

In 1991, Wellington Webb was elected mayor of Denver and is the first African American to hold this office. He led our city through an era that has been characterized as a time of vision, energy, progress and economic transformation. Under his leadership, Denver's open space has increased by approximately fifty percent. Denver's economic turnaround during the 1990's is considered a national model. Mayor Webb's commitment to children and education spurred city investment into initiatives including the Safe City Program and the Summer Youth Employment Program. He stood up to violence in our community on numerous occasions and continually affirmed tolerance as an essential civic value. Mayor Webb has brought a passion for the Arts dedicating both time and resources to making our city a leading cultural center. He implemented some of the nation's most progressive historic preservation policies and our city has witnessed the economic benefits resulting from the preservation of Denver's historic core.

During his tenure, Mayor Webb led successful ballot initiatives to enhance our economic vitality and quality of life including expansion of the Colorado Convention Center and the Denver Zoo, renovation of the Quigg Newton Auditorium and construction of the Pepsi Center and INVESCO Field at Mile High. The expansion of the Denver Central Public Library and construction of the Blair-Caldwell African American Research Library and the Webb Municipal Building are also to his credit. Additionally, Mayor Webb promoted the redevelopment of the former Stapleton Airport and Lowry Air Force Base sites—two of the largest in-fill projects in the country—as well as guided the transformation of Central Platte Valley.

During his tenure, Denver International Airport established a reputation as one of the best run airports in the world which has enhanced the ability of existing firms to do business internationally and contributes to the region's ability to attract new businesses on a global scale. Mayor Webb led trade missions to China, Africa, Mexico and Europe to encourage investment and business development between nations. Under his leadership, Denver hosted World Youth Day with Pope John Paul II and hosted President Clinton and other world leaders for the Denver Summit of the Eight, an event that helped to put Denver on the global map.

Mayor Webb has held several prominent national positions including most recently, President of the United States Conference of Mayors. Magazines including Newsweek, Fortune and Ebony have recognized him as one of our nation's most influential civic leaders. He continues to collaborate closely with his wife, former six-term Colorado State Representative, Wilma J. Webb. As Denver's First Lady, she has worked on various issues impacting our youth and families. She previously served as the Secretary's Representatives for Region VIII of the U.S. Department of Labor and has chaired various governmental groups, represented the city at public and private meetings and hosted national and international dignitaries.

Wellington Webb's tenure as Mayor of the City and County of Denver is quickly drawing to a close. He has worked to preserve and improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods' and has been the catalyst for major civic enterprises and economic development undertakings in our city. The success Denver has enjoyed in recent years has been due, in large measure, to Mayor Webb's efforts in culti-

vating a shared vision and promoting inclusion. His leadership has been exemplary and his contributions are rich in consequence. On behalf of the citizens of the 1st Congressional District, I wish to express our gratitude and look forward to his continued involvement in our civic life.

Please join me in commending Mayor Wellington E. Webb, a distinguished public servant. It is the strong leadership he exhibits on a daily basis which continually enhances our lives and builds a better future for all Americans.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 21, 2003

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, due to business in my district, I was unable to vote during rollcall vote No. 396. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING THE LIFE OF CARL MCLLOY

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 21, 2003

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the life of Carl McLlroy and all he has done for this Nation and East Vincent Township.

Carl McLlroy, a veteran of the Korean War, dedicated much of his life ensuring that the history of our Nation and our community was displayed in a manner we could all be proud of. As chairman of the East Vincent Historical Commission, Carl initiated efforts to restore a burial plot of 22 Revolutionary War soldiers, which is now known in our community as the Revolutionary Soldiers Cemetery. He spent countless hours manicuring, grooming, placing flags and planting flowers. Under his careful watch, a sign was placed above its entrance, a flagpole was erected and a wall was refurbished, all with Carl doing much of the work himself. He labored long and hard to turn this neglected treasure into a shrine that truly embraces the importance of the cause for which these soldiers died. Each year during Independence Day, our community gathers at the historic cemetery to honor the 22 soldiers that are buried there and celebrate the freedoms for which they fought.

On July 4, 2003, Carl McLlroy was honored with the 22 soldiers at the Revolutionary Soldiers Cemetery and a plaque was unveiled that pays special tribute to him and all of his efforts. I ask that my colleagues join me today in celebrating the life and achievements of Mr. McLlroy. He was an exemplary citizen and a faithful patriot and he will truly be missed.

HONORING THE D.C. REDWINGS YOUTH PROGRAM

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 21, 2003

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the D.C. Redwings Youth Program for its ex-

traordinary contributions to this Community as well as to inner city children. In only five short years, the D.C. Redwings have produced many of the Nation's top young athletes in the realm of track and field while preparing these youths for a more successful, rewarding life.

Although this program is primarily a sports-based organization, it also encourages youths to focus on education, community service and cultural awareness. Off the track, members are required to attend study hall and participate in various community outreach projects. The Redwings Program uses track and field as well as cross-country running as a vehicle to teach discipline, goal-setting and teamwork for youths, many of whom would be considered "at risk." Furthermore, the team incorporates book clubs, SAT preparation courses and academic enrichment classes in order to develop well-rounded students and encourage further education.

Since its founding, D.C. Redwings Youth Program has produced many junior Olympians, nationally ranked athletes, and All-American runners while fostering an invaluable sense of success and accomplishment in all aspects of their lives. An impressive thirty-eight athletes qualified and competed in the AAU Track and Field Junior Olympics this year alone. The team's success has generated numerous national titles and has turned this relatively small team into one with great promise. The talented athletes repeatedly surpass the expectations of both supporters and competitors.

This season has yielded less than ideal circumstances due to both weather and security, but these conditions clearly illustrate the team's commitment and determination for the sport. After study hall, these youngsters would train in freezing temperatures, pouring rain and a foot of snow. Even during weeks of police-supervised practice and the hunt for D.C.'s serial sniper, when all other athletic and extracurricular activities were discontinued, the Redwings carried on with practice as usual. All throughout this ordeal, the team persistently demonstrated their passion, and their commitment set them apart from the rest.

Mr. Speaker, the D.C. Redwing Youth Program has quickly established itself as one of the most respectable organizations for inner city children. Their track and field team as well as their cross country team command national respect for their talent and enthusiasm. Moreover, the Redwings remain the only independent youth track team in D.C., and we should be proud to have them represent our city. The organization's head coach and founder, Mr. Desmond L. Dunham, deserves our deepest thanks for his dedication to these athletes' future. It is my honor to recognize the Redwings for their unrelenting commitment in improving so many lives.

HONORING THE GREATER RACINE AREA

HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 21, 2003

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 230, which honors the ten communities that received the National Civic League's All-America City