

SUPPORTING THE OBSERVANCE OF
BREAST CANCER AWARENESS
MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 230, a resolution supporting the observance of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. This resolution provides a special opportunity to increase awareness on the importance of regular self-examinations, as early detection is the key to increasing survival rates.

This is also an occasion on which we can recognize the more than 2.4 million breast cancer survivors and remember those who are no longer with us on account of this deadly disease. This past October, survivors and activists have reminded us why it is so important to support research throughout the entire year to find a cure for breast cancer.

In this country, this disease strikes 1 woman every 3 minutes, and it is the leading cause of death among women ages 45 to 54. The numbers are staggering—we simply must continue to adequately fund research and ensure that services and treatments are accessible to those who need them.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of those who have fought a courageous battle with breast cancer, I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution.

TRIBUTE TO MOUNT OLIVE AFRICAN
METHODIST EPISCOPAL
CHURCH

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 30, 2007

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, Mount Olive African Methodist Episcopal Church of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina will commemorate its 100 years of Christian service at a Centennial Anniversary banquet on November 17, 2007.

Mount Olive AME had a very humble beginning. A small group of faithful African American Christians came together in the Myrtle Beach area in the late 1800s and constructed a one-room structure known as the Bush Shelter. It was in this simple building that this group met to worship under the leadership of Reverend Jackson Hemingway.

In 1907, this group joined with other Christians in the area to organize Mount Olive AME Church. Three years later, a new church was built on the site of the old Myrtle Beach High School Baseball Field. Bishop B.F. Lee led the dedication of the new one-room, wood framed church. Reverend H.B. Salters was the leader of the congregation, and later became a bishop in the AME Church as well. Under his leadership, the church also served as a school for local Black children who attended school only six weeks to five months each year.

After a period of significant growth the church moved to a new location on Carver Street. In 1959, the parishioners' dreams of a new sanctuary were realized.

In 1973, the church was expanded to include an education building. The expanded facility enabled Mount Olive AME to host its first annual conference for the AME churches in the Marion District. This new structure also helped the church grow its education mission. One source of great pride are the church's youth programs, which provide Christian fellowship among young people. The year long programs usually culminate with an annual Christian retreat at Allen University in Columbia, South Carolina.

The church has grown other missions including Sunday School, Women's Missionary Society, Sons of Allen youth leadership mentoring, a media ministry which provides video and audio cassettes to the sick and shut-in, and a street ministry to those needing spiritual guidance.

The church also has outreach programs that serve to better the community as well. Members of Mount Olive AME provide assistance to help community members with their housing needs, utility bills, job referrals, drug counseling, voter registration, parenting skills and the church voluntarily stocks a food pantry. Under the dynamic leadership of Reverend Roger I. Washington since 1998, Mount Olive AME continues to uphold the vision of its founders.

Madam Speaker, I invite you and my colleagues to join me in commending Mount Olive AME Church for a century of faithful service. Its members continue to be beacons of hope in Myrtle Beach. They provide compassion and care for not only its members but also the least among them. I congratulate Mount Olive AME for its rich 100 year history, and I look forward to seeing the good works of the church as it continues to grow and serve the Myrtle Beach community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 30, 2007

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, on October 29, 2007, I missed the following rollcall votes because I was attending to other congressional matters in my District: rollcall vote No. 1010, passage of H.R. 3224, the Dam Rehabilitation and Repair Act of 2007; rollcall vote No. 1011, passage of H. Res. 573, Recognizing and commending the efforts of the United States public and advocacy groups to raise awareness about and help end the worsening humanitarian crisis and genocide in Darfur, Sudan; and rollcall vote No. 1012, passage of H. Res. 747, Recognizing the religious and historical significance of the festival of Diwali.

If present, I would have voted "aye" on each measure.

A TRIBUTE TO REVEREND RANDOLPH THOMPSON ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 30, 2007

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, it is with great admiration and respect that I take this time to recognize a dear family friend and one of this Nation's most distinguished citizens, Reverend Randolph Thompson. On October 28, 2007, the Thompson Family will gather at Sammy's Shrimp Box Restaurant in the Bronx, New York for a very fitting occasion—to celebrate Reverend Thompson's 80th Birthday.

Madam, Speaker, I am honored to rise today to share with my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives the accomplishments of this remarkable man. Reverend Thompson was born in Cat Island, Bahamas on October 28, 1927. He received his early education in the Bahamas. In 1948 Reverend Thompson was licensed to preach at Bethel Baptist Church in Nassau, Bahamas. He was ordained in 1953 at Oak City Baptist Church in Method, North Carolina. In 1954 Reverend Thompson received his B.A. Degree from Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina, and in 1957 he received his M.Div Degree from Colgate Rochester Divinity School in Rochester, New York.

As Reverend Thompson traveled about from state to state he remained true to his commitment to be active, productive and dedicated to every facet of his community. He served as Interim Pastor of Pilgrim Baptist Church in St. Paul, Minnesota; Pastor of Victory Baptist Church in the Bronx, New York for 27 years; Director of Baptist Education Center in New York; President of the Nassau Bahamas Association; Chairman of the Committee of the United Missionary Baptist Association in New York; Assistant Dean of Empire State Congress of Christian Education in New York; Instructor of Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention in New York; Pastor of Jackson Chapel First Baptist Church in Wilson, North Carolina; President of NAACP in Wilson, North Carolina; Vice Chairman of the Housing Committee for the Baptist World Alliance in Miami Florida; Parliamentarian for the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Greater Miami; Dean of J.T. Brown Seminar School for Ministers and Missionary Workers in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. He also served as Extension School Instructor at Florida Memorial College in Miami, Florida and Bible Expositor with the Baptist Council of Greater Miami.

Madam Speaker, I first met Reverend Thompson during my teen years when he accepted the call to become Pastor of my home church in Wilson, North Carolina, Jackson Chapel First Missionary Baptist Church. Reverend Thompson brought a new vision and perspective to our Church and made a tremendous difference in our community. My father was the Chairman of our Deacon Board and the two men shared a strong bond of love and friendship. When my father many years later became sick while visiting New York City, it was Reverend and Mrs. Thompson who were there during this time of need.

Reverend Thompson has received countless awards for exemplary service to his community. As a testament, the Victory Baptist Church in the Bronx, New York presented Reverend Thompson with a plaque in recognition of 50 years of outstanding service in the ordained ministry and 27 years of service as pastor. He was also presented with a plaque from the Governor General of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas for outstanding service to the community in the tri-state areas of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut.

Madam Speaker, for 51 years Reverend Thompson has been married to the former Bernice Coleman of New York City. Mrs. Thompson is a retired New York City Counselor. Reverend and Mrs. Thompson are the parents of five children: Evania Thompson, Esquire is a Law Librarian who currently teaches at the College of the Bahamas; she and her spouse, Robert Frazier have one son, Khalil Frazier; Danita Thompson, MBA, is a High School Math Teacher in the Bronx, New York and is a graduate of Hampton and Atlanta Universities; Danita is the Co-founder and CEO of Onyx Vizion Production Company; Randolph C. Thompson, Esquire, is a Private Attorney at Law in Washington, DC and New York and is a graduate of Hampton University and Catholic University Law School; Stephen Thompson who is a recent M.A. recipient in the Faculty of Social Sciences is a graduate of Connecticut's Wesleyan College, Hebrew University and is also an aspiring writer; and Ranice Adegbile, a Graduate of Brown and New York Universities is a homemaker; she and her spouse, Oluwole Adegbile have two children, Ayoka and Ayomiku.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Reverend Randolph Thompson.

TRIBUTE TO MARY BERGAN

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 30, 2007

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to my good friend Mary Bergan for over 35 years of service to the California Federation of Teachers (CFT), and for her tireless work to protect the rights of teachers and students and promote excellence in education.

From the time I was first elected to the California State Assembly and Mary was chosen Legislative Director of CTA, we have worked together on numerous legislative matters. I have enormous admiration and appreciation for her work. Over and over again in Sacramento and in Washington, I have sought Mary's advice on key educational reform and finance issues.

Mary received her Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of California at Berkeley in 1965, and upon graduation, entered the Peace Corps. She was sent to Tunku Kurshiah College in Serenban Negri Sembilan, Malaysia, to teach English and literature. Upon returning to the United States, she became an English teacher at Hillview Junior High School in Pittsburg, California. She became involved with the local American Federation of Teachers (AFTA) and was elected President. She was such an outstanding teacher and effective union leader that only 3

years later, she was offered a staff position as field organizer with the CFT.

Mary's work in the field of education advocacy is legendary. She represented CFT on various task forces and committees through both the California Department of Education and the Chancellor's Office of the California Community Colleges. She served on the Chapter 2 Advisory Committee, the Advisory Committee on Student Assessment, and task forces on educational finance, credential requirements, school restructuring and higher education reforms. She wrote and secured passage of key legislation ensuring the rights of female students and staff in California schools and colleges. Her incredible effectiveness earned her the admiration and respect of her colleagues.

In 1990, Mary was elected a Vice President of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, and in 1991, was elected CFT President. Through the years, she has held numerous leadership positions with AFT, where she was instrumental in instituting important advances in childhood education and health care reform. Also, during the 1980s, she chaired the California Democratic Party's Labor Caucus and she was a delegate to the Democratic National Conventions in 1976, 1992, 1996, 2000 and 2004.

Madam Speaker, Distinguished Colleagues, I ask you to join me today in saluting Mary Bergan, a champion of teachers' rights and public school education. Her dedication and selflessness are an inspiration to us all.

COMMENDING STAFF SERGEANT JEFFREY CAMACHO AND HIS FAMILY FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE TO SERVICEMEMBERS

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 30, 2007

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding service to our community provided by Staff Sergeant Jeffrey Camacho, his wife Erika and their children to wounded United States servicemen and women receiving medical care at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany.

The Camacho family resides on Ramstein Air Force Base, Germany and has assumed the task of welcoming the servicemen and women from Guam who are receiving medical care at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center. They extend their care to the families of the injured servicemembers and have become a focal point for our Guam community's efforts to provide assistance to our men and women who have been wounded. The Camachos are volunteers at Landstuhl and at Fisher House. They also open their home to the servicemembers and their families. Many times, the families of injured soldiers need a place to feel normal, to share dinner, and to enjoy Chamorro hospitality. Sometimes it is the simplest gestures, such as making kadu or sharing a disc of the latest Chamorro songs that make recuperation easier for the soldiers and their families. The Camacho family, through their gracious hospitality, has touched the lives of so many people from Guam and we want them to know that we appreciate their efforts.

I met with Jeffrey and Erika Camacho last month during a Congressional Delegation visit to Iraq, Afghanistan, and Germany. I was honored to visit with them and to hear their story of their care and compassion for injured servicemembers and their families. Jeffrey and Erika are performing a great service for our country. Recently, they opened their home and provided comfort to the parents of a soldier who was evacuated from Iraq to Germany. I commend them for their care and concern for their fellow Guamanians.

Jeffrey Camacho was born in Agana Heights, Guam and is a 1999 graduate of George Washington High School in Mangilao. He is assigned to the Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance Division of the 603rd Air and Space Operations Center at Ramstein Air Force Base, Germany. His wife, Erika Arceo Camacho was born in Tamuning, Guam and graduated from George Washington High School in Mangilao in 1995. The Camachos have two children, Kalena Arceo Camacho, age 9, and Kaleb Camacho, age 3.

Staff Sergeant Jeffrey Camacho and his wife Erika are great Americans whose concern for their fellow citizens and their home island of Guam has led them to open their hearts and their home to the families of our wounded soldiers. The families who have been touched by their graciousness are grateful for their warm hospitality. For our families from Guam, they have provided a home away from home. I commend them for all that they have done and for the sacrifices that they make to help others. They are an inspiration to us all.

A TRIBUTE TO OREGON CATTLE- MEN'S ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT SHARON LIVINGSTON

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 30, 2007

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share with you and my colleagues the story of a remarkable woman and leader from eastern Oregon, Sharon Livingston. Sharon is the President of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association and a tremendous friend to rural America. When this week draws to a close, so too will Sharon's tenure as president. Before that occurs, I want to pay tribute to Sharon for the contributions she has made to an outstanding industry.

Sharon embodies the best in rural Oregon frontier women; she loves the land, she embraces the Oregon "can do" spirit, and she values the dignity of everyone she meets. Sharon is a patriot with unflagging pride in her country. She is a great steward of the land, proud of her industry, and intent on doggedly defending the private property rights, water rights, and grazing rights of ranchers. Sharon leads her industry with assertiveness and kindness, always mindful that the American rancher raises the healthiest and highest quality beef in the world. She, like her fellow Oregon beef producers, places a very high priority on providing food of unsurpassed quality for dining room tables around the world.

Sharon's strong values were established at an early age, having grown up in the small community of Long Creek, OR, where she has lived for more than 60 years. The first three