

(Project for American Civic Engagement), to facilitate placement of underrepresented young people into Congress as interns and staff. His devotion to public service and efforts to politically empower young people, especially in the Arab American community, has charted a course for a next generation of engaged, enlightened and energetic leaders.

A lifelong civil servant, Marwan worked in Congress for eight years, first as a Foreign Affairs Legislative Assistant, then Legislative Director, and finally as Chief of Staff for former Congressman Mervyn Dymally. Later in his career, he dived into local government, serving as Chief Aide to Penny Gross, a member of the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County.

Ever since moving to Northern Virginia in the late 1980's, Marwan was heavily involved in local politics and the Democratic Party in Virginia. In his home county of Fairfax, he served as Vice-Chair of Fairfax County Democratic Committee (FCDC) for Voter Registration, chaired the Local Affairs Committee for FCDC and until his death, served on the Steering Committee for the Democratic Party of Virginia.

On the night he passed away, Marwan was planning to attend a dinner with Speaker PELOSI and Northern Virginia leaders at my home. He was feeling especially weak that day and had to decline. I wish he had been able to come. Despite his pain, it would have brought a smile to his lips to hear the Speaker explain how close we are to achieving universal healthcare and economic opportunity for all Americans and the renewed hope for peace throughout the world—issues he had spent his life fighting for.

Madam Speaker, when someone dies so young, it's important that we bear in mind the real tragedy of life is not at death but what dies inside of us while we live. In that sense Marwan lived a long and fruitful life. He never lost his passion, courage or commitment for justice and human rights. Without Marwan its now up to us to stand up and speak out all the louder for what he cared about: dignity of all human beings, the end of the violence and oppression which in many parts of the world is taken for granted, and the love of each other as precious instruments of our God.

HONORING BENJAMIN P. CARR

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 9, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Benjamin P. Carr a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 357, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Benjamin has been very active with his troop participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Benjamin has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Benjamin P. Carr for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN HONOR OF MAREYJOYCE GREEN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 9, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mareyjoyce Green, a profoundly respected and influential member of the Greater Cleveland Community, and in recognition of her dedication to civic engagement, education and the advancement of women.

Dr. Mareyjoyce Green earned her undergraduate degree from Wiley College in Marshall, Texas, where she double majored in Education and Sociology. Prior to continuing her education in dance on a scholarship from the University of Wyoming at Laramie, she married her college sweetheart, Charles Green, and began her career as a teacher in local schools. The couple later moved to Cleveland where Dr. Green taught dance and earned her PhD from Case Western Reserve University (CWRU), with a focus on the sociology of poverty. Dr. Green has taught at a number of local universities including the Ash-tabula Branch of Kent State University and Tri-C. Her ability to create unique curricula earned her an appointment by the Chair of CRWUs Sociology Department to head Ohio State University's (OSU) Sociology Department in Lakewood in 1962. Four years later, she became the first woman to head Cleveland State University's (CSU) Sociology Department.

During her tenure at CSU, Mareyjoyce established a number of groundbreaking programs that had a profound effect on both the students of CSU and the residents of the Greater Cleveland Community. Her commitment to social issues manifested in the establishment of Push to Achievement, a program she developed with a fellow professor, Roberta Steinbacher. The program was formed as a partnership between the Cuyahoga County Department of Human Services and the Urban Affairs College of CSU and enabled residents who were receiving public assistance to earn college degrees. Additionally, she co-founded WomensSpace; and has served as Director of the CSU Women's Comprehensive Program for twenty years—the only such program in Northeast Ohio that offers Women's Studies as a major. Dr. Green has tirelessly dedicated her personal and professional time in order to ensure that women obtain the necessary resources to earn advanced degrees and emerge as leaders in their communities.

Dr. Mareyjoyce Green's ability to mobilize the community and to advocate for the social welfare of others has been manifested in the various leadership roles she has played and has served as an undeniable source of inspiration to all those working for social justice. Upon the occasion of her retirement earlier this year as Associate Professor of Sociology and Director of the Women's Comprehensive Program, the Department of Sociology at CSU is establishing the annual Mareyjoyce Green Graduate Assistantship.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the leadership and outstanding achievements of Dr. Mareyjoyce Green for her work in both the Greater Cleveland Community and at Cleveland State University.

HONORING JUSTIN RICHARD WHEELER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 9, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Justin Richard Wheeler a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 357, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Justin has been very active with his troop participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Justin has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Justin Richard Wheeler for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE FLIGHT CREW OF DELTA CONNECTION FLIGHT 5202

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 9, 2009

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. On February 12, 2009, in the heart of Black History Month, four African-American women accomplished a feat which has never before been performed. They were the first all-female, African-American flight crew to operate a flight in the United States. These women truly are an inspiration to all of us, and I am so honored and pleased to recognize the crew of Delta Connection Flight 5202: Captain Rachele Jones, First Officer Stephanie Grant, and flight attendants Diana Galloway and Robin Rogers.

When these women operated a flight from Atlanta, Georgia, to Nashville, Tennessee, and the return flight back to Atlanta, they had no idea that they would be making history. Captain Jones is one of only a handful of female African-American pilots in the country, and after her first-officer became sick and was replaced with First Officer Grant, Captain Jones knew that this flight was going to be special. Together these women have positively challenged our ideas of what it means to be in aviation in modern America.

It is important to realize, however, that this feat is merely the extension of a legacy of black female pilots which began with Elizabeth "Bessie" Coleman. Born in Atlanta, Texas, to a poor background, Bessie Coleman overcame numerous obstacles to show the world that a Black woman can indeed be a pilot. After realizing that no American flight school would train her, she studied French and went to Europe to train at a foreign institute. In June of 1961, she became the first African-American woman in the world to obtain a pilot's license.

Let us applaud the efforts of these heroes who have paved the way for African-American women in aviation. From Bessie Coleman to the modern day flight crew of Delta Connection Flight 5202, barriers are being broken to