

citizens, namely African Americans, from integrating into society after centuries of slavery, felon disenfranchisement laws prevent ex-offenders from reintegrating into society after retribution.

Statistics on felon disenfranchisement indicate that Congressional action is clearly warranted. The Sentencing Project estimates that 4.7 million Americans, or 1 in 43 adults, have currently or permanently lost the right to vote as a result of a felony conviction. 1.4 million or 13 percent of African American men are disenfranchised, a rate seven times the national average. Given current rates of incarceration, 3 in 10 of the next generation of African American men can expect to be disenfranchised at some point in their lifetime. An estimated 676,730 women are currently ineligible to vote as a result of a felony conviction. These statistics have prompted state responses. Most recently, Alabama, Nevada, Wyoming, and Connecticut, have adopted legislation that expands voting rights for ex-felons. We must now act at the Federal level.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE
RUTH MCCLENDON

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 15, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Representative Ruth Jones McClendon for her dedicated service to the people of Texas.

Ruth McClendon has been a tremendous advocate for public safety and public health in the State of Texas. She is the creator of the Neighborhood Cellular on Patrol program, which has won acclaim from President George W. Bush for its effectiveness in reducing crime. She founded the Community Crime Prevention Network to fight neighborhood crime, sponsored legislation to support community policing and increase penalties for church burnings, and hosted a seminar with constituents to help them respond to gang activity.

While in the legislature, Representative McClendon passed two children's asthma bills, for which she received the American Lung Association of Texas Public Policy Award for 2001. She created a medical academy to prepare medical students to practice in inner city neighborhoods, and worked to pass a bill to dedicate \$400 million for a pediatric cancer center in San Antonio.

Her legislative activity has brought her numerous awards, including listings in the World's Who's Who of Women and Who's Who in Texas. She is a graduate of Texas Southern University, and holds an honorary doctorate from Guadalupe College Theological Seminary. She was the first African-American woman elected to the San Antonio City Council, and was named a 2003 Headliner by the San Antonio Chapter of Women in Communications.

Mr. Speaker, Ruth Jones McClendon has been a tireless and effective public servant, and a role model and guardian for her community. She deserves our gratitude, and I am pleased to have this opportunity to recognize her for her work.

SOUTH PARK HIGH SCHOOL

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 15, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call your attention to the great South Park High School in Buffalo, New York which this year is celebrating 90 years of excellence in educating Western New York's young people.

Ninety-one years ago this week, on St. Patrick's Day, the people of South Buffalo broke ground at 150 Southside Parkway for the construction of what would become City of Buffalo Public School Number 206.

That same year, on June 1st, the cornerstone was placed at PS 206, also known as South Park High School, marking the institution as the fifth public high school built in the City of Buffalo.

On September 7, 1915, the doors of South Park opened; welcoming 680 students and 32 faculty members.

Home of the Sparks, the South Park faithful proudly display their school spirit through the black and red tradition.

Over the last nine decades the teachers and administrators at South Park have motivated, nurtured and educated thousands of Buffalo's youth, preparing each for the road ahead and providing all with the tools necessary to pursue a limitless future.

I am proud to call myself an alumnus of South Park and grateful for the wealth of knowledge and values I have obtained through my experiences at the school.

Today, Mr. Speaker, I thank you for the opportunity to commemorate the 90th Anniversary of Buffalo's South Park High School and wish the institution continued success in installing pride and excellence in Western New York young people for decades to come.

CONGRATULATING BETTY MILLER
ON RECEIVING THE JOSEPH F.
SAPORITO LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT
AWARD

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 15, 2005

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Betty Miller, who was recognized at a reception held February 20, 2005, at the Grammercy Ballroom in Pittston. The Sunday Dispatch has chosen Betty Miller as the recipient of the Joseph F. Saporito Lifetime of Service Award.

My good friend Betty Miller is a selfless woman who has devoted her life to making life better for others. Of all her accomplishments—and there are many—Betty is perhaps proudest of the Wyoming Monument Association. She is in her 47th year as president of this organization, and she was preceded by her mother-in-law. Sarah Perkins Miller was president for 35 years.

The Association has more than 350 members—all women—many of whom are direct descendants of those who died in the Wyoming Massacre of July 3, 1778. Betty's ances-

tors, William Reynolds and Elias Roberts, are listed on the Monument among the victims of the Wyoming Massacre.

The first attempts to build a memorial date back to 1809. In the spring of 1841, the women of Luzerne County came together under the name Ladies Luzerne Monumental Association and raised the money for the monument. In 1860, the State of Pennsylvania gave the title to the land to the Wyoming Monument Association.

I was pleased to work with Betty in getting the Wyoming Monument rightfully listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Betty is proud of the Monument and proud of the role women have played in its history.

Betty became a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution 60 years ago. She has served as the First Vice President General of the national organization, making her the highest-ranked Pennsylvania member ever. Betty just stepped down after her second stint as chair of the Wyoming Valley Chapter.

Betty has served as state president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs in Pennsylvania, president of the Wyoming Woman's Club, and chair of the board of the Luzerne County Library System.

Betty has been actively involved with the Greater Pittston Salvation Army Advisory Board for 22 years and served as chair of the board on two occasions. During the latest Red Kettle Campaign, Betty—at the age of 88—rang a bell for the Salvation Army for 6 days in a row, from 9 in the morning to 5 in the evening.

In 1976, she was appointed to the Bicentennial Commission and participated in planning the nation's observance of its 200th anniversary. She received a special commendation from the governor for her role in the Bicentennial.

Betty volunteers at the Veterans' Administration Hospital. Betty was presented with the Four Chaplains Legion of Honor Membership Award by the Chapel of the Four Chaplains in Philadelphia and later received the Humanitarian Award for "distinguished service to her fellow man."

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating this fine lady who has given so much of herself. She is most deserving of accolades from The Sunday Dispatch.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE AND
WORK OF SERBIAN PRIME MINISTER
ZORAN DJINDJIC

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 15, 2005

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on March 12, 2003, Serbia's Prime Minister Zoran Djindjic was brutally assassinated in broad day light on the streets of Belgrade, Serbia.

As Serbia's first democratically-elected, non-communist Prime Minister following the fall of Slobodan Milosevic, Zoran Djindjic brought to his office and the people of Serbia more than democracy and freedom—he brought with him the hopes and dreams of the Serbian people. Under the oppressive rule of tyrannical dictators and autocrats, the Serbian people were emotionally and physically battered and scarred by years of ethnic civil-war and bombings. Prime Minister Djindjic promised them a better future filled with peace and prosperity.