

"Duchess Unlimited" where she worked as a Wedding Coordinator and coordinated anniversaries and other types of social events at cost.

Marsha joined the Mt. Ollie Baptist Church in 1959 under the leadership of the late Rev. R.D. Brown. She sang in the Junior Choir, was an original member of the Buds of Promise, a member of the Junior Usher Board and later joined the Young Adult Choir. Rev. Brown appointed Marsha to the Senior Trustee Board to "observe." She was the youngest female trustee. This was a major accomplishment for Marsha, for little did she know that God was preparing her for the future. In 1989 she was elected as the first female Chairperson of the Board and is still serving in that capacity today. She has given 20 years of service to the trustee board.

At present Marsha works as the Director of Housing/Food & Beverage for the Office of Conventions and Meetings for the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. She was appointed to this position by the President of the Convention in 1995. She is a member of the religious Conference Management Association and Coalition of Black Meeting Planners. She is also a member of the National Council of Negro Women.

Marsha began her work as a member of the Brooklyn District of the New York State Chapter of the Gospel Music Workshop of America, Inc. in the 1970's under the leadership of Bishop Albert L. Jamison, Sr. as Chapter representative. Marsha gave great support and dedication to the late Brother Larry Brown and the late Minister Allen D. Jamison as Borough Presidents of the Brooklyn District. After their passing she then was appointed Borough President. The Brooklyn District took on new life and direction under her leadership.

Marsha is also a Charter Member of the famous Tri-boro Mass Choir of which she credits the choir's annual prayer and fasting shut-in as her introduction to her spiritual growth and her enhancement to her personal relationship with God.

Marsha was appointed by Bishop Jamison as his Executive Director to the Chairman of the Board for the Gospel Music Workshop of America, Inc. also she is the Administrative Assistant to the New York State Chapter.

Her love for her church family and retired Pastor and his wife, Rev. Dr./Mrs. Spurgeon E. Crayton is consistently enthusiastic; the bond between them has always been a positive one.

Her love and dedication for church work is untiring. Her motto: "If I can help somebody as I pass along then my living shall not be in vain."

OTTOMAN EMPIRE DOCUMENTS
ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2009

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, recently, the New York Times reported on a recently published book *The Remaining Documents of Talat Pasha* by Turkish author Murat Bardakci. The book details Pasha's methodical reordering of the disappearance of nearly 1 million Armenians in a 2-year period. Pasha served as interior minister to the Ottoman Empire and

helped orchestrate the Armenian Genocide. Like the Nazis, Pasha kept detailed population figures of the Ottoman Empire's Christian ethnic minority, the Armenians.

Before 1915, 1.2 million Armenians lived in what today is modern Turkey. By 1917, the number was down to 284,000 Armenians. Bardakci received these original lists of population figures from Pasha's wife, Hayriye Talat, in 1983. However, he waited to include them in his book until he felt Turkey was ready to receive them.

As the New York Times reported in November of 1920, Talat Pasha used to say, "the only way to dispose of the Armenia question is to kill the Armenians." As Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire, Henry Morgenthau made many courageous efforts to stop the ethnic cleansing of the Armenians, as well as alert Americans to the genocide that was taking place. Morgenthau, who dealt with Talat in Istanbul, believed strongly that Pasha was fully responsible for the killings of the Armenians.

These figures in Bardakci's book provide further evidence that those who masterminded the genocide against the Armenians were obsessed with exterminating all the Armenian people. Talat Pasha's meticulous figures bring to mind the Nazis who kept records of 17 million victims, including the Jews who were exterminated during the holocaust. In aggregate, the Nazis kept 50 million pages of documents now available for the families of those who lost loved ones, scholars, and the public.

Unfortunately, Bardakci does not believe that the Armenian Genocide took place. Like his government, he is an outspoken denier. However, he believes that Turkish people should be exposed to historical documents. Bardakci is correct that Turkey needs documents. This week's Times article astutely notes the chilling silence that swept over Turkey in response to these figures. Turkey needs to come to terms with its past.

It is with sadness that it may take the figures of the man who orchestrated the genocide to convince the Turkish government and the Turkish people that 90 years ago the Ottoman Empire committed genocide against the Armenians. I am hopeful that Turkey will soon unclench its hold on its people's memory and openly discuss the Armenian genocide; instead of using words like "alleged" or funding a multi-million dollar lobby in the United States to distort fact.

It has taken a while, but Americans look back constantly on our own history. We question why we enslaved millions of Africans. We question why we slaughtered millions of Native Americans. We discuss it in our schools. We reflect on our history. Doing this helps our nation deal with its past and enables us to learn and heal.

Not only does Turkey deny the Armenian Genocide, it asks Americans to deny it as well. It asks the United States Congress not to honor the victims of the genocide. The Armenian Diaspora exists today because of the genocide. Why should Armenian-American voices be silenced? Why are the voices of those who want to end the vicious cycle of genocide being hushed? Why do we allow ourselves year after year to be threatened by Turkey?

These are our constituents who lost loved ones in the Genocide. We must honor their memory and not be bullied by Turkey.

IN RECOGNITION OF MATILDA M. GARCIA IN HONOR OF WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2009

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, in recognition of Women's History Month, I rise today to honor Matilda Martinez Garcia, a devoted advocate for Hispanic Americans in Florida. Ms. Garcia exemplifies the power of women to make a difference in their communities.

Ms. Garcia is a third generation Floridian whose grandfather came from Spain to Tampa via Cuba. Ms. Garcia serves as a liaison between the Tampa government and the Hispanic community as a council member of the Mayor's Hispanic Advisory Council. She also serves on several boards including the Mayor's Hispanic Advisory Council, LULAC and the University of Florida's Mental Health Institute.

Ms. Garcia is a member of the Tampa Hispanic Heritage Board of Directors, which is comprised of Hispanic Americans with varied roots who share pride in being Hispanic. The organization serves to share rich Spanish language, culture, and traditions with the community during Tampa's Hispanic Heritage Celebration.

Ms. Garcia served as the Former State Director of The League of United Latin American Citizens. LULAC's mission is to advance the economic condition, educational attainment, political influence, health and civil rights of the Hispanic population of the United States. In 2007, Ms. Garcia spoke at a LULAC convention seminar on the historic and ongoing contributions that Latina leaders have made to the civil rights struggle in the U.S. and the development of LULAC as a civil rights organization. Women's leadership has long been a cornerstone of the Latino community.

As a member of the Florida Institute for Community Studies (FICS) Board of Directors, Ms. Garcia speaks to children about her life growing up in Tampa as the child of Spanish immigrants and the challenges facing the Hispanic community.

In 2001 the Department of Child and Family Studies created the Matilda Garcia Initiative, or "Latin American Research Scholars Exchange," to ensure continued collaboration between the Department of Child and Family Studies and Latin American researchers and practitioners. The Matilda Garcia Initiative provides the Institute with a means for strengthening the level of exchange with Latin America through the funding of these and other activities. Ms. Garcia's support has encouraged a new vision of future collaboration between the Department of Child and Family Studies at FMHI and a wide variety of Latin American academic institutions and organizations.

In 2002, The Community of Tampa Bay proudly awarded Ms. Garcia the Silver Medalion Humanitarian Award. This award is given to members of the community who have helped to promote dialogue and respect among cultures, religions, and races.

At the age of 89, Ms. Garcia attended the 2008 Democratic National Convention as Florida's oldest delegate. At the convention Ms. Garcia inspired Florida's delegates with her

youthful sense of humor and her passion about changing American politics.

Madam Speaker, Matilda Garcia is a highly regarded woman who has touched the lives of many in Tampa. I am proud to call her my neighbor, and I join many others to applaud her lifelong contribution to the Tampa Bay community.

INTRODUCING THE ENERGY EFFICIENT AND ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY AUTOMOBILE TAX CREDIT ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2009

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Energy Efficient and Environmentally Friendly Automobile Tax Credit Act, legislation that will help Americans reduce pollution and the amount they pay for gas. My legislation accomplishes these important goals by providing Americans a tax credit of up to \$2,000 when they sell or trade in a car and obtain a vehicle that has at least a 20% higher average fuel economy than the sold or traded-in car. The bill also creates a federal tax deduction for any state or local taxes paid on the purchase of the more fuel-efficient automobile and makes interest on loans to purchase the more fuel-efficient automobile tax deductible.

This legislation will help Americans reduce the amount they pay to fill up their cars by making it easier for them to obtain more fuel-efficient cars. I hope my colleagues would agree that Congress should provide free market incentives to make it easier for Americans to exchange their current cars for cars that create less pollution.

Providing tax deductions and tax credits to make it easier for Americans to purchase fuel-efficient automobiles is a win for American consumers, a win for the environment, and a win for those of us who favor free market solutions to pollution and high gas prices. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

A TRIBUTE TO NATALIE ADDISON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Natalie Addison, the Assistant Manager of Collections at Starrett City and resident of Brooklyn.

Natalie, a native of Queens, was raised in the Queensbridge Housing Projects. She attended and graduated, with a concentration in business subjects, from Washington Irving High School in Manhattan. Pursuing her interest in the field of business after high school graduation, Natalie excelled at the Berk Business School. Natalie was a high achiever who graduated with the honor of Valedictorian for Accounting and Business Management.

Continuing to advance on her employment path, Natalie worked for the Equitable Life Insurance Company. Always interested to expand the application of her knowledge, she transferred to the New York City Board of

Education and was assigned to the Community District 19 office located in the East New York section of Brooklyn.

Currently, Natalie is employed by Starrett City at Spring Creek. As the Assistant Manager of Collections, Natalie interacts daily with Starrett's legal department. And when life appears to throw tenants a financial curve ball, Natalie's ability to aide people with finding a method of paying their rent becomes paramount.

Her compassion and concern for her constituents demonstrated though her patience and efforts on their behalf immediately make the tenants realize the necessity to become more responsible for the well-being of their families. She makes an official matter understandable by providing a caring voice.

As the "First Lady" of the Alpha Riders MC, Inc., located in East New York, Natalie was challenged by a motorcycle accident that left her seriously injured and hospitalized for four months. She attributes her rapid recovery to God and a dedicated staff at the Wartburg Lutheran Home For The Aging, where she and the Alpha Riders still today volunteer their time each month to others in need of love and assistance.

Natalie has been married to Barry "Mr. B" Addison for thirty-one years and they are the proud parents of Ebony, Barry II and very proud grandparents of Lil Andre.

TRIBUTE TO SALLY GORDON

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2009

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of a wonderful lady and a true Nebraska treasure. Today, Sally Gordon will be celebrating her 100th birthday in a place which has come to know and love her—The Nebraska State Capitol.

Sally was the Nebraska Legislature's first female Sergeant-at-Arms when she was first hired in 1983—and she has been putting Nebraska lawmakers in their place ever since.

In this day and age, such dedication to public service is rare and her amazing stamina has put many of her colleagues to shame over the years.

She truly exemplifies the word "elegant" and I have been blessed to have had the opportunity to work with her during my time in the Nebraska Unicameral.

Sally, may your force never diminish and your voice never fade.

Happy Birthday.

HONORING WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2009

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the Washington County Historical Society and their dedicated preservation of the history of Washington County and Minnesota.

Founded on April 11th, 1934, the Society has grown from 75 members meeting in the

public library to more than 700 members operating four buildings, two museums and a growing research library.

In 1941, the Society purchased the Warden's House Museum and today it is one of Minnesota's oldest buildings and the second oldest continuously operating house museum. The Society purchased the Boutwell Cemetery and the Hay Lake School in 1978 and shortly thereafter the school's neighbor, the Johannes Erickson Log House, was donated for the Society's care and restoration. All three buildings are on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Society provides educational programs and historical expertise with the ultimate goal of collaborating with the community, facilitating historical discussion and providing an opportunity for all Washington County residents to learn and enjoy their area's history. Minnesota is so rich with history, heritage, and tradition. This work is such a tremendous service to us all.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize and congratulate the Washington County Historical Society on their 75th Anniversary. Their efforts have demonstrated the importance of historical preservation and resulted in a strong sense of community heritage throughout Washington County.

INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE CRUCIAL ROLE OF ASSISTANCE DOGS IN HELPING WOUNDED VETERANS LIVE MORE INDEPENDENT LIVES, AND SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF CREATING A TOWER OF HOPE DAY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2009

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution that acknowledges the admirable role of assistance dogs in helping our wounded veterans live more independent lives, expresses gratitude to the Tower of Hope, and supports the goals and ideals of creating a Tower of Hope Day.

We currently have over 170,000 troops deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan. Thousands of those brave service men and women have been seriously wounded in combat. Many of these courageous soldiers suffer from brain injuries, single and double amputations, and other traumatic wounds. As a result, they are required to spend weeks, months, and years in hospitals recovering from their injuries.

Madam Speaker, we must not forget that these brave men and women are still in genuine need of assistance to continue their recovery. Assistance dogs will help to empower veterans in need of assistance to live a more comfortable and independent life.

The Tower of Hope is dedicated to providing wounded soldiers with service dogs. The Tower of Hope was created following the September 11th terrorist attacks in an effort to bring about hope and happiness to our wounded veterans. Among other things, these dogs assist wounded veterans with the necessary everyday tasks such as using the stairs, retrieving items, pulling wheelchairs, and even turning lights on and off. In addition