

April 25th at Marcos de Niza High School in Tempe.

The Relay for Life fundraiser is taking place all over the country, bringing over three million Americans together in the battle against cancer. This event not only raises money for cancer research, but it connects cancer survivors with those who have lost a loved one to the disease with those who want to show their support for the cause. This extensive network is an extremely valuable resource to those whose lives have been affected by cancer.

One in every three people will be diagnosed with cancer in their lifetime. The American Cancer Society is the largest source of non-profit cancer research funding in the United States, and thanks to their efforts, cancer survival rates have consistently increased over the last 15 years. Fundraisers like Relay for Life allow the ACS to continue to contribute to this significant and often life-changing research.

I want to congratulate the Relay for Life on its 25th year as the American Cancer Society's signature fundraiser, and express my continued support for cancer research initiatives. I am proud that my home town of Tempe has the opportunity to host this event.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, and those participating in the fight against cancer.

HONORING THE LUNAR ORBITER
IMAGE RECOVERY PROJECT

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to commend the Lunar Orbiter Image Recovery Project and all those who have contributed their time and effort to ensure that historic images and vital data from the Lunar Orbiter missions of the 1960s are not lost to future generations.

In 1965, Charles Byrne, an engineer with Bellcomm, Inc., had the foresight to propose that NASA record data from the Lunar Orbiter missions onto tape recorders. NASA agreed and the images returned from the Lunar Orbiters were backed up on AMPEX FR-900 tape drives. To date, these images are some of the highest resolution images we have of the Moon. Those images include a high-resolution version of "Earthrise," the first picture of the Earth from the Moon's vantage point. Time Magazine has called this image "the photo of the century." The tapes also contain the first stereo imagery of the Moon's surface. Indeed, these are some of the best images of the Moon ever taken, far superior from those received from the Hubble telescope.

Astonishingly, all of the images stored on the 1,500 14-inch diameter tape reels were nearly destroyed. With its focus turned to the Apollo mission, NASA saw little further use for the tapes. Fortunately, Nancy Evans, co-founder of NASA Planetary Data Systems, convinced her superiors at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory to retain the tapes. Evans also salvaged three refrigerator-sized FR-900 tape drives, which she stored in her own garage for two decades. Evans and Mark Nelson, of Caltech, managed to get a few tape drives

running but their project ultimately folded. NASA turned down her requests for assistance after placing an estimate of \$6 million on the cost to restore the data.

Fortunately, Evans' efforts caught the attention of Dennis Wingo and Keith Cowing, both of whom have been focused on space exploration for many years. They arranged to move the tapes and drives to NASA's Ames Research Center in Mountain View, California. Ames' director, Peter Worden, arranged for them to store the equipment in an old abandoned McDonalds, which they jokingly referred to as "McMoon's." Wingo and Cowing began working with Ken Zin, an army veteran, to get the drives up and running. NASA contributed \$100,000 to the efforts. Cowing invested his own money in the project and the team enlisted the support of local students to recover the images.

There is still a long way to go to complete this project but the public's interest in it is more than just a matter of historical record. The images have the potential to push NASA's climate data back a full decade. And just as the Lunar Orbiter images provided data crucial to safely landing our first astronauts on the moon, those same images will assist the current efforts of the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter mission by providing a baseline for understanding the changes to the Moon between the 1960s and present day.

As with the Lunar Orbiter's images themselves, the efforts of those who have devoted themselves to this project should not go unnoticed or unrecorded. Although space exploration is a vast, complicated enterprise, it ultimately relies on individuals who have the vision and imagination to move us forward. The Lunar Orbiter Image Recovery Project is an example of that kind of vision and imagination, and those who have contributed to the Project and to preceding efforts surely deserve our gratitude.

REMEMBERING THE 10TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE CHINESE COM-
MUNIST PARTY'S (CCP) PERSE-
CUTION OF THE FALUN GONG

HON. THADDEUS G. MCCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. MCCOTTER. Madam Speaker, sadly, 2009 marks the tenth year of the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) persecution of the Falun Gong. After a 10,000 person silent, peaceful protest in front of CCP offices in Beijing, then-General Secretary Jiang Zemin designated the Falun Gong an "evil cult" and in July 1999, began a brutal crackdown on Falun Gong practitioners. Since then, communist Chinese authorities have imprisoned roughly 6,000 Falun Gong practitioners and brutally killed more than 3,000. Following death, communist Chinese authorities have routinely harvested organs from executed Falun Gong prisoners.

Recently, on February 1, 2009, communist Chinese authorities arrested 61-year-old Zhu Lijin from Tianjin for distributing leaflets about the Falun Gong. On February 16, 2009, Ms. Lijin's family was notified she was sentenced to one year and three months imprisonment in Banqiao Women's "Re-education Through

Labor" camp. While the imprisonment of a 61-year-old woman demonstrates the communist Chinese regime's paranoia, her arrest remains a grave injustice and Ms. Lijin must be immediately set free.

RECOGNIZING VOLUNTEERS OF
FAIRFAX COURT APPOINTED
SPECIAL ADVOCATES

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fairfax Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) and the contributions that its volunteers make to our community. Fairfax CASA serves as an advocate for best interest of every abused and neglected child referred by the county juvenile system. CASA volunteers perform critical services to ensure the very best care and home environment for each child. Each year Fairfax CASA honors the most outstanding volunteers for their noble devotion.

Fairfax CASA presented its May Cook "Heart of Gold" Award to John Nelson. Mr. Nelson personifies the truly dedicated CASA volunteer. Over the past six years, he has advocated tirelessly on behalf of 19 children, fully committing his efforts to each child until a safe and permanent home is secured. John digs deep below the surface for information; he often interviews every single person interfacing with a child in order to gain a complete picture of what is going on in the child's world. For this dedication, Fairfax CASA acknowledged his efforts with its highest volunteer honor.

Eight individuals are recognized by Fairfax CASA for their outstanding volunteer commitment based on a variety of quantitative measurements. Those individuals receiving the Special Achievement Award are: Connie Jaiswal, Pam Jones, Mark Knopf, Marie Mader, Frank Murphy, Shirley Readyhough, Bob Steward, and Lisa Walsh.

A number of volunteers with Fairfax CASA are recognized for achieving significant milestones of longevity with the program. The following volunteers were recognized for five years of service: Glenn MacKinnon, Barbara McLaughlin, Terry Nelson, Todd Skipper, and Phyllis Surret; for ten years of service: Nancy Hall; and, for fifteen years of service: Sandy Summers.

The outstanding efforts of the above-mentioned individuals merit special recognition but one must acknowledge the impact of all 165 volunteers who contributed their time to protect and support children through Fairfax CASA in 2008. These volunteers served 484 abused and neglected children including 214 newly referred by the Court. In serving these individuals, volunteers contributed more than 19,000 hours on their court assigned cases including completing 3,004 face-to-face visits and submitting 207 comprehensive and objective reports to the courts.

Madam Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in expressing our gratitude for the efforts of these volunteers and their colleagues at Fairfax Court Appointed Special Advocates. The selfless commitment of these individuals provides enumerable benefits to

Northern Virginia and life-changing services to the children and families being served.

HONORING JOHN HOPE FRANKLIN

SPEECH OF

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 320, a resolution that honors the life and accomplishments of one of the most prolific and well-respected chroniclers of America's torturous racial odyssey, John Hope Franklin who passed away on March 25, 2009, at the age of 94.

Born in 1915, in Rentiesville, Oklahoma, Dr. Franklin came from a humble and equally tragic background. His grandfather had been a slave, and his family lost everything in the Tulsa race riot of 1921. However, it was his background of having faced racial horrors firsthand that brought his academic work to the forefront and cemented his reputation among academics, politicians and civil rights figures as an inestimable historian.

John Hope Franklin attended Fisk University and received his master's and doctoral degrees in history from Harvard University. Shortly after graduating from Harvard, Dr. Franklin became widely known as a pioneer in the field of African American history. He published his first book in 1943 entitled, *The Free Negro in North Carolina, 1790–1860*.

Dr. Franklin enjoyed an academic career full of highlights, fellowships, research publications, and honorary degrees. In fact, Dr. Franklin would publish another 20 books in his lifetime and his research helped future Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall win the landmark ruling in *Brown vs. Board of Education*. It is these accomplishments that helped pave the way both for other Blacks and for the field of African American studies, which began to blossom on American campuses in the 1960s.

I join President Barack Obama in his insightful observation about the impact of Dr. Franklin's life: "Because of the life John Hope Franklin lived, the public service he rendered, and the scholarship that was the mark of his distinguished career, we all have a richer understanding of who we are as Americans and our journey as a people."

In closing, we are reminded that, in addition to his commitment to academics, Dr. Franklin was a dedicated family man. He was married to Aurelia Whittington, his college sweetheart for nearly 60 years before she passed away in 1999.

To their son, John Whittington Franklin, may the special memories that you created together and the many words of wisdom Dr. Franklin gave you be sources of comfort and strength, now and in the days to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 44TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SELMA TO MONTGOMERY CIVIL RIGHTS MARCHES

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I wish to take a moment to recognize March 20 as the 44th anniversary of the Selma to Montgomery marches. These historic marches had a profound affect on the voting rights of African Americans throughout the Nation. It is only fitting that the brave individuals who endured brutal physical violence, mental anguish, and often public humiliation in order to secure their voting rights be recognized by this body.

From the pulpit of Brown Chapel, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., issued a call to action after numerous attempts to enfranchise the black citizens of Selma came to a halt. Over the next several weeks, the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Coalition and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference expanded their operations to register black voters in Selma and the surrounding area. At a voting rights protest on February 18th, Jimmie Lee Jackson was shot while attempting to protect his mother and grandfather. Jackson's death prompted Mr. James Bevels of the SCLC to call for a march from Selma to Montgomery. This demonstration of character and faith took place on March 7, 1965. As the peaceful protestors approached the Edmund Pettus Bridge, they were greeted by the Sheriff Department and their clubs, tear gas and bull whips. We remember this day as Bloody Sunday.

Local photographers and television crews captured the brutality of Bloody Sunday, casting the issue into the national spotlight. Their images of cruelty rallied popular support for the cause of the protestors and set the stage for the second march, which was to occur on March 9th. However, protesters hit a stumbling block, when a restraining order was issued preventing the march. Dr. King led a group of 2500 protesters to the Edmund Pettus Bridge where he held a short prayer; before turning the crowd back, so as to respect the rule of law. It is on March 21, 1965 that we see a successful unimpeded march from Selma to Montgomery Alabama. Under the protection of Federal and State soldiers, FBI agents, and U.S. Marshals, a group of near 8,000 protesters set out from Selma to march for 5 days and 4 nights down Jefferson Davis Highway until they reached the Alabama state capitol. Upon their arrival, the number of protestors swelled to 25,000. This march had a profound impact on public opinion and just 5 months after its conclusion, President Lyndon Johnson signed into law the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

I am confident that there will always be those who boldly defy oppression and rebuke tyranny at all costs. One March day, Dr. Martin Luther King asked, "How long will prejudice blind the visions of men, darken their understanding and, drive bright-eyed wisdom from her sacred throne?" Dr. King answered his question, saying, ". . . Not long, because the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." It is this spirit that we must

cherish. Those who decided to command their own destiny in Selma, Alabama in March of 1965 embody this spirit, and it is my great honor to commemorate their efforts.

CONGRATULATIONS: KIWANIS CLUB OF GORHAM, MAINE

HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Kiwanis Club of Gorham, Maine for acknowledging the courage and sacrifices of the children of Maine's military families through their program entitled "Operation Tribute".

Kiwanis is an organization dedicated to service to children and youth through initiatives intended to improve the quality of life of children in communities around the world. Currently, Kiwanis has over 500,000 members internationally, representing 96 countries with 34 clubs in Maine.

On July 17, 2007, the Kiwanis Club of Gorham, later joined by the Kiwanis Clubs of Maine, launched Operation Holiday Cheer, a program to provide a holiday gift to each participating child of Maine's military families, including, Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Reserves and National Guard. Over 9,000 children in Maine have a parent serving in the military.

In 2007, the Kiwanis acquired, wrapped, and distributed over 8,000 gifts to children in 140 cities and towns throughout the state of Maine. Included with each gift was a handwritten note thanking the child and his or her family which read, "On behalf of the Kiwanis Clubs of Maine and the people of the State of Maine, we would like to offer you this token of our appreciation for your sacrifice. You are the child of a Maine military family and the bravery that you show every day by sharing your parent to help protect our country is being recognized and honored. You should be extremely proud of your service to our country and you should know that we, the Kiwanis and the people of Maine, stand proudly and beside you. We wish you and your family a Happy Holiday Season."

In 2008, the Kiwanis built on the incredible success of Operation Holiday Cheer and expanded the program throughout New England and New York. Their efforts—and once again their success—were astounding. Operation Holiday Cheer raised over \$650,000 and distributed over 23,000 holiday gifts to children of military families.

In January 2009, Operation Holiday Cheer renamed itself "Operation Tribute" to better reflect its mission of providing tribute to the children of military families.

I extend my deepest appreciation to the Kiwanis Clubs of Maine for their thoughtfulness in paying tribute—and bringing cheer—to the lives of thousands of children in Maine, New York and all of New England.