

Stuyvesant Restoration Corp. A homeowner in east New York since 1969, Lois has been involved in numerous civic activities within the Community Board 5 area. Her efforts have supported senior citizens, block associations, the Democratic Club of East New York and Union 1180.

Ms. McDaniel is actively involved in food drives for City Harvest's food distribution program for the homeless, and is also involved in numerous other charitable efforts. I am proud to acknowledge her efforts to serve the people of Brooklyn.

IN SUPPORT OF BLACK HISTORY
MONTH

HON. MARTIN OLAV SABO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 28, 1996

Mr. SABO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for Black History Month. This year, we are celebrating African-American women of yesterday, today, and tomorrow. In Minnesota, we are fortunate to have a fine tradition of civic leaders who have dedicated their lives to enriching the lives of others through their selfless contributions. Today, I'd like to recognize three, among many, of the African-American women in Minnesota who have become shining role models for us all.

In this brief history, the State of Minnesota has had many gifted leaders who were also African-American women. In 1923, Ethel Ray Nance (1899–1992) was the first black woman hired by the Minnesota Legislature and was the first black policewoman in Minnesota. During her long life, Ms. Nance was an activist in several civil rights organizations, including the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People [NAACP]. She also served as the director of research for the National Urban League.

In more recent years, Nellie Stone Johnson, who celebrated her 90th birthday in December, 1995, has been one of the most outspoken and thoughtful leaders in Minnesota's African-American community. Generations of Minnesotans owe Nellie a great deal for her dedication to community-building, to civil rights, and to economic fairness. In the tradition of Hubert Humphrey and Walter Mondale, Nellie Stone Johnson has been rock solid in her commitment to the most vulnerable in our society.

Finally, representing a new generation of African-American women leaders, Minneapolis Mayor Sharon Sayles Belton, elected in 1993, is the first African-American and the first female mayor of Minneapolis. Mayor Sayles Belton began her public service career immediately after college—when as a civil rights worker she traveled to Jackson, MS, to register voters. She later became the first African-American president of the Minneapolis City Council. As mayor, she has continued her efforts to strengthen families and children by focusing on education, crime prevention, and the economic development of neighborhoods in the city.

I am proud to say that these women, and many other African-Americans, have had an important impact on my life and the lives of many Minnesotans. I wish to thank them for

their service to the community, the women's movement, and the United States of America. All citizens should be grateful for their accomplishments and endeavors. Mr. Speaker, as we observe Black History Month, I commend Ethel Ray Nance, Nellie Stone Johnson, Mayor Sayles Belton, and all African-Americans for their contributions to our society.

TRIBUTE TO MERLE BAGLEY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 28, 1996

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize Mrs. Merle Bagley for her contribution to the Brooklyn community. Mrs. Bagley migrated to New York from North Carolina in the 1960's. Her life's work has revolved around her dedication to children, not only her own, but society's children. She has successfully raised 10 children, a major accomplishment in itself. But equally important is the community work she has done on behalf of the Bedford-Stuyvesant Youth and Action Board, where she serves as the vice president of the Pacific Street Block Association, and is a member of the Earnestine Grena Senior Citizen Center.

Mrs. Bagley has been involved in community work since her retirement, and has lived in the East New York section of Brooklyn since 1973. She is active in the Linden Houses Tenant Association, and is an appointed member of Planning Board 5 and Area Policy Board 5. Merle Bagley's efforts have enriched the community she lives in and loves, and I am pleased to bring her to the attention of my colleagues.

51ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE FLAG
RAISING ON MOUNT SURIBACHI

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 28, 1996

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, last week our Nation commemorated one of the most significant events in our history. The capture of Iwo Jima was not only one of the bloodiest military confrontations in which our Nation was ever involved, but it was also one of the most necessary. This barren island was crucial to ensure the success of our bombing missions into the heart of the Japanese Empire, and was key to the military maneuvers which led to our victory in the Pacific theater of World War II.

Most historians agree that the photograph of six marines raising the American flag on top of Mount Suribachi is the most duplicated photograph ever taken. To this day, no American can remain unmoved by the simple message of heroism and grim determination which that photograph so eloquently portrayed.

Last week, the New York Vets organization conducted solemn ceremonies in Rockland County, NY, commemorating the 51st anniversary of that significant event. I was honored to have been asked to share my thoughts at this ceremony, and would like to share them with our colleagues at this time:

Thank you for inviting me to join with you on this solemn occasion.

Back in 1936, President Roosevelt Franklin D. Roosevelt, in his acceptance speech for his second nomination for President, told his audience that our generation "has a rendezvous with destiny." President Roosevelt foresaw the war clouds accumulating throughout the world, and knew what we would be facing. And, he was correct in his analysis of the burdens with which our generation so uniquely had to cope.

When you think about it, no generation in recorded history was saddled with responsibilities as awesome as those with which we had to grapple. Not only did our generation have to endure the depths of the Great Depression—the greatest economic crisis of all time—but it also fell to our watch to fight World War II, the most stupendous and complex conflict in all of history before or since. World War II was the only war in our Nation's history fought on two major and widely diverse fronts: the European theater and the Pacific. Very few nations ever had successfully tackled the massive burden of a two front war and emerged victorious.

It is befitting that we meet today to commemorate what symbolized that war for all people. The capture of Iwo Jima was a pivotal event in our efforts. I can personally attest that, on the B-29 bombing missions over Japan in which I participated, we thanked God that Iwo Jima was in our hands, for several of our missions would not have returned had we not had Iwo Jima available for emergency landings.

It is important that we bring to mind the photograph of the flag raising on Mount Suribachi, which most historians contend is the most frequently reproduced photograph in all history. It is important because it symbolized for the whole world the burdens and the sacrifice which our generation had to make.

Now, despite all of the trials and tribulations of our generation's life time, we are being called upon one last time for one last sacrifice. We have one last important responsibility to perform for all humankind.

Today the world is replete with revisionist historians: people who contend they know more than we do about what we lived through, what we witnessed, and what we sacrificed. We have lived to witness the phenomenon of our own Smithsonian Institution attempting to assemble a display which inform people that we, the United States, were the aggressors in our war against Japan, and that we were motivated solely by racial considerations. The Smithsonian Museum went so far as to assemble a display which, believe it or not, portrayed the sufferings of the Japanese people, without once mentioning the cruel Bataan death march, or the inhumanity of Japan's POW camps, or their racial degradation and enslavement of the Asian and Pacific peoples who Japan had temporarily conquered. It did not portray the cruelty of the Japanese Government, which demanded not just obedience from their people, but actual worship. It did not tell of the dreaded Kamikaze pilots, whose eagerness for self-sacrifice struck terror into the hearts of many brave Americans.

It is only through the strong protests of many of our own generation that this display was never opened to the public, but that victory was only one battle. We have much further to go to win the war.

We have been reading almost daily of commentators and self-appointed historians who contend that the Holocaust never took place. In fact, the lack of knowledge of generations