

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO THE NORCROSS HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, in the Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, only a few schools excel in competition on a State level that ignites a community.

Under the leadership and guidance of Coach Eddie Martin, the Norcross High School Boys Basketball team has won a State Championship for the school, the city of Norcross and our beloved Fourth Congressional District.

These Blazing Blue Devils of Norcross have demonstrated the will to win, the courage to win, the mechanics of teamwork and the astounding spirit of triumph from a mental and physical battle.

The 9th day of March, 2007 will go down in history as the Day that our Norcross High School Boys Basketball team became the AAAAA Champions of Georgia.

The team has exhibited great moral character on and off the basketball court and through the halls of Norcross High.

I was pleased to set aside April 21, 2007 to honor and recognize the Norcross High School Basketball Team for its victory for our District.

TRIBUTE TO HUDSON'S

HON. BILL SALI

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. SALI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinctly American treasure: a burger done right. I have the privilege of housing in my district a burger joint that has been around for over a century and was recently chronicled in the Wall Street Journal's Raymond Sokolov's quest to find America's best burger.

Hudson's, located in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, was founded by Harley Hudson in March 1907 and is run by his great grandson Steve Hudson. Hudson's best known burger, the Huddyburger is, as Sokolov reports, "certainly the best \$2 burger in creation," the "Platonic ideal of burgerdom."

Madam Speaker, my great state is known for many things: pristine rivers and lakes, gorgeous mountains, an abundance of natural resources, and hardworking citizens, but today I rise to recognize it for one of its lesser known gifts to this country: the Huddyburger.

The Huddyburger and the Hudson family represent what is great about America: ingenuity, hard work, perseverance and dedication. I wish them the best and look forward to continued success by the people of Idaho.

TRIBUTE TO GENERAL PETER J. SCHOOMAKER

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, a distinguished career in the United States Army has come to an end. General Peter J. Schoomaker recently retired after 35 years of service.

General Schoomaker graduated from the University of Wyoming in 1969 with a Bachelor of Science degree and later received a Master of Arts degree in Management from Central Michigan University. In addition, Hampden-Sydney College awarded him an Honorary Doctorate of Laws. His military education includes the Marine Corps Amphibious Warfare School, the United States Army Command and General Staff College, the National War College, and the John F. Kennedy School of Government Program for Senior Executives in National and International Security Management.

On August 1, 2003, General Schoomaker became the 35th Chief of Staff, United States Army. Prior to this assignment, he spent 31 years in a variety of command and staff assignments with both conventional and special operations forces. General Schoomaker has taken part in various deployment operations around the world, including Desert One in Iran, Urgent Fury in Grenada, Just Cause in Panama, Desert Shield/Desert Storm in Southwest Asia, Uphold Democracy in Haiti, and supported various worldwide joint contingency operations, including those in the Balkans.

General Schoomaker's distinguished career has been recognized by his peers as he has been awarded: the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, two Army Distinguished Service Medals, four Defense Superior Service Medals, three Legions of Merit, two Bronze Star Medals, two Defense Meritorious Service Medals, three Meritorious Service Medals, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, Master Parachutist Badge and HALO Wings, the Special Forces Tab, and the Ranger Tab.

Madam Speaker, I know the members of the House will join me in commending General Schoomaker for a career of faithful service to his Nation and wish him well in his retirement.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ANER IGLESIAS

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Aner Iglesias for both his success as a business leader and for his generosity as philanthropist to our community.

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF LEXINGTON

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, let me take this means to recognize the fine accomplishments of my hometown, Lexington, Missouri, and its commitment to creating a more beautiful and historic community.

Last month, Discover Mid-America's Destinations 2007 named Lexington first among historic towns, and Rural Missouri picked Lexington as its editor's choice for most beautiful town. Discover Mid-America said, "Lexington is one of those special Midwestern towns that people return to time and again. Lexington has more pre-Civil War homes and buildings than any other community regardless of size in the state of Missouri, over 120, and numerous quaint and comfortable Bed & Breakfast inns." In its article, Rural Missouri said, "You will love the antebellum charm of Lexington's historic homes. Don't miss the courthouse with its cannonball reminder of the Civil War."

Madam Speaker, I am proud to call the city of Lexington home and I know the members of the House will join me in congratulating the entire community on its prestigious awards.

TRIBUTE TO JAMAAL RASHARD ADDISON

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, in the Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, there are many individuals who are called to contribute to the needs of our community through leadership and service.

Jamaal Rashard Addison was born on October 7, 1980 and began his education in the DeKalb County Educational School system and graduated from Lakeside High School with honors.

Jamaal Rashard Addison enlisted in the United States Army on March 1, 2000 and faithfully served this country until March 23, 2003, when he became Georgia's first fallen soldier in the Iraq war.

This remarkable young man gave of himself, his time, his talent, and his life.

Jamaal Rashard Addison was a soldier, a warrior, a father, a son, a brother and a friend.

I was pleased to set aside April 28, 2007 to honor and recognize Jamaal Rashard Addison for his leadership and service to our country.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Mr. Iglesias came to the United States from Cuba in order to join his family, who had previously left Cuba years before to escape political prosecution.

After his arrival to the United States, Mr. Iglesias graduated from California State Polytechnic University in Pomona, California, where he earned a dual degree in electrical engineering and business administration in 1989. At age of 24, Mr. Iglesias established his first business. Today, Mr. Iglesias operates and owns a chain of supermarkets with yearly revenues exceeding \$150 million. He is also a real estate investor with properties in Nevada, Florida, and California.

In addition to his business endeavors, Mr. Iglesias has also been known for his support and leadership role in the opening of the Salvadorian Consulate in Las Vegas, Nevada. He has served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Ronald McDonald House of Los Angeles since 1999. He is currently a member of the America United Bank Board, and he has also contributed and supported the Buena Nueva Foundation and other non-profit organizations, including the Las Vegas Rescue Mission and Safe Nest. Iglesias is an active member of the Latin Chamber of Commerce, the United Grocers Committee, the Mexican-American Grocers Association and the American Grocers Association.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Aner Iglesias. His years of service to the State of Nevada are admirable and I wish him the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL SHRINE ON THEIR 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, as we approach the bicentennial of Abraham Lincoln's birth, I am pleased today to stand in recognition of the 75th anniversary of the Lincoln Memorial Shrine located in Redlands, California. While leading a divided nation, President Lincoln remained committed to the principles of liberty, integrity, and personal responsibility. It is these ideals that represent the core of what Robert and Alma Watchorn envisioned when they created the Lincoln Shrine in 1932.

It is a great honor that the Watchorns chose to dedicate and present the Shrine to Redlands, my hometown and a prominent city in my district. Through the contributions of my constituents, the Shrine has become a nationally-known education center for our 16th and perhaps greatest president. As the only Lincoln-dedicated museum and library west of Springfield, Illinois, the Shrine attracts thousands of professional and amateur historians with a wide variety of exhibits, events, and projects featuring Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War period.

The Watchorns would be pleased to know that the prominence of the shrine has not detracted from the educational opportunities provided to visitors. As a primary resource for educators in the area, the museum's collection of more than 4,000 manuscripts and 300 original newspapers is offered free of charge and

serves as a valuable resource for those seeking a direct glimpse of Lincoln's time. Students are encouraged to attend docent-led school tours and can easily access a wealth of information to use for school projects or personal enjoyment.

Highlighting our community's pride in hosting this important site, a fundraising drive in the 1990s resulted in donations of more than \$1 million, which helped provide a 2,000-foot expansion of the Shrine. Two new wings were carefully designed to complement the original octagon shape, paving the way for further Lincoln artifacts. This expansion could not have occurred without the dedication of those residing in my district.

A moving tribute to the Shrine's 75th anniversary is planned for November of 2007, when the Lincoln Shrine releases a book describing and detailing the various artifacts in their collection. An extensive set of photos and letters will be included in the book, with explanatory comments to guide the reader. This book will serve to foster interest in those who have not yet visited the Shrine, and will further elaborate upon the knowledge of individuals already familiar with the Lincoln Shrine's all-embracing collection.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to represent a community of citizens dedicated to progressing the growth of a research center and museum such as the Shrine. I ask my colleagues to join with me in recognizing the immense value of the Lincoln Memorial Shrine and in wishing them many more years of success.

TRIBUTE TO THE ATLANTA VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, in the Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, there are many professionals in the medical field who render excellent service to our citizens.

The Atlanta Veterans Affairs Medical Center has met and exceeded national standards with its staff of skilled laboratory professionals.

The laboratory staff of the Atlanta Veterans Affairs Medical Center has demonstrated a spirit of giving, service and leadership.

Our beloved Fourth District, families and community have benefited from the fine work of the laboratory staff of the Atlanta Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

The laboratory staff of the Atlanta Veterans Affairs Medical Center has worked tirelessly to give their best to preserve integrity and provide quality service.

I was pleased to set aside April 22nd—28th, 2007 to honor and recognize the Atlanta Veterans Affairs Medical Center for its outstanding service to our District.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. CARSON. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, May 3, I was unable to vote on Roll # 300 because the Capitol Hill police would not let my vehicle enter the grounds due to a security "event" regarding the escort of a foreign dignitary. Had I been available to enter I would have voted "No."

IN TRIBUTE TO DONALD W. HAYNES HONORING THE THIRTY-TWO YEAR SERVICE ON THE HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Donald W. Haynes, of Houston, Texas, on his retirement from the Houston Fire Department after 32 years of dedicated service.

Donald Haynes' roots were planted in the deep, strong foundation of family. Donald was born in Beaumont, Texas to Mr. and Mrs. Elwin and Evelyn Haynes. He is the oldest of their four children. Because Donald's father was in the U.S. Navy, the Haynes family relocated to different military assignments approximately every 3 years. As such, Donald has been privileged to travel to many places across the country and the world. He has lived in Providence, Rhode Island; Morocco, North Africa; Norfolk, Virginia; Alameda, California; Middletown, Rhode Island; and San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Madam Speaker, though he traveled and relocated to many domestic and foreign places in his young life, Donald worked diligently to finish his educational studies. Donald graduated from Antilles High School in San Juan, Puerto Rico in 1970, the same year his father retired from the U.S. Navy. When his family returned to Beaumont, Texas Donald attended Lamar University his freshman year. In the summer of 1971 the Haynes family moved to Houston, Texas. Donald transferred to the University of Houston and graduated from there in December 1974 with a B.S. in Psychology. Mr. Haynes received an M.S. Degree in Criminal Justice Administration from Sam Houston State University in 1988 and an A.S. Degree in Fire Technology in 1992 from Houston Community College. He is also a graduate of the 166th Session of the FBI National Academy held in Quantico, Virginia from June 1991 to September 1991.

Donald's graduation from the University of Houston was merely the beginning step of a long glorious journey of public service. Donald worked for Southwestern Bell Telephone Company for about six months prior to his acceptance into the Houston Fire Academy in June 1975. He graduated in October 1975 and was elected President of the 1975- B Class. His first assignment was Hobby Airport, Station 36 on the A Shift. He later transferred to Station 35 after his probationary period was completed.

In 1977, as one of two firefighters with a college degree at his fire station, Donald was selected to attend Polygraph School. Donald graduated from Polygraph School, completed his internship and became a Texas Licensed Polygraph Examiner in May 1978. He has conducted polygraph examinations for the Houston Arson Bureau, HFD Internal Affairs, HFD Recruiting Division; Homicide Division of the Houston Police Department; Airport Police, Park Police, City Marshall's Office and other law enforcement agencies.

Though Donald had accumulated numerous achievements, he did not rest on his laurels but continued to excel at every level and distinguished himself through a number of praiseworthy promotions. Donald's promotions through the Civil Service ranks of the Houston Fire Department include: Chauffeur in May 1980; Inspector in September 1982; Investigator in 1985; Senior Investigator in November 1995 and Asst. (Chief) Arson Investigator September 2001. Donald was also appointed to the rank of Assistant Fire Chief from 1992 to 1993.

Donald also holds a number of State Certifications. He has been a licensed polygraph examiner for 29 years. In, addition, he is a Master Firefighter; Master Fire and Arson Investigator; Master Peace Officer, TCLEOSE Instructor; Intermediate Fire Instructor; and Field Examiner.

Madam Speaker, Donald has admirably served over 22 years in the Houston Arson Bureau as a State of Texas commissioned Peace officer. He also has contributed to community outreach service. He has been a member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc for over 35 years. He is also a Life Member of the NAACP, and has served on the Board of Directors of Shape Community Center for over 10 years (1992–2003).

Chief Donald W. Haynes has proudly served the Houston Fire Department and the Citizens of Houston, Texas from June 1975 until February 2007, a period for 31 years and 8 months. Though Donald extinguished many fires in his career, it was an inner blazing and burning flame that sparked his desire to perform at the highest level.

In closing, Madam Speaker, let me say that I, on behalf of all Houstonians, am grateful for the outstanding dedication and public service Donald has given to the Houston Community for nearly 32 years. We can never repay you for the priceless service you have bestowed on our community. We congratulate you and hope that your well-earned retirement brings joy to your life.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO HERNANDO
AMAYA MORENO

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Hernando Amaya Moreno who has been named the Small Business Journalist of the Year for the State of Nevada by the Small Business Administration.

His commitment to proving news and information to his fellow Nevadans has resulted in the SBA presenting him with this distinguished honor. Hernando is the Associate Editor for El

Tiempo Libre, a Spanish language newspaper which is owned by the Las Vegas Review Journal. His role at El Tiempo allows Hernando to provide Hispanics in the Las Vegas area with both the local and national news. El Tiempo provides residents with another reliable news option in Southern Nevada.

Hernando came to the United States in the 1990s from Columbia. During his time in Columbia, Hernando worked as a broadcast journalist for the Colombian National Army. In this capacity, Hernando worked to dismiss propaganda disseminated by Colombian guerilla groups, however, he was forced to leave the country when his family's life was threatened by these groups. After his arrival in the United States, Hernando's dedication and perseverance ensured his success with both the journalism and business communities in Nevada.

As a result of his own experiences and achievements with the business community, Hernando has been able to share his knowledge and expertise with individuals in the Hispanic community that are aspiring to becoming small business owners. He believes in supporting these individuals with the information and knowledge that will allow them to be successful small business owners. In conjunction with the Latin Chamber of Commerce, Hernando holds communication workshops for those who wish to establish and begin their own small business endeavors.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Hernando Amaya Moreno. His dedication to the community is commendable and I wish him continued success.

TRIBUTE TO DR. YVONNE
SANDERS-BUTLER

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, in the Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, there are many individuals who are called to contribute to the needs of our community through leadership and service.

Dr. Yvonne Sanders-Butler has given of herself as a principal of Browns Mill Elementary School, an author, a nutritional advocate and a children's advocate.

Dr. Yvonne Sanders-Butler has pioneered and sustained Georgia's First sugar free school which serves as a model to the country as a tool in promoting the physical and mental welfare of our children.

This phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents for the betterment of our community and our Nation through her tireless works, motivational speeches, and words of wisdom.

Dr. Sanders-Butler is a virtuous woman, a courageous woman and a fearless leader who has shared with the world her vision and passion to help ensure that our future—our children—will be healthy and prosperous.

I was pleased to set aside April 21, 2007 to honor and recognize Dr. Yvonne Sanders-Butler for her leadership and services to our District.

IMPROVING HEAD START ACT OF
2007

SPEECH OF

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 2, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1429) to reauthorize the Head Start Act, to improve program quality, to expand access, and for other purposes:

Mr. REYES. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1492, the Improving Head Start Act of 2007, a bill introduced by my colleague Mr. DALE KILDEE that provides a long-overdue re-authorization of Head Start and includes a package of improvements that will make a good program better.

My own experience as a child demonstrates the importance of school preparedness programs like Head Start. When I started school at six years old, I only spoke Spanish. The teacher only spoke English, so the other Spanish-speaking children and I were bumped down to a new "pre-kinder" class so, as the thinking went, we would not hold the others back. Throughout my years in school, my peers assumed that I had failed a grade because I was older than everyone else. But I was not less academically capable than my fellow students. I had just not been given adequate preparation.

Head Start offers a bilingual curriculum that helps develop children linguistically, socially, and emotionally for kindergarten. Its holistic approach makes it so much more than just a program to improve reading and writing skills. It also provides nutritious meals, medical and dental visits, and a stable environment to low-income children that will allow them to succeed in school.

Head Start is a proven program. Students who participate in this program are more likely to finish high school and eventually attend college. In El Paso, over 4000 children and their families are served by this program. Roughly seventy-five percent of all students in this program come from households making less than \$15,000 per year, well below the national poverty level.

Mr. Chairman, I ask that my colleagues join me in supporting this important legislation that will help disadvantaged children across the Nation by providing them with the tools they will need to succeed not only in their education, but in all aspects of their lives.

IMPROVING HEAD START ACT OF
2007

SPEECH OF

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 2, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1429) to reauthorize the Head Start Act, to expand access, and for other purposes:

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of H.R. 1429, a bill to reauthorize and improve Head Start.

Head Start has been a vital program to our children since the day it was created in 1965 as part of the Great Society. President Lyndon Johnson created the program with the goal of combining education, health, and nutrition programs for low-income children. In its history, over 22 million children have been served by Head Start, including over 900,000 in this year alone.

Head Start provides an excellent foundation for the children who enroll in the program. About 95 percent of the students in Head Start are under five years old, and they are all at or below the poverty line. Without Head Start, a great number of these children would be in substandard preschools, if they were even lucky enough to be enrolled in anything. Head Start gives these kids the years of education they need in order to succeed in future years of schooling.

H.R. 1429 would reauthorize the Head Start program, while at the same time offering improvements that have been necessary but neglected for a number of years.

First, it will improve teacher and classroom quality. H.R. 1429 does this by first increasing teacher salaries in order to attract more and better teachers. Other provisions would require Head Start to use research-based methods to improve literacy and vocabulary. The bill would also provide improved training and technical assistance so teachers will be more educated in science and technology.

The only problem I have today is the Republican discriminatory Motion to Recommit. The Republican leadership wants to institute federally funded discrimination into our Head Start program. They have tried this again and again, and although I support Head Start as much as anybody in this Chamber, I would vehemently oppose this reauthorization if the Motion to Recommit passes. I urge all of my colleagues to oppose the discriminatory Motion to Recommit when it comes to the floor.

Mr. Chairman, I strongly support reauthorizing the Head Start program with the Democratic improvements.

TRIBUTE TO THE ROCKDALE
COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, in the Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, many schools strive to excel.

Under the leadership and guidance of the Rockdale Board of Education, and the Superintendent Dr. Samuel King,—the principals, teachers, staff and students in Georgia's Rockdale County school system have met and exceeded national standards.

The Rockdale County Board of Education members have demonstrated the will to win, the courage to win, the mechanics of teamwork and the astounding spirit of triumph from building a system that serves all in the county.

Our beloved children and community will benefit from the seeds that the Board of Education and Administration have planted to insure that Rockdale will always be prosperous and productive.

This unique board has given of themselves tirelessly and unconditionally to providing the

best that they have to preserve integrity, scholarship, leadership, and service for all of Rockdale County.

I was pleased to set aside April 21, 2007 to honor and recognize the Rockdale County Board of Education for their outstanding service to our District.

TRIBUTE TO ZINGERMAN'S DELICATESSEN ON ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Zingerman's Delicatessen, in Ann Arbor Michigan. This year Zingerman's is celebrating its 25th anniversary.

Zingerman's was founded in 1982 in Ann Arbor, Michigan by Paul Saginaw and Ari Weinzweig. It is now known internationally and renowned as one of America's best delicatessens. Along with the University of Michigan, Zingerman's is also one of Ann Arbor's best known and popular tourist attractions.

From its original store in 1982, Zingerman's has grown and now operates 8 separate gourmet food businesses throughout Michigan, employing 545 individuals and serving as an example to other businesses by providing its employees with excellent compensation, benefits and vacation time.

Along with their commitment to an equitable work environment, co-founders Paul and Ari also have a lasting commitment to providing their customers with cuisine of the utmost quality. This quality has been recognized frequently, as Zingerman's has been the recipient of numerous culinary awards, including, most recently, the Food Network's 2007 "Delectable Delivery of the Year" award. The New York Times also covered Zingerman's anniversary with an article in its May 2, 2007 edition.

Zingerman's is an Ann Arbor original and it is commonly acknowledged that there are few, if any, better places in the world at which to get a nosh. With all that it has done in the last 25 years, I ask that you join me in recognizing the anniversary of Zingerman's Delicatessen; the honors and accomplishments of co-founders Paul Saginaw and Ari Weinzweig; and their contributions to the City of Ann Arbor, the State of Michigan, and the United States of America.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOHN
SNYDER

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor John Snyder for his recent induction into the National Teacher's Hall of Fame.

Mr. Snyder is the first teacher from Nevada ever to be inducted into the National Teacher Hall of Fame and is one of five educators to be inducted in the Class of 2007. His teaching career began in the early 1980's as an English teacher at Hyde Park Junior High School. At the time, computers were just beginning to

proliferate into academic establishments and Mr. Snyder became impassioned to start a computer club at Hyde Park. Shortly thereafter, Mr. Snyder became a full-time computer programming teacher, a position he has held for nearly 25 years. Mr. Snyder has taught computer courses at Charparral and Cimarron Memorial High School. In 1994, he moved to the Advanced Technologies Academy and for over a decade, Mr. Snyder has been greatly enriching the lives of those students attending A-Tech, a nontraditional high school that allows students the opportunity to focus on technical careers.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor John Snyder. His enthusiasm, commitment and personal attention have greatly enhanced the educational experience of countless students. I congratulate him for this well deserved honor, thank him for his dedication and commitment and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

OBSERVING THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ABOLITION OF THE BRITISH SLAVE TRADE

SPEECH OF

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 1, 2007

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of this resolution that commends the 200th anniversary of the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade, which marks the beginning of the end of the deportation of slavery. This tremendous moment in time carries with it historical significance in African American history and culture.

As many of my colleagues know, many of our ancestors were brought here in the grips of iron chains on slave ships. They were subjected to tremendous inhumane treatment. Many died and the ones that did survive were left to try and survive in a new and unforgiving world. Over the course of 4 centuries 11 to 12 million African men, women, and children were brought to the United States, the Caribbean, and Latin America against their will. The transatlantic slave trade enabled the kidnapping, purchase, and commercial export of Africans, mostly from West and Central Africa between the 15th and late 19th century.

Despite this ignoble beginning, the people of Africa created a noble culture that encompasses the African spirit of survival through adversity. Nevertheless, with all the horrors and inhumanity, the transatlantic slave trade was critical to the formation of the new world. We can now celebrate the trials, tribulations, accomplishments, and contributions of our ancestors. They certainly created and attained so much in history.

Madam Speaker, I would like to share with you the words of Frederick Douglass, one of the most famous African American abolitionists, slave, editor, orator, author, statesman and reformer. He stated:

Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will. Find out just what any people will quietly submit to and you have found out the exact measure of injustice and wrong which will be imposed upon them, and these will continue till they are resisted with either words or blow, or

with both. The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppress.

The struggle to end the transatlantic slave trade and slavery was achieved by African resistance and economic factors as well as through humanitarian campaigns. Africans fought tirelessly to overcome the brutal treatment that they endured. The years that our ancestors fought for freedom were among the most difficult times that Africans faced.

It is because of the sacrifices that our ancestors made that African Americans are free today, and able to be part of this wonderful body. We must not forget what our ancestors have done for us. We must teach our children and the generations not yet born of the sacrifices that were made in the name of our freedom. We must continue to celebrate the anniversaries such as this so our history may never go forgotten.

The 200th anniversary of the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade marks a tremendous accomplishment in African American history. It is with great honor that I am able to speak on such a significant part of my history.

TRIBUTE TO TELACU FOR ITS
COMMITMENT TO THE ADVANCEMENT
AND EMPOWERMENT OF
LATINOS

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I ask for unanimous consent to revise and extend my remarks.

The people of this great Nation share a common spirit and heritage. Whether born on the soil of this land or having chosen to come here in search of a better life—one free of political, social, and economic oppression, we are a Nation of pioneers. We believe in the American dream, and the promise that through our labors we can achieve educational and economic success. No barrier is too imposing, no obstacle too tall that it should stand in the way of pursuing this dream.

Two of my congressional predecessors, Senators Robert F. Kennedy and Jacob Javits, advanced legislation in the 1960s that promoted this dream by laying the foundation for an organization called TELACU. Since its founding in 1968, TELACU has become the largest community and economic development corporation in the United States. TELACU is a pioneered institution committed to service, empowerment, advancement and the creation of self-sufficiency within the Latino community.

Brought to life through a small investment appropriated by Congress, TELACU has grown to become an organization with nearly \$500 million in assets, creating thousands of jobs, affordable homes, loans to small business people, and most importantly, numerous educational opportunities for our Latino youth and veterans.

TELACU established the LINC TELACU Education Foundation, LTEF. For more than 2 decades, the Education Foundation has been working towards removing the formidable barriers that prevent Latino youth from achieving academic success. Latino youth not only struggle against the effects of low-income

households, inadequate support and counseling, but a lack of professional and academic role models, all of which contribute to why only 39 percent of Latino high school graduates in Los Angeles County go on to higher education.

TELACU Education Foundation realized that there is no more vital asset in any community than its human capital, which is why they began their efforts to reverse these trends. For more than 2 decades, the LINC TELACU Education Foundation has contributed to the development of our future Latino leaders through a variety of programs designed to maximize the potential of our youth.

The LINC TELACU Scholarship Program, established in 1983, is one program that helps students realize their dream of a college education by providing scholarships, supplemented by other essential support.

In conceiving the foundation, TELACU discovered that while financial assistance is vital for college students to achieve academic success, other factors are also important. Students who are the first in their families ever to attend college often lack the support system necessary to achieve their dream. Socio-economic factors, family responsibilities, cultural identity and financial stress create very real conflicting challenges to academic life.

The LINC TELACU Scholarship Program provides its youth not only with monetary assistance, but also counseling, leadership training, classes in time management and other subjects that will help them succeed in college.

TELACU has partnered with corporate donors, private individuals, and a vast network of colleges and universities, providing the driving force behind one of the most effective national institutions ever to impact the educational needs of the Latino community.

The LINC TELACU Education Foundation has accepted this challenge head on, combining important financial assistance with highly effective programs that ensure college completion. The foundation supports 600 college students and serves 2,000 elementary, middle and high school students and veterans each year. The success of this extraordinary foundation is best summarized by the numbers: Its scholar retention and college graduation rates are an astounding 100 percent.

Madam Speaker, I join today with community leaders throughout my State to express our Nation's gratitude to TELACU, the LINC TELACU Education Foundation and for scholarship programs like this one, for believing in the dream of higher education for all of America's next generation of leaders.

HONORING THE LOUISIANA
HONOR AIR VETERANS

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor a very special group from South Louisiana.

On May 11, 2007 a group of 96 veterans and their guardians will fly to Washington with a very special program. Louisiana HonorAir is providing the opportunity for these veterans from my home state of Louisiana to visit

Washington, DC on a chartered flight free of charge. During their visit I will accompany them to visit Arlington National Cemetery and the World War II Memorial. For many, this will be their first and only opportunity to see these sights dedicated to the great service they have provided for our nation.

Today I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these great Americans and thanking them for their unselfish service.

RECOGNIZING DADE CITY, FLORIDA,
FOR THEIR MAIN STREET
RENOVATION PROGRAM

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding steps taken by Dade City leaders to renovate and improve their Main Street area. These efforts to revitalize Main Street have made Dade City one of the brightest spots on the Gulf Coast of Florida. On May 18, 2007, Dade City is celebrating its 20th anniversary as part of Florida's Main Street program.

Noticing a decline in the beauty and economic vitality of Dade City's downtown in the 1980s, local leaders began to look into joining the Main Street program. Pat Weaver, Otto Weitzenkorn, Helen Brandt and the late Lewis Abraham banded together to find the resources to send representatives to the annual Main Street meeting in Orlando.

The Orlando meeting taught these concerned residents how to implement the "Main Street Four-Point Approach," a comprehensive strategy tailored to meet local needs and opportunities. The approach encompasses work in four distinct areas: design, economic restructuring, promotion, and organization. Ms. Weaver and Ms. Brandt returned from the meeting with a plan to develop a strong base of local business owners and citizens to see this concept through to becoming reality in Dade City. In 1985, they received a technical assistance program by the Department of State, Bureau of Historic Preservation through the Florida Main Street program. In April 1987, downtown Dade City was officially designated a Florida Main Street community.

On May 18, the Downtown Dade City Main Street program is celebrating its 20th anniversary with a party at one of its highly touted area restaurants. In reflecting on its history, the Downtown Dade City Main Street program has distinguished itself as one of the exemplary models of the Florida Main Street program. In addition, it has been successful in downtown restoration projects such as the Historic Courthouse, the establishment of the Community Redevelopment Agency to fund long-range downtown projects, the facade improvement grant, and for the millions of dollars it has helped bring to downtown construction and restoration projects.

Madam Speaker, I applaud all the men and women who have contributed to the success of the Dade City Main Street program over the past twenty years. These individuals exemplify how working tirelessly on downtown renovation and revitalization can reverse the decline of a community. This program continues to remain a vital part of downtown Dade City, and

I commend those involved for their efforts to keep Dade City vibrant and unique with its quaint shops and small town atmosphere.

RECOGNIZING BETTE PETERSON

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Bette Peterson of Fresno, CA for her tireless service to her community and selfless giving to philanthropic causes throughout California's San Joaquin Valley. In recognition of her devoted service, the City of Fresno proclaimed May 1st, 2007 as "Bette Peterson Day."

Bette Peterson was born on October 30th, 1922 to Jean and Freda Johnson. Throughout her life, Ms. Peterson embarked on many adventures but not until 1975 did an adventurous life being to flourish rapidly beginning with her marriage to Dr. Robert Billings, and shortly thereafter, the creation of the Poppy Lane Publishing Company.

After establishing her publishing company, she authored *Beginning Reading at Home*, a book designed to help young children develop and explore reading. In addition, Poppy Lane Publishing Company has published numerous books by local authors since 1976, opening up eyes to the wealth of literary talent in the San Joaquin Valley.

Founded in 1988 by Bette and her husband Dr. Robert Billings, the Billings Independent and Responsible Foundation continues to assist many charitable causes. Most recently, Habitat for Humanity was presented with a one-hundred thousand dollar contribution to help many achieve the dream of homeownership.

Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to honor Bette Peterson for her tireless service to her community. I invite my colleagues to join me in recognizing her tremendous example.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT HATE
CRIMES PREVENTION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 3, 2007

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, today I was proud to stand up for the equal protection of all Americans by opposing H.R. 1592, the so called "Hate Crimes Bill." I abhor bigotry and discrimination, and I look forward to an America where no one is physically harmed for any reason. However, creating a special protected class within this country is poor public policy and contrary to the founding principle that all Americans are equal in front of the law.

First, this bill is unnecessary. State and local laws already provide criminal penalties for the violence addressed by the new Federal crimes defined in H.R. 1592. Many of the current state and local laws carry stricter penalties than the proposed language in H.R. 1592. State and local law enforcement agencies and courts already have the capability to

enforce those penalties and are doing so effectively. The proof is that the most recent FBI Uniform Crime Report shows that bias-motivated crimes are decreasing. In fact, less than 17% of all law enforcement agencies reported a single hate crime in 2005. No evidence exists that states and localities are failing to prosecute hate crimes under existing statutes. There is simply no need for the Federal government to impinge on the manner in which state and local agencies are attacking these concerns.

Second, there are Constitution questions concerning this bill. The 14th Amendment affords equal protection under the law to all citizens. H.R. 1592 defies this principle by ranking victims according to nebulous categories like "sexual orientation" and "gender identity" that are based on behavior and are not easily definable. All violent crimes are unacceptable, regardless of the victim, and should be punished firmly.

It is ironic that this bill came to the floor on the National Day of Prayer. I am worried that this bill will unfairly target people of faith. Under this bill, Christians and clergy may be targets for prosecution if their traditional teachings on sexuality are considered an inducement to violence of people based on "sexual orientation" or "gender identity" whether real or perceived. Typically, members would have the opportunity to offer amendments to fix omissions such as this. Unfortunately, the Democrat leadership railroaded this bill through the floor with absolutely no opportunity to offer amendments, denying us the opportunity to protect traditional American values.

Instead of passing laws which violate longstanding principles of good government, we must instead continue in our efforts to make sure that criminals understand their behavior will not be tolerated. Individuals caught committing a crime must understand that conviction will be certain, sentencing will be swift and punishment will be severe. Creating classes of victims, as this bill surely does, based on broad indefinable categories makes certain citizens more equal than others, substitutes a federal mandate for local expertise, and fails to protect traditional American values.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO PATRICIA
RILEY

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my good friend Patricia Riley, a longtime Las Vegas educator and school administrator.

Patricia was a longtime elementary school teacher with the Clark County School District before joining the staff of Hillcrest Academy in 1999. She earned a Bachelor's degree in human development and early childhood education from the University of Nebraska in 1970 and subsequently earned a Master's degree in education curriculum and instruction from UNLV in 1980.

For over two decades Patricia has been designing curriculum for public and private schools for adults and children. Her career as an educator began as a fifth grade teacher in

Grand Island, Nebraska. She later went on to teach math and reading to Army soldiers at Fort Jackson in Columbia, South Carolina from 1974-1976. Patricia subsequently moved to Las Vegas in 1978 and operated two preschool through kindergarten private schools from 1979 to 1984 both in the Spring Valley and Green Valley areas. Patricia left education, pursued a career in real estate and later came back to teach first and second grade at the Mack Elementary School in Henderson, Nevada, where she stayed until moving over to the Hillcrest Academy. After founding Hillcrest Academy and operating the school for over 7 years, Patricia sold the Academy and stayed on as a consultant.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor my friend, Patricia Riley. Patricia is a truly gifted educator and has enriched countless lives. I thank her for her dedication and commitment to educational excellence and wish her the best in her future endeavors.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO PROFESSOR
KENNETH LINDSAY

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday May 7, 2007

Mr. HINCHEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Kenneth Lindsay, a most remarkable and distinguished constituent of mine. Mr. Lindsay is one of about a dozen living members of the Monument Men, who worked to save tens of thousands of works of art during World War II. Mr. Lindsay is also a Binghamton University Professor Emeritus of Art History where he chaired the Art History Department for 17 years.

Mr. Lindsay's love of art and art history first developed while he was a student at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. He signed up with the Army's Signal Corps and was preparing to go overseas in 1942. Catching scarlet fever delayed his deployment, but it resulted in his eventual assignment to the Monument Men after Victory in Europe Day in 1945. Mr. Lindsay first served as a technical corporal in London and was later sent to Omaha Beach.

Following V-E Day, the Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives Section of the U.S. Army, whose members were nicknamed the Monument Men, worked to save and preserve works of art that had been seized during the Nazi rule of Germany. Mr. Lindsay was assigned to the Monument Men in Wiesbaden, Germany in 1945. He personally handled some of Europe's most valuable works of art. A noted piece that passed through Mr. Lindsay's hands is the Holy Crown of Hungary, one of the most famous crowns of the Middle Ages. One of the most memorable pieces that he processed was a statue of the Egyptian Queen Nefertiti, which was stolen by the Germans in 1912.

Wars present perilous challenges for art, and the art world is indeed fortunate that Mr. Lindsay was available to help put the pieces back together in post-war Germany. Without the dedicated work from men such as Mr. Lindsay, a large amount of the world's culture would have been lost. Mr. Lindsay's work in World War II and as a teacher of art history has given future generations the opportunity to enjoy history and the rich cultures across the world.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to salute Professor Emeritus Kenneth Lindsay for his dedication in the Army and as a teacher. He has left his unique mark on his students, peers, and the art community.

TRIBUTE TO OFFICER JEFFREY SHELTON

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mrs. MYRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Jeffrey Shelton, an officer of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department in North Carolina. Officer Shelton was fatally shot on March 31, 2007 while responding to a call with a fellow officer, Sean Clark.

Officer Shelton was on the force for more than six years before he was killed in the line of duty. The citizens of Charlotte will remember Jeff Shelton as a brave man, who gave his life in service to the city. He will be sorely missed by his fellow officers in the North Tryon Division.

To show their appreciation for Officer Shelton, thousands of Charlotteans gathered to watch his funeral procession in person on April 6, 2007. Citizens have since created a permanent memorial at the very spot where the two officers were killed. This site, near an apartment building in East Charlotte, has been dedicated to the memory of Jeffrey Shelton and Sean Clark.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Jeff's wife, Jennifer, and his family and friends at this difficult time. May the legacy of service and dedication that he leaves behind be a comfort to all those who loved him.

HONORING OCCAM'S ENGINEERS ROBOTICS TEAM

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Occam's Engineers Robotics Team from West Morris Mendham High School in New Jersey, a team that I am proud to represent! They are celebrating their recent attainment of first place in the FIRST Vex Challenge World Championship.

Occam's team was founded by Joshua Kaplan and Michael Medford, who also serve as co-captains. The other members include Adam Brozynski, Joshua Franklin, Julianna Brown, Thomas Cioppettini and Chase Tralka. The team was established at the beginning of the school year and began preparing for the competition in January. After placing last in the FIRST Vex New Jersey Tournament, they completely redesigned their robot, basing their new design on simplicity.

For the FIRST Vex Challenge World Championship in April, the team had to build a robot no larger than 18 inches that was pre-programmed and controlled by remotes to pick up softballs and deposit them into differing receptacles from a set list of parts and guidelines.

The team spent endless hours building and practicing leading up to the competition.

They competed against over 10,000 students from over 23 countries. The judged award is based on the team that performs well in all categories, gaining votes from opposing teams based on performance as well as cooperation with others. Occam won not only the FIRST Vex Challenge Winning Alliance Award but also the FIRST Vex Challenge Inspire Award!

Madam Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Occam Engineers Robotics Team and all its members on all of their past, present and future achievements!

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT HATE CRIMES PREVENTION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 3, 2007

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1592, The Hate Crimes Prevention Act.

This important legislation is about protecting the fundamental rights of the most vulnerable in our society.

The fact is, hate toward people in our country who are deemed different remains copious and persistent.

What is not fact, however, is the campaign of mistruths right-wing extremists with a megaphone have instigated against this bill. They claim, for instance, that passage of this bill will be used to persecute anti-gay churches. To which I say, I don't know of any pastor or minister who would advocate tying a man to a split-rail fence, beating him brutally, and leaving him to die in the cold of the night for no reason other than he was gay.

This legislation addresses long overdue deficiencies in current federal hate crimes law. It extends protections to even more groups of targeted minorities. And it ensures that when states are unwilling or unable to prosecute hate crimes, justice will be served.

Violent acts committed against a member of a targeted minority do not merely beleaguer the individual. They deprave an entire group and society as a whole by promoting a culture of fear among our diverse communities and perpetuating stereotypes and hate. I have hopes that someday such legislation will no longer be necessary. But the reality is that in this day and age it still is. It is evident in the resurgence of organized white supremacist movements such as the KKK over the past year.

Without the passage of this critical legislation, an alarming amount of hate crime perpetrators around the country will continue to escape punishment under federal law. Such as the assailants who shot frequenters of a gay bar in New Bedford, Massachusetts earlier this year. And the four white male assailants who left Bill Ray, a mentally challenged African American, severely and errantly brain damaged. And the assailants of Michael Sandy, a gay man who was beaten, chased into traffic, hit by a car, and then dragged off the road and attacked a second time.

Until the day comes when there is no need for such legislation, we will continue to have a moral obligation to ensure these victims of hate crimes have access to just recourse.

TRIBUTE TO OFFICER SEAN CLARK

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mrs. MYRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Sean Clark, an officer of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department in North Carolina. Officer Clark was fatally shot on March 31, 2007 while responding to a call with a fellow officer, Jeffrey Shelton.

Officer Clark was on the force for just over a year before he was killed in the line of duty. He leaves behind his wife Sherry, his son Brayden, and a baby who is expected to arrive shortly. The citizens of Charlotte will remember Sean Clark as a brave man, who gave his life in service to the city. He will be sorely missed by his fellow officers in the North Tryon Division.

To show their appreciation for Officer Clark, thousands of Charlotteans gathered to watch his funeral procession in person on April 5, 2007. Citizens have since created a permanent memorial at the very spot where the two officers were killed. This site, near an apartment building in East Charlotte, has been dedicated to the memory of Sean Clark and Jeffrey Shelton.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sean's family and friends at this difficult time. May the legacy of service and dedication that he leaves behind be a comfort to all those who loved him.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOSE MARTEL

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Jose Martel, an exceptional maitre d' at the newly opened Michael's Restaurant at South Point Hotel.

Prior to assuming his position with Michael's Restaurant, Mr. Martel served as maitre d' at the Barbary Coast Hotel for 23 years. There, Mr. Martel developed a reputation for a commitment to customer service. As a maitre d', Mr. Martel is known for meeting all of his patrons' needs and has proved himself to be an exemplary model of friendliness, attentiveness, and professionalism.

During his many years of service, Mr. Martel has cultivated a working environment that has distinguished him from others in the field. Mr. Martel's evident dedication to restaurant patrons is unparalleled and his outstanding service was recently honored by a dedication in Casino Connection Magazine.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Jose Martel. His dedication to and respect for his work are commendable and I wish him every continued success.

HONORING HIGH SCHOOL ARTISTS,
FROM 11TH CONGRESSIONAL DIS-
TRICT OF NEW JERSEY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, once again, I come to the floor to recognize the great success of strong local schools working with dedicated parents and teachers to raise young men and women. I rise today to congratulate and honor 37 outstanding high school artists from the 11th Congressional District of New Jersey. Each of these talented students is participating in the 2007 Congressional Arts competition, "An Artistic Discovery." Their works of art are exceptional!

We have 37 students participating. That is a wonderful response, and I would very much like to build on that participation for future competitions.

Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate the three winners of our art competition. First place was awarded to Leigh Cignavitch from Mount Olive High School for her work entitled "Core and Rind." Second place was awarded to Lauren Novotny from Montville High School for her work entitled "Lauren in Fauvist Forest." Third place was awarded to Jeff Koroski from Roxbury High School for his work entitled "The Time, The Tremulant, The Torrent."

I would like to recognize each artist for their participation by indicating their high school, their name, and the title of their contest entry for the official Record.

Home schooled: Phyllis Schlafly's "Roses in the Mirror."

Boonton High School: Loryn Britton's "Untitled;" Sarah LaPlaca's "Portrait of Brendon" (honorable mention), Jennifer Hitching's "Self in still-life" (honorable mention), Caitlyn Harvey's "Self Portrait" (honorable mention).

Bridgewater-Raritan High School: Allison Boucher's "Lady of the Flies" (honorable mention).

Dover High School: Matthew Burbridge's "Hurd Park."

Livingston High School: Ellina Ryzhik's "My Bike;" Arielle Rothbard's "Untitled;" Linda Innemee's "The Dragon Flies."

Madison High School: Samantha Sweet's "My fundamentals;" Kayleigh Martin's "Warmth;" Marissa Rich's "AVERY" (honorable mention), Sharela Banfield's "Hands, Feet, & Polish" (honorable mention).

Millburn High School: Jessica Pester's "Easy Chair;" Jacqueline San Filippo's "Blue Chair;" Ann Trocchia's "Cala Lily."

Montville High School: Jennifer Eishindrelo's "Monday Morning;" Stefani Colonnelli's "Untitled;" John Lake, Jr.'s "Self Deception."

Morris Knolls High School: Maxine Kramer's "MONEY;" Davendra Sukha's "Assorted Nuts;" Charles Dooman's "An Uncertain Future;" Stephanie Grawehr's "reading by candlelight."

Mount Olive High School: Rebecca Weiss's "A Memoir to Gettysburg."

Pequanock High School: Joel Lumpkin's "Headless Self Portrait;" Lauren Porochniak's "Spring Leaves."

Ridge High School: Lindsay Abken's "An Icon;" Rebecca Goldberg's "L'Orange Blue;"

Angela Singer's "Garden Still life;" Christina Roros' "Knobby Knees & Dollish Dimples."

Roxbury High School: Lauren Poggi's "SUB-URBIA;" Julia Biczak's "Self Portrait;" Chelsea Austin's "JUDE ARCHER."

Each year the winner of the competition has their art work displayed with other winners from across the country in a special corridor here at the U.S. Capitol. Every time a vote is called, I walk through that corridor and am reminded of the vast talents of our young men and women. Indeed, all of these young artists are winners, and we should be proud of their achievements so early in life.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating these talented young people from New Jersey's 11th Congressional District.

TAIWAN APPLIES TO THE WORLD
HEALTH ORGANIZATION

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, as the World Health Assembly prepares to meet in Geneva this May, Taiwan is applying to the World Health Organization as a member under the name "Taiwan."

For years, Taiwan has been excluded from the activities of the World Health Organization; thus the health rights of the 23 million Taiwan people have not been represented. Taiwan paid high prices for the enterovirus outbreak in 1998 and SARS in 2003; Taiwan should not be left out of the global disease prevention network.

The United States government has always encouraged Taiwan to seek meaningful participation in international organizations and if Taiwan were barred from World Health Organization activities, opportunities for Taiwan's government and people to make contributions to world health affairs would be severely impeded.

I therefore urge my colleagues to speak up for Taiwan's right to participate in the activities of the World Health Organization. Fighting disease is a worldwide issue; no country or people should be excluded from WHO's activities due to political considerations.

CELEBRATING ASIAN PACIFIC
AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Asian Pacific American (APA) Heritage Month. As you know May is designated as APA Heritage Month, and this year's theme is "Meeting the Challenges for Asian Pacific Americans." One of the central challenges is the need for comprehensive immigration reform.

I serve as the Immigration Task Force Chairman of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC). The caucus includes members who are of Asian Pacific descent and those who represent Congressional

Districts with significant APA populations, like the First District of Hawaii.

The Immigration Task Force is CAPAC's main voice on this important and timely issue. Right now, APAs face an immigration backlog that has forced many families to live for years apart from their loved ones. For example, Filipinos must wait 23 years before United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) even examines their applications for a brother or sister from the Philippines. Furthermore, 1.5 million Asians live in the U.S. as undocumented immigrants. They live in the shadows without access to basic services, and are vulnerable to exploitation.

As Task Force Chairman, I have made it a priority for CAPAC to support Comprehensive Immigration Reform. True immigration reform not only helps us secure our borders, but addresses the issues of family reunification and earned legalization for undocumented immigrants. With that concern, I cosponsored H.R. 1645, the "Security Through Regularized Immigration and a Vibrant Economy (STRIVE) Act of 2007," and I am working now to get members of CAPAC to support this bill.

The "STRIVE Act" would help eliminate the family backlog by no longer counting spouses and minor children of naturalized citizens against the worldwide cap on family-based immigration. That means remaining visas can reduce the backlog for the other classes of family-based immigrants. Such a move not only serves as a humane gesture, but upholds our core family values.

The "STRIVE Act" also addresses the concerns of the undocumented immigrants, providing for earned legalization, which means that people would be allowed to emerge from the shadows. Illegal immigrants would have to pay fines and back taxes, pass criminal background checks, and meet English and civics learning requirements. Contrary to the rhetoric, these immigrants would not jump ahead of those who have pending legal visa applications, but would instead have to wait their turn. Furthermore, they would not count against either the family-based or employment-based immigration caps.

While not perfect, the "STRIVE Act" is an excellent start to solving the immigration reform problem. As we celebrate the contributions of APAs to the nation, we must rededicate ourselves to a new direction; to meet the challenges faced by APA families. That is how we open the door to the American dream to all Americans.

HONORING THE MEMORY AND
SERVICE OF HARRY LEON WILSON

HON. DAVID DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory and service of PFC Harry Leon Wilson, who is the only known African-American to be a member of the 35th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division during the Korean War, where he was taken as a prisoner of war on November 27, 1950 and died in February 8, 1951 while in prison.

Harry Leon Wilson is also the only known African-American POW from Carter County,

Tennessee to die in a Korean prisoner of war camp.

Private Wilson was awarded the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Prisoner of War Medal, the Korean Service Medal, The United Nations Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Korean Presidential Unit Citation and the Republic of Korea War Service Medal.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and all of my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory, selfless service, and great sacrifice of PVT Harry Leon Wilson.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. MARY
MATTESON-PARRISH

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a dear friend and outstanding advocate for higher education, Mrs. Mary Matteson-Parrish. Mrs. Matteson-Parrish served on the North Harris Montgomery Community College District (NHMCCD) Board of Trustees from 1993 to 2005. During her tenure she served as Board Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Audit Committee Chair.

While on the Board of Trustees, Mary co-chaired the citizen's committee which worked tirelessly to conduct a successful petition drive and election campaign that permitted the Conroe Independent School District to join NHMCCD in 1991 thus creating higher education opportunities for thousands of Montgomery County students and workers. In addition, Mrs. Matteson-Parrish's commitment to improving access and enhancing the educational opportunities for citizens led to the growth of the North Harris Montgomery College District from 6 to 11 independent school districts and the expansion of services and facilities from three campuses to five comprehensive colleges: North Harris College, Kingwood College, Tomball College, Montgomery College and Cy-Fair College.

This week Montgomery College will name its art gallery the Mary Matteson-Parrish Art Gallery in testimony of the community's appreciation and respect for Mary's dedication to and leadership in providing high quality educational opportunities for the citizens of Montgomery County and the entire Eighth District of Texas.

I join with these communities in honoring this outstanding leader and in applauding her work in expanding educational opportunities to all who seek to learn.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DONNA
DIACO

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Donna Diaco, who is a distinguished and devoted nurse.

According to her colleagues, Donna Diaco is an outstanding member of the nursing staff at Desert Springs Hospital. Donna is a constant

role model in her work in the Intensive Care Unit and always expresses compassion and care for her patients as well as her co-workers. This has earned her the respect and esteem of her colleagues and patients alike. Over the course of her 25-year nursing career, Donna has become an impassioned advocate for her patients and colleagues. Her hard work is complemented by her optimistic ability to find the silver lining in every cloud.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Donna Diaco for her service in the Intensive Care Unit at Desert Springs Hospital and the community. Her professional expertise and caring nature have greatly enriched the lives of those in the Las Vegas community. I commend Donna for her efforts and commitment to her patients and to our community.

CONGRATULATIONS MARJORIE
(GIGI) KELAHER

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Marjorie Kelaher on the occasion of her retirement from the position of Deputy Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives, which became effective as of May 1, 2007.

For over 25 years, Gigi Kelaher has worked for the House of Representatives in a number of different roles. Like many before her, Gigi got her start on Capitol Hill as an intern. Although many young people choose to leave the Hill once their internship has concluded, Gigi found a home in these halls. Though she was in the earliest stages of her career, her work in the fall of 1978 for Congressman Silvio O. Conte (R-MA) would be the beginning of a lifetime of public service.

Following her graduation from Villanova University in 1979, Gigi returned to Capitol Hill and became a full-time employee for Congressman Conte, the Ranking Minority Member of the House Appropriations Committee. She remained in his office in several different capacities until the Congressman's death in 1991. In September of that year, Gigi became the Federal Agency Coordinator for the White House Conference on Aging under President George H. W. Bush, before joining the office of former Congressman Peter I. Blute (R-MA) in 1993.

If her early career enabled her to serve a single Member at a time, Gigi soon discovered a way to serve every Member of Congress—by joining the Office of the Clerk of the House. In 1995, she began her position as Chief of Legislative Operations with the Clerk. In that position, Gigi managed a staff of twenty who supported day-to-day House Floor operations. She continued to build upon her experience in the Clerk's office, and was appointed Assistant Clerk of the House in December 2003. Her duties included the operations and planning of a 250-person organization responsible for the administration of the legislative processes of the House. In April 2006, Gigi was promoted to Deputy Clerk, where she continued to monitor Floor operations and administration for the Clerk's organization. This month, Gigi will retire from her position to devote more time to her family in Holyoke, Massachusetts. While

she will be missed terribly, I admire the commitment to her family that led to Gigi's decision to retire. After so many years serving the public, it is no surprise that she is once again putting the needs of others first.

Madam Speaker, I would like to commend Gigi Kelaher for her years of public service and devotion to the House of Representatives. Without the hard work of dedicated staff like Gigi, the ability of Members of Congress to represent the American public would suffer tremendously. I know that my colleagues join me in thanking her for her assistance over the years, and in wishing her the best now, and in all her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF AS-
TRONAUT WALTER M. "WALLY"
SCHIRRA

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the life of one of our great space pioneers, Walter M. "Wally" Schirra.

Schirra was one of the original seven Mercury Astronauts and the only Astronaut to fly in all three of the earliest manned space programs: Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo. During one of his missions, Schirra conducted the first rendezvous of manned spacecraft in orbit, considered one of the most challenging tasks in space flight at the time.

Schirra was a great astronaut and a great American. What many of my colleagues may not realize is that Schirra became an active businessman and citizen in Colorado after retiring from the space program. I and my fellow Coloradans will miss him. For the benefit of my colleagues, I have attached an article from the Rocky Mountain News about Schirra's impact in Colorado.

[From the Rocky Mountain News, May 4, 2007]

ASTRONAUT LEFT MARK ON STATE

(By John C. Ensslin, Rocky Mountain News)

Walter M. "Wally" Schirra had a long career in Colorado as a businessman, civic activist and environmental consultant in the decade after he retired as an astronaut.

And like two of his fellow astronauts, John Glenn and Scott Carpenter, he also lived part of the year near Vail, where his daughter Suzanne had been an artist.

In one of his last public appearances in Colorado, Schirra, an avid horseman, took part in a ceremony celebrating an exhibition of cowboy hats at the Buffalo Bill Memorial Museum. The show included Schirra's hat, which sported drawings of trout and elk and pins from range rides he had gone on.

"He was very personable, very accessible, very down to earth," said Steve Friesen, the museum director. "He was a regular guy, but at the same time I had the feeling of standing next to someone who was a major part of history in my life. It was pretty cool."

Schirra moved to Denver shortly after leaving NASA in March 1969. He became president of Regency Investors, a subsidiary of Denver financier John M. King.

He later split from King to form his own company, Environmental Control Corp., which later became part of another company called Semco Inc. The firm worked on environmental impact studies for projects such as a coal gasification plant in Wyoming.

He was an avid sportsman. In October 1973, Schirra was part of a group that purchased 29 acres west of Fort Morgan near the Platte River for use as a sportsman's club.

He also once hosted a television series called *The Outdoor Life*. In May 1978, he was named host of a weekly public affairs television program on then KOA Channel 4 called *Scope* with Wally Schirra.

Schirra was active in Colorado Republican politics. In 1972, he was master of ceremonies for a downtown Denver rally for then-Vice President Spiro Agnew. In 1979, he was an honorary chairman for Ronald Reagan's presidential campaign in Colorado.

In the early 1970s, his civic work included crusades for the Colorado chapter of the American Cancer Society to an organizing committee that tried unsuccessfully to bring the winter Olympics to Colorado.

HONORING DAVID KNIGHT UPON
HIS RETIREMENT

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the impending retirement of David Knight as the Sonoma County Director of Transportation and Public Works, and to celebrate the time he has spent as a public servant for the people of the County. Dave has been Director of the Department for over 4 years, following a 10-year tenure as Deputy Director and has been with the Department for a total of 28 years.

During Dave's time with the Department, Sonoma County has changed in many ways, and many of the improvements we have seen have been accomplished with his valuable guidance and leadership. When he first arrived at the County in 1979 as a young transportation planner, Dave was tasked with developing a new transit system. I was pleased to work with Dave to help bring sustainable and environmentally sound transportation programs and projects to our community. With Dave's help, Santa Rosa's bus fleet has evolved from one with just a few, diesel buses, to a fleet that is entirely powered by Compressed Natural Gas. It is still one of a relative few fleets in the State that are 100 percent alternatively-fueled. While the need for a cleaner environment and energy independence has been apparent to most of us for some time, few transit agencies have been as responsive in addressing these imperatives, as has Sonoma County Transit under Dave's leadership. And now, the County is beginning to use methane gas captured at a County landfill to power County cars with the hope that it may one day be a source for our buses and other fleet vehicles.

That Dave has been a forward-thinking leader in public works can be evidenced in other ways, as well. Along with Marin County officials, Dave and other Sonoma County leaders recognized the benefits of public ownership of the Northwestern Pacific Railroad right-of-way; worked years ago to get it into public hands before its cost skyrocketed, and this corridor will almost certainly now be used to operate the SMART (Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit) rail system which will relieve congestion, clean the air, and improve the quality of life of all those who must now depend on the horribly congested Highway 101.

And under Dave's stewardship, a network of intermodal facilities and park and ride lots have been built that are also enhancing transit and car-pool opportunities for the citizens of Sonoma County, and in so doing, relieving congestion on Highway 101.

That Dave is among the nation's more innovative municipal public works directors would come as no surprise to those who know him. He received a masters degree in Urban and Regional Planning and was an early advocate of sustainability, which he defines, as well as anybody I've heard, as "making sure that what we do today doesn't reduce opportunities for people in the future."

Sonoma County has been fortunate that David Knight has spent most of his career working closely with our Board of Supervisors in helping to fashion and implement so many municipal improvements. We will miss him, but know that along with Pat, his wife of 28 years, he will enjoy an active retirement residing in the County and continue to contribute to the civic fabric that makes Sonoma such a wonderful place to live and work . . . thanks to Dave!

REGARDING CO-SPONSORSHIP OF
H. CON. RES. 7

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in regards to H. Con. Res. 7, the Darfur Partner's for Peace Act, which calls on the League of Arab States and each Member State individually to acknowledge the genocide in the Darfur region of Sudan and to step up their efforts to stop it.

On April 26, 2007 the House passed my bill by a vote of 425-1.

Because House rules prohibit the addition of additional co-sponsors to a bill once the House has passed a bill, I am not able to formally add eight Members of Congress as co-sponsors of this legislation.

I ask that the record show that Ms. BORDALLO of Guam, Mr. SESTAK of Pennsylvania, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Ms. DELAURO of Connecticut, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. SALAZAR of Colorado, Mr. TIERNEY of Massachusetts, and Ms. LOFGREN of California are in support of my bill and should be considered by this body as co-sponsors of H. Con. Res. 7.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DIANE
PERAZA

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Diane Peraza, who is being recognized as a distinguished and devoted professional in her field.

According to her colleagues Diane Peraza is an outstanding member of the nursing staff at Desert Springs Hospital. Diane displays a caring attitude while focusing not only on the health of her patients, but their holistic needs

as well. Diane represents quality nursing care and she also demonstrates a respectful manner towards her patients and their families. She is highly motivated and continually expresses a desire to excel in her profession as a healthcare provider. Diane's entire nursing career has been defined by a commitment to excellence and dedication to serving the patients first. Her positive attitude and sincerity are evident to her colleagues as she promotes team work and unit excellence.

Madam Speaker it is my honor to recognize Diane Peraza for her service for Desert Springs Hospital and our community. Her professional expertise and caring nature have greatly enriched the lives of those in the Las Vegas community. I commend Diane for her efforts and commitment to her patients and to our community. I wish her well in her continued efforts as an outstanding nurse.

TRIBUTE TO DR. FRITZ BRUENING

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, today I would like to recognize the accomplishments of Dr. Fritz Bruening. Dr. Bruening is the 2007 recipient of the Jack Hamady Good Scout Award from the Burton Rotary Club. He will receive the award at a luncheon on May 10th.

Dr. Bruening graduated from high school in Decorah, Iowa, where he was a member of the wrestling team, the Honor Society and Valedictorian of his graduating class. He continued his education at Notre Dame University, where he was the captain of the wrestling team, graduated Cum Laude and was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree.

After completing his studies at the University of Iowa, School of Medicine, Dr. Bruening finished his internships at Good Samaritan Hospital and East Mesa Emergency Center in Arizona. His residency in Ophthalmology was completed at North Carolina Baptist Hospital and Wake Forest Medical Center, where he was Chief Resident from 1984-1985.

In 1994 Dr. Bruening relocated to Flint, Michigan, and joined the Park Eye and SurgiCenter after 6 years in private practice in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. At the time he was one of a handful of surgeons capable of performing the Clear Cornea cataract surgery. He has subsequently published two articles, "Clear Cornea Surgery" in the March issue of the Genesee County Medical Society Bulletin and "Placement of a Secondary Foldable Intraocular Lens over a Capsule Remnant" in the August issue of the Journal of Cataract and Refractive Surgery.

Dr. Bruening has devoted countless hours to assisting the indigent and working poor. He continues to take referrals from optometrists to perform surgeries on patients without insurance and incapable of paying. He counts the restoration of sight to a man that had not been able to see for 20 years as his greatest achievement.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Dr. Fritz Bruening as he receives the Jack Hamady Good Scout Award from the Burton Rotary Club.

ON THE DEATH OF SERGEANT
MICHAEL VAUGHAN

HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Ms. HOOLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the sacrifice and honor the loss of SGT Michael Vaughan. Answering the call of service, Michael enlisted in the U.S. Army while still completing studies at Taft High School. Unlike his peers, he spent his post-graduation summer learning the profession of arms. After boot camp and advanced training, Michael Vaughan worked hard to live up to the standards of the paratroopers.

Just a few weeks ago, Sergeant Vaughan and eight other paratroopers with the famed 82nd Airborne were killed when a suicide bomber attacked their compound in Sadah, Iraq. These brave paratroopers were preparing for another patrol to keep the civilians in that small town safe from the emerging violence.

Today, the community of Otis and all of Lincoln County, Oregon mourns the passing of Michael. He was a good-natured young man that people knew and loved, the kind of son parents looked to as an example of sincerity, earnestness, and mostly—of service. Though he longed for the days when his uniform would hang in the closet, Sergeant Vaughan wanted to serve his country before beginning the rest of his life. Like his father and grandfather before him, he knew that freedom is fragile and that someone, somewhere, must stand the post on the frontier. Sergeant Michael Vaughan is an example for us all. In his all too brief twenty years upon this planet, he established a legacy that cannot—and must not—be forgotten.

As Memorial Day nears, I ask each of us to remember the life and purpose of those that have given their last full measure so that we could bask in the warmth of life and liberty. I ask each of us to look inside ourselves and to ask if we are doing everything we can do to help these brave men and women. And I ask each of us to personally commit to seeking the best answers for the problems we face and to approach these challenges with the same dedication to duty, the same selflessness that Michael Vaughan and his comrades in arms exemplified. Let us begin anew.

TO REAUTHORIZE THE TROPICAL
FOREST CONSERVATION ACT
AND EXPAND THE PROGRAM TO
INCLUDE THE CONSERVATION OF
ALL FORESTS AND CORAL
REEFS AND ASSOCIATED COAST-
AL MARINE RESOURCES

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, today I introduce a bill to reauthorize and expand Rob Portman's landmark legislation, the Tropical Forest Conservation Act. This reauthorization will help developing countries reduce foreign debt and provide comprehensive environmental preservation programs to protect forests and endangered marine habitats around the world.

Since enacted in 1998, Tropical Forest Conservation Act programs have generated a total of \$135 million over 10 to 25 years to help conserve 50 million acres of tropical forests in Asia, the Caribbean, Central and South America. But the rate of deforestation continues to accelerate across the globe in all types of forests.

Similarly alarming is the rapid rate of coral reef and coastal exploitation. The burden of foreign debt falls especially hard on the smallest of nations, such as island nations in the Caribbean and Pacific. With few natural resources, these nations often resort to harvesting or otherwise exploiting coral reefs and other marine habitats to earn hard currency to service foreign debt. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 60 percent of the world's coral reefs may be destroyed by the year 2050 if the present rate of destruction continues.

The Forest and Coral Conservation Act will credit qualified developing nations for each dollar spent on a comprehensive reef preservation or management program designed to protect these unique ecosystems from degradation. This legislation will make available resources for environmental stewardship that would otherwise be of the lowest priority in a developing country. It will reduce debt by investing locally in programs that will strengthen indigenous economies by creating long-term management policies that will preserve the natural resources upon which local commerce is based.

Madam Speaker, this legislation has enormous consequences for the existence of critical ecosystems, the health of our planet, and the livelihoods of millions of people across the globe. I am proud to introduce the Forest and Coral Conservation Act, which will help preserve the world's most precious natural resources.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JULIE
WILBUR

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Julie Wilbur, a Registered Nurse who has distinguished herself as an outstanding and devoted professional in her field.

Julie Wilbur is a nurse at Spring Valley Hospital. She has over 20 years of nursing experience and she presently serves as the Charge Nurse of General Medicine and Surgery, Julie has a diverse knowledge of her subject area and is efficient and dependable. Julie has participated in a number of professional development training courses such as the Constructive Criticism Communication Course and Epidural Pain Management Course. Julie is also active as a member in the Academy Med-Surgical Nurses Chapter #413 and as a committee member of the Shared Governance Spring Valley Hospital Coordinating Council.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Julie Wilbur. Over her 20 years in the nursing field, she has greatly enriched countless lives. I commend her hard work, dedication and commitment as a health care provider to the residents of Southern Nevada.

TRIBUTE TO THE CHATTANOOGA
BAR ASSOCIATION

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. WAMP. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the works of the Chattanooga Bar Association in my hometown of Chattanooga, Tennessee, and join them in celebrating the CBA's upcoming Law Day Luncheon on May 9, 2007. Law Day USA is set aside each year on May 1st by a joint resolution of Congress and Presidential proclamation as an occasion for honoring the place of law in our lives. It is not a national holiday, nor is it a "lawyer's day." Instead, Law Day is an occasion for all Americans to learn more about our law, our legal system, and our rights. It is also a day to reflect on our legal heritage, our responsibilities as citizens, and the principles of our democratic government. Law Day has been a vital part of American life for several generations. Law Day has celebrated our great heritage of liberty, justice and equality under law since it was first proclaimed in 1958 by President Eisenhower. Law Day gives us the opportunity to reflect on how the law protects and guides America's quest for equal justice and equal opportunity, just as it permits us to express our opinions, select our leaders, worship where we choose, and pursue our livelihood. Thanks to the freedoms guaranteed by our Constitution, and protected by our laws and courts, we American have the opportunity—unmatched anywhere in the world—to develop our capabilities to the fullest.

This year, on May 9th, the Chattanooga Bar Association will honor the legal community of Chattanooga, Tennessee, with their annual Law Day Luncheon. The theme of this year's Law Day USA is "Liberty Under Law: Empowering Youth, Assuring Democracy." The featured speaker is Bill Curry. Mr. Curry is an ESPN analyst, a legendary college/pro football coach, and the Executive Director of The Baylor School's Leadership Baylor Program. Curry says he has "been smitten" with the study of leadership since he was a young child. "I was one of those hyperaggressive boys who had too much energy and my teachers had to find ways to keep me occupied," said Curry. He recalled one teacher in particular who propped him in a corner next to a shelf loaded with biographies of U.S. historical figures and he proceeded to soak up the stories of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Lou Gehrig and many others. "I was absorbed with study of leadership, and I decided I wanted to find out what made these people tick. How could Helen Keller do what she did? What could I do to be an effective leader myself? Leadership has been a passion almost as long as I can remember," said Curry.

During the luncheon, the Chattanooga Bar Association will honor Paul Neely with the 2007 "Liberty Bell Award." This award, given to a person who is not in the legal profession, is one of the Chattanooga Bar Association's highest honors. The purpose of the "Liberty Bell Award" is to recognize community service that has strengthened the American system of freedom under law. In selecting the recipient of this award, the Chattanooga Bar Association considers activities which (1) promote a better understanding of our Constitution and

the Bill of Rights; (2) encourage a greater respect for the law and the courts; (3) stimulate a deeper sense of individual responsibility so that citizens recognize their duties as well as their rights; (4) contribute to the effective functioning of our institution of governments; and (5) foster a better understanding and appreciation of the rule of law. I ask all Members of the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Paul Neely for his contributions to the Chattanooga community.

The winners of the Law Day Essay Contest, which is open to all Hamilton County, private, and home school students, grades 9–12 are in Division 1—1st place winning a \$1,000 college scholarship is Christine Marie Leavens of Red Bank High School. The 2nd place winner is Rachael Stewart of Ooltewah High School, and 3rd place winner is William Andrew Whitener of Ooltewah High School.

In Division 2 of the Law Day Essay Contest—1st place winning a \$1,000 college scholarship is Taylor Dickinson of Girls Preparatory School; 2nd place winner is Radhika Patel of Baylor School; and receiving 3rd place is John D. Whitehurst of McCallie School.

The Law Day Poetry Contest is open to all sixth, seventh, and eighth graders of the same demographics. Winning 1st place is Margaret M. Copley; 2nd place winner is Mary Woodruff Griffin; and 3rd place is Parker Mallchok, all of Girls Preparatory School.

The Law Day Visual Arts contest is open to fourth and fifth graders of the same demographics. Winning 1st place is Dennis Sohn on his artwork titled “Protect Peacefully”; winning 2nd place is Victoria Reed Schaaf on her artwork titled “Step By Step . . . Drinking and Driving”; and winning 3rd Place is Lauren Michelle Hood on her artwork titled “Liberty Empowering Future Leaders”. All winners in the art division are from St. Peter’s Episcopal School.

Madam Speaker, I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in thanking the Board of Governors of the Chattanooga Bar Association for their contributions and commitment to the legal profession and to the Chattanooga community. The members of the CBA Board of Governors are Lynda Minks Hood, Executive Director; James M. Haley, IV, President; Cynthia D. Hall, President-elect; The Honorable Barry A. Steelman, Secretary-

Treasurer; Joseph R. White, Immediate Past President; Barry L. Abbott, David Elliott, Ira M. Long, Jr., John T. Rice, The Honorable Jacqueline Schulten, and Christopher T. Varner.

RECOGNIZING THE HUNTERS LANE
HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC PROGRAM

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. COOPER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the students, teachers and administrators of the music department at Hunters Lane High School in Nashville, Tennessee. They are tonight celebrating a well-deserved designation as a Signature School by the Grammy Foundation and the Gibson Foundation, an honor given to just 22 schools across the country.

Hunters Lane is one of Nashville’s fine public high schools, and in a city known for its music, Hunters Lane’s program lives up to our community’s highest standards. The Warriors boast a marching band, a concert band, a jazz band and a drum line, in addition to a bustling choral music program, all of which perform to great acclaim. Indeed, the students at Hunters Lane are a talented bunch.

I was pleased, Madam Speaker, but not surprised to learn that Hunters Lane was being recognized with a \$5,000 grant from the Grammy Foundation and the Gibson Foundation to benefit the school’s guitar and piano programs. Hunters Lane was selected from over 20,000 schools and 700 applicants. Clearly, their music program is the cream of the crop.

I am particularly proud of Hunters Lane’s commitment to music education. Just two weeks ago in the House of Representatives, we passed a resolution I offered with my colleague Mr. PORTER expressing the sense of Congress that “music education grounded in rigorous instruction is an important component of a well-rounded academic curriculum and should be available to every student in every school.” Music education, the House found, helps students “analyze, solve problems, communicate, and work cooperatively.” Soon I expect the Senate to concur in this matter, and

the importance of school-based music education to youth development will be resolved by the full 110th Congress.

Truly, Hunters Lane High School expresses our community’s commitment to music education, and I hope that this honor only furthers the school’s goals. That is why today I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the students, teachers and administrators of Hunters Lane, who have worked hard to make their music program one of the best in the country. May this award inspire other public schools across the nation to follow in their footsteps.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE GIL
FAMILY

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Gil family, proprietors of the Casa Don Juan restaurant, who were named the Small Business Association’s Family Owned Small Business of the Year for the State of Nevada.

Over 10 years ago, Maria and Raul Gil moved to Las Vegas from California looking for an opportunity to own and operate a family restaurant. Upon arriving in Las Vegas the Gil’s recognized that there was a lack of Mexican restaurants, and subsequently opened Casa Don Juan. Over the past 10 years, Casa Don Juan has built up its clientele with excellent food and service and now employs over 40 people, including the Gil’s children, Nancy, Denisse and Billy.

Casa Don Juan is located on Main Street in downtown Las Vegas and has greatly benefited from the recent development and revitalization efforts. The Gil’s now plan to expand Casa Don Juan to meet the growing demand from their very satisfied and loyal clientele.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Raul, Maria, Nancy, Billy and Denisse Gil. Their innovative spirit and hard work are commendable and I wish the Gil family continued success at Casa Don Juan.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Monday, May 7, 2007 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 8

10 a.m. Commerce, Science, and Transportation Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. SR-253

Finance To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Medicare prescription drug benefit. SD-215

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions To hold hearings to examine community integration and recovery, focusing on transforming mental health and substance abuse systems of care. SD-628

Judiciary To hold hearings to examine privacy and civil liberties concerns, focusing on the REAL ID Act (Public Law 109-13). SD-226

2:30 p.m. Appropriations Energy and Water Development Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine the policies and funding necessary for reducing U.S. oil dependence relating to the results of an analysis conducted to assess the economic impact of implementing the Energy Security Leadership Council's recommendations to the Nation. SD-192

Intelligence Closed business meeting to consider certain intelligence matters. SH-219

MAY 9

9:30 a.m. Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry To hold hearings to examine farm bill policy proposals relating to farm and energy issues and rural development. SR-328A

Foreign Relations To hold hearings to examine climate change relating to national security threats. SD-419

Veterans' Affairs To hold hearings to examine on benefits legislation. SD-562

10 a.m. Judiciary Business meeting to consider S. 376, to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve the provisions relating to the carrying of concealed weapons by law enforcement officers, and S. 221, to amend title 9, United States Code, to provide for greater fairness in the arbitration process relating to livestock and poultry contracts. SD-226

Environment and Public Works Private Sector and Consumer Solutions to Global Warming and Wildlife Protection Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine emerging technologies and practices for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. SD-406

10:30 a.m. Appropriations Defense Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the Department of Defense. SD-192

2:30 p.m. Commerce, Science, and Transportation Consumer Affairs, Insurance, and Automotive Safety Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) safety. SR-253

Foreign Relations To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Dell L. Dailey, of South Dakota, to be Coordinator for Counterterrorism, with the rank and status of Ambassador at Large, and Mark P. Lagon, of Virginia, to be Director of the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking, with the rank of Ambassador at Large. SD-419

3 p.m. Appropriations Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the Internal Revenue Service. SD-192

Aging To hold hearings to examine the future of Medicare, focusing on recognizing the need for chronic care coordination. SD-106

MAY 10

9 a.m. Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine a status report on reform efforts by the Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Management. SD-342

9:30 a.m. Energy and Natural Resources To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Joseph Timothy Kelliher, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and R. Lyle Laverty, of Colorado, to be Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife. SD-366

Indian Affairs Business meeting to consider pending legislative business. SR-485

Appropriations Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine the Federal Aviation Administration's budget performance and treatment. SD-138

10 a.m. Finance To hold hearings to examine economic issues for America's working families and middle class. SD-215

Judiciary To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Leslie Southwick, of Mississippi, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, Janet T. Neff, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Michigan, and Liam O'Grady, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia. SD-226

Commerce, Science, and Transportation Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine the effects of climate change and ocean acidification on living marine resources. SR-253

Appropriations State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the Department of State and foreign operations. SD-192

2:30 p.m. Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs To hold hearings to examine violent Islamist extremism, focusing on government efforts to defeat it. SD-342

3 p.m. Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs To hold hearings to examine the nominations of David George Nason, of Rhode Island, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Consumer Cooperative Bank, Nguyen Van Hanh, of California, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Consumer Cooperative Bank, David George Nason, of Rhode Island, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, Mario Mancuso, of New York, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Export Administration, Michael W. Tankersley, of Texas, to be Inspector General, Export-Import Bank, Bijan Rafiekian, of California, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, Scott A. Keller, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Robert M. Couch, of Alabama, to be General Counsel of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and Janis Herschkowitz, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Consumer Cooperative Bank. SD-538

MAY 15

10 a.m. Commerce, Science, and Transportation To hold hearings to examine communications, taxation and federalism. SR-253

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 553, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain segments of the Eightmile River in the State of Connecticut as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, S. 800, to establish the Niagara Falls National Heritage Area in the State of New York, S. 916, to modify the boundary of the Minidoka Internment National Monument, to establish the Minidoka National Historic Site, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land and improvements of the Gooding Division of the Minidoka Project, Idaho, S. 1057, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain segments of the New River in the States of North Carolina and Virginia as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, S. 1209, to provide for the continued administration of Santa Rosa Island, Channel Islands National Park, in accordance with the laws (including regulations) and policies of the National Park Service, S. 1281, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain rivers and streams of the headwaters of the Snake River System as additions to the National Wild and Scenic River System, H.R. 161, to adjust the boundary of the Minidoka Internment National Monument to include the Nidoto Nai Yoni Memorial in Bainbridge Island, Washington, H.R. 247, to designate a Forest Service trail at Waldo Lake in the Willamette National Forest in the State of Oregon as a national recreation trail in honor of Jim Weaver, a former Member of the House of Representatives, and H.R. 376, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of including the battlefields and related sites of the First and Second Battles of Newtonia, Missouri, during the Civil War as part of Wilson's Creek National Battlefield or designating the

battlefields and related sites as a separate unit of the National Park System.
SD-366

MAY 16

10 a.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine rogue online pharmacies, focusing on the growing problem of internet drug trafficking.
SD-226

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Michael K. Kussman, of Massachusetts, to be Under Secretary for Health of the Department of Veterans Affairs.
SD-562

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.
SR-253

Small Business and Entrepreneurship

Business meeting to markup S. 1256, to amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize loan programs under that Act.
SR-428A

MAY 17

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the United States European Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2008 and the Future Years Defense Program.
SH-216

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine violence in the media.
SR-253

MAY 22

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety and Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine rail safety reauthorization.
SR-253

MAY 23

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine on health legislation.
SD-562

MAY 24

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Michael E. Baroody, of Virginia, to be Chairman and Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and Charles Darwin Snelling, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority.
SR-253

CANCELLATIONS

MAY 9

10 a.m.

Rules and Administration

To hold hearings to examine improving energy efficiency, increasing the use of renewable sources of energy, and reducing the carbon footprint on the Capitol complex.
SR-301

MAY 10

2:30 p.m.

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.
SH-219

POSTPONEMENTS

2 p.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Michael J. Sullivan, of Massachusetts, to be Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.
SD-226