

“The best way to honor the memory of General Narinder Singh is to continue to pray for and work for our God-given birthright of freedom,” Dr. Aulakh said. “We must continue to press for our God-given birthright of freedom,” he said. “Without political power religions cannot flourish and nations perish. India claims to be a democracy. It is time it recognized the right of self-determination for all people in South Asia.”

TRIBUTE TO CORA EAVES  
BRAYNON

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 17, 2005*

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of Mrs. Cora Eaves Braynon, a true leader whose rich legacy will enhance our community for many years to come.

Cora Braynon spent her entire career in public health—as a nurse, educator, administrator and as a North Broward Hospital District Commissioner. Mrs. Braynon received a bachelor's degree in nursing from the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama and a Master's in Public Health from the University of Michigan.

Mrs. Braynon was appointed to the North Broward Hospital District Board in 1999 and reappointed in 2003. Her last role was that of Vice Chair. Mrs. Braynon also served on numerous District committees including the Executive Committee, Joint Conference Committee, Minority Business Enterprise Committee, and the Quality Assessment/Oversight Committee.

Prior to receiving the appointment as Commissioner of the North Broward Hospital District, Mrs. Braynon was the first black Registered Nurse employed by the Broward County Health Department. She served as Senior Executive Nursing Director for 18 years and retired in 1994. Mrs. Braynon was also an instructor at Broward Community College, Florida Atlantic University and an adjunct faculty member of Barry University Adult and Community Education Program. She also served on the Advisory Council on Nurse Education, Division of Nursing for the Public Health Services, Department of Health and Human Services.

Aside from her commitment to public health, Cora Braynon served 52 years as a life member of Delta Sigma Theta, Inc., a public service sorority. She was a pioneer in developing programs to help safeguard the health of teenage mothers and their babies. Her interests were reflected in her sorority work where she implemented the Reaching Adolescent Parents Program. She was also devoted to the Delteen youth program where she mentored many young women on their role and commitment to finer womanhood. Cora Braynon, the immediate past president of the Broward County Alumnae Chapter, served three terms as President. Additionally, she served on regional and national committees of the sorority.

Cora Eaves Braynon, a woman of great accomplishment, leaves behind a large and accomplished family, including her beloved husband, Ronald A. Braynon; three children: Oscar Braynon, Sr. (Patricia), of Miami, Florida; two daughters: Andrea A. Braynon, of Ft. Lauderdale, Florida and Terri Braynon

Glasford (Jason), of Miramar, Florida; one sister, Carrie Eaves Evans (Willis), of Louisville, Kentucky; one brother, Frank Eaves (Ella) of Prospect, Kentucky; one brother-in-law, Roger Forbes of Fenton, Michigan; sisters-in-law: Betty Sharpe of Lauderdale Lakes, Florida and Rosemary Braynon of North Miami, Florida; grandchildren: City of Miami Gardens Vice Mayor Oscar Braynon, Jr., Gina Braynon and Marina Braynon Moore, a host of nieces, nephews and other family members and friends.

Cora Braynon will surely be missed, but we will all remember her with wonderful thoughts and memories of the person that she was and the many ways that she touched our lives.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE GREEK  
AMERICAN HOMEOWNERS ASSO-  
CIATION AND ITS HONOREES

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 17, 2005*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the achievements of the Greek American Homeowners Association (GAHOA) on the occasion of its annual dinner dance. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the organization's officers and members, as well as its President, George Alexiou. I would also like to salute GAHOA's distinguished honorees: George Fakiris, John Millas, Peter Stathatos, Dennis Syntilas and Rose Ann Alafogiannis.

GAHOA is a non-profit organization based in Astoria, New York that has been committed to advancing the interests of the Greek-American community since 1976. The organization provides an extensive array of educational programs and is a generous benefactor to the community.

GAHOA currently has more than 2,000 members in the greater New York area. The Association provides Greek language scholarships to local schools, citizenship and voter registration drives and monthly speakers to help educate the residents of the community. In addition, GAHOA provides Thanksgiving dinner to more than 12,000 individuals every year.

This year's dinner dance will benefit another of the Association's outstanding community service achievements: Athens Square Park. The park is a cultural center that invites people of all ethnicities to share and enjoy Hellenic music, dance and art. The park, which once served as the starting point of the Olympic flame in the United States, was the brainchild of GAHOA cofounder Dennis Syntilas. With contributions from students, the community and corporations, as well as cooperation with the NYC Department of Parks, Athens Square Park is now a cultural hub of the diverse Astoria community.

George Fakiris, the first of GAHOA's honorees, was born in Chios, Greece and immigrated to the United States in 1969. He worked as a painter and decorator before becoming a successful real estate developer and philanthropist. Mr. Fakiris is a generous benefactor of GAHOA's annual Thanksgiving dinner and scholarship fund. Mr. Fakiris' support, knowledge and experience continue to greatly benefit his community.

The Association's next honoree, John Millas, is from Evia, Greece and moved to the United States in 1963. Mr. Millas worked in the restaurant business before starting his own real estate management firm. A GAHOA co-founder, Mr. Millas also dedicates his time to the Pan Evoiakos Society of New York and other worthy causes. In 1977, he married Amalia Calogrides, and they have two children, Sofia and George.

The Association's third honoree, Peter Stathatos, was born in Kefallonia, Greece. Also a co-founder of the Greek American Homeowners Association, Mr. Stathatos has held several positions within the organization and has served on the boards of the Kefalos Society and St. Gerasimos Church. In 1997, Mr. Stathatos was honored by Borough President Claire Shulman for his outstanding work in the community. He and his wife, Anastasia, have three children, Irene, John and Mamie, and three grandchildren, Anastasia, Nicholas and Matthew.

The next honoree, Dennis C. Syntilas, is a retired banker, a cofounder of the Greek American Homeowners Association and the driving force behind Athens Square Park. He is a member of Community Board 1 and has dedicated himself to improving the quality of life in his neighborhood. Mr. Syntilas's awards are too numerous to list—though his friends will attest to the fact that he is most proud of his wife, Rita Koletti, his daughter Vayia and his son-in-law, George D. Apergis.

The final honoree, Rose Ann Alafogiannis, is another GAHOA co-founder and an active member of the Astoria community.

She is a former President of the Kiwanis Club, a member of the Board of Directors of Astoria Civic Association and a member of Community Board 1. Ms. Alafogiannis also donates her time to SHAREing and CAREing, a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting those affected by breast cancer. She and her late husband, Thomas, have four children, Paul, Jennifer, Joseph and Vasilli.

Mr. Speaker, as the founder and co-chairperson of the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues, I ask that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to the Greek American Homeowners Association, its President George Alexiou and its distinguished honorees.

HONORING RETIRING ERIE COUNTY  
LEGISLATOR RAYMOND K.  
DUSZA

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 17, 2005*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great labor leader, public official and dear friend and colleague who at the end of this year will retire from active public service as a member of the Erie County Legislature—the man commonly known as “Mr. Cheektowaga,” Legislator Raymond K. Dusza.

During the 1990s, I worked closely with Ray, and saw firsthand his gentle yet persistent leadership style. Ray's leadership on so many issues important to taxpayers and consumers won kudos from countless local residents and praise from local taxpayers' groups.

Ray's call to public service came early in life. He enlisted in the United States Army and