

bar—and turned it into a thriving citrus and avocado ranch. His home there is testament to his world travels, filled with such treasures as maps and ancient pottery.

Bill served during World War II as a Navy Reserve ensign and skipper on coastal defense sailboats and as executive officer of the radar picket *Pritchett* (DD-561). It was on the *Pritchett* that he earned a Bronze Star for using a whaleboat to rescue sailors from the sinking USS *Callaghan* in the Pacific Theater.

Bill's love of the ocean continued throughout his life. He was a body surfer and a founder of the South Jetty Swells, and a diver who explored the sunken *Winfield Scott* off Anacapa Island. He put his horse-riding skills to use riding with the Ventura County Sheriff's Posse and Rancheros Adolfo—when he wasn't riding in Death Valley, Oregon, or with the Navajo in Arizona.

Bill was partner with many attorneys who went on to become judges. Bill also was offered judgeships, but turned them down. As he told a reporter in a 1970 interview, "I enjoy being on one side or the other."

In politics, he was squarely on the side of the Republican Party and was responsible for helping launch many a stellar political career, including that of my friend and mentor, a former member of this body, Bob Lagomarsino. Not only have they been close personal friends since the '50s, ("We called each other 'Cuz' because he was married to my wife's cousin," Bob recalled), but Bill also was instrumental in Bob running for the California Senate in 1961. Bob credits Bill for keeping the party in Ventura County strong in good times and bad.

True to a life lived on his own terms, when Bill learned the end was near, he left the hospital to "be at home, in front of the fire, with his arm around (his wife) Lucy," recalled his daughter, Helen.

Madam Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in remembering Bill Lucking for a life lived to the fullest, who made contributions great and small in war and in peace, and who serves as an inspiration to all Americans.

Godspeed, Bill.

TRIBUTE TO CLARE ASHBY

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 8, 2007

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, since the beginning of the year, my office has had the privilege of hosting Clare Ashby as an international trade intern.

Clare joined my Washington, D.C. team as part of the Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Program. Now in its 8th year, the educational exchange program brings 12 distinguished Australian university students to the Nation's capital each year to intern in the office of a Member of Congress. This unique bilateral exchange offers participants the opportunity to not only learn the inner-workings of the U.S. Federal Government but to also develop and maintain new, career-building relationships. Although this is only my first year hosting a student, I am impressed with Clare's intellectual curiosity and have found that she has made a real and substantial contribution in advocating my legislative efforts.

As a congressional intern in my office, Clare has actively engaged in open dialogue regarding the challenges of current U.S. trade policy; conducted extensive research and analysis on these same issues; and assisted in the drafting of legislation. Her intellectual breadth and keen ability to understand complex public policy have surely not gone unnoticed. At the same time, Clare has also taken the initiative to help bridge the gap between American and Australian cultures. My office joined Clare in the celebration of Australia Day, where we learned of Australian tradition and history. We also shared a favorite Australian treat, a sweet chocolate biscuit, known as a Tim Tam. During her time with our office, Clare also shared the same birthday as one of my legislative staffers. On that special day, we again celebrated the occasion and shared the stories of our birthday traditions.

Madam Speaker, I am proud that my office participated in this year's Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Program, as I found it to be a valuable experience on a variety of different levels. It is at this time that I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating Clare Ashby for her successful internship in my office. It was an honor to host her and I wish her continued success in her future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. ANDRA LYONS, JACKSONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 8, 2007

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a constituent of mine, Mrs. Andra Lyons, of Jacksonville, Alabama. Mrs. Lyons is a highly accomplished educator and was recently named Jacksonville High School's Teacher of the Year.

In 1982, Mrs. Lyons began her career as a teacher. After graduating from Jacksonville State University, Mrs. Lyons began teaching elementary school, a position she held for 15 years. She later began teaching middle school, and she currently teaches 8th grade science. As part of her career in education, Mrs. Lyons has also participated in the Alabama Math, Science, and Technology Initiative. According to her colleagues, Mrs. Lyons has been a dedicated and talented educator, who by applying new hands-on teaching methods to her classroom, has enriched her students' learning experiences. In recognition of her dedication to academic excellence, Mrs. Lyons' colleagues have named her Teacher of the Year.

Mrs. Lyons has touched hundreds of young lives over the years, helping guide our future leaders toward success in life. I congratulate Mrs. Lyons for her dedication, and for receiving this important recognition.

TRIBUTE TO SHAWN WELLS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 8, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize the achievements of

Shawn Wells, husband, father, and the postmaster of Cowgill, MO, who passed away on December 10, 2006.

Mr. Wells was a 22-year veteran of the United States Postal Service and throughout his career was a clerk at the St. Joseph, MO Post Office, and the officer in charge at the Rushville, Dearborn, Mound City and Easton Post Offices.

Mr. Wells not only provided his valuable service to the United States Postal Service, he also was a veteran of the United States Navy and served on the USS *Hunley*.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing the life and achievements of Shawn Wells, whose dedication and service to the United States Postal Service is truly admirable.

TRIBUTE TO KEVIN "KP" ENER, COMMUNITY SERVANT AND BROADCASTING ENTREPRENEUR

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 8, 2007

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Kevin Ener, of Houston, Texas, who died last Saturday, February 3, 2007. Kevin Ener, or simply "KP" to the multitudes who knew and loved him, was a self-made man and broadcast entrepreneur, who dedicated his life to serving his family, friends, neighbors, and the people of the community he loved more than any other, the Acres Homes community of Houston.

Kevin Ener served the people of the Acres Homes community in a multitude of ways, but most of all by keeping them informed and providing them an outlet by which their voices could be heard. He used the broadcast station he founded, FM96.1 DaZone, and managed to empower his community. Madam Speaker, I want to share with you the story of Kevin Ener and his creation, FM96.1 DaZone, so the world will understand how much KP meant to the people of Acres Homes and why he will be missed so much.

Kevin Dwayne Ener was born to Deborah and Carl Shankle on March 8, 1970 in Houston, Texas. He was educated at Aldine High School and Texas Southern University, where he learned to become a legal assistant.

But Kevin's true love and calling was music, both the performance and the business. His first business venture occurred when he was 13 and secured engagement as a mobile disk jockey at St. Monica's Catholic Church and at the Sid Ranch. By the time he was twenty, Kevin Ener had managed several record labels; he started his record label, AHM Recording, before he was thirty.

Along with his partner, Sean Whittington, Kevin produced music for many local artists, including Billy Cook, Phoenix, Big Mello, Hahje, Eda Massberg, and Nuyorka. Kevin's interest in music production soon led him to the business of music promotion, graphic design and production, merchandizing, artist management, and, ultimately, radio broadcasting.

Madam Speaker, in his heart and soul, Kevin Ener was always a son of Acres Homes. So great was his love for this community that in May 2005, Kevin and his long-time

friend Larry Williams, started a low power FM radio station. In those heady early days, the station broadcast from the living room of Kevin's house in Acres Homes. Later, as the station established its niche and found its audience, it moved the broadcast signal up the FM dial from 89.1 to 96.1, and moved its base of operations to the corner of West Montgomery and South Victory Streets.

Located in the heart of Acres Homes, FM96.1 DaZone soon became the heartbeat of the community. Led by Kevin and a team of over 30 dedicated volunteers, the station broadcast a wide range of music, public service announcements, live-remote events, and public affairs programming, including exclusive interview shows with local government officials, community activists, economic developers, performing and visual artists, and leaders of faith-based organizations.

From top to bottom, FM96.1 is and has always been a labor of love. It has no employees; no one involved with the station receives a salary; everyone serves in a volunteer capacity. The station operates largely on a barter basis, exchanging, for example, free staff haircuts for live remote broadcasts from the Acres Homes College of Barber Design, or free lunches on Fridays in exchange for "shout outs" to Chi Chi's Soulfood Kitchen. Modest cash donations are made in exchange for other on-air notices or promotions.

FM96.1's mission and programming are targeted directly to the needs of the roughly 40,000 people who live in Acres Homes, an underprivileged and underserved historic part of north Houston. The mission of FM96.1 is to enhance the services, identity, unity and overall quality of life of Acres Homes' residents by providing programming focused directly on their needs and aspirations. It promotes local activities, community events, businesses, churches, and service organizations, offering a microphone to business owners, school principals, ministers, community service providers and politicians who seek to instruct, employ, build or inspire the community.

Perhaps FM96.1's indispensable role in the Acres Homes community is best demonstrated by its response to a series of rapes and murders occurring last year within just a few miles of the station's broadcast location. Anchored by Kevin Ener, the station performed yeoman work in informing the community and participating in a series of weekly Town Hall Meetings at the Acres Homes Multi-Service Center. These meetings were held to inform local residents of the presence of a serial killer in the community, educate area women about personal safety, and inform the community about efforts being taken by a wide range of law enforcement agencies to find the perpetrator.

In addition, under the leadership of Kevin Ener, FM96.1 routinely provided free promotional advertising and live remote broadcasts for such events as Christmas toy drives, school supply drives, little league baseball registrations, basketball camps, Trail Riders, youth ministry conferences, Juneteenth celebrations, park dedications, teen dances, North Houston City College registration, Stay-In-School drives, GED certification drives, disaster-relief commodity collection projects, community health awareness events, and voter registration drives.

The depth and quality of service FM96.1, a creation of the love and vision of Kevin Ener, has delivered to the Acres Homes community

is widely recognized and acknowledged and reflected in the many letters, certificates and testimonials it has received from civic organizations, churches, small business owners, community leaders, and elected officials. It is no exaggeration to say that the large radio stations serving the Houston market would be hard pressed to match the FM96.1's record of direct service to the Acres Homes community and effectiveness in addressing the real-world issues facing Acres Homes' residents.

Madam Speaker, Kevin Ener was preceded in death by his father, Carl, and by his daughter Carolyn. He leaves to cherish his memory a beloved wife, Felisha, and nine devoted children: Brittany, Brandan, William, Kevin, Lois, Dexter, Chase, Jessica, and Nyah. Mourning his loss are his mother Deborah, his grandmother Daisy; brothers Robert, James, Kerry, and Carl; sisters Cora, Carlie, and Tiffany; and a host of relatives, friends, and admirers.

In closing, Madam Speaker, let me say that although many a tear is falling in Acres Homes tonight, joy cometh in the morning. Because that is when the thousands of people whose lives were touched and uplifted by the incandescent, effervescent, and irrepressible Kevin Ener will remember that when he was in their midst, they were in the company of a hero. He will never be forgotten. Farewell, dear prince. May angels carry you to your final rest.

TRIBUTE TO JOANNA KURYLO

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 8, 2007

Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Joanna Kurylo of Queens, NY. I wish to recognize Ms. Kurylo for being awarded the 2007 New York State Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Youth Award. Joanna is a student at Christ the King Regional High School where she has achieved a high level of excellence and has already established herself as a community leader. While participating in a number of extra-curricular school activities, Joanna was honored for her notable fundraising efforts which brought aid to the Darfur region and helped advance the battle against leprosy. This award is granted to five students throughout New York State each year.

Madam Speaker, I join to wish Ms. Kurylo best wishes and good fortune in his future projects.

CONSUMER OVERDRAFT PROTECTION FAIR PRACTICES ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 8, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I am introducing a bill that extends the protections of the Truth in Lending Act to overdraft protection programs and services provided by depository institutions. The bill also requires customer consent before a depository institution may initiate overdraft protection services and fees, and enhances the

information made available to consumers relating to overdraft protection services and fees. In addition, the bill prohibits systematic manipulation in the posting of checks and other debits to a depository account for the purposes of generating overdraft protection fees, among other things.

HEALTHCARE AND THE FY 08 BUDGET

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 8, 2007

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, today I rise to express my strong concern and disappointment over the budget that the President sent to us this week. This budget—like those that The President has presented every year for the past 7 years—clearly shows that his priorities are not in sync with that of the American people. This budget takes money that could help millions of the most vulnerable Americans—the poor, the chronically ill, the elderly, people with disabilities and children and uses it instead to give a few wealthy Americans tax breaks they don't need and many don't want.

While many have called this budget fiscally irresponsible, which is an appropriate description, Madam Speaker, in my opinion this budget goes far beyond fiscal irresponsibility! It lacks compassion and humanity and it is unjust. The American people expect better, Madam Speaker, and we must answer their call.

As others of my colleagues have conveyed, this budget does not just cut, but slashes Medicare and Medicaid, two programs that literally sustain the lives of millions of Americans who have serious health needs. And simply cannot afford coverage.

And, in this budget, the State Children's Health Insurance Program is so under-funded that the 9 million children who are uninsured today will likely remain uninsured tomorrow.

The President's budget also takes aim at people living with HIV/AIDS.

The CARE Act and its ADAP program are drastically under-funded, and will leave far too many people with HIV/AIDS without reliable access to the most advanced medications, the most appropriate health care and treatments, and the support services that they will need to manage their conditions, protect their health and care for their families.

Additionally, under this budget, the CARE Act will find itself expected to serve more people with HIV infection, but without adequate funding to do so.

Madam Speaker, as both a physician and the Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus Health Braintrust, more than just being disappointed, this budget makes me angry. As though the cuts to Medicare and Medicaid, and the inadequate funding for the CARE Act and SCHIP were not bad enough, after what has been hundreds of years of preventable premature deaths in people of color, I am particularly disturbed that the President's budget completely ignores and does nothing to end the travesty and injustice of racial and ethnic health disparities; nor is their funding in Health and Human Services for Katrina recovery or rebuilding the healthcare infrastructure in the Gulf region.