

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF MS. ANTHONETTE PEÑA

### HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2009*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding educator and devoted mentor, Ms. Anthonette Peña. Anthonette teaches eighth grade science at Howell L. Watkins Middle School in Palm Beach Gardens, FL and is indeed among Florida's best and brightest. A standout among her colleagues with a passion for teaching and shaping educational policy, Anthonette has earned an esteemed Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship for a second year in a row.

I welcome Anthonette to Washington and am certain that her time at the office of the Division of Research on Learning in Formal and Informal Settings at the National Science Foundation (NSF) will be an enriching learning experience for all involved. Anthonette hopes to use this fellowship year to raise awareness about the importance of community organizations and government in motivating students to excel in science and mathematics. I laud her commitment to creating more scholarships for students of under-served populations so they, too, may benefit from science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) opportunities.

In her home state of Florida, Anthonette is very active in her local community. In addition to securing several grants for science related programs, she also dedicates her time as a mentor for beginning teachers. Anthonette believes that employing cross-curricular lessons is key to developing well-rounded, critical thinkers. When she organized her school's first Girl Scout troop, she not only incorporated STEM activities, but brought learning opportunities from inside the classroom into the community.

Anthonette has worked hard to earn this distinction, and exemplifies the possibilities that a good education offers. She earned her B.A. in Liberal Studies at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo and her M.S. in Education at Nova Southeastern University. Recognizing the importance of a well-balanced education in today's ever-shrinking world, Anthonette also studied abroad at The University of Valladolid in Spain, while also participating in the Japan Fulbright Memorial Fund Teacher program and the Toyota International Teacher Program in Costa Rica.

Madam Speaker, I truly appreciate the work that Anthonette Peña and Florida's teachers do every single day in preparing our nation's leaders of tomorrow. She has long demonstrated excellence and dedication to teaching worthy of the Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship, and I congratulate her double on this achievement.

IN HONOR OF JOHN TIMOTHY "JACK" MULHALL, SR.

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2009*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of John Timothy "Jack" Mulhall, Sr., for his lifelong dedication to the service of others, and especially for his commitment to helping tens of thousands of people build lives based on a platform of hope, strength and sobriety.

Mr. Mulhall grew up in Cleveland and graduated from Holy Name High School. He joined the Army, and in July, 1944 at a USO dance in Natchez, Mississippi, he met the love of his life, Estelle Jones. They married three months later on October 28th, 1944 at St. Mary Basilica Church in Natchez. He was later deployed overseas, surviving battles in both Germany and France, and suffering severe frostbite while there. Before his honorable discharge in 1946, he achieved the rank of Master Sergeant and was awarded several commendations, including the Presidential Citation, the Good Conduct Medal, and the Overseas Service Medal. He returned to Cleveland and began building a new life with his wife. He played semi-professional baseball during his twenties, worked at Republic Steel and Standard Oil, then General Tire and Rubber. Together, he and Estelle raised eleven children. Married for nearly 65 years, the joy of their lives are their eleven grown children, 31 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

Mr. Mulhall discovered what would become his life's work in 1972, when he began reaching out to help individuals, young and old, break free from the pain of alcohol and chemical addiction. For nearly forty years, he has remained steadfast in his focus. From 1972 to 1991, Mr. Mulhall served as the director of Stella Maris Detox Hospital. He later co-founded the Freedom House, Inc., a sober living facility—established to fill the critical need to provide a sober environment and treatment for any individual, regardless of their ability to pay. He left Freedom House in 1998 to co-establish the Ed Keating Center, Inc., an organization with the same mission and the dedication to providing service as Freedom House. The Ed Keating Center relied entirely on private donations from individuals and corporations, receiving no public assistance. The Center continues to serve the Cleveland community restoring lives, re-connecting families, and giving people, especially those without health insurance or those unable to afford treatment, the tools to live sober, healthy, happy and productive lives. Over the years, Mr. Mulhall positively impacted the lives of more than 60,000 women and men.

Madam Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor of John Timothy "Jack" Mulhall Sr., for his efforts, vision and work creating havens of strength, comfort, hope and healing. Because of Mr. Mulhall's compassion and unwavering focus, institutions like the Ed Keating Center exist as a lifeline, providing vulnerable citizens the treatment they need to end the devastating cycle of addiction. These people become free to live happy, productive, drug and alcohol free lives, which in turn uplifts and strengthens our entire community.

A TRIBUTE TO DEACON WILLIE JAMES

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2009*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Deacon Willie James, an extraordinary community organizer who will be missed by Brooklyn.

Deacon Willie James a native New Yorker, was born in Harlem Hospital on April 28th, 1936. When he was 18 years old he entered the Air Force and served 4 years doing a stint in Maine and Morocco. Of his many accomplishments, he was a very proud member of the 80th Supply Squadron and received the Good Conduct Medal for his demonstration of honor, efficiency and fidelity.

Willie had a true love of music and was an accomplished Baritone. While in the service, he and a few other airmen formed a doo-wop vocal group that covered songs by the Platters as well as other groups. Willie would often say that the group was so good that the people in Morocco actually thought they were the real Platters!

Later in life he would return to Harlem finding work as a shipping clerk. What Willie considered the highest point in his life, was when he met and married his late wife of 41 years, Rosabelle Moyd. It would prove to be a blessed union of love. Shortly after marriage, he joined the New York City Police Department and then in 1967 began his career with the Transport Workers Union (TWU) Local 100 under the Manhattan and Bronx Surface Transit Operating Authority (MABSTOA). He started with a metal-plating company where he was assigned to a unit with workers who were perceived by some to be derelict workers beset by alcohol and laziness.

Never one to look down upon anyone, but seeing the opportunity to help others; he discovered his masterful skill of organizing workers. He told workers if they worked with him he would make a case to management to get them higher wages. After a series of meetings and negotiations with the bosses, he won raises for the workers and developed a promotional ladder for himself.

He rose through the ranks of TWU Local 100 and held a series of positions; MABSTOA DIVISION II Bus Operator, Division II Recording Secretary, Vice Chairman, Chairman at Amsterdam Garage, Executive Board as Director of Education and Training and Financial Secretary Treasurer. As he continued climbing the ladder of TWU he recalled how he continuously endured blatant racism; but in February 1996 he defied the odds to become the first black President of TWU Local 100. He was quoted as saying "The members don't care what color I am as long as I protect their jobs".

In addition to his roles with TWU Local 100 he was Vice President of New York AFL-CIO, Vice President of the New York City Central Labor Council and Vice President of international TWU. He also held the title of Chairman for one of the oldest and largest Credit Unions in the State of New York, the Municipal Credit Union. Willie would further his accomplishments by attaining the post of Executive Board Member of the New York Branch of the NAACP.