheryl Price Hunsell and John Hunsell of Woodlawn; his father, David Price of Indianapolis, Ind.; a brother, John R. Hunsell of Woodlawn; two sisters, Krystal Martin and husband Eric of St. Louis and Rachel Hunsell of Woodlawn; his fiancée, Brea Tate of Mt. Vernon and many other family, friends and loved ones. I am proud of the service this young man gave to his country and the service his fellow troops perform everyday. Not enough can be said about Lance Cpl Price. It is soldiers like him that are risking their lives day in and day out to ensure our freedom here at home and to others throughout the rest of the world. I salute him and my best wishes go out to his family and all the troops fighting to ensure freedom and democracy. God bless them and may God continue to bless America.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR RICK ALLEN

**HON. GREG WALDEN**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American, a dedicated Oregonian, an avid Oregon Duck fan, and a good friend of mine, Mayor Rick Allen. Throughout his career, Mayor Allen has played a significant role in shaping the City of Madras, while paving the way for future development and growth. Today, we thank him for his years of public service and recognize the numerous contributions he's made during his tenure in office.

Mr. Speaker, following graduation from Madras High School in 1975, Rick took over as the manager of the local bowling alley. It was there that he began learning the ways of the business world. His hard work at the bowling alley gave him the experience and knowledge that led him to his next business endeavor as the manager of the Tiger Mart. It didn't take long until Rick had purchased Tiger Mart and turned it into a thriving gas station and mini mart. Soon, he'd be on to even bigger and better endeavors.

First elected in 1982, at the young age of 25, Rick embarked into the world of politics as a member of the Madras City Council. His business savvy brought efficiency and effectiveness to his elected post and to the operation of local government. Rick served 6 years as a member of the city council, and served

as the mayor for the last 2 years. Following his service on the city council, Mayor Allen went on to serve 8 years as a Jefferson County Commissioner, continuing his role of public stewardship.

Mr. Speaker, following a brief departure from elected office, Rick's dedication and devotion to his community called him back for a second tour of duty. In 2000, the City of Madras faced great uncertainty with alleged scandals and wrongdoings within the city government. During these tumultuous times, Rick recognized the need for stability and consistent leadership, which encouraged and inspired him to mount a write-in candidacy to once again return to serve as the Mayor of Madras. He was overwhelmingly elected in 2001, securing 80 percent of the vote and upon election immediately went to work to rebuild and restore trust within the community.

Mr. Speaker, those who know Rick best will tell you that he's not one to back down from a challenge and he's not afraid to make an unpopular decision if he believes it is best for the community. During his tenure, Rick tackled challenges and controversy head on. He was a visionary for growth, led the charge for expansion, and has been a champion for economic development in the region. Under his leadership, the city acquired industrial land near the airport while making significant improvements and enhancements to the airport property. Rick has been a strong advocate for recreation and rafters who float along the lower Deschutes River. He was a key player in East Madras Development Project, which will establish 1,700 new homes, an 18-hole golf course, over 60 acres of open space, and 20 acres set aside for the local schools.

Mr. Speaker, these illustrate just a few of Mayor Allen's accomplishments during a long and distinguished career. I ask that my fellow colleagues join me in congratulating this extraordinary man and great American. For years to come the region will flourish and residents will benefit from the foundation and vision that Mayor Allen has pursued. I wish Rick the best in future endeavors, and personally, I would like to thank him for all he's done for the people of Jefferson County, the Second Congressional District, and the great state of Oregon.

TRIBUTE TO CLOYCE DICKERSON

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me today in congratulating Cloyce Dickerson as he receives the Walter Reuther Award from UAW Local 659. Cloyce will be honored at a reception on Sunday by the membership of the Local.

The Walter Reuther Award is given to UAW members, public officials and community leaders, in acknowledgement of their contributions to the advancement of working people and their families. 41 years ago Cloyce Dickerson began his career with General Motors Chevrolet Manufacturing Plant and started his lifelong commitment to improving conditions for his fellow workers.

He was employed with Chevrolet as a skilled tradesman and a Building Repairman.

He worked for the UAW in the capacities of Alternate Committeeman, UAW/CAP Council Member, Jobs Bank Coordinator, Attendance Coordinator, EAP Coordinator-International Appointment, Health and Safety Representative-International Appointment, Quality Network Representative-International Appointment, served on Person to Person Committee, the Joint Council, and was chair of the UAW Black Caucus.

In addition he also was a founding member of the North End "GOTV" Headquarters, a member of Christ Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church, former Vice-President and life member of the NAACP-Flint Branch, a board member of Big Brother/Big Sisters, works with Boys and Girls Club, and the Democratic Black Caucus. As the father of six and the grandfather of nine, Cloyce understands the importance of instilling community values in our youth and was recently honored by the Flint Human Relations Commission with the Service to Youth Award.

Cloyce was inducted into the Afro-American Hall of Fame in 1998. In 2005 the Bruin Club of Flint gave him the Athletic Alumni Award because of his athletic prowess during his high school and college years. Cloyce was an All Conference and All State honoree basketball player during his years attending Central High School. Attending Mott Community College, Cloyce was on the school's 1964 Regional Championship Basketball team.

Mr. Speaker, may the members of the House of Representatives join me in honoring a remarkable, committed, compassionate man, Cloyce Dickerson, and he is recognized for his lifelong contributions to the UAW and its members.

GIRL SCOUTS OF NASSAU COUNTY  
FOCUS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF  
GOOD SELF IMAGE FOR GIRLS

**HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mrs. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the Girl Scouts of Nassau County for their work to promote health and self-esteem, to build courage, confidence and character in girls and young women.

The Girl Scouts provide an extremely important service, always working to find new ways to address the key issues facing girls and young women. Recently, the Girl Scout Research Institute released a study which concluded that feeling acceptance and emotional health are critical toward achieving healthy habits. The study was quite timely, released just before National Eating Disorder Awareness Week, which is February 27 through March 3. The study brings everyday girls' voices to the forefront of discussions on health and self esteem issues.

The Girl Scouts of Nassau County offer a range of healthy living activities that address the girl as a whole rather than just the food she eats, her weight and her exercise habits. Dove, the beauty brand, made that point by running a Superbowl commercial. The commercial aimed to widen the definition of beauty and inspire healthy, positive self-images among women. The talents of the Girl Scouts of Nassau County Chorus were recruited, and

the young ladies provided the vocals for the commercial, singing the Cyndi Lauper song "True Colors."

Mr. Speaker, it is with pride that I commend and honor the following Girl Scouts of Nassau County and their adult leaders for their achievements and dedication to improving the self image and health of girls and young women. Natalie Aiken, Kara Arena, Alice Azzara, Catherine Azzara, Jennifer Azzara, Chantice Barr, Emily Berger, Gillian Berkowitz, Emme Bih, Stella Bowles, Nicolle Bowman, Antoinette Burke, Tracy Carrella, Kara Curtin, Lauren Dash, Meryl Dickstein, Vicky Eberle, Emma Hood, Alexis Jacobsen, Emily Jacobson, Enrica Maccarone, Julia Marsh, Mykela Martinez, Carlie Mendoza, Christina Mendoza Emily Mervosh, Carly Mignone, Allison Monastero, Marianne Monastero, Michelle Monastero, Tatiana Montano, Rosalita Morante, Casey Murphy, Laurie Murray, Melanie Pavlidis, Rachel Ruggiero, Katy Schwartz, Samantha Simon, Erin Stark, Megan Stark, Kristen Talbot, Gina Vollaro, Samantha Watterson, Angelica Weber, Amelia Weck, Brenda Weck, Jr., Elizabeth Woods, Courtney Wright, Crystalyn Wynter, Laura Bissett-Carr, Marie Rauch, Donna Rivera-Downey, Melanie Trainor.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CITIZEN  
SOLDIER PROTECTION ACT OF 2006

**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Citizen Soldier Protection Act of 2006. This legislation will protect our American soldiers from being forced to serve under a United Nations or other foreign command and from being forced to wear the insignia of the United Nations or other foreign states.

Mr. Speaker, there have been instances where members of the U.S. Armed Forces were compelled, without lawful authority, to serve under United Nations or other foreign command and to wear as part of their military uniform visible indicia or insignia of the United Nations and foreign states. This is absolutely unacceptable, as the Constitutional role of the United States Armed Forces is to protect the United States of America. It is the responsibility of the U.S. Congress to ensure that the men and women who sign up for the noble duty of defending our country do not end up serving under a foreign flag or foreign commander. And American soldiers certainly should not be forced to serve the sovereignty-destroying plans of the United Nations!

I hope my colleagues will join me in defending our men and women in uniform by cosponsoring Citizen Soldier Protection Act of 2006.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 30TH AN-  
NIVERSARY OF THE PENSION  
RIGHTS CENTER

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the 30th anniver-

sary of the Pension Rights Center. Since its founding on February 17, 1976, the center has been a leading voice and champion for the retirement security of the American people. The center is the only organization in the United States solely dedicated to protecting and promoting the pension rights of American workers, retirees, and their families. Its founder, Karen Ferguson, has dedicated her career and much of her life to improving the retirement security of the American people.

From the beginning of our private pension law, the Pension Rights Center has fought to ensure fair treatment for all workers, but especially for the most vulnerable members of our society—widows, divorced spouses, and dislocated workers. Every day for the past 30 years, the Pension Rights Center has been the voice of the voiceless. The center was instrumental in the passage of the Retirement Equity Act of 1984 which improved pension protections for widows and divorcees, expanded pension coverage to younger workers and reduced pension vesting requirements for all workers. The center also played a key role in the development and passage of the Tax Reform Act of 1986 which expanded pension coverage requirements for all workers and improved benefits for low-income workers by limiting the integration of pension and Social Security benefits. Year after year, the center has led the way to highlight problems in the law and work with Congress and the executive branch on creative and thoughtful solutions that make our pension system fairer for all. From plan asset reversions to cash balance conversions, the Pension Rights Center has alerted the Nation to the retirement problems of the day and helped us find a fair way to protect the pension promises made to employees and retirees.

In addition to its policy work, the center has helped tens of thousands of individuals with their pension problems. The center has worked with the Departments of Labor and Treasury, IRS, and the PBGC to improve their pension assistance functions. The center developed and coordinates a nationwide network of pension information and assistance services for older Americans, through the internet and telephone, a network of actuarial and legal volunteers, and the publication of resource materials. The U.S. Administration on Aging's Pensions Counseling and Information Program relies on the Pension Rights Center to provide technical assistance and training to its six regional pension counseling projects that provide free assistance to individuals in 17 States.

With the baby-boom generation reaching retirement age and a growing number of companies terminating or freezing their pension plans, it is increasingly likely that coming generations will not have the retirement security that their parents enjoyed. That's why the center has spearheaded the Conversation on Coverage, bringing together a diverse and bipartisan range of experts—from business, unions, financial institutions, and retiree, women's and consumer organizations—to find common-ground approaches to improving pension coverage. The Conversation on Coverage's Working Groups currently are finalizing recommendations that hold the promise of expanding pensions and retirement savings for millions of Americans. I look forward to their final recommendations, and hope that the Conversation's work will help turn the tide of

employers leaving the traditional pension system and encourage everyone to pull together for the sake of our long-term retirement security.

For three decades, the center has been at the forefront of protecting retirement income security. Today, its work is more important than ever. We wish the Pension Rights Center, its founder Karen Ferguson, Karen Friedman, John Hotz, Kathy Reusing, Victoria Kanios, Nancy Hwa, Raelene LaPlante, Joellen Leavelle, Kathryn Jantz, Kyle Garrett, Ted Stein, Rebecca Carr and the rest of the dedicated staff a very happy 30th anniversary. Their work shines, not just because of their wisdom and talent, but because of their strong conviction and dedication to promoting a secure retirement for every American.

TRIBUTE TO DANIEL "ED"  
BARROW

**HON. DENNIS MOORE**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a pioneer in the air traffic control field, Daniel "Ed" Barrow, who will celebrate his 90th birthday later this year.

Born in Boone, IA, and raised in Unionville, IN, Ed Barrow attended Indiana Central College in Indianapolis, IN. After teaching school in Elwood, IN, Barrow began working for the Indiana State Employment Office, where he saw a job posting for an air controller trainee. As the holder of a student pilot's license, he met the primary qualification. As his daughter, Marilyn Smith, related to me, "He decided to try for the position. A trucker stopped at his Marathon station. The driver was going to Pittsburgh, so Dad hitched a ride with him. When he got to Pittsburgh, he took the bus to New York City. While in New York, Dad stayed in the YMCA. The training was very hard, so he asked Mother to keep checking with the Employment Office to see if he could come back if he 'washed out'."

This led to a lengthy career for Ed Barrow with the Civil Aeronautics Administration, the predecessor agency of the Federal Aviation Administration, FAA. As a result, the Barrow family was posted at various locations around the United States, including Roeland Park and Overland Park, KS, both of which are located in the Third Congressional District.

During the outset of his career as an air traffic controller, Ed Barrow and his colleagues received their information on the telephone and then plotted the information on paper maps. In the mid-1950s, Ed was the chief of the Washington National Airport control tower; he later went to work in the Washington, DC, headquarters of the Civil Aeronautics Administration. Among other projects, he worked on Operation Northern Tier, which resulted in the long range radar system's installation nationwide in the FAA's Air Route Traffic Control Centers.

In the mid-20th century, air traffic control was revolutionized by the introduction of radar, a system the British initially developed for air defense prior to World War II. After the war, the Civil Aeronautics Administration began applying this technology to the problem of keeping civilian flights safely separated. In 1946, the agency used a system developed for the

Navy to open a radar-equipped airport tower for demonstration purposes. By 1950, the first Airport Surveillance Radar systems were deployed in the United States.

Ed Barrow's participation was key to the development of our modern "positive air traffic control system," which requires all aircraft at or above 18,000 feet to be under positive air traffic control in order to ensure that they were provided separation from all other aircraft operating at the same altitudes. As chief of the FAA's Air Traffic Control Procedures Division, he was responsible for all of the procedures and phraseology used by American civilian and military air traffic controllers and ultimately oversaw the complete rewriting of the Air Traffic Control Procedures Manual. He established a set of Military Operations Areas, MOAs, in which military training and tactics would be contained and FAA controllers would then take the fighters to and from these MOAs and the military would then operate within these designated areas. Barrow also established that an FAA controller would be assigned to the NORAD facility to ensure the competency of the NORAD controllers. This all superseded an earlier agreement with the North American Air Defense, NORAD, Command of the U.S. Air Force which allowed NORAD to control fighter/inceptors independently of the FAA air traffic control system, which had become increasingly hazardous to the safety of both civilian and military aircraft.

Later, Ed Barrow was assigned to Kansas City, MO, to the headquarters of the director of the FAA's Central Region, where he was responsible for aviation safety in an 11 State area, including the operational activities of the Air Traffic Division, the Flight Standards Safety Division and the Airways Facilities Division.

As his friend and coworker, Glen Tigner, recently told his daughter, Marilyn: "Your Dad often gave that country boy approach to critical matters, but believe me he was sharp as a tack. He was a real leader among men, instilling in them the attitude that they would follow him anywhere, anytime, anyhow . . . a man one would proudly serve. He will be remembered as the best of the best."

Ed Barrow's service to his country was recognized by the Department of the Air Force, which presented him with a Decoration for Exceptional Civilian Service. It reads: "In recognition of his exceptional performance as Airways Operations Specialist, Directorate of Operations, Headquarters USAF, from 15 October 1954 to 15 May 1956. The constant, increasing demands on the United States Air Force and other users of the airspace since the advent of jet operations presented almost insurmountable problems in the air traffic field. Through his superior knowledge, extreme conscientiousness, and outstanding application, Mr. Barrow developed completely new concepts to meet the requirements so that the Air Force now leads in air traffic control, so vital to the emergency war plans."

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to take this opportunity to share with the House this tribute to the distinguished public service career of Daniel "Ed" Barrow, as he approaches his 90th birthday, and to wish him many happy returns in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO TERRY R. JORDE ON HER ELECTION AS CHAIRMAN OF THE INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY BANKERS OF AMERICA

### HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the remarkable achievement and leadership of a great North Dakotan, a remarkable business CEO and a wonderful woman—Terry R. Jorde. Today on the occasion of Terry Jorde's election as chairman of the Independent Community Bankers of America, ICBA, we celebrate her service and success. Firsts for Jorde are commonplace: She is the first North Dakotan and the first woman so honored.

Terry Jorde is president and CEO of Country Bank USA, a locally owned community bank in Cando, ND. Her career embodies the spirit of Cando—a town literally named for the "Can Do" spirit of the town's founders.

Terry Jorde started her banking career at age 21 as a teller and bookkeeper, and in 11 years she advanced to election as president and CEO of the bank. Jorde successfully led the bank through the agricultural crisis in the early 1990's, achieving strong growth in profitability and diversifying the bank's geographic and revenue base.

ICBA's election of Terry Jorde as the organization's chairman comes in recognition of her service to ICBA members. Independent Community Bankers of America is dedicated to enhancing services and values of the Nation's community bankers for the benefit of their customers. Locally owned community banks are the bankers for municipalities and school districts. Community bankers generally know personally many small business owners and establish lending relationships with these individuals and their businesses. These small businesses, in turn, provide the majority of new jobs in our economy.

Like other community bankers around the Nation, Terry Jorde provides tremendous leadership in her communities of Cando and Devils Lake, which is critical to economic development and community revitalization. In any given week, she might spend 6 hours in a hospital board meeting, 4 hours in an economic development corporation meeting, and another 4 hours working with other local community bankers to develop a financial incentive package for a potential new business in Cando. She knows that community service is an important and cost-effective way to invest her time. The vitality of Country Bank depends on the economic success and vitality of the local communities of Cando and Devils Lake.

Jorde has taken that service mission to the national and State levels. She has been an important voice for rural America calling for a strategic vision that brings together a broad rural coalition of various private sector entities, government and educational institutions to focus on the many challenges facing our rural communities. She has testified before congressional committees and had the privilege of being the only active banker to sit on the FDIC's Advisory Committee on Banking Policy. Terry is past president of the Independent Community Banks of North Dakota and a past member of the Federal Reserve Board Con-

sumer Advisory Council. She also served on the board of the North Dakota Department of Financial Institutions.

With ICBA, Jorde has served on the Executive Committee as treasurer and as chairman of ICBA's Services Network, the holding company that oversees the trade association's six for-profit subsidiaries. She has also been chairman of ICBA's Securities Corp. and ICBA's Agriculture-Rural America Committee.

Terry Jorde is a business development leader, serving on the board of the Towner County Economic Development Corp., the Towner County Medical Center, the Cando Community Foundation, and the North Dakota Development Fund. She is also currently a member of Fannie Mae's National Advisory Council.

Terry Jorde holds a bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana. She and her husband also farm 1,200 acres of potatoes, and they are the parents of three children.

North Dakota is very proud that her outstanding leadership skills and banking expertise are being recognized with this important national association position.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "INTERNET GAMBLING PROHIBITION ACT"

### HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce today bipartisan legislation, the Internet Gambling Prohibition Act, along with my colleague Representative RICK BOUCHER of Virginia, to address the ever increasing problem of illegal Internet gambling in our Nation.

The Internet is a revolutionary tool that dramatically affects the way we communicate, conduct business, and access information. As it knows no boundaries, the Internet is accessed by folks in rural and urban areas alike, in large countries as well as small. The Internet is currently expanding by leaps and bounds; however, it has not yet come close to reaching its true potential as a medium for commerce and communication.

One of the main reasons that the Internet has not reached this potential is that many folks view it as a wild frontier, with no safeguards to protect children and very few legal protections to prevent online criminal activity. The ability of the World Wide Web to penetrate every home and community across the globe has both positive and negative implications—while it can be an invaluable source of information and means of communication, it can also override community values and standards, subjecting them to whatever may or may not be found online.

Gambling is an excellent example of this situation. It is currently illegal in the United States unless regulated by the States. With the development of the Internet, however, prohibitions and regulations governing gambling have been turned on their head. No longer do people have to leave the comfort of their homes and make the affirmative decision to travel to a casino; they can access the casino from their living rooms.

Since 1868, the Federal Government has enacted Federal gambling statutes when a

particular type of gambling activity has escaped the ability of States to regulate it. For over 100 years, Congress has acted to assist States in enforcing their respective policies on gambling when developments in technology of an interstate nature, such as the Internet, have compromised the effectiveness of State gambling laws.

The negative consequences of online gambling can be as detrimental to the families and communities of addictive gamblers as if a bricks and mortar casino was built right next door. Online gambling can result in addiction, bankruptcy, divorce, crime, and moral decline just as with traditional forms of gambling, the costs of which must ultimately be borne by society.

Gambling on the Internet is especially enticing to youth, pathological gamblers, and criminals. There are currently no mechanisms in place to prevent youths—who make up the largest percentage of Internet users—from using their parents' credit card numbers to register and set up accounts for use at Internet gambling sites. In addition, pathological gamblers may become easily addicted to online gambling because of the Internet's easy access, anonymity and instant results. Finally, Internet gambling can provide a nearly undetectable harbor for criminal enterprises. The anonymity associated with the Internet makes online gambling more susceptible to crime.

I have long been an advocate of the Internet and of limited government regulation of this new medium. However, that does not mean that the Internet should be a regulatory free zone or that our existing laws should not apply to the Internet. I think we can all agree that it would be very bad public policy to allow offline activity deemed criminal by States to be freely committed online and to go unpunished simply because we are reluctant to apply our laws to the Internet.

Gambling on the Internet has become an extremely lucrative business. Numerous studies have charted the explosive growth of this industry, both by the increases in gambling websites available, and via industry revenues. Some estimates show that it is now a \$12 billion a year industry.

Most Internet gambling sites are offshore. Virtual betting parlors accepting bets from individuals in the United States have attempted to avoid the application of United States law by locating themselves offshore and out of our jurisdictional reach. These offshore, fly-by-night Internet gambling operators are unlicensed, untaxed and unregulated and are sucking billions of dollars out of the United States. In addition, the FBI and the Department of Justice has testified that Internet gambling serves as a vehicle for money laundering activities and can be exploited by terrorists to launder money.

Current law already prohibits gambling over telephone wires. However, because the Internet does not always travel over telephone wires, these laws, which were written before the invention of the World Wide Web, have become outdated. My legislation simply clarifies the state of the law by bringing the current prohibition against wire line interstate gambling up to speed with the development of new technology. It also makes clear once and for all that the prohibition is not limited to sports-related bets and wagers.

In addition, my legislation will add a new provision to the law that would prohibit a gam-

bling business from accepting certain forms of non-cash payment, including credit cards and electronic transfers, for the transmission of illegal bets and wagers. This provision provides an enforcement mechanism to address the situation where the gambling business is located offshore but the gambling business used bank accounts in the United States. The bill also provides an additional tool to fight illegal gambling by giving Federal, State, local and tribal law enforcement new injunctive authority to prevent and restrain violations of the law.

The legislation I am introducing will return control to the States by protecting the right of citizens in each State to decide through their State legislatures if they want to allow gambling within their borders and not have that right taken away by offshore, fly-by-night operators. The regulation of intrastate gambling is within the jurisdiction of the States, so the bill leaves the regulation of wholly intrastate betting or wagering to the States with tight controls to be sure that such betting or wagering does not extend beyond their borders or to minors.

Internet gambling is a serious problem that must be stopped. The Internet Gambling Prohibition Act will help eliminate this harmful activity before it spreads further. I urge my colleagues to support this very important legislation.

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STATEMENT ON THE PRESIDENT'S  
FY 2007 BUDGET

**HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in opposition to President Bush's proposed budget for fiscal year 2007. Once again, the President claims he can have it both ways by making permanent tax cuts while halving the deficit by 2009. However, the numbers tell a different story. This year's budget proposal, if enacted by Congress, would result in a budget deficit of \$423 billion, the largest in our Nation's history, and this amount would increase dramatically once the tax cuts take effect in 2011. Every American family knows that you cannot continue to spend more money than you take in, and the President must acknowledge this fact before it is too late.

To reduce this record deficit, we must make difficult choices, and both spending and taxes need to be on the table. The President has not made these difficult choices, and should Congress follow this budget, working families will be left on their own as the Government again favors only the wealthiest Americans.

In order to partially pay for the irresponsible tax policies, the President attempts to cut spending in several areas, notably health care and education. Medicare would be reduced by \$36 billion over 5 years by reducing already low payments to health care providers, who would be less willing to accept Medicare patients. The National Institutes of Health, which researches life-saving cures for numerous diseases such as cancer and Parkinson's Disease, would in effect receive a cut outside of funds earmarked for biodefense. While I support measures to increase our preparedness for outbreaks such as a potential pandemic flu, these funds should not come at the ex-

pense of research to cure ailments like heart disease.

In December, I distributed surveys to every school and district in my congressional district to determine the level of emergency preparedness. Most respondents indicated they had not properly rehearsed their emergency plans, and nearly a quarter of the schools and districts did not even know whom to ask for help. Fortunately, the Department of Education's Safe and Drug-free Schools and Communities program provides grants to help schools develop and implement emergency plans. However, President Bush proposes eliminating this program that has helped so many schools across our country. There are countless examples of these misguided priorities in the budget.

In 2004, Congress nearly unanimously passed the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act to put the program on track to full funding, but this budget includes only \$10.7 million for State grants. This means that once again, the Federal Government will only provide less than half of the amount promised to States to educate children with special needs. The budget also zeros out the TRIO programs—Gear Up, Talent Search and Upward Bound—which encourage economically disadvantaged Rhode Island students to seek higher education.

Even though energy independence was a major theme of the President's State of the Union Address, he is not funding his own proposals. After announcing America is "addicted to oil," the President has increased Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy programs by a paltry 0.2 percent. In addition, programs to increase energy efficiency and research hydro-power and geothermal energy are cut. We need real leadership on this issue. The brightest minds in America put a man on the moon, and we need a similar effort to develop clean and renewable energy sources. A 0.2 percent increase will not accomplish that goal.

If the President truly wanted to make our country more competitive, he would not have avoided funding the Small Business 7(a) loan guarantee program and reduced Trade Adjustment Assistance, which retraining workers who lose their jobs because of foreign trade.

If the President wanted to enrich our communities, he would not have reduced funding for the community development block grants, COPS program, or Weatherization Assistance for energy efficient homes.

If the President wanted to make health care more accessible, he would not have increased fees for groups such as military retirees and Medicare beneficiaries. On top of all these cuts and fee increases, we still have the highest deficit in history as a result of the irresponsible tax policies the President seeks to continue. This is not the direction America should be moving.

The President had a tremendous opportunity to reflect the values and priorities of the American people. He could have asked for shared sacrifice and inspired us to achieve new heights. Instead, he has given us more of the same: tax cuts for the wealthiest, program cuts for the most vulnerable, and the middle class is left on their own. America deserves better.

TRIBUTE TO CYNTHIA MATHEWS

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I have the privilege of rising this evening to honor Cynthia Mathews, a dedicated member of our community who recently retired after 40 years of service with Planned Parenthood Mar Monte organization. I have had the pleasure of working with Cynthia for many of those years and I can attest to her commitment to our community as well as her steadfast support of civil liberties that will continue to protect women's health.

In 1965, Cynthia began her involvement with Planned Parenthood as a volunteer in San Diego County. She later served as both staff and board member of the organization. She was instrumental in ensuring the well-being of young mothers by organizing an abortion referral service to Mexico prior to the Therapeutic Abortion Act of 1967.

After moving to Santa Cruz in 1970, Cynthia was instrumental in forming Planned Parenthood of Santa Cruz County, where she served as the agency's first executive director. After a brief absence during which she gave birth to her second child, she rejoined the organization in 1979. Cynthia guided the growing affiliate to eventually become part of Planned Parenthood Mar Monte, a network that includes much of California and Nevada. Officially, she was a part-time public affairs staff member, however, all who know her were aware that she worked well beyond her outlined duties. Cynthia actively built coalitions, engaged volunteers, sustained Planned Parenthood's community presence, and protected the civil liberties and health of her community.

Beyond Planned Parenthood, Cynthia's outstanding reputation as a public figure and liberal activist is strengthened by her tireless dedication to the City of Santa Cruz. Ms. Mathews has served as a city council member, a founding member of the Downtown Neighbors Association, a member of the Planning Commission and Zoning Board, a participant in Vision Santa Cruz, a cochair of the Santa Cruz High Centennial Campaign, and a volunteer on four successful election campaigns for schools and municipal revenues. She now holds the seat of Mayor of Santa Cruz. Through her involvement in these organizations she has positively affected the quality of life for many residents in our community. She is an ideal role model for those who seek to create change through activism and I am honored to have worked with her throughout the many positions she has held. Though Cynthia has retired from her official position with Planned Parenthood Mar Monte, her position as Mayor will allow me to continue to work with her to support and strengthen our community and ensure that women have safe access to quality reproductive healthcare.

Mr. Speaker, in a time where women's health and medical care is threatened by budget deficits and a conservative agenda, I am immensely thankful for Cynthia's selfless service. I am confident that her legacy will continue as the women she has mentored take up the torch and encourage a new generation of voters to honor their promise to America's women.

IN HONOR OF THE ASSOCIATED  
GENERAL CONTRACTORS OF ST.  
LOUIS**HON. W. TODD AKIN**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend the Associated General Contractors (AGC) of St. Louis. In 2005 alone the AGC has been involved in more than \$52 billion worth of construction projects that employed approximately 80,000 workers. The members of the AGC provide the skill, teamwork and spirit of innovation that makes a lasting contribution to our community; building facilities that support and enhance the quality of life in the St. Louis region. Whether it is a church or school, road or utilities, these skilled craftspeople conduct themselves and their work in a safe manner so as to avoid accidents and injuries. Their commitment to exceptional standards has been recognized by both the U.S. Department of Labor and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) along with receiving the coveted first place award for safety excellence from the National AGC Safety Awards (NASA) Program for 2004 and prior years. The AGC has also created a special safety training unit, Operation Safesite, which includes two full-time construction professionals who provide on the jobsite training along with construction training school classes. I applaud the AGC's vision and commitment toward improving construction safety in the St. Louis metropolitan community. I would like to recognize February 21–February 28 as Construction Safety Week in St. Louis County.

97TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
NAACP, FEBRUARY 12, 2006**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 97th Anniversary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, NAACP, which was founded on February 12, 1909. Throughout its existence, the NAACP has faithfully promoted equality in all areas of American society, from suffrage and public accommodation to justice in our nation's courts and equality in employment.

For nearly a century, the NAACP has pushed for an inclusive American society, one that would grant all people the equality they deserve, regardless of the shade or color of their skin. The NAACP's principled efforts towards the advancement of people who were long denied their rightful place in the workforce, the schools, and the ballot box have continued to come to fruition with the Civil Rights Acts, the Fair Housing Act, and other breakthroughs in the establishment of justice and quality in this country.

The mission of the NAACP continues today and the Saint Paul Branch of the NAACP continues to work towards equality, education and justice for all. My local NAACP chapter is well known for its tireless work addressing the in-

justices affecting individuals and the diverse communities of Minnesota. Recently, they have worked to bring our community together to seek healing and justice after an appalling act of discrimination and intimidation was perpetrated upon a local church. In addition, Saint Paul NAACP is instilling hope through its establishment of the Help a Child to Read Project, where volunteers are connected with students to develop their reading ability.

A key component of the success of the NAACP has been the implementation of a holistic approach, through the promotion of understanding and education, to the eradication of race and other problems that have long plagued our society. This nonviolent approach has put students through college, given the vote back to the voiceless, and ensured that the American people will not continue to be divided by differences, but rather be brought together by mutual compassion and kinship.

It is with great admiration and encouragement that I commend the NAACP on this occasion of their 97th Anniversary. The necessity of the continued push for equality and justice for all citizens presents a great burden on all our shoulders, but the work of groups such as the NAACP gives our society the necessary guidance and reminder of our responsibilities towards one another.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to the courageous and guiding history of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on this day of their 97th Anniversary.

WELCOMING OUR TROOPS HOME

**HON. C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER**

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of the House to the brave men and women from my district returning home from fighting for freedom and democracy in Iraq.

During a visit to Iraq last year, I was fortunate enough to witness firsthand these patriots' dedication to their country and commitment to expanding the frontiers of freedom. I also was reminded of the great sacrifice that they and their families make to secure the blessings of liberty to all Americans, and help bring hope to people who have been oppressed for decades.

From decorated Marine Sergeant Luke B. Miller's selfless rescue of critically injured Marines in Karabilah to the opening of a medical clinic in Kikuk by the 116th Brigade Combat Team, these men and women serve as an example of our mission to fight terrorism and tyranny wherever it exists. The heroic efforts of these and many other individuals bring great and lasting credit to Idaho and all American armed forces.

I encourage my colleagues to join me, Mr. Speaker, in applauding and recognizing the exemplary individuals from Idaho who are returning home from Iraq. Their courage, dedication, and patriotism truly mark them as America's newest generation of heroes. They deserve our utmost respect and heartfelt thanks.

HONORING PROFESSOR NELLIE  
MCKAY

**HON. TAMMY BALDWIN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and work of Professor Nellie McKay of the University of Wisconsin-Madison. At the time of her death, Professor McKay was known world-wide as one of the most distinguished scholars of African-American literature.

Nellie McKay was the daughter of immigrants who sought for her the education and advancement that was denied them. She realized all their dreams and more.

After earning her doctorate in English and American literature from Harvard and teaching in Boston, Professor McKay, to the dismay of many of her friends, moved to the midwestern city of Madison. Craig Werner, the current chairman of the UW-Madison Afro-American studies department said, "When she came here, there was not a single university that was paying any attention to black women's literature. Now, there isn't a single university that isn't."

Professor McKay chaired the Afro-American studies department at Madison and helped turn it into the nationally recognized program that it is today. She co-edited, with Henry Louis Gates, Jr., *The Norton Anthology of African American Literature*, a groundbreaking work that remains a cornerstone of the genre.

Professor McKay's scholarship (more than 60 books, articles, and essays) was matched by her commitment to her students, both in and out of the classroom. She is remembered fondly as a teacher who challenged her students academically and challenged her colleagues to make the university a more welcoming place for all people. By all accounts, she succeeded at both. But she would be the first to say that her work is ongoing, to be continued, now, by others.

Nellie McKay did the unthinkable—sacrificing a department chair at Harvard, and its attendant fame, to continue living and working in Madison. We are grateful for her sacrifice and so much richer for it.

With the passing of Nellie McKay, the world has lost a great scholar and Wisconsin has lost a great teacher, citizen, and friend.

RECOGNIZING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
NEWSTALK RADIO 1370  
WCOA

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today to recognize the 80th Anniversary of NewsTalk Radio 1370 WCOA.

On February 3, 1926, WCOA aired as Pensacola Florida's first radio station. Ever since, Pensacola has been proud to call WCOA one of her own.

Beginning with John E. Frenkel, Sr., who originally came up with the call letters WCOA,

or "Wonderful City of Advantages", for generations, its radio personalities have entertained the Gulf Coast. Along the journey, WCOA gave us Don Priest, Ted Cassidy, Sally Henderson, along with so many others. It is no wonder why, with a current broadcast team made up of Luke McCoy, Don Parker, Jim Roberts, and Bryan Newkirk, many Northwest Floridians can be found tuning into 1370 daily. This station earned the respect and loyalty of its listeners.

During its inaugural year, a hurricane devastated the city of Pensacola and took WCOA off the air. Soon thereafter and ever since, it has stood as a source of information that people rely on during the times of emergency and has been designated as the Emergency Alert System radio station in the area.

After broadcasting music for many years, in 1991 the station turned to an all news/talk format. While WCOA broadcasts programs that feature prominent national radio personalities, such as, Rush Limbaugh and Bill O'Reilly, it is proud to be home to many local shows, including Pensacola Speaks, one of the longest running call-in shows in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize the 80th Anniversary of NewsTalk Radio 1370 WCOA and its service to the communities of North-west Florida.

INTRODUCTION OF BILL TO RE-  
STRAIN FEDERAL COURTS FROM  
INTERFERING IN THE INDEPEND-  
ENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES  
AND TO PROTECT THE FREEDOM  
OF SPEECH AND CONSCIENCE OF  
STATE LEGISLATORS

**HON. MICHAEL E. SODREL**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. SODREL. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation to address a problem in Indiana that threatens to spread across the nation. A federal court in Indiana has imposed itself on the independence of state legislators. A federal district court judge, David Hamilton, in the case of *Hinrichs v. Bosma*, has ruled ministers invited to deliver invocations before the Indiana State Legislature, and the legislators themselves, must not make any reference to Jesus Christ or to the Christian religion. This decision goes beyond freedom of religion, to threaten freedom of speech, and imperils the foundation principles of our representative republic. If federal courts can regulate any speech of the members of a legislative body, then those courts can regulate all speech.

The U.S. Constitution guarantees to each state a representative form of government, and it is Congress' duty to enforce this guarantee. This decision by Judge Hamilton is an unprecedented assault by the federal courts on the independence of a state legislative body. The courts are now going beyond interpreting laws, and have begun inserting themselves in the legislative process. Hundreds of years of precedent argue against this court decision. It violates the principles of separation of legislative and judicial powers, and separate sovereignty between state and federal power. Judge Hamilton's court is presuming to dictate what state legislators may or may not say, and

decide how they should represent their constituents.

To protect the speech, conscience, and independence of legislators from unelected and unaccountable judges serving for life, I am introducing a bill to do the following: remove the review of content of speech in the legislature from the jurisdiction of federal courts; provide immunity for the content of speech during a legislative session by a legislator or lawfully invited guests, excluding witnesses, unless such speech constituted treason, an admission of a crime, or a breach of the peace; prohibit the use of federal funds to enforce this or similar decisions; and prohibit the use of fines against the state as a body in order to enforce such a decision.

It is vital to representative government to preserve the ability of state legislators to represent their constituents as their consciences provide through the power of free speech. I ask the Congress to act to stop this cancer on the legislative power.

HEROIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS  
ABOARD USS "HOUSTON" WILL  
NEVER BE FORGOTTEN

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, the USS *Houston*, a 9050-ton Northampton class light cruiser, was built in Newport News, Virginia. Named for the great city of Houston, she was commissioned in June 1930 and reclassified as a heavy cruiser a year later. She played a crucial role in World War II and became a flagship of the U.S. Fleet.

For 10 years, she served around the world on various missions and even transported President Roosevelt on certain occasions. But, in November 1940, as WWII deepened she returned to the Philippines for her second deployment as Asiatic Fleet flagship. A year later, she was sent south to Australian and Netherlands East Indies waters. As the heaviest unit of the Allied naval force in that area, she was actively employed in the desperate struggle against the Japanese East Indies' offensive.

The USS *Houston* was ordered to leave the area on February 28, 1942. Along with the Australian light cruiser *Perth*, the USS *Houston* encountered a strong Japanese navy force supporting an amphibious landing on western Java. On March 1, 1942, in a courageous night battle against all odds, *Houston* and *Perth* were sunk by enemy gunfire and torpedoes.

Six hundred and ninety two U.S. Soldiers and Marines,  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the crew, including the Captain, perished that evening. The remaining 368 surviving crewmen were captured by the Japanese Imperial Army. They became known as the "Lost Battalion."

*Houston's* fate was not known by the world for almost 9 months, and the full story of her brave plight was not fully told until after the war was over and her survivors were liberated from prison camps.

Next Saturday in my home state of Texas, survivors, their families, friends and representatives of the Naval Order of the U.S. and several foreign nations will converge at the USS

*Houston* Memorial in Sam Houston Park for a memorial service to honor the warship and her courageous crew.

The members of the Greatest Generation that were aboard the USS *Houston* were true American heroes. They represent the finest the Nation has ever produced. We honor the brave sailors, Marines and their crew who served on the USS *Houston* and we thank them for the sacrifices they made for freedom. We also pay tribute to the families of those who lost their lives in doing so. The heroic freedom fighters aboard the USS *Houston* will never be forgotten. They have made Texas proud. That's just the way it is.

RECOGNIZING CITY OF RIO  
RANCHO'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. TOM UDALL**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize the City of Rio Rancho on its 25th anniversary of being incorporated.

Started nearly 50 years ago as an investment and retirement community, Rio Rancho has blossomed into the third-largest city in the State of New Mexico and one of the fastest growing communities in our country.

Rio Rancho has become a model for its commitment to economic development, acquiring technology-based jobs, providing affordable housing, and establishing a first-rate public school system. The city has made these significant advancements while maintaining a high quality of life for residents. For these qualities and much more, the "City of Vision" is to be commended.

It is my privilege and honor to serve as Rio Rancho's Member of Congress. I look forward to the "City of Vision's" continued success and prosperity.

Once again, best wishes and congratulations on turning 25 Rio Rancho.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S FOUNDATION

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a unique and valuable organization that for the past 50 years has been partnering with employers to build successful workplaces and empowering workingwomen to achieve their full potential. The Business and Professional Women's Foundation will be celebrating its 50th anniversary all year long starting on its incorporation date, February 27, 2006. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in saluting the Business and Professional Women's Foundation's record of helping workingwomen and their families in the areas of research, education, knowledge and policy.

Established in 1956, the BPW Foundation is a nonprofit research, and educational institution governed by a volunteer Board of Trust-

ees. As a national convener, the foundation has influenced, informed, and educated presidents, Members of Congress, state officials, policymakers, women of influence—making research and educational resources available that accurately portray the challenges and important role of workingwomen.

This year, the Business and Professional Women's Foundation will actively engage workingwomen and employers in dynamic discussions, innovative research projects, and exciting educational opportunities. These activities will empower workingwomen and help build successful workplaces. Even as the BPW Foundation embraces its 50-year history as a research and education institution, it is setting the stage for a whole new phase of growth and engagement.

The 50th anniversary celebration will highlight the history of the BPW Foundation and its many milestones in the areas of research, education, knowledge and policy. The BPW Foundation has made its mark over the past 50 years, making a tangible difference in the lives of American workingwomen and their families. To date, \$6 million in scholarships, grants, and loans have been awarded to more than 8,000 women and valuable research has been published that assists employers to improve work environments and workingwomen to pursue career advancement.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to pay tribute to the Business and Professional Women's Foundation. As the first foundation to conduct research about workingwomen, their 5 decades of commitment to workingwomen has made an incredible difference in women's lives. I am confident that they will "Light the Way" for future generations of workingwomen. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in thanking the BPW Foundation for their contribution to our country.

SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING  
PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY

SPEECH OF

**HON. AL GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 15, 2006*

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to express my support of S. Con. Res. 79. This resolution reaffirms the long-standing policy of the United States against dealing with terrorists by expressing the sense of Congress that no aid should be given to the Palestinian Authority should any political party holding a majority of Parliamentary seats advocate for the destruction of the state of Israel. In the past years, the United States has given aid to the Palestinian Authority in the hopes of meeting the humanitarian needs of the Palestinian people. It is my hope that we will be able to provide for Palestinians who are in need of our help, but it is imperative that our assistance contribute to peace in the region.

As a nation committed to peace, assisting a Palestinian Authority with a political party holding a majority of the seats that actively calls for the destruction of the state of Israel is a step backwards on the path to peace. The internationally backed Roadmap requires that the Palestinian Authority launch "sustained, targeted, and effective operations aimed at

confronting all those engaged in terror." The Palestinian Authority cannot call for the destruction of Israel if it is to be a serious partner for peace. The members of the Palestinian Authority must assure us that they are interested in a better future for the Palestinian people and to do so, they must take steps to recognize Israel and its right to exist.

It is up to the United States and the international community to ensure that we do not directly aid the Palestinian Authority should the majority party maintain a position calling for the destruction of Israel. This resolution clarifies our commitment to peace, real peace, by sending a clear, swift signal to those persons in the Palestinian Authority who refuse to recognize Israel's right to exist.

While the Palestinian Authority was democratically elected, true democracy requires a willingness to negotiate with other states. I urge the Palestinian Authority to acknowledge the existence of the state of Israel and to announce a willingness to negotiate with Israel and; in doing so, make a declaration to the world that it is committed to true democracy and peace.

TRIBUTE ON THE RETIREMENT OF  
BISHOP JAMES H. GARLAND

**HON. BART STUPAK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding man of faith, The Most Reverend James H. Garland, the Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of Marquette. On December 13, 2005, Bishop Garland officially retired as the Bishop of Marquette; serving as Diocesan Administrator until January 25, 2006, when The Most Reverend Alexander K. Sample was ordained and installed as the twelfth Bishop of Marquette. On February 26, 2006, the Diocese of Marquette will host a retirement gathering for Bishop Garland to show their appreciation for his ministry and leadership. Bishop Garland has been committed to the ministry and service for the Diocese of Marquette for 13 years, and 47 years as an ordained priest. Bishop Garland's contribution to the Catholic Church and his faith has touched so many lives in Michigan's Upper Peninsula and beyond.

Bishop Garland was born to Ada and Leo Garland on December 13, 1931. Growing up on a farm in Wilmington, OH, young James Garland learned the value of hard work by sharing chores with his four brothers and two sisters. That Midwest work ethic would come in handy years later when he studied at Ohio State University. In 1953, Bishop Garland graduated from Ohio State receiving a bachelor's degree in Education.

Immediately upon graduating, Bishop Garland began studying at the seminaries of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and in 1960 received a Master's Degree in Philosophy from Mount Saint Mary's Seminary of the West. Several years later in 1965, he went on to obtain a Master's Degree in Social Work from the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.

Bishop Garland served in several parishes after being ordained to the priesthood for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati on August 15, 1959.

Through the years, he directed offices of Catholic Charities in Springfield and Dayton, OH before directing the Archdiocesan Offices of Catholic Charities. On June 2, 1984 Pope John Paul II appointed Bishop Garland to the Episcopacy and then, on July 25, 1984, ordained him Titular Bishop of Garriana and Auxiliary to the Archbishop of Cincinnati. At the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, he directed the Archdiocesan Departments of Community Services and Pastoral Services.

It was not until November 11, 1992 that Marquette, MI was blessed with the wisdom and guidance of James H. Garland when he was installed as the eleventh Bishop of the Diocese of Marquette. Since that time, Bishop Garland has served on the Administrative Committee and Board of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. From November 1992 to November 1995 he also served as Chairman of the United States Catholic Conference Committee for the Campaign for Human Development. From November 1995 to November 1997 he served as the Chairperson of the Bishops of the Region VI of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops.

During his time as Bishop of the Diocese of Marquette, Bishop Garland also began the Legacy of Faith to raise \$10 million toward the Diocese's endowment campaign. To accomplish such a feat, he recruited the Bishop's Ambassadors to help achieve the objective of allowing future generations the opportunity to experience all that the tradition of faith has to offer. Among the many wonderful causes this campaign has aided, it has benefited Catholic schools and the Upper Peninsula Catholic Social Services. My wife Laurie and I have proudly served as Ambassadors humbly assisting with this valiant effort.

Throughout his nearly 50 years of ministry, Bishop Garland has touched many lives and bestowed many lessons of faith. Although Bishop Garland is retiring, he will continue to help people and serve his faith. He plans to stay in Marquette to remain involved with the church. When called upon, he looks forward to substituting for local priests and celebrating confirmations.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in thanking Bishop James H. Garland for his service to the Diocese of Marquette, to the Holy Catholic Church and his tireless dedication to the value of education and involvement in his faith community. Beyond the incredible credentials, leadership roles and accomplishments that span his lifetime, Bishop Garland has shown unwavering commitment to the people he has served. He has truly done God's work through his teachings and as a role model for parishioners.

REMEMBERING JACK HERRITY OF  
FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2006

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia and I to remember the Honorable John F. "Jack" Herrity, former chairman of the Fairfax County, Virginia, Board of Supervisors, who passed away on February 1. If anyone is worthy of the title "Mr. Fairfax," Jack Herrity is that person.

A driven leader during his time with the Fairfax County Board, Jack was the guiding force in setting the firm foundation for a growing and developing Fairfax County. His leadership brought us the Fairfax County Parkway, Interstate 66 inside the Beltway and the Dulles Access Road. The Virginia General Assembly aptly named the Fairfax County Parkway in his honor in 1995.

After attending Georgetown University as an undergraduate and as a law student, Jack formed Jack Herrity and Associates, a pension planning and insurance business. But public service was Jack's forte. He quickly became engaged in northern Virginia politics, serving on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors from 1971 to 1987. He was elected chairman of the board in 1975 and served three terms. He recognized the potential of Fairfax County to become the largest jurisdiction in the Washington area and helped develop the once sleepy rural crossroads, Tysons Corner, into the thriving commercial district it is today.

Jack Herrity carved a place which is now and will forever be unmatched in Fairfax County history. We honor and remember Jack for his countless accomplishments and unwavering dedication to the people of Fairfax County. We insert for the RECORD a Washington Post obituary from February 2. Jack will be deeply missed by the people of Fairfax County, and at home by his family.

[From the Washington Post, Feb. 2, 2006]

(By Lisa Rein and Peter Baker)

John F. "Jack" Herrity, the former chairman of the Fairfax Board of Supervisors who ushered in a development boom that transformed the county from sleepy bedroom community to suburban colossus, died yesterday of heart failure. He was 74.

Herrity, whose scrappy battle with a weak heart first endeared him to Fairfax voters in the 1970s, succumbed to an aortic aneurysm at Inova Fairfax Hospital, where he was admitted two weeks ago with chest pain. He had a heart transplant 12 years ago.

In his heyday, Herrity dominated Northern Virginia politics as few others have, commanding attention with his pugnacious style and unabashedly pro-growth policies. His was a classic rise-and-fall political story—from his landslide victories as the Fairfax economy soared to unprecedented heights to his crushing defeat in 1987 when the onslaught of new cars finally overwhelmed county roads and voter patience.

Herrity was engaged in county affairs until the end. From his hospital bed last week, he was asking former aides to help run his likely campaign for board chairman next year, a race he lost in 2003 in a Republican primary. He was busy fighting plans to extend Metro-rail to Dulles International Airport, saying the expense could not be justified. And, in an about-face some local politicians saw as cynical, he had joined in recent months with grass-roots activists—and the woman who defeated him, slow-growth Democrat Audrey Moore—to fight dense development planned for the county's last slivers of open space. He was at meetings almost every night.

"To Jack's credit, if he had a difference of opinion [with the county's leadership], he never sat on his hands," Eric Lundberg, the Fairfax GOP chairman, said. "He was willing to engage in the battle."

Herrity could be seen most mornings in a floppy wide-brimmed hat walking his black Labrador retriever, Raven, on the W & OD trail near his Vienna home, where he lived with his wife, JoAnn Spevacek-Herrity. They married in November.

"He's a piece of our history," said Board Chairman Gerald E. Connolly (D), who or-

dered county flags flown at half-staff yesterday. "He was a political adversary, but he would do it more often than not with a certain twinkle in his eye. It was more the love of the fight than the substance of the moment."

Herrity was the fourth person to serve as countywide chairman but the first to hold the job for a full term, let alone three. He defined the role as a quasi-mayoral position even though it has no real executive power.

He played a major role in building what was commonly referred to as the economic engine of Virginia. By fostering a super-heated business environment, he helped lure Fortune 500 companies such as what was then known as the Mobil Corp. to Fairfax and convert a suburban crossroads called Tysons Corner into a commercial center larger than downtown Miami.

"Instead of jobs going out of the county," Herrity wanted jobs to stay in the county, Northern Virginia developer John T. "Til" Hazel said.

During this period of growth under Herrity, more than 1,000 people moved into Fairfax every month. The county grew into the largest jurisdiction in the Washington area. From Herrity's first election as chairman in 1975 to his ouster in 1987, the county's population jumped by more than a third, from 554,500 to 746,600—surpassing most U.S. cities and even several states. Today, more than 1 million people live in Fairfax.

He was an advocate for improving the county's road network and pushed to widen Interstate 66 inside the Capital Beltway. He first opposed, then campaigned hard for a major new road cutting through the county's midsection.

The General Assembly named the Fairfax County Parkway in his honor in 1995.

It was his quick-witted, never-say-die brand of politics that earned him a loyal following during a crucial transition period in Fairfax history.

With his burly build, balding pate and ever-present U.S. flag lapel pin, Herrity became a familiar figure in political and civic circles. Known simply as Jack, he criss-crossed the 399-square-mile county almost every day in search of any gathering of two or more people, often driving so fast that he collected a glove compartment full of speeding tickets that became legendary.

Throughout his tenure, Herrity was notorious for his penchant for the outrageous, shoot-from-the-hip statements.

When county officials were thinking about building a major government center, he suggested that they instead "build a circus tent and put the bureaucrats in it." He called Metro, which opened while he was in office, a "Mighty Expensive Transportation Rip Off."

His tart tongue extended to his rivals as well. In 1987, he derided Moore as a gadfly with so little support on the board that, if she made the motion, she "couldn't get a second to go to the bathroom." Four years later, he dismissed Rep. Thomas M. Davis III (R-Fairfax) as a "left-wing liberal" whose support from a taxpayers group was "like the chicken endorsing the fox." His relationships with both had softened in recent years.

Herrity saw no reason to apologize for his close alliance with the region's powerful developers, who he said had helped create a quality of life envied across the country—high-paying jobs, good schools, low crime.

But his ties to the real estate industry became his political undoing.

His 1986 conviction on a misdemeanor conflict-of-interest charge for failing to disclose a relationship with a builder only cemented Herrity's public image as a handmaiden of developers. By then, voter support for the breakneck pace of construction had dissolved amid maddening traffic gridlock. He

suffered a major indignity in 1987 when he lost his prized office to Moore by more than 21 percentage points.

He never fully accepted defeat. Years later, his address in his telephone book was still the county government headquarters.

"This was Jack's life," Davis recalled. "When he was defeated he couldn't move on to something else. He was a doer. He could never sit still."

The comeback Herrity methodically plotted collapsed in 1991 when he lost the GOP nomination for chairman to Davis, his one-time protegee, who also handpicked a Republican to run against him in the 2003 primary for board chairman. Since his departure from elective politics, Herrity also failed at bids for Virginia governor in 2001 and county GOP chairman in 2004.

Born in Arlington, reared in Prince George's County and educated at St. Anthony's High School in the District (now All Saints High School), John Frances Herrity was the product of a working-class Irish Catholic family of elevator mechanics, union leaders and loyal Democrats. He spent much of his youth hustling on the basketball court.

After high school and a tour in the Coast Guard, the rambunctious young Herrity settled down to his studies at Georgetown University, where he earned undergraduate and law degrees and met his first wife.

After marrying in 1958, he eventually went into the insurance business, where he worked as a consultant after his return to the private sector.

It did not take long for Herrity to jump into local civic affairs. He soon formed a homeowners association and became the local Democratic precinct captain. But like many Democrats in his era, he became alienated with his party's lurch to the left and switched to the GOP just in time for his first run for office—that of Springfield District supervisor in 1971.

HONORING CURTIS DANIEL "DAN"  
REAGAN

HON. JOHN ABNEY CULBERSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2006

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Curtis Daniel "Dan" Reagan of Austin, Texas. Dan Reagan has been a champion for quality transportation and his leadership, knowledge, and vision have helped improve the safety and reliability of the Texas transportation system.

Dan Reagan began his career with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), then the Bureau of Public Roads (BPR), on June 12, 1967 following his graduation from the University of Texas at Austin. He spent almost 3 years in the BPR Highway Engineer Training Program, learning all phases of organizational responsibility and honing his engineering and management skills in Point Reyes, California; Olympia, Washington; Payson, Arizona; Washington, D.C.; Tallahassee, Florida; Ft. Worth, Texas; and Austin, Texas. Mr. Reagan then held numerous positions in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and Montgomery, Alabama, including Assistant Area Engineer, Area Engineer, Assistant Planning Engineer, Planning Engineer, and Research Engineer. While stationed in Baton Rouge, Mr. Reagan attended graduate school at Louisiana State University, taking classes in Transportation Engineering.

In June 1981, Mr. Reagan was assigned to the former FHWA Region One Office in Albany, New York, where he held several positions, including Director of Planning, Director of Planning and Program Development, and Deputy Regional Administrator. As the Deputy, he was responsible for all aspects of the Federal-aid Program in the eight Northeast States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the Territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands. Then from October 1994 to July 1995, Dan became the Acting Regional Administrator.

On February 4, 1996, Dan Reagan was appointed the Federal Highway Administration's Division Administrator for Texas. With a staff of 50 employees, he was responsible for delivering the second largest Federal-aid Program in the Nation and implementing FHWA's National Strategic Plan throughout Texas, in partnership with the Texas Department of Transportation. While serving as the Texas Division Administrator, Dan Reagan established the FHWA's first International Programs Engineer position for the entire Texas border, created a forum known as the Texas Environmental Resource Stewards that brings together the leaders of state and federal agencies impacting transportation to resolve issues in advance, and paved the way for such landmark public-private partnerships as TTC-35, TTC-69, and the Central Texas Turnpike Project.

Mr. Speaker, I am very proud to honor and thank Dan Reagan and his family, on the occasion of his retirement, for a lifelong professional commitment of service to the traveling public. I wish Dan Reagan much happiness and good health in the years to come.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MARCI  
BERKA REIMERS

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my good friend, Marci Berka Reimers.

Marci was born on May 21, 1957 at Crawford County Hospital in Denison, IA. She was the second of four children born to Marvin and Donna Berka. Marci had two sisters and a brother named Randy, who I am proud to call my best friend.

After graduating from Humboldt Community High School in 1975, Marci married Brian Reimers on November 29 of that same year. As a young couple they lived in Maryville, MO while Brian attended Northwest Missouri State University. Marci worked in retail while Brian was in college. In 1977, Brian accepted a teaching position at Riceville, IA and they lived in that community for two years. In 1979 they moved to Ogden, IA where Marci was instrumental in helping her husband build a first-time wrestling program for that community. Brian has been a teacher, coach, and athletic director at Ogden High School for 26 years, and he will be inducted in the Iowa High School Wrestling Hall of Fame this month. Marci and Brian were blessed with two sons, Luke and Seth.

Luke was born November 7, 1978. He graduated from Simpson College in Indianola, IA. He and his wife Kara, who live in Waukee, IA, gave Marci and Brian the gift of a grand-

daughter on February 10, 2005. Ella Grace has been the joy of her grandmother's eyes.

Seth was born April 18, 1982. He graduated from Northwest Missouri State University in 2004. While attending NWMSU he was in Army ROTC and received the George C. Marshall ROTC award in 2004. Following graduation, Seth became a U.S. Army Ranger and is currently a 2nd Lieutenant stationed at Fort Drum, NY where he is awaiting deployment to Iraq sometime this year.

Marci was Vice President of City State Bank in Ogden, IA where she was employed for 26 years. She was also a real estate loan officer. In addition, Marci served as treasurer for the Ogden Scholarship & Loan Foundation, which is a private loan foundation providing over one-half million dollars in scholarships to Ogden community members.

Mr. Speaker, Marci was a role model and mentor for many children and adults in Ogden. She served as an advisor, friend, and pillar of support to people of all ages. She was loved for her kind spirit, her strong sense of patriotism, and her ability to clearly live her life based on the principles of respect and dignity for others. Marci worked side-by-side with Brian to build one of the most successful wrestling programs in the state of Iowa. She worked hand-in-hand with Ogden parents and athletes to promote the true spirit of athletics and helped shape many young athletes into responsible American citizens.

Education held a high priority in her life and she encouraged many young men and women to further their education and make a difference in the world. A scholarship has been established in her honor for one young woman each year through the Board of Directors at City State Bank. Marci was an active member of Zion Lutheran Church in Ogden, IA, where she taught Sunday school and served on numerous church committees throughout her life. Her faith in God was remarkable and she demonstrated a life example for all those she touched.

Mr. Speaker, as one of two boys, I always considered Marci the little sister I never had, and regarded her as a member of my own family.

HONORING ARMY SPEC. SERGIO  
ANTONIO MERCEDES SAEZ

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Army Spec. Sergio Antonio Mercedes Saez, a 23 year old soldier who lost his life on Sunday, February 5th in Iraq. He leaves behind a grieving family and a legacy of service and sacrifice of which our community is proud.

Mr. Mercedes, born in Puerto Rico, split his childhood between New York's Washington Heights and his parents' native Dominican Republic before enlisting in the military three years ago. He was serving his second tour of duty, assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, when the vehicle that he was riding accidentally rolled over in a canal.

Like so many of our young people, Mr. Mercedes was full of hopes and dreams, not only

for himself, but also for his wife Jocelyn and his soon to be born son, which they had agreed to name Christopher Alejandro. He planned on bringing them both back to live in my district, where so many of his family still live and where he could take advantage of his G.I. benefits to get an education.

Yet, he also knew that our freedom was not a gift but a right that had to be earned and secured through shared sacrifice. So although he had his whole life ahead of him, he did not hesitate to serve his country. He answered the call when asked to share the load of this war.

I know that his family, both in Washington Heights and the Dominican Republic, are pained by his death. His loved ones, including his wife, his mother Carmen and his father Sergio Antonio, will never get to see the smile that so often lit up their lives.

Yet they can be proud of the way he served his country. We can all celebrate the life he led, the example he showed and the legacy

he left for his son and his community. And we can make sure that the gift that he and other soldiers have given to us is never forgotten.

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REMEMBERING DORIS GREGORY

**HON. PHIL GINGREY**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 16, 2006*

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, our Nation lost a very special citizen with the passing of Doris Gregory of Millington, MI.

Born to Vern and Golda Ostrander in 1922, Doris Gregory endured the Great Depression before she married Normal Narsted in 1939 and was blessed with 3 children.

When the United States entered World War II, Norman bravely volunteered to serve in the U.S. Army. Unfortunately, Normal was killed

during a patrol mission in March 1945. Although she was left brokenhearted, Doris carried on with her family responsibilities and love for community.

Despite many hardships, Doris Gregory approached life with unbridled optimism and energy. Her friends were abundant and strangers to her were, like the words of playwright Tennessee Williams, "simply friends she hadn't met." She was loved and respected by everyone who knew her and was always willing to lend a helping hand.

Doris found great joy volunteering her time. After retirement, she served as the treasurer of the town of Millington and was instrumental in establishing the Millington Senior Center.

While we have said goodbye to Doris this week, her legacy of compassion will continue to shine in the hearts of her friends and family. May God bless Doris Gregory; she will be missed.