

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL STYLES, FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVANT AND DESERT CIVIC LEADER

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like today to pay tribute to a dedicated public servant for both the Federal government and the desert communities in my district—Michael B. Styles, the longtime national president of the Federal Managers Association and one of the guiding lights of Copper Mountain Community College.

My good friend Mike Styles has been a dedicated member of the Federal Manager Association's General Executive Board since 1986. He served as national vice president, zone president, and chapter president. As national president for some 15 years until this past March, his efforts are a testament to the highest level of commitment an individual can demonstrate on the behalf of federal workers.

His leadership among federal managers was recognized when the President appointed him in 1995 to the National Partnership Council, which advises the President on federal labor-management issues and relations. His six years on the council helped open up communication between the management industry and the Administration and Congress.

In his long career in Tactical Data Systems management with the Department of the Navy and United State Marine Corps, Mike helped make significant improvements in systems acquisition and logistics support. The Fleet Marine Force, one of his main projects, has been improved considerably by his efforts.

He spent 30 years as a lecturer, facilitator and consultant, specializing in education theory and practice. Since 1986, Mike has taught graduate and undergraduate courses as adjunct professor at the National University School of Management and Technology. He is a tremendous asset as President of the Federal Management Institute, the association's education division, having received a master's degree in education from the University of Redlands. He was also a fellow at Syracuse University's Maxwell Center for Advanced Public Management.

The citizens of Joshua Tree, a desert city in my congressional district, are particularly grateful for Mike Styles' contributions to the Copper Mountain Community College District. Mike was the original founder of the Friends of Copper Mountain College, established in 1983. This charitable organization provides students with educational support and introduces them to community service. He has served on the college's board of directors since 1996, and has been president of the College Foundation for the past two years. This college is especially important to our federal workforce, since it serves Marines and their dependents who are stationed at the nearby Air-Ground Combat Center at Twentynine Palms.

The Morongo Basin has also benefited greatly from Mike's community service. He serves on the United Way's Board of Directors, is a member of the Knight of Columbus, and plays an active role in the chamber of commerce. Having worked with Mike over the years, I can attest to his dedication in bettering the Inland Empire region of California.

Mr. Speaker, Mike Styles has been an exemplary public servant and civic leader, and thousands of our federal employees and students have benefited from his expertise and dedication to education excellence. In addition to ending his long service as FMA president this spring, Mike is stepping down as president of the college foundation. Please join me in thanking him for his dedication, and wishing him well in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF NURSE ANESTHETISTS (AANA) ON THEIR 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BEN CHANDLER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. CHANDLER. Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute today to an outstanding group of representatives from the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA) on their 75th anniversary of their founding, as well as the Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) for their dedication to quality anesthesia care and patient safety. CRNAs are advanced practice nurses who are the hands-on providers of approximately 65 percent of all anesthesia given in the United States each year.

Nurses were the first professional group to provide anesthesia services in the United States. Established in the late 1800s, nurse anesthesia has since become recognized as the first clinical nursing specialty. On June 17, 1931, pioneer nurse anesthetist Agatha Hodgins founded the National Association of Nurse Anesthetists (NANA) in Cleveland, Ohio. Eight years later, NANA officially changed its name to the present AANA. The oldest national organization of anesthesia providers in the country, the AANA is the professional association for more than 35,000 CRNAs and student nurse anesthetists.

CRNAs administer every type of anesthetic and provide care for every type of surgery or procedure, from open heart to cataract to pain management. CRNAs practice in every setting in which anesthesia is delivered: traditional hospital surgical suites and obstetrical delivery rooms; critical access hospitals; ambulatory surgical centers; the offices of dentists, podiatrists, ophthalmologists, plastic surgeons, and pain management specialists; and U.S. Military, Public Health Services, and Department of Veterans Affairs healthcare facilities.

CRNAs are the sole anesthesia providers in approximately two thirds of all rural hospitals

in the United States, enabling these healthcare facilities to offer obstetrical, surgical, and trauma stabilization services. In some states, CRNAs are the sole providers in nearly 100 percent of the rural hospitals.

Since World War I, nurse anesthetists have been the principal anesthesia providers in combat areas of every war in which the United States has been engaged. During the Panama action, only nurse anesthetists were sent with the fighting forces. Nurse anesthetists have been held as prisoners of war, suffered combat wounds during wartime service, and have lost their lives serving their country. The names of two CRNAs killed in the Vietnam War are engraved on the Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington, DC. Military nurse anesthetists have been honored and decorated by the United States and foreign governments for outstanding achievements, dedication to duty, and competence in treating the seriously wounded. In the 21st Century, CRNAs continue to care for servicemen and women, their dependents, and veterans—whether on the frontlines of Iraq and Afghanistan, or in military hospitals and VA facilities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA) and their 35,000 Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) as they celebrate 75 years of invaluable service to their patients and to our country.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CORAL REEF LEGACY ACT OF 2006

HON. RICHARD W. POMBO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce the Coral Reef Conservation Legacy Act of 2006, an important environmental conservation bill, during Congressional Oceans Week.

This legislation builds on the foundation of bills introduced earlier this Congress by Senator INOUE and Congressman FALCOMA. Both of those bills sparked a discussion on coral reef conservation. I appreciate the leadership of these two gentlemen on this issue and I look forward to working with them as the legislation moves through Congress.

The development of the Coral Reef Conservation Legacy Act is a result of a collaborative effort to incorporate comments from a number of coral reef experts within the Department of Commerce, the Department of the Interior, the Coral Reef Task Force, and non-governmental organizations. All of these groups made suggestions on ways to improve the earlier legislation and this bill incorporates a number of their suggestions.

I believe the Coral Reef Conservation Legacy Act will benefit coral reef conservation and will strengthen the roles of the states and territories through community-based planning

• 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.

grants and through the Local Action Strategies. The bill supports the continued use of these successful conservation management tools. To be successful in the long-term it is imperative to have the local and regional entities involved in the conservation of coral reef resources from the start.

This legislation also recognizes the important role the Department of the Interior has played in coral reef conservation and would authorize much needed funding for their activities. This bill, however, does not change the fundamental jurisdictions and roles of the Department of the Interior and the Department of Commerce, but recognizes that the Department of the Interior has a role in this endeavor. In addition the bill continues to support and recognize the accomplishments and conservation efforts of the Department of Commerce. Both agencies have participated in coral reef conservation activities and this bill encourages their continued cooperation and coordination.

While the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 has been very successful in restoring and protecting coral reefs, it has had limitations in its grant program. The Coral Reef Conservation Legacy Act would allow for multi-year cooperative agreements between the Federal Government and other agencies, states, territories, academic institutions, and non-governmental organizations. This multi-year authority will allow more stability in funding for important projects that might now be finalized in or limited to one year.

This legislation also codifies the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force. The Task Force has been an important voice for coral reef activities and has coordinated the activities in support of coral reef conservation. This codification recognizes the important work of the Task Force and the indispensable role they have played in the conservation of coral reefs.

The Coral Reef Conservation Legacy Act will continue the ongoing efforts to protect and restore coral reefs. I look forward to working with my colleagues as this bill moves through the legislative process.

STATEMENT HONORING ROGER
ANDAL

HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Ms. HERSETH. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to honor the life of Roger Andal, Vietnam veteran and former South Dakota Commander of the Disabled American Veterans, who died on Tuesday, June 13, 2006, at the age of 57 from complications after surgery in his battle against Crohn's disease.

I am deeply saddened by the news that my good friend Roger Andal has passed away. Roger lived a life of service to his fellow Americans. He was drafted in July 1969 and was sent to Vietnam that December where he served as a platoon medic with the Army's 4th Infantry Division. Roger served the next five months in the jungle around Pleiku in the central highlands of Vietnam before being hit with shrapnel from a rocket propelled grenade. He spent the following five months in military hospitals before being honorably discharged on April 13, 1971.

Following his tour of duty in Vietnam, Roger became one of the most tenacious and most effective advocates for veterans that South Dakota, or the nation, has ever seen. Roger's cause was righteous and his will was unyielding. But even in those tough and passionate battles on issues he cared about, he also brought a caring spirit, a hearty laugh, and a ready hug that touched all who knew him. Roger relished a good battle, but he was as kindhearted as he was dogged in his pursuit of ensuring that the federal government keep its promises to our nation's veterans. As State Commander of the South Dakota Disabled American Veterans, he was a true leader, who fought the tough fights and led by example. He quietly suffered the effects of his own injuries while working so hard to ease the pain of others, including the physical and mental pain experienced by his fellow combat veterans years after their service to the country.

Today, we remember and honor the noble service and the undeterred commitment of Roger Andal to the United States of America. I join with all South Dakotans in expressing my sympathies to his family. Roger's commitment to and sacrifice for our nation will never be forgotten. The lives of countless veterans and their families, including my own, were touched and helped by Roger's work, and we all have a heavy burden to carry in his absence. My thoughts and prayers are with Roger's wife Peggy, his children and all his family in this time of sorrow and I look forward to continuing to fight for those things Roger cared about so deeply.

COMMUNICATIONS OPPORTUNITY,
PROMOTION, AND ENHANCEMENT
ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5252) to promote the deployment of broadband networks and services:

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Chairman, I also want to add that Mr. MCCRERY wanted to cosponsor H.R. 5252, but was unable to do so because the bill already had been reported by the House Energy and Commerce Committee. I certainly appreciate his interest in cosponsoring the bill nonetheless.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO PATRICK
JENNINGS

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Patrick Jennings, who has diligently served the Subcommittee on the Federal Workforce and Agency Organization, of which I am the Chairman, for the past several months.

Prior to Patrick beginning his service with the Subcommittee, he served as the retire-

ment policy expert on law enforcement and firefighter issues for the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). In this role, he took the lead for retirement-related input to the Congressionally-mandated OPM report entitled Federal Law Enforcement Pay and Benefits (July 2004). Patrick served as primary expert for advising the Center for Retirement and Insurance Services on competing survivor claims, state laws on inheritance and marriage, and foreign marriages. He also acted as agency representative in administrative litigation before the U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board, thereby promoting OPM's position in a variety of retirement areas.

Patrick began his service with the Subcommittee on the Federal Workforce and Agency Organization in January 2005, as a detailee from the OPM. Over the course of the past year and a half, Patrick has proven himself time and again as a man of exemplary professionalism. As Senior Counsel, Patrick's service was of an extraordinary caliber, where he made recommendations on a variety of issues and legislation before the Subcommittee.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Patrick Jennings. The dedication he has shown to the work of the Subcommittee on the Federal Workforce and Agency Organization is greatly appreciated, and he will be surely missed. I wish him the best in his future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF WYNNE ANTONIO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Mrs. Wynne Antonio, upon her retirement after 35 years of dedicated service in the Cleveland Municipal School District.

For 35 years, Mrs. Wynne Antonio has loved, nurtured and taught Cleveland's school children with all her heart. She has worked collaboratively with parents to involve them in both decision-making as well as supportive roles. Mrs. Antonio went beyond the call of duty to expose her students to the arts, culture and government of Ohio to prove that a child's education goes beyond the classroom.

In addition to her dedication to her students, Mrs. Antonio has been an active leader in the Cleveland Teachers Union as a building chair, a member of many internal committees, and the chair of Community Relations for the Cleveland Teachers Union Executive Board. On a political level, Mrs. Antonio has been active in local, state and national political campaigns. It is also not uncommon to find this distinguished educator at street rallies for peace, human rights and economic justice. Just this past spring, my office had the privilege of giving her and the students of Carl F. Shuler Middle School a tour of the Capitol building during their visit to Washington DC.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor, recognition and gratitude of Mrs. Wynne Antonio for commitment to education in Northeast Ohio. Mrs. Antonio's dedication to her work serves as a model to her colleagues and an inspiration to us all. I wish Mrs. Antonio many blessed years of happiness and am sure that while her professional career has

come to an end, she will continue to have an affect on us all.

HONORING JAMES A. WILLIAMS,
DIRECTOR, US-VISIT PROGRAM
AT THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
HOMELAND SECURITY

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of James (Jim) Williams, Director of the Department of Homeland Security's US-VISIT program. After a strong tenure heading up US-VISIT, Jim has agreed to take on new challenges as Commissioner of the Federal Acquisition Service in the General Services Administration.

Jim is a selfless public servant, and has been an effective leader at the Department of Homeland Security. US-VISIT is a continuum of security measures that keep America's doors open and our Nation secure. US-VISIT begins overseas, at the U.S. consular offices issuing visas, where visitors' biometrics are collected and checked against a database of known criminals and suspected terrorists. When the visitor arrives at the port of entry, US-VISIT use the same biometrics to verify the person at the port is the same person who received the visa.

Jim understands that strong security measures, when done right, keep the Nation secure and open to legitimate travelers and tourists. He has had the vision and follow-through to oversee the installation of biometric entry procedures at 154 land border ports of entry and at airports and seaports with international arrivals. In turn, US-VISIT has processed nearly 60 million visitors to date, and denied entry to more than 1,100 criminals and immigration violators. At the same time, US-VISIT has not affected wait times at the border and in some instances has actually reduced inspection times. These accomplishments have been appropriately recognized by the ten members of the 9/11 Commission, who gave US-VISIT the highest grade on their final report card.

Thanks in large part to Jim and the team he has assembled, we now have 21st century tools to address our emerging security challenges. These tools are allowing the U.S. to deal more effectively with threats of terrorism, while keeping us competitive in the global economy. I know that Jim will be missed at US-VISIT. I have enjoyed working with him over the past 2 years, and would like to wish him well as he takes on new challenges at the General Services Administration.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ARIEL COHEN

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ariel Cohen for her remarkable recovery from pediatric stroke and the inspiration she has provided to other pediatric patients at the National Rehabilitation Hospital (NRH).

Ariel's life was profoundly changed on November 30, 2005 when she was struck with a

very rare, often initially misdiagnosed, and almost always seriously debilitating condition—pediatric stroke. Having initially experienced complete paralysis on the left side of her body, Ariel was truly fighting for her life. After eight days in Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, Ariel entered NRH. Upon her arrival Ariel quickly progressed in the Pediatric Unit at NRH to the point of being able to sit unassisted, and was soon capable of limited weight bearing on her left side.

The first two weeks at NRH saw a striking turn in Ariel's recovery as the strength and control in Ariel's leg, trunk and face progressed rapidly. The Cohen's credit NRH, and specifically the National Center for Children's Rehabilitation, for offering Ariel a well balanced approach to recovery, one that utilized the many disciplines of physical rehabilitation, counseling and aquatic therapy, the most technologically advanced equipment and processes, as well as the incorporation of peer support and an incredible amount of positive reinforcement. Within the first week, Ariel learned to really like and trust her therapists. She looked forward to her sessions, and she was always made to feel successful—no matter how small the gain.

For all that Ariel has received; she has given back—cooking her famous chocolate chip pancakes for the NRH team members who assisted in her rehab, using her own room decorations, surprising a fellow teen at NRH with a room makeover in a well-timed "sneak attack." She was an inspiration for all the pediatric patients at NRH—working incredibly hard with a spirit and determination to recover that has never waned. And while it is true that no 13-year-old girl wants to stand out, Ariel has taken in stride that by standing out, she offers much to other victims of pediatric stroke. From that day in November and Ariel's subsequent ongoing recovery springs a wealth of knowledge on the part of the medical community and, as Ariel hopes, educational resources for other families coping with the effects of pediatric stroke. Every day, Ariel pushes herself to recover more fully, always keenly aware of the gifts she received as a patient at NRH—the keys to own her recovery, mentally, emotionally and physically. As the signs and symptoms of her stroke fade by the day, a complete recovery of use and function now appears probable.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Ariel Cohen. Her recovery from pediatric stroke is truly an inspiration and her efforts to assist in the recovery of her fellow patients are commendable. When I met Ariel, I couldn't help but be inspired by her determination and passion, which is why I am recognizing her today. She is truly a remarkable young woman, and I wish her the best in her continuing recovery.

INTRODUCTION ON THE IRAQ CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT ENHANCEMENT ACT

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Ms. BARDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Iraq Congressional Oversight Enhancement Act. I serve on the Committee on Armed Services in the House and have

traveled to Iraq 8 times. These trips have allowed me to see Iraq first-hand, to meet with our fighting men and women and civilians serving there, and to learn from them the facts on the ground in that country. This legislation recognizes the complexity of the mission in Iraq and the need for enhanced Congressional oversight based upon comprehensive reporting from the administration.

This legislation is intended to enhance Congressional oversight of our operations in Iraq. This bill would not set a timetable to dictate the withdrawal of troops from Iraq. This bill would require that the President transmit periodically to Congress a consolidated, comprehensive report on the implementation of the National Strategy for Victory in Iraq. This bill would also provide the Congress the vital measures or other benchmarks for Iraq's political, security, and economic development and metrics by which progress towards these benchmarks can be more effectively measured and assessed.

This legislation would affirm Congress's support of our troops and civilian personnel in Iraq, and expresses its concern regarding the continued, deadly insurgent attacks against them. This legislation also would affirm Congress's support for the formation of a democratic, pluralistic, federal, and united Iraq, while urging elected Iraqi leaders to maintain and preserve a national unity government for the Iraqi people. Moreover, this bill recognizes the complex and interdependent nature of the challenges associated with the political, security, infrastructure, and economic development of Iraq, including governance capacity building at and between the various levels of government in Iraq.

The National Strategy for Victory in Iraq, presented by the President on November 30, 2005, is an informative document. The Strategy represents progress toward defining the terms for victory in Iraq. I believe, however, more progress on defining the current mission in Iraq and the benchmarks for achieving victory are necessary. This legislation would require the President to transmit to Congress a report to back-up the Strategy by identifying benchmarks and by using metrics.

It is true that two recent legislative initiatives have required reports along these lines. They are the section entitled "Measuring Stability and Security in Iraq" of House Conference Report 109-72 accompanying H.R. 1268, Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Defense, the Global War on Terror, and Tsunami Relief, 2005, Public Law 109-13, and the U.S. Policy in Iraq Act, Section 1227 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006, Public Law 109-163.

These reports, provided to Congress by the Secretary of Defense, contain useful information. But, when taken together, the reports are not sufficient for Congress to fully exercise its oversight responsibilities pertaining to this war. These reports also do not provide the American people a clear and full picture of what the United States seeks to achieve in Iraq, what the United States Armed Forces and civilian personnel are doing to achieve those objectives, and where we are in the process of achieving them—at the various levels of government within Iraq.

Our service in this body is never more consequential than it is when our troops are in harm's way. Debate regarding issues of war and peace deserves sober reflection, reasoned thinking, critical focus, and balanced

perspective. This is an institutional responsibility for the House of Representatives. But it is also a personal responsibility for each of us as representatives of our constituents. The sacrifices made by our military and civilian personnel serving in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, those made by Coalition personnel, and those made by Iraqis themselves only further reinforce the need to elevate our discussion on the merits of and challenges associated with what remains of the mission in Iraq.

I believe an honest and open exchange of views on the substance of what our country and our allies seek to achieve in Iraq is needed. This legislation would provide us the information we need to make better informed decisions on policy with regard to Iraq.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH WEDDING
ANNIVERSARY OF CHESTER AND
IRENE BROZEK

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege today to pay tribute to Chester and Irene Brozek of Three Rivers, Massachusetts, upon the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary.

It was June 16, 1956, that Chester and Irene wed at Saints Peter and Paul Church in Three Rivers, Massachusetts. They have lived their lives together in that small town, attended the same schools—in the same class—and raised four sons and a daughter; Steven, Jim, David, Carolyn and Michael.

Chester, or Zab, worked at the Monsanto Company in Indian Orchard for more than 30 years. Irene worked for the Town of Palmer in the Tax Collector's Office, becoming the tax collector and retiring from that position.

On Saturday, June 24th Chester and Irene will return to Saints Peter and Paul Church to celebrate with their children, their 12 grandchildren, relatives and friends this momentous occasion. I congratulate them and wish them health, best wishes and happiness in their years to come.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO GIBRAN
BAYDOUN

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Gibran Baydoun for winning the 2006 National Endowment for the Arts Nevada Poetry Out Loud State Championship.

Gibran Baydoun attends Green Valley High School in Henderson, Nevada and recently won the Nevada State Finals for the National Endowment for the Arts Poetry Out Loud Contest held in Carson City. Created by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation, this program encourages high school students to memorize and perform great poems. Poetry Out Loud invites the dynamic aspects of slam poetry, spoken word, and theater into the English class. This exciting new program helps students master public

speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about their literary heritage.

Mr. Speaker, having met and listened to Gibran Baydoun, I am proud to honor him for his success at the Nevada Poetry Out Loud State Championship. Gibran's successful memorization and performance of great poems at the Nevada State Finals is a note worthy achievement.

ANSWERED PRAYERS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, the costs of Hurricane Katrina and Rita are far more than dollar amounts. For days, thousands of people fought for survival among the rising flood waters, lack of food and water, and outlaws victimizing the weak and helpless. In an attempt to lead the smallest victims of the hurricanes to safety, desperate, yet well-meaning parents sent their children with family and evacuation workers fleeing for safety. Their hope was to reunite after the storm; however, full panic soon engulfed Louisiana and Texas. Many parents found it impossible to locate these children once the storms had passed. Terrified parents made heart wrenching pleas to anyone who would listen. They spent countless hours praying for news of their kids.

Mr. Speaker, one organization heard their prayers and responded with the will and manpower to find these children. The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children would undertake the tremendous task of locating 5,172 missing children. Mr. Speaker, after the winds stopped and the flood waters receded, all 5,172 children were found. It was only through the unwavering and relentless dedication that these children were found, and returned to the safe arms of their parents. I now pay tribute to those tireless children crusaders.

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, NCMEC, was established in 1984 by John and Reve Walsh in response to the kidnapping and disappearance of their son, Adam, in 1981. The center makes it their mission to locate, and successfully bring home, missing children across the United States. When Hurricanes Katrina and Rita hit Louisiana and Texas, the U.S. Department of Justice requested NCMEC's help in locating the displaced children of the hurricanes' victims. NCMEC responded with lightning speed, establishing a Katrina Missing Persons Hotline, with 30 telephones and 160 highly trained Project ALERT and Project ADAM volunteers to man the hotlines. Over the next few days, they would report thousands of missing child sightings.

These child crusaders spent long days and nights looking throughout America for these missing children. Photographs were used to help identify these children. The center tracked down leads, handled phone calls, and in the end, reunited families. They did not perform these tasks all on their own, however. The U.S. Postal Inspection Service, USPS, American Airlines, and thousands of nameless, silent volunteers aided the NCMEC in the successful recovery of all 5,172 missing children.

The U.S. Postal Inspection Service responded to the prayers for help much like the NCMEC. These highly dedicated lawmen and women used the U.S. Postal Service's change of address information system to reunite these families. Safety precautions were taken by the USPS to ensure no misuse of the information system occurred. Members of the highly trained Project ALERT and Project ADAM teams, as well as the NCMEC case analysts, worked in cooperation with the special Hurricanes Katrina and Rita change of address operation in Tennessee, reunited children with parents. American Airlines became the angels in the sky for the NCMEC, donating numerous airline tickets, which successfully led to 89 children being brought home safe.

I was present when First Lady Laura Bush held a reception on Monday, June 12, at the White House to show appreciation to all those wonderful people. She invited these heroes to join her, along with six Members of Congress, and several of the reunited families. Everyone extended heart-felt gratitude for the tireless efforts achieved by these individuals. Rebecca Gonzales, wife of Attorney General Alberto Gonzales and John and Reve Walsh were present as well. The First Lady praised the collaborative efforts of these organizations and individuals, expressing her gratitude for the heroes who relentlessly crusaded for the most helpless victims of the hurricanes—the children.

It is my honor to pay tribute to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, as well as the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, American Airlines, and thousands of volunteers for answering the prayers of the despondent hurricane parents. Today, 5,172 children have been led back to their families, another example of Americans helping Americans when the tidewaters of trouble have risen.

WE THE PEOPLE ALABAMA CLASS
PLACES FOURTH AT NATIONAL
COMPETITION ON THE CONSTITU-
TION

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, from April 29–May 1, 2006, approximately 1,200 students from across the country participated in the national finals competition of We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution, the most extensive educational program in the country developed specifically to educate young people about the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights. I am pleased to announce that Vestavia Hills High School from Birmingham, Alabama placed fourth in the competition. The We the People program is administered by the Center for Civic Education and funded by the U.S. Department of Education by act of Congress.

The We the People national finals is a three-day academic competition that simulates a congressional hearing in which the students "testify" before a panel of judges on constitutional topics. Students demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of constitutional principles as they evaluate, take, and defend positions on relevant historical and contemporary issues. Among the questions students

responded to in the competition includes, "Is judicial review essential for the functioning of our American constitutional democracy? Explain and justify your position."

Mr. Speaker, the names of these outstanding students from Vestavia Hills High School are as follows:

Grace Anthony, George Bolshinskiy, Barrett Bowdre, Courtney Bragg, Jeannette Dooley, Daniel Driscoll, Claire Foster, Sarah Graffeo, Lauren Howard, Sarah McKibben, Patrick Mulligan, John Nicholson, Tiffany Parrish, Hanna Perry, Julie Phillips, Joseph Siegelman, Kendal Spires, Wes Stevenson, Emily Unnasch, Amy Watson, Ryan Woodford, and Ansley Zarra.

I also wish to commend the teacher of the class, Amy Maddox, who was responsible for preparing the student class for the national finals competition. Also worthy of special recognition are Janice Cowin and Kerri Williamson, the state coordinators and Jeff Northrup, the district coordinator, who are among those responsible for implementing the We the People program in my district.

Mr. Speaker and my colleagues in the House, please join me in congratulating these young constitutional experts for their outstanding achievement.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO FRANCES
WILSON

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Frances Wilson, a wonderful woman whom I have known and admired all of my life. My Aunt Frances will be celebrating her 80th birthday on June 17th in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Born on July 1st, 1926, Frances was the youngest of four, with three older brothers: Don, Russ, and my Dad Ron. She spent her childhood years in Humboldt, Iowa. On January 19, 1947 Frances married the late Daryl "Buck" Wilson and had two children, Sandra and Brian. She also has two grandchildren: Joshua, who married Renee, and Jacob. She also has two great-grandchildren, Sidney and Sawyer.

In 1955 she began work as a telephone operator and was one of the first working mothers in her family. As a very hard-working independent woman, Aunt Frances finished a long employment career in the gift shop of the Gold Strike Hotel and Casino in Boulder City, Nevada, which is now known as the Hacienda Hotel and Casino, retiring at age 77. She currently resides in Denver, Colorado where she is close to her daughter and often visits her son and his wife Carleen in Minnesota.

She is proud of her family and has openly admitted that her greatest joy comes from spending time with her great-grandchildren, who adore their great-grandmother tremendously.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize my aunt, Frances Wilson on the floor of the House. I commend her for her contributions to me, the rest of my family, and for her commitment to the community.

INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION
HONORING OUR NATION'S SENIOR
CITIZENS

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced a House resolution recognizing and honoring America's senior citizens. Such a resolution is important because our seniors have made countless sacrifices and contributions that have helped make this country great. This resolution is an opportunity for Congress to officially recognize the impact of this influential segment of our society.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my colleague, Representative WALTER JONES, for his fervent support of this resolution. His efforts reflect his value for senior citizens and the role they play in our society and our national conscience.

Undoubtedly, senior citizens have played an important role in the development of this nation. They have fought in significant military conflicts such as World War I, World War II, and the Korean War. I have full confidence that Americans throughout the ages will remember and honor such monumental sacrifices.

During their lifetimes, senior citizens have also experienced a myriad of profound social and cultural changes that have made this country what it is today. I believe that nothing is more important to our ability to effectively address our present than understanding the lessons learned from those who have come before us. This resolution encourages children and students to take the time to learn from senior citizens. The knowledge and experience that older Americans have acquired over their lifetimes serve as a window to our collective past. It is imperative that we as a society facilitate the sharing of this information between generations.

As we recognize the contributions of seniors, it is important that we understand their needs. So much of what we do in Congress directly impacts the lives of elderly men and women. The decisions that we make on Capitol Hill have tangible effects on the health, pocketbooks, and livelihood of each and every senior citizen. It is essential that we remember the individuals that our actions will impact as we consider issues such as Medicare, Social Security, veterans' benefits, housing, and healthcare.

After a lifetime of working, raising families, and contributing to the success of this nation in countless other ways, senior citizens deserve to retire with dignity. This resolution is a step in honoring the service of our seniors. However, I encourage all Americans to express their appreciation for and respect toward senior citizens in their lives.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge the House to pass this resolution in the coming weeks. My esteemed colleagues in Congress should give deserved recognition to America's senior citizens for the contributions they have made, and continue to make, to this great nation.

TRIBUTE TO WALTER MEYERHOF,
PH.D.

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dr. Walter Meyerhof who died on May 27, 2006, at the age of 84 of complications from Parkinson's disease.

Walter E. Meyerhof was Professor Emeritus of Physics at Stanford University. He was born in Kiel, Germany, in 1922, the same year that his father, Otto Meyerhof, won a Nobel Prize in Medicine. His mother, Hedwig Schallenberg, was a painter.

Dr. Meyerhof's parents were Jewish but raised their three children as Lutherans in an attempt to protect them from burgeoning Nazism. Despite this ruse, the family suffered from anti-Semitism and was ultimately helped to flee Vichy France by "the American Schindler", Varian Fry. Fry, a non-Jew who went to France to operate a rescue network, saved at least 2,000 people. In 1992, Meyerhof established and directed a foundation to honor the memory of Varian Fry. His film about Fry was narrated by Meryl Streep and distributed to more than 35,000 schools.

Dr. Meyerhof earned his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Pennsylvania. At age 24 he married Miriam Rubin, who had worked at a child-care center directed by Anna Freud. In 1949 he began his distinguished 43-year career as a Professor of Physics at Stanford University.

Dr. Meyerhof was instrumental in the construction of the Stanford Linear Accelerator. He was awarded the Lloyd Dinkelspiel Teaching Award, the Tenured Faculty Development Award and was given an Honorary Doctorate by the University of Frankfurt in 1980. He was named U.S. Senior Scientist by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation in 1980-1981.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our sympathy to Mrs. Meyerhof and the entire Meyerhof family. Dr. Walter Meyerhof was a national treasure, who loved his community and his country and served them exceedingly well. He will always be missed and never forgotten.

INTRODUCTION OF FAMILY AND
MEDICAL LEAVE ENHANCEMENT
ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Family and Medical Leave Enhancement Act. This legislation is identical to legislation introduced by Senator DODD of Connecticut.

Mr. Speaker, since enactment in 1993, more than 50 million employees have taken leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act. The Act guarantees eligible employees working for covered employers access to up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave within any 12-month period to care for their health or the health of their families without putting their jobs or health insurance at risk. About 11 percent of private sector businesses are covered

under FMLA; 77 percent of employees work in these covered businesses (although about 62 percent of employees are eligible for FMLA).

According to data from a 2001 Department of Labor study, 52 percent of leave-takers have taken time off to care for their own serious illness; 26 percent have taken time off to care for a new child or for maternity disability reasons; 13 percent have taken time off to care for a seriously ill parent; 12 percent have taken time off to care for a seriously ill child; and 6 percent have taken time off to care for a seriously ill spouse. About 42 percent of leave takers are men; about 58 percent of leave-takers are women. The median length of leave is 10 days; 80 percent of leaves are for 40 days or fewer. About 73 percent of leave-takers earn \$30,000 or more.

While the Family and Medical Leave Act has proven invaluable to many Americans, too many are still not covered by the law and others cannot afford to take leave under the Act because leave is unpaid. Many women and men are unable to take time off to care for their families, whether due to the arrival of a new child or when a medical crisis strikes. More than three in four (78 percent) employees who have needed but who have not taken leave report that they simply could not afford it.

The Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act would expand the scope and coverage of FMLA to ensure that even more American workers do not have to choose between job and family. Too many eligible individuals simply cannot afford unpaid leave. Many forgo leave or take the shortest amount of time possible because the current FMLA law requires only unpaid leave. The Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act would:

Establish a pilot program to allocate grants to states to provide paid leave for at least 6 weeks to eligible employees responding to caregiving needs resulting from the birth or adoption of a child or family illness. States may provide for wage replacement directly or through an insurance program, such as a state temporary disability program or a state unemployment compensation program, or other mechanism. Such paid leave shall count toward an eligible employee's 12 weeks of leave under FMLA.

Expand the number of individuals eligible for FMLA by covering employers with 25 or more employees (to enable 13 million more Americans to take FMLA).

Expand the reasons for leave to include eligible employees addressing domestic violence and its effects, which make the employee unable to perform the functions of the position of such employee or, to care for the son, daughter, or parent of the employee, if such individual is addressing domestic violence and its effects.

Establish a pilot program within the federal government for the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) to administer a partial or full wage replacement for at least 6 weeks to eligible employees responding to caregiving needs resulting from the birth or adoption of a child or other family caregiving needs. Such paid leave shall count toward an eligible employee's 12 weeks of leave under FMLA.

Allows employees to use a total of 24 hours during any 12-month period to participate in a school activity of a son or daughter, such as a parent-teacher conference, or to participate in literacy training under a family literacy program.

COMMUNICATIONS OPPORTUNITY,
PROMOTION, AND ENHANCEMENT
ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5252) to promote the deployment of broadband networks and services:

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Chairman, last week, the House passed by a very large margin H.R. 5252, the Communications Opportunity, Promotion, and Enhancement Act of 2006. As a strong supporter of this legislation, I want to congratulate Chairmen BARTON and UPTON for authoring a bill that will accelerate the development of next-generation video and broadband competition to all Americans.

I also wish to elaborate on one aspect of this bill dealing with the definition of cable systems and its effect on private cable operations. The Committee Report "emphasizes that none of the changes to the cable definitions made under Section 102 are intended to affect the application of any of the definitions, including Section 602(7)(B) of the Communications Act (47 U.S.C. 522(7)(B)), which exempts from the 'cable system' definition facilities that serve subscribers without using public rights-of-way."

This means that an entity that constructs facilities for the distribution of video programming entirely on private rights-of-way is not a cable operator, even if the video programming signal is delivered over a telecommunications provider's facility that does use public rights-of-way, if the entity using private rights-of-way neither owns nor controls the facility that transmits its programming over the public rights-of-way. That is the case because Section 602(5) (47 U.S.C. 522(5)) defines a cable operator as a person who provides cable service over a cable system they own or control, and a facility that does not use public rights-of-way is not a cable system under section 602(7)(B).

COMMEMORATING NATIONAL
HISTORY DAY

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the National History Day program. A basic knowledge of history is essential for our Nation's children to become informed participants in our democracy, and National History Day is promoting history education in Minnesota and throughout the Nation. National History Day empowers teachers to improve history education so that every student will have historical knowledge and skills to contribute to the public good of our Nation.

As Representative to the citizens of the 4th Congressional District of Minnesota, it brings me great pleasure to pay special tribute to Emily Brown, on this date, June 15, 2006, as she is recognized for her scholastic achievements in National History Day.

Emily Brown, a student at Sunrise Park Middle School in White Bear Lake, was one of twelve students chosen out of hundreds of thousands across America, to display and present her project at the White House. Emily will be presenting her project on Alice Paul. Alice Paul took a stand against a president to secure women's right to vote: she was the first to picket outside the White House. She later had to take a stand against other women leaders and against the American public who told her to stop picketing during WWI. The National History Day program allows students to create exhibits, documentaries and performances, by using their critical thinking and research skills in the subject of history.

I congratulate Emily and commend her for her dedication and commitment. I join with Emily's family, friends and teachers in wishing Emily well in all her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JACQUELINE A.
YOUNG—'DR. JACQUELINE A.
YOUNG EDUCATIONAL CENTER''

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me as I rise to offer my heartfelt congratulations to Jacqueline A. Young, PhD, as the Dr. Jacqueline A. Young Education Center is dedicated on June 15, 2006, in Fairfield, New Jersey. It should come as no surprise to anyone who knows Dr. Young, who received her Doctorate of Education from Rutgers University, Graduate School of Education, that such an honor would be bestowed upon her for her many years of dedicated service to the Essex County Educational Services Commission.

An educator since 1974, Dr. Young has been involved with many aspects of this noble profession. She has been a teacher, a Basic Skills Consultant, a Coordinator, a Supervisor, a Director and has held her current post as Superintendent of the Essex County Educational Services Commission since July, 1992. Prior to being named Superintendent, Dr. Young served the commission as Director beginning in 1986. During this period, Dr. Young has been responsible for many new programs and initiatives which have resulted in sustainable growth and institutional stability. Under her guidance, both staff and students have been exposed to professionalism at its finest as Dr. Young is the epitome of excellence in leadership.

With facilities such as the Essex County Juvenile Detention Center under her control, Dr. Young is certainly challenged on a daily basis to provide educational opportunities to students that are coping with a variety of other distracting issues. In order for students to retain a semblance of their high school experience and to allow them to embark on their new life journey with a clean slate, Youth House graduates earn diplomas from their respective high schools. In part, this results in some students retaining their interest in education. Dr. Young manages to get their attention and to remain a woman of "grace under pressure."

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Young does an admirable job in serving her community well and the

Essex County Educational Services Commission is thriving under her leadership. I know my fellow House Members join me in wishing Dr. Young continued success in her career with the Essex County Educational Services Commission. To have a building named after her is a well deserved honor and a fitting tribute to Dr. Jacqueline A. Young, Educator Extraordinaire.

HONORING PRESTON A. ENGLERT
AFTER 25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO
THE NATIONAL KIDNEY FOUNDATION
OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Preston A. Englert for twenty-five years of service to the National Kidney Foundation of the National Capital Area.

Mr. Englert, President and CEO of the National Kidney Foundation of the National Capital Area, has served at the Foundation since 1981.

Mr. Englert graduated from Louisiana State University in 1970 and attended graduate school at the University of Tulsa and George Washington University. A native of Memphis, Tennessee, Mr. Englert served as the Executive Director of the American Heart Association branches in Tulsa, Oklahoma and Atlanta, Georgia before joining the National Kidney Foundation in 1981. In July of 1986, Mr. Englert became the Vice President of the Foundation and he was named President and Chief Executive Officer in 1999.

The National Kidney Foundation has grown substantially under Mr. Englert's leadership. He is responsible for outreach programs, increased funding, early detection screenings and the expansion of both patient services and public awareness. Mr. Englert is extremely invested in the community, indicated by the numerous accolades he has accumulated over the years. He was named the Active Member of the Year by the Greater Washington Society of Association Executives in 1989. Mr. Englert's passion for helping humanity transcends the boundaries of this community, as he received the "Partnership Award" in 2005 from the National Kidney Foundation, Inc. for work with dialysis patients displaced or affected by hurricane Katrina.

Mr. Englert is a shining example of one man's ability to affect change. His creativity and innovation has turned the National Kidney Foundation into one of the most successful affiliations nationwide. He has dedicated his life to giving a voice to kidney disease patients around the country and he has made a lasting impact over the past twenty-five years. I look forward to Mr. Englert's continued service in the years to come.

I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding Preston A. Englert and congratulating him on this distinguished achievement.

TRIBUTE TO MR. JOEL M. CARP
ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE
JEWISH FEDERATION OF METRO-
POLITAN CHICAGO

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Joel M. Carp on the occasion of his retirement from the Jewish Federation of Chicago. For more than 30 years, Joel has devoted his life and considerable talents to helping the disadvantaged in our community and across the country.

As the Senior Vice President for Community Services and Governmental Relations of the Federation, Joel was the voice of the Federation, both in the community and in the halls of the capitals in Springfield and Washington, D.C. Many were the times that he was a source of guidance and advice for me and my colleagues there, and for that I am grateful.

Joel's contributions to the social service network in Chicago have been enormous. His work with the poor, the sick and the homeless ensured that countless members of our community had access to health and human services in their hour of need.

As a public policy advocate and a writer, Joel has helped to steer local, State, and Federal Governments toward greater social responsibility. He has served on numerous task forces to address the needs of both the homeless and underprivileged children. In addition, he has supervised the Illinois State refugee and immigrant programs. Finally, through his writing and teaching, he has advanced the study and practice of social work.

Mr. Speaker, Joel Carp is truly an outstanding individual whose lifetime of work will continue to benefit communities throughout the Chicago area for generations to come. So, once again, I thank Joel Carp for his service, his humor and his humanity, and I congratulate him on a well-earned retirement.

A TRIBUTE TO KUM-OK KIM

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Kum-Ok Kim, a distinguished member of the Brooklyn, NY business and civic communities. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing his impressive accomplishments.

Mr. Kum-Ok Kim was born in Bo-Ryong City, ChungChung Province, Korea. He came to the United States in 1981, and started a fruits and vegetables business at Nostrand Avenue in Brooklyn in 1989. Mr. Kim, a Korean-American citizen, was ordained in 1996.

A member of several community organizations, Mr. Kim held many leadership positions such as: chairman of the board of the ChungChung Province Association of Eastern U.S.A. in 1997; vice president of the Korean Sports Association of New York; chairman of the Supporting Committee for Governor George E. Pataki, and director of the Korean-

American Youth Foundation from 1995 to 2005.

Mr. Kim served 4 years, two terms, as president of the Korean-American Brooklyn Association, New York, Inc., a not for profit (501-c3) community-based organization, which was first established in April 1984, in order to reflect its wider civic role in providing outreach services to families and individuals. As president of the Korean-American Brooklyn Association, New York, Inc., Mr. Kim has been instrumental in assisting not only within the Korean community of Brooklyn, but other communities at large to contribute to the further developing relationships of an enlightened, healthy Korean-American community and culture, and to promote better understanding, friendship and cooperation with other ethnic groups in the greater New York area.

Mr. Kim planned and organized a free citizenship assistance and basic English program for Korean-American Brooklyn residents, developed an assistance program for the Korean-American Teacher Association, created seminars for small business owners that were sponsored by the New York State Attorney General, and developed a relief fund for flood victims in Korea. Every year on Thanksgiving day, under the supervision of the Brooklyn Borough President, Mr. Kim, along with several religious organizations and at least 28 community groups, participates in feeding the homeless at a help center and in the Brooklyn Toy Drive for Brooklyn Borough President's children's Christmas party.

Mr. Kim has been the recipient of numerous awards for his contributions to his community including citations from the Brooklyn Borough President and a State Senator Commemoration Award, and the Korean-American Community Service Awards.

Mr. Kim is a dedicated, loving husband and father. He resides with his wife Monica, sons Daniel and Joseph and daughters Tailer and Do-Kyung.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Kum-Ok Kim as he offers his talents and philanthropic services for the betterment of our community.

Mr. Speaker, Kum-Ok Kim's selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes him most worthy of our recognition today.

IN HONOR OF LT. PATRICK K.
DOWDELL

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Patrick K. Dowdell, upon his graduation from West Point as a second lieutenant.

Patrick K. Dowdell is a resident of Breezy Point, Queens, who has been a volunteer with the Point Breezy Volunteer Fire Department, Habitat for Humanity and Meals on Wheels. Along with his father Kevin Dowdell, a lieutenant at Rescue Company 4 of the New York City Fire Department, Patrick contacted my office in 2000 to request a nomination to West Point's Class of 2005. Despite my nomination, and a valiant effort by Lt. Kevin Dowdell to

hand deliver the required documents for his son's application to West Point admissions officials, Patrick was waitlisted and instead attended Iona College.

Patrick K. Dowdell proved to be both resilient and determined, and sought admission to West Point the following year while he excelled at Iona and was elected as Freshman Class Representative in the student government. Supported by teachers, neighbors and friends offering praise and letters of support, Patrick again asked for my nomination, with his father leading the charge.

When the dust of September 11, 2001 settled, Patrick Dowdell and his family learned that Lt. Kevin Dowdell was last seen entering the burning towers to help his fellow citizens and had been lost. Patrick Dowdell, as determined as ever to serve his country and make his dad proud, volunteered in the clean up efforts and continued to pursue his dream of attending West Point.

Patrick K. Dowdell was designated as my principle nominee in 2001 and was a member of the 2006 West Point graduating class. In President Bush's commencement speech last month to the first class to enter the academy after the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, Patrick had the honor of being the only cadet singled out for praise by the President. In the words of the President, "We live in freedom because young Americans like Patrick and all the cadets here today have stepped forward to serve."

Patrick is now looking forward to serving his country and continuing to honor his father's memory. He also serves as a source of encouragement to his younger brother James Dowdell, who has followed in their father's footsteps by joining the New York City Fire Department, serving in Ladder 174 and providing support to his proud mother, Rose Ellen Dowdell.

Therefore, on behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I congratulate Patrick K. Dowdell upon the completion of his studies at West Point and upon his commission as a second lieutenant.

A TRIBUTE TO MARTHA
RODRIGUEZ-TORRES

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Martha Rodriguez-Torres, a distinguished member of the Brooklyn, NY, community. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing her impressive accomplishments.

Martha Rodriguez-Torres was born and raised in Brownsville, Brooklyn and is one of five children born to the late Carmen Rodriguez. In spite of being raised in a one-parent household, her mother made certain that education and community involvement were a priority in her home. Martha has her bachelor of science from Boston College, a master of science and a professional diploma from Long Island University and was a member of the Harvard University Principal's Institute.

After working in several school districts throughout the city, Martha became the prin-

cipal of PS 156, the Waverly School of the Arts where she accepted the challenge of leading a low performing school with only 17 percent of the children reading at or above grade level. Today, the school is one that stands as a model for others. The school has become a nurturing environment for both students and teachers and the reading scores at the school have more than tripled.

Martha is respected by both her superiors and peers and has served as a mentor principal and was a member of the Chancellor's Distinguished Faculty, where she trained new principals. Martha worked with Hunter College in the design and implementation of a new program for the training of future administrators.

It is through Martha's dedication, tenacity and courage that she has been able to make a positive impact on her school community and it is because of these very qualities that she now serves as a local instructional superintendent in Region 5 as well as the community superintendent for Community School District 19.

Martha is to be applauded for refusing to let her humble beginnings be an impediment for success, not forgetting from where she came and for continuing to serve those with challenging circumstances.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Martha Rodriguez-Torres as she offers her talents and philanthropic services for the betterment of our local and national communities.

Mr. Speaker, Martha Rodriguez-Torres's selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes her most worthy of our recognition today.

TRIBUTE TO THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY
OF FILIPINO MIGRATION
TO THE UNITED STATES

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the more than three million Filipino-Americans and Filipino immigrants across the United States on the occasion of the 100th Anniversary of Filipino Migration to the United States. This is a significant milestone in the storied tradition of Filipinos in our Nation ever since the first fifteen farm workers, called sakadas, were recruited by the Hawaiian Sugar Planters Association, arriving in Hawaii on December 20, 1906. They were to become the precursors to millions of other contract workers, who soon came to build America in the succeeding years.

It was in 1919 that Filipino leader Pablo Manlapit organized the first labor union to demand higher wages and better working conditions for the farm workers of Hawaii. He was to be joined by other Asian farm workers, especially those coming from Japan. Though in 1920, some 12,000 farm workers from the sugar plantations were cruelly evicted and thrown out of work; their rugged determination and gritty character typified their conviction that America must live by its creed of equal opportunity and simple justice for all.

The downtrodden and the disenfranchised—these defined the miserable conditions to which those first immigrants were mercilessly subjected. What better way to memorialize those hardy spirits than to invoke their courage under fire during this Centennial of their epic journey to self-hood and recognition. They came to forge a better life and contribute to the building of America in Hawaii's sugar cane and pineapple fields, in the canneries of Alaska, and throughout the verdant farm lands of California and other west coast States.

In his stirring novel, *America is in the Heart*, Carlos Bulosan, the Filipino writer par excellence, described the first Filipino immigrants' abject exclusion from American society when he wrote: "I know deep in my heart that I am an exile in America . . . I feel like a criminal running away from a crime I did not commit. And this crime is that I am a Filipino in America." Despite this inglorious past, their pioneering efforts and resilient spirit were drawn by their genuine belief in America's spirit of idealism as the land of opportunity and promise.

I am confident that under the aegis of this Centennial, America will join Filipino-Americans in recognizing the untold sacrifices of the early Filipino migrants whose faith in God and whose work ethic sustained them in their ordeal. In converging this celebration with the indomitable spirit of those pioneers, we hope to be enlightened and enriched by the messages they wrote through their silent struggles to be recognized and appreciated. It is on this historic occasion that I congratulate the National Federation of Filipino American Associations (NaFFAA), the Philippine-American Federation of South Florida (PhilAmFed) and other bonafide groups for their steadfast efforts in sensitizing us to the contributions that Filipino immigrants gave and continue to give to buttressing America's stature as the envy of world today.

Filipino-Americans in my District, and millions of others across this great Nation, may take heart in Mr. Bulosan's prophetic words: "America is not a land of one race or one class of men. We are all Americans that have toiled and suffered and known oppression and defeat . . . America is not merely a land or an institution. America is in the hearts of men that died for freedom; it is also in the eyes of men that are building a new world. America is a warning to those who would try to falsify the ideals of free men. All of us, from the first Adams to the last Filipino, native born or alien, educated or illiterate—We are America!"

Indeed, this Centennial is a proud reminder of the nobility and quiet dignity of Filipino Americans whose predecessors migrated to America 100 years ago, paving the way for countless others.

A TRIBUTE TO MIGUEL A
FELICIANO

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Miguel A. Feliciano, a distinguished member of the business and civic communities. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope by colleagues will join me in recognizing his impressive accomplishments.

A young successful entrepreneur and avid community activist, Miguel Feliciano has resided in Brooklyn, New York since moving from Puerto Rico in 1956.

Mr. Feliciano is known for his friendly, energetic and dynamic style. Servicing our community for over 25 years, Mr. Feliciano has left his mark on the real estate and banking fields. He is the president of Feliciano Properties Inc., and executive vice president of Equitable Funding, a licensed mortgage bank with offices in the neighborhood of City Line, Brooklyn.

Mr. Feliciano's honors include: Chairman of the Board of Managers of North Brooklyn YMCA, Recipient of the coveted YMCA of Greater New York Volunteer of the Year Award, Founder of the Brooklyn East Sports Federation, servicing our youth since 1987, Commissioner of the Pedrin Zorilla Baseball League, Member of New York City Community Planning Board #5, Treasurer of the East New York Urban Youth Corp, Former President of the Liberty Avenue Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Feliciano demonstrated his leadership skills early on when he helped organized the youth at Our Lady of Presentation, a Catholic Church in Ocean Hill Brownsville the community where he was raised. He is a staunch supporter of his Hispanic heritage as shown by his participation and support in the annual celebration of the Feast of the Epiphany (three Kings Day) held on January 6th at the Twelve Towns YMCA.

Mr. Feliciano attended Thomas Jefferson High School in East New York Brooklyn and later graduated from Bernard Baruch College in 1977 with a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree with a major in Accounting. After obtaining his degree, he went into the banking and financial services business. Mr. Feliciano later applied his business acumen as District Business Manager for the Board of Education in District 12 in the borough of the Bronx before embarking on his own.

Mr. Feliciano is a dedicated loving husband and father who strives to be a role model for all his children and the children of his community.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Miguel Feliciano as he offers his talents and philanthropic services for the betterment of our local community.

Mr. Speaker, Miguel Feliciano's selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes him most worthy of our recognition today.

CAROLINE SPARROW HART MAKES HER MARK ON THE WORLD

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate John Webb Hart and Virginia Sparrow Hart on the birth of their first child, Caroline Sparrow Hart. Caroline was born on Friday, June 9, 2006 and weighed 7 pounds and 5 ounces. Faye joins me in wishing John and Virginia Sparrow Hart great happiness during this very special time in their lives.

As a father and grandfather, I know the joy, pride, and excitement that parents experience

upon the entrance of their child into the world. Representing hope, goodness, and innocence, a newborn allows those around her to see the world through her eyes . . . as a new, fresh place with unending possibilities for the future. Through a child, one is able to recognize and appreciate the full potential of the human race. I know the Harts look forward to the changes and challenges, that their new daughter will bring to their lives while taking pleasure in the many rewards they are sure to receive as they watch her grow.

I welcome young Caroline into the world and wish John and Virginia all the best as they raise her.

A TRIBUTE TO PASTOR TYRONE STEVENSON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Pastor Tyrone Stevenson, a distinguished member of the Brooklyn, New York community. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing his impressive accomplishments.

Pastor Tyrone Stevenson is blessed by the unique privilege to serve the Lord in the community where he was born and raised. As his purpose in life manifests itself, he has the distinct honor to be the Senior Pastor of Hope Christian Center in Brooklyn, New York.

Pastor Stevenson is fueled by his God-given mission to disciple those whom we touch that they may in turn disciple those they touch for generations to come. As such, his preaching and teaching is geared towards transforming his congregates into equipped disciples.

Pastor Stevenson has been married to the love of his life, Terrie Lane Stevenson, and from their union, God has blessed them with two beautiful daughters, Emoni and Hannah.

After graduating from Forest Hills High School, Pastor Stevenson enlisted in the United States Navy and was discharged with honors after eight years of service. After which, he was a successful mortgage banker, writing millions of dollars in residential loans.

In 1994, Pastor Stevenson and his wife joined the First Baptist Church of Glenarden, in Landover, Maryland, under the leadership of Pastor John K. Jenkins, Sr. It was there, in 1995 that Pastor Stevenson yielded his life and responded to the call of ministry. As he grew in the Lord, Pastor Stevenson faithfully served his spiritual father, Pastor Jenkins, and witnessed the hand of God move in his life as the Lord propelled him forward in fulfilling His mandate. Pastor Stevenson has traveled tirelessly teaching and proclaiming the Word of God. On August 26, 2001, Pastor Stevenson answered the call of God to pastor. Shortly after that an opportunity arose for Pastor Stevenson to revitalize his home church in Brooklyn, New York.

Pastor Stevenson is now celebrating another milestone in his working legacy of dedicated and faithful service to the Lord. Because he dares to believe in God, his life and lifestyle serves as an example to those he leads.

Pastor Stevenson is a much sought after preacher. God uses him in a tremendous way

to minister directly to the hurts, issues and challenges of people with whom he comes in contact. God's effectiveness is manifested through the response of the unsaved to the preached Word.

Pastor Stevenson gives thanks to the Lord who has enabled him because God has counted him faithful by placing him in the ministry.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Pastor Tyrone Stevenson, as he offers his talents and services for the betterment of our local and national communities.

Mr. Speaker, Pastor Tyrone Stevenson's selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes him most worthy of our recognition today.

IN TRIBUTE TO THE LATE BEATRICE REEVES

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my sad duty to inform my colleagues about the passing of a great lady of Miami and an anchor of one of Miami's great families: the late Beatrice "Bee" Reeves. Her sudden passing last Saturday, June 10, 2006 has truly left a deep void in our midst.

Mrs. Reeves represented the best and the noblest of our community. In her quiet but dignified way, she dedicated a major portion of her life to service in groups like the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, the Links, and the MRS Club, where she served as a past president. Her mission in life girded her belief that understanding of and compassion for the less fortunate defined her life-vocation as a gifted Christian and as a community leader who never sought the limelight.

She also loved to play bridge, and she was a member of the Tuesday and Saturday bridge clubs. From the stories I have heard about her enthusiasm and skill, you definitely wanted to have Mrs. Reeves playing on your side.

She was a multi-talented servant of the people, a civic activist, and an indefatigable community-builder, always thinking of others in her endeavors. The genuineness of her stewardship on behalf of our community was buttressed by her utmost consecration to her vocation as God's faithful servant, bringing hope and optimism to countless ordinary folks whose lives she touched so deeply, never holding anyone at arm's length.

This remarkable lady was our community's friend and confidante. I am deeply saddened by her passing. She will indeed be an indelible reminder of the noble commitment and quiet power of friendship she extended to anyone who came to her for help and advice. Her faith was deep and genuine, and her love for our community evoked her dynamic friendship and thorough understanding of the struggles and travails we have had to endure throughout all the years. No one who knew her—and was struck by her sunny disposition and optimism—went away not acknowledging the presence of a caring and compassionate community leader.

This Friday, June 16, 2006 a funeral mass will be celebrated at Miami's Episcopal Church

of the Incarnation officiated by the Rev. Kenneth Major, her pastor and spiritual adviser. I want to extend my deepest sympathies to her husband, Mr. Garth Reeves, the publisher emeritus of The Miami Times; her sister Dorothy Burrows Baker; and her stepdaughters Rachel Reeves and Lynnette Richardson.

I join the Miami-Dade community in celebrating her life and her friendship. She will carry on through the example she set and the wonderful thoughts and memories we all have of her. This is the wonderful legacy the late Beatrice "Bee" Reeves left behind.

A TRIBUTE TO VIVIAN YVETTE
BRIGHT

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Vivian Yvette Bright, a distinguished member of the Brooklyn community. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing her impressive accomplishments.

Ms. Bright represents an esteemed and respected instrument that is superbly tuned to the needs of others and who performs with beauty, depth and understanding in the orchestra of life.

Academically, her credentials include an M.S. in Human Resources Management from the New School for Social Research; graduate of the first class of the Pratt Institute Community Economic Development program; and a Bachelor of Science in Accounting. She has received numerous honors and is listed in "Who's Who of American Women".

Vivian Y. Bright wears numerous hats. She is committed to the never-ending fight for her community and the development of our youth. She believes that it is important to try and do as much as you can for as many as you can for as long as you can. This is illustrated by her exhaustive list of associations. Vivian is a life member of the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. and past President of the Delta Alpha Zeta Chapter; life member of the National Council of Negro Women; former Chairperson of the Board of Directors Cypress Community Day Care Center; Trustee of the Addiction Research & Treatment Center/Urban Research Institute; member and former member of the Board of Directors of the Brooklyn NAACP; member of Community Board No. 5 and former Vice President and Chair of the Land Use Committee; President of the Women's Caucus for Congressman EDOLPHUS 'ED' TOWNS; President of the Leadership Council of Open Communities of Brooklyn, Inc.; Business Manager-Concerned Women of Brooklyn; and member of Stuy Park Lions—among many other affiliations. In addition to all of the above and more she has been a member of the historic Berean Baptist Church of Brooklyn, New York for over 55 years and has served as the church's Business Administrator since 1989.

Vivian has received many awards among which are: Brooklyn Navy Yard Community Leadership; The Lucille Rose Humanitarian Award-NAACP; Gov. Carey International Year of the Child Award; New Horizons Village Homeowners Leadership award; Community

Service Awards from Assemblyman William Boyland, Assemblyman Darryl Towns and Senator Marty Markowitz; a CONGRESSIONAL RECORD Award from Congressman EDOLPHUS TOWNS; a citation from New York City Mayor David Dinkins; and the Robert J. Epslinger Distinguished Service Award from Lions Inc.

Vivian is a proud wife and mother receiving constant support from her husband of 47 years, Lonnie M. Bright and their children Gary, Teresa, Marvin, Jamal and Tiffany. Her involvement in community affairs in the East New York section of Brooklyn, where she has lived for over 40 years, has won her wide support and admiration from the residents.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Vivian Yvette Bright as she offers her talents and services for the betterment of our community.

Mr. Speaker, Vivian Yvette Bright's selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes her most worthy of our recognition today.

IN HONOR OF MIKE FREEZE, AR-
KANSAS GAME AND FISH COM-
MISSION

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise here today on behalf of Congressmen JOHN BOOZMAN, MIKE ROSS, VIC SNYDER, and myself, to pay tribute to one of my good friends, Mike Freeze of England, Arkansas, who has served the last seven years on the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission. We are grateful to have such a leader in Arkansas committed to improving conservation and recreation across our state.

Freeze was appointed to the Commission for a seven year term on July 1, 1999, serving the last year as Chairman. He has brought a wealth of experience to the position, serving as the Commission's first former employee to return as Chairman, the Commission's first fish farmer, and the first ever member from Lonoke County. Freeze operates Keo Fish Farms, is the previous owner of Arkansas Aquatics Inc., and was the state fisheries research coordinator for the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission from 1978–1983.

Freeze graduated from Little Rock Hall High School in 1971, received a bachelor's degree in fisheries and wildlife management from Arkansas Tech University at Russellville in 1975, and a master's degree in biology from Murray State University in Kentucky in 1977. He has served many leadership roles over the years including President of the National Aquaculture Association, the American Fish Farmers Federation, the Striped Bass Growers Association, and State Chapter President of the American Fisheries Society.

It has been my pleasure and privilege to work with Mike Freeze for many years. I hope my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives will join the Arkansas delegation in thanking Mike for his service and wishing him the best in his future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO YOUNG-CHON MIN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Young-Chon Min, a distinguished member of the business and civic communities. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing his impressive accomplishments.

Mr. Min was born in South Korea and immigrated to U.S. in 1988. He graduated Sunrin Business High School, but he started working as a musician right after his graduation in spite of his parents' objection to his career choice. He became a member of the MBC-TV Orchestra and he worked in various places such as the U.S. Army Base in South Korea.

After his immigration to the United States, Mr. Min became involved with the Korean American Entertainers Association of New York. In April 2001, he became chairman of the organization and later became the president in 2003. Coinciding with his chairmanship of the organization, Mr. Min also volunteered to provide entertainment for the elderly residents of the various nursing homes in the New York area, such as The Schulman Institute of Brookdale University Hospital, the Flushing Manor Nursing Home, the Union Plaza Nursing Home, the Queens Korean Catholic Church, and the Yonkers Nursing Home.

Mr. Min is also a faithful member and serves as a treasurer of the Church of Little Grain and the New York Association of The Swedenborgian Church. He has a lovely wife, Jung Hwa, a son, Sung-Sik, and a daughter Nicole who is married to Jung Min Kim. The couple has two children, Dean and Sean.

Mr. Min received numerous awards and appreciation plaques from various organizations such as CCM, Flushing Manor Nursing Home and the Brooklyn Roman Catholic Church Diocese.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Young-Chon Min, as he offers his talents for the betterment of our communities.

Mr. Speaker, Young-Chon Min's service to our communities makes him most worthy of our recognition today.

COMMEMORATING THE 150TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF CHEATHAM COUN-
TY, TN

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, today I commemorate the sesquicentennial anniversary of Cheatham County, Tennessee.

May 5, 2006 marked the official 150th anniversary of the county, and this week, with Ashland City Summerfest and Redd Stewart Homecoming Days, Cheatham County residents will take part in the culmination of a year's sesquicentennial celebrations.

Cheatham County was founded on February 28, 1856 when the Tennessee General Assembly designated the 50 acres of land to the

west of Nashville and north of the Cumberland River as Cheatham County. It was named after Speaker of the State Senate, Edward Saunders Cheatham. Ashland City was established as the county seat. After the sale of the first town lots, the county was able to build its first courthouse and jail on the public square, where they stand today.

Cheatham County is the third fastest growing county in the State; today more than 38,000 people call it home. It is also a center of commercial and industrial growth with A.O. Smith Water Products, Triton Boats and Trinity Marine as the county's top three industrial employers. While agricultural production has declined in recent times, many Cheatham County farmers remain major contributors in the beef and tobacco sectors. Despite all the growth and industry, Cheatham County's beautiful rolling green hills are preserved in the Cheatham Wildlife Management Area, a 21,000 acre game reserve for hunting and fishing.

One of Cheatham County's most notable citizens was the late Redd Stewart, a singer and songwriter who wrote our state song, the "Tennessee Waltz." This week, the events of Redd Stewart Homecoming Days will pay tribute to the musician with two days of free bluegrass concerts. In addition, Cheatham County residents will commemorate the sesquicentennial anniversary at Summerfest in Ashland City. We'll get together at Riverbluff Park on the Cumberland River to share good times as our Cheatham County founders did: eating home-cooked food, playing games and dancing to old time bluegrass music.

I am proud to honor all the generations of Cheatham County families who have contributed so much to this special place. I join with everyone in Tennessee's Fifth District in commemorating Cheatham County's 150th anniversary, and I commend County Mayor Bill Orange and today's residents for ensuring that Cheatham County remains a community where folks can live, work and raise future generations of great Tennesseans.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. EDA HARRIS-HASTICK

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Eda Harris-Hastick, a distinguished member of the Brooklyn, New York community.

Dr. Eda Harris-Hastick is a tenured Associate Professor of Social Work at Medgar Evers College of the City University of New York. A trained clinical social worker with over 30 years experience in alcoholism and substance abuse services and administration, she has also served as Assistant Chief of Alcoholism Services at Harlem Hospital Center and is a former Administrator at New York City Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Alcoholism Services.

Dr. Harris-Hastick began her career at Medgar in 1984 in the dual capacity of Director of College Counseling Services and Chairperson of Special Programs. Since that time, she has initiated several innovative programs to assist students including an Emergency Fi-

ancial Assistance Fund to aid students in financial crisis (1984), the Rose Ross Scholarship Fund for students interested in social work and/or social welfare, in memory of a former social work colleague (1998), and has served as the MEC Coordinator for the CUNY-wide Substance Abuse Information and Referral Services Unit. As director of the MEC Academic Success Center, Dr. Harris-Hastick supervised academic advisors and counselors, and in collaboration with the OAA, initiated creative strategies to implement counselor training, centralize and streamline the college's academic advisement and counseling services programs that were later expanded into a separate unit to serve students in a more comprehensive manner. A recipient of numerous research grants and academic awards, she has been engaged in several community initiatives and international health and mental health missions to the Caribbean, where she has utilized her expertise as educator, researcher and social worker to balance teaching and academic research with community service. Dr. Harris-Hastick has studied Korean and Caribbean immigrant cultures in Brooklyn and in the Caribbean and has involved students in collaborative research projects to teach research/problem solving skills in local/international community contexts. Her publications and her research continue to reflect her interest/commitment to understanding cultural differences, women's issues and public health concerns.

Dr. Harris-Hastick has completed the initial stages of the development of a Bachelor of Social Work degree. In addition, she has continued to serve as faculty advisor for the MEC Student Black Social Work Club, which she assisted in initiating in 1995. As an elected member of the City University Faculty Senate (UFS), she also serves as an elected member of the Executive Committee of the UFS. A founding member of the Caribbean American Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CACCI), she currently serves as board member of CACCI's Educational Foundation, Caribbean Research Center's Editorial Board, SUNY Downstate Medical Center Community Advisory Board, Journal of Social Work Practice in the Addictions Editorial Board, NYC Chapter of NASW Leadership Team, and NYS OASAS (Substance Abuse) Workforce Development.

Dr. Harris-Hastick was born on the Caribbean island of St. Kitts and has traveled extensively throughout the Caribbean where she has conducted research on substance abuse, organized training seminars and collaborated with faculty and administration at the University of the West Indies, and with social workers, health clinicians and others practitioners engaged in chemical dependency and HIV/AIDS studies, treatment and administration. Dr. Harris-Hastick's published work consists of several journal articles and a book chapter that include: *Managing Stress in Challenging Times*; *Susus: New Life for a Caribbean Grassroots Approach to Savings*; *Voices of Korean American Women*; *Substance Abuse Treatment Among English Speaking People of Caribbean Ancestry*; *The Importance of Culture in HIV/AIDS Prevention in Grenada* (with Dr. Clarice Modeste-Curwen, Minister of Health and the Environment, Grenada, W.I.), and a forthcoming article "Substance Abuse and AIDS: Intertwined Epidemics in the Caribbean region" is nearing completion.

Dr. Harris-Hastick has received numerous awards and citations for leadership and com-

munity service. A sought after speaker, Dr. Harris-Hastick has made numerous presentations to student groups as well as local, national and international groups including business, academic, social work, civic and community organizations such as the National Conferences of NASW and NABSW, National Association of Meeting Planners, Asian American Studies Conference, Congressional Black Caucus Annual Legislative Conference, CACCI, and the Addiction Studies Institute. Dr. Harris-Hastick received a BA in Sociology/Anthropology from Queens College, a Masters in Social Work from Smith College, School for Social Work, and a Doctorate in Education from Columbia University.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Dr. Eda Harris-Hastick as she offers her talents and services for the betterment of our local and global communities.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Eda Harris-Hastick's selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes her most worthy of our recognition today.

FREEDOM FOR RICARDO PUPO SIERRA

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Ricardo Pupo Sierra, political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Pupo Sierra is a member of the Cuban Human Rights Party and a pro-democracy activist. Mr. Pupo Sierra has been a constant advocate for human rights for those currently toiling under the nightmare of repression called the Castro regime. He has bravely denounced the cruel policies of the tyrant and demanded that the people of Cuba be allowed their inalienable rights.

Mr. Pupo Sierra was arrested by the dictatorship and, after a sham trial, thrown into the totalitarian gulag. According to Prima News, in August 2005, Mr. Pupo conducted a hunger strike to protest the abhorrent treatment of prisoners in the grotesque gulag. According to Directorio, he began a hunger strike on June 9, 2006, to demand access to religious services.

Mr. Pupo Sierra also sent this message to the Cuban people saying: "Do not be afraid of the regime. Do not allow yourself to continue being deceived: dissent. Speak the truth without fear. Do not be discouraged. We are reaching the final point of the ruling system in Cuba. We will soon have a free, democratic Cuba with the rule of law."

Mr. Pupo Sierra is a brilliant example of the heroism of the Cuban people. His message exemplifies the Cuban desire to live in liberty, free of the tyrannical repression imposed on them by the murderous despot. Mr. Pupo Sierra knows the violence, abuse, and repression that will be used to try to break him. Yet he stands strong in the strength of his conviction: "We will soon have a free, democratic Cuba with the rule of law." Mr. Pupo Sierra is an apostle of freedom for Cuba.

Despite incessant repression, harassment, incarceration and abuse, he remains committed to the conviction that liberty and human

rights are the birthright of the Cuban people. It is a crime against humanity that Castro's totalitarian gulags are full of men and women, like Mr. Pupo Sierra, who represent the best of the Cuban nation.

Mr. Speaker, let me be very clear, Mr. Pupo Sierra is languishing in the grotesque squalor of the gulag because he desires freedom for all Cubans. My Colleagues, read his message often. We must demand the immediate and unconditional release of Ricardo Pupo Sierra and every political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. ROY A.
HASTICK, SR.

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Roy A. Hastick, Sr., a distinguished member of the Brooklyn business and civic communities. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing his impressive accomplishments.

Dr. Roy A. Hastick has served as President/CEO/Founder of the Caribbean American Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Inc. (CACCI) for almost 20 years. Under his leadership, CACCI has promoted economic development on behalf of Caribbean American, African American, women and other minority small business owners and has become an internationally recognized business organization with a membership of over 1,700 in the United States and the Caribbean. Prior to starting CACCI, Dr. Hastick published the West Indian Tribune, a tabloid newspaper which served as a launching pad for the development of the Chamber, and which became the voice for the Caribbean American Community, and a business networking vehicle.

A tireless advocate for economic and community empowerment, Dr. Hastick helped to form several immigrant organizations and served for over 16 years in various capacities including 1st Vice Chairman of his local Community Board in Crown Heights Brooklyn. He currently serves on several small business advisory boards including: the New York State Governor's and New York City Mayor's Small Business Advisory Boards which advocates on behalf of minority and women owned business; JP Morgan Chase Bank, and the board of directors of the Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corporation, Brooklyn Economic Development Corporation, New York Congregational Community Services, SUNY Jobs for Youth, and American Red Cross of Brooklyn. For six years, he has served as a delegate to the United Nations.

Dr. Hastick has been an ardent supporter of Two-Way trade between the United States and the Caribbean region. As an elected delegate to the 1995 White House Conference on Small Business, he campaigned to get Two-Way trade with the region into the final recommendations submitted to the United States Congress. Under his leadership, CACCI has undertaken several extraordinary and challenging initiatives including: conducting over 600 business seminars, providing weekly business clinics for start-ups and emerging busi-

nesses to access financing, contracting and procurement opportunities; promoting trade and investment opportunities between the Caribbean and the United States, and undertaking energetic and rapid responses to hurricane disasters in the Caribbean region. For the past 3 years, CACCI has managed, Flatbush Caton Merchants Mart, a city-owned Brooklyn-based micro enterprise incubator which houses 61 vendors and occupies 9,000 sq. ft. of space. CACCI's Educational Foundation supports micro-entrepreneurship, hurricane disaster relief efforts and provides scholarships for disadvantaged young people.

Dr. Hastick has led several trade missions to the Caribbean region, hosted numerous Caribbean Head of State on their visits to the United States and made presentations at Caribbean Heads of Government meetings. Under his leadership, the development of the first ever Caribbean Trade Center, a one stop capital shop for two-way trade that will occupy 20,000 sq. ft in a major commercial corridor in Central Brooklyn, is in its 2nd phase of development and has received financial support and commitments from the New York State Governor, Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, New York City Council, New York City Mayor, and has been endorsed by local, national and international business entities, including CARICOM. Expected completion date is Fall 2006.

Dr. Hastick has partnered with numerous economic development entities, academic and medical institutions, national and local community groups including the United States Small Business Administration (SBA) United States Department of Commerce MBDA, NYS Empire Development Corporation, NYC Small Business Services (NYC SBS), SCORE, City University of New York (CUNY), SUNY Downstate Medical Center, Caribbean Women's Health Association, African American Chamber of Commerce of Westchester and Rockland Counties, and the Korean American Small Business Service Center.

He has received numerous awards including: the United States Department of Commerce and the New York State Small Business Advocate of the Year Awards; Korean American Small Business Service Center "Harmony and Unity Award"; Dr. Martin Luther King Humanitarian Award from the Shirley Chisholm Institute; Ron Brown Business Advocate Award; "Chamber of the Year Award" from the NYS Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; honored by President William Jefferson Clinton at "New York Day" in Washington, DC; "CEO of the Year 2000" from the Brooklyn Branch of the NAACP, the New York State Hispanic Legislative Task Force 2002, and the New York State Black and Puerto Rican State Senators Award. Dr. Hastick was also honored with an Honorary Degree, Doctor of Humane Letters, Honoris Causa by Medgar Evers College, CUNY at its 2001 Annual Convocation Ceremony.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Dr. Roy A. Hastick, as he offers his talents and services for the betterment of our local and national communities.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Hastick's selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic, dedication that makes him most worthy of our recognition today.

A TRIBUTE TO REVEREND DR.
CLARENCE KEATON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today in appreciation and admiration of Reverend Dr. Clarence Keaton for his continued commitment, serving as Pastor and founder of the True Worship Church Worldwide Ministries, as a spiritual leader to his congregants, peers, friends, family, and the entire community of Brooklyn, New York.

Ordained as a minister in 1983, Reverend Dr. Keaton is affectionately referred to as P.O.P. [Pastor of Pastors] by his faithful congregants because of the guidance and genuine support he offers to them through the words of God. He has specifically sought out young members, in need of a spiritual teacher, and has inspired them to fully embrace God's love while following his direction to lead an honest, devout life. In the eyes of his peers, he is known as the "preachers teacher," passionately devoted to spreading the biblical truths of the gospel. This man of god is a beacon of light for his congregation, a buttress of strength, and a source of wisdom for anyone so blessed to be in his presence and hear his voice.

Pastor Keaton was dignified with an honorary doctorate of divinity degree in 1992 by the acclaimed Jesus Saves Bible Institute. His ministry work is highlighted by his magnetic personality and encouraging speech. Pastor Keaton's inspirational teachings are broadcasted on the radio, to proclaim the guiding words of God to a greater audience. This led to his numerous commendations and awards of excellence in radio, because he is able to reach out to thousands of souls of men and women through WWRL radio station. In addition to his outstanding work in ministry, he has been honored for his extraordinary community work, specifically with the senior citizens of the Brownsville Recreation Center.

It gives me great pleasure to honor the many achievements of Reverend Dr. Clarence Keaton and offer my utmost respect for the honest work that he does out of the kindness of his heart. We pray for God's continued grace on his ministry.

SIKH, CATHOLIC LEADERS MEET

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, recently a group of Sikh leaders met in New York with Catholic leaders in an all-day event hosted by an Interfaith organization. Sikh leaders in attendance included Dr. Manohar Singh, Dr. Tarunjit Singh Butalia, and Dr. Anahat Kaur Sandhu. Monsignor Felix Machado, an official at the Vatican, also attended the meeting.

It is good to see this kind of pluralistic cooperation and I thank Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, for bringing it to my attention.

Contrast this to the situation in India, where Sikhs, Christian, Muslims, and other minorities

are subject to brutal and ongoing repression from the government. Perhaps "the world's largest democracy" could learn a thing or two from the meeting in New York.

We should stop our aid to India and we should demand self-determination for all the people of South Asia so that they can live in peace, freedom, harmony, and prosperity, as they do here in America and other Western democracies.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to put the article from India-West into the RECORD.

[From India-West, June 2, 2006]

SIKH, CATHOLIC LEADERS MEET IN NEW YORK
(By a Staff Reporter)

Representatives of the World Sikh Council-America Region met with Catholic leaders in New York in an all-day event hosted by the Religions for Peace-USA. The Sikh group has said.

Dr. Manohar Singh, the group's chairperson, and Dr. Tarunjit Singh, chair of the group's Interfaith Committee, led the Sikhs.

The U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishops' delegation was headed by Rev. James Massa, executive director of its Secretariat for Ecumenical and Interfaith Affairs.

Monsignor Felix Machado, undersecretary of the Pontifical Council for Inter-religious Dialogue at the Vatican in Rome, was a special guest and adviser.

Two observers of Religions for Peace attended the May 20 meeting.

"The universal message of Sikhism respects pluralism and we welcome our Catholic friends with open arms," Manohar Singh said. "This dialogue is an opportunity for our communities to begin a conversation at the highest level on how we may be able to work with each other in trust and friendship to make this world a more peaceful and just place for all."

Machado responded by saying the Catholic Church appreciates this dialogue with the Sikh community. "Sikhs respect us, not suspect us," he said.

Sikh and Catholic leaders expressed shared concerns over the challenges faced by immigrant communities in the U.S., the curtailment of religious freedom and human rights in South Asia, and the challenges of secularism to both religious communities.

The participants said they would meet again this year with a focus on "Divinity, Humanity and Creation." They also pledged to continue to meet at least once a year through a working committee.

After the meeting, the Catholic and Sikh participants visited the Mata Sahib Kaur Gurdwara Sahib in Glen Cove, N.Y., joined the evening service and partook of langar meal.

A TRIBUTE TO STANLEY HENRY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Stanley Henry, a distinguished member of the Brooklyn, New York community. It behooves us today to honor a man who has exhibited the will to succeed, and the insatiable drive to bring his goals into fruition.

Stanley Henry is a man that went from working menial night jobs and attending high

school during the day, to owning his own hardware distribution store and contracting firm and being one of the most respected men in Brooklyn.

Mr. Henry was born in British Guyana, South America in 1945. While he attended the Mackenzie Government and Technical High School during the day, he worked nights, a feat especially commendable for a teenager. After graduating in 1965, Mr. Henry worked as a construction apprentice with the Canadian Bauxite Company. In 1967, he migrated to Brooklyn. Not needing much time to adapt to a new culture, Mr. Henry graduated from The Delhanty Institute of Structural Design within 2 years. He then secured a position with Ewell W. Finley Engineer PC and for the next 10 years, Mr. Henry stayed with this company. While still employed with the company, Mr. Henry continued his education. He graduated from both the Institute of Design Construction adding to his structural engineering experience and from NYC Technical College to enhance his administrative skills.

Mr. Henry later moved on to establish Annie Henry General Hardware, his own building materials supply business named after his beloved mother. The name was later changed to Henry Wholesale & Resale Distributors, LLC. He is also the proud owner of Henry Builders Inc., a contracting firm that not only knows the people that it serves, but the people it serves knows and loves him. Mr. Henry's businesses have been a fixture on Broadway for over 35 years and he is affectionately known as the "Mayor of Broadway" and "The Master Builder."

Mr. Henry embodies the entrepreneurial spirit that is essential to any small business.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Stanley Henry as he offers his talents and services for the betterment of our community.

Mr. Speaker, Stanley Henry's selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication and today we should recognize this man and pay homage to a life truly worth celebrating.

TRIBUTE TO THE GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL & TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY CENTER OF COLO- RADO

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the exceptional leadership and invaluable contributions of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Center of Colorado, "The Center," on the occasion of its 30th anniversary. It is fitting that we recognize The Center for its record of extraordinary service in providing support and advocacy for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender, GLBT, communities in the 1st Congressional District and throughout Colorado.

The Center has been on the front lines of progress since its inception and has proven to be a powerful force in transforming the land-

scape of our State. Founded in Denver in 1976, The Center is a statewide, nonprofit community center and is one of the oldest organizations serving GLBT communities in the country. It is a powerful advocate on a broad range of issues that affect GLBT people in our State and is a catalyst for community organizing and providing needed support services.

Health and wellness is a key focus of The Center. Its Healthy Living Program offers extensive health care services including free HIV testing in conjunction with Denver Health, low-cost hepatitis vaccinations, free mammograms for uninsured women, health care provider referrals and access to mental health services. It also devotes sizable effort to community health education as well as disease prevention. The Lesbian Cancer Support Service strives to increase early detection and a higher rate of cancer survival in lesbian and bisexual women. The Center also maintains Rainbow Alley, a drop-in center designed for GLBT youth that provides health care services, counseling and referral. Youth have access to a medical clinic, computer lab, kitchen and the Terry Mangan Library, all of which are drug, alcohol, tobacco and hate free.

The Center's advocacy and legal initiatives have done much to advance the cause of civil liberty and provide necessary assistance to those who experience discrimination, harassment and unequal treatment. The Legal Initiatives Project, CLIP, was founded in 1992 to challenge a discriminatory amendment to the Colorado Constitution. Amendment II would have precluded any action by the State or local governments designed to protect GLBT people. Amendment II passed by a slim margin, but due to CLIP's leadership, a lawsuit was filed and injunctive relief was granted to prevent the measure from taking effect. The decision was appealed to the United States Supreme Court and a national coalition of civil rights groups joined CLIP to uphold the lower court ruling. In a historic decision—*Romer v. Evans*, 517 U.S. 620 (1996)—the Supreme Court held that Amendment II was unconstitutional under the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. In 2000, CLIP merged with The Center and became its legal services program. It accomplishes its mission through the CLIP Legal Hotline, civil rights litigation and mediation, media work and public education. CLIP focuses on cases and issues that move the civil rights agenda forward serve the most oppressed and disadvantaged in the GLBT communities.

We are indeed fortunate to have The Center in our community. It is an invaluable resource and I am deeply appreciative of the good work The Center does in addressing systemic inequalities and providing continuity and stability in the efforts to secure greater equality, justice and participation in our democracy. The Center has helped provide a place at the table for GLBT people. It has provided needed health and community services. In summary, The Center's leadership and engagement has made a real difference in peoples lives and thereby in the communities it serves.

Please join me in commending the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Center of Colorado. It is the strong leadership and meaningful service it provides on a daily basis that continually enhances our lives and builds a better future for all of our people.

CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF
AMERICA TESTIMONY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to your attention Part II of the testimony of the Child Welfare League of America (CWLA) when they testified before the Human Resources Subcommittee of the Ways and Means Committee on May 23, 2006.

The purpose of the testimony given was to share with the Subcommittee important measures to improve our nation's child protective services. It is my hope that my colleagues will find this information useful as well as informative as we focus on legislation that addresses the needs and care of our children.

CWLA POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS ON
PROPOSED LEGISLATION

The Reauthorization of Promoting Safe and Stable Families—Of most immediate importance for this Committee is the reauthorization of the Promoting Safe and Stable Families program (PSSF) beyond FY 2006. PSSF supports four vital services that address four different types of families in need: those in need of basic support services to strengthen the family and keep them whole, families being reunified, families we are trying to preserve, and adoptive families in need of support. As you review some of the key needs included in this testimony, the Subcommittee can see how the issues of prevention, aftercare, permanency and stability and maintaining families are all addressed by these categories.

CWLA believes these services and families should continue to be the target for PSSF in a reauthorization bill:

Family Support Services (FSS) were developed to respond to the concerns, interests, and needs of families within a community. Family Support Services are targeted to families with difficulties and concerns related to the proper functioning of the family and care of the children. The focus of the program is on prevention. The services address the need to improve the well-being of a child, family functioning, and the parent's ability to provide for the family, before they are in crisis. In order to reach families in need of assistance, family support programs work with outside community organizations such as schools and child welfare agencies. The aim is to provide temporary relief to families and to teach them how to better nurture their children. Involvement in these services is voluntary. Types of services include parent education, child care relief, and selfhelp groups.

Reunification is the first permanency option states consider for children entering care. Yet, in many ways, it is the most challenging option to achieve in a plan-based, permanent way. We know that forty-eight percent of, or 246,650, children in care on September 30, 2003 had a case plan goal of reunification with their parents or other principal caretaker. At the same time, 151,770 children, or 55 percent of those children who left care in 2003, were returned to their parent's or caretaker's home.

Successful permanency through reunification requires many things, including skilled workers, readily available supportive and treatment resources, clear expectations and service plans, and excellent collaboration across involved agencies. Reunification also requires culturally appropriate support and treatment services for families and the crit-

ical need for after care or postpermanency services to ensure that safety and permanency are maintained following reunification.

Family Preservation Services (FPS) are comprehensive, short-term, intensive services for families delivered primarily in the home and designed to prevent the unnecessary out-of-home placement of children or to promote family reunification. The services are intended to protect a child in a home where allegations of child abuse or neglect have occurred, prevent subsequent abuse or neglect, prevent placement of a child, or reduce the stay for a child in out-of-home care. Families in need of family preservation services are usually referred by public welfare agencies. Services are provided within 24 hours of referral and the family's involvement is voluntary. These services respond to families on a 24-hour basis, including services such as family therapy, budgeting, nutrition, and parenting skills.

Adoption support is an important need as the number of adoptions have increased. There is still more work to be done. Services may include information and referral, case management services, support groups and a range of other services. Of the 523,085 children in foster care in 2003, approximately 119,000 were waiting to be adopted, with 68,000 of these children being free for adoption (parental rights had been terminated). Of the children waiting, 40 percent were black non-Hispanic, 37 percent were white non-Hispanic, 14 percent were Hispanic, and 4 percent were of undetermined ethnicity. In 2003, the median age of children waiting to be adopted was 8.7 years; 3 percent of the children waiting to be adopted were younger than 1 year; 32 percent were ages 1 to 5; 28 percent were ages 6 to 10; 30 percent were 11 to 15; and 6 percent were 16 to 18.

Use Of \$40 Million PSSF Increase—CWLA supports the extension of the \$40 million in mandatory funding that was included in the Deficit Reduction Act and we want to work with the Subcommittee and members of Congress to see that PSSF is at a minimum fully funded at the level of \$505 million as adopted by this Subcommittee in 2001. We feel there a need for more. As indicated earlier in our testimony, forty percent of children substantiated as abused or neglected do not receive follow up services. We also feel it bears repeating that there is need for more reunification, adoption and other support services than PSSF attempts to address. To truly reach the goal of safe and stable families this country needs to go much further in its funding and priority of the entire child welfare system.

CWLA recognizes that the Subcommittee and members of Congress see the \$40 million in mandatory funding as an opportunity to address some additional issues in the child welfare field. If that is the decision of the Congress we strongly urge you to make this the first step in a comprehensive strategy over the next few years to more fully address the needs of these children.

The draft legislation includes a workforce element tied to caseworker visits. CWLA supports regular and on-going visits to children in care. In the child welfare field visitation is not an isolated service or stand-alone intervention. Rather it is part of a larger case planning process. To reach this visitation goal we need a comprehensive strategy to strengthen the child welfare workforce.

We would not want a system of care where too few workers with very high caseloads are simply meeting an outcome measure of numbers. Rather each state should be assisted in implementing a long term workforce strategy that sets goals around reduced workforce turnover, higher education levels, adequate case loads, initial training and on-going

training, adequate supervision and the proper partnerships with educational institutions and other partners in workforce development.

For each state this will be different so we would urge the Subcommittee to craft legislation around such a flexible allocation of funding and planning that will work with states to develop outcomes and provide related data that can demonstrate progress toward a comprehensive workforce strategy or goals. Again, this is a long-term strategy that requires federal, state and local partnerships. It should also be recognized that \$40 million for fifty states may limit the kind of progress we all seek in advancing this goal. In addition, it will be difficult to determine how this designation of \$40 million will supplement and not supplant current state efforts since it will overlap with Title IV-E Administrative funding used for these critical purposes but we do highlight that additional resources are needed.

Possible Improvements—Access For Tribal Communities—In your reauthorization, CWLA suggests that the Subcommittee include the recommendations being proposed by the National Indian Child Welfare Association, National Congress of American Indians and the Association of American Indian Affairs. Their joint proposal would set the reserved amounts of funding for tribal governments at 3 percent in both the mandatory and discretionary funding. A consortium of tribal governments could also apply for the funding and we endorse an authorization of a tribal court improvement program.

Better Data—As part of the application process, states submit information on how they intend to allocate their PSSF funding. This information should be collected and included in an annual report by HHS. We also urge the Subcommittee to include legislative language that would direct HHS to work with states to determine how to compile an annual report that would provide information on how funds are actually spent and would include information on families and children served. The annual reports by HHS on the Social Services Block Grant have only been issued since 1998, yet they have provided a stronger picture of why that funding is important to so many human service programs.

Mentoring of Children of Prisoners—We commend the Committee for including the reauthorization of the Mentoring Children of Prisoners program in this legislation. Mentoring for this population is an effective way to engage at-risk children and youth, provides connections to caring adults, and perhaps most importantly, builds relations among family members during and after incarceration. We know there are many areas in the country today where children of prisoners are not able to access this mentoring service due to lack of availability. Expansion is necessary and the Committee is to be commended for focusing on this. We urge the committee to carefully consider the following issues as this new initiative is implemented.

Currently there are 218 federally funded sites around the country where this mentoring is taking place, involving thousands of children. It would be tragic for these children to have their mentoring disrupted or ended prematurely. We urge the Committee to include provisions to allow these efforts to continue.

Researchers and mentoring experts have concluded that children facing multiple developmental risks benefit more from mentoring than other children; however, they require a higher quality of mentoring program and are more likely to be adversely affected by poor quality mentoring. We urge the Committee to examine carefully the expertise and background of all potential national

entities specific to mentoring children of prisoners. New trainings, techniques and curricula, have recently been developed. Whatever entity is chosen will need to be fully knowledgeable of these tools and prepared to make them available.

IV-B Part 1 Child Welfare Services—CWLA appreciates the Subcommittee's efforts to better align the IV-B Part 1, Child Welfare Services program with that of PSSF. This can add clarity to the understanding of funding sources although it is unclear to what extent IV-B 1 funds are spent on adoption, foster care and child care on an annual basis. In practical terms, since federal Title IV-E funds cover half or less than half of the children in foster care, it is also unclear that this change in statute will result in any increase in funding for services covered under IV-B part 1 or PSSF. Inevitably states must pick up the cost of foster care for children ineligible for IV-E by relying on other federal funds, state funds, local funds or a combination of all three.

CWLA also appreciates the Subcommittee's efforts at updating the state plan requirements. In addition we suggest the requirement to include a description of efforts to address the overrepresentation of children of color in the child welfare system. These children represent African American/Black, Latino/Hispanic, American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian, Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander, or two or more races.

Conclusion—CWLA appreciates the opportunity to offer our testimony and comments to the Subcommittee in regard to this reauthorization of Promoting Safe and Stable Families. As this legislation moves forward we look forward to a continued dialogue with the Subcommittee and Members of Congress. We also hope that this reauthorization serves as a building block for future efforts that will create a comprehensive reform that results in reduced numbers of children being abused and neglected and safer and permanent families for those children who do come into contact with the child welfare system.

IN MEMORIAM TO DAVID
HANSBERGER, FOR HIS CIVIC
LEADERSHIP IN YUCAIPA CALI-
FORNIA

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like today to express my sadness at the passing of a friend, David Hansberger of Yucaipa, whose civic leadership helped guide this growing community to cityhood and set it on a course to become a highly-desired destination city in my California district. Mr. Hansberger passed away this week, and all of his friends will feel the loss.

David Hansberger is a native of Redlands, my hometown, and received all of his education in our area. As he grew up, the Inland Empire also grew, from a semi-rural group of small cities to a population powerhouse—one of the largest urban growth areas in the United States. That we have been able to remain a fabulous place to live is a credit to local leaders like David Hansberger and his brother, Dennis, who is now a San Bernardino County Supervisor.

His public service career actually began in the Coast Guard, where he served 8 years and became a First Class Petty Officer and re-

ceived the Honor Man Award. When he returned to San Bernardino County, he became a leader in a number of our local industries: Owner-operator of Snow-Line Orchards for 13 years; manager of Tri-City Concrete and Perris Ready-Mix; Realtor for Hansberger-Tee-ters and Emerich and Company, and finally the District Manager of the Inland Empire Resource Conservation District, protecting the natural assets of the growing area.

David applied this intimate knowledge of how San Bernardino County ticked to his civic activities. He served on hospital and charity boards, and was very active in the Jaycees, ultimately becoming a District Governor for that group. He was very popular as a caller at auction events for charities, and was given credit for dozens of extremely successful fundraisers for groups over the years.

Perhaps David Hansberger's largest contribution, however, was in helping guide the citizens of Yucaipa into cityhood. This booming area in the foothills on the east side of San Bernardino Valley had made four attempts at incorporation by the mid-1980s, and the lack of success had caused deep divisions in the community.

Mr. Hansberger took over as president of the Yucaipa City Incorporation Committee, and is widely credited with smoothing the rivalries and disagreements. Yucaipa voters finally voted to incorporate in 1989, and the city has grown to a population of 47,000. David Hansberger became a charter member of the city planning commission, and helped set a tone of top-quality home development that has made the city a beautiful place.

The friends of David Hansberger are legion—indeed, most people who knew him would say he never let anyone be a stranger for long. His genuine concern and compassion drew people to him, and he welcomed them as friends.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in expressing condolences to Mr. Hansberger's wife of 41 years, Sheila, and his children, grandchildren, parents and siblings. I ask you to join me as well in celebrating his wonderful contributions to making his community, and our world, a friendlier and more livable place.

HONORING ARTHUR GLIDDEN,
PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF
THE WOLFEBORO CENTRE COM-
MUNITY CHURCH

HON. JEB BRADLEY

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Arthur Glidden for his hard work and dedication to the continuation and protection of the Wolfeboro Centre Community Church for over 43 years. Arthur Glidden is 83-years-old and has been a resident of my hometown of Wolfeboro for his entire life. Arthur's wife, Doty, is also a lifelong resident of the community and a supporter of the church.

In 1841, a group of Wolfeboro citizens purchased one third of an acre for \$17 to build a non-denominational worship center for the Christian members in the area. This traditional New England church was started and it contin-

ued in operation with the generous help of the congregation. In 1964, Arthur Glidden became President of the Church Board and began what has now become his long-standing devotion to the parishioners and the care and preservation of the building.

Arthur has taken the traditions of when the meetinghouse was first built and he has raised them to a higher level. For almost 25 percent of the life of the Wolfeboro Centre Community Church, he has been its greatest protector and benefactor. At times, almost single-handedly, Arthur lifted the church up to save it from declining attendance and carried it forward on his shoulders until it was safe and secure again.

Arthur Glidden is to be commended for his steadfast dedication to the Wolfeboro Centre Community Church, and all of his efforts to improve the community in which he lives.

H.R. 5252: THE COMMUNICATIONS
OPPORTUNITY, PROMOTION, AND
ENHANCEMENT ACT

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, Federal telecommunications law was last reformed in 1996. Many new technologies have been developed since then that have changed how Americans receive and seek information. This reform legislation is long overdue. I support reforming telecommunications law that will encourage investment, innovation, and competition in both telecommunications software and hardware. The delivery of telecommunications services to consumers, such as universal service, community access, and public safety must be protected. And, most importantly, any changes to telecommunication law intended to enhance competition must ensure consumer protections.

Unfortunately, the bill before us today does little to meet those goals and instead the consumer protections and community access we have come to expect could be in jeopardy. In addition, this bill forces unfunded mandates onto State and local governments and does little to prevent businesses from discriminating against consumers in order to enhance profit margins.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates that intergovernmental mandates on State and local governments would increase over time—adding up to \$100 to \$350 million by 2011. This cost will ultimately be passed along to the families who use these services. And, while the bill maintains the rights of cities to manage rights-of-ways requirements, such as where telecommunications infrastructure can be laid and what city streets can be disrupted, this legislation prevents State and local consumer protection laws from applying to national franchise holders.

While the bill includes some "anti-discrimination" requirements intended to prevent providers from servicing areas based on income levels, these provisions are weak because the bill does not require companies to offer service to all communities within a specific area within a certain period of time. Weak anti-discrimination policies undermine the universal service principles that have been the pillars of

fair access to U.S. telecommunications. I am concerned that the anti-discrimination policy contained in the bill does not go far enough in ensuring fair access to service and in allowing fair access to group claims and protections in the event that consumers feel that they and their neighbors have been discriminated against.

I also continue to remain concerned that this bill does not contain a stronger network neutrality provision—which would prevent Internet providers from discriminating against Internet content—whether through pricing or speed of delivery. The Internet has been a communication medium that has flourished due to the fact that content has moved freely and equally without interference from network providers. Financial incentives to move some content through the Internet faster than other content would undermine the innovation that has spurred competitive Internet content and services. It is my opinion that the network providers should not be the ones in charge of favoring one application over another—consumers should be in charge of that.

A broad coalition of groups opposes this bill for a variety of reasons, including the National Conference of State Legislatures, the National League of Cities, the National Association of Counties, the National Association of Telecommunications Offices and Advisors, and the National Governors' Association. Other groups share in the concern about the need for strong network neutrality provisions, including a broad coalition representing AARP, the American Library Association, colleges and universities across the country, and many others. I share in their concerns and that is why I rise today to oppose passage of this bill.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL AP-
PROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DE-
FENSE, THE GLOBAL WAR ON
TERROR, AND HURRICANE RE-
COVERY, 2006—CONFERENCE

SPEECH OF

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2006

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, from the beginning, the Bush administration's policy on Iraq has been based on distortions and misjudgments. Prior to the invasion, I fought to prevent this war. I parted with most members of Congress and cast a vote against the resolution authorizing the use of military force in Iraq. The President misled the American people into believing there was a link between Iraq and the terrorist attacks of September 11.

I understand the frustration and heartbreak that have led many Americans to conclude that it is now time for us to remove ourselves from this misguided quagmire and bring our troops home. That is why I have called on the President to change course. America simply cannot continue indefinitely to pay the high costs in both lives and dollars to stay on the same failed course in Iraq.

In December 2005, I voted for H.R. 1815, the FY 2006 Defense Authorization bill, which the President signed into law in January 2006. Section 1227 of that bill, United States Policy on Iraq, states that it is the sense of Congress that "calendar year 2006 should be a period of

significant transition to full Iraq sovereignty, with Iraqi security forces taking the lead for the security of a free and sovereign Iraq, thereby creating the conditions for the phased redeployment of United States forces from Iraq."

It is time for the President to implement this policy. We should not have American troops in the middle of a civil war. President Bush is wrong to say that we should stay the course in Iraq. We need a new direction in Iraq.

The President must present a strategy to Congress to draw down American troops from Iraq and return them home to their families. This strategy must ensure that our National Guard troops are the first to come home, as they were never intended as our primary force for overseas military missions. We need our National Guard troops to be home and available for our local needs.

Military experts have recommended a draw-down of 10,000 troops per month. Although we should not announce a specific timeline for troop withdrawal, it is reasonable to expect that we should have half of our combat troops home by the end of 2006, and all of our combat troops home by the end of 2007. Even with such a drawdown of American troops in Iraq, this supplemental appropriations is necessary in order to insure the proper funding of our military operations during such a draw-down.

Bringing our troops home allows us to achieve certain necessary objectives. First, we will bring our troops home safely to their families and remove them from being in the middle of a civil war. Second, we should send an important message to the Iraqi government to take responsibility for their government—after they ratified a new constitution, held elections, and installed a new government—because American troops cannot and should not remain in Iraq indefinitely. Third, we would remove a powerful propaganda and recruitment tool for Al Qaeda that the United States is an occupation force. Fourth, we would be able to stage our troops outside of Iraq to work with our allies and the international community to fight the war against international terrorism. The repositioning of our troops would help us to regain our focus on the war on terror. Finally, bringing our troops home would help us preserve the strength of our all-volunteer military by improving troop morale and boosting our efforts to improve recruitment of new soldiers.

I have repeatedly called for a change in America's policies so that we can bring our troops home as soon as possible. In December 2004, I visited our troops in Iraq. I thanked them for their service and listened to their stories. It was a moving experience for me. I honor the sacrifices they and their families are making each day.

The men and women of our armed forces are demonstrating tremendous dedication to our nation through their performance in Iraq. These brave soldiers have put their lives in harm's way for our country, and we are forever grateful for their service.

This bill also contains crucial provisions, which I support, that would provide nearly \$20 billion for Hurricane Katrina relief, including funds for housing, community planning and development, flood control, and small business loans. In addition, the House should take up H.R. 4197, a comprehensive Hurricane Katrina recovery bill introduced by the Congressional Black Caucus.

I am encouraged that the bill provides nearly \$500 million to address the ongoing genocide in southern Sudan and Darfur. These funds are critical to meeting the immediate needs of victims of the Darfur crisis, such as shelter, health care, and access to water and sanitation. Sudanese government-backed Arab militias have slaughtered hundreds of thousands of villagers, and they have burned entire villages. Up to two million refugees have fled this genocide to neighboring countries, but the small, poorly-equipped, and underfunded African Union (AU) force cannot offer them adequate protection. This bill provides needed funding to help transition the AU peace-keeping operation to a United Nations mission. It is also encouraging that in April the House passed H.R. 3127, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act, which I co-sponsored, and which I urge the Senate to take up without delay.

Mr. Speaker, this emergency supplemental is a necessary measure that will provide essential support for our troops in their arduous mission in Iraq, vital funding for the global war on terror, and desperately needed assistance for our own Gulf region and the many Americans who have been uprooted by Hurricane Katrina.

MINE IMPROVEMENT AND NEW
EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACT OF
2006 (S. 2803)

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, the recent tragedies of the Sago and Aracoma Alma mine disasters have been a difficult lesson in the efforts to improve mine safety regulations effectively and permanently. I rise today in strong support of long overdue coal miner safety legislation. Unfortunately, the Mine Improvement and New Emergency Response Act of 2006, S. 2803, while an improvement over current law, neglects to address three simple, much-needed reforms that could save lives.

I cannot support the bill before us today because I support stronger improvements to miner safety—which have been supported by miners, miner families, and industry. This legislation would be made stronger with three additional requirements: Provision of no less than a 2-day supply of breathable air for trapped miners; Assurance that within 15 months, communications and tracking devices will be available to find and communicate with trapped miners; regular inspections of miners' individual oxygen packs, known as self-contained self-rescuers, by the federal Mine Safety and Health Administration.

Congress can do better for working men and women by adopting these three provisions. In fact, since this bill passed the Senate, reports have indicated that these reforms could be easily implemented at very little cost. Unfortunately, the Republican leadership would not allow these simple and agreeable provisions to be offered as amendments to the bill.

The Bush administration has failed to make miner safety a priority and instead has proposed budget cuts and deregulation. Despite

six U.S. mine tragedies and more than 30 miners' deaths this year already, the President did not request funding for additional safety enforcement personnel in his Fiscal Year 2007 budget. This proposal is after years of budget cuts to the Department of Labor's Mine Safety and Health Administration, MSHA, resulting in a decline of 170 full-time employees at MSHA and a decline of 217 employees in coal enforcement. In addition, President Bush has appointed former mining executives to the top political positions at the Mine Safety and Health Administration.

I will continue to support efforts to implement stronger miner safety laws. I oppose this bill and urge my colleagues in joining with me to fight for stronger regulations that will save lives and to fight for our working men and women.

A TRIBUTE TO WALTER T.
MOSLEY III

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Walter T. Mosley III, a distinguished member of the Brooklyn, New York community. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing his impressive accomplishments. Walter T. Mosley III serves as Chief of Staff and Counsel to New York State Assemblyman William F. Boyland, Jr. Prior to his current assignment, Mr. Mosley served as Legal Counsel to the Deputy Speaker of the Assembly, Hon. Clarence Norman, Jr. from 2001 to 2005. In this capacity, he served as advisor to the Deputy Speaker on legislative and public policy issues related to statewide and borough-wide initiatives.

Mr. Mosley's current responsibilities include proposing and recommending legislative items and statewide sponsorship requests, serving as the assemblyman's consultant to social programs and economic development projects within central Brooklyn. He also serves as his re-election consultant, and manager of his staff, both in Brooklyn and Albany, New York.

Prior to accepting his current position with the New York State Assembly, Mr. Mosley served as a political consultant on several local and countywide campaigns, and in 2004, was assigned by the Democratic National Committee to work on behalf of Senator JOHN KERRY's presidential campaign. From 1998 to 2001, Mr. Mosley was a Legislative and Oversight Analyst and Investigator for the New York City Council's Office of Oversight and Investigations. In that capacity, Mr. Mosley issued a number of citywide reports and studies on several public policy issues for the City Council.

Mr. Mosley is involved with many community activities, which include his personal work with literacy programs, youth and civic organizations that have made him keenly aware of the importance of helping others while providing opportunities for individuals to reach their full potential. Presently, Mr. Mosley serves as Chairman and Volunteer Mentor to "Future Giant," a non-profit Harlem/South Bronx community based organization formed to support and mentor adolescents and young

adults; Board Member, Bedford YMCA; Chairman of the Economic Development & Job Creation Committee for Community Board 2; Board Member, Cush Campus Schools in Brooklyn, NY; Mentor, Penn State Fast Start Program for incoming freshmen from New York City; and an active member of the Brooklyn Branch of the NAACP.

Recently, Mr. Mosley co-founded and is a managing partner for the consulting firm, Advent Consulting Group, LLC where he helps to advise and organize not-for-profit groups in New York City.

In his spare time, Mr. Mosley serves as a volunteer youth coach with the Brooklyn Skyhawks Football Club and as a participating coach with the National Football League's Junior Players Development Program. Mr. Mosley is a member of the oldest African-American fraternal organization in America—Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated.

In addition to his volunteer work, Mr. Mosley actively fundraises for the internationally acclaimed HIV/AIDS advocacy group, The "Balm in Gilead," where he participates yearly in their annual marathon. Mr. Mosley sincerely hopes the level of his commitment not only helps to generate funding and awareness in the fight against HIV/AIDS, but will encourage other young adults to join in his efforts to raise money and awareness towards the fight against this horrible disease. This year, Mr. Mosley intends to run in the New York City Marathon to raise funds for the Bedford YMCA. As a result of his tireless work and efforts, Mr. Mosley is the recipient of numerous community awards and recognitions.

CONCERNING THE THREE
SUICIDES AT GUANTANAMO BAY

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker there has been no organization, no strategy and no plan for the handling of the prisoners at Guantanamo Bay. They have been in prison for years and years, with no hope of being formally charged. They are given none of the rights afforded prisoners of war under the Geneva Convention nor are they given the rights of criminal suspects in the U.S. justice system. In fact, out of the roughly 500 detainees at Guantanamo Bay, only four have been charged with war crimes. And, since these detainees are classified as enemy combatants, they can be held until the Iraq war is over. Since no one can accurately determine when the war will end, the prisoners could be detained for an indefinite amount of time.

Mr. Speaker, I visited Guantanamo Bay in 2003. I saw firsthand the conditions of the prisoners and the facilities in which they were being held. These prisoners were being held in small cells for over a year without any hope of having their day in court—or even being formally charged with a war crime. With this desperate atmosphere, it is not surprising that there have been at least 41 unsuccessful suicide attempts by 25 detainees since the United States began taking prisoners to the base in January 2002.

I find it inexcusable that my own country has not demonstrated more concern for the

basic Constitutional rights of these prisoners. If there is legitimate evidence of crime, these prisoners deserve a speedy trial.

Mr. Speaker, we must be a positive example to the world. We must prove to all those who would challenge our way of life that a worthy Democracy that upholds the rule of law even in the time of conflict, can exist. If we are to convince the world that terrorism is wrong and freedom is right and just, then as the most powerful voice of liberty, the United States of America must start acting as a leader and as an example.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, due to a family emergency I was not in attendance in the House between June 12th and June 14th, and during that time I missed a number of roll call votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall votes 250 through 262, 270, 273, 283, 286 and 287, and I would have voted "no" on rollcall votes 263 through 269, 271, 272, 274 through 282, 284 and 285.

I ask unanimous consent that this be entered into the RECORD in the appropriate place.

TRIBUTE TO MARK ABBOTT

HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Ms. HOOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mark Abbott, Dean of the College of Oceanic and Atmospheric Sciences at Oregon State University, on his nomination to the National Science Board. Oregon has long benefited from Dean Abbott's impressive scientific knowledge and I am delighted that he will now have the opportunity to share this insight with the rest of the country.

We in Congress have already benefited from Dean Abbott's scientific expertise. In July, 2002, he testified before the House Committee on Science's Subcommittee on Environment, Technology, and Standards about satellite data management at NOAA from the perspective of the Earth science community.

During his time at Oregon State, Dean Abbott's research has been focused on the interaction of biological and physical processes in the upper ocean. He has been a pioneer in the use of satellite ocean color data to study coupled physical/biological processes and he has also advised the Office of Naval Research and the National Science Foundation on ocean information infrastructure. Dean Abbott was also recently appointed a co-chair of the State of Oregon's Climate Change Integration Group. This panel, appointed by Oregon Governor Ted Kulongoski, has been charged with tracking the State's progress on greenhouse gas emission reductions and looking at future economic and societal implications of climate change.

The National Science Board is the governing body of the National Science Foundation, an independent federal agency established to promote the progress of science, advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare, and secure the national defense. The National Science Board has the dual responsibilities of serving as the national science policy advisor to the President and the Congress and serving as the governing board of the National Science Foundation.

Today, the Nation and the world are confronted with many questions about the possible impacts that human behavior is having on the environment. We need to make sure that our policy decisions are based on science and not the other way around. With Mark Abbott and others like him serving on the National Science Board, I know that this will continue to be the case.

A TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM D.
PINKETT

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of William D. Pinkett, a distinguished member of the Brooklyn, New York community. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing his impressive accomplishments.

William D. Pinkett was born in New Haven, Connecticut to the late William Sheridan and Hattie Pinkett. He is the fifth of five brothers, all of whom have preceded him in death.

William (Bill as he is affectionately called by most) came to Brooklyn as an infant, when his parents came to New York seeking a better life.

Bill was educated in the New York public school system, attending PS 41, Junior High School 210 and Boys High School. He received his Bachelor of Arts Degree and Masters in Sociology from Brooklyn College. He also received a Masters of Science Degree in Educational Supervision from Pace University. In 1950, the US Army drafted Bill and he served in the infantry in Korea. In 1953, Bill received an honorable discharge and was immediately hired by the US Postal System. While working as a clerk at night, Bill attended graduate school and taught in the NYC Public Schools on a per diem basis during the day.

After 10 years of postal employment, he assumed a fulltime career as classroom teacher for 22 years. He later served as an educational administrator at the Board of Education headquarters for the next 10 years. Bill's tenure at the New York City Board of Education lasted 33 years. He retired in 1991, as a licensed Senior Educational Administrator of Curriculum and Staff Development.

Wherever Bill worked, he also served as a union representative in those titles. Upon retirement at the Board it was to be expected that he would become an elected officer in the Retired School Supervisors Chapter of the Council of Supervisors and Administrators (CSA). In his capacity as a Trustee of the CSA Retiree Welfare fund, Bill continues to serve as a champion for the rights and benefits for retirees of his former union.

Given Bill's leadership abilities, it was not a surprise that he was elected Chairman of the City-Wide Council of Municipal Retiree Organizations (COMRO), which is comprised of retirees from over 40 New York City unions, representing in excess of 150,000 retirees. Bill is completing his second term as Chairman of this distinguished organization of uniformed and civilian retirees, which seeks to maintain and improve the health benefits of all municipal retirees as well as keeping a watchful eye on legislation that impact upon New York City's five pension systems.

Bill will be quick to tell you that whatever skills in public relations with workers and retirees he might have, came about because he learned so much from his master teacher (and late wife), New York City Councilwoman Mary Glover Pinkett.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of William D. Pinkett as he offers his talents and services for the betterment of our local and national communities.

Mr. Speaker, William Pinkett's selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes him most worthy of our recognition today.

TRANSPORTATION, TREASURY,
HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT,
THE JUDICIARY, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5576) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, Treasury, and Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, District of Columbia, and independent agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes:

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of H.R. 5576, the Transportation-Treasury-Housing and Urban Development-Judiciary-DC Appropriations Act of 2007.

This bill will provide over \$139 billion in budgetary resources, including direct appropriations and funds from the transportation trust fund. Our highways and infrastructure system built this Nation, and we need to maintain them. This legislation brings the funding level to the amount required in the recently passed transportation bill, provides over \$1 billion for Amtrak and other rail service, as well as the funds needed to maintain our Community Development Block Grant and elderly housing programs.

But I believe that this could have been a better bill. The proposed cuts to the HUD programs such as Hope VI and Section 8 housing for the elderly should have been rejected.

I support H.R. 5576 as amended, and urge my colleagues to join me in voting for this bill.

TRIBUTE TO FRANCIS P. CANALI ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Francis (Frank) P. Canali on the occasion of his retirement from the Worcester, Massachusetts Public Schools. The end of this school year marks the end of Frank's distinguished thirty-four year career as a teacher and administrator at Worcester Vocational High School. During his long tenure, Frank has gained a well-deserved reputation as a talented professional educator who is widely respected and admired for his unflinching devotion to Worcester Voke.

The longevity of Frank Canali's career is not only impressive, it is also inspiring. In an age when loyalty is becoming an increasingly rare quality, Frank's steadfast commitment to the students, faculty and staff of Worcester Yoke reminds us all what one man can accomplish when he dedicates his life's work to the betterment of a single institution. When Frank walks out the doors of Worcester Voke for the last time, he will leave the school an infinitely better place than he found it.

Frank began teaching at Worcester Vocational High School in 1972 as a graphic arts instructor in the evening program. He later taught offset lithography, both in the Career Educational Training Program and at Worcester Vocational High School, before becoming head of the graphic communications department in 1980. Along the way Frank furthered his own education by earning a bachelor's of science degree in education and a master's degree in administration of occupational education. He was subsequently appointed assistant principal in 2000 and ultimately principal in 2003. As Frank now prepares to end his career as principal, he leaves Worcester Vocational High School as one of the highest-performing public schools in the City of Worcester and with a new state-of-the-art facility that is the envy of every community in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Both remarkable achievements are due in no small part to the immeasurable and lasting contributions Frank has made during his career. His positive influence has benefited an untold number of young men and women, and his legacy will be that he tirelessly demanded that vocational education receive the attention, emphasis and investment it rightly deserves and that our nation so desperately needs.

Mr. Speaker, as the brother of two Worcester public school teachers, I know well the great challenges and demands our educators face on a daily basis. For thirty-four years, Frank Canali has met and mastered those daily challenges. He enters retirement with the quiet pride and satisfaction of knowing that he has truly made a difference. I wish to offer my heartfelt appreciation for Frank's public service to the families of Worcester, Massachusetts, and I wish him and his wife Pattie, their children and grandchildren a happy and healthy retirement. He has earned it.

CONGRATULATING THE LEWIS CASS "LADY KINGS" SOFTBALL TEAM ON WINNING THE CLASS 2A INDIANA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. CHRIS CHOCOLA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. CHOCOLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the 2006 Class 2A State Champion Lewis Cass Softball team.

Led by coach Brent Blinn and assistant coaches Scott Rouch, Greg Comoglio, and Mike Stow these 17 talented girls beat Frankton High School 3-0 to clinch the championship.

The Championship game, all five and a half hours of it, capped off an incredible 28-2 season where the Lady Kings faced and defeated the best competition Indiana has to offer. These talented young ladies are a great example of how teamwork, commitment, discipline, and confidence will lead to success.

The team includes: Krista Weber, Kayla Blinn, Misty Collins, Rachel Comoglio, Brittany LoCoco, Jennifer Berlet, Emily Watkins, Taylor DeHaven, Alexandra Rouch, Ollmay Wilson, Molly Naphew, Anna Tweed, Samantha Roller, Morgan Baker, Danya Long, Ashley Snider and Haley Tolle.

I am truly fortunate to have the opportunity to recognize these incredible women. It is my wish that their story of triumph will encourage both men and women of all walks of life, whether they play sports or not, to follow their dreams, believe in their friends, and not give up until they can hoist the trophy of victory above their heads like the Lady Kings of Lewis Cass.

THE IMPORTANCE OF U.S. FOREIGN AID

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to enter into the RECORD, an article by Pulitzer Prize winning journalist Nicholas D. Kristof discussing the merits of U.S. foreign aid. In the article, titled Foreign Aid Has Flaws. So What?, published in the June 13, 2006 edition of the New York Times, Mr. Kristof demands a dialogue to increase the effectiveness of our foreign aid. It is good to see the subject of foreign aid being addressed in the New York Times editorial pages because there needs to be public education about the benefits of foreign aid for the poor and also for the United States.

Eradicating global poverty is the first objective of the United Nation's Millennium Development Goals. With that in mind we must recognize the need for increasing the effectiveness of the money that is provided through foreign assistance programs every year. Mr. Kristof initiates his point by acknowledging the central reality that "helping people can be much harder than it looks." For example, food assistance lowers prices in the markets of the recipient countries and continues the impact by discouraging local farmers from planting the next season.

Economists have argued that aid can have adverse effects on a country's economic system. It pushes up the local exchange rates, discouraging local manufacturing; it breeds foreign assistance dependency by cutting down room for internal development of industries and opportunities. At the same time our aid saves lives. "For pennies [we] can vaccinate a child and save his/her life. For only \$5, [we] can buy a mosquito net and save several people from malaria." In Darfur we haven't done nearly enough to establish permanent peace and stability, but our aid has kept thousands of people alive.

Keeping these facts in mind, my dear colleagues, I ask you all to join me in taking constructive steps to increase both the amount of U.S. foreign aid and the efficiency in distributing it to nations that are in dire need of assistance. We, as representatives of the most powerful nation of the world, must lead the way and work with international organizations that can share this burden with us.

[From The New York Times, June 13, 2006]

FOREIGN AID HAS FLAWS. SO WHAT?

(By Nicholas D. Kristof)

Don't tell anyone, but a dirty little secret within the foreign aid world is that aid often doesn't work very well.

Now that truth has been aired (and sometimes exaggerated) in a provocative new book by William Easterly, "The White Man's Burden." Mr. Easterly, a former World Bank official who is now an economics professor at New York University, has tossed a hand grenade at the world's bleeding hearts—and, worst of all, he makes some valid points.

Let me say right off that stingy Republicans should not read this book. It might inflame their worst suspicions.

But the rest of us should read it, because there is a growing constituency for fighting global poverty, and we need to figure out how to make that money more effective.

I disagree with many of Professor Easterly's arguments, but he's right about one central reality: helping people can be much harder than it looks. When people are chronically hungry, for example, shipping in food can actually make things worse, because the imported food lowers prices and thus discourages farmers from planting in the next season. (That's why the United Nations, when spending aid money, tries to buy food in the region rather than import it.)

On one of my last trips to Darfur, I had dinner at a restaurant in Nyala called K2. Out back were 18 big white S.U.V.'s belonging to the U.N. and aid groups; that amounted to nearly \$1 million worth of vehicles, in a country where people are starving.

The aid workers are struggling heroically in a dangerous and difficult place, and I don't begrudge them reliable vehicles. But something seems wrong when international agencies are more successful at maintaining S.U.V.'s than clinics. (One reason is that budgeting is often done annually, and one of the ways to spend a grant in a single year is to buy a vehicle.)

It's well-known that the countries that have succeeded best in lifting people out of poverty (China, Singapore, Malaysia) have received minimal aid, while many that have been flooded with aid (Niger, Togo, Zambia) have ended up poorer. Thus many economists accept that aid doesn't generally help poor countries grow, but argue that it does stimulate growth in poor countries with good governance. That was the conclusion of a study in 2000 by Craig Burnside and David Dollar. Professor Easterly repeated that study, using a larger pool of data, and—alas—found no improvement even in countries with good governance.

Saddest of all, Raghuram Rajan and Arvind Subramanian of the International Monetary Fund have found that "aid inflows have systematic adverse effects on a country's competitiveness." One problem is that aid pushes up the local exchange rate, discouraging local manufacturing. Mr. Subramanian also argues that aid income can create the same kinds of problems as oil income—that famous "oil curse"—by breeding dependency and undermining local institutions.

All these findings can be pretty shattering to a bleeding-heart American. But cheer up.

Some other studies indicate that aid does improve growth (economists don't agree about this any more than they agree about anything else). And whatever the impact on economic growth rates, aid definitely does something far more important: it saves lives.

For pennies, you can vaccinate a child and save his or her life. For \$5 you can buy a family a large mosquito net and save several people from malaria. For \$250, you can repair a teenage girl's fistula, a common childbirth injury, and give her a life again.

The Center for Global Development, a Washington think tank, has published a terrific book, "Millions Saved," demonstrating how health projects have saved lives. Eradicating smallpox and reducing river blindness have improved the lives of more people for less money than almost any investment imaginable. In Darfur, we haven't done nearly enough. But our aid shipments have kept alive hundreds of thousands of people.

For my whole adult life, I've sponsored children through Plan USA, and in visiting my "adopted" child in places like the Philippines and Sudan, I've seen how the kids' lives are transformed by American sponsors. Aid is no panacea, but it is a lifesaver.

So let's not shy away from a conversation about the effectiveness of aid. The problems are real, but so are the millions of people alive today who wouldn't be if not for aid. In the end, if we have tough conversations about foreign aid, then I believe Americans will acknowledge the challenges—and then, clear-eyed, agree to dig more deeply than ever, for that is simply the best way we have of asserting our own humanity.

HENRY GLOVER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Henry Glover, a distinguished member of the Brooklyn, New York community. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing his impressive accomplishments.

Mr. Glover was born and raised in South Carolina and moved to Brooklyn, New York after graduating from high school.

He's married to his high school sweetheart Mabel and is the proud father of four children and one adopted son. Mr. Glover graduated as an auto mechanic from Berk Trade School. He also attended LaGuardia Community College and earned his certification in Management. After many years of loyal and dedicated service, Mr. Glover retired from Eagle Electric Company.

Noting a need for change, Mr. Glover started volunteering in the community in the late seventies with the East New York Democratic Club. He later was appointed President of the

Tenant Association of Marcus Garvey Houses, where he started the development's first free lunch program and youth jobs program.

Mr. Glover later moved to Bedford Stuyvesant and became very active with the Unity Democratic Club, where he serves as Chairperson of the Membership Committee and Office Manager. In his spare time, he loves to watch sports and two of his most beloved teams are the NY Yankees and the NY Football Giants.

Everyone who knows Mr. Glover knows that if you can't catch him during the week, you will be sure to find him on Sunday at Mt. Carmel Baptist Church where he serves as a faithful Deacon. He is also a member of the Association of Deacons.

Mr. Glover's motto is "If I Can't Help Somebody Along the Way, Then My Living Would Have Been in Vain," and his life is a living testament.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Henry Glover, a man who offers his talents and services for the betterment of our community.

Mr. Speaker, Henry Glover's selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes him most worthy of our recognition today.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH HENRY
WASHINGTON

HON. MELVIN L. WATT

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. WATT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, to pay tribute to a fallen American hero. Joseph Henry Washington passed away on June 13, 2006. He was not well known beyond his Charleston, South Carolina community, but he represents so many unsung African American heroes who courageously defended America in the armed forces at a time when this country was denying their civil rights.

Joe Washington was a survivor of Pearl Harbor. His life was an ordinary one, but on December 7, 1941, it became extraordinary.

Mr. Washington was the youngest son of Isaac and Elvira Delura McCants Washington. After his father's death, his mother struggled to raise her two young boys by "taking in washing" for wealthy Charleston residents. Despite the hardships, no one wanted young Joe to leave home and join the Navy. Yet he was determined to see the world, and his mother gave permission for her son to fulfill his dream.

Navy recruiting officers welcomed young Joe. However, he quickly learned that the only place for men of color was as a Mess Attendant for Naval officers. Still he boarded a train for Raleigh, North Carolina and took the oath to dutifully serve his country. On August 9, 1937, Joe Washington reported for Basic Training in Norfolk, Virginia. In just three short months, he was prepared for his first assignment in the Ward Room on the USS *Arizona*. His initial duties included seeing to the needs of the ship's officers, including LCDR Commander Samuel G. Fuqua, a man Mr. Washington would later credit with saving many lives at Pearl Harbor.

While serving on the USS *Arizona*, he attended the Cook and Stewards School, which was the only upwardly mobile field open to African Americans in the Navy. After completing the course, Mr. Washington was assigned to Steward's Duty and helped plan the meals.

His time on the USS *Arizona* passed uneventfully until the "day that will live in infamy." While on duty in the Ward Room, Joe Washington heard a big explosion and then alarms sounded. His first thought was this was a drill, but when bullets began hitting the decks he knew this was the real thing.

Mr. Washington later recalled that a Japanese plane dropped a bomb right down the smoke stack directly into the ammunition room resulting in a terrific explosion. He joined his fellow sailors in securing the ship by closing portholes in their section to keep out the water and bullets. Then he tried to return to his quarters and found the hatches closed and locked by those who had gone before. He made his way to the deck and found most of the crew there dead or badly burned. He went to work helping those he could. A lifeboat came to rescue some of the men. Mr. Washington escaped by wading to shore. He came through the bombing without a scratch, and was one of only two surviving African Americans on the ill-fated *Arizona*.

Joe Washington spent two days at a hanger at Hickam Air Field in Washington. Yet because of his dedication to the Navy and his need to distract himself from the tragedy at Pearl Harbor, Mr. Washington volunteered to go back to work on the USS *Oklahoma* and the USS *California*.

In November 1946, Mr. Washington was admirably discharged from Navy. Some twelve years later, he returned to Hawaii to appear with then-retired Rear Admiral Fuqua on the popular television show "This Is Your Life." During that visit, he returned to the site of the *Arizona*'s remains and said a silent prayer. In a 1985 interview he recalled, "I couldn't help thinking that I hope they didn't die in vain."

Joseph Washington spent the rest of his professional career as a government employee at the Brooklyn Navy Yard in New York. He returned home to Charleston in the 1970s after retirement and became an active and faithful member of Morris Brown AME Church. He never spoke of the events of December 7, 1941 unless he was asked, yet when he did, he would always exclaim, "It was a miracle that I came through the bombing. I was one of the lucky ones."

Joe Washington died last Tuesday at the age of 87, and will be buried in Charleston on Saturday. Mr. Washington never married. He leaves to mourn his passing a sister-in-law, and five beloved nieces including Emily E. Clyburn, the wife of our colleague JIM CLYBURN.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me and members of the Congressional Black Caucus in remembering Joseph Henry Washington by saying that we are the lucky ones. We enjoy many freedoms today because men like him were willing to fight for their country even when they didn't enjoy the full benefit of what it meant to be an American. Because of Joe Washington and so many other unsung heroes, today our country is truly the home of the brave and the land of the free.

IN TRIBUTE TO DR. JOHN H.
LOUNSBURY

HON. JIM MARSHALL

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. John H. Lounsbury, of Milledgeville, GA for his efforts on behalf of Georgia's children and for his long record of service in the field of education.

After serving our country during World War II, Dr. Lounsbury went back to school. He earned both a Bachelor's and a Master's Degree and quickly started his long, distinguished career in education. In 1954, he received his Doctorate and shifted his career from teaching students to teaching teachers. In 1960, he accepted the position of chairman of the Department of Education at Georgia College, and in 1977 became dean of the School of Education. Since 1983, he has served as dean emeritus.

Throughout his career, Dr. Lounsbury has been a leading force in middle grades education. He helped shape the future of middle grades education while working on the original development committee for Middle School/Junior High School Evaluative Criteria as well as the revision committee a decade later. The long-lasting impact he's had in this area is perhaps his most important legacy.

In addition to his work at Georgia College, Dr. Lounsbury has been the chairman of many professional associations, and has also served as a member or chairman of more than 25 visiting committees for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the National Council of Accreditation of Teacher Education and the Georgia State Department of Education.

Mr. Speaker, despite these many obligations, Dr. Lounsbury still found the time to author or co-author more than 130 articles, 2 college textbooks, and 5 national research reports. He has made scores of presentations to various professional conferences, professional institutes and conventions.

Roundly respected as a man who has truly dedicated his life to bettering education, Dr. Lounsbury has received so many awards and honors from his peers that I cannot name them all for fear I will omit one. The most recent of those honors included a presentation here in Washington, DC. Dr. Lounsbury received the Joan Lipsitz Lifetime Achievement Award, presented by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle Grades Reform "Schools to Watch" Program, for his significant and continuous contributions to the development, implementation and sustained growth of middle level education.

Mr. Speaker, there was a time when middle school students were treated no differently than their younger counterparts, with no attention to their unique needs, abilities and challenges. Today, we know that children learn differently at different ages. Dr. Lounsbury played a key role in teaching all of us this important lesson. He is an architect of middle grades education and to this day remains a champion for this special age group.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. SHELBY
SAMUEL

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Shelby Samuel, a distinguished member of the medical community. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing his impressive accomplishments.

Shelby Samuel, M.D. is Chief of Gastroenterology at North General Hospital. He is an Assistant Professor of Medicine at Downstate Medical Center, State University of New York. Dr. Samuel received his undergraduate degree at Yale University and his Medical Degree at Downstate Medical Center.

Dr. Samuel is the recipient of awards for community involvement and leadership. He has been involved in efforts for promoting the academic advancement of young people at the level of junior high school, high school, college, and medical school. Dr. Samuel is involved in active research regarding problems in gastroenterology and hepatology that affect the minority community. He has presented his research findings at national academic meetings, including research findings on the knowledge and attitudes regarding colon cancer prevention in a high-risk urban population. Dr. Samuel has a private practice in gastroenterology with offices in Brooklyn and Manhattan.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Dr. Shelby Samuel, a man who has made giant strides in the field of medicine, and whose service makes him most worthy of our recognition today.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Shelby Samuel's selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes him most worthy of our recognition today.

HONORING CAMP MAC SUMMER
CAMP FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Alabama's own Camp Mac, as well as all the other fine summer camps located throughout the country.

Truly an "institution" in Alabama, Camp Mac Summer Camp for Boys and Girls was established in 1948 by Mr. and Mrs. E.A. McBride. Today, almost 60 years later, Camp Mac is still owned and operated by the McBride family, a true success story spanning three generations.

Camp Mac is situated in the beautiful Cheaha Mountains and surrounded by the two hundred thousand plus acres that make up the Talladega National Forest. The location is ideal for the fun and safe summer programs that are the hallmark of Camp Mac.

Since its founding, Camp Mac has provided a refuge from the negative influences that the world has to offer today's youth. Campers

enter into a world of "Safety, Fun, and Instruction." With over 70 activities to choose from, campers are strengthened both in skill and confidence through the instruction they receive.

The summers spent in this wholesome environment provide an opportunity for the campers to independently develop unique and special relationships which can—and often do—last a lifetime. Campers are also given the independence to choose their own adventure for the summer because they are free to choose the activities in which they wish to participate.

These new-found friendships and activities are all carefully watched over by a staff that is second to none. The caring and nurturing staff of Camp Mac is made up of individuals who are of the highest character and are dedicated to the camp's mission. The devoted staff is just one more hallmark of Camp Mac.

It is my sincere hope that the mission of this wonderful refuge and those who work towards that mission will continue to thrive in the years to come, and I rise today to honor Camp Mac and the McBride family, and salute them for the positive difference they have made in the lives of so many young people.

TRANSPORTATION, TREASURY,
HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT,
THE JUDICIARY, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5576) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, Treasury, and Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, District of Columbia, and independent agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes:

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Chairman, lead paint hazards still threaten communities with exposure to toxins in the home triggering asthma at a great cost to American families and the national economy. Those most vulnerable are low-income and minority children living in older, substandard housing.

Despite these facts and the continued bipartisan support for HUD's lead hazard control grants, this bill cuts funding by approximately \$35 million. With only one-third of the HUD requests from cities and States being funded, these cuts would only further jeopardize the health and safety of children and families across the Nation.

I, therefore, rise today to urge you to support the Slaughter-Velázquez-Terry amendment which restores funds for this critical program that will help with prevention efforts and move us closer to the national goal of eradicating lead poisoning altogether. Last year, a similar amendment passed the House with bipartisan support.

Voting for this amendment will ensure that children and families nationwide will have a safe place to call home, free from the worry of harm from household toxins.

H.R. 5522

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, Darfur is in a state of chaos and the humanitarian situation is more dire than it was a year ago. Security is desperately needed and unfortunately the 7,400 African Union personnel have not been able to provide stability in the region. Their lack of numbers, limited mandate and supplies have hindered their ability to stop the atrocities.

However, they are currently the only force on the ground. We hope that the African Union Mission in Sudan, AMIS, will be transitioned into a United Nations mission as soon as possible, but there are no guarantees as to when that will occur. I understand that a joint AU-UN Assessment Mission is currently on the ground in Sudan and that we are expecting a deployment of troops by October 1. Despite the beginnings of this work, it is unclear that this will lead to a deployment by the expected date. In fact, the Government of Sudan is still opposed to a U.N. force in Darfur.

I understand that the Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations did not include funding for AMIS in this bill as the U.N. mission is expected to begin before this bill is completed. However, I am concerned that the U.N. mission will take much longer and that AMIS will not have enough funds to provide security and complete their new daunting tasks under the Darfur Peace Accord.

The needs of AMIS are great and I hope that a U.N. mission will be deployed to Darfur in the immediate future.

However, if the U.N. mission is not in place when we go to conference on this bill and AMIS is in need of funding, I hope that the committee will support reprogramming funds in this bill to support AMIS.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, on June 14, 2006, I was attending my daughter Karen's middle school graduation ceremony in New Jersey and, therefore, missed 13 recorded votes.

I take my voting responsibility very seriously, and had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on recorded vote No. 274; "yes" on recorded vote No. 275; "no" on recorded vote No. 276; "no" on recorded vote No. 277; "no" on recorded vote No. 278; "no" on recorded vote No. 279; "no" on recorded vote No. 280; "yes" on recorded vote No. 281; "yes" on recorded vote No. 282; "yes" on recorded vote No. 283; "no" on recorded vote No. 284; "no" on recorded vote No. 285; "yes" on recorded vote No. 286.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE, THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR, AND HURRICANE RECOVERY, 2006—CONFERENCE

SPEECH OF

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2006

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, the supplemental appropriations legislation passed by the House will spend nearly \$95 billion of taxpayer money yet will not help our veterans, will not secure peace in Iraq, and will not make our homeland safer and better for working families.

The Bush administration continues to underfund the health care services for veterans and sent our troops to war without a plan to secure the peace. When our servicemen and women return home they are returning to a system that cannot care for them or provide the benefits they so greatly sacrificed for and deserve. And the hurricane season began again on June 1 but this Nation is no closer to be prepared for a hurricane under this administration than it was the day before Hurricanes Katrina and Wilma struck land. This bill will not resolve these issues.

Instead of passing the biggest supplemental ever passed by Congress, Congress should take real steps to help protect our country and ensure our veterans and their families receive the care they need. We should pass the GI bill of rights for the 21st century to ensure affordable and accessible health care, education benefits and job training. We need to take seriously the impact of the war on veterans and their families and pass legislation I have introduced to ensure access to needed mental health counseling. We should develop a real plan to bring our troops home safely and secure the peace.

I strongly support our troops, our veterans and their families and will continue to fight to ensure they receive the well-deserved support of their country. I will continue to fight to improve the quality of life for working families. And I will continue to make sure America is a safer place.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. CLIFFORD YOUNG

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Clifford Young, a distinguished member of the medical community. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing his impressive accomplishments.

Dr. Clifford Young is affectionately known by members of the Brooklyn, New York community as "The People's Doctor." Dr. Young is a man who overcame tremendous challenges to practice medicine, and then did his best to help people once he got his degree.

Dr. Young was born on the multiple island nation of St. Vincent and the Grenadines lo-

cated in the eastern Caribbean. Upon graduation from secondary school, he received a PAHO/WHO scholarship to the Barbados Community College where he studied laboratory technology. After a short tenure at the lab of the Kingstown General Hospital, he migrated to the U.S. to continue his studies. In 1980, he enrolled at Hunter College of the City University of New York and in 1984 he graduated with a bachelor's degree in chemistry. In 1989, he received a doctor of medicine degree from the State University of New York, Downstate Medical Center. After completing his residency, Dr. Young served as an attending physician at the Woodhull Medical Center in Brooklyn, a position he still holds today. Dr. Young is also an attending physician in the Department of Medicine at the Brookdale University Hospital, and is the medical director of Citi Medical of Carnasie in Brooklyn. But Dr. Young doesn't stop there. He is also a clinical assistant professor with the Department of Medicine at Downstate Medical School, SUNY; a Diplomate of the Medical Board of Medical Examiners, a Diplomate of the American Board of International Medicine and a Fellow of the American College of Physicians. In recognition of his outstanding charitable work and contributions, Dr. Young also received the Family Service Network of New York 2005 Community Health Award and the Thomas R. Fortune Professional Health Care Award in 2006.

Dr. Young is happily married to the former Hilma Foster; they have two daughters, Nyasha and Chantay, and one son, Clifford Jr.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Dr. Clifford Young, a man who has made giant strides in the field of medicine, and whose service makes him most worthy of our recognition today.

EXPANDING DEMOCRACY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an upcoming event that should be of interest to my colleagues. The Democratic Pacific Union was founded in August 2005 and its Pacific Congressional Caucus (Taiwan Chapter) was inaugurated on May 20, 2006. Chaired by Taiwan Vice President Lu Hsiu-lien, the Taiwan Chapter has been very active in promoting democracy, peace and prosperity through the publication of the Democratic Pacific Union Quarterly, the scheduling of regional meetings in the East and the West Pacific regions, the initiation of the Pacific Economic Advisory Group and the Pacific Congressional Caucus project.

I commend Chair Lu Hsiu-lien of the Democratic Pacific Union for her hard work and applaud the Taiwan Chapter for all its initiatives on behalf of the Democratic Pacific Union in their pursuit of a stronger democratic process.

The Taiwan Chapter will also sponsor a symposium on congressional reform this summer in Taipei from August 12–14. The symposium will discuss the relationships between legislature and democracy, the electoral process, rules and campaign finance. As the

world's strongest democracy, the United States can contribute greatly to this event. I urge my colleagues to attend this symposium and share their knowledge and expertise with fellow lawmakers from the Pacific region.

TRIBUTE TO THEODORE FLOYD: RESPECTED COMMUNITY LEADER AND DEVOTED PUBLIC SERVANT

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a dear friend, Detective Theodore Floyd of the Indian River Sheriff's Department.

As a former Florida Highway Patrolman myself, I have proudly worn the titles "law enforcement officer" and "first responder." But Theodore Floyd is more than that, because he is truly a peace officer who takes a broader view of his responsibilities.

On Saturday, June 17, 2006, at St. Peter's Missionary Baptist Church in Vero Beach, Florida, a service of appreciation will be held for Mr. Floyd, who has had a distinguished 15-year career in law enforcement with the Indian River Sheriff's Department.

Detective Floyd recently implemented crime prevention strategies in communities throughout Indian River County. He has built strong relationships with community leaders and elected officials that have increased the security and safety of Indian River County residents. He has aided in rallying county government to improve living conditions for the County's less fortunate.

Detective Floyd has previously been honored by many organizations over his long career. He has been recognized by the Daytona Beach and Volusia police departments, and has been named Pastoral Law Enforcement Man of the Year.

Mr. Floyd is an active member of many community-based organizations, including the Progressive Civic League, the local NAACP, Habitat for Humanity, the Treasure Coast Business League, and the Gifford Activity Center, among many others.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join the Pastor's Association, Indian River County Sheriff Roy Raymond, Indian River County Commissioner Gary Wheeler and Vero Beach City Commissioner Bob Solari in honoring Detective Floyd for his incredible dedication and service, both on-duty and off.

As a dear friend of Teddy's, I take pride in his distinguished career. As a public servant myself, I admire what he has been able to achieve.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL DAY

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay my respects to Michael J. Day, who tragically died in the line of duty earlier this week. Mr. Day, the Deputy Assistant Fire Chief and 27-year veteran of the Providence Fire Department, was dedicated to his profession and to serving his community.

On June 13, Mr. Day had returned to the Washington Street Fire House after responding to a fire earlier in the night. As the overnight shift began, Michael had been working in his office when a coworker found him unconscious. While his fellow firefighters did all in their power to resuscitate him, they were unable to do so.

A lifelong resident of Providence, Mr. Day came from a family of firefighters, which included his father and three brothers. He attended LaSalle Academy and after graduating from the fire academy, he was appointed to the Providence Fire Department in 1979. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Physical Education from Rhode Island College in 1980 and another B.A. in Fire Science at Providence College in 1981.

Michael was promoted to Lieutenant in 1989, the same year he was honored as the Providence Firefighter of the Year and received the Heroic Action commendation for rescuing four people from the roof of a burning house. This was just one of many times he would be recognized for his outstanding service and courage on the job. He was promoted to Captain in 1995, Battalion Chief in 2000, and most recently to Deputy Assistant Fire Chief on June 30, 2005. He oversaw operations at multiple fire stations and was the top ranking officer of his shift. Michael had just completed his final class in the Executive Officer program at the National Fire Academy.

As a beloved father figure to his fellow firefighters, I have no doubt that Michael Day will leave a lasting legacy to the entire Providence Fire Department and the Providence community. I extend my condolences to all who knew and loved Michael Day, especially his wife, Cynthia; his son, Michael; and his daughters, Amanda, Brienne and Stephanie. May we keep his loved ones in our thoughts and prayers as they endure this difficult period.

50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF
SAMUEL R. AND JESTINE W.
FOSTER

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I want to call to the attention of the House a milestone in the lives of an all-American family. Fifty years ago, on June 14, 1956, Samuel R. Foster and Jestine Wright were united in a marriage that inspires all of us who know them. Both dedicated their lives to public service as school teachers and administrators. Early in the era of school integration, Sam Foster was selected as principal to start a new school, Northwestern High School in Rock Hill, South Carolina. This was a great challenge for an African-American educator, but Sam rose to the challenge and won the respect of students and parents, white and black. Sam Foster moved from education to elective office and served with distinction in the South Carolina General Assembly. He became known throughout the state for his wisdom and ability and especially for his facility to see all sides of an issue and cut to the essence of an argument. Sam Foster completed his career in public service as a commissioner on the South Carolina Employment Security Commission.

All who know the couple well know that Sam Foster has derived much of his wisdom and insight over the years from the counsel of his wife, Jestine.

Two sons were born to Sam and Jestine Foster, Sam and Alan, both of whom have been successful in their own right, bringing further distinction to their parents.

Mr. Speaker, I call the Fosters to the attention of the House because their marriage and family are exemplary and worthy of recognition throughout the Nation.

A TRIBUTE TO CHERYL
MCKISSACK FELDER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Cheryl McKissack Felder, a distinguished member of the business and civic communities. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing her impressive accomplishments.

Born in Nashville, Tennessee, to teacher Leatrice and architect, William D. Berry McKissack, Cheryl McKissack Felder's passion for the skill and art of design/build evolved through five generations of master builders. In sustaining the McKissack tradition in a male-dominated industry, Cheryl's innovative ideas and business leadership skills has proven to be triumphant in exceeding the expectations of clients and colleagues alike.

Joining the family business in 1989 after achieving her Master of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from Howard University, Cheryl holds a unique position in the construction and engineering industries as the head of the Nation's oldest African-American and women-owned design and construction firm. Her hands-on and close client interaction management approach assure clients that every detail of each project will be handled with care and precision. With McKissack providing services throughout the United States, Cheryl has contracted over \$50 billion dollars in projects. Some of Cheryl's most distinguished clients include the City of Philadelphia, Philadelphia Housing Authority, Dormitory of the State of New York, Metropolitan Transportation Authority, New Jersey Port Authority and Philadelphia International Airport.

With offices in Philadelphia and New York, Cheryl has pioneered the McKissack company to today's, McKissack & McKissack, LLC; the corporate entity and holding company and 721 Chestnut; a real-estate company. Cheryl serves as the President of The McKissack Group, Inc., a full service construction management firm specializing in new construction and renovation projects. She is the Chief Executive Officer of McKissack and Associates, Inc., a professional architecture firm that provides conceptual and schematic design, pre-construction administration and design development services. Cheryl stays on the cutting edge of technology as the Chief Executive Officer of M&M Solutions, LLC, an information technology firm providing advanced web-based technology, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), infrastructure, telecommunications and IT project management. Services

provided by MMS include business process integration, web development, multimedia design, wireless communications and application development.

Cheryl is also a community leader. She has served as the Vice Chair of the Philadelphia Authority of Industrial Development, and co-chair on Philadelphia Mayor John Street's Transition Committee for Small Business. Cheryl is also an active member of the National Liberty Museum Board, where she has been honored as a "Hero of Liberty" for her support of humanitarian initiatives and promoting the responsibilities of a free and diverse America.

A strong community leader and a business mogul, Cheryl prides herself with her most dedicated and greatest accomplishments of being a wife and mother.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Cheryl McKissack Felder as she offers her talents and philanthropic services for the betterment of our local and national communities.

Mr. Speaker, Cheryl McKissack Felder's selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes her most worthy of our recognition today.

A STIRRING STORY ABOUT
SERGEANT CEDRIC CALDWELL

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to share with my colleagues a stirring story about Sergeant Cedric Caldwell, one of my constituents, from Rock Hill, South Carolina. His story is one example of the brave men and women serving in Iraq.

[From the Herald, May 28, 2006]

ROCK HILL SOLDIER SAVED LIVES OF COMRADES IN IRAQ WHEN BOMB SHREDDED CONVOY TRUCK

(By Andrew Dys)

The U.S. Army convoy rolled where death lives.

About 30 miles north of Baghdad. Night in Iraq couldn't have been darker. Late April, a little more than a month ago.

Rock Hill's "Corn Dog," Sgt. Cedric Caldwell, manned the front machine gun on one of the convoy escort trucks. A sergeant from California named Torres was beside him. A private first class named Squires drove.

The truck looked like America. A black guy, a white guy and a Hispanic guy.

But Iraq in the night is not like America where so many spend nights howling about blacks and Hispanics. In Iraq in Alpha Battery, 3rd Battalion, 321st Field Artillery Regiment, your brothers who don't look like you are all you've got.

No color matters but the indigo of night and the yellow of fire and the red of blood.

"All of a sudden, there was a loud explosion, and I fell down inside the cab on Torres," Caldwell remembered.

The truck rolled and tipped over on its top.

"I must have gotten knocked out for a minute," Caldwell said. "Then all I could see was fire and smoke everywhere. Except for the picture in my mind. It was just like a photograph. My wife and my daughter. It's

true. Your life does flash in front of your eyes. I saw it."

Caldwell saw the hatch opening for the truck and climbed through as the calls of "I'm hit! I'm hit!" pierced the night and cut through the flames.

Caldwell didn't run for the safety of the roadside ditch. He didn't call for a doctor for himself. He pulled Torres to safety through the hatch. Then he dragged Torres about 20 meters from the truck so the explosions wouldn't kill him.

The munitions in the truck were blowing up in the fire. Bullets, shells, shrapnel designed to kill the enemy now trying to kill them.

"I could still hear screaming," Caldwell said.

PUTTING OTHERS' NEEDS FIRST

Again, Caldwell didn't run for safety. "All I could see was Squires' hand," Caldwell said. "So I reached in, grabbed on, and pulled him out."

Squires was burning alive. "It was like a stunt double in the movies," Caldwell said. "His whole legs were on fire. I rolled him around to try and put the fire out, but it didn't work. So I took off my vest and my shirt and tried to smother the fire."

Finally, the fire was out, but Squires' clothes were so hot Squires was still burning. Shirtless, bare-chested in a place where snipers are the law, Caldwell knelt in the road and pulled off Squires' clothes. Finally, he got Squires to the ditch.

Before the medics arrived, Caldwell poured what water he could find over Squires' wounds.

"I kept telling him he was going to be OK, that he was going to live," Caldwell said. "He was yelling. I was yelling. But I wasn't going to let him die. Both of them are really good soldiers. They would have done the same for me."

Torres suffered a broken arm and other injuries and is now back at Fort Bragg, N.C., where all three soldiers are based. Squires is in intensive care at the Brook Army Medical Center burn unit in San Antonio, Texas, hospital officials confirmed.

Caldwell suffered a concussion and has a dent in his forehead where an ammunition box thumped him. He has shrapnel in his leg. He has cuts and burns on his face and hands. His back is covered with an 18-inch burn.

STRONG SENSE OF HONOR, DUTY

He is a sergeant with responsibility for 14 men. He said his superiors have put in for a Purple Heart for his wounds in action and a Combat Action Badge, and either a Bronze Star or Silver Star for valor.

Caldwell could have come home, too. But he chose to stay in Iraq.

"My men here need me," Caldwell said by telephone this week.

Caldwell's wife and parents were distraught that he was injured, but they rejoice he is alive. Maybe even more, they take pride that Cedric Caldwell did what every man hopes he would do when an overturned truck is on fire with men underneath that truck.

Caldwell did not run. He didn't ask for help for himself. He helped his men.

"He went back," said the Rev. Willie Caldwell, the father. "I prepared myself when he left that my son could come back in a pine box. I supported this war then and now. I believe in freedom. It's not cheap. And then when he was at the hospital, he saw all those other guys who are hurt worse. He told me, 'Daddy, I need to stay. These guys need to come home, not me.'"

Caldwell's wife, Tiffani, is a military child whose parents are both immigrants from the Caribbean. Her father came from Jamaica to the Air Force. He served in the first Persian

Gulf War. Her mother came from Barbados to the Army.

Torres came from Mexico, Caldwell said. Americans gnash their teeth over immigration, ask for fences to be built or borders to be shuttered, while the sons and daughters of immigrants or immigrants themselves fight the wars over freedom.

"CORN DOG": A LOCAL HERO

"My best friend is a hero," said Travis Canty, who has been "like a brother" with Caldwell since both were little kids in Rock Hill. It is Canty who spilled the beans that the nickname "Corn Dog" comes from Caldwell eating corn dogs for lunch during school.

"He didn't run. He didn't hide. He saved those guys," Canty said.

Caldwell went first to Kosovo when the war on terror began. He was home a short while, then spent almost a year in Afghanistan. A few months with his wife and then Iraq. Caldwell was home for a few days in January, just missing the birth of daughter Tiffanie. He saw her, kissed her and his wife a few times, then went back to Iraq.

And then he cheats death. And still he stays in Iraq.

"I guess my military background prepared me for this," Tiffani Caldwell said. "I haven't cried yet. My husband is alive. He is a soldier. He'll come home when his deployment is finished."

RETURN TO A SIMPLER LIFE

Caldwell's enlistment is up in February. He said he's not staying in the Army.

"No way, no more Iraq," said Williatte, his mother.

"We are done," said Tiffani, his wife.

Caldwell plans to come back to Rock Hill with his wife and daughter. He'll play music in his father's Abiezer Baptist Church. He wants to be a Realtor.

"I truly believe that without God, me and Torres and Squires would not have survived," Caldwell said.

Caldwell may be right.

Maybe God wanted the black and the Hispanic and the white guys to live.

But one thing seems to be for sure.

A Rock Hill guy, Northwestern High class of 1998, who joined the National Guard while still in high school then leapt into active duty and never left, didn't leave his brothers to die in the dirt and flame and blood of Iraq.

Monday, on Memorial Day, no monuments will be etched with the names Torres or Squires on granite.

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO H. RES. 861—RESOLUTION ON THE WAR IN IRAQ

SPEECH OF

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, despite the crafty language in this resolution, there is no connection between 9/11 and Saddam Hussein. The Global War on Terror and the War in Iraq are not synonymous.

The President has admitted this, yet the Republican Party in this House continues to support his failed policies in Iraq under the guise of fighting terror—consistently providing billions of off-budget funding, allowing waste, fraud and abuse to go unchecked and failing to exercise even the semblance of oversight. So, instead of debating solutions for Iraq

today, we are discussing a non-binding resolution that is equally as short-sighted and devoid of direction as President Bush's Iraq policy.

We all have unwavering pride for our troops. The quagmire that Iraq has become is not the fault of the troops who have performed superbly—it is the failure of the President to plan for a transition to peace.

That is why I support the Murtha resolution. It would provide a plan for peace, redeploy our troops and allow us to bring them home as soon as practicable.

Let's stop the carnage. Our presence in Iraq makes stability impossible. By remaining in Iraq, we make both Iraqi and American soil less secure. Let's bring our troops home.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Grace Community Church in Boulder City, Nevada, which is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year.

The Grace Community Church began as an inter-denominational Protestant religious church in April of 1932, and the first service was held on January 29, 1933. The church was officially dedicated on February 22, 1933, "to the glory of God and the Blessing of Man." The church quickly became a center for various community groups, and assumed a key role in the development of the community.

The Reverend Thomas Stevenson of California, who gave his first sermon in the unfinished basement of the church, was chosen as the church's first minister, and led the church's congregation until 1937. The Reverend Harold Eymann replaced Reverend Stevenson, and the formal by-laws for the congregation were adopted and the church was incorporated under state law during Reverend Eymann's ministry. Reverend Eymann left Grace Community Church in 1942, feeling he should serve as a military chaplain during World War II. Reverend Winston Trever from Azusa, California served from 1942–1949. The Reverend Olaf Stoeve ministered at Grace from 1949–1953. The Presbyterian Reverend Earl Seymour Fox (1953–1961) found the congregation growing and recommended that two services be held on Sunday and a building be added next to the American Legion Hall, which soon became Fox Hall.

Boulder City incorporated as a Nevada Municipality in 1960 and inherited all government land leases. The Reverend Guy Holliday (1961–1978) became the minister, and Grace Community Church entered a 50-year lease for the land under the church facility. The Reverend Melvin Pritts (1978–1982), from First Methodist Church of Phoenix, succeeded Reverend Holliday. The Reverend M. Kenneth Criswell (1982–1985) arrived from Ventura, California in time to give support and leadership to the committee working on the church's 50th anniversary. He found a debt-free church and a vital, caring congregation. The Reverend Dr. John J. Rousseau (1985–1990), who served three Methodist churches in Hawaii, arrived on July 1, 1985. The Reverend Dr. Richard Smith (1990–1999), was serving

Grace Community Church when the land was purchased from Boulder City in 1990. The Reverend Dr. Ronald S. Freel (1999–2004), who was worshipping with and volunteering as an Associate Pastor, became the Senior Pastor. Pastor Kevin Roach, the new senior pastor, preached his first sermon on July 18, 2004, and continues to serve today. Serving under the direction of Senior Pastor Kevin Roach are: Associate Pastor Gard Jameson, Music Director Carol Simak, Assistant Music Director Barbara Walker, and Sharon Wiczorek, who served as the Office Manager for the past 7 years is retiring, and is being replaced by Jan Liebhauser.

The church recently recognized 14 people who have been members for 48 years or longer, and four who have been members for more than 60 years. Carol Bourne, Jack and Dorothy Rants, Lin Diebold, Roy and Elnor Gear, Byron Miller, Robert Austin, Del and Eloise Blue, Agnes Lockette, Lillian Rigney, and Bob and Virginia Moore have all been members for 48 years or longer, and at the age of 94, Mary Eaton has been a member for 72 years, Violet Tracht at 96, has been a member for 63 years, with Velma Stice a member for 65 years and Innis Risley being at the 60 year mark.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Grace Community Church and its accomplishments in Nevada's history. I commend the church for its long history of service to the city of Boulder City and wish them good fortune for the next 75 years.

A TRIBUTE TO CHRISTOPHER
SMITH

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Christopher Smith, a distinguished member of the Brooklyn, New York, educational and civic communities. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing his impressive accomplishments.

Mr. Smith considers that the very nature of education dictates that it takes place all the time, anytime and anywhere. As an educator in the New York City Public School System, Mr. Smith employs the concept of "teachable moments" in and out of the classroom. Mr. Smith posits that teachable moments are times in the life of an individual where one consciously learns from trial and error. He believes that learning through this method allows students cognition to develop critically and to balance multitudinous tasks tossed at them by life.

The village it takes to raise a child is evident at Boys and Girls High School. Mr. Smith provides students and staff with many opportunities to learn how to develop, implement and evaluate programs and extracurricular activities. This includes the development of the Exemplary Mentoring Program, after-school tutoring, the Annual Scholarship Luncheon, the Annual Talent Show, the development of Black & Latino Awareness programs, the Academic Bowl, Pep rallies, Student Government, and other activities to increase school spirit. It is

important to Mr. Smith that the legacy of this great institution continues.

Born and raised in Bedford Stuyvesant (Gates Avenue), Christopher Smith is a product of the New York City Public Schools system. After graduating from Boys and Girls High School in 1996, he received his Bachelors of Science Degree in Business Administration at the State University of New York at Oswego, and received his Master's Degree in General Education and Special Education from Touro College in New York City. This summer, Mr. Smith is embarking on a path in his pursuit of obtaining an Educational Administration Master's Degree at the College of St. Rose in Albany, New York. When he successfully completes his Educational Administration Degree, he looks to earn his Educational Doctorate.

Mr. Smith works hard to keep the Boys and Girls High School legacy alive in the Bedford Stuyvesant community. He knows that his children are definitely the "Jewels of Bedford Stuyvesant". Although this task is not easy, God has equipped him with valor to complete this stringent journey and he works according to the following mantra: "It doesn't matter where my children come from but where I hope to help them get to."

Mr. Smith further states that when we derive pleasure from our daily lives, are stimulated or challenged by our work, enriched by the new things we learn, and by our contact with others; our lives are successful regardless of the specific setbacks of a particular day. When it is all said and done, and he recalls the day's events; he is satisfied in knowing that he was able to help his community.

Mr. Speaker, Christopher Smith's selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes him most worthy of our recognition today.

TRANSPORTATION, TREASURY,
HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT,
THE JUDICIARY, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5576) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, Treasury, and Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, District of Columbia, and independent agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes:

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of restored funding for Section 8 vouchers. Our Nation is in the midst of an affordable housing crisis—and hard working families are bearing the brunt of the short fall. Yet again Section 8 is funded below the President's request—this year \$144 million less than proposed.

The Nadler-Velázquez amendment will restore \$70 million for Section 8, providing vouchers for approximately 10,000 families. This increase will ensure that families working to create a better life for their children will

have a safe, decent place to call home—something that is critical to positive outcomes for the future.

The Section 8 program is a lifeline for millions of families struggling to make ends meet and end the cycle of poverty so common in low-income communities. In my district—and districts around the country—families have been waiting upwards of ten years for vouchers. We cannot turn our backs on families striving to achieve more for their children against the odds.

HONORING GENE & MARY MCCARTHY ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR RETIREMENT

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, it gives me a tremendous sense of pleasure to recognize the personal accomplishments and the long career of two of Western New York's finest citizens, a couple I am proud to call my friends Mary Doris and William Eugene "Gene" McCarthy.

Mary and Gene McCarthy are lifelong—and tremendously proud—residents, of the Old First Ward in South Buffalo, New York. Mary grew up on Sidway Street and Gene grew up a few streets away on Kentucky Street.

Mary and Gene were married on May 7, 1955 and resided on Hamburg Street before moving to 271 Katherine Street where they live today. They raised their three children, Patty, Billy and Maureen in this home in the Old First Ward Neighborhood.

This neighborhood holds great significance in my Congressional District because it has long been recognized for the Irish legacy instilled upon the area during the city's formative years. Irish immigrants who worked on the construction of the Erie Canal made their home here. They went on to work in the shipping industry, as scoopers, railroad operators, and factory workers to name a few.

Gene McCarthy followed in this tradition working for several years in Buffalo's grain mills, ending his industry career at Pillsbury Flour Mill to pursue a business venture of his own.

Gene and Mary opened the doors to McCarthy's Tavern on July 20, 1964 at 73 Hamburg Street. McCarthy's Tavern, a classic neighborhood Irish Pub that has become a First Ward landmark and a favorite spot for grain workers, firefighters, police officers, politicians, lawyers and First Ward regulars alike.

Hard work, long hours, true friendships and constant generosity were the hallmarks of Gene and Mary McCarthy's life in the Tavern Business.

Mr. Speaker, It is my distinct honor to recognize Gene and Mary McCarthy on the occasion of their well deserved retirement from the tavern business after 42 years of service. The wonderful memories, stories, and good times shared by those who routinely came in for the welcoming atmosphere that McCarthy's Tavern offered will be present in the minds and hearts of many Western New Yorkers for years to come.

H.R. 5252, THE COMMUNICATION OPPORTUNITY, PROMOTION, AND ENHANCEMENT ACT

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 5252, the Communication and Enhancement Act. The COPE Act would allow telephone companies to reap the rewards of the cable business with few responsibilities and could also threaten the innovative nature of the Internet. I believe the passage of this bill would be a major setback for consumers, communities, and the public interest.

I think we all agree that there is a need for consumer choice and competition in cable. Currently, most communities are served by the cable industry's quasi-monopolies. However, "competition" in cable shouldn't have the effect of, cutting consumer protections, reducing public broadcasting, and eliminating local rights. "Competition" shouldn't be about providing lucrative markets with several cable service options and leaving those in poorer neighborhoods with low-quality service and the potential for ever increasing cable raising rates.

The COPE Act would put the Federal Communications Commission in charge of what our localities have been successfully handling for years. Do we really think the Federal Communications Commission will do a better job at resolving consumer complaints? Is the FCC going to come out to Skokie, Illinois and take care of problems that may arise concerning the town's public right-of-way? And, does the FCC have the resources—both in budget and personnel—to do so?

I am also greatly concerned that there are not adequate protections in this bill for the Internet as we know it. The telecom industry has already told us that they plan to operate their own form of censorship, slowing down or speeding up delivery of content depending on its relationship to the provider. I am concerned that they could also start blocking email from advocacy groups they don't agree with and shutting down startups that may offer competition to products they provide.

I understand that many argue that the cost of continuing with an open Internet will fall on the shoulder of consumers, and that the Titans of the Internet will get a free ride if we pass a net neutrality provision. However, while the COPE Act would allow the telcos to set up their tollbooths, there are no guarantees, no protections, nothing to stop the telcos from bilking consumers—even if the telcos were to charge Google and Yahoo. They could double dip—and why wouldn't they? One can say that it probably won't happen, but there is nothing in this bill to stop them.

Mr. Speaker, the COPE Act is not the answer to lack of competition in cable service. I urge my colleagues to oppose its passage.

TRIBUTE TO FRANK KOGOVSEK

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker I rise today to pay tribute to Frank Kogovsek, a man of

quiet but firm character who spent his life making a difference in the lives of "underdogs."

Frank Kogovsek was born June 22, 1939 in Pueblo, Colorado, to Frank L. and Mary Blatnick Kogovsek. He graduated from Pueblo Catholic High School in 1957 and went on to the seminary. He was ordained a Catholic priest in 1965. His fifth assignment was in La Junta, where he served as assistant pastor of Assumption Church in Bessemer.

He taught at Seton High as well, a Catholic school for girls. At Seton High he reconnected with a former classmate who had become a nun, Leona Reinert. Frank left the priesthood and Leona gave up being a nun and they were married in November 28, 1970 in Lake-wood, Colorado.

Leona fondly remembered his work with students, describing him as a mentor who was "always looking out for the underdog, trying to guide them and educate them as to things available to assist them. He was a kind, understanding, soft-spoken person."

Frank continued to work with underdogs when he and Leona moved to Adams County. He took on a job as a probation officer for the City of Denver. Until 1995, he worked with at-risk youth, mentoring and guiding young people that were mixed up with the law.

Frank and Leona's love of children led them to adopt three of their own. They had a daughter, Jennifer, and two sons, Greg and Jerome. Jennifer fondly remembered her father's love for the simple things in life. "He loved his backyard," she said. "He built a patio when we were kids. He just loved to be outside in summer."

Weakened by Parkinson's disease, Frank succumbed to pneumonia on February 22, 2006 at the age of 66. Frank was a common man that spent his life making an uncommon mark upon individuals that often had nowhere else to turn. I join his family in grieving his loss and commemorating his life of service as an example for all of us.

A TRIBUTE TO HENRY FRANK

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Henry Frank, a distinguished member of the Brooklyn, New York community. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing his impressive accomplishments.

Henry Frank was born in the Republic of Haiti, and was trained as an anthropologist. His research works have taken him all over Africa, Europe, the Caribbean and South America, particularly Bahia, the bastion of the African culture in Brazil.

Dr. Frank has given lectures on the African Preserved Religions in the New World especially Vodou as well as other aspects of the New World Cultures at many Universities and Museums in the U.S. and abroad. For nine years, Dr. Frank was the Assistant Director of Caribbean Studies in the Education Department at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. He has also participated in conferences and has given lectures

at several prominent institutions, hospitals and healthcare facilities.

From 1982 to 1990, Dr. Frank served as a scholar for the New York Council for the Humanities program, "Speakers in the Humanities". In April 1990, he was appointed Consul General of Haiti in New York in the government of Mme. Ertha Trouillot, the first woman president of Haiti. From 1986 to 1990, Dr. Frank serve as the Executive Director of the Haitian Neighborhood Service Center (HNSC) in NYC while simultaneously serving as a lecturer on African/Caribbean Culture and History for the NYC Council for the Humanities.

Dr. Frank has participated in many radio and TV programs in the U.S. and Europe. He appeared on French and German television and was a specialist on African Preserved Religion in the Americas and narrator for FINNISH TELEVISION in Finland. He was a consultant for the Vodoo segment of the series "In Search of Vodoo by Landsburg Productions". The program was first aired on WNBC-TV. He also was a consultant for WABC-TV in the 20/20 segment on "Zombification". He appeared with Wade Davis, the author of *The Serpent and the Rainbow*, as a guest on *The Geraldo Riviera Show* in opposition to the film of the same name. Dr. Frank was a consultant for the fabulous exhibit at the American Museum of Natural History in New York entitled, "The Sacred Art of Haitian Vodou" that was on view from October 10, 1998 to January 3, 1999 and attracted 70,000 viewers. He also gave numerous lecture presentations and participated in panel discussions in conjunction with the exhibit. He continually serves as a consultant for that scientific and cultural institution.

Since April 1991, Dr. Frank has been the Executive Director of the Haitian Centers Council, a consortium of eight Haitian Centers nationwide. It is important to note that the Haitian Centers Council (HCC) offers the most comprehensive HIV/AIDS education and prevention program to the Haitian community at large for over 20 years, but not exclusively. It also provides services to other Caribbean and minority communities including French-speaking Africans. The organization has a 16 unit residential facility with support services for people with AIDS (PWA). In collaboration with the NYC Department of Education and United Way of NYC, HCC conducts programs for high school students pertaining to academic enhancement, cultural and historical enrichment, leadership, and socialization skills. HCC also provides a comprehensive Domestic Violence Prevention program to the Haitian community at large and other minority communities. Under Dr. Frank's direction, HCC has been on the forefront of immigration issues, and the protection and defense of Haitian immigrant rights in the U.S. and beyond.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Henry Frank, as he offers his talents and services for the betterment of our local and global communities.

Mr. Speaker, Henry Frank's selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes him most worthy of our recognition today.

CONGRATULATING BOXER
BERNARD HOPKINS

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate celebrated boxer Bernard Hopkins on his illustrative career spanning 18 years and 53 fights as the former WBA, WBC, IBF, and WBO undisputed middleweight world champion and light heavyweight world champion.

At the age of 41, Bernard Hopkins accomplished what few other boxers were able to do successfully. A 3-to-1 underdog, Hopkins jumped two weight classes and soundly defeated light heavyweight champion Antonio Tarver, who previously had a 24-4 record. Hopkins' victory over Tarver quieted critics who claimed Hopkins was overly ambitious in his desire to challenge Tarver for the light heavyweight championship, and secured his place in the boxing world as one of the best pound-for-pound fighters in history.

Overcoming adversity as an underdog is a situation in which Hopkins is well familiar. Born and raised in North Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Bernard Hopkins grew up in an environment surrounded by poverty, hardship, and violence. A repeat juvenile offender at the age of 13, Hopkins was a frequent visitor to a detention facility for juveniles in Philadelphia. By 17 years of age, Hopkins estimates that he appeared before a juvenile offender judge at least 30 times. After being charged with his eighth felony for strong-armed robbery, Hopkins was convicted and served in an adult detention facility until the age of 22. It was in prison where Hopkins found religion and his inspiration to dedicate his life to boxing.

Citing his time of incarceration as a "bleeding," Hopkins boxed in prison and turned pro shortly after his release. Despite suffering several early career losses, Hopkins quickly gained the reputation of being an "old school" type fighter, dispatching his opponents mercilessly with speed and precision. By the end of 2000, Hopkins defended his IBF title 12 times without a loss, while beating upper-echelon fighters such as John David Jackson, Glencoff Johnson, Simon Brown, and Antwun Echols. Perhaps the most defining fight of Hopkins boxing career occurred when he defeated six-division titleholder Oscar De La Hoya for the undisputed middleweight championship with a jarring knockout blow in the ninth round.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in congratulating Bernard Hopkins for establishing his place in boxing history as one of the most prolific professional fighters of all time.

A TRIBUTE TO GWENDOLYN
TOWNS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mrs. Gwendolyn Towns, a distinguished member of the Brooklyn community. It behoove's us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope my colleagues will

join me in recognizing her impressive accomplishments.

Mrs. Gwendolyn Towns attended college in her home State of North Carolina where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in Early Childhood Education from North Carolina Agricultural and Technological State University. Later, she earned a masters degree in Guidance and Counseling from Brooklyn College, and obtained postgraduate credits from Pace University.

She has advocated for quality education for children and adults through her work with several organizations including the Women's House of Detention and NYC Public Schools where she spent over 30 years training both students and teachers to fulfill their potential.

Mrs. Towns continues her leadership and commitment to education issues as a member of various national and local committees. Her accomplishments include raising over \$850,000 for undergraduate and graduate scholarships as chairperson of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) Spouses Annual Golf and Tennis Tournament. In the 10th Congressional District, she administers the General Mills/CBC Spouses scholarship program, which provides financial resources to undergraduate, graduate and doctoral candidates pursuing careers in a health-related profession.

Additionally, Mrs. Towns serves on the Board of Directors of the Brooklyn Children's Museum, and as President of the Interfaith Medical Center Auxiliary where she coordinates Toys for Tots and insures that each patient is remembered during the holiday season. As co-chair of the Interfaith Medical Center Foundation's annual fund raising ball, she is helping to ensure that the hospital continues to grow to meet the community's needs. Mrs. Towns is also affiliated with the NYC Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., Concerned Women of Brooklyn, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Boys and Girls High School Women's Day (Women on the "High"), Bridge Street Martin Luther King Day Award, Barber Scotia College, New Lots Lion Club, NAACP and Berean Missionary Baptist Church.

Most importantly, she and her husband, Congressman ED TOWNS, are the proud parents of two children: Assemblyman Darryl Towns and Deidra Towns Blount. They have five grandchildren: Kiara, Jasmine, Kristian, Trinity and Dale.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Mrs. Gwendolyn Towns as she offers her talents and philanthropic services for the betterment of our local and national communities.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Gwendolyn Towns' selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes her most worthy of our recognition today.

TRANSPORTATION, TREASURY, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, THE JUDICIARY, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. KENNY C. HULSHOF

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5576) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, Treasury, and Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, District of Columbia, and independent agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes:

Mr. HULSHOF. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of the Hooley-Hulshof-Skelton amendment to increase funding for the HIDTA program. For the past 5 fiscal years, the HIDTA program has essentially been level funded at \$226 million. Our amendment increases the fiscal year 2007 amount by \$8 million for a new total of \$235 million. This increase is offset by reducing the bill's funding level for the National Archives by \$8 million, which will leave Archives with an estimated \$1.4 million increase over last year's funding level.

I would like to thank the gentlelady from Oregon for working with my office on this amendment. I know Oregon has a significant meth problem just like Missouri, and I'm glad that we can work together to combat this horrific drug. I also would like to thank my good friend from Missouri, Mr. SKELTON, for his support.

Methamphetamine use and production is a serious problem in my home State of Missouri. Since 2002, Missouri has led the Nation in the number of reported clandestine meth labs. These labs are an insidious problem. Not only are these labs highly volatile and prone to explosions, they create environmental hazards and pose significant health risks for those living in surrounding areas. The highly toxic by-product that meth makers leave in their wake pollutes the environment and groundwater, leaves homes uninhabitable and puts law enforcement and clean-up crews in peril.

But most importantly, we must take every step possible to stop the spread of this drug because of the terrible toll it is taking on people in our communities. Sadly, I think it is safe to say that all my colleagues are all too aware of the irreparable harm this drug takes on the physical health of its users. Many of you have seen the before and after photographs of these emaciated, scarred—both mentally and physically—and often toothless users.

The recent enactment of the Combat Meth Act was a step in the right direction. This law is a preventive measure designed to limit meth makers access to cold medicines containing pseudoephedrine, which is a common precursor to meth. While I am hopeful that this law will help curb domestic production, we must remain vigilant in our efforts to combat meth trafficking. That is why it is so crucial we continue to provide funding for law enforcement programs, such as HIDTA.

This joint endeavor between Federal, State and local law enforcement has been highly effective in combating the trafficking of illegal

narcotics. In 2005, Midwest HIDTA, which encompasses Missouri and five other States, arrested more than 9,000 individuals for various drug violations, seized more than 650 pounds of meth, almost 7,000 pounds of cocaine and seized nearly 1,700 firearms. Of these individuals, roughly 1,400 were charged with methamphetamine offenses.

This program is a key component of our national drug enforcement policy. HIDTA's greatest strength is that it is a cooperative endeavor among local and national officials who coordinate and devise a strategy to effectively curtail drug trafficking in the U.S. I believe this is a worthwhile amendment, and I encourage my colleagues to support its adoption.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM "BILL"
LAWRENCE

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in profound sadness to express my deepest sympathy and condolences to the family and friends of William "Bill" Lawrence. Bill was a dear friend of mine who touched the lives of all who came in contact with him and I am privileged to have known such a wonderful person.

Bill was truly a great man who dedicated his life to our country. He began this service at the young age of 16 when he enlisted in the Navy. Following his four years of naval service in China in 1927, Bill was honorably discharged, and he chose to make his home in San Francisco. Once again, Bill sought a job that would benefit the public. He first worked as a cable car conductor on the Market Street Railway, one of the few union jobs in San Francisco at that time.

In 1938, Bill began working for the U.S. Postal Service in San Francisco, and he became an active and dedicated member of the Golden Gate Branch 214 of the National Association of Letter Carriers. He delivered mail in the City of San Francisco for 35 years and worked as Secretary of Golden Gate Branch 214 of the NALC for 6 years. Bill remained a member of the National Association of Letter Carriers until the day he died.

Bill's dedication to his local community was even more evident when he began his political career. In 1970, Bill was elected to the Brisbane City Council and over the next two decades he continued in that position, serving twice as Mayor. In an effort to better his community, he oversaw the construction of Crocker Industrial Park. After his tenure on the City Council, Bill continued to act as the Legislative Liaison for the California State Association of Letter Carriers.

Bill's love of public service and his desire to improve the quality of life of Brisbane residents led him to join the Brisbane Lions Club.

His unfaltering dedication was obvious, as he insisted in participating in every Lions Club initiative. Each year, Bill Lawrence painted 1,800 Easter eggs and volunteered at the Christmas tree lot. He continued to attend meetings, even after his hearing and eyesight began to fade.

Although Bill Lawrence officially retired at the age of 65, he could not imagine not serving his country and local community. He refused to allow age and deteriorating health to stand in the way of public service. For the past 30 years, Bill has served as Brisbane's "Santa Claus," bringing smiles to many families during the holiday season. Only last year, at age 97, Bill finally was forced to retire from this post, which brought so much joy to him and children throughout the community.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to be able to call Bill Lawrence my friend. He always said that his love of politics stemmed from the rewarding feeling he got from helping people. Indeed, Bill helped thousands of people throughout his lifetime. His naval service, postal work, and political activism allowed him to touch lives throughout the world for the past 98 years. It is rare to come across a man who not only dedicated his life to his country but also to his family, his dear wife, Honey Bee, and his children and grandchildren. Bill Lawrence will be sorely missed by the residents of Brisbane as well as by all who knew him, but Bill's legacy of love for his country and for public service will forever remain alive in our hearts.