

Muriel Cole Slaughter, passed away in 2001. My deepest condolences go out to Dan's son, Judge Kemp Nall and his wife Denise, his daughters Susan Nall Perry, and Dian Nall Taylor and her husband Tommy Taylor, his 10 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren. He will be missed by his family and all those who knew him and thought of him as a friend. I will continue to keep Dan and his family in my thoughts and prayers.

HONORING BERKELEY CITY  
COUNCILMEMBER MARGARET  
BRELAND

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 19, 2005*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and work of former Berkeley City Councilmember Margaret Breland of Berkeley, California. Serving the people of West Berkeley first as a private citizen and then as a public servant, Margaret devoted most of her adult life to improving conditions in a community she saw to be underrepresented and often overlooked. Margaret retired from the Berkeley City Council in November of 2004, and after a long battle with breast cancer, passed away on April 7, 2005.

Though Margaret was originally from Beaumont, Texas, she spent the majority of her life in Berkeley after moving there as a child with her family. The oldest of four children, she was counted on by her mother to help run the household. After graduating from Berkeley High School, Margaret became a licensed vocational nurse, an occupation in which she served for 27 years.

Margaret retired early from her work as a nurse to care for her mother in the late 1980s, but became increasingly involved in community and public service activities at Liberty Hill Missionary Baptist Church, where she was a member. As chairperson of Liberty Hill's scholarship committee, she raised thousands of dollars every year to ensure that every church member attending college received at least \$1,000 in financial assistance.

Margaret also made sure that members of her church remained informed through her work and that of others who served on the congregation's Christian Social Concern Committee. One of the ways in which Margaret first became known to the public in Berkeley was through spearheading the ultimately successful campaign to install a traffic light at Ninth Street and University Avenue, an effort aimed at protecting children crossing the street on their way to and from the church. Margaret continued to advocate for the safety of children and others in her neighborhood not only through her work at Liberty Hill, but also as the chair of both the Human Welfare Action Committee and the West Berkeley Neighborhood Development Corporation, and through her involvement with the West Berkeley Area Plan Committee, the West Berkeley Community Cares Services Bank and the Community Advisory Board.

After several years of advocating on behalf of the residents of West Berkeley, in the mid-1990s Margaret decided to seek public office, and was elected as the District 2 representative to the Berkeley City Council in 1996. In

her first term, she secured over one and a half million dollars in funding for projects and facilities located in her district, working to make up for funding gaps that she felt had long been ignored. Regardless of the challenges she faced, Margaret worked tirelessly to provide affordable housing, access to healthcare, police and fire protection resources and support for youth in her district. Though she struggled with her illness for much of the second half of her time in office, she remained steadfastly committed to serving her constituents, demanding daily briefings and making efforts to go to City Hall even as her condition and treatments diminished her physical strength. Margaret's devotion to serving her constituents earned her a reputation as a candid and straightforward representative of the people, someone who was truly dedicated to serving as a voice for those without the means to advocate for themselves.

On April 15, 2005, Margaret Breland's life and legacy will be honored at her own Liberty Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Berkeley, California. It is with great sorrow but also with great pride that I add my voice to all those that have joined together today to pay tribute to Margaret and the spirit of selflessness that she embodied. Margaret's commitment to and concern for others set her apart as an elected official and as a human being. The generosity that led her to serve others throughout her life is an inspiration to all of us to follow her example in giving back to our communities, our country and our world.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS  
OF DEBORAH RODRIGUEZ, DE  
ZAVALA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
TEACHER OF THE YEAR

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 19, 2005*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the enormous contributions of Deborah Rodriguez to the students of De Zavala Elementary School.

A long time Texan, Mrs. Rodriguez graduated from San Marcos High School and later went on to receive her teaching degree from Texas State University. She is certified in Bilingual Education and teaches first and second grade bilingual students.

Mrs. Rodriguez credits her husband for becoming a teacher, as he comes from a family of teachers and educators. She also gives credit to the many teachers who she had when she was younger and beginning to learn English.

Mrs. Rodriguez began to teach in 1997 when her youngest child began kindergarten. She is an avid believer in her students knowing and learning to speak more than one language, because she regrets that she started school speaking only Spanish. Her mother, who spoke and read to her in both languages and gave her a strong foundation in reading and writing, is the reason why she loves to do these things today.

Deborah Rodriguez is one of San Marcos' outstanding educators and I am very proud to have had this opportunity to recognize her today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 19, 2005*

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, on April 14, 2005, I was unavoidably absent from this chamber. I would like the record to show that, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote No. 107 and "no" on rollcall vote No. 108.

REINTRODUCTION OF THE REVI-  
TALIZING CITIES THROUGH  
PARKS ENHANCEMENT ACT

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 19, 2005*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I introduce legislation, the Revitalizing Cities Through Parks Enhancement Act, that would establish a \$10 million grant program for qualified, non-profit, community groups, allowing them to lease municipally-owned vacant lots and transform these areas into parks. These vacant lots often are areas of heavy drug-trafficking. Parks and gardens created with the grants will not only provide safe places to gather, but will increase property values as well. The grants will be available from the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to groups who have met standards of financial security, and who have histories of serving their communities. To further ensure that these grants are used to make lasting positive changes, land improved and made into open community space under this legislation must be available for use as open space from the local government for at least seven years.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS  
OF YVONNE DELGADO, TRAVIS  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER  
OF THE YEAR

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 19, 2005*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the many accomplishments of Yvonne Delgado, Travis Elementary School Teacher of the Year.

Mrs. Delgado is a Deaf Education Teacher at Travis Elementary. She holds a Bachelor of Science and a Master's Degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders/Deafness Studies from the University of Texas at Austin. She has been the Lead Deaf Education Teacher at Travis since 1997, putting her philosophy to work for the benefit of her students.

As Lead Deaf Education Teacher, Mrs. Delgado oversees the Deaf Education team of three teachers and three interpreters, as well as managing the cases of five to ten students and working as a classroom teacher herself. In addition, she provides training and expertise to the general education staff on deaf education issues, equipment, and modifications.

Mrs. Delgado has wanted to be a teacher since she was a child, and has always had a

keen interest in sign language. She is absolutely committed to her students, getting to know them outside of school and treating them as members of her family. She works constantly to provide her students with better communication skills and confidence in themselves. She is a tremendous contributor to her community and to her students, and I am honored to have the chance to recognize her here today.

---

INTRODUCTION OF THE  
SPORTSMANSHIP IN HUNTING ACT

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 19, 2005*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, today I, along with Representative CHRIS SHAYS and 17 other members, introduced the Sportsmanship in Hunting Act of 2005. This bill, similar to a bill I introduced last congress, gets at an issue that many would be surprised to learn even occurs: the "hunting" of an animal inside an enclosed area, a fence. By halting the interstate shipment of captive exotic mammals for the purpose of being shot in a fenced enclosure for entertainment or for trophy, the bill we introduced today will lead to significant reductions in "canned hunt" operations.

At more than 1,000 of these commercial "canned hunt" operations around the country, trophy hunters pay a fee to shoot captive exotic mammals—animals that have often lived their lives being fed by hand and thus have no fear of humans. Simply stated, there could be no easier target. Canned hunting ranches know this and can therefore offer guaranteed trophies, touting a "No Kill, No Pay" policy.

Who supports canned hunt operations? Not rank-and-file hunters. In fact, in a poll of their readership described in the July 2003 issue, the editors of Field and Stream magazine reported that 65 percent of sportsmen oppose canned hunts. Additionally, lifelong hunters in Montana, including members of the Montana Bowhunters Association, spearheaded a state ballot initiative in 2000 that led to a ban on shooting animals in fenced enclosures. In addition to Montana, 23 states have full or partial bans on canned hunts for mammals. The momentum to address canned hunt operations is no surprise given that an element of hunting that so many sportsmen hold dear, that of the "fair chase," is absolutely absent under canned hunt conditions. The time is long overdue for the federal government to participate in efforts to end this despicable practice.

By halting the interstate transport of non-indigenous mammals used in canned hunts, the Sportsmanship in Hunting Act will curb a practice so egregious that hunters and animal advocates alike view it as unfair and inhumane. This bill is supported by numerous local and national groups representing more than ten million Americans.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I encourage my colleagues to join me in putting a lid on canned hunts.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF DR.  
SAMUEL PROCTOR MASSIE

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 19, 2005*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the outstanding life of Dr. Samuel P. Massie, who passed away at the age of 85 on April 10, 2005.

Dr. Massie, a chemistry professor, was the first African American to teach at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

As a young graduate student, Dr. Massie worked on the Manhattan Project where he and other scientists made liquid compounds of Uranium for the making of an atomic bomb. He also conducted pioneering silicon chemistry research and investigated antibacterial agents. Dr. Massie held the patent for chemical agents effective in battling gonorrhea. Additionally, he received awards for research in combating malaria and meningitis, worked on drugs to fight herpes and cancer and developed protective foams against nerve gases.

Dr. Massie was a former professor at several historically black colleges including my alma mater, Fisk University. Dr. Massie was instrumental in encouraging African American and other minority students to pursue science careers.

Samuel Proctor Massie Jr. was born in North Little Rock, Arkansas, the son of two schoolteachers. It is purported that he could read at a third grade level by the time he entered the first grade. He graduated high school at the age of 13 and went on to graduate Summa Cum Laude in chemistry from Arkansas Agricultural, Mechanical and Normal College (now the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff) in 1936. He then received a Master's degree in Chemistry from Fisk University in 1940.

I met Dr. Massie when I was a student at Fisk University, where he was teaching physical chemistry. It was an extremely difficult class and as a boy who had received an education in the rural, segregated south, all of this was unfamiliar territory. I was failing his class and Dr. Massie came to me and said, "Young man, you're going to fail this class, sign this card and drop the class." I did, and Dr. Massie credits himself as the reason I became a lawyer.

Dr. Massie was a remarkable chemist, academician, and friend. His accomplishments are too many to mention and the lives he's impacted too numerous to count. He will forever be remembered for his character and his extraordinary work.

---

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS  
OF GAYLE RHOADES, SAN  
MARCOS HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER  
OF THE YEAR

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 19, 2005*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the countless contributions of Gayle Rhoades, San Marcos High School Teacher of the Year.

Gayle Rhoades has a Bachelor of Science degree from Mississippi State University. She has been teaching Academic Biology and Pre-AP Biology at San Marcos High School for the past four years. She combines tough discipline and dedication to helping individual students into an effective teaching strategy.

Ms. Rhoades has recently proved herself in one of her school's toughest assignments, as a teacher in the PASS program. PASS is a program for second and third year freshman repeaters. Many of the students in the program have persistent attendance and discipline problems, and are resistant to authority and advice. Ms. Rhoades has dealt with these students with firmness and patience, and her efforts have paid off. Many of her students credit her with putting them on a path to graduation and success in the face of considerable odds.

Ms. Gayle Rhoades has been a tremendous role model and source of support for her students, and an excellent resource for her school system and community. She has taken up challenging assignments without complaint, and changed numerous lives for the better. She represents the best of our public education system, and I am proud to have the opportunity to recognize her here.

---

DEATH TAX REPEAL  
PERMANENCY ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. TODD TIAHRT**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 13, 2005*

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 8, the Death Tax Repeal Permanency Act of 2005. This bill would put an end to the estate tax, commonly referred to as the death tax.

My only disappointment in voting to eliminate the death tax this year is that we must again wait for the Senate to follow suit. The House has already voted to permanently repeal this tax in both the 107th Congress and the 108th Congress. Unfortunately, the Senate has not been able to pass this permanent repeal.

I am very pleased, however, that the House has once again listened to the people and will try to nail the coffin shut on the death tax. Asking families to pay taxes on what is left behind when a loved one dies is simply not the right way for a government to collect taxes.

Throughout our history, Americans have worked vigorously to achieve great success despite extraordinary hardships. Farmers have tilled the earth, inventors have exercised their ingenuity, builders have constructed, entrepreneurs have established businesses, and in the process of becoming successful, wealth is created. When a person successfully pursues a dream and wisely manages resources over a lifetime, the federal government should not reward those accomplishments by seizing a significant portion of what he intended to pass along to the family.

As is often the case, family farmers or small business owners make plans to pass the family business to their children after they die. Unfortunately, due to burdensome death taxes, there are countless examples of families who have been forced to sell the business or purchase it back from the government.