

Beah Richards pioneered a trail for African Americans in the film community. She was one of the original foot soldiers in the fight for African Americans and women in film and for this she deserves recognition.

COMMENDING CRANSTON HIGH SCHOOL WEST'S COMMUNITY SERVICE

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2004

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the students of Cranston High School West for their incredible devotion to combating hunger in the State of Rhode Island. The Student Council decided this school year to once again participate in "The Feinstein Youth Hunger Brigade Program." This State-wide program encourages school-children to collect non-perishable food items, distribute them to a local agency, and raise awareness of the problem of hunger in their community.

The students of Cranston High School West have decided to collect food items for the Comprehensive Community Action Program for the second consecutive year. This worthy program assists between 500 and 600 families in immediate crisis in the Cranston community. The students at Cranston West raised money at football games, held food drives in their homerooms, and bought non-perishable food items. They even started a newsletter to illustrate their efforts and increase awareness of hunger. Their December donation to the Comprehensive Community Action Program, totaling 2,258 items, nearly doubled the largest donation from the previous year. For their dedication to combating hunger in their own community, I commend the students of Cranston High School West and wish them great success in providing an equally impressive donation in April.

TRIBUTE TO WBGO, JAZZ 88

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2004

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to recognize a valued institution in my home city of Newark, New Jersey, WBGO Jazz 88, as they celebrate 25 years of service to our community. Founded in a time when there were no New Jersey-based public radio stations, WBGO recognized the opportunity to use public radio as a means of engaging the community and raising cultural awareness. They saw that they could play a role in uniting people who were divided from years of racial and social unrest, as well as helping to rebuild a city that was in great need of revitalization.

Newark Public Radio is one of 12 New Jersey cultural organizations that has been designated a "Major Impact" arts organization by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts. WBGO has been awarded this distinction for each of the past thirteen years. Within public radio, WBGO is regarded as a leader for its ground-breaking work in community and vol-

unteer involvement, special events, and the presentation of jazz (including collaboration with local artists).

WBGO has made it their mission "to champion jazz . . . through radio, other technology, and events." Through education and entertainment, they preserve the rich heritage and cultural achievements of jazz, ensuring its place as an institution of American culture.

Jazz music has been shaped by multiple influences and cultural experiences—a fusion of European and Caribbean elements—but has emerged as a uniquely American art form. Embedded in the African-American experience, jazz tells a story of the American experiment from a new perspective.

WBGO Jazz 88 brings this story to 15 of the 21 counties of New Jersey, all five boroughs of New York, and portions of Connecticut, reaching an estimated 405,000 listeners each and every week.

I salute WBGO for their dedication to the arts, to public radio, to our community, and to jazz. I am proud to have them in my district, and I wish them continued success as they endeavor to bring the truly magical, truly American legacy of jazz to the 21st Century.

HONORING MARJORIE MURPHY ON BEING NAMED THE COHASSET MARINER'S CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2004

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Marjorie Murphy, who has recently been named Citizen of the Year by the Cohasset Mariner, a respected newspaper on the South Shore of Boston, MA. Marjie, as she is affectionately known, has made a positive impact on the lives of families throughout the area for 30 years. Originally a first grade teacher, she soon realized her true passion was introducing youngsters to the wonder of a good book. For the next quarter-century, Marjie touched countless lives as a librarian at Deer Hill Elementary School in Cohasset.

With her lifetime of public service in mind, Mr. Speaker, I submit to my colleagues this Cohasset Mariner tribute:

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

(By Mary Ford)

As editor of the Cohasset Mariner, it is my pleasure to announce that Marjorie Murphy is the Citizen of the Year. The mother of three and grandmother of two has touched countless lives through her roughly 25 years as school librarian at Deer Hill.

With eyes that twinkle and an infectious smile, Mrs. Murphy—fondly known as Marjie—can make even the oldest readers among us decide to pick up a children's book, perhaps for the first time in many years.

Mrs. Murphy did not start out as a librarian. She taught the first grade and wasn't so sure being in the library was the right place for her—until she tried it, and then she didn't look back.

She doesn't forget any of the hundreds of children that have passed through the doors to her warm, welcoming library complete with sofas to curl up and read upon.

While nominations were open, a total of 33 different individuals, families or organizations took the time to propose a citizen for

the annual award—detailing his or her contributions to help make this town we all love a better place.

The selection panel consisting of Judy Volungis of Forest Avenue, Betsy Connolly of Lily Pond Lane and Roger Hill of Highland Avenue joined myself, editor Mary Ford, on Sunday to pore over the heartfelt letters of nomination.

Barb Mullin wrote, "With Marjie, children always come first. She's never too busy to help a child select that 'perfect' book or listen to a review of their latest read. It's a pleasure to watch former students drop by—and they frequently do! She never seems to forget a face or a name. Ask any one of them about a teacher who positively influenced them and Marjie's name always pops up."

Claire Cahill said Mrs. Murphy deserved the award for her many years of dedication to the children of Cohasset.

"Her smile, her sparks of enthusiasm, and her unending quest to interest every child in her love of reading has made her a very likely candidate for Citizen of the Year," wrote Karen Murphy.

Dot and Lee Cisneros stated, "Marjie is a giver. She has given and continues to give of her time, her knowledge, her understanding, her devotion to selling the young and the old on her definition of the value of learning."

Judith Collins simply said. "She makes each child feel special."

So we extend our warm congratulations to Mrs. Murphy, who has devoted her life to helping children discover the wonders of reading and the value of a good book.

With this award, the Cohasset Mariner offers recognition for making a difference. In our society too many role models go unrecognized. Too often people today look to the sports, rock or movie stars with envy, when the real hero is the local police officer, firefighter, parent, teacher, church leader, neighbor or government official.

The annual Citizen of the Year Award is our way of taking our hats off to those among us who go that extra mile without asking for anything in return but the intrinsic reward of helping to make Cohasset a better place.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. KENNETH SMITH, RECIPIENT OF THE AMERICAN SHORE AND BEACH ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR 2004

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2004

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, those people who dedicate their lives to the protection of the environment are very special and deserve full recognition of their devotion, which is why I'm so pleased to be able to congratulate Ken Smith for being awarded the American Shore and Beach Preservation Association's Lifetime Achievement Award for 2004.

Ken has been a tireless, devoted advocate for not only New Jersey beaches but for beaches throughout the United States. Ken has spent twenty-five years as the "Coastal Advocate," has spent more than seven years as a Vice President and as a Director of the American Shore and Beach Preservation; and is a co-founder of the Alliance for a Living Ocean, formed in response to the awful summer when garbage and other pollution was washing up on the Jersey shore in 1987. The Alliance for a Living Ocean won the Governor's Award for Volunteerism in 1999, and