McMichael Middle School and the North Rosedale Park Civic Association. He is a former member of the board of the Rouge Employees Credit Union.

In conclusion, Mr. Settles I congratulate your election and once again wish you the best of luck.

## IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF ANNA CHATMAN

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2006*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Anna Chatman, devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, businesswoman, community activist and friend and mentor to many.

Mrs. Chatman lived her life with great joy and in endless commitment to her faith, family and community. Together, she and her beloved husband, the late Reverend Marcellus Chatman, raised their daughters, Marcella Caffie and Ruby Alexander. Her devotion to family extended outward into the community, where she touched the lives of countless individuals through her focus on social justice and political empowerment. In 1969, Mrs. Chatman founded the Harvest Day Care Center. As owner and operator, she secured funding in order to provide quality day care for mothers on welfare, which enabled numerous parents to break through the wall of poverty by having a safe and affordable place to bring their children while they worked. The Harvest Day Care Center remains in operation today, run by Mrs. Chatman's daughter, Ruby Alexander.

Mrs. Chatman's inner light, dynamic personality and her ability to connect with people created lasting impressions on those around her and served to forever change the landscape of the Democratic Party in Cuyahoga County. Even though she had no prior experience in politics, then U.S. Congressman Louis Stokes asked Mrs. Chatman to accept the role of executive director of the 21st District Caucus (which became the 11th District Caucus), knowing she could rally the support of African-Americans who felt overlooked by the Democratic Party. Mrs. Chatman inspired and guided countless individuals to become empowered and involved in the caucus. Under her direction, the caucus evolved to become one of the most powerful political organizations in the Nation, attracting up to 50,000 people to the caucus's annual Labor Day picnic and existing as a catalyst of political action and societal justice.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Anna Chatman, whose joyous life reflected great joy and an unwavering focus on lifting the lives of others. I offer my deep condolences to her daughters, Marcella and Ruby; to her grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great grandchildren, and to her extended family members and many friends. Although she will be greatly missed, her singular life, framed by love, integrity, conviction and strength, will shine forever in the hearts of her friends and loved ones and will forever illuminate the soul and hope of our entire community.

## HONORING MR. FREDERICK MURPHY'S RETIREMENT AS DIRECTOR OF THE SYRACUSE HOUSING AUTHORITY

### HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2006*

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Frederick Murphy. On June 30, 2006, Mr. Murphy retired as director of the Syracuse Housing Authority in Syracuse, NY.

A graduate of Ithaca College, Mr. Murphy's career in local community development began in 1965 when he went to work for the city of Syracuse Urban Renewal Agency under then Mayor William F. Walsh. Later, he headed the city's Code Enforcement Division until he was appointed executive director of the Syracuse Housing Authority on February 18, 1971.

As the director of the SHA, Mr. Murphy successfully oversaw the administration of a $35 million annual budget operating 2,500 apartments and also managed the section 8 housing program. He helped secure more than $180 million in Federal grants to modernize every public housing development and oversaw great growth and expansion of the program, building 550 new apartments of public housing during his tenure.

Mr. Murphy's service has made a lasting positive impact upon my hometown community. Throughout his career he has worked with many mayors and HUD secretaries to greatly improve Syracuse's public housing.

Mr. Murphy's dedication, knowledge and leadership are unparalleled and much appreciated. I wish him well in retirement, and thank him for a job well done.

## TRIBUTE TO NATRONA BOTTLING COMPANY

### HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2006*

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Natrona Bottling Company as they celebrate the anniversary of their founding.

From their beginning in 1904, The Natrona Bottling Company has a long and rich history of serving the needs of the people of Allegheny County and beyond. Beginning in 1939, the torch was passed to the Bowser family, and they carry on the tradition today with Mr. Paul Bowser currently serving as the CEO.

Natrona Bottling Company is the last remaining soda bottling company in Allegheny County, and all of their formulas are microcrafted. They produce a multitude of delicious beverages, including: Red Ribbon Cherry Supreme, Red Ribbon Root Beer, Pennsylvania Punch, Jamaica's Finest Ginger Beer, and Champayno.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the Natrona Bottling Company. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute this wonderful company.

## PAYING TRIBUTE TO COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR JOSEPH LAPLANTE, JR

### HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2006*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Command Sergeant Major Joseph LaPlante Jr., who will retire on July 21, 2006, after 29 years of service in the United States Army.

Born in Worcester, Massachusetts, Command Sergeant Major LaPlante completed his basic training and advanced individual training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, and Fort Sill, Oklahoma in September, 1977. He then served as a Fire Support Specialist, Armorer, and Career Counselor for the B Battery's 1st Battalion, 29th Field Artillery from 1978 to 1980 at Fort Carson, Colorado.

In October 1981, Command Sergeant Major LaPlante completed the Army Recruiter Course and was assigned as a Field Recruiter to the New Bedford, Massachusetts, Boston Recruiting Battalion. In April of 1984, he was the Station Commander of the Fall River Recruiting Battalion. In July of 2000, Command Sergeant Major was selected to attend the United States Sergeant Major Academy, Class 51, at Fort Bliss, Texas. On June 25, 2001, he assumed the position of Command Sergeant Major of the New England Recruiting Battalion.

After 27 years of service, Sergeant Major LaPlante assumed the position of the 6th Recruiting Brigade Command Sergeant Major in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Command Sergeant Major LaPlante has received many awards including the Gold Recruiter Badge with three Star Sapphires, the Recruiter Ring, the Glenn E. Morrell Award, the Career Counselor Badge, the Army Achievement Medal 3rd Award, the Army Commendation Medal 3rd Award, the Army Meritorious Service Medal 7th Award, Legion of Merit 2nd Award, National Defense Service Medal, the Non-commissioned Officer Professional Development with Numeral #4, the Army Service Medal, the Army Good Conduct 8th Award, and the Army Superior Unit Citation 2nd Award.

To add to all of his outstanding accomplishments, Command Sergeant Major LaPlante has a wonderful family including his wife, Patti, and his daughters, Crystal and Heather.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Command Sergeant Major Joseph LaPlante, Jr. for his distinguished record of service and his commitment to the United States Army. I wish him the best in his retirement and all future endeavors.

## HONORING THE GIFT OF LIFE

### HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2006*

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, in these challenging times, it is refreshing to hear uplifting anecdotes of kindness and hope. I rise to recognize a tremendous source of these qualities on Long Island: the non-profit