

What children eat and drink during school hours constitutes as much as 40 percent of their daily nutrient intake. Properly managed, the school environment can be instrumental in fostering healthful eating habits among our children.

Researchers from Rice University and the University of Houston noted in the journal *Health Affairs in March* that increasing participation in federal nutrition programs “may be the most effective tool to use in combating obesity in poor children.”

As a nation, we need to take the next step. Our school districts need the resources to offer our children more vegetables, fruits and whole grains as well as products with less sugar, sodium, fat and calories in school cafeterias and vending machines. Yes, this will mean increasing funding for child nutrition programs. But with our nation spending at least \$75 billion a year on medical expenses related to obesity, we think these steps will pay off over the long term.

We urge Congress to pass a robust child nutrition bill that would:

Get the junk food and remaining high-calorie beverages out of our schools by adopting new standards, based on the latest research, for foods and drinks sold or served in our schools. Standards for school meals are 15 years old. Clearly, they need to be upgraded.

Support the administration’s proposal of an increase of \$1 billion per year for 10 years for child nutrition programs that would improve nutrition standards, upgrade the quality of meals served in schools and enable more children to have access to these programs.

Develop research-based strategies, implemented through our schools, that help parents and children adopt healthier lifelong eating and exercise habits.

Military concerns about the fitness of our children are not new. When the National School Lunch Act was first passed in 1946, it was seen as a matter of national security. Many of our military leaders recognized that poor nutrition was a significant factor reducing the pool of qualified candidates for service.

Our country is facing another serious health crisis. Obesity rates threaten the overall health of America and the future strength of our military. We must act, as we did after World War II, to ensure that our children can one day defend our country, if need be.

RECOGNIZING HENRY “HANK” PARKER AND HIS HISTORIC CAREER OF PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2010

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor a lifetime of public service to the people of Connecticut by a lifelong friend to me, to my family, and to the families of our State: Henry E “Hank” Parker.

Born one of seven children in Baltimore, Hank first moved to Connecticut after serving two years in the Army, obtaining a degree from the Hampton Institute in Virginia, and turning down an offer to play with the Harlem Globetrotters. Maryland and Harlem’s loss was Connecticut’s gain. For the next fifty years, Hank would serve our State ably as an educator, activist, public official and powerful crusader for both social change and fiscal responsibility.

Upon receiving his MS in Education from Southern Connecticut State College, Hank served as Project Director at the First Community School in my hometown and soon became chairman of the New Haven Black Coalition in 1962. Amid the social and political tumult of the ensuing decade, he would become deeply involved in local and community politics, and become known throughout Connecticut as an influential, passionate, and exceptionally keen advocate for social justice.

In 1974, Hank was elected Connecticut State Treasurer, becoming not only just the second African-American to hold the position but the sole fiduciary of the State’s then \$3.3 billion pension fund. Among his achievements during his tenure, Hank created Yankee Mac, a \$450 million home mortgage program for the State that emphasized opportunities for urban renewal. He chaired the Governor’s Task Force on South Africa investment policies that yielded one of the first model anti-apartheid bills in America. And he chaired the 1977 State Citizen’s Committee that recognized Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s birthday as a State holiday, seven years before Congress followed suit.

After stepping down in 1986—making him the longest-serving Connecticut State Treasurer in over 150 years—Hank became Senior Vice-President of Atlanta/Sosnoff Capital Corporation. In addition, he continued both his advocacy and community service efforts as a member of many important Boards, and as a lifelong member of the NAACP.

Endorsed by such national figures as Paul Newman and Muhammad Ali over the course of a career of good works, Hank has made a profound transformative impact on our State. For almost my entire life, he and his wife of over fifty years, former State Representative Janette Johnson Parker, have been a veritable institution in New Haven, and in my neighborhood of Wooster Square. I thank Hank, Jan, and their children Curtis and Janet for their service to our Connecticut community, and for their years of friendship to my family. Hank, Jan, Curtis, and Janet, congratulations and thank you to you all.

IN HONOR OF MRS. JOYCE E. PERRY

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2010

Mr. Castle. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart but great honor that I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Mrs. Joyce E. Perry. Joyce Perry was a woman who put her faith to work by mentoring young people in her community as a coach and as a teacher. A gifted athlete, devoted educator, and loving wife and mother, Joyce greatly advanced the sport of women’s basketball in the state of Delaware.

A native of Milford, Delaware, Joyce was an outstanding student athlete at the University of Delaware. Joyce was a trailblazer—co-captaining UD’s first women’s basketball teams and lettering on their first tennis and field hockey teams. She played a major role in the growth of the university’s Athletic Program and is revered as one of its most successful coaches.

Mrs. Perry began her college coaching career as head women’s basketball coach at Wesley College in Dover, Delaware, but soon returned to her alma mater by becoming UD’s second women’s basketball head coach in 1978. Joyce led the Lady Blue Hens for 18 seasons, the longest women’s basketball tenure in the school’s history. Her 266 career victories remain a UD career record for basketball—in both the men’s and women’s programs.

During Joyce’s tenure, the Lady Blue Hens had a record of 266–212, including six-straight winning seasons from 1987 to 1993, three 20-win campaigns, six East Coast Conference (ECC) regular season titles, and three straight ECC Tournament titles. She coached nine all-conference selections, three conference players of the year, and one conference rookie of the year. Her players earned numerous academic awards, and Mrs. Perry was twice named ECC Coach of the Year, once in 1984 (22–4) and again in 1989 (23–6). In 2004, Joyce was inducted into the University of Delaware Athletics Hall of Fame.

I am honored today to recognize Mrs. Joyce E. Perry—a woman of great compassion and of fierce competitive spirit. She will be greatly missed; as a wife to husband Gregg, a former standout football player and current football coach at the University of Delaware, as a mother to sons Rhett and Trey, and as a Delaware athlete, coach, and mentor. Joyce’s influence and contributions have reached far and wide, both within and beyond our state; her mark is indelible.

HAITI ECONOMIC LIFT PROGRAM
ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 5, 2010

Ms. Schakowsky. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to express my strong support for H.R. 5160, the Haiti Economic Lift Program Act of 2010. I would like to thank my colleagues Congressmen Rangel, Levin, and Camp for introducing this important bipartisan legislation, which will expand trade preferences to Haiti in the wake of January’s devastating earthquake.

In the immediate aftermath of the January 12 earthquake, we saw images of unimaginable devastation from Haiti, followed by an unprecedented outpouring of international goodwill. Nearly five months after the earthquake, the situation in Haiti remains extremely critical. Thousands of people remain displaced from their homes and livelihoods.

I traveled to Port au Prince in early March, and I was inspired by the hope and courage of the Haitian people, even in the face of unimaginable loss. Even as we continue to work to ensure that medical care, shelter, and sanitation supplies reach Haitians affected by the earthquake, we must also turn our attention to Haiti’s future, and help Haitians rebuild a stronger country.

January’s earthquake not only damaged individual livelihoods, it demolished Haiti’s already precarious economy. This legislation is an important first step toward putting Haiti

back on the road toward economic development. By providing incentives for trade and investment in Haiti's textile sector, this legislation will help to create jobs for Haitians struggling to recover from the earthquake.

I am very grateful to the Committee on Ways and Means for consulting with the domestic industry, listening to the concerns of American manufacturers, and crafting this bill so that it will benefit workers both in Haiti and in the United States. In addition, this bill continues the International Labor Organization's monitoring program, ensuring that the factories benefitting from U.S. trade preferences respect the fundamental rights of their workers.

Mr. Speaker, Haiti faces a long road ahead. On January 11, 2010, Haiti was already the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere; a day later, the nation was left to cope with horrific devastation, loss of life, and trauma.

This bill is one way we can help Haitians rebuild their country and grow their economy. I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, on May 4, 2010, I was delayed due to circumstances beyond my control after participating in a hearing of the Committee on Agriculture in Cheyenne, WY. Unfortunately I was not present to vote on H. Res. 1307, H. Res. 1213, and H. Res. 1132.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all three votes.

NATIONAL HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2010

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the month of May as National Huntington's Disease Awareness month.

As some of you may know, Huntington's Disease is a genetic, neurodegenerative disease that causes total physical and mental deterioration over a 10 to 25 year period.

It is a rare disease, affecting 30,000 Americans and places another 200,000 at risk of inheriting it from an affected parent. Because it is a genetic disorder, Huntington's Disease profoundly affects the lives of entire families—emotionally, socially and financially.

This devastating disease has no treatment or cure and slowly diminishes an individual's ability to walk, talk, and to reason. Eventually, every person with Huntington's Disease becomes totally dependent upon others for care.

In my home State of California there are more than 117,000 individuals impacted by Huntington's Disease.

Last year, Congressman BILBRAY and I introduced H.R. 678, the Huntington's Disease Parity Act of 2009.

This legislation does two things. First, it directs the Social Security Administration to re-

verse and update the medical criteria for determining disability benefits for people with HD.

The second part of the legislation removes the 2-year waiting period before receiving Medicare benefits. This allows individuals to receive the treatment and care they desperately need.

In honor of National Huntington's Disease Awareness Month, I urge my fellow members of Congress to support H.R. 678 and help families across the Nation receive the critical benefits they need and deserve.

RECOGNIZING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHRISTIAN RELIEF SERVICES CHARITIES

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2010

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Christian Relief Services Charities for their 25 years of making a difference in the world to assist in the alleviation of human suffering, misery, disability, and pain by advancing and improving the welfare of all persons and the international community while preserving native cultures, heritages, customs and beliefs.

Christian Relief Services, celebrating their 25th anniversary, oversees and guides a family of nonprofits. It is considered to be among the top charities in the country and is one of the original accredited charities allowed to display the Better Business Bureau Charity Seal on all of its publications.

Americans Helping Americans builds and strengthens American Communities. It provides vital transitional housing to the homeless and victims of domestic violence in Virginia, and supports programs assisting the needy in a number of states, primarily in Appalachia, with emergency assistance, food, new shoes, blankets, winter coats, home repair, school supplies and efforts of self-sufficiency, assisting approximately 100,000 individuals. It provides affordable housing assistance to low and very low income working families located in Arizona, Kansas, Texas, Ohio and Virginia, and permanent housing for the homeless and chronically mentally ill adults in three group homes that the organization owns, located in Fairfax County.

Running Strong for American Indian Youth and the Cheyenne River Youth Project, provide financial, technical and administrative support to their many programs assisting American Indian families across the nation on and off reservations. They help fund water development, food pantries, youth enrichment programs, shelter, utilities assistance, emergency assistance, food, new shoes, winter coats, home repair, school supplies and supports efforts at self-sufficiency, promoting positive change to 200,000 individuals.

Bread and Water for Africa works with community-based grassroots organizations in Africa to provide basic necessities such as food, water, shelter, medical care, education and vocational training, lifting the despairing, wiping away sparse tears of the children, feeding the malnourished, changing sorrow into hope and benefiting hundreds of communities and many hundreds of thousands of people throughout Africa.

Christian Relief Services Charities has always been there with emergency assistance when the need is the greatest. Recently, they met the huge challenge of the earthquake in Haiti by quickly donating life-saving relief supplies. At a time of economic instability, it is comforting to know that their services serve the 8th Congressional District and beyond.

I am proud to salute the efforts of the staff, volunteers and the board of directors of Christian Relief Services Charities for their outstanding charitable work for a quarter of a century.

HONORING MRS. RAMONA HATFIELD

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2010

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Ramona Hatfield, a finalist for the 2010 Military Spouse of the Year Award by Military Spouse Magazine. She has gone above and beyond the call of duty to support her fellow military families and deserves our utmost gratitude and respect.

Ramona, who lives in Curtis Bay, worked resiliently to create a spouse club to support the morale and welfare of the Coasties in the Greater Baltimore Area, turning an idea and a handful of volunteers into a program that has benefitted thousands of families. Her work has provided emergent day care for families in crisis, holiday parties for families away from home and scholarships for both spouses and dependent children. Admired and trusted by military commanders, Ramona's colleagues consider her a "go-to" spouse for the things that matter most.

Ramona is instrumental in organizing special care for families in times of crisis. She is working to create a first-of-its-kind facility to provide affordable and reliable childcare for single or dual military families. In addition to coordinating the spouse and dependent scholarships each year, she operates a pantry that has provided free infant and toddler items to 1,500 military families to date.

Ramona's efforts are all the more remarkable considering her responsibilities at home. While caring for her mother, mother-in-law and her own household, Ramona volunteers at her church as a youth minister, belongs to the spouse organization, works full-time and plays an active role in her daughter's high school activities. Her colleagues say that Ramona puts her own needs aside to tend to the needs of others and lives each day to its fullest. Her friends and colleagues describe Ramona as a "ray of sunshine," "trustworthy" and "dependable." She exemplifies the Greater Baltimore Area's Coast Guard Spouse Association motto: unconditional love and support.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Ramona Hatfield. Her compassion and dedication to the Coast Guard community and her family is an inspiration to us all. It is with great pride that I congratulate Ramona Hatfield on her exemplary service to her community and our country.