

has conducted the All North Jersey Junior High Jazz Ensemble, the Rockland County (New York) All County Honor Band and the Bergen County All County Honor Band. He served as the associate director of the All American High School Band, which performed at the 1992 Democratic National Convention in New York.

Mr. Haas's talent is well recognized by his peers. Ridgewood High School Principal Dr. John Mucciolo said, "There is no more creative, intelligent, and caring adult working with our young people." Murray Colosimo, Supervisor of Music for the Ridgewood Public Schools, called him "one of our most deserving teachers." David S. Marks, Director of Bands at nearby Midland Park High School, said, "We are proud that Mr. Haas is a member of our community."

Early this year, Mr. Haas was selected one of 36 teachers from across the nation to be honored in this year's "American Teacher Awards," sponsored by the Walt Disney Company. He was further honored at that event when fellow teachers and a 70-member panel of judges chose him as Outstanding Performing Arts Teacher of the Year.

Mr. Haas is a 1987 graduate of Syracuse University and holds a master's degree in music education from Columbia University. He taught one year at John Glenn High School in East Northport, New York, before coming to Ridgewood. A saxophonist, he has performed with Bob Hope, Vanessa Williams and other stars.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our congratulations to Mr. Haas. As a former teacher, I truly admire and respect such a wonderful and dedicated educator. Teachers know that our chief goal is to touch the lives of our students. Mr. Haas has done that time and time again. This award is very well deserved.

TRIBUTE TO JACK AND JILL OF
AMERICA, INC.

HON. JOSÉ SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 17, 1998

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Jack and Jill of America, Inc. for 60 years of service to the African-American community and the Nation.

Jack and Jill America, Inc. will hold its Thirty-Third Biennial National Convention in New York City on July 19–26, 1998. The theme for this convention is "Building Bridges to the New Millennium."

Mr. Speaker, Jack and Jill of America, Inc. was founded in 1938 by Marion Stubbs Thomas, who understood the need to create a social club for African-American children who were precluded, under Jim Crow laws, from participating in the social and recreational activities available to children during those times. It all began when she invited 20 women to a meeting in her Philadelphia home.

From the initial 20 families, today the organization has expanded into a national and international force with 40,000 mothers, fathers, and children in 220 chapters across the United States and in the Republic of Germany. With the expansion of the organization, the focus has broadened from simply addressing

socialization to support for children's rights issues, education and community service.

Each chapter annually undertakes to design and implement a meaningful project which will meet the needs of the community in which they reside. This support is given both through economic funding, as a result of fundraisers and through direct service projects such as tutoring, adopting foster homes and hospices and sending care packages to African nations.

Mr. Speaker, Jack and Jill's National President, Sheryl Benning Thomas, strongly believes that it must continue to expand and she has worked with fervor during her tenure to open the door to new interest groups and to take on the challenge of raising the level of consciousness of the membership on issues of children's rights and needs for building awareness of the health needs among African-Americans.

Jack and Jill's advocacy for children is being supported by Walt Disney World through the presence of Tom Flewelyn, Director of Minority Diversity, who will attend the convention on Thursday, July 25, 1998 accompanied by Mickey and Minnie Mouse dressed in Kente Cloth to acknowledge the legacy and pride of this African-American organization.

The keynote speaker for Saturday night's banquet will be John H. Johnson, President and CEO of Johnson Publishing Co. of Chicago. The Distinguished Fathers award recipients are: John H. Johnson, Thomas Flewelyn and the late Reginald Lewis, founder and CEO of TLC Beatrice Company. The award is given for the first time ever to recognize the outstanding contribution and support of the fathers in Jack and Jill of America, Inc. This organization is truly about the vision, past, present and future of the African-American community.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege for me to honor the families and friends of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. I ask my colleagues to join in celebrating this milestone and acknowledging this outstanding organization for 60 years of accomplishment and service for the African-American community and the Nation.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN AND DOROTHY
WITHERSPOON

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 17, 1998

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to John Ivory and Dorothy Mae Smith Witherspoon as they celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. The Witherspoons have lived in Sumter County for 48 years and have raised an amazing family.

Mr. Witherspoon was born in Manning, South Carolina and attended Clarendon County Schools. He is the owner of John Witherspoon Carpentry/Cabinet Works Company and has been a master carpenter and cabinet maker for over 50 years. Mrs. Witherspoon was born in Summerton, South Carolina and graduated from Lincoln High School in Sumter, South Carolina. She is retired from the Campbell Soup Company but remains active in the community where she is active in School District #17's PTA, and is a member of the Christian Women's Association of Sumter and the South Sumter Resource Center Senior's Club.

Mr. and Mrs. Witherspoon are active members of the St. John Baptist Church. Mr. Witherspoon has been a Deacon for over 45 years and served as Chairman of the Deacon Board for 2 years. He served as Sunday School Superintendent for over 40 years, Chairperson of the Cemetery Committee, and a member of the Senior Choir for over 48 years.

Mrs. Witherspoon is a Deaconess, she has been President of the Missionary Auxiliary for over 10 years and is a member and secretary of the St. John Baptist Church Gospel Choir. They are also members of the Black River Missionary Baptist Association. Mrs. Witherspoon serves as President of the Deacon and Minister's Wives Alliance and is a Board Member of the Women's Missionary Auxiliary. Mrs. Witherspoon is Chairman of the Sunday School Convention's Board and Treasurer of the Deacons and Minister's Wives Alliance. Both John and Dorothy are 1997 graduates of the South Carolina Baptist Congress of Christian Education Teacher Certification program.

The Witherspoons have four children, twelve grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren. They have remained active in their community throughout their marriage. Their dedication to their family and community are commendable. Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me today in honoring Mr. and Mrs. Witherspoon as they celebrate their 50th year of marriage.

NAFTA: DEATH OF THE AMERICAN
WORKING MAN AND WOMAN

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 17, 1998

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak of the injustice that NAFTA has brought upon the American working man and woman. We have lost hundreds of thousands of jobs since NAFTA's implementation in 1994, and the situation will only get worse unless NAFTA is amended or repealed.

During debate on NAFTA its supporters argued that American jobs wouldn't be lost to Canada or Mexico, only that jobs would be added to the American workforce. However, NAFTA has allowed American companies to send good, high paying American jobs to these countries, where they can take advantage of cheap labor. While this is good for the profit of these companies, it is destroying the labor workforce of this country.

A microcosm of NAFTA's ill effects can be seen at a General Motors plant in my district. According to the United Auto Workers' Local 719, over 500 jobs from the McCook GM Electro Motive Division have been sent to a plant in Mexico, and 1,000 jobs have been sent to Canada. Mr. Speaker, contrary to the claims of NAFTA's supporters, the American workforce has suffered, as witnessed in McCook, Illinois.

It is high time that Congress and the Administration put people ahead of profits. I urge my colleagues to end NAFTA now or witness the death of the American working man and woman.