

less—stretching every local dollar through regional cooperation, obtaining financial grants from a wide array of external sources, and the old fashioned approach of just plain spending every fire department dollar wisely.

Jay is open to new ideas, willing to listen, ready to change, and always ready to cooperate for the larger good. He has been a tireless leader at the regional level on initiatives to improve emergency responder communications, strengthen training, pool fire resources, and enhance safety. He is never concerned with who gets credit for success, only that success is achieved.

How many millions of dollars in property were spared and how many dozens of lives were saved through Jay's efforts may never be known, but Napoleon Township and surrounding communities know he is owed a debt of gratitude that can never be fully repaid.

IN TRIBUTE TO JOHN HOPE FRANKLIN, HISTORIAN AND ACTIVIST

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the life and achievements of John Hope Franklin, and his dedication to, "weave into the fabric of American history enough of the presence of blacks so that the story of the United States could be told adequately and fairly." In March 2009, the passing of John Hope Franklin removed from the world a scholar whose academic excellence was profound in its effect on modern U.S. history. Though he is no longer with us we will not forget the contributions he has made to this country and the world.

John Hope Franklin succeeded in his intention to recognize the presence of African Americans in our history and through his scholarship which was unparalleled in its brilliance and so complete that it was universally acclaimed. He created an awareness of the role of the African American in American history that did not exist prior to his work.

John Hope Franklin was born just fifty years after the Emancipation Proclamation in Rentiesville, Oklahoma on January 2, 1915. He graduated from Fisk University in 1935 and earned a PhD from Harvard University in 1941. From Slavery to Freedom: A History of African-Americans, perhaps his most famous book, traces the African-American journey from the African continent to their struggle for equality in the twentieth century. Through his efforts to explain that African-American history is American history, John Hope Franklin himself became an integral actor in that history not only through his published scholarly papers but through his engagement in the Civil Rights Movement, beginning with the part he played in the landmark case of Brown vs. Board of Education and subsequently as an activist scholar providing an eloquent voice for the Movement.

John Hope Franklin was a true scholar and activist. Through his life he has inspired generations of historians. Today, I am proud to pay tribute to the life of Mr. John Hope Franklin.

ALLEN CAYIR, ELLIS ISLAND MEDAL OF HONOR

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

Mr. BACCA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Allen Cayir, President of Transech Engineers, Inc., who will receive the prestigious Ellis Island Medal of Honor.

Established in 1986 by the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations, the Ellis Island Medal of Honor pays tribute to our nation's immigrant heritage by recognizing those individuals whose achievements have helped to foster respect and understanding for America's ethnic diversity. Since the award began, recipients have included United States Senators, Congressman, Nobel Laureates, military leaders, outstanding athletes, and clergy.

A native of Turkey, Mr. Cayir, or "Ali" as he is known to his friends, arrived in the United States after earning an engineering degree from Istanbul Technical University. In 1989, he founded Transtech Engineers, Inc, which provides professional and technical expertise to governmental agencies, educational institutions and the private development sector.

Through his dedication and hard work, he was able to grow the business to a multi-million dollar enterprise. Notable projects over the years have included the Alhambra Civic Center Public Library and the Renovation of the Historic Santa Fe Depot Train Station in San Bernardino, California.

In addition to his professional accomplishments, Ali is also known for his philanthropic contributions. He has participated in fundraising activities for the Tools for Education organization at California State University San Bernardino, as well as helped with the restoration work at Mission San Juan Capistrano. In 2005, Ali started a matching fund drive for local businesses for Hurricane Katrina victims, and personally matched other funds collected.

Ali is a volunteer teacher at California State University, where he sits on the board of the College of Education and the Tools for Education Project. He was instrumental in raising \$3 million for a new education building at the University.

He is also very active in the Southern California Hispanic community, engaging in many community organizations that provide support services to the Latino population. In 2006, the Embracing Latino Leadership Alliance honored Ali with the "Honorary Latino Citizen" award.

Finally, Ali is a founding Board Member of American Friends of Israel and Turkey, an organization dedicated to improve cooperation and understanding between American, Turkish, and Israeli citizens by supporting cultural, ethnic, and community events.

Throughout his extraordinary career as an engineer and community servant, Ali has always remained a dedicated family man. For the past 31 years, he has been married to his wife Sybil. Together, they have a daughter, who is currently following in her father's footsteps, pursuing a degree in civil engineering.

On behalf of myself, my wife, and my family, I congratulate Mr. Cayir for this tremendous honor. His contributions to his family and his community provide a wonderful example of service for all Americans to follow.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF CLIFTON SPRINGS HOSPITAL & CLINIC AUXILIARY

HON. ERIC J. J. MASSA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

Mr. MASSA. Madam Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the service and achievements of the Clifton Springs Hospital & Clinic Auxiliary. The Hospital Auxiliary celebrated 50 years of community service on January 26, 2009. A reception to commemorate the first meeting of the Auxiliary was held on the same day. During their first year, the Auxiliary ambitiously initiated five projects that were used to better patient care: occupational therapy, hostesses to serve daily coffee/tea, magazine distribution, flower committee and Pinkie Puppets for Easter. The Hospital Auxiliary has since organized numerous fundraising events to pay for projects and equipment that would not have come to fruition otherwise. These important projects have been critical to increasing the comfort of Clifton Springs Hospital patients. For their tireless dedication to patient well-being, it is my pleasure to honor the Clifton Springs Hospital & Clinic Auxiliary.

CONGRATULATING MICHAEL W. DAWSON

HON. MARK H. SCHAUER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

Mr. SCHAUER. Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor and congratulate Michael W. Dawson upon his recognition as Mason of the Year by the Battle Creek Lodge #12 Free and Accepted Masons of Michigan.

Since being raised a Master Mason in 2005, Mike has served as Senior Deacon, Senior Warden and is now serving his second year as Worshipful Master. He also has served on the Finance Committee and is active on the lodge's MDOT Adopt-A-Highway program.

Mike is appreciated by other area lodges for his many visits and willingness to help in their degree work. He is active in his church and serves as a Greeter and Usher. Mike also is a past President of the local Optimist Club where he has presented monthly awards to outstanding middle school students.

Mike and his wife, Elizabeth (Betty), are both retired from the Federal Government, DOD. It is with deep appreciation of the significance of this recognition that I commend Michael W. Dawson upon being named Mason of the Year and wish him well in all his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING CLAIN ROBERTS ON HIS 25TH ANNIVERSARY AS MINISTER OF MUSIC AT IMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH IN PACE, FLORIDA

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an