

many legislative and policy ideas that I wanted to pursue. HENRY taught me to cool my heels and recognize the nature of the process in accomplishing my legislative goals. The advice that he gave me back then was certainly the right advice, and it still resonates with me today.

I admire the strength that Chairman HYDE continues to show. At 82 years of age and limited in his personal mobility he is still very much a workhorse in the House. We continue to maintain a busy schedule in the International Relations committee and HENRY travels around the world meeting with foreign dignitaries and protecting American foreign policy at an amazing pace. I only hope that when I reach HENRY's age that my mind will still be as sharp as his.

I continue to be amazed at the many things that HENRY has accomplished during his 30 years in this body. I'm also amazed by the fact that he has survived in this body for more than 30 years. That is no small feat by any means.

It has been an honor and pleasure to serve with Chairman HYDE in the House and under him on the International Relations Committee. I thank him for his leadership and guidance. I look forward to working with him through the remainder of this Congress and I wish him the best in his endeavors thereafter.

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TRIBUTE TO WQBA—AM

**HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 24, 2006*

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I rise today in recognition of WQBA—AM, a landmark radio station in Miami, FL, for its upcoming 40th anniversary.

Since its inception on May 31, 1966, WQBA has been a pillar of Miami's airwaves for politics and local issues. It provides members of the community the opportunity to hear from newsmakers and public officials. WQBA is also the official Spanish station of the Florida Marlins and the Miami Heat. It has been known as Radio Continental, Radio Cuba, La Cubanísima and La Voz de Miami.

WQBA has always strived to provide accurate information while also reflecting the diversity of its audience and South Florida. It is home to numerous prestigious journalists, including the only Spanish-language sports commentator belonging to the National Baseball Hall of Fame. Considered one of Miami's historic stations, WQBA has witnessed and broadcasted significant historical moments during its 40 years. In 1992 when Hurricane Andrew hit South Florida, WQBA was an essential source for news as it was the only Spanish radio station that withstood the storm.

Loyal to Hispanic traditions, WQBA began the annual Reyes Magos Parade 36 years ago and it is now co-sponsored by three sister stations and considered one of the five most important Hispanic cultural events in the country.

WQBA is one of the true voices of Miami and has always been active in its commitment to promoting education and the arts throughout the years. The station's trademark jingle "Yo soy de Cuba la voz," ("I am Cuba's voice") is played daily at the Celia Cruz exhibit at the Smithsonian Museum.

Mr. Speaker, as we recognize WQBA's long legacy and the excellent service it has provided Miami during the past four decades, I ask that you join me in expressing our appreciation for its first 40 years and best wishes for its next.

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RECOGNIZING THE HILL-SMITH  
FAMILY REUNION

**HON. DAVID SCOTT**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 24, 2006*

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Hill-Smith family reunion and I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring this wonderful occasion. This reunion affirms the importance of family gatherings, drawing together relatives from Atlanta and as far away as Boston, Massachusetts and Hartford, Connecticut.

The Smith and Hill families celebrate the union of Thomas Landrum Smith and Armentis Hill which joined the two families in 1919. Eight children resulted from this matrimony, and from those eight children, 85 direct descendants and hundreds of other relatives who bear the surnames Smith and Hill.

The Smith and Hill families organized their first reunion in Roanoke, VA in July of 1986. Over the next 20 years reunions were held every two years in New York, NY, Boston, MA, Jonesville, SC, Atlanta, GA, Pacolet SC, and Rocky Mount, NC. This year the Hill and Smith families will reunite in Stockbridge, GA for their tenth bi-annual reunion. Hundreds of relatives coming from every corner of the United States will reunite for a week of activities to reconnect and celebrate the meaning of family. Youth filled with zeal and exuberance along with elders seasoned by the wisdom of years will unite because of this occasion. The Hill-Smith family will welcome Marjorie S. Kirk of New York, NY with a special degree of warmth. At 83, Ms. Kirk will be the oldest family member attending this year's reunion. The youngest and most recent addition to the family is Maleek Thompson, born April 19, 2006. While only a few months old, Maleek will join his family traveling from Maryland to participate in his first reunion.

The governor of the state of Georgia, Sonny Purdew, recognized this momentous gathering with a welcome letter and the host city of Stockbridge, GA issued a proclamation to honor the Hill-Smith reunion. I ask that this great legislative body stand with me and add to these acknowledgements by honoring the Smith and Hill families. I am proud to represent the Hill-Smith family members who call the 13th Congressional district of Georgia home.

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IN TRIBUTE TO THE WORK OF  
SECRETARY LLOYD BENTSEN

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 24, 2006*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to Secretary Lloyd Bentsen, an American patriot and champion of democratic values. I sa-

lute his life achievements that have furthered the cause of American liberty and freedom at home and abroad. His life is a reflection of commitment and dedication to the vibrancy of the American economy. The brilliance that personified his life in public services has guided America to a "more perfect Union."

Lloyd Millard Bentsen, Jr. was born Feb. 11, 1921, in Mission, TX, in a small frame house; from this humble beginning, Lloyd Bentsen rose to prominence in American politics. He received a law degree from the University of Texas at Austin in 1942 and served as Army Air Corps combat pilot in World War II with the 449th bomb squadron. At the early age of 23, he was given command of a squadron of 600 men. For his bravery and leadership, he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and four awards of the Air Medal.

Upon his return to his native Rio Grande Valley he was elected Hidalgo County Judge. In 1948, Lloyd ran for Congress and won easily. At 27, he had the admirable designation as the youngest Member of the House. Representative Bentsen gained respect from his colleagues by his leadership skills and political acumen. He was a strong advocate for a number of policy issues which include the deregulation of natural gas, State control of offshore oil and notably the repeal of the poll tax. He was only one of two Southern Congressmen to challenge this device that impeded voting of African-Americans in the South.

In 1955, Lloyd left Congress after he experienced difficulty raising a family in Washington on a meager congressional salary of \$12,500. Subsequently, he began a business career in Houston and he eventually became president of Lincoln Consolidated, an insurance and financial holding. However, in 1970 he sold his business in a lucrative deal, and declared his candidacy for the U.S. Senate. He won the democratic nomination and then defeated George H.W. Bush, 53 to 47 percent. He was immediately tagged as a coalition builder among liberals and conservatives, putting aside differences and arriving at consensus regarding numerous policy issues. This was evident in his ability to advocate for both minorities in the South and wealthy conservatives linked to Texas oil money. Lloyd has said that his proudest accomplishment in the Senate was pension reform. Also as a member of the Finance Committee and joint Economic Committee, he also contended that the tax code should provide incentives for a myriad of activities that include national saving, production of oil and college loans.

Lloyd worked closely with President Reagan and President Carter on numerous issues. In 1977, he ran for the White House, but his campaign was unsuccessful. However, in 1986 he took the place of retired Democratic leader Senator Russell B. Long as chairman of the finance committee. He also served as chairman of the Joint Committee on Taxation and the Joint Economic Committee and was a member of the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation committee. As a Democrat, Lloyd garnered respect from his colleges across the aisle. He was known to be well versed in tax law and was always known as the consummate insider. He commanded the respect and ear of Wall Street and was a man of integrity and character.

In 1988, Dukakis tapped Lloyd as his vice-presidential running mate and instantaneously he was again catapulted to the national stage.