

Throughout the years, MPR has earned distinction as one of the nation's finest public radio systems, offering world-class news and cultural programming. Its vision has always included strengthening radio nationally. In 1970, MPR helped provide the leadership to found National Public Radio, with President Kling serving on NPR's first board of directors. In 1982, MPR launched American Public Radio and its corporate parent (later renamed American Public Media), which distributes Minnesota Public Radio programming, to affiliate stations nationwide.

One of MPR's most formative years was 1974, when a talented young writer who was working as a classical music host at the station began a regular Saturday night variety show. The host was Garrison Keillor, the show "A Prairie Home Companion," and the rest was history. From its home in St. Paul's Fitzgerald Theater, and on the road, "A Prairie Home Companion" continues to entertain listeners every Saturday night on MPR and on public radio stations across America.

MPR has come a long way since its college radio station beginnings. It continues to expand and enhance its programming to serve a diverse, dynamic and growing audience. In recent years, it has launched "The Current," a critically acclaimed music service helping to showcase local talent in addition to its news and information and classical music services. In 2006, MPR completed a \$46 million capital campaign that has enlarged its St. Paul headquarters, adding to the network's ability to serve the public through high-quality programming.

MPR news and information earns its reputation as "the most trusted news source" for Minnesotans daily with its thorough and thoughtful coverage and timely reporting. This trust is exemplified through MPR's partnership with the State of Minnesota to maintain and improve the technical infrastructure to the state's Emergency Alert System (EAS). In addition, MPR serves as the backbone of the state's AMBER Alert child abduction warning system.

I join my fellow Minnesotans who are so proud of MPR's commitment to its audience. We rely on MPR for news without spin, for high quality music and cultural programming. Most of all, we appreciate the people who make MPR great. They have built a strong foundation that will ensure that MPR will be serving listeners for decades to come.

Madam Speaker, please join me in commending Minnesota Public Radio for its contributions to Minnesota and the nation throughout its first 40 years on the air.

MS. NORA ROCK

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 23, 2007

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to commend a pioneer of Brownsville, Texas, on the occasion, of her 105th birthday.

Nora Rock will celebrate that birthday tomorrow; and her name belies her strength. She is a rock. That also describes her faith in the Lord; He is her rock.

Her family came to Brownsville in the aftermath of the Civil War. Her grandfather was

part of the Union Army occupying Brownsville in the 1860s.

She is an amazing woman, a quiet, simple lady whose love in life is service to others. She believes her longevity is a gift from God, one which she repays by spending her long life helping others in her community.

She remembers going to military band concerts at Fort Brown—the Army fort around which Brownsville grew—as a teenager during World War I, and remembers the daily cannon firings during those troubled times.

Ms. Rock is a very nice and humble lady who is wholly devoted to her faith and the South Texas community. Her way is to help others in a private way, not a public way to win accolades. The look of happiness in the eyes of another is all the tribute she would want or need.

She is an extraordinary American who has seen the history of our Nation in the 20th Century from the front row. She says she is still so vibrant after 100 years because the Lord has seen fit to keep her on the earth, but also—she says with a twinkle in her eyes—because she loves chocolate.

Madam Speaker, I would imagine she would not have expected for a woman to occupy the Speaker's Chair for the U.S. House of Representatives during her lifetime; we are both glad to have the opportunity to see you there.

I ask Speaker PELOSI, and our colleagues, to join me in commending the long and beautiful life of Nora Rock.

“SUPPORT OUR TROOPS” DAY

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 23, 2007

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, one year ago I came across a young high school student who had a brilliant and patriotic idea. Alexandra McGregor set out to establish a "Support Our Troops" Day and for the second year in a row I am introducing a resolution inspired by Alexandra.

A year ago, my office got word of Alexandra's extraordinary effort to contact, local, State, and Federal officials in support of a national "Support Our Troops" Day. Alexandra even went as far as to write to one school in each State encouraging them to participate in a moment of silence on March 26th, her grandfather's birthday, who was an American soldier.

Every year, this House celebrates Memorial Day; in a month we will take time out of the schedule to celebrate our Presidents, and further down the road we will honor our veterans; but never do we honor our active-duty military men and women who are protecting our freedom today.

With inspiration from Alexandra, my resolution encourages Americans to participate in a moment of silence on March 26th to think about those who are serving this country both at home and abroad.

COLLEGE STUDENT RELIEF ACT OF 2007

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 23, 2007

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express concerns with the College Student Relief Act, which passed the House on January 17, 2007.

As the author, while a Michigan State Senator, of legislation creating the Michigan Education Savings Plan, my commitment to helping families afford college has been a long-standing priority of my public service tenure. In fact, this program has helped thousands of Michigan families save for college expenses as well over 100,000 accounts have been opened since the program's inception.

Unfortunately, for many families, their ability to save cannot keep pace with the rising costs of post-secondary education. For these families, student loans represent an integral piece to the higher education puzzle, which is why we, as policymakers, must ensure that our actions meet the twin goals of reducing the cost of, and increasing access to, a college education.

The College Student Relief Act represents a short-term solution for student loan relief for a very specific group of student borrowers. This legislation reduces the student loan rate on only subsidized Stafford loans. It does not reduce the rates of undergraduate students borrowing from unsubsidized Stafford loans, nor does it provide relief to graduate students. Furthermore, this legislation does not permanently reduce student loan rates but cuts rates over five years, after which point they will go back to a higher interest rate, in effect providing only six months of relief.

Lastly, I believe students must be provided with borrowing choices, and they should be able to borrow from lenders who provide the most affordable option for them and their families. A competitive student loan marketplace is central to lowering the longterm costs associated with higher education.

Rest assured, I will continue to work in Congress, must work, to help make college more affordable and attainable for every American family.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF MR. PAT LANE

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 23, 2007

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Pat Lane, on the occasion of his retirement from Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company after more than 40 years of dedicated service. Pat will be greatly missed, and I join his many friends and co-workers with whom he served in wishing him the best of luck in the next phase of his life.

Pat began his long and distinguished career with then-General Dynamics Fort Worth Division in 1966. He was elected by his peers as the union representative for his department, a position he served in until 1974. He was then elected to the office of Business Representative for International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, District Lodge 776.

Since 1978, Pat has served as President and Directing Business Representative for the District Lodge. In this role, Pat has had the responsibility of negotiating multiple labor agreements and enforcing 61 labor agreements with employers. He also served 10,000 members representing nineteen local lodges in the District. Finally, he had the full responsibility of overseeing and supervising a full staff of elected business representatives and office employees.

Particularly noteworthy is Pat's work in establishing a Joint Apprenticeship Program between General Dynamics and District Lodge 776, which has continued under Lockheed Martin. This model program successfully trained highly skilled aircraft tooling personnel with a high completion rate. I am most familiar with Pat's outstanding work with the Community Learning Center in Fort Worth. Currently, he serves on the Board of Directors for the Community Learning Center which provides skills training to unemployed, underemployed and displaced workers.

Pat Lane has also been extremely active in the Fort Worth community. He served on the Texas Council on Workforce and Economic Competitiveness for four years. In addition, he served on the Board of Directors for the Tarrant County United Way as well as the Tarrant County Junior College as a labor consultant. Furthermore, he has devoted his time as a youth baseball coach and Boy Scouts Leader.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to have had this opportunity to recognize the dedication of Mr. Pat Lane to the Fort Worth community. As he retires, I join his friends and family in wishing him a long and happy retirement. He has certainly earned it.

MOURNING THE PASSING OF
KEELEY DORSEY, A STUDENT AT
THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH
FLORIDA

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 23, 2007

Ms. CASTOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today with great sadness to recognize the life of a talented student at the University of South Florida, Keeley Dorsey. I know my colleagues join with me in extending their sincere condolences to Keeley's family and friends who knew him well and loved him deeply.

The USF family lost a valued member of its community last Wednesday afternoon. Unfortunately, during a routine workout session with his fellow football team members, Keeley passed out, and efforts to revive him were unsuccessful. He was only 19 years old, but even during his short time among us, Keeley made a huge impact on those around him and set a sterling example for what hard work and perseverance can achieve.

Keeley was a star football player at Lincoln High School in Tallahassee, strong enough to play three positions—quarterback, tailback and wide receiver. As he excelled on the football field, he worked just as diligently on his academics and gained admission to USF. In Keeley's first football game last fall, he ran 52 yards for a touchdown. Over the course of the season, his talent on the field showed, and

coaches were certain that Keeley, with his positive attitude and outstanding leadership skills, would be a cornerstone of the next season's football team. He had even been selected to be a host for visiting high school recruits, a duty usually carried out only by upperclassmen.

As I join with Keeley's family and friends in mourning a life lost so young, I know that they are proud of him and of the accomplishments he made in his 19 years. I know the University of South Florida family will remember him always.

TRIBUTE TO UNITED STATES
COAST GUARD RESERVIST
SPRING DE HAVILAND

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 23, 2007

Mr. WAXMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to acknowledge and thank retiring United States Coast Guard Reserve Public Affairs Specialist First Class Spring de Haviland for her exemplary service to our Nation.

Specialist First Class de Haviland retired from the United States Coast Guard Reserves on January 11, 2007 after 30 years of service that began on January 26, 1977. She served at a number of duty stations, including San Pedro, California, Valdez, Alaska, Grand Haven, Michigan, Kodiak Island, Alaska, Washington, D.C. United States Coast Guard Headquarters, and Washington Island, Wisconsin.

During her distinctive career, Ms. de Haviland earned 6 Good Conduct Medals, 6 Meritorious Service Medals, a Unit Commendation Medal, and a Special Operations Medal. She received 4 awards for exemplary service from the U.S. Department of Defense Information School for her work as a public affairs, media relations, community relations and cultural affairs relations instructor. Among her many projects, she created, produced and distributed worldwide to the military Persian Excursion, a humorous video featuring Bob Hope, and directed the Two Hundred Year USCG Anniversary celebration in Grand Haven, Michigan. Ms. de Haviland was also recognized as Outstanding Enlistee of the Year by her USCGR group.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Specialist First Class de Haviland for her 30 years of dedicated service. Our Nation owes her a debt of gratitude for her commitment and record of accomplishments.

CONGRATULATING THE 2007 NAACP
HUMANITARIAN OF THE YEAR
HON. CAROLYN Q. COLEMAN

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 23, 2007

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a great woman in the African-American community and a visionary leader in North Carolina, The Honorable Carolyn Q. Coleman. Mrs. Coleman will receive the 2007 NAACP Humanitarian of the Year Award at

the 23rd Annual NAACP Humanitarian of the Year Banquet on Saturday, January 27 in Durham, North Carolina. Her work over the last year is inspiring but what truly makes her remarkable is the scope of her deeds over a lifetime.

Carolyn Quilloin Coleman is a native of Savannah, Georgia, where as a young woman she became involved in civil rights and human rights issues with the local NAACP Youth Council. After a 9 year ban of the NAACP in Alabama, Coleman joined the late Althea Simmons in reorganizing units in that State. She currently serves as Secretary of the National Board and Assistant Secretary of the National Association. On the State level, Mrs. Coleman is the First Vice President of the North Carolina State Conference and is a member of the Greensboro Branch's Executive Committee.

Mrs. Coleman graduated from Savannah State College with a Bachelor of Science degree in History and minors in Economics and Sociology. She pursued her Masters Degree in Adult Education at North Carolina A&T and has also studied at the Memphis Theological Seminary in Tennessee.

Professionally, Mrs. Coleman served as the Special Assistant to Governor Jim Hunt for eight years, providing guidance on issues of the minority community. In her forty-year relationship with the NAACP, Mrs. Coleman has served with distinction as a Regional Youth Director, Alabama State Director, Southeast Voter Education Director and the North Carolina State Director.

Mrs. Coleman led the North Carolina State Conference in filing 13 lawsuits challenging the at-large elections of Judges, County Commissioners, City Council and School Board members. Her efforts led to redistricting in the State, which made possible the election of two African-American Members of Congress in the 1990s, the first since Reconstruction. In total, the results of those suits led to the election of ten African-American Superior Court Judges and over 100 new African-American officials.

In 2006, Mrs. Coleman won re-election to the Guilford County Board of Commissioners with 74 percent of the vote and was elected the first African-American woman to chair the Board. As a Commissioner, Mrs. Coleman is a liaison on several boards, including the Greensboro Sports Commission, the Greensboro Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation, the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments and the Work First Planning Board, in addition to her responsibilities on the Board's Budget Process Committee, Community Based Organizations Study Committee and School Budget Committee.

Despite her years of continued service, Mrs. Coleman still makes time for her friends—as a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, her family—as the mother of one son, Carlton, and faith—as a communicant of the New Zion Baptist Church in Greensboro.

I have had the privilege of knowing Mrs. Coleman for more than twenty years as a family friend and a colleague in the struggle for racial justice. There is no question that her work has made a difference in the lives of many North Carolinians.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and the delegates to the NAACP Conference in paying tribute to this courageous