

led protests against segregated local business; she helped establish the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Club in Sonoma; and she helped at-risk kids in the community achieve their fullest potential by mentoring them. She also launched the Gray Foundation with her husband to help students pursue their educational goals and serve their community—"to listen and learn from the traditions of self-help and self-reliance that once gave our people strength." She was an amazing woman who honored us with her presence and the NAACP with her service.

To appreciate more fully the immense importance of the NAACP over the last century, a quick look at some of their political victories on a national scale is in order. The NAACP was instrumental in the signing of President Harry Truman's Executive order banning discrimination in 1948. The NAACP helped pass the Equal Employment Opportunity Act; the Civil Rights Acts of 1957, 1960, and 1964; the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and last year's reauthorization. The NAACP led sit-ins to protest segregated lunch counters, which led to many stores officially desegregating their counters. They also educated the public about the legacies of slavery and the importance of coming to terms with the past—for example, by protesting the racist film *Birth of a Nation*, or by taking out ads in major U.S. newspapers to give readers the facts about lynching. Thanks to the NAACP's courage, we all live in a fairer and more just Nation today. We owe this group a tremendous debt.

I am honored to be an original cosponsor of this bill to honor the NAACP and I thank Congressman AL GREEN for introducing it. It is important for every American to realize the great impact this institution has had on our Nation.

TRIBUTE TO DR. ROBERT H. REARDON, PRESIDENT, ANDERSON UNIVERSITY

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2007

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a beloved son of Anderson, Indiana. Bob Reardon served for 25 years as president of Anderson College, which through decades of executive service and visionary leadership he built from a relatively small Christian university with few resources into the Anderson University we proudly know today.

Robert H. Reardon was born in Chicago on April 27, 1919, but moved later that year with his parents and brother to Anderson. Following graduation from Anderson High School, class of 1936, he attended Anderson College, where he felt the call to ministry and met his wife, Geraldine Hurst, whom he married on August 24, 1941. They have four children: Rebecca, Constance, Kathleen, and Eugene.

After graduation from Anderson College in 1940, Bob went on to graduate from Oberlin Graduate School of Theology with a Bachelor of Divinity and a Master of Sacred Theology. He completed his graduate studies at Harvard and the University of Michigan before earning a Doctor of Ministry from Vanderbilt University.

In 1947, Bob returned to Anderson, where he would spend most of the rest of his life. He

served first as assistant to President John Morrison, then vice president of the college, and in June 1957, he was chosen by the Board of Trustees to be the successor of President Morrison. At the age of 39, Bob was one of the youngest college presidents in the Nation. He would serve as president of Anderson College from 1958 to 1983.

More than the diverse educational programs and impressive facilities built under his watch, Bob will be remembered by generations of students and faculty as a gifted leader, minister, citizen and friend. His imprint is everywhere after decades of enormously effective leadership, devotion to Christ-centered education, love for students and devotion to the church.

In his 1968 president's charge to seniors, Bob wrote: "Never wallow in mediocrity. Try hard things—for this is where all the fun is. Try to stay green—for this is where the growing is. Once you have heard the call—never give up. You will drink the cup of joy and eat the bread of sorrow. Do so with forbearance in the knowledge that so to do is to be truly human."

This was the type of man he was, a servant of the community, whose character was a role model for generations.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM DEAN WHITAKER

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor William Dean Whitaker, a veteran of World War II, for his exemplary service in defense of freedom and award him with the Jubilee of Liberty Medal.

On June 6, 1944, the United States and its allies embarked on the largest air, land, and sea invasion ever undertaken. This massive effort included 5,000 ships, 10,000 airplanes, and over 150,000 American, British, Canadian, Free French, and Polish Troops. During the 50th anniversary of this historic event, the French Government awarded the Jubilee of Liberty Medal to American servicemen for their participation in the Battle of Normandy.

William served in the United States Army Air Corps, 603rd Bomb Squadron, 398th Bomb Group as a Bombardier and Navigator and served in Normandy, Northern France and the Rhineland. On October 15, 1944, his B-17 was shot down over Merseburg, Germany; while parachuting to earth, he received hostile fire and was captured and held as a prisoner of war for 7 months. For his heroism and valor, William was awarded the European African Middle Eastern Campaign Service Medal, and the Air Medal with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters.

In 2004, during a POW/MIA ceremony held at Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada, William finally received the Purple Heart for his injuries and sacrifices while a Prisoner of War during World War II.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor William Whitaker for his heroic service in the United States Military. His dedication to this country in the theater of war is truly exemplary. I commend the sacrifices he has made to protect our freedoms and I am pleased to have the opportunity to recognize his service.

I applaud William Whitaker for his successes and I wish him the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING LA MARQUE HIGH SCHOOL

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2007

Mr. LAMPSON. Madam Speaker, when we think of football in Texas, and especially Galveston County, we think of La Marque High School. Following a 15-1 season, the La Marque Cougars met the Waco Lions at the Alamodome in San Antonio, and claimed their fifth state championship on December 22, 2006.

The Coog's victory was impressive, with La Marque scoring 20 points in the last quarter to break a tie and bring the championship back home to a proud and dedicated community.

This exemplary and dedicated group of young men and their coaches, backed by the entire school, continues a proud legacy of winning. Their hard work and dedication brings pride in our entire community. I am honored to represent the Cougars, and La Marque, where football reigns.

It is a privilege to honor the La Marque High School Cougars for recapturing the Class 4A Division II State Football Championship, and I ask that we submit congratulations from the 110th Congress into the record.

HONORING AND PRAISING THE NAACP ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 98TH ANNIVERSARY

SPEECH OF

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a proud co-sponsor of the resolution honoring and praising the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on this occasion of its 98th anniversary. I would like to thank my friend Rep. AL GREEN of Texas for putting forth this timely resolution.

It is with great pleasure that I stand here today to honor 98 years of the oldest and largest civil rights organization in the United States. As a young man growing up in the civil rights era, I witnessed firsthand the many struggles and efforts the NAACP encountered to fight the ugly face of racism and discrimination.

Honoring the NAACP immediately brings to mind one of the most eloquent scholars of recent history, my hero, W. E. B. Dubois. His involvement in the Niagara movement and scholarly work in developing *Crisis Magazine* built the foundation for what became the thriving NAACP we see today. One adage of Mr. Dubois that still motivates me to this day is his assertion, "There can be no perfect democracy curtailed by color, race, or poverty, but with all, we accomplish all, even peace." These words remind me of why I am here. Mr. Dubois understood that if America were to be