

It is a pleasure to honor these five extraordinary women and to highlight their contributions to their businesses, their neighbors and their communities.

TRIBUTE TO HARRY AND DARLA WYENO, CITIZENS OF THE YEAR

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 7, 2006

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Harry and Darla Wyeno who were recently honored with the Crowley County Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year Award. The Wyenos were described as making community service a labor of love. They have worked tirelessly for the benefit and promotion of Crowley County.

The Olney Springs couple was recognized for the volunteer work they do within the county, but especially for the work they do as members of the Crowley Heritage Society.

Although Darla is retired, she continues serving as the Town Clerk. Harry, who is also retired, still continues to work part time at the First National Bank of Ordway.

Whenever they are not working these jobs, they can be found volunteering. Darla is probably best known for her work as the President and Chief Procurer of Crowley County. She continues to gather, archive, and present the county's history. Through her efforts, grants for the Crowley Heritage Center have been procured so much of the historical collection can be catalogued and protected for future generations to enjoy.

As President of the society Darla has made certain that all cultural and ethnic groups in the region are recognized in the local museum. The couple has also been very involved in the Chamber of Commerce for many years.

In addition, the Wyenos can be found volunteering for their church, where among other things, they have been faithful choir members for over 50 years at the United Methodist Church of Ordway.

Harry and Darla Wyeno are two people whose strengths of love, devotion and community service are wonderful examples for all of us to follow. As a Member of Congress I am proud to represent such fine citizens from Colorado's Fourth Congressional District.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MRS. CORETTA SCOTT KING

SPEECH OF

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Coretta Scott King, wife of the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and a guiding force of the modern civil rights movement in her own right.

Just seventeen days ago we honored the birthday of her husband and celebrated January 16th as a national holiday in his honor. It would be too easy to remember Mrs. King simply as the wife of Dr. King, one of this country's great 20th century leaders. To do

this would be a disservice to the memory of a champion of civil and equal rights in her own right.

Coretta Scott King began her long career of civic engagement as an undergraduate at Antioch College where she joined the local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

After graduating from Antioch with a B.A. in music and education, Coretta Scott received a scholarship to study concert singing at the New England Conservatory of Music in my home state of Massachusetts. While there she met her future husband, Martin Luther King Jr.

After receiving her degree from the Conservatory, she and Dr. King moved to Montgomery, Alabama. It was here that she and her husband became central figures in the Montgomery Bus Boycott and ultimately, the civil rights movement.

Following the success of the Montgomery Bus Boycott, Dr. and Mrs. King traveled tirelessly to ensure that the civil rights movement continued to grow. Mrs. King's talent and education in the arts led her to conceive of and perform a series of Freedom Concerts which incorporated poetry, narration, and music to tell the story of the larger movement for equal rights. These concerts were vital in the fundraising efforts for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the organization her husband headed.

Mrs. King was not deterred by her husband's assassination, and if anything this tragic event strengthened her resolve in their shared struggle. In 1974, she established the Full Employment Action Council, a diverse coalition of more than 100 religious, labor, civil, and women's rights groups dedicated to economic justice through equal opportunity.

In 1983, Coretta Scott King marked the 20th anniversary of the 1963 March on Washington with another march on the Capitol featuring hundreds of organizations called the "Coalition of Conscience." At the time it was the largest demonstration in Washington's history.

Mrs. King led the movement to have her husband's birthday, January 15th, established as a federal holiday and I am happy to say that Congress and the President acted on the merit of Coretta Scott King's wish and established Martin Luther King Jr. Day as a national holiday in 1986.

While we are truly saddened at her passing, we are given pause to contemplate the impact she made during her lifetime on our lives and those of future generations. The freedoms all Americans enjoy today are due in no small part to her participation in the struggle for civil rights and equality.

Mr. Speaker, let us celebrate the achievements of this remarkable woman's lifetime and work to ensure that her legacy endures long after her passing.

RELATING TO CONSIDERATION OF S. 1932, DEFICIT REDUCTION ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, this week House Republicans high-

lighted their commitment to sound fiscal policy and protecting the hard-earned income of the American taxpayer by passing the Deficit Reduction Act. This legislation finds almost \$40 billion in savings through programmatic reforms to mandatory spending.

Along with my Republican colleagues, I supported this vital legislation because it ensures that Federal programs are more efficient for the beneficiaries that rely upon them, while safeguarding taxpayer dollars.

Unfortunately, the radical left wing could not even support this modest step towards making government more efficient. It seems that raising taxes and recklessly spending is the only fiscal policy they will support.

I applaud the Leadership of the House and Senate for bringing this legislation to the floor and greatly appreciate the President's support and commitment to fiscal responsibility and reducing the deficit.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MRS. CORETTA SCOTT KING

SPEECH OF

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Ms. Coretta Scott King, a civil rights icon and the widow of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who died January 30, 2006, at the age of 78. Coretta Scott was born and raised on a farm near Marion, Alabama, where she knew little racial prejudice. However, living in town to attend high school, young Coretta learned firsthand of the harassment and violence directed at African-Americans. In 1942, at the age of 15, she was personally exposed to this hatred when the Scott home was set on fire on Thanksgiving night.

Church and music became Coretta Scott's salvation, and in 1945, she left for Antioch College in Ohio where as one of three African-American students in her class, she began to study music and education. After graduation, Coretta ventured off to the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston to study concert singing. It was in Boston where Coretta met Martin Luther King Jr., who was then studying for his doctorate in theology. She later said, "Even at the time we were courting, Martin was deeply concerned—and indignant—with the plight of the Negro in the United States."

The two married in 1953 and within the following decade became the parents to two sons and two daughters. In her new life as a married woman, Mrs. King gave up music to take on the role of a pastor's wife at Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama, where Dr. King became the seminal figure in the civil rights movement. Mrs. King joined her husband's pursuit of civil rights, and occasionally substituted for him as a speaker. They traveled the world, observing severe poverty and all its consequences, and together they learned the art of nonviolent protest from the disciples of Mahatma Gandhi. Throughout their married life, Mrs. King was an equal partner in Dr. King's tireless efforts to pursue justice, equality and peace, and was by his side in Oslo in 1964 when he received the Nobel Peace Prize.

On April 4, 1968, Mrs. King learned of her husband's assassination through a telephone call from Reverend Jesse Jackson. While supporting a sanitation workers' strike, Dr. King was shot on a Memphis motel balcony. In her autobiography, *My Life with Martin Luther King Jr.*, Mrs. King recalled, "Because his task was not finished, I felt that I must rededicate myself to the completion of his work." Indeed, she was compelled to fully immerse herself in the nonviolent civil rights movement that her husband led. Many wives become spokespersons for their husband's causes, yet Coretta Scott King was unique; an ardent activist in the fight against injustice, Mrs. King brought a new energy to the civil rights movement. Giving hundreds of speeches and leading countless marches, Mrs. King overcame the challenges of widowhood and witnessed the successes of the civil rights movement and her husband's unfulfilled dreams.

Neverending in her commitment to justice, Mrs. King was appointed by President Carter to the United Nations General Assembly, where she devoted herself to the development of Third World nations. She joined the fight to end apartheid and lobbied the U.S. Congress for sanctions against South Africa. Mrs. King also coordinated a 15-year campaign to keep her husband's memory alive, culminating in 1983 with the passage of legislation introduced by Congressman JOHN CONYERS and Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm to commemorate her husband's work with a federal holiday. Dr. and Mrs. King have been succeeded by their four children who have each followed in their parents' footsteps, carrying with them strong hearts, minds and voices in pursuit of justice and peace.

Two years ago, I was invited to join a civil rights pilgrimage to Montgomery, Birmingham and Selma, Alabama. The journey was a remarkable experience. Led by Congressman JOHN LEWIS, a number of my colleagues in the House and the Senate and I visited the sites of many of the civil rights struggles, including the Kings' own Dexter Avenue Baptist Church. We experienced these places with some of the activists that led the movement and relived the moments through their eyes. To hear them share their account of the very church we were sitting in being attacked by a mob of segregationists was extraordinary.

Those of us who were too young to remember well the civil rights movement continue to ask ourselves what would we have done? Would we have stood up, would we have questioned those in power, would we have demanded equality and justice? Or would we, like so many Americans, have remained indifferent? The best answer we can find to that question of what we would have done is answered by what are we doing now to advance the cause of justice and equality. In 1960s Alabama, Coretta Scott King and Martin Luther King, Jr., battled overt bigotry. Today, we arm ourselves against silent intolerance. While we must look to our past and consider how far we have come, we must keep an eye toward the future knowing that the movement is not over and that each one of us must continue to dedicate ourselves to pursuing an America with equal opportunity for all.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MRS. CORETTA SCOTT KING

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, Coretta Scott King was a major reason that our Nation advanced from the backward ways of segregation. Her passing is a tremendous loss for all of America.

Mrs. King was a civil rights hero—she was active in the cause before she married the great Dr. Martin Luther King, and she helped shape the movement as his wife, and later, his widow.

As my friend and colleague, the great champion of civil rights John Lewis, said yesterday, "She was more than the devoted wife of a great minister . . . she was a leader in her own right."

With dignity and with strength, Mrs. King helped lead the civil rights movement for decades. For many, she was the face of the movement.

We are saddened by the loss of a great American and we are so thankful for her life. As Black History Month begins today, I hope we will all use this month and beyond to honor Mrs. King, her husband and all of our civil rights heroes, and to live their message of peace and equality, everyday of our lives.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MRS. CORETTA SCOTT KING

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, Coretta Scott King was a radiant symbol of the best that the American South and this nation have to offer. She was beautiful, charming, graceful and dignified. She was a shining light who had the ability to brighten the dark places, to bring hope where there was hopelessness.

I first met her in 1957 when I was a 17-year-old student in Nashville. She was traveling around America, especially in the South, telling the story of the Civil Rights Movement through song. I will never forget it. She looked like an opera star standing on stage. She wore a lovely pearl-white dress with layers of cascading ruffles falling gently around her. She would sing a little and then talk a little, and through her singing and talks she inspired an entire generation.

She was more than the widow of Martin Luther King, Jr. She was a leader in her own right. She was the glue that held the Civil Rights Movement together and the strength that sustained one of the most charismatic leaders of our time. Long before she married Dr. King, she was an activist for non-violence, traveling to a conference in Europe with Women Strike for Peace to discuss the dangers of atmospheric nuclear testing.

Though she tasted the bitter fruits of segregation and racial discrimination, Coretta

Scott King was prepared for a privileged life. She was well-educated and married a gifted minister from a prominent family. Just like any other mother she wanted to raise her four children in peace. But when an opportunity came for her to actualize the philosophy of non-violent change, she did not ignore her convictions.

Along with her husband and the more than 50 thousand black people of Montgomery, she responded to the courage of Rosa Parks, who on December 1, 1955, refused to give up her seat on a city bus in Alabama. That simple act launched the modern-day Civil Rights Movement and changed Coretta King's life forever.

Her commitment to non-violence led her to trade her privilege to live under the constant threat of brutality. Her home was bombed, her husband was repeatedly jailed, people she knew were killed, her husband's life was always in jeopardy. And finally one day he was assassinated by a gunman's bullet.

She did not become bitter or hostile. She did not hide in some dark corner, but she drew on her faith in the transformative power of peace. And a few days after the assassination, she led striking workers through the streets of Memphis. All the days of her life, she would travel throughout the South, America, and the world urging respect for the dignity of humanity.

She went all out to create a living memorial to her husband called the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Non-Violent Social Change, one of the most visited landmarks in Atlanta. She met with President Reagan, who was not inclined to sign the legislation, but in the end he could not deny her. She used her prominence to mobilize the American people and built a bipartisan coalition in Congress to make her husband's birthday a national holiday. Because of her efforts, generations yet unborn will learn his message of peace, and they will hear about his struggle for equal justice in America.

I loved Coretta Scott King. She was so warm, so genuine, so caring. For 20 years, she always sent me a card or a book on my birthday. I will cherish those mementos always.

I will remember Coretta Scott King as a dear friend. But the historians will remember her as one of the founding mothers of the new America, for through her noble acts, she helped liberate us all. This nation is a better nation, and we are a better people because she passed this way. However, she was not only a citizen of America, she was a citizen of the world, a world still yearning to build the Beloved Community, a world still yearning to make peace with itself. Above all, Coretta Scott King personified the beautiful, peaceful soul of a non-violent movement that still has the power to transform America, that still has the power to change the world.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ROSE NADER

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 7, 2006

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Rose Nader, who at age 99 died on Tuesday, January 24, 2006, of congestive