

largest environmental educational event and the longest running Earth Day celebration in the nation. I stand in recognition of the staff and volunteers of the Earth Day Coalition for all their effort and dedication in creating such an innovative, exciting and educational event for the Greater Cleveland community to enjoy. This year, EarthFest's theme is "Climate Change Solutions." Over 175 environmental exhibits are expected from environmental and community organizations, government entities and businesses. EarthFest is just one of Earth Day Coalition's many nationally-recognized programs and promises once again to be a significant aspect of the world celebration of Earth Day.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of the staff, volunteers, and members of the Earth Day Coalition as we celebrate EarthFest 2011 on April 17, 2011. EarthFest 2011 promises to educate, inspire and motivate all of us to join together as a community and work toward a more healthy Earth for future generations.

HONORING DR. JOSÉ RIZAL

### HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 15, 2011*

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of Dr. José Rizal in celebration of the 150th anniversary of his birth on June 19, 1861. His writings and dedication to his country continue to inspire Filipinos, who widely regard him as the national hero of the Philippines. His allegiance to his homeland resonates with Filipino-Americans, and stirs a renewed patriotism in the hearts of all Americans.

A doctor, philosopher, historian, and artist, Dr. Rizal is best known for his influential writings during the Philippine struggle for independence. Born in the Philippine province of Laguna in 1861, he traveled throughout the world for his studies and medical practice, earning degrees from universities in the Philippines and Europe. While studying in Spain in 1887, he wrote two novels, *Noli Me Tangere* and its sequel *El Filibusterismo*, depicting the Filipinos' devotion to their country and yearning for freedom from colonial rule. These works inspired the struggle for independence in the Philippines but also placed Rizal's life in danger of persecution by the ruling government.

Eager to be of service to his country's cause, Dr. Rizal returned to the Philippines in 1892. Upon his return, he was exiled to the South of the Philippines. Despite great struggles, he sought to improve the lives of those around him by building a medical clinic, conducting religious classes, and teaching agricultural practices. Four years later, as the Philippine Revolution began to strengthen, he was convicted of inciting the rebellion with his writings and was sentenced to death. On the eve of his execution, Dr. Rizal wrote *Mi Ultimo adiós*, a poem bidding farewell to his beloved country, attesting to his dedication to seeking a free and independent country.

Dr. Rizal's legacy lives on in his writings, and Filipinos throughout the world remember him as the idealistic force behind their struggle for independence. He fought for his country

not with the sword, but with the peaceful power of his ideas.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. José Rizal. We remember his legacy in honor of the Filipino-Americans in our communities. May his legacy continue to instill in all of us a renewed dedication to serving our country.

TRIBUTE TO TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE SENFRONIA THOMPSON

### HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 15, 2011*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a friend of mine, a maverick, a community visionary, a leader, and a true Texan and recognize the achievements and outstanding service of a very special person, Senfronia Thompson.

Senfronia will be "roasted" by the Texas Southern University and Governor Rick Perry, Speaker Joe Straus, Senators Rodney Ellis and John Whitmire, Representative Sylvester Turner, former Representative Debra Danburg, former Representative Mark Stiles and others to raise funds for a wonderful cause, the Texas Legislative Internship Program (TLIP) administered by The Mickey Leland Center at the University. The event will be held at the Mickey Leland Center at Texas Southern University on April 11, 2011, at the University of Texas Alumni Center.

The TLIP is a premier internship program that introduces the best and brightest of our Texas youth to the innerworkings of government and the true value of public service. The program, developed in 1990, is sponsored by Senator Rodney Ellis. Since its inception, more than 400 students accepted into the TLIP program have interned with members of the Texas Legislature, the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. This year, 63 interns are working in and around the Texas State Capitol during the current legislative session.

In 1973, Senfronia Thompson was elected to the Texas State House of Representatives from Houston. She has continued to serve her constituents in honor ever since. She now ranks as the longest-serving woman and the longest-serving African-American in Texas State legislature history.

Representative Thompson authored and passed Texas' first alimony law, the James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Act, laws prohibiting racial profiling, the state minimum wage, the Durable Powers of Attorney Act, the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act, the Sexual Assault Program Fund, the Model School Records Flagging Act, the Uniform Child Custody and Jurisdiction Enforcement Act, contraceptive parity, prohibiting small print in cell phone ads, and scores of other reforms benefiting women, children and the elderly.

The former chair of one of the Legislature's most active committees, Judicial Affairs, Representative Thompson pushed through major reforms in child support enforcement, simplified probate proceedings, and complete overhauls of statutes dealing with statutory courts and municipal courts. Representative

Thompson continues to be among the most successful House members in passing bills into laws.

Representative Thompson has been in the forefront of every major campaign against discrimination in the last three decades. Ms. Thompson has among the highest ranks of any legislator for her voting record on issues of concern to women, minorities, labor, consumers, reform advocates, domestic violence victims, the elderly, teachers and civil libertarians. Among many other honors, she was named "Woman of the Year" by bipartisan Texas Women's Political Caucus in 1995.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to call Senfronia Thompson my friend and my colleague in public service. I had the pleasure of serving beside Senfronia Thompson, a champion of civic participation, when we were both freshman legislators together in 1973. It was an honor to serve with her then and it is an honor for me to be able to recognize her today. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and thanking Representative Thompson for her extraordinary service to Texas and our country.

HONORING UNIVERSITY OF PACIFIC McGEORGE SCHOOL OF LAW TEAM

### HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 15, 2011*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to again acknowledge and honor a University of Pacific McGeorge School of Law team that participated at the American Bar Association National Appellate Advocacy 34th annual competition held April 7-9, 2011, at the U.S. District Courthouse for the Northern District of Illinois in Chicago.

The team of Caitlin Urie Christian, '11, Jill Larrabee, '12, and Leo Moniz, '12, advanced to the round of 16 and took ninth place. They also won the Best Brief Award; an outstanding accomplishment in its own right, considering over two hundred teams participated in the competition.

The competition involved two issues this year: whether a pre-enforcement challenge under the First Amendment is ripe for judicial review and whether a state statute, passed as a means to tackle a crystal methamphetamine epidemic, is constitutional under the Supreme Court's commercial speech jurisprudence.

They were coached by Professors Ed Telfeyan, '75, and Erich Shiners, '06, and assisted by Andrea Dupray, '11, a member of the 2009-2010 Moot Court Honors Board.

Previously the winners of a similar award in the San Francisco regional, this time the writing of Christian, Larrabee and Moniz faced an entire new battery of graders who read all 24 briefs for the finals in Chicago. To put the award in perspective, their work was judged the best out of 217 teams competing nationally.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the students and coaches from McGeorge School of Law on their outstanding performance at the 2011 regional competition in San Francisco and at the national finals in Chicago. I'm pleased to honor their hard work and dedication to the study of the law.

IN HONOR OF THE ASSOCIATION OF INDIAN PHYSICIANS OF NORTHERN OHIO

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 15, 2011*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Association of Indian Physicians of Northern Ohio.

The Association of Indian Physicians of Northern Ohio (AIPNO) is a non-profit organization that was founded in 1983, with the mission of using its united resources and knowledge for the welfare and healthier living of the community that they serve. The organization hosts bi-annual Health-Fairs where member physicians volunteer their time and skills to those of the community free of charge. Their continued service to both the nation and the state of Ohio exemplify responsibility and civic virtue.

In addition to their health fairs, the Association of Indian Physicians of Northern Ohio is a supporter of medical camps in India, such as the Medical and Surgical Camp of Bidada Sarvodaya Trust in Kachchh. These camps provide medical and surgical treatment to over 1200 villages and impoverished areas.

The Association of Indian Physicians of Northern Ohio runs various continuing education and learning programs for its members and students. The organization also has its own medical journal, AIPNO Pulse, and provides medical advice to residents of Northern Ohio through their contributions to Lotus, a community publication.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor of the Association of Indian Physicians of Northern Ohio, which works to unite Indian physicians in order to achieve their mission of providing their combined skills and knowledge for the betterment of Ohio and service to the community.

TRIBUTE TO TELACU FOR ITS COMMITMENT TO THE ADVANCEMENT AND EMPOWERMENT OF LATINOS

**HON. JOE BACA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 15, 2011*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today and ask Congress to recognize May 20th as TELACU Scholars Day.

The TELACU Education Foundation was established in 1983 to respond to crisis-level dropout rates for Latino Students and has since grown into the largest community and economic development corporation in the United States. TELACU is a pioneering institution committed to service, empowerment, advancement and the creation of self-sufficiency within the Latino community.

To address the distinct struggles many Latino youth face, TELACU established the LINC TELACU Education Foundation (LTEF). For upwards of two decades, the Education Foundation has been working towards removing the formidable barriers that could prevent Latino youth from achieving academic success

and providing them with professional and academic role models. I am proud of the way the LINC TELACU Education Foundation has contributed to the development of our future Latino leaders.

The TELACU Education Foundation realized that there is no more vital asset in any community than its human capital and began their efforts to reverse these trends. For instance, The LINC TELACU Scholarship Program is an exemplary program that helps students realize their dream of a college education by providing scholarships and supplemental support.

Although TELACU understands that financial assistance is a vital component for college students to achieve academic success, they also recognize the underlying challenges many young adults face including socioeconomic factors, family responsibilities, cultural identity, and financial solvency. Students who are the first member of their families to pursue a college degree often must make their own academic support system in order to achieve their dreams. TELACU understands these challenges.

The LINC TELACU Scholarship Program provides its youth not only with monetary assistance, but with the counseling, leadership training, and time management training necessary to help students achieve their dreams.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor TELACU, the LINC TELACU Education Foundation and for Scholarship programs like this one, for believing in the dream of higher education for all of America's next generation of leaders. I extend my congratulations to the TELACU scholars and the people who make their dreams a reality as they celebrate the 28th Annual TELACU Education Foundation Scholarship Awards Dinner, Building the Dream, on Friday May 20th, 2011.

ARMENIA REMEMBRANCE DAY

**HON. DOUG LAMBORN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 15, 2011*

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, on April 24, 2011, the world will commemorate Armenian Remembrance Day and remember the one-and-a-half million Armenians that endured unspeakable suffering and loss at the hand of the Ottoman Empire during World War I.

In addition to the loss of so many Armenian lives, the twentieth century also bore witness to the loss of six-million Jews and four-hundred thousand other persons deemed "non-desirable" by the Nazis, the loss of millions of lives in Russia and in China by communist tyrannies, and modern day horrors in Cambodia, Rwanda, and Darfur. All too often, we have not learned from past genocides. As the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states "No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment" and that "Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person."

Though nothing changes the fact that mass killings and unspeakable acts of brutality occurred, today I wish to learn from the past to better bring about hope for a brighter, more peaceful future and reconciliation of the people of Armenia and Turkey.

Only with a thorough examination of history and open acknowledgement of the past will

the plight of the Armenians be fully understood.

As we continue confronting atrocities taking place today, and seek to prevent them from occurring in the future, we must also be resolute in acknowledging genocides of the past.

A TRIBUTE TO SARAH SAVAGE RAYMOND

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 15, 2011*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sarah Savage Raymond.

Sarah Savage Raymond has been a resident of Brooklyn since 1927, when, at the age of 22, she moved from her home in Baltimore. During her more than 80 years in Brooklyn and the Tenth Congressional district, Mrs. Raymond has been a positive example for all and a valued member of her community.

Mrs. Sarah Savage Raymond has been involved with the First AME Zion Church, originally the Fleet Street Church, since she first moved to New York and remains an active participant. The First AME Zion Church is where Sarah met and married her husband, Mr. Robert Raymond and where she became involved in her adopted community, becoming a member in the lodge and on the committee visiting the sick.

Through more than a century of life, Mrs. Raymond has kept her indomitable spirit and remains alert and energetic. Although Mrs. Raymond has no biological children, she has three very close relatives that are extremely supportive of her who live in the Bronx, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. She also has five nieces and nephews that reside in Maryland that also keep in touch with her. Mrs. Sarah Savage Raymond has seen and heard what most of us could only read in history books and she is always willing to share her experiences with those who are interested in listening.

Mrs. Raymond says that she is "thankful" to be one hundred six years of age because she did not expect to live this long. She adds, "I appreciate every year and did the best that I could." It is precisely this humble and exemplary attitude that has preserved Mrs. Raymond in health and happiness for so long.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Mrs. Raymond for her extraordinary accomplishments and her spirit which reflect the best our nation has to offer.

RECOGNIZING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST FLIGHT OF THE SPACE SHUTTLE

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 15, 2011*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Chairman RALPH HALL joins me as I rise today to recognize this week's 30th anniversary of the first flight of the Space Shuttle. On April 12, 1981, Space Shuttle *Columbia* was successfully launched from the Kennedy Space Center's Launch Pad 39A at