

IN HONOR OF STANLEY M. FISHER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Stanley M. Fisher, devoted family man, accomplished attorney, friend and mentor to many, and first-ever recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award, bestowed upon him by the Northern District of Ohio Chapter of the Federal Bar Association. This premier mark of excellence reflects Mr. Fisher's multifaceted service in the legal profession, service framed by achievement, integrity and heart.

After graduating from Oberlin College and the University of Michigan Law School, Mr. Fisher worked as a clerk for the 6th Circuit with Chief Judge Charles Simon and later for Justice Potter Stewart, before Justice Stewart was appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court. Equipped with unwavering commitment, steadfast integrity and expertise, Mr. Fisher's work serves as a source of knowledge, strength and advocacy throughout all levels of the justice system. His significant service within the Federal Bar Association, FBA, extends from his role as past President of the Northern District of Ohio, lifetime member of the FBA Board of Directors, and most notably, the first Ohioan to serve as National President of the FBA.

In 1983, Mr. Fisher was appointed as an Ohio Commissioner with the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws by then Governor, Richard Celeste. He was reappointed by Ohio Governors Voinovich and Taft. Mr. Fisher's talent and conviction have impacted cases from Ohio to our Nation's Capitol. President Clinton appointed Mr. Fisher to the Federal Service Impasse Panel in 1992. For 10 years, he handled mediation and arbitration cases, directing each grievance from preparation to resolution. Mr. Fisher continues his work as a local and national mediator and is currently serving his second term as a member of the American Arbitration Association Advisory Council.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Stanley M. Fisher, for his outstanding and continued excellence as attorney, guide and leader within the legal profession. His unwavering focus on the balanced scales of justice serves to protect legal equity throughout our American system of justice, from Cleveland, to Washington, DC and beyond.

IN LASTING MEMORY OF
REPRESENTATIVE NAP MURPHY**HON. MIKE ROSS**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2005

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a great Arkansan and a devoted public servant, State Representative "Nap" Napoleon Bonaparte Murphy. Representative Murphy passed away on August 23rd at the age of 83. He worked for nearly 50 years as the owner of a successful car dealership in Hamburg, Arkansas, but is better re-

membered for his colorful personality and career dedicated to helping the people in his community from the Arkansas State Legislature.

Representative Murphy was born on September 26, 1921, in Crossett, Arkansas. After moving to Hamburg in 1948, he bought the Main Street Esso Station and just 4 years later, he purchased the local Ford Dealership. Representative Murphy was elected to the Arkansas House of Representatives in 1959, serving just one term before returning to Hamburg to run his business, and was re-elected in 1963 where he served until his retirement in 1995. Representative Murphy served as the distinguished Chairman of the House Agriculture and Economic Development Committee.

I had the pleasure of knowing Representative Murphy when I served in the Arkansas State Senate. He was a dynamic character who would begin and end every legislative session wearing his white suit and black bowtie. He had a great love for bluegrass music and enjoyed playing the banjo, mandolin, guitar, and fiddle.

Arkansas will certainly miss this great politician from humble beginnings and I will miss his sense of humor and dedication to our state. My condolences go out to Nap's son, Jimmy, his daughter, Ila Murphy Campbell, his eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

FREEDOM FOR OSCAR MARIO
GONZÁLEZ**HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2005

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Oscar Mario González, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. González is an independent journalist and pro-democracy activist in totalitarian Cuba. His peaceful, pro-democracy activities and truthful articles have helped the world to learn the facts about the nightmare that is the Castro regime. Unfortunately, the dictatorship forcefully represses those who bravely support freedom and rise in resistance to the despotic regime.

According to Reporters Without Borders, on March 24, 2005, Mr. González was summoned and questioned by regime agents, who threatened that he would not be able to see his family again if he continued practicing as an independent journalist. Despite these gangster tactics and heinous threats, Mr. González continued to demand basic human rights for the people of Cuba.

As part of the tyrant's heinous July 2005 crackdown on peaceful pro-democracy opponents, on July 22, Mr. González was arrested as he tried to participate in a peaceful demonstration outside the French Embassy in Havana, demanding the release of political prisoners in Cuba. As part of this vicious crackdown, approximately 33 brave opponents were arrested at home, on their way to the demonstration or on the sidelines of the gathering.

According to CubaNet, Mr. González has been charged with violating Law 88. This is the same sham law that the tyrannical regime

used to wrongly convict many of the pro-democracy activists arrested in March 2003.

Mr. González is a brilliant example of the heroism of the Cuban people. Despite incessant repression, harassment, incarceration and abuse, he remains committed to the conviction that freedom of the press and democracy are the inalienable right of the Cuban people. It is a crime against humanity that Castro's totalitarian gulags are full of men and women, like Mr. González, who represent the best of the Cuban nation.

Mr. Speaker, let me be very clear, Mr. González is languishing in the grotesque squalor of the gulag because he desires freedom for all Cubans. My Colleagues, we must demand the immediate and unconditional release of Oscar Mario González and every political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

WELCOMING TAIWAN'S PRESIDENT
CHEN**HON. SHERROD BROWN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2005

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, the president of Taiwan, Chen Shui-bian, will be making a stop in Miami en route to Central America later this month. He will stop overnight in San Francisco on his return to Taiwan.

I am sorry that he won't be stopping in Washington, DC. Many of my colleagues and I hope that in the future he and other Taiwanese leaders will be able to visit our capital.

President Chen has been in office for more than 5 years. During his tenure as president, he has been able to unite Taiwan, stabilize cross-strait relations, seek social harmony and reinvigorate the economy.

To maintain cross-strait peace and stability, he reacted calmly to China's enactment of its provocative antiseccession law last March.

Under his presidency, Taiwan's global competitiveness increased and the nation now ranks as one of the world's top economies.

On the international front, President Chen made several state visits to diplomatic allies. In April he went to the Vatican City to pay final respects to the late Pope John Paul II. During his brief stopovers in Miami and San Francisco this September, I hope my colleagues will take the time to visit with President Chen. President Chen is the leader of a young but prosperous democracy, and our mutual love of freedom can only be strengthened by these visits.

Taiwan is one of America's most important allies. Taiwan is also our trading partner and friend. Whenever America has need, Taiwan is there. They have contributed to the Twin Towers Fund, the Pentagon Memorial Fund and most recently, Taiwan gave two million dollars to help victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Mr. Speaker, we must also remember Taiwan's unique role in maintaining peace and stability in the Asian Pacific region. To have permanent peace in the region, the United States should urge Taiwan and China to resume peaceful dialogue and exchanges.

We should also encourage Taiwan's participation in the World Health Organization and the United Nations. Taiwan is a vibrant democracy, and I hope the entire world will recognize its people's love of freedom.

I hope all Members of Congress will join me in welcoming President Chen as he transits through the United States.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
DENNIS MORTON

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Dennis Morton, committed public servant, Vietnam War Veteran, and friend and mentor to many, upon the occasion of his retirement, following 32 years of dedicated service within the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Mr. Morton's tenure at HUD reflects vision, ingenuity, endless energy and strong leadership, all focused on ensuring the availability of quality housing for the most vulnerable individuals of our society—our struggling and our poor.

Mr. Morton's service at HUD began in 1977, when he was hired as a Realty Specialist in the Housing Management Division. Mr. Morton concentrated his efforts on all phases of acquisition, purchase and restoration of multifamily properties. As they have for decades, these properties exist as a basic yet vital need for thousands of residents in Cleveland and beyond—a dignified and safe place to call home.

Even though HUD has reorganized several times since its inception, Mr. Morton's unwavering focus on transforming bankrupt multifamily properties into vibrant structures, has provided quality housing for thousands of citizens of all ages, from young families to the elderly. From Realty Specialist, to Public Trust Officer, to Director of the Federal Housing Authority Multifamily Program Center Office in Cleveland, Mr. Morton directed the acquisition and rehabilitation of numerous public and senior housing units, including Longwood Apartments, Reserve Square and the award-winning Arbor Park Village.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Dennis Morton, whose dedicated work as a HUD administrator has provided a safe home for the most vulnerable residents of our community. Mr. Morton's legacy at HUD will continue to serve as a brilliant example for all those who will follow in his path. His vital contribution continues to offer shelter, dignity, and for many, the necessary support for their journey toward personal independence.

CONGRATULATING PHILLIP'S
FLOWERS AND GIFTS ON BEING
NAMED 2005 "RETAILER OF THE
YEAR" BY THE ILLINOIS RETAIL
MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION
(IRMA)

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2005

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friends at Phillip's Flowers in Westmont, Illinois. On September 21, the Illinois Retail Merchants Association, IRMA will

honor Phillip's Flowers as the 2005 "Retailer of the Year" for its commitment to quality, customer service, and floral industry improvement.

Phillip's Flowers deserves to be recognized and honored in this way for its many accomplishments. In the 82 years since James and Helen Phillip started Phillip's Flowers, it has grown to become a Chicago area institution. Since 1923, the founders and their offspring have grown and improved the business to the point where it now ranks among the top 20 florists in the country in terms of delivery volume. In the 1980's, Phillip's helped launch a cooperative delivery program to expand the business's service reach throughout the region and nation. And its service on the American Floral Endowment Board and the Society of American Florists has helped shape the floral industry as a whole. These accomplishments alone are worthy of this high honor.

Mr. Speaker, when the late Pope John Paul II visited Chicago in 1979, Phillip's Flowers was selected to supply more than 17,000 chrysanthemums for the occasion. When Chicago Magazine ran its 2002 Readers Choice Awards, Phillip's Flowers was chosen as "Chicago's favorite florist." And when IRMA in 2001 selected the top Retailers of the 20th Century, Phillip's was honored among them. These honors and superlatives are reserved for only the finest businesses, and Phillip's Flowers has clearly deserved them.

But perhaps most important of all, Phillip's has provided beautiful flowers for many of my constituents' most important moments in life—weddings, bar and bat mitzvahs, and special birthdays and anniversaries.

I congratulate Phillip's Flowers on receiving the "Retailer of the Year" award, and I wish the people of Phillip's the very best wishes for continued success in the years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF 100 YEARS OF
CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOLS
IN GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2005

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the 100th anniversary of the Catholic Secondary Schools (CSS) of Greater Grand Rapids, Michigan, which are located in the Third Congressional District of Michigan, which I proudly represent.

The Catholic schools have a long and illustrious history in our area, serving thousands of children and their families for the past century. The Catholic Secondary Schools of Greater Grand Rapids are pioneering coeducational high schools whose conception, growth, and evolution were driven largely by the desire to offer students a quality, Catholic education. Catholic Central High School opened its doors in September 1906, as Catholic Central for boys and Sacred Heart Academy for girls. Established by Bishop Joseph Richter, with the support of Father Robert W. Brown of St. James and Father John Schmitt of St. Andrew, the first graduating classes consisted of 7 boys and 20 girls. The decision to open a central Catholic high school, let alone a co-educational one, was unprecedented in the Nation at that time. Later growth led to the opening of West Catholic High School in 1962.

This innovative diocesan co-educational school would survive both world wars, the Great Depression, fire, financial stress and clergy shortage. Along the way it inspired hundreds of other schools nationwide and grew into two schools with multiple facilities. The 2 high schools have produced more than 27,000 graduates and thousands of community leaders.

The 2005–06 school year marks the centennial anniversary of Catholic high school education in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Catholic Central and West Catholic's success represents the united effort of the bishop, parish clergy, teaching Sisters and parents. Together they were the foundation that helped realize the dream of having a Catholic high school education in Grand Rapids. This centennial is a true celebration and testament to the enduring resilience of Catholic high school education in Grand Rapids.

Graduates of the CSS have entered into religious life; careers in medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, law, education and coaching, accounting, banking, engineering and retailing and many other walks of life, contributing in a positive, moral, generous and caring fashion to the communities in which their homes and businesses are located, particularly West Michigan.

For nearly a century, the mission of the CSS of Greater Grand Rapids has been to empower students to define their vision and pursue their goals with confidence, competence and Christian generosity. In an environment deeply rooted in faith formation, student achievement and appreciation of God-given talents, Catholic Central and West Catholic students are challenged to become fully integrated persons who lead through service. CSS, in dynamic partnerships with families, alumni and the community, promote learning for everyone, encourage understanding and embracing of diversity, and establish a foundation for life-long learning.

Please join me in honoring the 100th anniversary of the Catholic Secondary Schools of Greater Grand Rapids.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ROYAL
FAMILY AND PEOPLE OF THAI-
LAND

HON. DANA ROHRBACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2005

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and thank the people, especially the royal family, of Thailand.

In my lifetime, the people of Thailand, guided by a benevolent and wise royal family, have been among America's best friends. Throughout the ups and downs of the Vietnam era, the Thai's have stood with us steadfastly, even when it was uncomfortable for them to do so. They have also played a tremendous humanitarian role by taking in refugees from tyranny from all directions.

Their generosity and friendship is recognized, respected and appreciated. In a time when millions of Americans are suffering the disastrous affects of Hurricane Katrina, they have stepped forward to offer a helping hand. They have donated thirty tons of humanitarian goods such as food and blankets. It is inspiring to see that there are countries who appreciate our help in their times of need and are