

leader of the Hispanic community in Kansas City, Missouri, in my District. Born on October 23, 1939, Mrs. Jaramillo, also more affectionately known as "Becky", set forth on the long journey of advocacy of equal rights and equal opportunities for minorities and women before passing on May 13, 2005. Her passing has created a deep loss felt by her family, the greater Kansas City area, and most assuredly, the thousands of lives she touched throughout our great Nation.

Rebecca Jaramillo, as the fifth of twelve children, entered the world curious for knowledge and eager to stir up excitement. She lived a joyous life until the rigors of racism and discrimination entered her life and inspired her to proactively work for equality. After marrying her husband, Joe, and settling down in Kansas City, they soon encountered discrimination when they were repeatedly denied the privilege of restaurant service. The couple became active in fighting the issue when they joined the NAACP and Kansas City, Missouri's People for Public Accommodations drive, which sought the passage of a bill requiring public businesses to provide service to all persons regardless of race, national or ethnic origin, and skin color.

In 1981, Becky received community service awards from the HUD Kansas City Area Office, the Hispanic Chamber of Greater Kansas City and the Guadalupe Centers, for her role as the HUD office coordinator in the application process for Posada del Sol: a senior citizen's high-rise apartment complex in Kansas City's West Side. That same year, Becky, together with her fellow HUD employee Jose Gonzalez, and Ninfa Garza, program coordinator for the Guadalupe Centers Senior Citizens program, founded the Greater Kansas City National Hispanic Heritage Committee and created the Fiesta Hispana, to annually commemorate National Hispanic Heritage Month.

For many years Becky actively continued her advocacy by serving on boards of local and national community agencies such as: Model Cities; the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity; the American G.I. Forum, the League of United Latin American Women; the Panel of American Women; the Incorporated Mexican American Government Employees (IMAGE)—1979 to 1982 as national chairwoman of the IMAGE Women's Action Committee with headquarters in Washington, DC; the Federally Employed Women; the United Nations Women's Commission; the Women's Political Caucus; the Guadalupe Centers, Inc.; the Mexican American Women's National Association (MANA); the Heart of American United Way; the Salvation Army and several others.

While serving as national secretary for the Panel of American Women, Becky was part of a select group of panelists invited to the White House on April 27, 1979, for a special reception hosted by President Jimmy Carter in their honor for their many years of work in the area of human relations.

Becky also received distinguished awards from the Federal Executive Board of Greater Kansas City, the U.S. Department of Defense, the Panel of American Women, the Mexican American Women's National Association, and the Salvation Army. In 1981, The Central Exchange of Kansas City honored Becky by naming her its second Woman of the Year.

In 2002, the Guadalupe Centers awarded Becky its coveted I. Pat Rios Award for out-

standing contributions to the Community, recognizing her for her role in the historical completion of Posada del Sol and the first West Side neighborhood fountain. The fountain was formally dedicated on September 15, 2000 by the Kansas City, Missouri Parks and Recreation Department.

On March 4, 2005, Becky received the YWCA Hearts of Gold Award for Economic Empowerment for her service 30 years before as a United Nations delegate on a commission studying the status of women in the world.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the life of Mrs. Rebecca Dolores Jaramillo and expressing our heartfelt sympathy to her husband, Joe Jaramillo, her children, Romulo Joseph, Cynthia and James, and her many relatives and friends. I urge my colleagues to please join me in conveying our gratitude to her family for sharing this great woman with us, and to accept our condolences for their tremendous loss. She was an inspiration to us all.

TRIBUTE TO THE 90TH BIRTHDAY
OF MILDRED LAVERGNE BOUTIN
PROTHROW

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I would like to honor the 90th birthday of Mildred LaVergne Boutin Prothrow.

Fourscore and 10 years ago on April 7, 1917, Mildred LaVergne Boutin was born in Point-a-LaHache, Louisiana. At the age of three, she remembers wearing a navy sailor suit, hand and gloves to the train station as her family prepared her to move to Jackson, Mississippi.

A true daughter of the South, Mildred's loving parents, Ruby Anita and Hamilton Henry Boutin, along with her Aunt Nea Learner, instilled all the qualities of a perfect southern lady, refined and generous.

Once more, her journey continued with a train ride to Marshall, Texas in the fall of 1937 to attend Wiley College. There she trained for her future profession as a teacher, joined the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, and met her life partner, Percy W. Prothrow, Jr. With marriage came a home in Marshall and the births of her daughters, Lady Percy Prothrow and Deborah Boutin Prothrow-Stith.

The family moved to Atlanta as Percy ascended the ranks of Atlanta Life Insurance Company and Mildred became an entrepreneur, opening a very popular childcare center. The family moved to Houston in 1968 where Mildred received a master's degree in elementary education from Texas Southern University and taught in the public schools until retirement in 1983.

As a widow, Mildred decided to retire and move to Boston to help her daughter and son-in-law raise their nephews, son and daughter. Known as Memama and Bibi to her grandchildren (Trey, Tony, Percy, and Mary Mildred), Mildred is a wonderful cook, a loving friend and confidant, and a dedicated mother and grandmother.

A TRIBUTE TO GRANT AINSWORTH
THOMPSON

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, today I wish to honor Grant Ainsworth Thompson who has recently left the world of politics to follow his calling in the Church. Grant served as my Communications Director for the last 5 years. Prior to that, he worked as a Legislative Assistant in my office focusing on Veterans Affairs and Postal issues.

Grant Ainsworth Thompson was born June 9, 1962 here in Washington, DC and was educated in the DC public school system. After graduating from Cardozo High School in 1981, he spent a number of years working in the private sector as both a substance abuse counselor and for United Airlines. He then chose to pursue a higher education and attended the University of the District of Columbia from 1991 to 1995, majoring in Mass Media and Television Production. Grant has been happily married to Margaret for 22 years and is the father of 2 sons: Justin, 21 and Jeremy, 17.

Grant used his skills in communications and management to help me better serve the people of Alaska. He was a driving force behind my office's expansion into cutting edge media and always seemed to know what the "next big thing" would be. His positive personality and confidential counsel were invaluable to me and my staff; he will be sorely missed.

Grant was an integral part of my office for many years and it deeply saddens me to see him leave. We often joked that he was my "brother," as we share the same birthday. I wish him all the best as he begins a new chapter in his life. Grant is now going to continue the work he started as Pastor and Founder of the Church of the Rock Praise Factory, located in Washington, DC. He will continue to be involved in many community outreach programs over the coming years, spreading the word of the Lord, and helping those in need. Grant Ainsworth Thompson is a truly great American, with a heart the size of Alaska.

GRUNDY COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL
BIO-DIESEL PROJECT A RE-
SOUNDING SUCCESS

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, when it came to my attention that a group of students in a Future Farmers of America class and educators at Grundy County High School were developing bio-diesel to use in tractors and school buses, I could not have been more proud.

The fuel, which is made from vegetable oil, methanol, and lye, will be used to make tractors and buses run cleaner, more efficiently, and in a cost effective manner. Additionally, everything in the process is 100 percent biodegradable.

The idea for the project began after a seminar at Middle Tennessee State University in