

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A TRIBUTE TO MOSHOOD AFARIOGUN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Moshood Afariogun in recognition his unique style and accomplishments in the fashion industry.

The name Moshood Africanspirit has become synonymous with a style that personifies a "spirit" of African pride. Originally from Lagos, Nigeria, Moshood arrived in New York in the early 1980's, and set out to make his mark in this very competitive industry. After years of tireless effort and hard work, he opened his first boutique in Brooklyn, NY.

Moshood's timeless pieces bring together the traditional beauty of African tailoring and a taste of western flavor. His fluid and elegant designs have been embraced from Harlem to Soweto, Lagos to Bahia, London to Tokyo, and New York to Kingston.

Mr. Speaker, Moshood Afariogun has successfully designed and created unique designer clothes without losing touch with his African culture and heritage. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

REMEMBERING FRANK CIRRINCIONE

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of a true public servant for the people of Chicago, Frank Cirrincione, who passed away on June 9.

Frank was born in Chicago on December 6, 1943. In 1964, he married the love of his life, Carole. Together they had two wonderful children, PJ and Maria, who made them the happy in-laws to Kevin and Adrienne and the proud grandparents of Brianna and Joanna Cirrincione and Zachary and Conor Martin.

For the past two decades Frank worked diligently for the people of the North side of Chicago in the public service office of the great Alderman Patrick J. O'Connor of the 40th Ward. In that position he was always there to greet constituents with a smile and to work his hardest at helping them with their problems. The Ward office and the people of the 40th Ward will not soon forget Frank.

Frank also was dedicated to his community outside of work, volunteering his time at the parish that guided his life, St. Hilary's. His devoted service included contributing to the Parish Council, as an usher during services, and even as coach of the basketball team. St. Hilary's Parish will not soon forget Frank.

For me personally, Frank was always there to give me a friendly boost and support during my campaign for Congress. He was always ready to walk a precinct with me and introduce me to the neighbors and friends he knew so well. I will not soon forget Frank.

Mr. Speaker, I join with the people of the 40th Ward in recognizing the life of Frank Cirrincione and the impact that he had on those of us who were fortunate enough to be touched by his kindness. I applaud the City of Chicago for forever celebrating Frank's life by designating the 5600 block of North Fairfield Avenue as "Honorary Frank Cirrincione Way." Lastly, I wish to express my deep sense of sorrow to Carol and the rest of Frank's loving family.

HONORING DON CLAUSEN UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Mr. Don Clausen upon his retirement as Principal of Annandale High School after more than 30 years of distinguished service to Fairfax County Public Schools.

In 1966, Mr. Clausen graduated from Valparaiso University with a B.S. in physical education, and immediately began his service in the Peace Corps as a volunteer to Ecuador. There he helped local communities improve and enlarge their educational programs. He continued this work until 1968 when he began teaching at Langley High School. Mr. Clausen taught physical education at Kings Park and Kings Glen Elementary Schools from 1973 until 1976. In 1976 he became the Assistant Principal of Oakton High School. During that year he also finished his Master's in Education from George Mason University. Over the next thirty years, Mr. Clausen came to serve as Assistant Principal at several other schools including, George C. Marshall High School and Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology. In July of 1994, Mr. Clausen became the Principal of Annandale High School where he remained Principal until his retirement.

Mr. Clausen has received a multitude of awards and honors throughout his career. In 1990, he was invited by the government of Nicaragua to serve as a National Elections Monitor. In 1991, he received the Department of Community Action nomination for "Excellence in Education Award." Then in 1993, he was once again invited to be a National Elections Monitor for the government of El Salvador. On December 17, 1997 he hosted the initial national education hearings of President Clinton's Advisory Board of The President's Initiative on Race. From 1998 to 2002 he served an appointment to the Executive committee of Virginia High School League. In

2000, Mr. Clausen was nominated as "Principal of the Year." For the last two years he has chaired the Virginia High School League; and from 2001 to 2002 he was recognized for significant progress in improvement of Virginia State Standards of Learning scores.

Mr. Clausen has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Network of Educators for Central America and he currently serves as the Chairman of Fairfax County High School League. He is a member of the Panel at Chesapeake Chapter of the National School Public Relations Association, as well as a member of the National Activities Committee or NASSP.

Mr. Clausen was one of five secondary school principals from the nation honored by the Metlife Foundation Bridge Builders Initiative, which recognizes teachers and administrators for forging strong relationships between the school's staff and the community.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I wish the very best to Mr. Clausen as he is recognized for service to his community and to Fairfax County Public Schools. During his many years of service, he certainly has earned his recognition, and I call upon all of my colleagues to join me in applauding his tenure.

PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION BAN ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 2003

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, this is the sixth time this legislation has been sent to the House, I opposed it the past five times, and I still oppose it today. This bill is an attempt to strike, yet again, at the foundations of a woman's right to choose with the aid of family, clergy, counselors, and physicians. I am an avid supporter of choice without reservation. Medical decisions are personal and should be made in private without the interference of the government.

I oppose this proposed interference of the government in doctor's offices not only because I support choice, but because it endangers women's health and safety. Medical technology has advanced, and safe abortion procedures are available for women. If passed, this legislation will force doctors to perform procedures deemed dangerous and outdated as of 1975. These procedures might be necessary to save women whose lives are threatened by their pregnancies. The proposed ban does not provide for life-saving exceptions, and will be overturned by the Supreme Court.

This ban is also unconstitutional because it is in blatant violation of *Roe v. Wade*. Might I remind the House, this landmark decision leaves the regulation of post vitality or late term abortions to the States, not the Federal Government. While the judiciary system is violated by this legislation, so is the healthcare

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

field. "Partial-birth" is not a medical term, instead it is a vague political term designed to inflame this debate, and outlaw abortions throughout pregnancy.

During the hearings for this legislation in March, Dr. Anne R. Davis testified 90 percent of abortions are conducted during the first trimester. I refuse to believe this legislation proposed six times in the past eight years is to ban only 10 percent of abortions. I stand with over 17 organizations of dedicated and respected medical professionals, three state referendums, and a Nebraska Supreme Court, all of whom oppose this unconstitutional and dangerous legislation that must not be passed.

IN RECOGNITION OF DAVID
MINCBERG

HON. CHRIS BELL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. BELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor David Minberg on the occasion of his being named the recipient of the 2003 Max H. Nathan Award by the Houston chapter of the American Jewish Committee. The Max H. Nathan Award is presented annually to an individual who has performed most meritoriously in the cause of human relations and who exemplifies the finest traditions of his heritage. This individual must be dedicated in his service to the community.

David Minberg epitomizes the qualities the American Jewish Committee recognizes each year with this award. Mr. Minberg has spent his life enriching the Jewish community. He began his service to the community as a student at Bellaire High School where he served as president of the Houston Jewish Community Center Youth Council. At the University of Texas, he demonstrated his leadership qualities during his tenure as president of the Friar Society.

After graduating from law school, Mr. Minberg continued his dedication to humanitarianism as evidenced by his volunteer work on the boards of the Jewish Federation of Greater Houston, the American Jewish Committee and the Jewish Family Service Foundation where he served as board chairman.

Mr. Minberg was a founder and the first president of Southwest Houston 2000 Inc., a forum for improving the quality of life for all people living in southwest Houston. He served as chairman of the Harris County Democratic Party from 1994 to 1998. From 1988 to 1991, he served as president of the American Jewish Committee. During his term as president, he made a lasting impact on American pluralism and the quality of life in the community. Mr. Minberg currently serves on the boards of Planned Parenthood and the Houston Museum of Natural Science.

Mr. Minberg is owner and president of Flagship Properties Corporation, one of the largest privately held multifamily residential companies in Texas. He takes great pride in providing employment to over 600 people of diverse backgrounds.

David Minberg is married to Lainie Gordon. They are the proud parents of five children.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate David Minberg on his many years of exceptional service to the Jewish community.

A TRIBUTE TO REGINA COLEY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Regina Coley Carter in recognition of her dedication to her community in personal and professional life, and her commitment to reducing drug use among youths.

Regina Coley is the fourth of eleven children. She was educated in the New York City public school system, and later, attended Hunter College in pursuit of a nursing career. Currently, she is attending John Jay College.

A mother of three children, Regina is a member of the Brownsville Community Baptist Church. As a church member, she participates in the Concert Choir and the Willing Workers. She is a football mom for the Pop Warner State Championship Team, and the Mo Better Jaguars of the East New York/Brownsville area.

Regina has worked for the New York City Police Department for the past twenty-three years. She served as a civilian employee for five and a half years when she decided that that would be an effective police officer. In 1986, she passed the police exam and became a police officer. Regina is currently one of two community affairs officers in the 75th Precinct.

Regina enjoys sports, reading, travel, and working with the community. She has received numerous awards for community service, often working with elected officials, community based organizations, schools, and churches in the East New York Community. She helps organize parades, demonstrations, rallies, street festivals, and various community events. Regina has also worked with the United States Attorney's office as a coordinator for the youth program Drug Education For Youth (D.E.F.Y).

Regina has a strong concern for the community and youth of East New York and Brownsville. She has become a mentor through various community youth programs and is presently mentoring young people in East New York.

Mr. Speaker, Regina Coley is committed to improving the lives of those in her community through a wide range of efforts. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

POLAND'S REFERENDUM

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of more than 111,000 constituents of Polish descent, I rise to congratulate the Republic of Poland for its historic and overwhelming vote yesterday in favor of joining the European Union next May.

For centuries Polish greats like Copernicus, Frederick Chopin, and Madame Curie have contributed significant economic, cultural and social diversity to Europe. As the first nation to have a written constitution in Europe, Poland is a shining example of democracy triumphing

over four decades of communist rule. Its modernization is described most meaningfully by its current President, Aleksander Kwasniewski, stated, "The transformation in Poland launched after the historic breakthrough in 1989 consists not only in reform of the economy but also in opening up to the world. Openness is the historical tradition of Poland . . . We are thinking not only of the benefits we will gain from accession to the European Union. We are also aware of the obligations incumbent upon us from our role in the unification of the continent."

That 78 percent of Poland's population voted for unification is a giant step toward advancing democratic progress and prosperity to its 38 million people. Its integration into the EU assures that it can assume a strong leadership role in promoting important ethnic, social and cultural diversity to the global community. In exchange, Poland will benefit economically and politically from the standards and examples set by the other modern EU democracies.

Mr. Speaker, Poland's accomplishments over the past 14 years since communism fell shows great promise for continued openness and solidarity in the years ahead. The United States should recognize Poland's tremendous achievement in clearing the way for EU membership. We should also express continued gratitude for its contributions to the global war against terror and its 200 troops during Operation Iraqi Freedom. We deeply value our friendship and commitment to strong security, diplomatic and economic ties with Poland and will continue to express our hope that the anticipated ratification of EU membership by May of 2004 remains on schedule.

HONORING RICHARD NUGENT, THE
BRADDOCK DISTRICT COUNCIL
CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor Richard Nugent as the Braddock District Council Citizen of the Year.

Although Mr. Nugent can boast many civic contributions, the most dramatic impact he has had on his community is his active participation in charitable organizations in the Braddock district, Fairfax County and beyond.

Richard is a regular volunteer at the Northern Virginia Training Center, assisting with field trips for residents. Through the Church of the Good Shepard, he has organized the delivery of birthday cakes and Christmas boxes to residents of NVTC. He is also an active participant in the interfaith service organizations F.I.S.H. and F.A.C.E.T., delivering meals and other needs to the less fortunate.

Through his church, Mr. Nugent's service extends also to the national organization "Habitat for Humanity." In addition to assisting at a local Habitat worksite, he also raised \$3,200 through Christmas tree sales for that organization.

Under the aegis of his church, Mr. Nugent regularly delivers clothing, books and school supplies to an Appalachian town in West Virginia. Extending his commitment to service even farther, he has traveled to Honduras the

last two years to assist in building houses and schools as part of a church mission project.

In addition to these charitable pursuits, Richard has served in the all-volunteer Coast Guard Auxiliary for the last three years and is presently the Flotilla Commander. Mr. Nugent teaches boating safety classes, conducts recreational boat safety checks, and participates in safety and security patrols on the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay. Mr. Nugent has also served his immediate neighborhood as a Board officer of the Somerset South Homeowner's Association for the last ten years.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, it is with great pleasure that we extend this recognition to Mr. Richard Nugent. His notable contribution to his community deserves to be commended, and we call upon all of our colleagues in joining us to applaud Mr. Nugent for all of his accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES TIDWELL

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to pay tribute to Mr. Charles Tidwell who died a few days ago after having spent a lifetime of being a good husband, a good father, a good neighbor, a good citizen and a good friend.

Mr. Tidwell was what we would call an ordinary man, ordinary in that he owned his own business, an ordinary business, he was a self-employed plumber, who for many years worked every day. He was a welcomed sight; people often looked forward to him coming because he generally represented relief, a man who knew how to do what he could and do it well.

Mr. Tidwell was ordinary but he was also unordinary, unordinary because he and his wife were intimately connected to their community, actively involved in their church, actively involved in the civic affairs of their community and actively involved in politics or public policy decision-making. The Tidwell home was oftentimes the place where block club meetings were held, political candidates came and problem solving discussions were held and of course, Mrs. Tidwell generally found a way to have some fried chicken, cake, potato salad, potato pie or whatever she decided to cook. In reality the Tidwells represent the best among us and we're going to miss Mr. Tidwell, a good son, a good husband, a good father, a good neighbor, a good citizen, a good American. May his soul rest in peace.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RIGHT REVEREND CLAUDE E. PAYNE, BISHOP

HON. CHRIS BELL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. BELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Right Reverend Claude E. Payne, bishop of Texas on the occasion of his retirement from the Episcopal Church. He will be celebrating his retirement June 27, 2003.

For many years, Bishop Payne has been a pillar of the Texas community. After graduating with a chemical engineering degree from Rice University, Bishop Payne went on to earn a Masters and Doctor of Divinity from the Church Divinity School of the Pacific. Prior to his election as seventh bishop of Texas, Bishop Payne was rector of one of the largest churches in the Texas diocese, St. Martin's in Houston. He has also served at St. Mark's in Beaumont as well as St. Mark's in Houston. In June of 1993, the Right Reverend Payne was elected to bishop of the Episcopal Church. In 1995, he became a diocesan bishop for Texas.

Since that time Bishop Payne has worked unceasingly to reach people without a church home. His vision of doubling the size of the diocese to 200,000 parishioners by 2005 is truly a miraculous goal; hence the diocese views itself as "a community of miraculous expectations."

During Bishop Payne's episcopacy, the diocese built the first new church for a Spanish-speaking congregation in the United States, built seven new churches in Houston and Austin and restarted numerous others. Membership has increased by 10,000 and more importantly, average Sunday attendance has increased by more than 18.7 percent.

Under the bishop's leadership, approximately \$50 million has been granted by the Episcopal Health Charities for community outreach programs. These grants helped to provide fully equipped mobile clinics: one for at-risk youth living on the streets of Houston and another for Matagorda County, an area profoundly under-served in health care.

Bishop Payne was also instrumental in the expansion and renovation of Camp Allen, a camp and conference center. The renovation includes a new 1200 seat chapel and a 70-acre lake. Camp Allen provides recreational facilities for church members as well as secular groups from the surrounding area.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Bishop Payne on his many years of exceptional service to the Episcopal Church and the diocese of Texas. I applaud his leadership in the development and enhancement of his community.

A TRIBUTE TO VON R. HUNT

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Von R. Hunt in recognition of his commitment to his community.

Von Rennsler Hunt was born in Colon, Republic of Panama. He graduated from the Canal Zone Rainbow High School, Amador Guero Spanish School and the Baptist Academy.

Von was a professional sign painter in Panama, working for various agencies of the Canal Zone. He also played music professionally and played with his own trio band throughout Panama.

After 20 years of service with the Panama Canal Zone, he immigrated to the United States in 1965. In New York City, he worked on Wall Street for the Moore McCormack Steamship Company, Dreyfuss Stock Ex-

change, and the Royal Globe Insurance Company. He retired from Royal Globe Insurance Company after 25 years of service. At the time of his retirement, he was working in the Computer Networks Department.

When he retired, Von resumed his music career. He began playing for big Latin bands like Machito, Joe Valle, Vicentico Alarez, and the Oriental Cubana. However, he eventually retired from his musical career and returned to the business work. Presently, he works for Amsco School Publications as a senior accounts receivable clerk.

Von has a remarkable spirit of giving and caring. He is a respectable and gentle individual. He will lend a helping hand to anyone in need. It is often said about Von that "to know him is to love him." He is a member of Community Board 13 in Queens, a member of St. Clare's Catholic Church, and a proud member for Congressman TOWNS' constituent support group.

Von is married to Teresa Johnson-Hunt, and they are the proud parents of five children and six grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Von R. Hunt is committed to assisting his fellow community members. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

HONORING PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, every city block and every country road across this country is protected by potential heroes. But police officers like my Uncle Les of the Chicago Police Department, firefighters, and other officers of peace don the mantle of heroism every day, and are prepared to respond not only to forces of nature or forces of man, but also to forces of evil, like that which brought down the World Trade Towers and tore into the Pentagon.

Peace officers are very real heroes, and must be honored as such. At risk to their own personal safety, peace officers put themselves between danger and the people they protect. Last year, more than 147 peace officers were killed in the line of duty during 2002, and the previous year 230 officers were killed, including 72 officers in the September 11th terrorist attacks. We will never know the number of lives that were spared because they gave their own.

Too often round-the-clock news shows, television talk programs and supermarket tabloids elevate the frivolous to the famous, and blur the difference between the noble and the notorious. We must honor real heroes in a meaningful manner.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the President's proclamation designating May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day.

TRIBUTE TO THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN AND PRESIDENT CHEN SHUI-BIAN

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, on May 20, the people of Taiwan celebrated the third anniversary of the ascent of Chen Shui-bian to the Presidency of Taiwan. In recognition of this anniversary, I would like to congratulate both the people of Taiwan and President Chen upon the achievement of this third anniversary and make a few observations with regard to this auspicious occasion, as well as the long-standing friendship that exists between the United States and Taiwan.

With regard to President Chen, I can only say that in his three years as leader of Taiwan have been exemplary. President Chen has, continues and shall hopefully continue to receive widespread praise around the world for his determined commitment and unswerving dedication to continued democratization, economic reform and basic recognition of human rights.

In his conduct and comments toward the People's Republic of China, President Chen has promised that Taiwan would not seek independence as long as the People's Republic would refrain from using force against Taiwan. Moreover, he has initiated solid measures that are aimed at reducing tensions in the Taiwan Straits so that the freedom of navigation in the Straits can be maintained.

President Chen has further demonstrated his leadership in bringing his diplomatic skills to the fore in gaining Taiwan entrance to the World Trade Organization. In this regard, I can only hope and wish for President Chen's continued diplomatic success in making Taiwan more present in the global community of nations. Two such measures of continued success would rest in gaining Taiwan access and entry to both the World Health Organization and the International Civil Aviation Organization.

Mr. Speaker, as President Chen celebrates the third anniversary of his Presidency, I would only say that America congratulates and salutes him upon the many successes and achievements of his administration to date. And, that we wish him continued and further success in the future.

A TRIBUTE TO RITA DAVE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Rita Dave in recognition of her dedication to improving the human rights in her community and throughout the world, especially among immigrant populations.

Rita immigrated to the United States with her parents when she was 7 years old. Pursuing her goal to become a lawyer, she received her Juris Doctor Degree from New York Law School, and was admitted to practice in the State of New York in 1992.

Throughout her personal and professional life, Rita has been deeply affected by the

plight of immigrants in the United States. In addition to representing mortgage lenders in her current practice, she works extensively on pro bono projects involving immigrant issues. She has worked together with local and national human rights organizations to organize and mobilize grass roots activities opposing indefinite detention and incarceration of legal permanent residents. She has provided pro bono assistance to detainees across the United States by providing them with legal case law, advising them of their rights under immigration law, and providing assistance and support to their families.

Rita has also worked hard to bring to the attention of elected officials human and civil rights violations suffered by men and women during their detention. She works to expose and remedy these violations to ensure that our legal system remains fair and just. In recognition of her tenacity and empathy for the plight of immigrants, in 2003 she was appointed chairperson of the political action committee for the Federation of Indian Americans.

On the civil rights end, Ms. Dave has founded a non-profit organization devoted to helping men and women who are factually innocent of the crime for which they have been convicted and incarcerated. The group is called The Falsely Accused and Convicted Taking Steps, FACTS. FACTS reviews the case files of individuals who assert their factual innocence then assist them in overturning their convictions.

Rita lives with her husband and 9-year-old daughter in Mineola, NY.

Mr. Speaker, Rita Dave is committed to improving the lives of those in need and those who have suffered human and civil rights violations. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

TRIBUTE TO SYLVIA PORTILLO

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an incredible woman from my district who recently received a Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leadership Program award. Sylvia Portillo earned this prestigious award through her hard work in expanding health care for the Latino community of northern Virginia.

Sylvia Portillo overcame adversity as a Spanish-speaking immigrant and low-wage worker to become a major health leader in her community. Her career in health care began in El Salvador where she worked as a nurse. Upon fleeing war-torn El Salvador, Sylvia became a home health care companion in Arlington County, to support the three children she left with relatives back home as well as her new family in the United States.

Ms. Portillo was inspired to become a health care advocate for Latinos and other underserved community residents after her experience and the roadblocks she encountered when she tried to get health care and insurance for her two youngest children. In 1996 she joined the Tenants' and Workers' Support Committee as a volunteer in the Women's

Leadership Group. There she organized the Latino community's first health fair by bringing together neighbors, doctors, local groups and city officials. In its seventh year, the fair is the only source of health care for many residents. In 1997, Sylvia became lead organizer for the committee's Health Project with a goal of increasing health access for Alexandria's Latino community. Since then, she has recruited and trained more than 80 health promoters to educate the community about preventive health practices.

Ms. Portillo has also led a campaign that won \$300,000 in medical debt relief from the leading area health system and persuaded local hospitals to hire bilingual staff. The project also has completed three landmark studies documenting conditions of Latino immigrants, including occupational health problems and the consequences of medical debt.

One of the most impressive testimonies about the work Sylvia has accomplished came from a woman who sought her help with a medical debt she could not pay since she was unable to work. Sylvia helped her understand our health system, despite her inability to read. "By working with Silvia, I am no longer afraid," the woman said.

Sylvia and the Health Project have helped countless people throughout my congressional district and northern Virginia. I am proud to have Sylvia in my district, and I look forward to seeing what else she can accomplish in ensuring that her friends and neighbors receive the health care they deserve.

HONORING THE THORNTON SISTERS FOUNDATION

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge once again a group of talented and capable women. This month marks the 12th anniversary of the Thornton Sisters Foundation, Inc. I have been following these women's struggles and accomplishments for a long time now, and after a decade of success, I still feel it is an honor to formally salute these women for a third time.

On Sunday, June 8, 2003, the Thornton Sisters Foundation will hold an awards ceremony for the 25 finalists of the Donald and Itasker Thornton Memorial Scholarship and their family members. The occasion will be hosted at Jumping Brook Country Club in Neptune, NJ.

The Thornton Sisters have an inspiring history that led to the creation of this foundation. They come from a family that has always known the intrinsic worth of a good education. In 1948, their parents, Donald and Itasker, moved the family from Harlem, New York City to Long Branch, NJ, so that their children would be able to receive a better education. And while Mrs. Thornton was unable to attend college, she pushed all of her daughters to accomplish something that she would never be able to do.

With the help of scholarships and their parent's inspiration, all six daughters graduated from Monmouth University in Long Branch. Having learned early on the importance of an education, these six sisters now want to give the same opportunity they had to other young women.

This story has special significance to me, as I am a citizen of Long Branch. In addition, Rita Thornton and I both attended Long Branch High School and even participated in speech and debate together. I could tell back then, that she and her sisters share a true commitment to education and excellence—it is no wonder that they all received straight A's throughout high school.

This year, I would also like to recognize all recipients of the Donald and Itasker Thornton Scholarship, past and present: from 1992, Miss LaShawn Pruitt and Miss Tiffany Sanders; from 1995, Miss Natasha Dwamena; from 1996, Miss Jasmine Williams; from 1997, Miss Anetha Perry, Miss Sanetta Ponton, and Mr. Carl Little; from 1998, Miss Diane Byne; from 1999, Miss Estelle Docteur, Miss Leigh-Michil George, Miss Tiffany Little, and Miss Traymanesha Moore; from 2000, Miss Marie Guervil, and Miss Lesha Sanders; from 2001, Miss Aakia Seymour, Miss Fatiya Ilegieno, Miss Lesha Brady, Miss Betty Lin, and Miss Courtney Jackson; from 2002, Miss Melissa Thompson, Miss Tiffany Reed, and Miss Martha Tan; and from 2003, Miss Yoonieh Ahn, Miss Cassandra Brown, Miss Porschia Epps, Miss Sorochi Eschaghi, Miss Sonya Frontin, Miss Indria Harrison, Miss Quasheeda Kelly, Miss Elizabeth Meltzer, Miss Dominique Robinson, Miss Candice Spence, Miss Shakeilya Washington, and Miss Katherine Wheatle.

Mr. Speaker, I would now like to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these aspiring women. They are truly a group that needs to be admired and praised. I want to personally thank the Thornton sisters for their twelve years of providing scholarships for young minority women of the State of New Jersey.

A TRIBUTE TO GRACE (SANG SOOK) LEE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Grace (Sang Sook) Lee in recognition of her dedication to assisting Korean-Americans and troubled youths in her community.

Ms. Lee was born in Seoul, Korea. She was educated in many different schools, and earned a degree in chemistry from Sacred Hearts Women's University. She married Chong Hwun Lee in 1980 and moved to the United States. Ms. Lee and her husband have three daughters, Vivian, Marian, and Joan.

At the height of the Lees' success, they owned five dry cleaners in Manhattan. Unfortunately, things took a turn for the worse and they had to sell their home in Little Neck, NY. For some period of time, they had to move every two years. During this time, Grace was able to go to night school and earn a degree in counseling and conflict resolution.

Adapting to a new culture and struggling to establish a successful business made life during the 1980s arduous. The stress caused Grace to fall into depression. However, she used this low point in her life to search for the truth in her life that would uplift her. She realized that she could no longer live for herself, and in 1990, in the teachings of her Savior Jesus Christ, she gained a new awareness that she must serve others.

During this time, she met a Korean-American inmate, which altered her life dramatically. Since that moment, she has been diligently visiting Korean-American inmates in the greater New York Area. These experiences motivated her to focus on the problems of the youth in the Korean-American community. The Korean-American Youth Center in Flushing, NY, provided her with a vehicle to work with teenagers. Because her children were getting older, she had more time to pursue her concern for all of the young people in her community.

Using all of the experiences in her life, Grace created the Youth and Family Focus, a non-profit organization of which she is the executive officer. She runs the organization with the devoted help of a few volunteers. Youth and Family Focus believes that intervention with teenagers is the best way to affect their lives positively. The organization is a youth oriented program that offers many services to the community including parent-child counseling, education programs for Korean American parents, a G.E.D. program, mentoring for teens, retreats for teenagers, and a prison ministry.

Ms. Lee's devotion and dedicated work with Youth and Family Focus have made this group an effective organization. Its success is reflected by the high regard it has within the Korean-American communities across the United States. Success is further reflected by the requests it receives from the judicial system, school system, and families for assistance with Korean American Youth.

Mr. Speaker, Grace (Sang Sook) Lee is committed to improving the lives of Korean-Americans and troubled youths. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable woman.

SENSE OF THE HOUSE COMMENDING NATION'S BUSINESSES AND BUSINESS OWNERS FOR SUPPORT OF OUR TROOPS AND THEIR FAMILIES

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 2003

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 201. This bill expresses the sense of the House of Representatives that American businesses should be commended for their support of our troops and their families. I would like to thank my colleague from Michigan, Mr. Rogers, for introducing this timely and appropriate tribute and urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this resolution.

Since September 11, 2001, the Armed Forces have undertaken more than 21 months of courageous and successful operations against terrorism worldwide. Over 216,931 members of the Reserve components have been called to leave their families and their jobs to serve our country. From my own State of Michigan, over 1,000 individuals have been called to Active Duty.

National Guard and Reserve members comprise 38 percent of our military and support by their employers is crucial. It can be a struggle for Guard and Reserve members to find a bal-

ance between serving our country and dedication to their employment. For activated service members to be successful in their missions, they need peace of mind that their families, civilian jobs, and other responsibilities will be stable and financially secure in their absence.

We have established a law to protect our troops and this law has significantly reinforced the respect and encouragement our armed forces deserve. The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) provides job protection and rights of reinstatement to employees who participate in the National Guard and Reserve. The act seeks to ensure that members of the uniformed services are entitled to return to their civilian employment upon completion of their service. They should be reinstated with the seniority, status, and rate of pay they would have obtained had they remained continuously employed by their civilian employer. The law also protects individuals from discrimination in hiring, promotion, and retention on the basis of present and future membership in the Armed Forces.

Many employers have gone above and beyond what is required under USERRA. They have expanded their pay differential and medical coverage policies for Reserve and National Guard members called to Active Duty. Along with the companies who provide a pay differential during service members' annual training and mobilization, continuation of insurance and other company benefits, establishing family support networks to maintain open lines of communication, and facilitating information sharing have been used to mitigate the psychological hardships of war.

Employers' willingness to bear the inevitable financial hardships and organizational disruptions that result from war is an important contribution to our Nation's security. In placing America's well being above their own, employers help our National Guard provide mission-ready forces to help preserve our freedoms and protect our national interests.

Our Nation's businesses and business owners serve our country in many ways, especially in these days of increased engagement of our military in strategic locations around our Nation and around the world. I would like to commend their patriotism and offer my sincere gratitude to the men and women defending America.

HONORING DR. DANIEL IVASCYN UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Dr. Daniel W. Ivascyn, a constituent of the second district of Massachusetts, for his countless years of dedication to the town of Oxford and Oxford public school system.

Dr. Ivascyn is retiring this year after 34 years of devoted employment.

Dr. Ivascyn began his extraordinary career in September 1969 when he became Business Manager of Oxford. He was later promoted in 1975 to become Assistant Superintendent for Business Affairs. He continued his steady climb up the chain of command in 1996 where

he was appointed to the prestigious position of Superintendent of schools.

Dr. Ivascyn used his leadership role as a way to further escalate the growth and success of the Oxford public school system. Some recent notable accomplishments include assisting in the construction of a new Oxford High School in 2002, and the newly renovation of Barton and Chaffee Elementary Schools.

Dr. Ivascyn's dedication and desire to better the Oxford community serves as an admirable example to all American citizens. I am delighted to honor Dr. Ivascyn's accomplishments and service to the second district of Massachusetts. His hard work and dedication will be greatly missed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, on June 9, 2003, I was unable to vote on H.R. 1610, Walt Disney Post Office Building Redesignation Act (rollcall vote 249), H. Con. Res. 162, Honoring the City of Dayton, Ohio (rollcall vote 250), and S. 763, Birch Bayh Federal Building and United States Courthouse Designation Act (rollcall vote 251). Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all three measures.

A TRIBUTE TO JOHN L. ENGLISH

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of John L. English in recognition of his successful business which has brought stability to his community, and for his overall efforts to improve the quality of life in his community.

John's contracting company is based at 2060 Eastern Parkway in Brooklyn, New York. He started Central Mechanical in 1976 and relocated to the current address in 1984. He has been an owner-operator in his community for 19 years. Since John's father and grandfather were steamfitters by trade, it was natural for him to become involved in the pipefitting industry. He is both a contractor and a developer. His day-to-day function is the operation of Central Mechanical. Central Mechanical's prime business is the completion of government heating and air conditioning contracts. He has also built 25 homes and 20 condominiums in the past 10 years.

John is active in the community as well. He lends support to a local church, the House of Hope. In addition to being a place of worship, the House of Hope runs a homeless shelter for people who have nowhere else to turn. John is very thankful for what he has accomplished and he looks forward to a long, prosperous, and continuing active presence in Brooklyn. However, most important has been John's successful marriage of 26 years to his wife Trina. They have four children ages 11 through 24.

Mr. Speaker, John L. English is committed to his community through his business endeavors and his work at his local church. As

such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

TRIBUTE TO GERARD DOHERTY

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask that the House of Representatives take this opportunity to honor Gerard Doherty, a man who has dedicated his enormous talents and unlimited energy to public service and charitable ventures throughout his life.

Gerard Doherty is an exceptional leader in Charlestown, in our Commonwealth of Massachusetts and throughout our Nation. Mr. Doherty is one of the founders of the John F. Kennedy Family Service Center. He serves as a member of the Boston Public Library Foundation and the Suffolk University Board of Trustees. He is remembered on Beacon Hill as one of our most respected members of The Great and General Court, where he was elected to four terms as State Representative from Charlestown.

Because of his efforts to improve educational opportunities for children, Gerard Doherty has received numerous awards including an honorary doctorate degree from Our Lady of the Elms College. And Mr. Speaker, when I return to my alma mater of Malden Catholic High School to attend a basketball game, I take great pride in walking through the doors of the Gerard and Marilyn Doherty Gymnasium, dedicated in the name of MC's most beloved couple.

Gerard Doherty has also placed his indelible mark on national politics. He served as a close and trusted advisor to President John F. Kennedy, Presidential Campaign Director for both Senator Robert F. Kennedy and President Jimmy Carter and Campaign Manager for Senator EDWARD M. KENNEDY.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor one of the Bay State's most famous sons on his 75th birthday. Gerard Doherty's commitment to public service and community philanthropy has made an immeasurable impact in his community, in our State and throughout our Nation.

TRIBUTE TO THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY DIAMOND JUBILEE

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Cuyahoga County Bar Association's 75th Anniversary Diamond Jubilee which will be held on Friday, June 20, 2003, in Cleveland, Ohio. The Cuyahoga County Bar Association has served the legal community and citizens of Cuyahoga County through research, advocacy, and education. Founded by 64 former members of the Cleveland Bar Association in 1928, it's mission is to

"advance to the highest standards of excellence for the legal profession, to enhance the professional competence of attorneys, to further the administration of justice, to preserve and protect the liberties and rights of the people, to inspire respect for the law and legal profession through the support of law-related and community services, and to promote an atmosphere of collegiality among members of the Bench and the Bar."

On this great occasion, Thomas J. Escovar, a partner with the firm Steuer, Escovar, Berk & Brown Co., L.P.A., in Cleveland, OH, is being installed as the CCBA's President. The association's President-Elect is Justin Madden, a partner with the firm Spangenberg, Shibley & Liber in Cleveland. Diana Thimmig will be installed as the First Vice President and Laurence A. Turbow will serve as Second Vice President. Howard Besser will retain his position with CCBA as Secretary.

Furthermore, I would like to congratulate the new members of the CCBA Board of Trustees for 2004; the Honorable Janet R. Burnside, Louis J. Carozzi, Deanna L. DiPetta, Steven L. Gardner, John F. McCaffrey and Robert J. Vecchio. I would also like to congratulate the new members of the Trustee Class of 2005; David B. Gallup, the Honorable Diane J. Karpinski, Lenore Kleinman, Jacob A.H. Kronenberg, the Honorable David T. Matia, the Honorable John D. Sutula, Mary Jane Trapp and the Trustee Class of 2006; the Honorable John E. Corrigan, Michael M. Courtney, Janet L. Kronenberg, Ellen S. Mandell, Mary Ann Rini, Stanley E. Stein and Jeffrey L. Tasse.

Finally, I would like to congratulate the new Presidential Board Appointments; the Honorable Ann Dyke, Lori Ann Luka and Barbara K. Roman. It gives me great pleasure, Mr. Speaker, to rise today to honor the Cuyahoga County Bar Association and to salute its new leadership.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE MICHIGAN SURVIVAL FLIGHTS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the University of Michigan's Survival Flight program for their critical role in providing emergency care to the residents of Michigan.

The University of Michigan's Survival Flight is an air medical transport program that extends the University Health System's care. This service is available 24 hours a day, every day of the year. They have the capabilities to transport critical patients from area hospitals to specialized treatment facilities, transport directly from an emergency scene, transfer neonates and organ transport teams, and provide back-up in disaster situations. Survival Flights consist of three advanced Bell 430 medical helicopters and one Cessna Citation jet.

Now in their 20th year, the Survival Flights have a perfect safety record and are recognized as the top emergency medical air program in the Nation. Each year, over 1,600 patients are safely transported through the Survival Flights program.

University of Michigan Survival Flights are to be recognized for their success and dedication

to the survival of Michigan patients. Since their inception, Survival Flights have demonstrated outstanding courage and commitment to the State of Michigan.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to extend the gratitude of myself and the entire nation to the University of Michigan Survival Flights in recognition of 20 years of service. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking them and wishing them continued success as they serve the citizens of the great State of Michigan.

A TRIBUTE FOR SALLIE
SLAUGHTER-GARDNER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Sallie Slaughter-Gardner. I believe that it is fitting for public officials to celebrate those individuals whose life story can serve as a model for us all.

Mr. Speaker, Sallie Slaughter-Gardner was born on February 26, 1916, in an era very different than the one to which we are accustomed. Because her family needed Sallie to work in the cotton fields, she was not afforded the opportunity to complete a formal education. She was, however, blessed with a pleasant disposition, a commitment to her family, and a devotion to her community.

On January 23, 1932, Sallie was united in Holy Matrimony to Dozier Gardner. After the birth of her first child, Willie Clifford, the Gardner family emigrated from her birthplace of Buena Vista, Georgia to Brooklyn, New York, an area I am now privileged to represent in the United States Congress. "Aunt Sallie," as she was affectionately known, quickly adapted to her new surroundings, and, during the historical African American migration to the North, Sallie opened her home to the needy, providing hot meals, shelter, and good will to all.

Sallie Slaughter-Gardner made her family and her church the focus of her life. Sallie began her Christian walk in the Baptist Church. Later, she joined the Evergreen Church of God in Christ, where she accepted Christ as her Personal Savior under the leadership of Elder Eugene Williams, the founder of the Church. Sallie was a member of the hospitality club, the mother's board, and was president of the usher board of the church. Her sumptuous apple and sweet potato pies became mainstays among the congregation, and indeed, she was known for her generosity and kind heart. Until her death at the age of eighty-six, Sallie guided parishioners to their seat and imbued them with her warmth.

Sallie was known as a spiritual lady with a heart of gold. Her sweet disposition was most clearly demonstrated when she cared for a neighbor stricken with a crippling illness. Her neighbor, bitter over her ailment, alienated all who attempted to care for her. But Sallie was not deterred and she cooked, cleaned, and cared for this woman.

Mr. Speaker, as part of the Evergreen Church of God in Christ's 58th Church Anniversary, the Church is in the process of memorializing this incredible individual. Sallie always said "Let my life speak for me."

Mr. Speaker, her life truly speaks volumes to us and shows us the kind of conduct befitting all of God's children.

HONORING DR. JOHN GUSHA

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. John Gusha, a dentist who mobilized dental societies and nonprofit groups to launch the Central Massachusetts Oral Health Initiative for low-income residents of Massachusetts. Dr. Gusha is among the outstanding individuals from across the country selected this year to receive a Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leadership Program award of \$120,000.

Dr. Gusha founded and served as project director of the Central Massachusetts Oral Health Initiative, a collaborative of 25 organizations focused on improving oral health in the region.

Growing up in a large, blue-collar family, Dr. Gusha was inspired by his faith and the work ethic of his immigrant heritage to give back to his community. After working his way through dental school and setting up a private practice, he began volunteering at a free medical clinic and was struck by the magnitude of oral health problems he saw among patients.

He recruited his colleagues in local and State dental societies and nonprofit groups to launch the Oral Health Initiative in 1999. The initiative opened a free dental clinic where dentists, hygienists, and assistants volunteer their services. It also educates physicians and nurses to perform oral health screenings, and trains outreach workers to teach young mothers about preventing tooth decay, the most common chronic condition of childhood.

In addition to volunteering his dental services, Dr. Gusha has pushed for policy changes aimed at improving Massachusetts' health. He helped win State legislation allowing a pilot program to expand access to dentists for Medicaid patients in central Massachusetts. In 1993, as chairman of the Holden Board of Health, he championed fluoridation of the water supply and prohibition of second-hand smoke in public places.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Dr. John Gusha for his accomplishments as founder of the Central Massachusetts Oral Health Initiative and for his efforts put forth in achieving a 2003 Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leadership Program award.

TRIBUTE TO MS. ADRIENNE E.
BYERS

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize Ms. Adrienne E. Byers on her retirement from Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield after thirty-four years of dedicated service.

Joining Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield in January of 1969, Ms. Byers has worked in many different facets of the organization, beginning in the Cashiers Department and moving to her current position with Special Letters. Working with many areas of the corporation

has given Ms. Byers a great and unique understanding of Horizon and has allowed her to help enrich a company which is truly fortunate to have her as a dedicated employee.

Raised in the 10th Congressional District of New Jersey, Ms. Byers spent her early years growing with the programs at the YMCA where I was fortunate enough to meet this promising young woman. Since those early years she has proven herself time and time again and I am proud to see what a dedicated and motivated individual she has become.

In addition to her devotion to Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield, Ms. Byers has also invested time in the community as a whole. A strong advocate of community service, she serves on the Advisory Board for Community Agencies Corporation and on the board of directors for Friendly Fuld. She is also Chair for the Newark Fighting Back Partnership.

Mr. Speaker, I know that my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives join me today in congratulating Ms. Adrienne E. Byers on her long and successful career with Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield. I wish her the very best in her retirement and a healthy and happy future.

TRIBUTE TO MS. GWEN BOWEN

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the splendid efforts and notable accomplishments of an extraordinary woman in the 1st Congressional District of Colorado. It is both fitting and proper that we recognize this outstanding artist, educator and civic leader for her exceptional record of invaluable service. It is to commend this outstanding citizen that I rise to honor Ms. Gwen Bowen on the occasion of her 50th year teaching dance in Denver, Colorado.

"Miss B," as she is affectionately known by current and former students, was born in Denver, Colorado. She attended McKinley Elementary School, Grant Junior High School and graduated from Denver's South High School. Following her graduation from the University of Denver, she returned to McKinley Elementary School to teach first grade. But her love of dance inspired her to pursue a career in dance education.

Ms. Bowen has amassed a distinguished record of service to our community. She founded the Gwen Bowen School of Dance where she has taught hundreds of young people, middle-aged and senior citizens throughout her career—a career distinguished by caring, competence and a sense of commitment to the community. Among her many students who have pursued professional careers in dance is Lynne Taylor Corbett, Tony Award Nominee for her choreography of the Broadway Play, *Swing*. Last year, Ms. Corbett came to Denver to pay tribute to this great lady of dance at a fundraiser for Arts for All, an organization founded by Ms. Bowen to create a community non-profit facility for all the arts in Denver. Despite having taught so many that have made major contributions to dance, she believes that her greatest rewards have come from teaching dance to blind students and the

developmentally disabled. It comes as no surprise that Dance Magazine, a national publication, has recognized her outstanding contribution to the art of dance.

Ms. Bowen has continually espoused that "Dancing is a language and it touches people in many ways." Her life is a testament to this belief and while she has been an exceptional educator in dance, she has been an educator who teaches young and old alike to pursue meaning in their lives as well as the value of giving back to the community.

Please join me in commending Ms. Gwen Bowen, a distinguished artist and educator. It is the strong leadership she exhibits on a daily basis that continually enhances our lives and builds a better future for all Americans.

ACKNOWLEDGING THE WORK OF
JOSE GARCIA

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the work of Jose Garcia, the founder and director of Project CARE in El Paso, TX. Mr. Garcia recently received national recognition from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Community Health Leadership Program. The prestigious award includes a \$120,000 grant to provide additional funding to further his work.

Mr. Garcia, a pharmacist, helped found Project CARE, a treatment and education program for asthma and diabetes patients, in 2001. Project CARE uses pharmacists as "promotores" to manage uncomplicated diabetes and asthma, reducing costs by targeting the uninsured and frequent users of the hospital's emergency department. It also helps fill the gap in the physician shortage along the Texas-Mexico border, where more than a third of El Paso residents are uninsured and nearly 40 percent of families live below the poverty line.

Mr. Garcia helped to launch Project CARE after he observed, through his work as a pharmacist at R.E. Thomas Hospital, that access to care, medication, and education was the solution to longterm preventable illness. He also realized that the patients who used the most hospital resources were those who could not afford their prescription co-payments under the county's indigent care program. Mr. Garcia then began covering patient's co-payments out of his own paycheck before founding Project CARE.

Mr. Garcia also established El Circulo de Hombres, a collaborative drug treatment model approved by the Texas State Board of Pharmacy that features "platicas," discussions in which Latino men talk openly about health issues and take control of their own care.

The gentleman who nominated Mr. Garcia for the Community Health Leadership award put it best when he said, "Jose has a vision to improve access to health care alternatives to the marginalized and disenfranchised of our community. He has successfully developed a cultural, linguistic, and social home for the poor and uninsured."

Mr. Speaker, Jose Garcia has demonstrated tremendous leadership in meeting the urgent health needs of many in the El Paso commu-

nity. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating him on this well-deserved award.

TRIBUTE TO ALICEMARIE SLAVEN-
EMOND

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize AliceMarie Slaven-Emond, who was recently honored as one of only ten people in the entire nation to be selected as a 2003 Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leader. This prestigious award includes a grant of over \$100,000 to enhance AliceMarie's work.

AliceMarie is cofounder, primary health care provider and volunteer executive director of the Northeast San Juan County Health and Wellness Center in Aztec, NM. The center is a community owned, nonprofit clinic, where patients receive primary care services, preventive screenings, immunizations, pre- and post-natal care and free medications. Services are offered on a sliding-fee scale, depending on income.

Working as a school nurse in the Aztec school district, AliceMarie was uniquely aware of children who were suffering medically because their families were uninsured or could not afford a doctor. To address these demands, AliceMarie, along with other concerned citizens, launched the planning process for a clinic in 1992 and opened its doors in 2000. The early stages were very difficult, but because of the steadfast commitment, determination, enthusiasm, tenacity and hard work, AliceMarie and her cofounders achieved a "miracle." But AliceMarie is always quick to acknowledge the "incredible graciousness" of San Juan County. She reports that without the donations of cash, supplies, labor and many other services by local businesses, medical professionals and private benefactors, success could not have been possible.

The San Juan County Health and Wellness Center is an example of how one person can make a difference. Because of AliceMarie's unending determination, the quality of life for hundreds of people has been improved. The clinic began serving about 35 patients a month and now provides medical attention to 185 to 200 children and adults monthly, regardless of race, religion, ethnicity or financial means. In addition, AliceMarie is proud of the fact that the center is also a resource facility that provides valuable health care education and information to the community.

AliceMarie Slaven-Emond is not only an extremely caring and dedicated nurse practitioner, but an extraordinary visionary and leader. Having visited the clinic myself, I have experienced first hand the incredible work that is being accomplished. I am proud to recognize AliceMarie today before my colleagues as a model of commitment to the betterment of the human condition. I also extend my deep appreciation to her cofounders, staff and San Juan County citizens for helping to make a dream a reality. As uninsured families continue to increase at the rate of 13 percent this year alone, AliceMarie and the San Juan County Health and Wellness Center are helping to fill the gap and are heroes in the truest

sense. A great need existed, and caring and giving citizens rose to the occasion, with AliceMarie as the catalyst. I salute this very great lady.

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE WILKIE D.
FERGUSON, JR.

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, June 9, 2003, our country lost a truly great man, U.S. District Court Judge Wilkie D. Ferguson, Jr. He was an exemplary jurist—experienced, fair, compassionate, knowledgeable and firmly committed to justice. His death is a huge loss to the federal bench, to our community, and to our Nation.

Wilkie Demeritte Ferguson, Jr. was born May 11, 1938, to Bahamian immigrants and raised in the Liberty Square public housing project.

Judge Ferguson attended all-black public schools: Liberty City Elementary, Dorsey Middle and Northwestern Sr. High. He received his B.S. in Business Administration and Accounting from Florida A & M University. He was certified in Fundamentals of Computer Programming at Philco Technological Institute in Philadelphia and received his Masters in Financial Administration from Drexel University. He continued on to Howard University where he obtained his J.D. Degree.

He was the first black jurist appointed to the Miami-Dade Circuit Court and Third District Court of Appeals, and the second black federal judge in the Southern District of Florida.

Judge Ferguson knew every aspect of the law, and he knew people. In the Civil Rights Division of the old U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and as a staff attorney for Legal Services of Greater Miami, he learned firsthand about the problems that ordinary people face in their everyday lives and how the legal system and our courts are often their only recourse for justice.

His reputation for fairness and hard work preceded his elevation to the federal bench in 1993, for at that time he had already had three decades of experience on the bench.

Judge Ferguson has been an exceptional role model and inspiration for young African-Americans interested in the law. He was a trail blazer whose competence and wisdom set a high standard for a profession that already has high standards. His death leaves a huge gap in our federal judiciary, in our community, and in our hearts, for Judge Ferguson showed us all how good we can be.

Over the years he has received numerous honors and accolades such as: Williams H. Hastie Award, "Courage and Scholarship in Legal Writing", National Bar Association (2000) Distinguished Alumni Award, Howard University University Law Alumni Association.

He was a member of the Church of Incarnation of Miami, Florida. There will forever be a void in the pew where he stood every Sunday and sang inspirational hymns.

The entire Miami-Dade community mourns the loss of this humble and great man who overcame huge obstacles yet also did common things uncommonly well. My prayers goes out to his wife, Miami-Dade Commissioner Betty Ferguson and his children, Tawnicia Ferguson-Rowan and Wilkie III.

TRIBUTE TO COACH LOU GIANI

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Coach Lou Giani of Huntington High School on his induction into the U.S. National Wrestling Hall of Fame.

Coach Giani is among the most successful wrestling coaches in New York State history, having compiled 388 victories in 34 seasons. This past season Coach Giani and his Huntington High School team won the New York State team title—a remarkable eighth title for Coach Giani. In addition to the team accolades, Huntington High School also had three individual wrestlers win State Championships, increasing the career total of Coach Giani to a record 22 individual state champions. In recognition of these accomplishments, the National Wrestling Coaches Association bestowed on him the honor of “Coach of the Year.”

In addition to his service to Huntington High School and New York State, Coach Giani has served as an international ambassador for wrestling. Having organized cultural exchange programs in both the Soviet Union and Poland, he has provided disadvantaged youth with the opportunity to learn wrestling from one of the sport's best coaches.

Beyond his service as a coach and international teacher, Mr. Giani had an equally impressive career as a wrestler. Having not begun to wrestle until his junior year of high school, Mr. Giani went on to win ten New York Athletic Club titles, a gold medal at the 1959 Pan American Games and was given the honor of representing the United States on the 1960 Olympic Freestyle team.

I commend Coach Lou Giani for his dedication to the sport as well as his service to the students of Huntington High School and I congratulate him on his induction into the U.S. National Wrestling Hall of Fame.

PRAISE FOR PRESIDENT BUSH
AND PRIME MINISTER ARIEL
SHARON**HON. ERIC CANTOR**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to praise President Bush and Prime Minister Ariel Sharon of Israel for never giving up hope that we can achieve peace in the Middle East. President Bush is a champion of peace and a leader that the world should rally around as he works to bring tranquility to this troubled region. That is why European insistence on negotiating with Yassir Arafat is so troubling. If Europe is committed to peace, now more than ever, they must end their dealings with Yassir Arafat.

Arafat is a terrorist who stalled the peace process to further his personal agenda. No one can doubt that Arafat ordered the murder of thousands of civilians while he stole billions of dollars in humanitarian aid. Arafat has proven he does not support peace, and as a result, Europe should stop dealing with him.

Last week in Aqaba, Jordan, Ariel Sharon and Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas emerged from a joint meeting with President Bush to pledge initial steps toward the goals of ending violence and establishing a Palestinian state.

Abbas promised to end terrorism and the armed uprising against Israel. Sharon said Israel would ease controls on Palestinian areas, dismantle certain outposts and negotiate in good faith toward creation of a Palestinian state alongside Israel. To worldwide appreciation, Mr. Sharon has already begun dismantling outposts and maintaining his commitment to peace. We will continue to watch and hope that Mr. Abbas keeps his promise to end the terrorism and murder of innocent people.

In light of these agreements by both the Israelis and the Palestinian leadership, there is no choice but to end all dealings with Arafat and his terrorists.

Arafat, who was rightly excluded from the Aqaba summit by the U.S., is expected to try to reassert his influence. Looking at the history of Arafat, one can only suspect he will order and organize another wave of terrorist violence to destroy any hope for peace. European diplomats told the United States last week that they would maintain contact with Arafat.

European leaders are aiding Arafat's illegitimate cause and are directly hurting the peace process by continuing to make this terrorist relevant. I call on the European leaders to follow President Bush's lead and to stop dealing with Arafat, who is and never will be anything more than a terrorist.

ON RETIREMENT OF DR. JAMES W.
HOLSINGER, CHANCELLOR OF
ALBERT B. CHANDLER MEDICAL
CENTER**HON. ERNIE FLETCHER**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, Dr. James W. Holsinger Jr., Chancellor of the Albert B. Chandler Medical Center at the University of Kentucky will be retiring this month and I want to take this opportunity to pay tribute to this exceptional physician. Dr. Holsinger is a distinguished member of his community and the proud father of four daughters and the grandfather of three boys. He has had an extensive academic and administrative career.

Dr. Holsinger began his academic career at Duke University, receiving a B.A. from that undergraduate institution in 1960 and an M.D. from its medical school in 1964. He then completed a surgical internship, residency in general surgery, and fellowship in thoracic surgery and anatomy at Duke. In 1968, Dr. Holsinger was awarded a Ph.D. from Duke University with a major in anatomy and a minor in physiology. He then completed a residency in general surgery and a fellowship in cardiology at the Shands Teaching Hospital at the University of Florida. Dr. Holsinger continued his education in administration, attaining a master's degree in Hospital Financial Management from the University of South Carolina in 1981 and a B.A. in Human Studies from the University of Kentucky in 1997.

In 1972, Dr. Holsinger was appointed Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University

of Nebraska Medical Center. In 1974, he was appointed Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University of Connecticut and was promoted to Associate Professor in 1976. Dr. Holsinger moved once again in 1978 to the University of Georgia, where he was appointed Professor of Medicine and Anatomy and served as Assistant Dean in the College of Medicine. In 1981, Dr. Holsinger was appointed Professor of Medicine and Health Care Administration at the Medical College of Virginia, where he was also appointed Assistant Vice President for Health Sciences in 1985.

Dr. Holsinger retired from the United States Army Reserve in 1993, after serving over 31 years. While part of the Army Reserve, Dr. Holsinger was assigned to the Joint Staff as Assistant to the Director for Logistics in 1989 and promoted to Major General in 1990. Dr. Holsinger served in the Department of Veterans Affairs for 26 years, beginning in 1968. The culmination of his career was his appointment by the President of the United States as Chief Medical Director of the Veterans Health Administration in 1990. During his appointment, Dr. Holsinger became Undersecretary for Health and was reassigned as the Director of the VA Medical Center in Lexington, Kentucky, in 1993.

Upon his retirement from his position as Chief Medical Director in 1994, Dr. Holsinger was awarded the position as Chancellor of the Albert B. Chandler Medical Center at the University of Kentucky, where he was also the Chief Academic Officer. As Chancellor, Dr. Holsinger was responsible for planning, organizing, and coordinating the operations of the colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Dentistry, Allied Health, Pharmacy, the School of Public Health, four graduate centers, the University Hospital, the Children's Hospital, and the Kentucky Clinic.

He also provided overall guidance and direction for the academic programs of the Medical Center. Dr. Holsinger helped create the Holsinger Professorship in Anatomy in 1998, to which he and his wife, Barbara, donated \$65,000 this year.

Dr. Holsinger has set a positive example for future physicians by providing quality care to his patients and service to his community. His achievements and recognitions speak for themselves. May God bless Jim and his wife Barbara. I wish them every happiness and success.

ANTI-CONSUMER PRACTICES IN
PAYDAY LENDING NEED TO BE
CONTROLLED**HON. BOBBY L. RUSH**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to some anti-consumer practices in the payday lending industry that need to be controlled. The payday lending industry throws consumers into a perpetual state of debt. They prey on the most vulnerable customers.

During turbulent economic times like these, many Americans continue to look for inventive ways to meet their financial obligations. Payday loan companies provide short-term loans

with high interest rates to consumers in dire need of cash. After supplying verification of employment and proof of an active checking account, consumers write a post-dated check and walk out of the payday loan establishment with cash in hand. Consumers often prefer these loans because the credit history requirement imposed by traditional banks is waived. Unfortunately, the consumers who most need these quick cash loans are usually those least able to repay the loans. The consumer is then subject to exceptionally high interest rates, which range from 261 percent to 913 percent annually.

This is why I am introducing the Payday Borrower Protection Act of 2003. The Payday Borrower Protection Act of 2003 would provide consumers who borrow from payday lenders much greater protection against high interest rates and exorbitant fees. My bill regulates and imposes some rational criteria on these loans, specifically addressing the exorbitant interest rates. This legislation caps annual interest rates at 36 percent and prohibits any payday lender from refinancing or rolling over loans. The bill also sets minimum national standards for state payday loan laws.

It is my hope that this legislation will ensure that fair borrowing practices are offered to consumers. My bill will ensure the industry can still stay afloat. At the same time, customers do not overextend themselves financially.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR OF HURRICANE, WEST VIRGINIA, THE HONORABLE RAYMOND PEAK

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Mayor of Hurricane, West

Virginia, the Honorable Raymond Peak, who has served his fellow citizens for five decades.

The Regional Intergovernmental Council, whose mission is to assist local governments and bring economic development to Kanawha, Putnam, Clay and Boone counties in West Virginia, is dedicating its headquarters to honor the service of Mayor Peak.

It is altogether fitting that this wonderful new facility would carry his name. Raymond Peak is a leader who has always brought people together to solve serious problems with a spirit of cooperation and determination.

He was first elected as Town Recorder in 1951, and has since been elected State Legislator, and Mayor of Hurricane for 40 years. His progressive management skills have been the force in development and construction of millions of dollars worth of modern water systems, extensive improvements to Hurricane City Park, and the wonderful new Hurricane Municipal Complex.

He has also been a teacher, friend and counselor to thousands of young people in his 38 years in education. He was a noted band director, Student Council Advisor, and coach for Hurricane High's first girl's basketball team. In addition to his school "family," Mayor Peak and his wife Gloria have two daughters and a son, and five active grandchildren.

Raymond Peak has also fulfilled his commitment to community service as a volunteer, as a Trustee of Putnam General Hospital, member of the Putnam County Transportation Committee, Salvation Army Board and American Heart Association.

With this dedication, the leadership and spirit of Mayor Raymond Peak will guide the work of the Regional Intergovernmental Council in bringing infrastructure and jobs to our four counties for generations to come. His commitment to a high quality of life and a bright future for all West Virginians will truly be our inspiration.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mayor Raymond Peak on this great honor.

HONORING JERE NEWMAN DAVIS

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and memory of the former Mayor of Kimball, Tennessee, Jere Newman Davis. Mr. Davis, a dedicated husband, caring father, and respected spokesman, passed away recently at the age of 76. Mr. Davis contributed to his community through every aspect of his life. As a veteran, he proudly served in the Korean War. His creativity, patience, and precision allowed him to excel in carpentry, and he blessed Kimball with his skills for many years. It is apparent that Mr. Davis' family and values were a priority in his life. He was a dedicated member of the Kimball Church of Christ and left behind a wife, children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. He applied the same rich values that shaped his large family to successfully lead Kimball as mayor for many years. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply honored to pay tribute to Mr. Jere Newman Davis today. His dedication and selflessness to his community are examples to all who wish to lead. Tennessee will not forget Mr. Davis' contribution.