

There are those who pass this way and touch lives, and there are those who make lives better for having been in our midst. The depth and breath of the life of Dr. Emma Moran can be summed in one phrase—she loved, she cared and she taught us how to live through the giving of our talents.

Dr. Moran was an educator, activist, advocate, and a believer in the sanctity and importance of education. She had this embracing personality that while in her presence she made you feel that your words and thoughts were important to her, and that she listened and cared. This great woman of faith, tenacity and boundless energy embodied the better qualities of human existence, and she demanded no less from each of us. Dr.

Moran was and is a true inspiration.

Rest now, my friend, for your work here is done and your life shall live on forever in each of us.

IN RECOGNITION OF 40 YEARS OF SERVICE BY REV. ALVIN R. KOLB

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 23, 2007

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is with great honor that I rise today to extend my congratulations to Rev. Alvin R. Kolb for having served as the minister to the Assemblies of God for 40 years.

Since 1967, Reverend Kolb has led the spiritual growth of so many people looking to him for guidance in their faith. At the age of 15, he held his first cottage prayer meeting, and soon after, he began organizing church revivals. It was at one of his revivals that he met his wife, Maralyn Enfinger Kolb. They married in 1971, raised 5 children, and are the proud grandparents of 11 grandchildren.

Reverend Kolb pastored his first church in 1973; the Harold Assembly of God began with a congregation of just five widowed women. From there his ministry grew and he went on to pastor the Assemblies of God at Cedar Springs, Calvary Full Gospel, Bay Springs, Whitfield, Bradley, and East Milton. So many have come to know and love the Lord through Reverend Kolb, and his ministry has prompted others to become pastors and ministers themselves, such as his youngest son, Robert.

For the past 10 years, Reverend Kolb has served as the pastor of the East Milton Assembly of God. Both his family and the members of his congregation value his commitment to the church and are grateful that he will continue to serve as the leader in their thriving place of worship for years to come.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to offer my sincere congratulations to a man who has served as a role model to us all. A deep sense of personal service to congregations for 40 years is something to truly be admired and I am thankful for his dedication to the East Milton Assembly of God.

COMMEMORATION OF THE MORNING STAR MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 23, 2007

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, the Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church has been a historic and cultural landmark of Portland ever since May 17, 1959, when the congregation marched from their temporary home on North Fargo Street to their new home at 106 Northeast Ivy Street. It was there that Reverend O.B. Williams of Vancouver Avenue Baptist Church preached the first sermon as Morning Star's guest for the afternoon service.

The Church building, constructed in 1919, and inhabited by Morning Star for the past 48 years, has come to represent not only a historic landmark, but a lively center of worship. The church also embodies an important part of the modern-day tradition, culture, and fabric of the community. Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church has helped to meet the needs of the community by providing important assistance to those around them who are in need. In addition, the church offers a venue for a vital spiritual and social community network.

The Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church has endured much restoration and growth in the past, but no one in the community was prepared for the tragic burning to the ground of this historic building on February 6, 2007. In a show of support, many individuals, churches, community organizations and local businesses have offered thousands of dollars in donations in support of the eventual reconstruction of the church. We thank them for their generosity.

It is with admiration and respect that the long history of the Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church be honored. By commemorating this historic fire and the eventual reconstruction, Portland can help to keep the memory and present duty of this church alive.

We stand with Pastor A. Wayne Johnson, the Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church congregation and their respective communities in solidarity during this trying time. We recognize the sense of loss that all associated must feel surrounding this unexpected fire, and we extend our best wishes to the congregation for the church's recovery and restoration. We only hope that the church's capacity to help the community it has reached out to over its many esteemed years of service will soon be restored to its fullest.

TRIBUTE TO THE POTH HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 23, 2007

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the women of the Poth High School Girls Basketball Team in their stunning 72–70 double-overtime victory against the top-ranked Winnsboro in the Class 2A championship game.

The story of the Poth High School Girls Basketball team is of a team that fought against the odds to achieve one of the best high school sports victories in Texas history. The team had lost in the semifinals each of the previous three years, and their game against Winnsboro was not one in which they were expected to win. The excitement of the crowd exploded when Whitney Wehymeyer scored thirty points and Lauren Waclawczyk added sixteen points in the second overtime's final seconds to send Poth to the Class 2A state championship with their 72–70 win.

Theirs was a story that echoed the classic underdog against the presumptive winner, but due to their remarkable team spirit and strong determination to win, they came out on top. I am very proud that these remarkable women have won the state championship, and that they are from Poth, a city in my congressional district. The city has shown strong support of women's sports teams in their community.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize the women of the Poth High School Girls Basketball team, and I thank you for this time.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 23, 2007

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I will like to submit this statement for the RECORD and regret that I was unavoidably detained with legislative business on March 20, 2007 on the vote for rollcall vote No. 164 and on March 22, 2007 on the vote for rollcall No. 181.

Had I been present, I would have voted: "No" on rollcall No. 164 on the amendment to H.R. 1227 that would require recipients of rental assistance under the bill—those displaced from their homes, many of whom lost their jobs as a result of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita—to perform 20 hours per week of approved work activities.

"Yea" on rollcall No. 181 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H. Con. Res. 66, permitting the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust.

CONGRATULATING THE 2007 WE THE PEOPLE NATIONAL FINALS

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 23, 2007

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, from April 28–30, 2007, more than 1200 students from across the country will visit Washington, DC, to take part in the national finals of We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution, the most extensive educational program in the country developed to educate young people about the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights. Administered by the Center for Civic Education, the We the People program is funded by the U.S. Department of Education by act of Congress.

I am proud to announce that the State of Georgia will be represented by a class from

Chamblee Charter High School from Atlanta at this prestigious national event. These outstanding students, through their knowledge of the U.S. Constitution, won their statewide competition and earned the chance to come to our Nation's Capital and compete at the national level.

While in Washington, the students will participate in a 3-day academic competition that simulates a congressional hearing in which they "testify" before a panel of judges. Students demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of constitutional principles as they evaluate, take, and defend positions on relevant historical and contemporary issues. It is important to note that results of independent studies of this nationally acclaimed program reveal that We the People . . . students have knowledge gains that are superior to comparison students. Students also display a greater political tolerance and commitment to the principles and values of the Constitution and Bill of Rights than do students using traditional textbooks and approaches. With many reports and surveys indicating the lack of civic knowledge and civic participation, I am pleased to support such a superb program that is producing an enlightened and engaged citizenry.

Mr. President, the names of these outstanding students from Chamblee Charter High School are: Sara Arment, Teresa Bardagiy, Ameer Chowdhury, Carol Coleman, Carson Dance, Petra Ehlert, Savannah Fox, Samuel Franklin, Elizabeth Hogan, Joseph Hutton, Martin Hwang, Jasmine Johnson, Jason King, Duncan Lien, Sang Oh, Laura Ownbey, Sally Phipps, Daniel Sok, Alexander Vidor, Kayla Vinson, and Xi Wang.

I also wish to commend the teacher of the class, Stephen J. Rubino, who is responsible for preparing these young constitutional experts for the national finals. Also worthy of special recognition is John D. Hoge, the State coordinator, and John Carr, the district coordinator, who are among those responsible for implementing the We the People program in my State.

I wish these students much success as they prepare to compete at the We the People national finals and applaud their exceptional achievement.

A TRIBUTE TO THE USS "JOHN F. KENNEDY"

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 23, 2007

Mr. CRENSHAW. Madam Speaker, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge the outstanding leadership Captain Zecchin and the past commanding officers of the USS *Kennedy*, including Captain Dennis Fitzpatrick and Captain Harv Henderson, have provided to the sailors and this great Nation.

Naval leadership depends on two core military values—cohesiveness and mission. Or-

chestrating 3,500 sailors to pull together to accomplish a mission, whether that mission is war, training, repair or preparing to decommissioning, is a monumental task. The *Kennedy's* 39 years of outstanding service is due to the series of leaders who stood at her helm and kept her ready at a moment's notice. I wish Captain Zecchin well on his next tour as the Commanding Officer of the USS *Kitty Hawk*; we will miss him here in Mayport.

The *Kennedy* has seen many farewells—from the spouses and family of its crew and from Navy servicemen seeing her off on various deployments. Just think, how many loved ones have proudly watched their son or daughter sail off to gloriously defend our freedom and preserve our way of life. But at the end of each deployment there has always been a welcome home. Today, we say goodbye for the last time.

We are here today to say farewell to a ship that has symbolized so much to so many.

To the sailor, the *Kennedy* has been a home away from home on many deployments. She represents small town America, where many of her sailors are from. Her population is a little over 5,000 and she boasts a post office, doctors' offices, a place of worship, restaurants that serve over 15,000 meals a day and employment opportunities for all. She has elevators, runways, and a busy airport.

This "carrier" town represents the best of America. All the sailors work together toward a common goal, never separated by race or class or gender. Ships are steel, they are not alive. It is the crew who bring a ship to life. The stories that emerge from her sailors will keep her spirit alive. The *Kennedy* will continue to live in the lives of the thousands of sailors who manned her rail, flight crews who donned a rainbow of colored shirts and made her flight deck roar to life, and aviators who were catapulted into the sky and prayed to catch her hook on their return.

To the Jacksonville community, the *Kennedy* will always be a symbol of our great city. She has meant so much to this community and this community has meant so much to her. Here on this pier where you sit today, the sailors of the *Kennedy* and the men and women of our local ship-repair companies worked long hours on grueling jobs to complete the largest pier-side availability ever accomplished in the Navy. The skills of the artisans from these Jacksonville companies have kept the boilers and propulsion plant working during the *Kennedy's* time in Mayport.

Big John's connection to our community is more than just the economic base she provides. We will miss her sailors and their wives and husbands. We will miss the children in our local schools and athletic clubs. We will miss their involvement in the Mayport community.

To our country, the *Kennedy* has been part of our history for 39 years. She is one of the finest ships in the world's finest Navy. As our country continues to fight the war on terror, we must remember the role the *Kennedy* played in the earliest counter-terrorist actions.

Even though she entered active duty during the height of the Vietnam War, she soon

found herself in a role more familiar to today—spending the first of several deployments in the Mediterranean to help deal with a deteriorating situation in the Middle East. In the 1980's, she responded to the growing crisis in Lebanon, and in 1988 F-14 Tomcats launched from the *Kennedy* intercepted and downed two hostile Libyan MiGs in response to Libya's terrorist activities. On the *Kennedy's* most recent deployment, the air wing dropped more than 64,000 pounds of ordnance on Taliban and al Qaeda targets.

To me personally, I share many of the same memories as the Jacksonville community, but the *Kennedy* also provided me with the great honor of joining the national debate on how the Navy is going to meet the threats of tomorrow while fighting the budget pressures of today. The discussion that followed the announcement that the *Kennedy* would be decommissioned was good for our Navy, good for our Congress and good for our Nation.

We must be keenly aware of how important our aircraft carrier fleet is to this Nation's ability to counter current threats and deter future aggression. Carriers are mammoth cities, and are not constructed in a single day. We cannot take lightly the decision to take an aircraft carrier out of service; that decision cannot be reversed. The discussion will continue well past the final days of the *John F. Kennedy*, and I will remain an active member of any debate on the size and shape of our Navy fleet, and for this I thank the *John F. Kennedy*.

To Mayport, the *Kennedy* has been the symbol of this national treasure. This Naval Station is defined not only by the ships that are home ported here, but also by its strategic location to counter the ever growing threats in South America and the Caribbean. If we do not deter the aggression and narco-terrorist threats today, South America could very well become the next Afghanistan. Terrorist training camps would be dangerously close to our own shores.

I will continue to work with our Navy leadership to make sure that we have the right ships in the right places for the right missions. The Navy needs Mayport even more now than it did when the *Kennedy* battle group called her home.

The *Kennedy* is a great and noble ship and when this day is done, she will cease to be four and a half acres of sovereign U.S. territory that can launch an array of fighter aircraft and precision weapons which strike terror in the hearts of America's enemies. She will be stripped, docked and viewed by most as just a great mass of steel. Her dedicated crew will be dispersed to other carriers and they will continue to perform their duties. And as those who served aboard her and as those in our community who loved her, remember the glory of the USS *John F. Kennedy*—then our ship, the sacrifices of her crew and the freedom she fought to defend will continue to live on and on.