

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING CHARLES C. COOK, SR.
ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Charles C. Cook, Sr., for his 36 years of exemplary service at the U.S. Government Printing Office, GPO.

Charlie came to the GPO in November 1969 and was assigned as a Compositor in the Monotype Section. In 1978, he was promoted to the position of Printing Specialist in the Composing Division, Office of Superintendent. In June 1979, Charlie was reassigned to the Customer Service Department, Congressional Information Division. It was here that Charlie truly honed his skills serving GPO's congressional customers. Over the years, Charlie worked closely with Senate and House committee staff, the Office of the Secretary of the Senate, the Clerk of the House, Sergeant at Arms, and the Capitol Police on numerous projects. One of the most prestigious of these projects was the Presidential Inauguration. Charlie coordinated all the printing requirements for the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies for the four inaugurations from 1989 to 2001.

In 1993, Charlie was promoted to Superintendent, Congressional Printing Management Division, and in 2004, he was called on by the Public Printer of the United States to serve as Strategic Marketing Officer. He has served in that capacity until his retirement.

On behalf of the entire Congressional community, I extend congratulations to Charlie for his many years of exemplary service to the GPO and the Congress. We wish him all the best in his retirement.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
BARBARA BYRD BENNETT

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Barbara Byrd Bennett, upon the occasion of her retirement that follows seven years of steadfast service and commitment as Chief Executive Officer of the Cleveland Municipal School District.

Ms. Bennett was born and raised in Harlem and was educated in the public school system. She graduated high school early at age 16 and earned a Bachelor's of Arts degree in English from Long Island University at age 19. She earned two Masters degrees, was a Penn Fellow at Columbia University during her doctoral studies and holds several honorary doctoral degrees. Ms. Bennett was an adjunct professor at several New York City universities

and is currently an adjunct faculty member at Cleveland State University.

Her life long professional focus on improving the state of struggling urban school districts is evidenced throughout her profession. Her career in education began in her hometown of New York City, where she taught at the elementary and high school levels. She later served as a school principal and District Administrator and served twice as Superintendent of two of the lowest performing school districts in New York City, Chancellor's District and Crown Heights District in Brooklyn. Her leadership is credited with dramatically improving academic achievement in both of those districts.

Ms. Bennett's tenure in Cleveland parallels that of her work in New York. Chosen as Superintendent of the Cleveland Municipal School District in 1998, she began the monumental task of lifting the Cleveland School District out of its decades-old state of failure and despair. During her tenure, Ms. Bennett implemented policies and programs that served to raise the grade throughout the system, including academic performance, financial stability and the restoration of school classrooms and buildings. Additionally, Ms. Bennett forged vital partnerships with parents, teachers and local and state leaders, thereby fostering an atmosphere of achievement and renewal through a unified effort.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honor and recognition of Superintendent Barbara Byrd Bennett, whose leadership, dedication and service on behalf of every child of the Cleveland Municipal School District has become a source of hope and foundation for academic achievement today, and for the future of public education in Cleveland. I wish Ms. Bennett and her family an abundance of health, peace and happiness as she journeys onward from here.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RETIRED
NEW YORK STATE COURT OF APPEALS
JUDGE MATTHEW J. JASEN

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, on April 14, 2005, as New York's highest court prepared to sit outside of Albany for the first time in recent memory, I had occasion to recognize the professional career of retired New York State Court of Appeals Judge Matthew Jasen. During that extension of remarks, I was honored to take note of the many personal and professional accomplishments of Judge Jasen, in a manner consistent with the honors bestowed upon him by his successor colleagues on the Court of Appeals that day.

Today, Mr. Speaker, I rise to call the House's attention to the passing of this great legal giant in New York State. Judge Matthew

J. Jasen entered into his eternal rest on February 4, 2006, at the age of 90.

Without seeking to be repetitive, Mr. Speaker, the fact remains that Judge Jasen was widely regarded as one of the sharpest legal minds of his era. Taking his seat on the Court of Appeals back in the days when that bench was still elected by popular vote statewide, Judge Jasen was the last western New Yorker to serve on the court, and his decisions were widely regarded as fair and impeccably researched. Rising to the position of senior associate judge before his mandated retirement in 1985, Judge Jasen was well known as a lawyer's judge—someone who knew the law, who understood both its limits and its full potential.

Following his retirement, Judge Jasen's career in law—even past his 80th birthday—continued to flourish and become all the more distinguished. His appointment by the United States Supreme Court as a special master to assist in determining the true border between Illinois and Kentucky along the Ohio River is but one example of how this keen legal mind continued its contribution to the jurisprudence of his State and Nation.

This past Sunday's Buffalo News editorialized the career of Judge Jasen, and it is that editorial with which I will close this extension of remarks.

On behalf of all Members of the House, I extend to the Jasen family our most heartfelt sympathy, as well as our appreciation for the many contributions made by Judge Matthew Jasen to the American way of life. Judge Jasen was the Court of Appeals' first Polish-American member, and it is fitting that I close this extension of remarks with the traditional Polish toast—"Sto Lat"—which literally translated means "100 years." While Judge Jasen could not give a chronological century to serve the people of this State and Nation, in effect he made good on that toast, and I am honored to pay tribute to his memory here today.

[From the Buffalo News, Feb. 12, 2006]

JASEN, GENERATION'S LEGAL STANDOUT

Sorrow flows at the passing of one of the most respected and skilled lawyers and judges of his generation. Former Court of Appeals Judge Matthew J. Jasen, who died Saturday at the age of 90, was both a brilliant legal mind and a respected adviser who guided the practice of law in this region and nationally.

Jasen was the first Polish-American and the last Western New Yorker to sit on the state's highest court, serving there for 18 years, becoming senior associate judge there before retiring at the legally mandated age of 70 (a mandate he upheld in writing the high court's opinion on its validity). He also was a highly regarded arbiter who, even in retirement, was called upon by the U.S. Supreme Court to work as a "special master" deciding such questions as the proper location of the Illinois-Kentucky boundary along the Ohio River. He was known for clear and concise opinions, and for his mentoring of lawyers and judges.

He was a forceful arguer and legal scholar whose fairly common early year dissents to Court of Appeals decisions in several areas

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

were later vindicated in subsequent court rulings, sometimes after his retirement. He won a string of legal honors, including a special Buffalo Law Review issue featuring accolades from the state's top judges.

Jasen should have been New York's chief judge; he was proposed for that post by a nominating commission in the late 1970s, but passed over by then-Gov. Hugh Carey for a more politically connected junior judge. As a conservative Democrat and fiercely independent thinker, Jasen had distanced himself from politics while serving on the high court; that cost him politically, but provides a truer measure of his worth as a judge.

Even during his retirement, New Yorkers benefited from Jasen's fair-mindedness and independence as he joined or led task forces and committees dealing with matters such as judicial conduct or traffic court fairness, and state agency adjudication procedures. Jasen was a champion of the rule of law, and a man who would have desired no other epitaph.

RAISING THE MINIMUM WAGE IS GOOD ECONOMICS

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, a study completed last month by Alicia Sasser, of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston's New England Public Policy Center, contains good news for those of us who have been pushing for an increase in the minimum wage. Ms. Sasser's very careful and well-documented conclusion is that an increase in the minimum wage in the State of Massachusetts would have significant overall benefits for the people of the State. To summarize her conclusion, "increasing the minimum wage by \$1.50 in Massachusetts is likely to have a small impact on employment—roughly on the order of 1 to 4 percent of affected workers. In addition, according to the analysis presented in this report, the combined impact of the two wage increases (contemplated and pending legislation in Massachusetts) would result in an estimated net wage gain of approximately \$255 million. It should be noted, however, that the benefits of this increased wage gain may be diminished if employers respond by cutting hours or reducing their contributions to health insurance."

It should be noted, Mr. Speaker, that this is an analysis of what will happen in one State if that State alone raises the minimum wage. One of the potential negative effects is the loss of jobs for competitive reasons to the nearby State of New Hampshire, which does not have a minimum wage. What this means is that if we were to adopt a minimum wage increase on the national level, we would get, I believe, the advantages that Ms. Sasser's analysis, shows without that particular competitive disadvantage that comes from two States of virtually identical social composition right next to each other, having significant minimum wage differentials. While obviously there is international economic competition, it is not nearly as direct, especially in the industries that are affected by minimum wage increase.

Mr. Speaker, I recommend that Members read this report. It is too long for inclusion here in the RECORD, but it is New England

Public Policy Center Research Report Series, No. 06-1, issued in January. This analysis in my view—I do not impute it to either the Federal Reserve or Ms. Sasser—strongly argues in favor of Federal legislation to raise the minimum wage.

JOHN PEPPER HONORED AS A GREAT LIVING CINCINNATIAN

HON. JEAN SCHMIDT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John Pepper, an international business leader, visionary, community activist and champion of education, who will be formally honored as a Great Living Cincinnati on February 16 by the Greater Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber has bestowed this award on distinguished members of the community annually since 1967. Recipients of this prestigious award are chosen on the basis of professional achievement, community service, leadership, compassion, and vision. Past honorees have included Neil Armstrong, Dr. Albert Sabin and Charles Scripps.

Mr. Pepper has inspired and impacted the lives of people in our community and across the globe. Throughout his career, he has led, trained and motivated people by his example.

In his 39-year career at Procter & Gamble, Mr. Pepper helped to shape one of the world's largest consumer products companies. He began with the company in 1963. In 1974, he became general manager of Procter & Gamble Italia, and in 1980, he became group vice president. In 1984, he was elected to the company's board of directors and, in 1986, became president. In the early 1990s, he led Procter & Gamble's expansion into Eastern and Central Europe and Greater China. Mr. Pepper was named chairman and chief executive in 1995. He retired from Procter & Gamble in 2002, and retired as chairman of the executive committee of the board in 2003. Following his service to Procter & Gamble, he served for two years as vice president for Finance and Administration at Yale University, his alma mater.

Mr. Pepper recently became chief executive officer of the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center in Cincinnati. This role is especially fitting for him, since he has been instrumental in the creation of the Freedom Center and co-chair of its development effort.

Mr. Pepper has also dedicated his time, energy and leadership to improving education for our children. He has served as a hands-on leader for school reform, pushing schools across the socioeconomic spectrum to set higher standards. He was also a driving force, along with his wife, Francie, in the creation of the Cincinnati Youth Collaborative, a nationally recognized program that provides youth employment, mentoring and tutoring for those in need. He currently serves as the Collaborative's vice chair.

In 1994, Mr. Pepper chaired Cincinnati's United Way campaign, and has served on numerous local and national boards, including the American Society of Corporate Executives, the Partnership for a Drug-Free America, the Partnership for Public Service and the Na-

tional Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, the National Alliance of Business, Xavier University, the American Chamber of Commerce in Brussels, the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra and the Cincinnati Art Museum.

Mr. Pepper and his wife, Francie, have three sons and one daughter, and reside in the Cincinnati suburb of Wyoming.

All of us in the Cincinnati area congratulate John Pepper on being named a Great Living Cincinnati.

HONORING DORIS WAHL

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Doris Wahl's 50 years community service and HIV/AIDS advocacy in Whittier, CA. Doris and her husband Wally Wahl, moved to Whittier 50 years ago where they raised four beautiful children, Michael, Margie, Christopher and Paul. For over 20 years, Doris was an active PTA member serving as president and chairwoman of several District Advisory Committees.

Over the years, Doris's community involvement extended to local government where she served as commissioner of Parks and Recreation for the city of Whittier and served twice as its chairwoman. Doris also served as president of the Whittier League of Women Voters, promoting civic participation in government and the political process.

On August 26, 1989, Doris lost her son Christopher due to complications with AIDS. Doris's loss and intimate involvement with the disease motivated her to found the Whittier Rio Hondo AIDS Project, WRHAP, 2 years later. What she learned during her son's illness and in subsequent years was that AIDS is not a disease solely driven by a virus but also by fear, loneliness and depression. It is for this reason that WRHAP provided a compassionate support group for those suffering with AIDS. Doris realized the true scope of the local epidemic when the support group grew to over 30 members after only 3 months. In 1993, 2 years later, WRHAP was incorporated as a nonprofit organization.

Since opening its doors, WRHAP has served thousands of people living with AIDS and provided HIV prevention information to over 12,000 youth. WRHAP currently serves over 100 persons living with HIV/AIDS, conducts over 1,200 outreach contacts per year, and provides over 500 confidential HIV tests.

Under Doris's leadership, WRHAP has become a one-stop resource for people with AIDS. WRHAP's clients receive case management assistance, mental health care, and support group therapy. Through collaboration with other agencies, WRHAP's clients can also obtain outpatient medical and dental care.

In August 2004, Doris founded the Christopher Wahl Youth Center in Whittier as a safe haven and HIV prevention resource for youth.

Doris has become a nationally recognized figure in advocating for appropriate services for people with AIDS, and she co-founded the Southern California HIV/AIDS Advocacy Coalition in 1998. Doris was twice selected as

Woman of the Year, once by the California State Assembly, once by the California State Senate and received a Special Congressional Recognition in honor of Women's History Month.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, please join me in honoring Doris Wahl for her many years of service to the community and for her many years of HIV/AIDS advocacy. Let us wish her and her family the very best in retirement.

THANKING MARYBETH PETERS
FOR 40 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of my colleagues the distinguished career of Marybeth Peters, the United States Register of Copyrights, and to congratulate her as she commemorates 40 years of service to our Government and to the American people.

Marybeth Peters became the Register of Copyrights on August 7, 1994, the 50th person to hold that office since the appointment of the first Register of Copyrights, Thorvald Solberg, in 1897. The mission of the Copyright Office is to promote creativity by administering and sustaining an effective national copyright system. The Copyright Office administers the Copyright Act, Title 17 U.S.C.; provides policy and legal assistance to the Congress, the executive branch and courts; and provides copyright-related information and education to the public.

As chairman of the House Administration Committee and a member of the Joint Committee on the Library, I want to extend my thanks for Ms. Peters' leadership at the Copyright Office, which is a vital component of the Library of Congress. The Library is the custodian of the mint record of American creativity largely due to copyright deposits of books, music, films, photographs, and other materials that reflect our creative society. The Americana collections of the Library—millions of which are available on the Library's Web site through its American Memory digital collections—have been assembled largely through our Nation's copyright system. Last year alone, the Copyright Office forwarded more than 1 million items to the Library for its collections. I want to extend deepest thanks on behalf of the Joint Committee on the Library to Ms. Peters for her stewardship of the Copyright Office as Register and her long years of service to Congress and the American people.

Prior to her appointment as Register of Copyrights, Ms. Peters served as Policy Planning Advisor to the Register from 1983 to 1994. She has also served as Acting General Counsel of the Copyright Office and as chief of both the Examining and Information and Reference divisions. Ms. Peters is a frequent speaker on copyright issues. She is the author of the General Guide to the Copyright Act of 1976 and is recognized worldwide as a preeminent authority on intellectual property matters.

Mr. Speaker, Marybeth Peters can certainly be proud of her long and distinguished career in Government service. We are proud of her

leadership and her service to the Copyright Office and to the Nation.

IN MEMORY OF EDWARD L.
MASRY

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, during his 40-year career as an attorney in California, Edward L. Masry fought courageously not only for his clients but also for all people of the United States. As a strong advocate for the environment and open space, Mr. Masry worked to preserve our community's most precious resources. His contributions to the Conejo Valley, the State of California, and the country will never be forgotten.

Sadly, Mr. Masry died on December 6, 2005. Today, I am pleased to pay tribute to him. Mr. Masry moved to southern California in 1940. He graduated from Van Nuys High School in 1950 and then attended Valley Junior College. He never received a bachelor's degree, opting instead to enlist in the U.S. Army in 1952, during the Korean conflict. After serving our country, he was honorably discharged with the rank of corporal and was soon accepted at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles. He graduated with a Juris Doctorate in 1960.

Soon after graduation Mr. Masry began his law career, and in 1975 moved his law offices to the San Fernando Valley. He gained expertise and a national reputation in numerous areas of the law, including criminal defense, business litigation, entertainment, the first amendment, and toxic torts. His success as a litigator earned him numerous awards, including the esteemed Justice Armand Arabian Law & Media Award in 2000 and the Academy of Justice Award from the Trial Lawyers for Public Justice in 2001.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Masry became best known for his work on cases involving toxic environmental contamination. In the early 1990's, his firm, renamed Masry & Vitoe in 1982, argued for the people of Hinkley, California in the landmark case of Anderson v. Pacific Gas & Electric. Mr. Masry won what was at the time the biggest settlement for a civil class action lawsuit. This case was made into a movie, Erin Brockovich, which extolled the success of Mr. Masry as a lawyer and a leader who fought for the rights of the people in California.

Ed Masry was a friend and ally of mine and other local environmental advocates. His involvement with local environmental organizations was instrumental in protecting the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreational Area, as well as other parks and open spaces in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. I was proud to present him with a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition in honor of his receiving the Environmental Hero Award from the Environmental Defense Center in 2002. He continued his outstanding work for environmental justice by serving as the CEO and President of Save the World Air, Inc., a company dedicated to improving air quality.

In addition, Ed Masry served two terms as city councilman and mayor of Thousand Oaks. During his tenure he fought to implement his slow-growth platform to protect open space in the Conejo Valley.

Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute to Ed Masry's spirit, perseverance and chutzpah. He fought valiantly and successfully for the residents of the Conejo Valley. His legacy will continue to have a profound effect on his Valley, his State and his Nation.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LARRY WALL

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a man who has been a great asset to the health care community in Colorado. After 31 years with the Colorado Health and Hospital Association where he served as president for 21 of those years Mr. Larry Wall is moving on to undertake new challenges.

During his tenure as president of CHA, Larry helped to increase the association's stature and reputation as the primary source of credible information about hospitals in Colorado. In addition, Mr. Wall worked to reaffirm CHA's commitment to public health and expand its community based role.

Over the past 31 years Colorado health care systems have seen vast changes. During Larry's tenure, he has been a part of changes that have made Colorado a leader in public accountability. In fact, while Wall served at CHA, Colorado hospitals became the first in the nation to make mortality data for individual hospitals public. Contributions such as this demonstrate how valuable an asset Mr. Wall is to the Colorado health care community. I wish the best to Mr. Wall in his future endeavors.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF
CARL T. BRANCATELLI

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Carl T. Brancatelli, United States Veteran, loving husband to the late Mary Brancatelli; dear father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and friend to many as well as a successful entrepreneur.

Mr. Brancatelli was born and raised in Cleveland, the son of Italian immigrants. His parents instilled within him a strong sense of family, faith, and community. He gave these gifts from his parents to his own children—giving them a clear example of the significance of hard work, integrity, kindness, and giving to others. Mr. Brancatelli served our nation as a United States Marine and was stationed in Korea during the 1950's.

For many years, Mr. Brancatelli worked as a bus driver with the former Cleveland Transit System. His expertise in the mechanical trades led him to a long career as a Master Mechanic. Equipped with a keen business sense, Mr. Brancatelli also operated several successful small business ventures throughout his life, even after retirement. As owner of the Shanty Inn Tavern on Harvard Avenue, Mr. Brancatelli regularly sponsored community baseball teams.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honor and remembrance of Carl T. Brancatelli, whose kindness, energy and compassion for others will be greatly missed by everyone who knew him well, especially his family and friends. I extend my deepest condolences to his children, Robert, Wanda, James, Tina, Carl, and Tony; to his grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and also to his extended family and friends. Mr. Brancatelli lived his life with great joy, energy and with a loving focus on his family and friends, and he will live on within their hearts and memories forever.

TRIBUTE TO FRED CUSIMANO

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Fred Cusimano, a life long resident of Chautauqua County and a truly remarkable man.

COUNTY REMEMBERS FRED CUSIMANO
(By Manley J. Anderson)

Friends and associates of the late Fred J. Cusimano of 190 Linwood Ave., Jamestown, who died Monday morning in the WCA Hospital emergency room have expressed their thoughts about him.

"He was a man for all seasons," said Joseph Trusso Jr., longtime friend, fellow Democrat and veteran member of the Chautauqua County Legislature. "He worked on an oil rig, he owned a gas station, he was a tree farmer. We planted Christmas trees. I helped him plant some of those trees."

Cusimano had a lengthy career in the voting machine industry, first as sales manager of Voting Machine Service Inc. owned by the T.H. Huhn Agency. He also worked as sales representative for the former Automatic Voting Machine Company from 1960-1990, and in the later part of his career was named vice-president of Automatic Voting Machine. He had also worked for the Voting Machine Service Center in Gerry, until his retirement in 1992.

Voting machines weren't Cusimano's only foray into politics, however. Trusso said Cusimano was respected by both local Republicans and Democrats while being invited to President John F. Kennedy's 1960 inauguration.

"He worked for Automatic Voting Machine and became vice president," Trusso said. "He was a member of the Board of Supervisors when there were only about seven of them. He was par excellence about elections. He knew everything about election law and wrote most of the election laws in New York state. He was a strong Democrat who believed in the democratic way and he wished at times we could go back to it. Fred's predecessors were all Republicans. You can call him a man for all seasons. You can call him a Renaissance man. He advised the city's Democratic and Republican mayors. He worked very hard for the parks in the county. He had a trail named after him."

Trusso also noted Cusimano's dedication to the Bemus Point rest stop and Chautauqua Lake overlook even when he wasn't feeling well.

"You never see a Fred Cusimano come along very often," Trusso said. "He's a great loss to the city, the county and the state and especially to the Democrats. This man should and will be honored. He devoted a good part of his life to the parks of Chautauqua County. He also helped Allegany

State Park. He was a member of the CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) that helped build it. He was in the Army before and after the draft and before and after the war (World War II) for about five years."

Trusso said that at their traditional breakfast meeting Tuesday he brought a toast to the little restaurant where the faithful gathered with an empty chair for Cusimano who was remembered by his surviving comrades.

Trusso concluded with, "I owe him a lot. I don't see anyone who can take his place. What a wonderful person."

He was influential in returning the City of Jamestown from a "non-partisan" to the "party" system for local elections. He was a past member of the Jamestown Area Chamber of Commerce and served on its Governmental Affairs Committee and its Greater Jamestown Industrial Development Committee. Cusimano was a past member of the city Planning Commission and served as chairman of the county Economic Development Commission. He also served several years on the Advisory Council to the state Legislature's Joint Legislative Committee on Election Law, and for many years served as a consultant and honorary member to the Election Commissioners Association of New York State.

"He was considered the father of the Chautauqua County Parks System," said Anthony M. Teresi, a longtime Cusimano friend and former county legislator. "He was very active with the parks until the end. The West Side Trail was named for him. He helped everyone who asked for help and it was good help. With me, he was a good and loyal friend who helped me a lot with some of the county issues when I was a legislator. When he believed in something he pursued it until it was done. I consider him the brother I never had. I miss him dearly."

John C. Cheney of Belleview, Bemus Point, a longtime member and former chairman of Chautauqua County Parks Commission, said of Cusimano, "He was with us for years. He was one of the founders of it. He's a real loss. We've named one of the trails after him. He had a lot to do with getting those trails organized and started."

Fred was a man who fully understood how to live to its fullest and that Mr. Speaker is why I rise to honor him today.

THE GRACE ALICE CAMPBELL FOUNDATION

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, this week is Congenital Heart Defects, CHD, Awareness Week. Across America, over 1 million families face the challenges and hardships of raising children with congenital heart defects. Roughly 1 in 125 children are born with 1 of approximately 35 different congenital heart defects in the United States. Some of these are treatable with medications while others require surgeries or even transplants. Heart defects are the No. 1 birth defect in the United States, affecting 32,000 babies in the United States every year. They are also the leading cause of birth defect related deaths worldwide during the first year of life, and while genetics or environmental factors are assumed to be the cause for congenital heart defects, it will take more research to help uncover their cause.

The Grace Alice Campbell Foundation, founded by her parents Brenda and Chris Campbell of Mansfield, MA, which is in my district, has been established to raise public awareness of these birth defects, assist in the treatment of these children, and raise research funds to help doctors discover the cause of congenital heart defects and find a cure. Grace Alice was born on September 4, 2003, with Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome, and by the time she was 5 months old, she had already had two open-heart surgeries. Now as a toddler, Grace Alice's perseverance is a wonderful example of love and courage for others every day. The foundation, launched by her parents, serves as a support group for the families of those affected, encouraging these families to celebrate life, remember loved ones lost, and to honor dedicated health professionals.

I extend my congratulations and express my admiration to the Grace Alice Campbell Foundation for its hard work on behalf of those affected by congenital heart defects and their families. I also ask that, because of the resolve of the Campbell family as well as many others across the country, the article, "Heart Buddies," by Deborah Knight Snyder in the Norton Mirror, published on Friday, February 3, 2006, documenting the courage and struggle of these families, be printed here.

HEART BUDDIES

(By Deborah Knight Snyder)

One in every 100 babies is born with a heart defect.

February 7-14 is Congenital Heart Defects (CHD) Awareness Week, and a group of Massachusetts mothers agrees word needs to get out about the many children living with CHDs. For these mothers, that awareness is simply a way of life, because their children were born with heart defects.

"People know more about conditions like Down's Syndrome and spina bifida than they do about heart defects, when heart defects are actually the number one birth defect in the United States," said Lyn McPhail of Braintree during a recent support group meeting in Mansfield for mothers of children with CHDs.

Increased consciousness will hopefully lead to more help and, ultimately, to more funding, she said. There are approximately 35 different types of congenital—meaning present at birth—heart defects.

McPhail is the mother of 15-month-old Cameron, who was diagnosed with a CHD when he was just 1½ days old.

Cameron has had two heart valve operations already and still needs a valve replacement. The quandary, his mother explains, is what to do next. There is a small mechanical valve available for children who are at least 2 years old, but that valve will become too small as he grows and would ultimately require yet another operation. However, she said, there is clinical testing currently underway in Canada and Europe which could produce better options.

"You're just racing against time," she said.

McPhail is a member of Heart Buddies, a group of mothers and kids from all over the Boston area who get together every month at each other's homes to lend and provide support. The mothers initially met through literature from Children's Hospital and through Little Hearts, Inc., a Connecticut-based organization which lends support to families of kids with CHDs.

The children—who outwardly appear to be healthy, chubby babies and toddlers—play, while the mothers talk about their experiences.

The mothers—who sound like cardiologists to the untrained ear—discuss the children's progress and their setbacks, and about new medicines and treatments which could help their kids.

When the mothers are together, they share a special bond and code of understanding.

Parents of kids who are "heart healthy"—a term the mothers use to describe children without a CHD—just can't comprehend their daily lives.

"It's nice to be able to talk and not have to explain everything," said Brenda Campbell of Mansfield, whose daughter, Grace, now 29 months old, was born with a congenital heart defect.

"We can ask each other 'does she look blue to you?' That's our life now," Campbell said.

A bluish color could be an indicator that the child is not getting enough oxygen, and is a possible precursor to these parents' worst fear: that their child is going into congestive heart failure.

"That's certainly a daily worry," Lyn McPhail said.

Many of the mothers got their diagnoses while they were still pregnant, while others received the news—which they all called "devastating"—when their babies were just one or two days old.

Grace Campbell was born without a left ventricle in her heart. She had her first surgery when she was just six days old and her second surgery at 5½ months.

"They put in totally different plumbing to help her right ventricle do all the work," Brenda Campbell explained.

The Campbells have taken a proactive approach by organizing the Mansfield based "Grace's Run," which annually raises money for families with children with CHDs and for Children's Hospital.

Zachary Duong of Wilmington was born on the same day as Grace, and his mother, Sheila, met Brenda Campbell in the hospital. Zachary is now 2 years old. He was diagnosed with his CHD the day he was born and was rushed to Children's Hospital, where he spent the first three months of his life.

Megan Lea of Mansfield, now 18 months old, was born with a very rare set of CHDs. She has a condition known as Ebstein's anomaly, an abnormality in the tricuspid valve. She also has cardiomyopathy, a disease of the heart muscle that can cause it to lose its pumping strength. With cardiomyopathy, doctors have told the Leas that about one-third of the kids get better, one-third stay the same, and one-third get worse, so Megan's parents have no choice but to wait that one out.

There is a possibility that she will need a heart transplant at some point. She will also probably need valve surgery for the Ebstein's anomaly. Right now doctors are trying to manage her conditions with medications, and she is currently on four different heart drugs. Megan was on oxygen for the first 10 months of her life but is now breathing well on her own.

"The progress they're making is unbelievable, but it's scary because we don't know what their future is," Ellie Lea said. "Her cardiologist said that Megan looks a lot better than expected. We just take it one day at a time."

"The mother's group is good, because we understand each other," she continued. "Friends who aren't 'heart moms' ask, 'So, is she all fixed?'"

"I hate it when people ask that!" exclaimed Delys Poynton of Braintree, the mother of 19-month-old Amy, who was born with Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome (HLHP). Kids with HLHP undergo a total of three operations—known as the Norton procedure, after the doctor who discovered it—and then hope for the best. Like some of her

friends in Heart Buddies, Amy has undergone two of those three operations already.

"These little kids have already experienced things most people never have to experience in their whole lives," Delys Poynton said. "They get so used to seeing doctors, they get stranger fatigue" which affects the way they react to other people.

Ellie Lea recalled taking Megan to a hospital to visit a friend, and Megan "freaked out" as soon as she got into the hospital. Though just a baby, Megan understood exactly where she was, and she wasn't happy about it.

There's a name for the babies' reaction: "white coat syndrome." The children are so used to being poked and prodded by doctors that they develop an aversion to them.

Also, Delys Poynton said, many of the CHD kids develop eating problems.

"When you have tubes up your nose for so long, you don't want anything in your mouth," she said.

Liz Bogoyo of Chelmsford is the mother of 14-month-old twins: Allison, who is heart healthy, and Andrew, who was born with a CHD. Andrew was diagnosed when Liz was 17 weeks pregnant.

She recalled the trauma and exhaustion of having a brand new baby at home, Allison—"who we didn't even get a chance to know" because she and her husband were spending so much time at the hospital with Andrew.

Andrew has undergone two operations and will have to have one more. If that one goes well, he has an 85 percent chance of survival, his doctors have said.

Like the other families, the Bogyos said they take each day at a time and hope for the best.

Ruth Kennedy of North Reading found out when she was 19 weeks pregnant that her son, Ewan, now 2 years old, had a CHD. She received an initial diagnosis of just "heart defect" with no additional details and recalls "just sobbing" as she walked past the other women at Mass General who were waiting to get their ultrasounds. Ewan has had two operations with another one coming up.

"Long-term, they can't tell you what to expect. No one survived before. You just have to take it day by day and be happy with what you have," Ruth Kennedy said.

Because of the advances they've made in the last 20 years, there is no existing group of adults who would have had access to the medical care these babies are now receiving, the mothers said. Consequently, there is no real information available on what kind of future awaits these children. Their parents have been told by the children's doctors not to expect Olympic athletes, but to hope for a normal life. Still, no one knows for sure. The situation has given the mothers a different outlook on life.

"It's like a poem I heard about," Lyn McPhail said. The poem is all about planning for a trip to Italy, and anticipating being in Italy, but when you arrive at your destination, you're actually in Holland. You deal with being in Holland, she said, "but the dream you had of going to Italy is still very real."

"You just appreciate every little thing all the more. You're so grateful for the good things," said Ellie Lea. "It's a very humbling experience."

REV. HERBERT THOMPSON HONORED AS A GREAT LIVING CINCINNATIAN

HON. JEAN SCHMIDT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Right Reverend Herbert Thompson, Jr., a bishop, mentor, human rights advocate and community leader, who will be formally honored as a Great Living Cincinnati on February 16 by the Greater Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber has bestowed this award on distinguished members of the community annually since 1967. Recipients of this prestigious award are chosen on the basis of professional achievement; community service; leadership; compassion; and vision. Past honorees have included Neil Armstrong, Dr. Albert Sabin and Charles Scripps.

Rev. Thompson was born and raised in New York, where his character was shaped by the hard-working and diverse community of Harlem during the 1940s and 1950s. After serving in the United States Air Force from 1952–1956, he enrolled at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, where he graduated cum laude in 1962.

After a profound religious experience prompted him to serve, he enrolled at The General Theological Seminary, where he completed his seminary work and earned his master of divinity degree. He received his doctorate of ministry from The United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio.

Ordained into the priesthood in 1965, Rev. Thompson served various churches and communities in New York until 1988, when he was elected Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese of Southern Ohio. In 1992, he was consecrated as the eighth Bishop of Southern Ohio, and the first African-American elected to serve the Diocese of Southern Ohio in this role. He was only the fourth African-American diocese bishop in the history of the Episcopal Church.

Although he has lived in Cincinnati only since 1988, Rev. Thompson has had an enormous and lasting impact on our community. For example, in 1993, he organized a comprehensive "Summit on Racism" to ease racial tensions within the city. He also helped to push forward the concept for the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center.

Throughout his ministry, he has lived by these words: "To reconcile, to heal, to liberate, to serve." Rev. Thompson recently retired from the Diocese of Southern Ohio, but continues to be actively involved in the community.

Rev. Thompson has dedicated his time and energy to many organizations, including serving as chair of the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief and co-founder of Global Episcopal Ministries. He has also served on the boards of St. Augustine College, Bexley Hall Seminary, General Theological Seminary, Kenyon College, Kanuga Conference Center, Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, Cincinnati Ballet, Cincinnati Opera and the Freedom Center. Among his many awards and honors include the Arts Consortium of Cincinnati's Martin Luther King Jr. Dreamkeeper award.

Rev. Thompson has three children and one grandchild.

All of us in the Cincinnati area congratulate Rev. Thompson on being named a Great Living Cincinnati.

HONORING C. THOMAS KEEGEL

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. C. Thomas Keegel for his 45 years as a committed member of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

Mr. C. Thomas Keegel has been a Teamster since 1959, when he got his first trucking job and became a member of Teamsters Local 544 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. From steward to his current position of General Secretary-Treasurer, Keegel has served as an elected Teamster officer for three decades.

Keegel's skills as the union's chief financial officer were honed in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area. He built an area pension fund from \$3 million in assets to a \$220 million powerhouse for Teamster retirees. That pension fund now offers a top benefit of \$55,200 per year and excellent health coverage.

Since taking office on March 19, 1999, Keegel has instituted sweeping reforms in every area of the Union's finances. He has balanced the budget for the first time in more than a decade, hired skilled auditors and accountants, developed programs to extend these reforms to Teamsters Local Unions, Joint Councils, Divisions and Conferences and has undertaken the task of strengthening the Union's treasury and Strike Fund.

Keegel has taken a leading role in enforcing the Hoffa administration's commitment to running a clean union. As General Secretary-Treasurer, he instituted legal actions to recover money stolen from the Union treasury by the prior administration. He created safeguards to ensure that no such embezzlement ever occurs again. Keegel lent his energy, expertise, and enthusiasm to the continuation of the administration's comprehensive anti-corruption program.

As General Secretary-Treasurer, Keegel aims to lift up his Teamster sisters and brothers to even greater heights through his work as their fiscal watchdog and the guardian of their hard-earned dues money.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, please join me in honoring Mr. C. Thomas Keegel for ensuring the International Brotherhood of Teamsters' continued financial stability and accountability.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
MARTIN E. VITTARDI

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Martin E. (Marty) Vittardi, devoted family man, public servant, community leader and dedicated volunteer. The leaders and members of the Parma Area Chamber of Commerce recently named him

as the recipient of the 2005 Individual Pride Award for his committed and compassionate volunteerism in raising funds and raising community awareness on behalf of the American Cancer Society.

Marty's journey of public service began nearly thirty years ago, while a student at John Carroll University, where he served as a Congressional Assistant to then United States Congressman Ronald Mottl. After graduating at the top of his class with a bachelor's degree in political science, he accepted the position of Deputy Clerk with the Cuyahoga County Court. He then served for eight years as a Legislative Representative for the Seafarers Union, where he garnered vital insight into the political processes that took him from our local community to Capitol Hill.

Marty has been entrusted with the faith and confidence of Parma residents and with members of the Cuyahoga County Democratic Party since the early eighties, as voters have consistently supported him in various City and County elected roles. In 1982, Marty was elected as the Cuyahoga County Democratic Executive Committeeman. That same year, he was elected to represent residents of Ward 3 in the City of Parma and was elected to the position of Ward 5 Democratic Leader.

In 1991, Marty was elected for a six-year term as the Clerk of Court for the City of Parma Municipal Court. He was re-elected to a second term in 2003. In addition to his professional endeavors, Marty has been a tireless volunteer and champion of numerous volunteer causes, and has been an active volunteer in many roles, including chairing school levy campaigns; raising funds for the Byers Field Foundation and Veterans Memorial; co-chairing fundraising drives for the American Cancer Society; and active leadership roles in several civic organizations, including the Parma Elks and the Parma Area Chamber of Commerce. Additionally, Marty is the founder and current chairman of the Community Leadership Group, comprised of elected officials, business owners and community activists whose mission is to foster positive change within all levels of the Parma community through the power of a unified commitment, shared vision and collective focus.

Marty's leadership, achievement, and most vital of all, his integrity and genuine concern for others, is a united legacy that co-exists with, and is strengthened by, the integrity, dedication, professional and personal excellence and shared vision of his partner in life—his wife, Lynn M. Vittardi.

With family as the cornerstone of their lives, Marty and Lynn have instilled a deep sense of giving back to the community and service to others within the hearts of their own children, now grown. Marty and Lynn's united focus on their parents, siblings, and above all, their children, Allison, Jessica and Mark, has never wavered and continues to be the center of their lives. Their children have followed a path of professional excellence and service to others, from the examples set by Marty and Lynn. Allison, her husband Nick and Jessica and her husband, Dominick, are education professionals. Their son Mark is in college, majoring in political science.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Martin E. Vittardi, for his unwavering dedication, integrity and outstanding public service, especially his annual volunteer efforts with the American Can-

cer Society. Marty's energy, warmth and significant service continues to offer a light of hope and the promise for a better tomorrow within the City of Parma and throughout our entire community.

IN TRIBUTE TO ALAN AND ROMI
SKOBIN

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Alan and Romi Skobin for their civic and philanthropic service to Los Angeles and the city of San Fernando and, particularly, their good work for the residents of my district in the San Fernando Valley.

On March 26, 2006, Alan and Romi Skobin are being honored by the executives of the Los Angeles Jewish Home for the Aging for their outstanding involvement with the organization. Their care for the elderly residents of the home demonstrates to all of us the importance of taking care of our parents and grandparents—this country's most important national treasures.

Mr. Speaker, Alan and Romi have a record of community and civic service that spans more than 30 years. Alan, a graduate of California State University, Northridge, has been a longstanding business leader in the San Fernando Valley. Currently he serves as vice president and general counsel of Galpin Motors, Inc. and is a member of the executive committee and board of directors.

He has also served as a commissioner with the Los Angeles Police Department since 2003. In this capacity, he has focused on the Community Based Policing program along with many other issues. His work for the city and the Los Angeles Police Department truly affects each Angelino personally.

Alan is a founding director and executive committee member of the Sheriffs Youth Foundation of Los Angeles County, which funds education and intervention programs for at-risk youth. Alan, a two-time cancer and brain tumor survivor, is also involved with Padres Contra El Cancer, a nonprofit organization that improves the quality of life for children with cancer.

Romi Skobin truly exemplifies the American dream. Her inspirational story began when she came to the United States as a refugee from Cuba in 1969. Romi also received her education locally, at Los Angeles Valley College, and began her career in public service when she joined the San Fernando Police Department in 1974. She currently serves as the records/system administrator, the highest ranking civilian position in the SFPD, and is the city of San Fernando's most senior employee.

Romi has also played an important role in Alan's success by raising their two successful children, Jeff and Jennifer, thereby allowing Alan to attend law school and participate in numerous civic activities.

Mr. Speaker, Alan and Romi Skobin are integral parts of the San Fernando Valley community and I wish to congratulate them wholeheartedly on being honored by the executives of the Los Angeles Jewish Home for the Aging.

THANKING ROSA CHEN FOR HER
SERVICE TO THE HOUSE

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of her retirement in February 2006, I rise to thank Ms. Rosa Chen for 16 years of outstanding service to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Rosa began her career at the House working as a senior programmer/analyst. In that capacity, Rosa has served this great institution for the last 16 years as a valuable employee at House Information Resources, HIR, within the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer. Rosa has made significant contributions in the development of the Office Systems Management, OSM, application. The OSM application has been used by the CAO to control equipment inventory. Most recently, Rosa has played a significant technical support role on the Fixed Assets and Inventory Management System, FAIMS, where she was responsible for Oracle Developer reports customer support, and assisted with barcode function implementation for FAIMS physical inventory.

On behalf of the entire House community, I extend congratulations to Rosa for her many years of dedication and outstanding contributions to the U.S. House of Representatives. We wish Rosa many wonderful years in fulfilling her retirement dreams.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO COURTNEY
ZABLOCKI

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a talented young woman from Highlands Ranch, CO, Ms. Courtney Zablocki.

Courtney will proudly represent these United States of America in the 20th Winter Olympiad currently underway in Torino, Italy. Courtney will be competing as a slider in the women's luge events during this Olympiad.

Courtney has been training as a slider for the past 13 years. She will be competing in her second Winter Games. As a member of the United States Olympic women's luge team in Salt Lake City, Courtney finished 13th. In the final World Cup event before the Olympics Courtney finished in a promising fifth position.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to wish Courtney Zablocki a safe, successful and enjoyable Winter Olympics as she represents our country in Italy.

IN HONOR OF THE 2006 OHIO BUSINESS WOMEN'S CONFERENCE AND EXPO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, please join me in honor and recognition of the 2006 Ohio

Business Women's Conference and Expo, held this year at Cleveland's Cleveland Renaissance Hotel & Conference Center.

The Conference & Expo is a collaborative effort, presented by the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce for Ohio, the Small Business Administration, the Urban League, the Northeast Ohio Minority Business Council (NOMBC), the National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO) and a coalition of Chambers of Commerce throughout Ohio. The event promises to attract hundreds of women business owners and numerous exhibitors.

The organizers of the Conference & Expo are focused on promoting women's business ventures and fostering vital connections of support where women entrepreneurs can find resources to expand and improve their business goals. Additionally, the Conference and Expo will provide a forum where women business owners can display their services and products to Americas leading corporations and public agencies dedicated to doing business with women-owned businesses.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honor and recognition of the 2006 Ohio Business Women's Conference and Expo, a collaborative venture that promises to bolster the success of women business owners throughout our region. The event, while reflecting the continued struggle of women and minorities to attain economic equality and opportunity, also highlights the reality that through continued support and collaboration, the road to economic security and the attainment of professional dreams will be open to all women, clearing a path on which the next generation of women entrepreneurs will follow.

HONORING HADLEY A. WEINBERG

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Hadley A. Weinberg of Bemus Point, New York for being named by the Consumers' Research Council of America to its list of best financial planners throughout the United States.

Mr. Weinberg a partner at Weinberg Financial Group, Financial Education Resources and Chautauqua 401K with a total of eight affiliates at offices in Jamestown and Buffalo. He has served thousands of clients offering financial services from wealth management to retirement plans and is involved with numerous community organizations.

The criteria employed by the Consumers' Research Council complies its best financial planners list using criteria it deems valuable in determining its top professionals. This criteria includes experience, training, professional associations and financial certifications. All criteria Mr. Weinberg has accomplished all of this in his 23 years of service to the industry.

Mr. Weinberg has displayed extreme excellence in the field of financial planning, that is why, Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor him today.

U.S. BUDGET CUTS WORRY
HOSPITALS

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, in the February 8 issue of the Sun Chronicle, published in Attleboro, Massachusetts, there is a very good article about the reaction of hospitals to the President's proposal to change the Medicare law so that future spending would be less on Medicare than it otherwise would be.

In particular, the article quotes Linda Shyavitz, who is the president and CEO of Sturdy Memorial Hospital, an excellent medical facility that serves a very important and diverse population in the city of Attleboro.

Reading the article, including the comments of Ms. Shyavitz, reinforced my view that these proposed changes that the President has put forward are ill advised and would do social damage. I think it is important for Members to understand what people who are charged with important responsibilities think about these proposed reductions in future spending patterns that the President has called for, and because Ms. Shyavitz is an extremely well-qualified and thoughtful administrator of a very important medical facility, I was particularly pleased to have this chance to share her views with our colleagues.

[From the Sun Chronicle, Feb. 8, 2006]

U.S. BUDGET CUTS WORRY HOSPITALS

(By Gloria LaBounty)

ATTLEBORO.—Hospital administrators are keeping a wary eye on Congress as it plows through the Bush administration's proposed cuts in Medicare.

"I think hospitals all over the country will be fighting this," said Linda Shyavitz, president and chief executive officer of Sturdy Memorial Hospital in Attleboro.

According to initial reports, Bush's new \$2.7 trillion budget plan would mean a loss in Massachusetts of \$758 million in Medicaid funds.

It would also mean a reduction of \$213 million in Medicare payments to health-care providers over five years.

The Medicaid impact is still vague, however, because the state is redesigning its program, the Massachusetts Hospital Association says.

The Medicare piece already has hospitals concerned.

Although information so far has been presented in broad terms and details are still days away, Shyavitz said indications are that the proposal could mean a reduction to Sturdy of \$575,000 per in Medicare payments.

All elderly patients would still be cared for at Sturdy, but the hospital would get less reimbursement for the care it provides. Shyavitz said.

Asked how the hospital would compensate for the loss in revenue, Shyavitz said it would be premature to speculate because the information has just come out and the president's intentions are still being absorbed.

But she said what hospitals will do in the short term is urge members of Congress to reject the cuts and not support the budget.

Paul Wingle, senior director of communications for the state hospital association or MHA, said the Medicare cuts would put a financial strain on hospitals, and more of them would serve patients at a loss, or at a very thin margin.

"Hospitals would have to scramble to make up the loss," he said, and some might do that through cutbacks, or through attempts to make up the revenue elsewhere.

That in turn creates pressure for rate increases.

Shyavitz said hospitals cannot simply raise rates, and would have to negotiate increases with health insurance companies. But she said many hospitals will want to do that if the cuts materialize.

Shyavitz said she is confident that Massachusetts congressmen and senators, including Sen. John Kerry and Sen. Edward Kennedy, and U.S. Reps. James McGovern and Barney Frank, will oppose the cuts.

Kennedy has already spoken out by telling the Associated Press that Bush's budget proposal "shortchanges our competitiveness, shortchanges our opportunity, and shortchanges our future."

NEIL BORTZ HONORED AS A
GREAT LIVING CINCINNATIAN

HON. JEAN SCHMIDT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Neil Bortz, a residential and commercial developer, community leader, philanthropist, and visionary, who will be formally honored as a Great Living Cincinnati on February 16 by the Greater Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber has bestowed this award on distinguished members of the community annually since 1967. Recipients of this prestigious award are chosen on the basis of professional achievement; community service; leadership; compassion; and vision. Past honorees have included Neil Armstrong, Dr. Albert Sabin and Charles Scripps.

Mr. Bortz built his career on an uphill challenge: launching the Mount Adams renaissance in the early 1960s as a founding partner in Towne Properties before going on to develop properties across Cincinnati, Dayton, Lexington and Florida. He has made countless improvements to our community and raised the quality of life for many in our region.

In addition to sparking the rebirth of the picturesque, hilltop neighborhood of Cincinnati's Mount Adams, Mr. Bortz also helped lead the housing renaissance in downtown Cincinnati with several award-winning residential developments. His most recent projects include residential properties along the Ohio River. Mr. Bortz has also made an impact on our area by creating great places to live, work and shop in the Cincinnati suburbs.

Mr. Bortz has been active in many arts, civic and philanthropic activities, including serving as founding chair of the Walnut Hills High School Alumni Foundation, which recently completed a new Arts & Sciences wing. Other boards include Cincinnati Art Museum, Cincinnati Equity Fund, National Conference of Christians and Jews, Reds Hall of Fame, Advisory Board to the Cincinnati Park Board, Jewish Federation of Cincinnati, Playhouse in the Park, the Harvard Club of Cincinnati, the Greater Cincinnati Convention and Visitors Bureau and Cincinnati Country Day School. Among his many honors include the first University of Cincinnati Distinguished Service Award, Cincinnati Region Entrepreneur of the Year, and National Conference of Christian and Jews Outstanding Citizen Award.

Mr. Bortz earned his Master of Business Administration from Harvard University. He has three sons, all of whom work with him at Towne Properties, two stepchildren, and six grandchildren.

All of us in the Greater Cincinnati area congratulate Mr. Bortz on being named a Great Living Cincinnati.

HONORING JAMES P. HOFFA

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. James P. Hoffa for his strong leadership and commitment to working families.

As the only son of James R. Hoffa, former General President of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Mr. Hoffa grew up on picket lines and in union meetings. James P. Hoffa became a Teamster member himself on his 18th birthday when his father swore him in. As a young Teamster, Hoffa worked as a laborer in Detroit and Alaska, loading and unloading freight from ships, driving trucks and buses and operating heavy equipment.

At Michigan State University, Hoffa played football for legendary Coach Duffy Daugherty and graduated with a degree in Economics. He went on to receive his Law degree from the University of Michigan, and worked as a Teamster attorney from 1968 through 1993. From 1993 to 1998, Hoffa worked at Michigan Joint Council 43.

In 1999 Hoffa was elected General President of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. Under his leadership, Teamsters are winning industry-leading contracts, engaging in contract enforcement and organizing thousands of new members.

The Union's renewed commitment to political action includes DRIVING America's Future, a new initiative that encourages and supports Teamster members running for political office. This effort will ensure even more Teamster influence in state and national government.

James P. Hoffa has spent a lifetime preparing for the challenge of running the Teamsters Union. He knows, first-hand, what Teamsters can accomplish when they work together. He is determined to lead a Union that is a credit to its proud history.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, please join me in honoring Mr. James P. Hoffa for his life's work in building better lives for our families, our communities and our country.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF
CHRISTOPHER PENN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Christopher Penn, cherished son, brother, brother-in-law, uncle and friend. Mr. Penn's insightful cinematic performances reflected the human condition with subtle power, in a style that ranged from comedic and sublime to rage and despair. His

brilliant character portrayals resonated with moviegoers worldwide, connecting us all in our shared humanity.

Although not often cast as the leading man, Mr. Penn's beautifully understated performances consistently lent grace and authenticity to every role he played. From his endearing performance as an insecure teenager in *Footloose*, to his colorful and unforgettable performances in *Reservoir Dogs*, *True Romance*, *The Funeral*, *Pale Rider* and *Mulholland Falls*, Mr. Penn's personal integrity and depth of character clearly radiated onscreen.

Mr. Penn began his film career as a child actor in the 1970's. His performances in more than forty films captured the hearts of moviegoers and earned the respect and admiration of both colleagues and critics. In 1996, Mr. Penn won a Venice Film Festival Award for Best Supporting Actor for his performance in the "The Funeral." He also was nominated for an Independent Spirit Award and a Genie Award.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honor and remembrance of Christopher Penn, whose young life was framed by family, friends and his exceptional artistic dedication. I offer my deepest condolences to his mother and father, Leo and Eileen; to his brothers, Michael and Sean; to his sisters-in-law, Aimee and Robin; and to his many extended family members and friends. Mr. Penn's gentle spirit and kind heart will live on forever within the hearts of his family and friends, and he will be remembered always by his adoring audience.

RECOGNIZING LOCAL SOLDIERS
FOR THEIR SERVICE TO THIS
NATION

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today to express gratitude to a number of soldiers from Western New York who have recently completed a tour of duty where they fought heroically on behalf of the United States of America.

In particular, I would like to recognize SGT Benn, SSG Benson, SGT Carr, SFC Collins, MAJ Dukes, SSG Hendricks, SSG Jindra, SGT Kulesz, SSG LaBuda, SSG Lemay, SFC Liberatore, SFC Press, SSG Printup, SPC Santiago and SFC Schuler, just a few of our local heroes who selflessly put their lives on the line to protect and improve the lives of those in this country and others worldwide.

These decorated men and women have demonstrated supreme courage and commitment through their call to duty and fight for liberty. Their valiant efforts are the reason why we continue to be the "land of the free and the home of the brave."

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the residents of the 27th Congressional District and all Americans I wish to extend my sincerest appreciation to these courageous and noble soldiers. Their service and sacrifices help protect the safety and freedoms that make this Nation great.

DR. MYRTIS POWELL HONORED AS
A GREAT LIVING CINCINNATIAN

HON. JEAN SCHMIDT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Myrtis Powell, Ph.D., an educator, civic leader and community activist, who will be formally honored as a Great Living Cincinnati on February 16 by the Greater Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber has bestowed this award on distinguished members of the community annually since 1967. Recipients of this prestigious award are chosen on the basis of professional achievement; community service; leadership; compassion; and vision. Past honorees have included Neil Armstrong, Dr. Albert Sabin and Charles Scripps.

The eldest of 14 children, Dr. Powell was born in Evergreen, Alabama, where she earned her high school degree when she was just 16 years old. With a quest for knowledge and a passion for learning, Dr. Powell's life has been defined by her distinguished career in education.

Dr. Powell moved to Cincinnati in 1955 to live with her aunt. While working full time in various secretarial and clerical positions, she climbed the ladder of higher education by taking evening and part-time classes at the University of Cincinnati. In 1969, she earned a bachelor's degree in Administrative Management; in 1974, she received a master's degree in Sociology; and in 1978, earned a doctorate in Sociology and Higher Education Administration. Dr. Powell also holds a certificate in Executive Management from the Harvard Business School.

Throughout her life, Dr. Powell has blazed a trail for women and African-Americans. She is the first African-American to be an associate dean at the University of Cincinnati; the first African-American to hold an upper management position at Miami University, where during her tenure she improved the student affairs office and increased the minority community on campus; and the first African-American to serve as a program officer at the Edna McConnell Clark Foundation in New York City.

She recently retired from her post as President and CEO of the Cincinnati Youth Collaborative, an organization that provides youth employment, mentoring, and tutoring for those in need.

Dr. Powell remains active in the community, and serves on the boards of Mayerson Academy, Bethesda Hospital Inc., Union Central Life, the Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education, Art Links, CET, and the Greater Cincinnati Foundation. She has received many honors, including designation as a Cincinnati Enquirer Woman of the Year, Talbot House Community Service Award, Glorifying the Lion Awards from the Urban League, Miami's Alumni Association A.K. Morris Award, the YWCA Career Achievement Award, the Beacon of Light Award from Lighthouse Youth Services, and the Joseph A. Hall Award from the United Way and Community Chest.

Dr. Powell resides in the Cincinnati suburb of Amberly. Her late husband, Lavatus Powell

Jr., was a vice president at Procter & Gamble and a community leader. She has one daughter, three stepchildren and five grandchildren.

All of us in the Cincinnati area congratulate Dr. Myrtis Powell on being named a Great Living Cincinnati.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, On Wednesday, February 8, 2006 on the Motion to Instruct Conferees regarding the Tax Relief Extension Reconciliation Act (H.R. 4297) I meant to vote "No" on the motion but inadvertently voted "Yes."

CELEBRATING THE ANNIVERSARY
OF THE "BLUE & GOLD" WITH
CUB SCOUT PACK 890

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I recognize the young men from Cub Scout Pack 890 from Woodlawn, New York as they celebrate the traditions and contributions of the Boy Scouts of America on this, the 76th anniversary of Cub Scouting.

Since 1910 Cub Scouts have embraced their motto "Do Your Best" and promoted the values of: citizenship, compassion, cooperation, courage, faith, health, honesty, perseverance, positive attitude, resourcefulness, respect, and responsibility among its membership.

Today we have more than 885,000 Cub Scouts across America, learning valuable life lessons through the scouting program, who will be the next generation of leaders.

On Sunday, February 12, 2006 Pack 890 will celebrate the Anniversary of Scouting with a "Blue & Gold" dinner; blue representing truth, spirituality, steadfast loyalty and the sky above and gold which stands for warm sunlight, good cheer and happiness.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for the opportunity to recognize Cub Scout Pack 890, whose members have learned at a very young age the importance of teamwork and giving back to one's community. We should be proud knowing they are this Nation's future.

HONORING THE COMMUNITY OF
CHICAGO'S KOREA TOWN

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the achievements of the Korea Town area of Chicago's 5th Congressional District.

Chicago is home to many culturally and ethnically based communities, and Korea Town is one of the most thriving and influential areas in our city. Anchored on Lawrence Avenue, local businesses both serve and showcase the Korean community and its heritage. The residents of this neighborhood have played a large role in its recent revitalization, boosting civic pride as the neighborhood has flourished.

Korea Town is home to many Korean restaurants, merchants, and bars popular among both residents of and visitors to Chicago. The area also serves as the hub for Chicago's communication among the Korean-American community, as it boasts Korean television and radio stations, newspaper and magazine headquarters, and other businesses that cater to the growing number of Koreans and Korean-Americans in Chicago.

Recently, the Illinois Department of Transportation put up a designation marker on Chicago's John F. Kennedy Expressway to show the way to Korea Town. This sign will lead visitors to a symbol of over 40 years of hard work of the Korean American community, as well as the many successes of immigrant communities in Chicago and across the country.

Korea Town is one of the neighborhoods that make Chicago great, boasting some of the city's wonderful opportunities for dining, shopping and family-friendly recreation. Last year, both the Chicago City Council and the Illinois General Assembly passed resolutions honoring the cultural heritage of Korea Town and the contributions of Chicago's Korean community, and I am proud to represent Korea Town and many Korean-Americans in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognition of the rich cultural heritage of Chicago's Korea Town, and honor the many contributions of Chicago's Korean-American community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I was not able to be present for the following rollcall votes and would like the record to reflect that I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall No. 5—"yes."

Rollcall No. 6—"yes."

Rollcall No. 7—"yes."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and therefore unable to vote on rollcall votes 5, 6, and 7. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote 5, "aye" on rollcall vote 6 and "aye" on rollcall vote 7.

SERGEANT FIRST CLASS JOHN D.
MORTON

HON. BEN CHANDLER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. CHANDLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an American hero. SFC John D. Morton made the ultimate sacrifice when he gave his life in Afghanistan while supporting Operation Enduring Freedom. John was not only a courageous soldier, but a dearly loved father, brother, son and friend. It is with heartfelt sadness and my deepest sympathies that I stand before you and pay homage to a true defender of freedom.

As a senior at Powell County High School, SFC John Morton felt the call of duty and enlisted in the United States Army. His service to our country sent him all over the world—Somalia, Haiti, Iraq and Afghanistan. He was assigned to the 74th Infantry Detachment (Long Range Surveillance), 173rd Airborne Brigade based in Vicenza, Italy.

On December 15, 2005, John's patrol was on a mission in the mountainous area around Kandahar, Afghanistan when they were confronted by Taliban fighters. John suffered a fatal wound to the chest. On December 28, 2005, SFC John Morton was laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery.

John had a strong commitment to his country and to the uniform that he wore. He believed in his mission in Afghanistan and in the war in Iraq. Along with being an American soldier, John was a beloved father and husband. It is with grief, sadness and humility that I thank John's parents and two sisters. I also wish to thank John's wife, Sarah, and his three children Joshua, Scarlett and Olivia for making the ultimate sacrifice.

John's death is a great loss to the state of Kentucky, to our country, but most of all, to the entire Morton family. I know in my heart that SFC John Morton will always be remembered as an American hero.

**PROTESTS AT MILITARY
FUNERALS**

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, approximately 138,000 troops are serving in Iraq and hundreds of thousands more are stationed at bases all over the world. These men and women bravely volunteered to serve their country and fight to preserve the democratic ideals we as Americans hold dear. It is because of them and the sacrifices they make, I rise today to bring attention to a very serious issue.

On a rainy November day in my district, a group of protesters gathered at the funeral of SGT Kyle Wehrly—the first resident of Galesburg, IL to die in Iraq. During the funeral, they shouted cruel, hateful words at the mourners. Upon hearing the protesters might show up at the funeral, a group of students from Knox College in Galesburg organized to silently stand in front of the protesters, raising their umbrellas to block the hateful words and plac-

ards from the family members and friends of Sergeant Wehrly.

In response to the emotionally charged and widespread attention this incident and other similar protests brought to the State, Illinois Lieutenant Governor, Pat Quinn, proposed a new law preventing protests at funeral services throughout the State. The Let Them Rest in Peace Act prohibits protests within a 300-foot zone around any funeral or memorial in Illinois from 30 minutes before a service until 30 minutes after. "No grieving military family should be subjected to vile epithets and signs at the funeral service of their loved one who has made the ultimate sacrifice for our country," Quinn said in a recent press release. "This legislation strikes an important balance between the First Amendment religious rights of families to bury their dead with reverence and the expression rights of those seeking to harass mourners at a funeral service."

I wholeheartedly support free speech and the right of every American to exercise that right. I also strongly believe the rights of families privately mourning the loss of loved ones are violated and the contributions of our fallen military heroes are belittled when funerals are targeted for picketing and other public demonstrations. Picketing of funerals only cause emotional disturbance and distress to grieving families, which is why I support the Lieutenant Governor's proposal. The Let Them Rest in Peace Act allows family members to peacefully mourn while preserving free speech. Under the Lieutenant Governor's law, people can still protest, they just have to do it from 300 feet away.

I commend the students of Knox College for the decency they showed the family and friends of Sergeant Wehrly by peacefully and silently creating a barrier between them and the hateful, painful words of the protesters. I hope their actions help bring further attention to this issue so we can better honor our men and women in uniform, while continuing to uphold our treasured first amendment rights.

**TRIBUTE TO A TRUE AMERICAN
HERO, DURWARD LEE "SWEDE"
REYMAN**

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true American hero, Durward Lee "Swede" Reyman. Swede quit high school a week after the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, at the age of 18. He volunteered to join the Army Air Corps to protect and defend the country he dearly loves.

After serving in various locations in the United States he was trained for Arctic Search and Rescue and was sent to serve 1 year in northern Quebec, Canada, where he was responsible for driving sled dogs. Upon returning to the States he volunteered for the paratroops and was assigned to the Army Parachute Infantry. He completed jump training in February of 1945 in Fort Benning, GA. Swede was then sent to the Pacific as part of the 11th Airborne, 188th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 3rd Battalion where he made a combat jump on Luzon Island in the Philippines. Swede made a total of seven jumps during his time in the military.

Following the drop of atomic bombs in Japan in 1945, Swede's unit was the first to set foot in the country of Japan. They served as the Honor Guard for GEN Douglas MacArthur during his arrival in Japan.

Following the war, Swede returned home and married his sweetheart Hope, and together they raised four sons, D.L. Junior, William Craig, James Mark, and Jeffrey Charles. Jeffery served 4 years in the United States Air Force.

Swede has been actively involved in ceremonies marking the anniversaries of World War II events. He went to France for the 50th anniversary of D-Day in June 1994 and made a jump with several other WWII survivors. Additionally he made jumps in Russia and Australia in 1995 in ceremonies commemorating the 50th anniversary of V-E Day.

Swede's favorite phrase that he says to himself daily is "They gave their tomorrows for our todays." He doesn't know who to attribute this quote to, but he states that it always makes him think of the cemeteries full of veterans who died and were buried far from home. They had bravely fought and died for our freedoms.

Today I am proud to honor Swede for his courage, patriotism, and service to our Nation. He helped protect our democracy and kept our homeland safe by placing his life on the line. Swede truly is the embodiment of all the values that have molded America into the great Nation it is today.

Mr. Speaker, we maintain the blessings of our freedoms only because we have citizens like Swede Reyman who are willing to fight to defend them for us. It is for these reasons Swede deserves the very highest praise and deep appreciation from the residents of Colorado and from this esteemed body.

HONORING PETER M. AYLWARD

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker I rise today to honor a great soldier, a great husband, a great father and a great American—soon-to-be BG Peter M. Aylward.

This Friday, February 17, 2006, my good friend COL Peter Aylward will be promoted to the rank of brigadier general. Peter is currently serving as the joint staff and deputy director for Anti-Terrorism, Force Protection and Homeland Defense. Peter has served our country in many ways including being a member of the White House Task Force for Disaster Reduction and Tsunami Warning and Planning and led the DOD Pandemic Influenza Task Force for the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense.

As 1 of 11 children, Peter is a Massachusetts native who began his illustrious military career in 1976 when he enlisted in the 1/26 Cavalry Squadron as a reconnaissance specialist. Peter earned multiple degrees from the University of Massachusetts, Lowell, a masters from the Marine Corp University and a master's degree from the National Defense University. He has served in a variety of command and staff assignments and won multiple honors and medals including the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Defense

Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, the Joint Service Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster, the Army Commendation Medal with one silver and one bronze oak leaf clusters, the Joint Service Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster, the Army Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster and many other awards.

Mr. Speaker, we are fortunate to have such a great and dedicated man protecting our country. It is truly an honor to publicly salute BG Peter M. Aylward on the House floor today and bestow our heartfelt thanks for his tireless efforts on behalf of all Americans. I thank Peter, his wife Sandra and their sons, James and Jeremy, for all the time they have given up as a family to make sure our country is safe. We sleep easier because of Peter's commitment and dedication, and I congratulate him on his recent promotion.

TRIBUTE TO GRAYCE BODGEN
ARNOLD

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, Grayce Bodgen Arnold was originally from Philadelphia, PA, and arrived in Arizona through her husband, John Patton Arnold, who had been commissioned by Popular Mechanics and the Triple A Automotive Association to publish the first motor tourist guide of Mexico in the mid 1950's. The family, then including their first two children, moved to Nogales, AZ. The family later moved to settle in Tucson, where their third child, Janie, was born.

Throughout this time Grayce had been developing her cooking and artistic talent. While she lived in Doylestown, PA, her neighbor Sara Lee was a constant presence in Grayce's kitchen, sampling her cooking. At the same time she was also working on her artistic talent, she worked with famed Tucson artist Ted DeGrazia at his studio. In addition to her artistic and cooking talents, she also developed her business skills.

Through the years, her business ventures brought her in contact with many people, including film stars Faye Dunaway and Joanna Cassidy, and then Governor George W. Bush. Also it was at this time that her designs for Patagonia's first three postcards came out, displaying her civic involvement to promote Patagonia as a tourist destination.

In 1976, Grayce's son, Dr. John David Arnold, bought the Miner's Old Home in Patagonia, which was built in 1905. At the time, the house was not in good condition, but was remodeled to be made fit for living, and is where Grayce lived until the end of her life. This is also where Grayce Gift and Candle Shop operated from for almost three decades. Grayce's artistic talents are displayed in her shop, which is more than a shop, instead it is more like part museum and art gallery. Grayce's artistic collections include her award winning sand cast candle dioramas, creative masks and one of her greatest sculptures, her rendition of the Tarahumara man squatting in contemplation in traditional dress.

Grayce was inspiring; she was so full of life, physically active and ran her own business

until the age of 97. She would be the first to tell you that age is irrelevant, after all, while in her sixties she belly danced, remarried and launched her artistic career. She always told her children, "be creative, never stop dreaming, and help others." She was an amazing woman who will be remembered to those who loved her and to the many whose lives she touched.

HONORING CAPTAIN KEVIN C.
MURRAY

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. WU. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor CAPT Kevin C. Murray, who lost his life while performing his duties as a Columbia River bar pilot on the night of January 9, 2006.

Where the Columbia River meets the Pacific Ocean is spectacularly beautiful, yet it is also the worst river bar passage in North America. Columbia River bar pilots have steered vessels in the lower Columbia across the treacherous bar since 1846, making it one of the oldest businesses in the Pacific Northwest. This shallow bar has claimed some 2,000 vessels and 700 lives since the early 19th century.

During a transfer back to the pilot boat *Chinook*, in heavy winter seas, Captain Murray, 50, a resident of Ilwaco, WA, and Boothbay, ME, was thrown into the ocean waters. Despite the valiant efforts of his crew, Captain Murray succumbed to the frigid ocean temperatures. He is survived by his wife, Lori Stetson Murray, and his mother, Phyllis Murray, of Boothbay Harbor, ME.

Captain Murray was a seasoned, experience scholar of the seas. He began his career working on towing vessels, towing semi-submersible oil rigs in and out of the Gulf of Mexico. He later captained a 700-foot oil tanker, the *Blue Ridge*, and held an unlimited master's license allowing him to captain any size vessel in any waters in the world. He had extensive experience in the waters from Alaska to San Francisco, resulting in his recruitment by the Columbia River Bar Pilots in 2004. Fellow Columbia River bar pilots remember Captain Murray as a wonderful person, a strong, silent type, with a quiet, hidden sense of humor.

I extend my heartfelt condolences to Lori, his wife; Phyllis, his mother; and all of his family and friends. This tragic drowning, the first loss of a Columbia River bar pilot since 1973, highlights the danger that these brave pilots face daily in navigating the Columbia River bar, also known as the "graveyard of the Pacific". The bar pilots navigate cruise ships, U.S. Navy vessels, foreign vessels and cargo vessels, inbound and outbound on the Columbia River through the bar. Their skills and work are crucial aspects of the economic health of the deepwater ports of Oregon and Washington and the livelihood of the Pacific Northwest.

Mr. Speaker, I rise not only to honor Captain Murray, but to honor all of his fellow bar pilots on the Columbia River, who stand as their own class of heroes of the sea.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND DR. C.W.
NEWSOME

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, it was with overwhelming sadness that I learned of the passing of The Reverend Dr. C.W. Newsome last week. For more than 40 years my friend and mentor Rev. Charles Newsome served as a moral compass for our community. For more than 40 years he was our spiritual rock and for more than 40 years he was our seeker of justice. There was no question in his mind or ours why God put him on this earth. Rev. Charles Newsome came to us to lead the way in the struggle for economic and social justice and to heal the scars of racism on our country and our community. And he did. With strength and trust given to him by the people he served, he fought for the rights of all people to seek opportunity and to be free from bigotry. He understood that there was no other way for us to build a lasting integrated and strong community. Year after year our friend led the efforts for better housing, schools, jobs, and health care for everyone. So very often he took his church, North Richmond Missionary Baptist Church, and its members into the forefront of these battles. Rev. Newsome knew the strength of the church depended on its involvement with the daily needs of its members and our community. Over these many years I have enjoyed our conversations, treasured his friendship, and highly valued his counsel on a wide variety of issues.

Reverend Newsome was born on June 15, 1924, in Brenham, Texas. Prior to his commitment to the faith ministry, he served valiantly as a U.S. Marine, in the Segregated Corps, fighting against Nazi fascism in the European Theater of World War II. An injury forced him to leave the service and he eventually came to Richmond, continuing to support our country's effort by working in the shipyards. His participation in shipbuilding and that of the countless African Americans who migrated west during the war, led Richmond to become one of the leading industrial hubs of the world. Today his legacy and that of all of the men and women who built our country's warships has been memorialized as Rosie the Riveter National Historic Park.

With an insatiable appetite for learning, Reverend Newsome attended Contra Costa College for his AA Degree, the University of California Berkeley for his undergraduate work, Bishop College in Dallas to study theology, and received his Doctorate from Reeds Christian College—Western Theology Seminary in Los Angeles. Following the completion of his studies, he began his life's work. Rev. Newsome's ministry has included Organizing Pastor of Holy Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church in Richmond, and heading the Community Baptist Church in Santa Rosa, California. In 1966 he took on the pastoral duties at North Richmond Baptist Missionary Church. Building on his congregation's stature in the community as the first "Negro Baptist Church of Contra Costa County", Rev. Newsome continued to break new ground in the name of social justice. He led laborers to fight for equality in the workplace and led families to fight for safety in our schools and on our streets.

It was just two years ago that I came to this Well to mark Reverend Newsome's retirement after 38 extraordinary years as Pastor of North Richmond Missionary Baptist Church. This congregation under his leadership has become a beacon of hope in a community struggling against issues of social and economic injustice.

To Reverend Newsome's wife, Alice, his daughters Patricia Cooper and Redonda Newsome, and his son, Reverend Charles Newsome, I extend my heartfelt condolences. Their loss is shared not only by those who knew Reverend Newsome but by all who have been touched by the work he has done. We will be forever grateful for his skill, strength and courage as he sought to make our community and our country a better place for all of us. We are so grateful to his family and his church for sharing him with us for so many years. We celebrate his life without sorrow because we know God has much need of him.

"What does the Lord require of us—to do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly with thy God"—Micah 6.

HONORING MEREDITH KIESEL

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishment of Meredith Kiesel, a 7th grader from Northport, NY, who won first place in the World Hunger Essay Contest. Ms. Kiesel understands our country's need for a plan to eliminate hunger and food insecurity.

SHOULD FOOD BE A BASIC HUMAN RIGHT?

(By Meredith Kiesel)

I think that food should be a basic human right. In our society we have human rights. Some of these rights include freedom of speech, education, the right to vote, to think freely, and to practice and believe in any religion. These rights make our country great and strong. Food is used to give us energy, and to keep us focused on what we are doing. When a person misses a meal they become very tired and hungry.

Every person who has food can contribute to local food pantries and to food drives. If every person contributed, many people would have food. If a local grocery store donated extra food to a food drive or a shelter it would help people who cannot afford food. People who cannot get a job suffer because they do not have money to buy food. If food was a human right these people could get food to support themselves and their families.

Many people who cannot afford food do not have enough energy to do ordinary things. Kids who do not have enough food in their bodies cannot study and learn and cannot do sports or activities that are in their school. They cannot do it because they do not have enough energy. Even with eight hours they will not have the energy without food. If food was a human right they could go out for sports teams or play in their local neighborhood parks and study and become successful.

Food is very important for our bodies and minds. It helps us to think and do regular activities. Without proper nutrients our bodies cannot function properly. These are very important reasons as to why food is very important. The whole world should have food as a basic human right. It would help make the world a happier and healthier place to live.

HONORING FARRAGUT HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL COACH EDDIE COURTNEY UPON RECEIVING THE INAUGURAL COURTNEY COURAGE AWARD

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 18th of this year, Farragut High School Head Football Coach Eddie Courtney was named the first recipient of the Eddie Courtney Courage Award named in his honor.

This ceremony took place at the end of a grueling and testing season for Coach Courtney and his Admiral football team. Coach Courtney was diagnosed with Hodgkin's disease last spring and despite months of radiation and chemotherapy, he guided the Admirals to the Class 5A quarterfinals and an 11-3 record. Throughout his intensive treatment, he never missed a team function, including summer conditioning workouts, cutting the grass and lining the field before games and scrimmages.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the readers of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and my fellow colleagues to join me in honoring the courage, strength and leadership of Farragut High School Head Football Coach Eddie Courtney. I also include the following news article printed in the Knoxville News-Sentinel.

[From the Knoxville News-Sentinel, Jan. 19, 2006]

COURTNEY AWARD STANDS FOR COURAGE

(By Drew Edwards)

Farragut High School football coach Eddie Courtney was named the first recipient and namesake of the Courage Award at the PrepXtra football awards banquet Wednesday night in the Wolf Kaplan Center inside Neyland Stadium.

Courtney was diagnosed with Hodgkin's disease last spring and guided the Admirals to the Class 5A quarterfinals and an 11-3 record. Throughout months of radiation and chemotherapy, the 52-year-old coach never missed a team function, including summer conditioning workouts.

He continued to perform his other duties, including cutting the grass and lining the field.

"It started with (my faith) and having great friends," Courtney said. "And I'm here because of the game of football. As a player, it was always just suck-it-up and go."

Farragut linebacker Nick Reveiz said Courtney's attitude rubbed off on the team.

"He's a man, and that's the true definition of a man," Reveiz told the News Sentinel in November. "He takes what life gives him. He doesn't whine about anything. That's one person that no matter what comes his way, no matter how unfair it is, no matter what happens, he's not going to complain about anything. He's going to take what's given and make the best out of it."

Courtney finished his radiation treatments last month and will visit doctors once every two months for the next year.

The Eddie Courtney Courage Award will be given each year to a player, coach or contributor to local high school football who has shown the spirit to face fear or danger with confidence, resolution and dignity.

HONORING JOAN CARR ON RECEIVING THE ATHENA AWARD

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Joan Carr, who is the recipient of the ATHENA award, which honors outstanding women for their leadership.

Since her retirement from the nursing profession, Joan has selflessly served as a volunteer for WWCS Health & Welfare Advisory for the Wayne Westland School District Family Resource Center. She has led numerous community projects, including the Red Wagon Literacy Project, Kindergarten Backpack Project and Literacy Family Fun Night. Dedicated to her community, she has tirelessly worked to identify the needs of families within the Wayne Westland School District, and is considered a mentor and role model to women in her community.

Mr. Speaker, Joan Carr has forged a legacy of commitment and dedication to helping families in the Cities of Wayne and Westland. I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring Joan, and I congratulate her upon receiving this honor.

HONORING THE WOODVILLE FIGHTING EAGLES 2A BASEBALL TEXAS STATE CHAMPIONS

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Woodville High School Fighting Eagles on their 2005 2A Texas State Baseball Championship. Woodville, Texas, is a wonderful community in Tyler County and a proud part of the Eighth Congressional District. For any community in America a state championship is quite an accomplishment and one worth honoring.

While the young men and their coaches worked their way through each level of competition, everyone in the community rallied behind the team driving all over the state to cheer them on to a State Championship victory.

Team starting pitcher Casey Beck was named most valuable player at the State Championship Game. The team clinched the championship with a victory over Holliday High School located near Wichita Falls, Texas, by a score of 2 to 1. In a story that belongs in a climatic Hollywood sports movie, Beck, after throwing 134 pitches in his team's semifinal victory the day before was called in as a relief pitcher in the last two innings of the championship game.

The Austin American Statesman quoted Beck as saying "My arm was really weak. When I was warming up between innings, I had nothing. Coach came over and asked me if I had one inning left, and I told them I'd give it my all. Then that became two innings."

Mr. Speaker, there is something else that makes the people of Tyler County and the City of Woodville stand out. These families and

businesses first opened their homes to Hurricane Katrina victims, then to Rita evacuees from other areas of the state. Following their awesome display of compassion and generosity, Hurricane Rita with 150 mph winds, unexpectedly made Woodville a direct target.

In light of the recent Gulf Coast hurricane season, and specifically Hurricane Rita that devastated Tyler County and its surrounding communities, the team's victory has helped keep this tight knit community even stronger.

Casey Beck's performance in the championship game represents the attitude and "get it done" spirit of the people of Tyler County. Regardless of how tired they are they are going to give it one or two more innings down the stretch, face down one hurricane and then another.

The team was coached on to victory by Head Coach Neil Hennigan and Varsity Assistant Coaches Joe Wilroy, Beau Burnett and Reggie Williams. The members of the championship team included: Casey Beck, Braeden Riley, Reese Winters, Jordan O'Neal, Zack Rigby, Daniel Spivey, Jess Conner, Trevor Rainey, Aaron Hicks, Evan Fortenberry, Logan Alec, Justin Kirkpatrick, Allen Mitchum, Jacoby Williams, Josh Kirkpatrick, Chad Prince, Joel Gentz, Brian MacGinnis, Paul Price, Cullen Williams, and Jack Hickman.

These young men and their coaches have together accomplished so much and made a community and region so proud. Mr. Speaker, I hope the House of Representatives will join me in honoring the Fighting Eagles and the community they represent.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MRS. CORETTA SCOTT KING

SPEECH OF

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate the start of Black History Month with recognizing the many, many great deeds of African Americans, we also mourn the loss of an icon for people of all races—Mrs. Coretta Scott King. Mrs. King was one of our most influential black woman leaders in the world today.

The "first lady" of the civil rights movement was born Coretta Scott in Heiberger, Alabama. She was raised on the family farm of her parents where she was exposed to the injustices of a segregated society.

Mrs. King excelled at her studies, particularly music, and was valedictorian of her graduating class at Lincoln High School. She graduated in 1945 and received a scholarship to Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio.

As an undergraduate, she took an active interest in the civil rights movement; she joined the Antioch chapter of the NAACP, and the college's Race Relations and Civil Liberties Committees. She graduated from Antioch with a B.A. in music and education and won a scholarship to study concert singing at New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, Massachusetts.

In Boston she met a young theology student, Martin Luther King, Jr., and her life was changed forever.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. King has been described as quiet, steady, and courageous and while all of that may be true let it be noted to add steadfast and certainly noble.

Mrs. King was a serious thinker, a committed activist, a talented musician and an outspoken woman whose influence and activism extended well beyond the career of her famous husband.

Mrs. King undoubtedly became a symbol of racial equality for all Americans. For a woman of her stature, rearing four little children when there was civil unrest, and to have suffered the loss of her husband sent a clear message to this Nation that the movement was too powerful to stop and must go on.

Just like the late Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy, Mrs. Coretta Scott King showed us how to meet personal crisis with courage, and then how to transcend crisis with victory.

Although, I had never had the pleasure of meeting Mrs. King, I too share her husband's vision of peace and brotherhood as a steady theme that should be heard all across this Nation.

Mr. Speaker, history has a way of placing women like Coretta Scott King in the shadows of their powerful husbands but it is time we remember them as more than civil-rights-movement wives and widows.

I once heard someone say that behind every good man stands a good woman, but I say to you and to this Nation that beside every great man stands an even greater woman.

Mr. Speaker, her's was a remarkable life, and along the way she helped improve the lives of millions. While we mourn her lose, we must celebrate her legacy—now recognized with that of her husband.

INTRODUCTION OF THE GIFT OF LIFE CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL ACT OF 2006

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Gift of Life Congressional Medal Act of 2006." This legislation creates a Congressional commemorative medal for organ donors and their families, recognizing the brave and selfless act of organ donation. I want to thank Senator FRIST, a heart and lung transplant surgeon himself, for introducing companion legislation in the Senate.

There is a serious shortage of available and suitable organs for donation. Over 90,000 people are currently waiting for an organ transplant; over 2,200 of these are children under age 18. Over 30,000 new patients are added to the waiting list each year. Because of low donor rates, in 2004 alone over 6,150 people died for lack of a suitable organ. An estimated 12,000 people die each year that meet the criteria for organ donation. Less than half actually become organ donors. Recognition of these gifts of life would publicize the critical need to increase organ donation.

Physicians can now successfully transplant kidneys, lungs, pancreases, intestine, livers, and hearts with considerable success. But, without expanded efforts to increase organ donation, the supply of suitable organs will continue to lag behind the need. Incentive pro-

grams and public education are critical to maintaining and increasing the number of organs donated each year.

Health and Human Services, HHS, has already implemented initiatives to raise the public awareness of this vital act of giving life. The Gift of Life Congressional Medal Act is a great opportunity for us to work with HHS to draw attention to this life-saving issue. It sends a clear message that donating one's organs is an act that should receive the profound respect of our Nation.

The Gift of Life Congressional Medal Act establishes a nonprofit fund to be used to design, produce, and distribute a Congressional commemorative medal to organ donors or to a surviving family member. Enactment of this legislation would have no cost to the Federal Government. The Treasury Department would provide a small initial loan for start-up purposes, which would be fully repaid. Subsequently, the program would be self-sufficient through charitable donations.

This is non-controversial, non-partisan legislation to increase the rate of organ donation. I ask my colleagues to help bring an end to transplant waiting lists and recognize the enormous faith and courage displayed by organ donors and their families. This bill honors these brave acts, while publicizing the critical need for increased organ donation. I urge swift passage of the Gift of Life Congressional Medal Act.

COMMEMORATION OF THE VISIT OF THE BLACKWATER COMMUNITY SCHOOL DELEGATION TO WASHINGTON, DC, FEBRUARY 14, 2006

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a delegation from my district visiting our Nation's Capital. This delegation represents the Blackwater Community School on the Gila River Indian Reservation, who belong to the Akimel O'Otham.

I would like to acknowledge Henry Pino, president of the Blackwater Community School Board; board member Francisco Osife; board secretary Peggy Winchester; and the superintendent and principal of the school, Jacquelyn Power. Through the talent and commitment of these individuals, the students of Blackwater are in great hands. Blackwater Community School has a motto—"Quality Education Begins Here." It was evident in our discussion today that these educators and administrators live up to such an inspiring motto every day.

Blackwater Community School was built in 1939, it was the first operated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Arizona, and still educates children and families in its historic, refurbished buildings. The children are in grades kindergarten through second, and a charter expanded the student enrollment to third and fourth grades.

Blackwater has led the way as the highest performing school determined by federal and state officials. Most recently, the National Indian School Board Association honored the school with its coveted 4Cs Award.

The school also has one of the most successful family literacy programs in the nation that educates pre-school children and their parents together. The program is called Family and Child Education (FACE), the FACE program at Blackwater has earned an enviable reputation as a proud member of the National Adult Education Honor Society.

I would like to offer my congratulations to the distinguished delegation from Blackwater Community School for the tremendous job that they are doing on the Gila River Indian Reservation.

CONGRATULATIONS TO FATHER
EVAGORAS CONSTANTINIDES

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sincerity and admiration that I wish to congratulate Father Evagoras Constantinides on the 50th Anniversary of his ordination into the Holy Priesthood. Father Constantinides will be recognized at a banquet in his honor at the Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Cathedral on Sunday, February 26, 2006, which will also be a celebration of the 60th Wedding Anniversary of Father Evagoras and his wife, Presvytera Mary.

Father Constantinides was born in Lapithos, Cyprus in 1918 and was educated in his village through his second year of high school, where he graduated with the Gold Medal Award for academic excellence. He entered Athens College in 1932, where he was accepted on a yearly scholarship with the school's science section. Father Constantinides had no trouble maintaining his scholarship for six years, and he graduated with honors while receiving the Delta Public Speaking Prize and the English Language Prize. This dedication and commitment to his studies exemplifies the hard work on which Father Constantinides prides himself.

After finishing college in Greece, Father Constantinides traveled to the United States to continue his studies and broaden his experiences. In 1938, he enrolled at Fenn College, which is now Cleveland State University, where he studied civil engineering. During his four years at the University, he served as a Greek teacher and as the Hellenic Board of Education Secretary for the Greek Orthodox Community of the Annunciation of Cleveland, Ohio. Although he enjoyed his time in Cleveland, his final year was interrupted by World War II. As a British subject, Father Constantinides entered the Canadian Army as a private in the fall of 1942. After completing his basic training, he was enrolled in the officer training program, from which he graduated as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Engineer Corps with proficiency in explosives, mines, and demolitions. His outstanding ability as a military officer, coupled with his excellent intellect, allowed Father Constantinides the opportunity to work for the United States Central Intelligence Group translating Japanese documents and the Greek Constitution into English.

After being discharged in 1947, Father Constantinides returned to the United States and began extensively studying theology. On March 11, 1956, Father Constantinides was

ordained into the priesthood, and on September 1, 1969, he was appointed pastor of the Saints Constantine and Helen parish in Gary, Indiana. Since arriving in Northwest Indiana, the graciousness and generosity of Father Constantinides has touched many lives. In 1971, Father Constantinides was instrumental in the construction of the Hellenic Cultural Center in Merrillville, Indiana, as well as in the design and construction of the Saints Constantine and Helen Cathedral, one of the ten largest Orthodox churches in the Americas, in 1975. During his years of service, Father Constantinides has also become deeply involved in the work of Hospice of the Calumet Area.

In addition to the many contributions within his own parish, Father Constantinides has committed himself to improving the community, the nation, and the world. To name just a few of the appointments and accolades bestowed upon Father Constantinides throughout his years of service, he was honored with the office of Protospyter in 1972, and he served as the Treasurer and member of the National Presbyters Council from 1970–1974, and again from 1980–1982. He received the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America Service Award and Gold Cross in 1976 for his struggles and lobbying activities for the liberation of invaded Cyprus. Father Constantinides has shared his immense wisdom and faith in various countries, including Russia, Kenya, Uganda, and India. Remarkably, Father Constantinides has even found time to author four Sunday school books for children and has translated six Orthodox Service books from Greek to English.

Since his retirement in June 1995, Father Constantinides has devoted his time to the Orthodox Christian Mission Center through writing, lecturing, and substituting at churches in the Chicago Diocese, but he has also been able to devote much of his time to his loving wife, Mary, and their four children. Presvytera Mary has stood by her husband's side for the past 60 years. I am sure Father Constantinides would agree that the unwavering support of his loving wife has been a major factor in the many achievements he has reached in his lifetime. Father Evagoras and Presvytera Mary are a shining example of true dedication to their vows and each other.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in thanking Father Evagoras Constantinides for his contributions to the members of his parish, the citizens of Northwest Indiana, and his fifty years of service to people throughout the world. I also ask that you join me in congratulating Father Evagoras and Presvytera Mary Constantinides on their 60th wedding anniversary. Their love for each other and for all mankind is truly an inspiration to us all, and I am proud to be their representative in Congress.

HONORING DR. PAUL LICHTMAN

HON. CAROLYN McCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mrs. McCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Paul Lichtman, a science teacher from Uniondale High School. Teaching is one of the most honorable and important profes-

sions a person could choose. Dr. Lichtman is at the top of his profession, which his students have always known, and others realize as well. He has been honored by the New York State Assembly, the Nassau County Legislature, the Town of Hempstead Supervisor and the Town Board, and recently was named the Siemens Foundation's top mentor among those who helped 1,600 high school students enter its 2005 national competition. In typical Dr. Lichtman style, he has donated the \$15,000 that comes with the award to purchase more equipment for the school's research room.

Dr. Lichtman earned his Pharm.D. in 1990, specializing in toxicology and worked for several years as a manufacturing pharmacist. He was a science research coordinator and teacher at Massapequa High School and Hillcrest High School prior to making his way to Uniondale.

Dr. Lichtman's program is one of only in three in the nation, other than in some magnet schools, where students do most of their research in a school lab rather than at a hospital or university. In just six short years, Dr. Lichtman has increased the number of research students from zero to over 80. His students, mostly minorities, have long credited Dr. Lichtman not just for his encouragement and mentoring in the classroom but also for teaching life lessons that can be used and applied throughout their lives.

The students develop a full research proposal by conducting a complete literature search and designing the methodology, which is then approved by Dr. Lichtman. Students implement the projects in the school's research lab, present their results at science competitions and propose and carry out further studies. The students' projects have resulted in practical applications that have been implemented, such as reduction of storm water runoff contaminants. Many of his students have been nominated for science awards and have placed in various science fairs and competitions, which is a testament to Dr. Lichtman.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Dr. Lichtman, and all of our teachers, for their wonderful work, and their contribution to our leaders of tomorrow.

IN HONOR OF JOSEPH STROUD

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Joseph Stroud, a Californian poet that has received the prestigious Witter Bynner fellowship award. The fellowship, funded by the Witter Bynner Foundation for Poetry, was developed in 1972 to promote the art of poetry and encourage grants that illuminate the positive effects that poetry has on society. As part of the fellowship, the two recipients are asked to organize a local poetry event as well as attend a poetry reading at the Library of Congress. Stroud has contributed tremendously to the art, and it is fitting that we mention him today.

He began his distinguished career as a professor of poetry and English at Cabrillo College in 1969 and for 35 years inspired the minds of many young and eager writers. Yet

it was not until late that his literary prowess exploded on the cultural scene with the publication of his third book of poetry *Below Cold Mountain*. Stroud, who resides in Santa Cruz, California and Shay Creek in the Sierra Nevada, has also been active in the social diffusion of poetry locally while co-hosting KUSP's "Poetry Show".

Stroud's work encompasses various typologies of poetry from short-line form to lyrical prose and rhymes. His work takes readers with him on his travels and describes topics ranging from landscapes to commonplace objects in the finest detail or the greatest abstraction.

Stroud has completed works of great social and cultural importance and it is important that we recognize him for his contribution to the arts. Together with the Witter Bynner Foundation and members of the United States Congress, I welcome Mr. Stroud to our nation's capital and join in congratulating him for his success and thank him for his contributions to American literature.

COMMENDING THE LAUNCH OF
SAEMSORI

HON. JAMES A. LEACH

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate the Eugene Bell Foundation, the Korean American Coalition of the Midwest, and other involved churches, community leaders and organizations on the occasion of their launch of the SaemSORi initiative last week. By seeking to promote reunion between Korean-Americans and their family members in North Korea, it is a project with potential ramifications that are both personal and global.

As Members of this body are well aware, there currently exist many challenging issues between the United States and North Korea. In the current context, the most reasonable place to begin seeking a more positive dynamic is in the field of people-to-people relation. And the most natural and urgent way to seek those improvements is to pursue the reunion of Korean families. Although detailed statistics are not available, an estimated quarter of the 1.5 to 2 million strong Korean-American community have familial and historical ties to the North. The pains of separation are felt acutely by many Americans.

One of the most unique aspects of our Nation is that we are a society of immigrants with ties to many parts of the world. Traditionally, second and third generation American citizens have taken the lead in advising Congress and the executive branch on ways and means of forging closer, more mutually beneficial relations with their ancestral homelands, and in focusing American concern on the circumstances and challenges facing their former countrymen. In our unique, citizen-centered democracy, leadership on initiatives eventually undertaken by any administration often comes from outside government.

For this reason, I believe that the launch of SaemSORi is an appropriate occasion to reflect on the singular role that Korean-American churches, civic organizations, and business leaders are playing in the way that the United

States relates to the entire Korean peninsula, both North and South. Those who pursue reunion for the sake of their families are reflecting basic American values and rendering a service to the imperative of peaceful relations between peoples of the world.

HONORING CHARLES C. PHILLIPS

HON. JO ANN DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of one of my distinguished constituents, Charles Clifford Phillips of Newport News, Virginia. Born in January of 1921, Charlie grew up in Friendship, South Carolina, where he, like many rural Americans of that time, worked on his father's farm. Anxious to see the world and to serve his country, he left South Carolina at the age of 17 and joined the Army Air Corps. After the entry of the United States into World War II, Charlie was sent to the Pacific Theater as a bomber turret gunner in the famous Red Raiders Bomber Group (22d Bomb Group, 2d Squadron). Like so many others of his generation, he asked no questions and he made no complaints. He fought and won a war that guaranteed the security of every American and hundreds of millions of others.

With his job done abroad, he returned to America to begin a new life and new family. He met the love of his life, Buena Mae Spurling, in a restaurant in Maryville, Tennessee. They eventually moved to Newport News, Virginia in 1955, where he joined the C&O Railroad and worked until his retirement 28 years later. He and his beloved wife of 60 years built a family of upstanding, hardworking Americans who carry his love of country and his belief in God.

This country lost a great American on December 23, 2005, just 2 days before Christmas and 2 weeks before his 85th birthday. Charlie closed his eyes for the last time surrounded by his family. I am told that he left this world as he lived in it, with dignity and honor.

I extend to the family of Charles Clifford Phillips my deepest sympathy and my prayers during this difficult time. I am sure you are so very proud of him. It is obvious through his service to our country during World War II and his love for his family, that he was truly a great man.

I would also like to enter into the RECORD the obituary of Charles C. Phillips.

OBITUARY OF CHARLES C. PHILLIPS

NEWPORT NEWS.—Mr. Charles C. Phillips, 84, a native of Marion, S.C., a resident of Newport News since 1955, went home to be with the Lord on Dec. 23, 2005. He was a Christian and Veteran of WWII, serving in the U.S. Army Air Corps, 22 Bomb Group (BG), 2nd Squadron, "Robinson's Red Raiders" in the Pacific Theatre. The 22 BG originated out of Langley Air Field in 1941 and was deployed to the Pacific one day after Pearl Harbor. He received several decorations and the unit had several Presidential citations, participating in numerous campaigns as a bomber turret gunner. Mr. Phillips retired from C&O Railroad after 28 years of service. He was the son of the late Chalmers Corcellus and Susan Wall Phillips of S.C. He was preceded in death by his

brothers, Marvin, Zach and Wallace Phillips, and sister, Margaret Wagner Worrell. Survivors include his wife of 60 years, Buena Mae Phillips (whom he loved most in the world); two daughters, Margaret "Cookie" Tyndall and Michelle Kellam, and husband, Chris; two sons, Charles C. Phillips Jr. and wife, Patricia, and William L. Phillips; one sister, Geraldine Graham of Florence, S.C.; eight grandchildren; five great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews whom he held very dear. He was provided loving care in his remaining days by his loving family, most notably his son-in-law G. Christopher Kellam and his grandson Caleb J. Kellam. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 31, in the World Outreach Worship Center, 1233 Shields Road, Newport News, VA 23608-2062, with Pastor Bob Collins officiating. The family suggests that memorials may be made to the World Outreach Worship Center.

HONORING JACK FARIS

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, America was built by entrepreneurs. We wouldn't be the powerhouse we are without the millions of people who had an idea, grew that idea, and turned that idea into a business. In America small business owners create the most jobs and drive economic growth.

Today I want to honor someone who has fought for those entrepreneurs. As president and CEO of the National Federation of Independent Business, Jack Faris has been a tireless advocate on behalf of small business owners. He understands the pressures facing our entrepreneurs and he has fought to be certain America doesn't stifle the freedom that gives so many the opportunity to go out and build a business. Jack Faris believes in dreaming big dreams and turning those into reality.

Jack knows our prosperity and our freedom are tied to a thriving small business community and he's never shied away from making certain policymakers understand that fact.

Even though Jack is retiring as president and CEO of the NFIB, we know he'll continue to support our small businesses. We thank him for his work on behalf of such a worthy cause.

HONORING AMY JARED AND HER
DEDICATION TO THE ARTS

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Amy Jared for her dedication to art education. Amy, a native of Cookeville, Tennessee, developed an art outreach program that was recently honored with the Nation's highest award for community arts programs.

As Art Education Manager at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Amy developed a Latino Outreach Program that was named one of 15 finalists in the 2005 Coming Up Taller Awards. Since 1998, the awards have recognized the

Nation's outstanding community arts and humanities programs. The Coming Up Taller Awards are a project of the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

During her time with the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Amy also initiated all of the studio-based outreach programs with Philadelphia's public schools, expanded the museum's afterschool studio art classes and developed weekend art classes. In 1998, her art education programs received an Award of Excellence in Programming from the American Association of Museums. For five consecutive years, her children's studio programs were honored with a Best of Philly award.

Amy recently left the museum to return to teaching art in schools. I have no doubt that she will do an outstanding job. Her students certainly will be fortunate to have such a talented and engaging teacher.

I congratulate Amy for being recognized as a Coming Up Taller Award finalist, and I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ROYALTY
RELIEF FOR AMERICAN CON-
SUMERS ACT OF 2006

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, the American people expect their leaders to articulate a vision and a comprehensive strategy for America's energy future. They expect us to be focused on reducing the high energy costs to American consumers and completely eliminating our dependence on expensive and volatile Middle Eastern oil. In contrast, several weeks ago the New York Times released an investigative report revealing that payments made by energy companies are not keeping up with the skyrocketing cost of energy. Today, the Times, revealed that big oil companies stand to receive future royalty giveaways from the Bush administration of nearly \$7 billion. This royalty relief for Exxon Mobil, BP, and Chevron Texaco comes at a time when consumers are paying record high energy prices.

It is time to start providing royalty relief to the American public, and to end it for multinational energy companies that just made more profit in one year than any industry in modern history.

Today, Representatives MALONEY, MILLER, WAXMAN, EMANUEL, INSLER, PALLONE, GRIJALVA and I are introducing the "Royalty Relief for American Consumers Act of 2006" to ensure that the taxpayers will receive the billions of dollars in royalty payments they are owed by the big oil companies as payment to drill on public land. Our legislation would prohibit royalty relief on any future oil and gas leases, call for a renegotiation of current leases, and prohibit the purchasing of new leases by those companies that refuse to renegotiate.

Oil companies pay a fraction of the value of the oil and gas produced on federal land as a royalty to the Federal Government. However, on Valentine's Day, we have learned of yet

another sweetheart deal that the administration is giving to big oil. Across the country, Americans can't afford roses and chocolates because they are getting squeezed at the pump for every last nickel and dime they have—meanwhile the Bush administration is giving its sweethearts in the oil industry \$7 billion that rightfully belongs to America's taxpayers.

In the 1990's and again last year, the Republican Congress voted to suspend royalty payments by oil and gas companies for oil and gas produced in Federal waters in the Gulf of Mexico.

Now, the President's own budget directs the Department of the Interior to allow companies to pump nearly \$65 billion worth of oil and natural gas without paying royalties. Apparently the administration doesn't feel that the record profits being reported by Exxon Mobil and the other big oil companies are high enough. The Bush policy of subsidizing wealthy oil companies has proven to be wildly effective in boosting oil company profits, but it continues to harm American consumers. It is time for this administration to stop letting oil companies make the greatest profits we have ever seen in the history of the world while not paying their bills to the American public.

The "Royalty Relief for American Consumers Act of 2006" will ensure that the American taxpayers receive the money they are owed by the oil companies in the future. Our legislation will help reverse the Bush administration's policy to "Leave No Oil Company Behind" and instead provide relief to the American consumers who are currently footing the bill.

TRIBUTE TO YOGGI RILEY

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to my long time friend, Yoggi Riley, in recognition of her February 3, 2006, retirement from the U.S. Postal Service. Ms. Riley had a long and distinguished career with the Postal Service—almost 38 years. She proved herself a leader through her tireless work with the Postal Workers Union. Throughout her career she helped improve the lives of countless other postal workers through her union service.

In September 1967, Yoggi began working at the Post Office Department as a special delivery messenger. After witnessing the hardships experienced by the postal workers on the picket lines during the 1970 New York postal workers strike, which spread throughout the country, she joined the San Fernando Valley Area Local Branch of the American Postal Workers Union, APWU. This decision not only changed her life, but because of her tenacity as a union leader, it ultimately impacted the lives of many others. While her desire to help fight for and protect the rights of her fellow employees was kindled by that strike, it has continued to burn brightly throughout her career.

Yoggi's exceptional leadership as a union representative became apparent during the 1970s. In 1979, she was elected President of the local union and ultimately served two

terms. During her tenure, the quality of service and the reputation of the local union increased markedly. Although she turned over the reins of leadership to spend more time with her family, whenever the union needed her she rose to the occasion. When organized labor fell on hard times and employees were required to work longer hours for less pay, the local union sought out Yoggi's help. She returned as Office Manager, and served as Secretary and then as Treasurer.

Her leadership was tested in the mid-nineties when postal management attempted to change the definition of a special delivery messenger and in the process deprive workers of their right to be represented by the union of their choice. During this crisis, she sprang into action, helped confront management, and enlisted the support of the national union. She then entered into a test case to resolve the issue through arbitration. Acting in concert with the national union, an agreement was reached with management that all messengers would remain, as stated in the law, in their union of choice. This was a great victory for postal workers.

Yoggi settled into a job as Mailing Requirement Clerk advising postal customers about the best way to make and prepare their mailings. In 2001, the Postal Service recognized Yoggi with its Diversity Award, an honor justly deserved. Although she has now retired from the UPS, Yoggi has not retired from her quest to help postal workers. In recognition of her passion and ability to help postal workers, the APWU has asked Yoggi to conduct seminars on retirement and to help other workers appropriately prepare for that transition. Not surprisingly, she has taken on this challenge with zeal and will, no doubt, continue to make a tremendous impact.

Yoggi is a very special woman. In addition to all she has done on behalf of postal workers, she has also devoted herself to raising a family. She is married to Lester Riley and they have two children and six grandchildren. The time and energy she gave to coaching children's baseball and t-ball was so well known that the community renamed the playing field across from her home after her.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Yoggi Riley, congratulating her on her retirement, and wishing her success in all her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO BARBARA SUDLER
HORNBY

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the wonderful life and exceptional accomplishments of a remarkable woman. This distinguished citizen possessed an impressive record of civic leadership and invaluable service. Her achievements in preserving the heritage of Colorado merit our recognition and gratitude. It is to commend this eminent citizen that I rise to honor Barbara Sudler Hornby.

When we think about the enduring legacy of Denver and Colorado, we think of Barbara Hornby. Her life was an affirmation of our heritage and its importance to future generations.

When we celebrate her life, we celebrate not only the history and edifices she worked so diligently to protect, but the stewardship and conservation of our common cultural heritage,

Barbara Hornby was born in Hawaii to U.S. Naval Commander Leo Welch and Barbara Petrikin Welch in 1925. She graduated from the University of Colorado in 1944 and during the remainder of the Second World War, she worked at Ft. Logan, Buckley Field and did research for the University of Denver. Six years later, she married Denver architect James Sudler II and while working in his architectural firm, developed the skills that would serve her well in future endeavors. Following the death of Mr. Sudler, she married former Denver Post senior editor Bill Hornby who shared both her life and her work.

Barbara Hornby served as the executive director of Historic Denver and later as both director and president of the Colorado Historical Society. She supervised the development of the four-million dollar Georgetown Loop Historic Mining and Railroad Park. She served on the Denver Landmark Commission, was vice chairwoman and trustee of the Colorado Historical Foundation and was Colorado's Historic Preservation Officer. In 1995, Colorado Preservation Inc. honored her with the Dana Crawford Award and in 2000, the University of Colorado honored her as Outstanding Alumnus of the Year.

Barbara's accomplishments affirm that she was indeed the keeper of our sense of place. Through Barbara, we learned to savor the richness, diversity and legacy of our forbearers. She knew that preserving our history gives us roots and an understanding of who we are as Coloradans. She raised awareness of our unique heritage and taught us to take responsibility for preservation. She reminded us to respect our historic edifices and recognize that they are living monuments for future generations. We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to Barbara for the care in which she protected and preserved our heritage. William Faulkner said, "The Past is never dead. It is not even past." When we consider the life and accomplishments of Barbara Hornby, we see that the past is not dead, that it enriches the present and gives foundation to the future.

Our thoughts and our prayers are with Barbara's children, James Sudler III and Eleanor Sudler and her husband Bill Hornby. Please join me in celebrating the life of Barbara Sudler Hornby, as distinguished citizen. The strong leadership she exhibited during her life continues to enrich our culture and sustain our heritage as Coloradans and Americans.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, February 8, 2006, due to urgent personal matters I missed roll call votes nos. 5, 6, and 7. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on H. Res. 670, H. Res. 657, and the Rangel motion to instruct on H.R. 4297.

IN RECOGNITION OF GRENADA'S 32 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Grenada's 32 years of independence and to enter into the RECORD an article published by Caribnews chronicling historic challenges faced by the country. I congratulate Grenadians in their native country, the United States and abroad on their perseverance to celebrate how far their great nation has come. Thirty-two years ago, on a momentous February 7, the beautiful country of Grenada achieved its independence from Great Britain.

Since its independence, Grenada—comprised of the islands of Grenada, Carriacou and Petit Martinhas—has continued to flourish as a nation. As the first of the Windward and Leeward islands to declare its independence, Grenada obtained its autonomy under the Grenada United Labour Party government of late Prime Minister Sir Eric Matthew Gairy. Since the early days of independence, Grenada has struggled to find its voice. Despite violent power struggles and a U.S.-led invasion, the people of Grenada have overcome strife in order to forge ahead with their parliamentary democracy.

Today, Grenada stands as a spectacular island with lush mountains, crystal waterfalls, golden beaches and fragrant spice trees that give the island its epithet "Isle of Spice". It is also a vital trade partner, with significant global exports such as nutmeg, mace, cocoa, bananas, vegetables, and fish. But most importantly what is treasured most by Americans is not Grenada's landscape or exports but the Grenadians, who we regard with much esteem as our friends.

Thirty-two years ago this month, Grenada did not only put into motion independence, but national development and progress as well. Mr. Speaker, please join me in wishing Grenada continued political and social advancement on this very special day marking their 32nd anniversary of self-rule.

[From the Caribnews, Feb. 7, 2006]

GRENADA WILL RISE AGAIN

(By Michael D. Roberts)

For the Caribbean island nation of Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique the devastation wrought by two powerful hurricanes has turned back what progress was being made under the Keith Mitchell Administration. And the undulating nature of activities of national development has also been a major challenge even before Hurricanes Ivan and Emily.

It has been like constantly taking three steps forward and one backwards in an eerie dance led by the caprices of the international global market and the negative effects of run-away capitalism. Indeed, the much touted benefits of market globalization have served up its own peculiar and erratic brand of progress now and stagnation then. Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique now finds itself in serious economic straits brought on by brutal and devastating "acts of God."

Indeed, these past 32 years have been challenging ones for the 120 square mile tri-island Caribbean nation. And as the nation of some 90,000 people plunge into the uncertainties of a brand new and rapidly redefined

world stage, new challenges lie ahead in less than ideal socio-economic circumstances. For one thing the jury is still out on the gains and achievements of the Grenadian economy, since 1984, as it relates to the improvement of the quality of life of all the people. If the mainspring of Grenadian progress, since its independence from Britain on February 7, 1974, is the country's command over the forces of production, then its history to date is one of sporadic and uneven development mixed with episodes of retrogression.

From the dominance of British-imposed slavery and colonialism Grenada painfully moved towards full political independence during the militant epoch of the 1960s and 1970s. Granted independence under less than favorable conditions the country took charge of its own destiny replacing the colonial master with local elected officials whose experience in governance was learned from and at institutions set up by their former masters. In this context therefore Grenadian structural forms of today—government, parliament and judiciary—were and are a caricature of British Westminster democracy that has failed to adequately provide for institutions and instruments of equality within the society.

It was these spawned social, political and economic disparities that let to the rise and eventual fall of the regime of Sir Eric Matthew Gairy [from 1950 to 1979] and the subsequent triumph—and demise—of the Grenada Revolution (1979-1983). During the 29-year Gairy Regime, Grenada exhibited limited growth and development, with perhaps the sole measure of its progress being the newfound political consciousness of a hitherto cowed and oppressed people.

It was Gairy who bucked the ruling status quo of an alliance in the towns of a mulatto upper class, a growing merchant stratum, and a landed British gentry, oftentimes absent from the island. But what started as a populist movement and progressive anti-colonial struggle degenerated into home-grown depostism by the early 1970s as Sir Eric cemented a strangle hold on all parts of Grenadian society.

With each year since independence—granted during serious internal unrest and political turmoil—the Gairy Regime became more and more oppressive, and it was out of these socio-economic and political conditions that the Grenada Revolution of March 13, 1979 materialized. This break in the evolutionary chain of political and economic development ushered in a brief period of unprecedented economic growth and development. The basis for this was the ruling New Jewel Movement's suspension of the stultifying and archaic British-model constitution, an economic program of planned development based on three pillars—the public, private and cooperative sectors—a grass-roots type of participatory democracy, and an overall policy of national development based along non-capitalist lines.

But successful though the Revolution was, in economic and political terms, it quickly imploded, self-destructed due to a combination of immaturity, intolerance to dissenting view, and a failure to understand that the political and ideological direction of the Revolution did not sit well with a people long accustomed, or conditioned to accepting the flawed Westminster model of democratic development as the only way. The one-man one vote position was therefore central to the core of the Grenadian view of democratic rule.

Still, even the most strident detractors of the Grenada Revolution would agree that the period 1979-1983 saw unparalleled economic growth and development that has not been equaled or duplicated up to this day. In fact

it is safe to conclude that the reversal of the gains of the Grenada Revolution, that began with the interim Government of 1983, and continued with the election of the old Herbert Blaize New National Party (NNP) in 1984, ushered in the modern period of Grenadian retrogression.

Kathy McAfee in her celebrated book "Storm Signals—Structural Adjustment and Development Alternatives in the Caribbean" (Oxfam America 1991), in a chapter entitled "Grenada: Development by Conquest," argues that "by the fall of 1988, after five years of US stewardship, almost none of the developmental goals set by the US had been met. Grenada was deeper in debt than at any time in the nation's past. AID-sponsored efforts to balance the government's budget had failed. The country's tax system, after being thoroughly re-designed by US consultants, had largely collapsed. AID was withholding promised grants to Grenada's government in an effort to force it to comply with structural adjustment conditionalities." McAfee says that unemployment was at an all-time high, some 30 percent, and agricultural productivity continued its long-term decline, while Grenada's manufacturing sector remained small and stagnant.

In 2006 nobody disagrees that agriculture, Grenada's economic backbone, is in serious trouble and that production for export has taken a big hit. Moreover, the World Trade Organization (WTO) ruling removing the protected status for Caribbean bananas in the European market has caused more headaches for the country. Added to this by the year 2000 the task of completely destroying all the hard-won gains of the people during the Grenada Revolution was now completed.

Here are a few examples of some of the structures and other economic and social programs that are now extinct that have set Grenada back for many years. The National Transportation Service (NTS) is no more, the Marketing and National Importing Board (MNIB) is a shell of its former self. Post-Revolutionary governments allowed about six (6) fully equipped modern fishing trawlers to rot and sink to the bottom of the St. George's sea rather than utilize them. Grenada no longer exports eggplants and other crops to European markets; the country's agro-processing plant that canned fruit juices for export under the Revolution is no more, as is the fish processing plant that began to produce dry salted fish for export. The coffee processing plant in Grenville is now extinct. Only the Grenada International Airport remains because this structure, woefully under-utilized, cannot be easily physically dismantled.

But what solution did these post 1983 governments propose for Grenada's socio-economic development? The answer for many of them was privatization. This process continues today. According to a leading expert on privatization in the Caribbean, Jamaica's Richard L. Bernal, with the overthrow of the Maurice Bishop Government in 1983, the new Government in Grenada committed itself to privatization. "By 1992, in response to a weak fiscal situation, Grenada had begun a "self-imposed" three-year structural adjustment program in which privatization of State Owned Enterprises was an integral component. In that year, 90 percent of the shares of the National Commercial Bank were sold, with the majority shares going to the Republic Bank of Trinidad and Tobago, and 10 percent to Grenadians and others from the Eastern Caribbean," ["Privatization in the English-speaking Caribbean: An Assessment"] (the Center for Strategic and International Studies) October 22, 1999].

In the same publication, Bernal noted that ". . . rapid and extensive divestment without a proper framework can lead to disas-

trous results . . . It is also important to ensure that there is a proper context in which privatization can take place. A competent executing agency with a qualified staff is needed, together with the appropriate regulatory framework and the necessary safety nets to protect displaced workers."

So me of these "disastrous results" have visited Grenada since the start of the program, in particular the perception by the public that governments have been just selling off, national assets to raise money. Indeed, there is little to show for privatization. There are also sound arguments that while privatization brings a bag of mixed blessings, in the Grenada context there was and is no competent and experienced monitoring authority to oversee the divestment of state assets. The upshot is that as a panacea for Grenada's economic ills the jury is still out on the privatization program.

And yet the ruling New National Party (NNP) government led by Dr. Keith Mitchell cannot be slighted for not demonstrating some measure of boldness when it comes to policy decisions and hard political issues. Buffeted and hindered by a hostile world economic climate the Government has tried to push the Grenadian economy forward with an admixture of privatization, international aid (hitherto to 2004 mostly from Taiwan), re-focussing on tourism, and physical infrastructural development. This program will be one of the key challenges to the government in the coming years as Hurricanes Ivan and Emily was almost responsible for putting the Grenada government into receivership.

Overall, if one was to characterize the progress and development of Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique these past 32 years, one would have to conclude that it has been a period of turbulence mixed with brief periods of respite, tranquility and development. These past 32 years have seen every form of political upheaval and some of the ugliest forms of repression and brutality. It is a history that has divided Grenadians and continues to drive a fundamental wedge in any movement towards national unity and reconciliation.

For example: the events of October 19, 1983 that saw the execution of popular Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and some members of his Cabinet, that led to the subsequent invasion on Grenada on October 25, 1983, is still the salt in the wound for most Grenadians. There is no closure as yet and this will be yet another challenge going forward.

But if unity has been illusive thus far, and economic problems further aggravate and create political alliances and divisions, then any commentary on the merits, achievements, and future of Grenada's independence would lead one to the conclusion that independence is a pipe dream. Right? Wrong. While economic independence is not yet a reality, political independence is a fact of life in Grenada. Indeed, without wanting to sound cynical, the mistakes made during the 32 years of Grenadian independence were made by the, Grenadian people and their leaders. And nobody ever said that national development, progress and independence would be a cakewalk.

In fact, national development is painful, especially so for a small, agriculturally dependent nation that will never reach critical mass. But these pains are necessary if the country must move forward because the school of hard knocks is where experience is gained, and is perhaps the best teacher on the issue of progress and retrogression—the twin sisters of development. And Grenada's small size is both a blessing and a curse. Its size makes for presumably an easier and more efficient governmental structure and management. With fiscal prudence popular

shared services can reach the vast majority of the people and greatly improve the quality of life.

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

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to House Resolution 653, the Budget Reconciliation Spending Cuts Act. There are many reasons to vote against the bill today, including the massive cuts to critical programs, such as Medicare, Medicaid, and child support enforcement. But the unconscionable cuts to student aid are reason enough to vote against this bill.

Education has always been—and continues to be—the great equalizer in this country. Student loans in particular have helped to level the playing field for thousands of worthy students who cannot afford the high cost of a college education.

For that reason, it is shocking and disappointing that over 30 percent of the cuts in this bill are to student aid programs that help our kids afford a college education. To pass this bill, and cut funding for essential education programs, is to forsake our commitment to our children's future and to the future of our country.

Skyrocketing student loan interest rates and fees, including a new 1 percent "insurance fee" on college loans will make it even harder for many parents to send their children to college and on the road to a better and more prosperous life.

Mr. Speaker, the passage of this bill will shatter the dreams of thousands of students whose only hope for a college education is through the support of federal financial aid.

And it will weaken our country's future, because we will be denied the talents and contributions of these students, whose skills we need to compete in our highly skilled global economy. If we are to remain the greatest and most powerful nation in the world, we must educate and develop the talents of all our children.

Adding to the tragic consequences of this bill is that the cuts to Medicare, Medicaid, child support enforcement, and student aid do nothing to reduce the shocking 3.4 trillion dollars deficit. The President's cuts to these critical programs are simply for the purpose of giving more tax cuts to the wealthiest 1 percent of our country.

Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 653 is an ill-conceived and misguided bill that endangers the future of our children and the future of our country. I urge my colleagues to vote against this bill.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO PVT. JOSHUA MICHAEL MORBERG, KILLED WHILE SERVING HIS COUNTRY IN IRAQ

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Army Pvt. Joshua Michael Morberg, who was killed on Tuesday, December 27th 2005, at the age of 20, while serving in Iraq. I recognize him today for his dedicated service to this country for the cause of freedom in a global community.

Pvt. Joshua Morberg came from a long line of military veterans. His grandfather had been in World War II and Korea and he had many other family members who have served in every military branch.

As a child Joshua was described as "curious", always asking questions and desiring to gain more knowledge. His uncle stated that he could never own a radio because Josh would always take it apart and never quite put it back together again. Growing up he learned to play the violin and in high school he learned to speak Japanese.

Ever since he was a little boy Joshua wanted to be a soldier. So, in 2004, he graduated early from Washoe High School to join the military. Joshua had only been in Iraq for a few weeks. On Tuesday, December 27th, while on duty in Baghdad, another patrol came under attack. Despite the clear danger, Joshua led the effort to help his fellow soldiers. Tragically, Joshua was killed, along with another soldier, when an improvised explosive device was detonated.

For his brave service and individual act of courage Joshua was awarded a Bronze Star Medal with Valor device, the Purple Heart and a Good Conduct Medal.

Joshua is survived by his parents, sister Grayce and "The Rat Pack", who had been his lifelong friends.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity I have today, to recognize and honor Pvt. Joshua Morberg in front of my colleagues on the floor of the House.

COMMEMORATION OF BOB MARLEY'S BIRTHDAY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember once again the timeless reggae musician Bob Marley and to enter into the RECORD an eloquent CARIBNEWS commentary by Michael Roberts commemorating what would have been the singer's 61st birthday February 6 had he not died in 1981 of cancer.

As Roberts mentions in his editorial, Marley's musical genius generated from his hopes of empowerment and political uplifting for his Jamaican people. "Marley was a staunch advocate of conscious lyrics and he urged Black people to think positive and do positive things," Roberts explains. Not only was Marley a lyricist and a leader but he was an international ambassador advocating for

the solidarity of the Caribbean. "His music and lyrics advocated a kind of Black-centered Christianity which would 'free our minds'." Thus Marley, although born in Jamaica, was a citizen of the Caribbean and Third World," Roberts writes.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in remembering the legacy of Bob Marley during Black History Month.

[From the CARIBNEWS, Feb. 6, 2006]

CELEBRATING THE 61TH EARTH DAY OF REGGAE SUPERSTAR ROBERT MARLEY

(By Michael D. Roberts)

Black Ambassador, musical innovator, and gifted with visionary talents, Bob Marley's music today speaks volumes about a man whose every word and sentence was written with the emancipation of his people in mind. And in his own way he identified the problems and offered solutions to them. That is why the music of the supreme Rastaman endures to this day. Indeed, the greatness of Bob Marley is that his popularity and staying quality outlasts all the present crop of reggae artistes.

This Black History Month Marley would have turned 61 years—had he lived. And we can only speculate as to what music he would have concocted in that fertile and creative mind of his as he "trod down Babylon." To my mind the supreme Rastaman still sings getting better with each passing day. In the dancehalls of Brooklyn, the Caribbean basements of Canada, or the open tropical spaces of the Caribbean, Bob Marley's timeless music lives on. His works continue to give new hope to the world's oppressed and solace to the downtrodden as he urges Black people to "Get up, Stand up, Stand up for your rights."

A versatile entertainer, he was singer, songwriter, expert guitarist and above all a pragmatic rastaman. Robert Nesta Marley was born in St. Ann, Jamaica, on February 6, 1945. He died May 11, 1981. Bob Marley, as he is popularly known the world over, was the individual most responsible for taking reggae out of Jamaica and making it international.

With uncanny vision Marley altered indigenous traditional Jamaican roots music making it more acceptable to the international market and consumer. Curiously, before he would win over his critics, and Jamaica music purists, Marley came under heavy fire, in those early days because it was felt that he was prostituting the roots reggae music.

Along with his group the Wailers, that he formed in 1964, and which included two other great reggae leaders in their own right—Peter Tosh and Bunny Livingston, known worldwide as Bunny Wailer—Bob Marley was the great popularizer of reggae. It was he and the Wailers who infused this "island music" with American pop and rock, making it attractive to all music consumers and which gave it its enduring, lasting, "always fresh" quality.

But even when Marley sung so-called lovey-dovey ballads and drew the ire of the "rude boys" of Jamaica's slums and garrison communities, his message was inherently and basically political: he preached an end to racial oppression and urged Blacks to be proud of their heritage. So in his own right Marley was a Third World music pioneer who eventually turned into a superstar.

Marley was a staunch advocate of conscious lyrics and he urged Black people to think positive and do positive things. Nowadays it is fashionable to hear gurus of self-help working their spiel about positive thoughts. You would think that they had listened to the Great Rastaman. Like Malcolm X and Marcus Mosiah Garvey, Bob Marley

was acutely aware of the necessity to deal firmly with situations that demanded strong action. That did not mean that he advocated unbridled, confrontational violence but he understood that the poor and oppressed had a duty to resist these things which were part of "Babylon."

It is perhaps this prophetic quality that has made Robert Nesta Marley a Third World legend and reggae's only superstar. So as we celebrate the anniversary of his birth on February 6, we must remember his passing and pay respect to his works. He was, undoubtedly, Jamaica's most outstanding ambassador and one who yearned for all the people of the Caribbean to come together.

His music and lyrics advocated a kind of Black-centered Christianity which would "free our minds." Thus Marley, although born in Jamaica, was a citizen of the Caribbean and Third World. He transcended the narrow borders of nations moving with his pulsating music to the world community of man.

But Marley was not merely satisfied to simply fight for deliverance from "Babylon" in the Western Hemisphere through his music and powerful lyrics. He preached resistance to all forms of oppression. His songs of protest and of agitation composed after exposure to the inequalities prevalent in Jamaican and Caribbean society have been adopted by people in many countries struggling for, what his talented compatriot, Peter Tosh and fellow Wailer, called "equal rights and justice."

Marley's contribution to Jamaican and world musical culture still stands out as a monumental achievement of human endeavor. It was he more than anyone else who took the indigenous musical art form of a Caribbean island, framed and packaged it to suit international tastes, and then sold it to the world. Today the world still sings "these songs of freedom," as the Dreadlocked One demanded.

Let us always remember that his music and his works were aimed, in the fashion of another great Jamaican, Marcus Mosiah Garvey, at liberating his race. Marley's tenure on this earth was a potent reminder that Black people are still not yet free. His creative genius accomplished what most international politicians dream of achieving and he did it by being just—Bob Marley, humble and sincere.

There is something for everybody in the works of Bob Marley. Some folks love him for his upbeat, uptempo music like "One Love" Jamaica's national song; others like his spiritual side found in such works as "Redemption Song" and "Three Little Birds." And still there are many who cling to the masterful works of protest music in songs like "Bad Card" and "Ambush In The Night."

No matter what people remember Bob Marley for, his works "Idureth for Iver." So "get up, stand up, stand up for your rights," and listen to the Supreme Rastaman who trod into Babylon "inna this generation"—Triumphantly.

Considered today reggae classics, Marley's music never ceases to refresh and reinvigorate each and every time that it is played. Indeed, it is his music's staying power that keeps alive the image and spirit of Bob Marley as fans from all walks of life, and social standing—from the townships of Soweto in South Africa to the plush, affluent home-steads of Beverly Hills—celebrate his 61st earth day.

HONORING SANDY GERMANY

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me today in recognizing Sandy Germany the National President of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Ladies Auxiliary. The Curtis-Wolverton Post Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3243 Ladies Auxiliary is welcoming Mrs. Germany to their facility on February 22 in Fenton, Michigan. This is an official visit to the State of Michigan by Mrs. Germany.

Sandy Germany was elected to her position at the 92nd National Convention of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in August 2005. Reflecting the beliefs of the Ladies Auxiliary she underscored the need to remember the sacrifices of the men and women that have fought to preserve our freedom. This belief is an underpinning of the Ladies Auxiliary as they work to preserve the memory of our courageous Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force.

Sandy Germany is a life member of the Kichler-Pippen Auxiliary Post 5658. She is eligible to be a member through her brother, her father and her son. Her son, Curtis, is currently serving with the U.S. Army in Korea and Iraq. She has served in many positions with the Ladies Auxiliary in addition to being employed as the Town Clerk in Elberta, Alabama. She is a mother and grandmother, giving of her time, as a Life Member, to the VFW National Home for Children. Sandy also belongs to the American Legion Auxiliary and the Military Order of the Cooties Auxiliary.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the life and service of Sandy Germany. I commend her for her commitment to helping our service personnel and for working to preserve the ideals that set our Nation apart from all others.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO HENRY
PRENDES, KILLED IN THE LINE
OF DUTY

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great American, Sergeant Henry Prendes of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, who was killed in the line of duty on Wednesday February 1, 2006. Sgt. Prendes was shot as he approached the front door of a house in southwest Las Vegas, while responding to a 911 call, at the age of thirty seven.

Sgt. Henry Prendes joined the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department on February 26, 1991. He spent his first years patrolling the east Las Vegas neighborhood surrounding Charleston and Lamb Boulevards and was quickly promoted to Field Training Officer. On January 2, 1999, after working one year for the narcotics office as a detective, Henry Prendes was promoted to Sergeant. As a Sergeant he worked for the Crimes against Youth and Family Department, and later as Patrol Sergeant in the South West Area Command.

Sgt. Prendes was a native of Nevada and graduated from Las Vegas High School where he was Vice President of his senior class and captain of the football team. He is survived by his wife Dawn and two daughters from a previous marriage, Kylee and Brooke. Sgt. Prendes, along with his family, was a devoutly religious man. He engaged in bible study at home with his wife and mentored children in his spare time. Before he died, he was in the process of building a 17 acre youth camp in Montana called, Creation Camp Jesus.

Sgt. Henry Prendes could be described as everyone's friend, always having a smile on his face, and always helping those in need. Some help people because they are police officers, but Henry was a police officer to help people.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to honor the memory of Sgt. Henry Prendes.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DANCE
THEATRE OF HARLEM

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express how content I was to see President Bush recognize the national treasure that is the Dance Theatre of Harlem at a dinner and performance Monday, February 6 at the White House and to enter into the RECORD a Washington Post article dated Wednesday, February 8 commemorating the event.

In a tribute to the theatre which stands today as the first black classical ballet company, and its esteemed founder Arthur Mitchell, President Bush and many others were able to be exposed to the cultural jewel I am honored to have situated in my Congressional district.

The Dance Theatre of Harlem, founded in 1968, is a leading arts and cultural institution dedicated to the advancement and cultural enrichment of youth from diverse backgrounds. Since its founding, it has brought modern and intrepid new forms of artistic expression to audiences throughout New York City and the world—embodying the beauty of the American spirit.

Even as the performing company enjoyed international acclaim, being the first U.S. ballet company to perform in Russia and then performing in South Africa, the theatre has strengthened its roots in Harlem. Currently the school enrolls some 700 students per year in community, pre-professional and professional programs and offers courses in various dance forms ranging from ballet and tap to modern, jazz- and African dance, and even Irish step dancing. With its exceptional dancers, dazzling choreography, and cultural pride, the Dance Theatre of Harlem continues to be a beacon for all communities.

Mr. Speaker, again please join me in saluting the Dance Theatre of Harlem and expressing my gratitude to President Bush for recognizing its contributions.

[From the Washington Post, Feb. 8, 2006]

EN POINTE AT THE WHITE HOUSE
WITH A FETE FOR FOUNDER ARTHUR MITCHELL,
THE BUSHES GIVE A LIFT TO DANCE THEATRE
OF HARLEM

(By Sarah Kaufman)

There were ballerinas and cavaliers, Broadway singers and a country crooner, but it

took the Rev. Al Green to really get the party started at the White House on Monday night.

The soul man turned soul saver worked his magic on the East Room crowd, gathered to honor the Dance Theatre of Harlem and its famed founder, Arthur Mitchell.

"I-I-I, I'm so in love with you," Green rasped in his signature falsetto, arcing back like a bow about to launch its arrow.

Of course, there were many in the audience of 80 or so who could sing Green's enduring hit "Let's Stay Together" in their sleep. But was one of them President Bush? Green put him to the test.

"Ooh, loving you forever," Green purred, "is what I—" Suddenly, he thrust the microphone right up to the lips of the surprised president, who recovered enough to mouth something back.

Whatever it was could not be heard, but Green was more than satisfied.

"He said 'Nee-eee-eeed!'" squealed the amazed hitmaster, hitting even higher notes than he'd been singing. "He did! He said 'Neeeeeed!'" After laughter and applause for the president's grace note, the set then became a singalong—was that Karl Rove joining in?—and then a dance-along, after Mitchell, a former star of the New York City Ballet, pulled Laura Bush up onstage.

President Bush, apparently pumped up after parrying to Green's thrust, followed suit, taking with him Shirley Massey, wife of Walter Massey, president of Morehouse College.

"We got the president up onstage!" exclaimed Mitchell afterward. Not a man who ordinarily likes to share the spotlight, Mitchell nevertheless gave Bush points for effort, if not for style. "He did really well," Mitchell said. "He was tapping his foot, and . . . moving. You know."

Mitchell is no stranger to the White House—he says he has been invited there by every president since John F. Kennedy. He's been there so often he knew many of the waiters by name. But this night was different. The dinner and performance by members of the Dance Theatre of Harlem and others were the work of entrepreneur and philanthropist Catherine Reynolds, chairwoman of the board of the predominantly black ballet company. The show will air this summer on PBS.

"What better place to showcase Dance Theatre of Harlem during Black History Month than the White House?" she said. "It's a ballet company in the midst of Harlem—that in and of itself is so American."

The presidential affair, she said, sprang from a conversation she had a few months ago with Laura Bush about the ailing company, on hiatus for the past year and a half because of rising debt.

Reynolds said the first lady asked, "How can I help?" Reynolds had her answer ready, and the result was a cozy little black-tie dinner in Mitchell's honor, with the guests seated at intimate round tables mounded with roses. Among the invited: Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, undoubtedly relieved to be anywhere but in the Senate hot seat where he'd spent the day; donors and arts officials such as the Ford Foundation's Susan Berresford, Kennedy Center President Michael Kaiser and Lonnie Bunch, founding director of the National Museum of African American History and Culture; and a contingent of the black elite, such as "60 Minutes" correspondent Ed Bradley and Spelman College President Beverly Daniel Tatum.

The menu favored creamy comfort foods: puree of parsnip soup, cheesy grits and spinach alongside roast kobe beef, a yellow pepper and avocado terrine, and whipped-cream-dolloped lemon custard cakes with coconut ice cream and a blackberry-ginger sauce,

thick as syrup. It was not fare for the calorie-conscious. But there weren't many of those to be seen, anyway; the dancers were off warming up for the performance that was to follow.

Filing into the East Room after dinner, we found ourselves chatting with Andrew Card, Bush's chief of staff, who seemed eager to show his own artsy side.

"I hit a crossroads when I was a senior in high school," Card said, describing a choice he faced between accepting a scholarship to the Hartt School of Music (on the strength of his trumpet playing) in West Hartford, Conn., or a Navy ROTC scholarship at the University of South Carolina.

Guess which one he chose.

Still, he said, "I believe in the arts very strongly. Every once in a while I get the trumpet out. Of course, my wife wants me to play it in the closet."

It being Monday night, and close to 9 by this time—fans of Fox's "24" know how sacrosanct that hour is—we pressed Card on another issue: Did he ever tune in to the Kiefer Sutherland thriller, which recently revealed that the chief of staff of the show's president is a murderous villain of presidency-destroying dimension?

Card's eyebrows shot up merrily. "I hear the chief of staff is kind of a bad guy. Didn't he drug the first lady?" Yep, and Card's TV counterpart also conspired to engineer a nerve gas leak to incriminate a terrorist organization to prove it had weapons of mass destruction.

Card backed up in mock horror. "I'm not him," he said emphatically, eyes wide, waving his arms in front of himself to ward off any notion of a link to reality. "I didn't do that." And then he was gone, spurred by a desperate need to catch up with his wife.

Addressing the audience, Mitchell pointed out his company's oft-reported origins, that it was the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. in 1968 that inspired him to found a classical ballet company of African American dancers—which is, all these years later, still a unique institution.

Left unsaid was what it would mean for black ballet dancers if such a company could not survive. In fact, none of the speeches mentioned Dance Theatre of Harlem's having come so close to financial ruin, or the fact that its laid-off dancers' unemployment claims ran out long ago.

Bush, seated with his wife in the front row and within a few feet of the small stage, smiled throughout the show, which included children as well as professionals. Hands clasped in his lap, he kept up a steady piston action with one knee—an intriguing tic, yet what did it mean? Restlessness? Excitement? A dream of mashing the pedals on a mountain bike?

Harolyn Blackwell, Audra McDonald and LeAnn Rimes each sang solos as well as songs that accompanied more dancing. It was all very classy, very polite, if somewhat restrained.

Enter Al Green, the great uncorker, who got throats to open and hands to clap—some on the beat, quite a few off—and got the president to join in the dance.

"The whole evening was so relaxed," Mitchell enthused afterward. "That was a major miracle."

Speaking of miracles, Mitchell stated his favored outcome: "I hope this opens the door, that dance becomes a line item in the federal budget so we can take the arts all across America."

A different miracle may be a bit closer to actually coming to pass. When she became board chairman and vowed to get the troupe back on its feet, Reynolds told *The Washington Post* that "failure is not an option." So how close to success—and public performances—is the company now?

"We're close," she said. "We'll probably be making an announcement in the summer."

HONORING WILLIAM AND
DOROTHY ZEHNDER

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, on February 17, the Saginaw County Convention and Visitors Bureau will present its Pinnacle Award to William "Tiny" and Dorothy Zehnder for their remarkable contributions to the convention and tourist industry in Saginaw County. The Zehnder family has had a positive impact on Frankenmuth, Michigan, and changed the area forever. Theirs is one of the great American success stories, replete with foresight, courage, and hard work.

In 1950, the Zehnder family purchased the Fischer Hotel, and William Zehnder became the manager. Dorothy Zehnder became the kitchen manager, a role she continues today. At that time, the Zehnder family had 21 years of experience running their own restaurant across the street from the Fischer Hotel. After a series of improvements to the Fischer Hotel culminating in a major renovation in the late 1950s, the Fischer Hotel was renamed the Frankenmuth Bavarian Inn. The décor and architecture of the Bavarian Inn started the transformation of Frankenmuth into "Michigan's Little Bavaria." The weeklong opening celebration held in 1959 proved to be very popular and has turned into the annual Frankenmuth Bavarian Festival. The addition of the Glockenspiel and Wooden Bridge has enhanced the character of Frankenmuth's downtown area.

Dorothy developed most of the recipes served in the restaurant. The restaurant can accommodate 1200 diners at one time, and annually over 750,000 pounds of chicken is served to its guests. Dorothy plays a vital role in ensuring the food is prepared correctly and served promptly. Many local Frankenmuth leaders started their work life in the Bavarian Inn kitchen under Dorothy's tutelage. Today the Frankenmuth Bavarian Inn is one of the top ten family-owned restaurants in America.

In addition to the restaurant, their holdings include Bavarian Inn Lodge, Frankenmuth River Place, Castle Shops, Freeway Fritz, Frankenmuth Motel, and several gift shops on Main Street. The Zehnders employ over 1,000 people and serve one million visitors each year making Frankenmuth a top tourist destination.

Tiny Zehnder's vision for the Frankenmuth community has made it a great place for families to gather, live, and work. The Zehnders buy locally and utilize Michigan commodities. They are always looking for ways to improve their business and their community. They have passed on their skills and work ethic to their children. The Bavarian Inn enterprise is a multi-generational operation with their children and grandchildren managing and working in various capacities. Tiny and Dorothy Zehnder are an inspiration to everyone and excellent role models for our youth. I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me and applaud the outstanding success of the Zehnders and congratulate them as they are honored by the Saginaw community.

HONORING MR. ROCKY SANTILLI
FOR HIS CROWNING AS 2006 KING
OF BASEBALLTOWN

HON. TIM HOLDEN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Rocky Santilli of Leesport Township in Berks County, Pennsylvania, for his 2,000+ career wins as a fast-pitch softball manager, and his naming as the 2006 King of Baseballtown.

Mr. Santilli started his managerial career in 1959 with the Leesport-based Rising Sun Sunners, and has since amassed over 2,000 victories along with dozens of trophies and honors. With Santilli at the helm, the Sunners captured three Amateur Softball Association (ASA) national titles, a number of gold medals at the Olympic Festival, and a share of the International Softball Federation (ISF) Men's World Fast Pitch Championship.

Due to his impressive record with the Sunners, Mr. Santilli was honored with the opportunity to pilot the United States softball team four times at the Pan Am games. The U.S. brought home silver medals in all four games, finishing just behind Canada.

In 1991, Rocky Santilli was inducted into the ISF Hall of Fame on behalf of his remarkable career. Two years later he was enshrined in the ASA National Hall of Honor and the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame. In 1998 Mr. Santilli returned to coaching and led the Schuylkill Valley High School girls' softball squad to a 64-67 record over 7 years. In 2004, Rocky Santilli retired as a legend.

Mr. Speaker, I had the privilege of meeting Rocky several years ago through Sheriff John H. Kramer, and it is an honor today to recognize such a talented and accomplished man who has brought pride and inspiration to the people of my district. I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Rocky Santilli on his 2006 King of Baseballtown award, recognizing his remarkable career in softball, and thanking him for the many contributions he has made toward the well-being of the citizens of Pennsylvania.

IN RECOGNITION OF GEORGE
SMALL'S SERVICE TO THE
UNITED STATES ARMY

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of a great American, George Small. I honor him today for his service to our great Nation in the United States Army during World War II.

Mr. Small entered active duty from the Army Reserves as a 2nd Lieutenant on April 25, 1941. After receiving training at the Army's Chemical Warfare School, he became Base Chemical Officer in Albuquerque, New Mexico. From Albuquerque, Mr. Small was transferred to Clark Airbase until he was ordered to Bataan in the Philippines on December 24, 1941.

Mr. Small was assigned to the 31st Infantry until the surrender of Bataan on April 9, 1942.

Prior to the 31st Infantry's surrender, Mr. Small was suffering from malaria and malnutrition caused by the malaria. He was released just 3 days before he began what would become known to history as the Bataan Death March. Although weak, Mr. Small survived the death march and the 17-day journey in the infamous "Hell Ships" to Japan.

While being held by the Japanese, Mr. Small's weight declined to approximately 98 pounds. He was held as a Japanese Prisoner of War for 3 years and 5 months until his liberation on September 10, 1945.

Mr. Small was awarded the American Defense Service Medal with one Bronze Star, an American Campaign Medal, the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal with two Bronze Stars, the Distinguished Unit Badge with two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Combat Infantry Badge, the Philippine Liberation Ribbon with one Bronze Star, the World War II Victory Medal, and the POW Medal for his meritorious service.

Mr. Small was discharged from the Army on November 26, 1946 and decided to stay in the Army Reserves until his retirement as a Major on March 1, 1968. Mr. Small will celebrate his 98th birthday on February 24, 2006. Mr. Small's will to survive and dedication to the United States Army is a testament to his character, and it is an honor to recognize him today.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and heartfelt gratitude that I salute a great American hero, George Small, for his service and dedication to our great Nation.

**SHORTCHANGING OUR TROOPS:
RUMSFELD SPENDS BILLIONS TO
FIGHT FICTIVE SUPERPOWERS**

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce into the RECORD the editorial entitled "Still Shortchanging the Troops" which appeared on February 10, 2006, in the New York Times. The military industrial complex is in your face America, front and center, rewarding corporate America, contractors and Halliburton, but shortchanging the troops.

The New York Times in its lead editorial on February 10, 2006, made a scathing criticism of Secretary Donald Rumsfeld's recently revealed Defense Department budget. As the Times put it: "It's amazing how Donald Rumsfeld's Defense Spending plan can produce a \$439 billion and still skimp on the one thing the American Military desperately needs: expanded ground forces so the weakened and cannibalized Army" can meet the needs of Iraq without hurting its ability to respond to other threats.

I do not believe more ground troops are needed in Iraq. I think this editorial is referencing the fact that the troops fighting in Iraq are returning two, three and four times and have borne more than their fair share of President Bush's Iraq war. I support Congressman MURTHA's position that our ground troops in Iraq have become the targets in Iraq; the one unifying idea for all the splintered factions fighting a civil war there is that Americans must get out of their country. However, there is much I do agree with in the editorial.

I agree that it is a disgrace to spend only a small part of its 7 percent budget increase for increase of pay and recruitment bonuses while a "large chunk of this nearly \$30 billion goes to more new weapons and postponing overdue cuts in wasteful Air Force and Navy projects unrelated to fighting terrorism. This highlights as nothing else can the disconnect with what Secretary Rumsfeld says he cares about and what he really cares about.

When the Secretary of Defense is at a press conference or a briefing, he consistently talks about this war and the brave men and women sacrificing in Iraq to keep us safe. He and President Bush have repeatedly expressed the view that we are fighting the terrorists "over there, so we don't have to fight them over here." Support the troops has become the rallying call for those who blindly accept platitudes in place of plans and rhetoric instead of substantive answers to the many legitimate questions being asked by millions of US. citizens. Secretary Rumsfeld misses no opportunity to label Americans who do not give unquestioning support to the President's war as unpatriotic and worse giving support to terrorists and harming our troops in Iraq.

It is quite obvious to me that neither President Bush nor Secretary Rumsfeld support our troops in Afghanistan and Iraq. The President precipitously sent our troops into battle on false information and with no plan for the peace. Iraq has become a haven for terrorists and is currently in a civil war in which our troops are caught with nowhere to go. Secretary Rumsfeld sent them into combat without the necessary armored trucks and tanks and without the necessary body armor. Even from the beginning of the war, there were stories about parents having to buy their sons and daughters armor and of parents collecting used bullet proof vests from policemen. Even after Rumsfeld was asked when he would get his armor, Rumsfeld had nothing but the most unsettling reply. You go to war with the Army you have, not the Army you wish you had. No, Secretary Rumsfeld, you go to war with a properly equipped army and an exit plan to get the troops out of harm's way when the mission is accomplished.

Even after this incident, when Secretary Rumsfeld was questioned by Members of Congress about the lack of proper armor, the troops did not receive what they needed. A recently released report from the Navy and Military pathologist showed that 80 percent of deaths from torso injuries could have been prevented if the troops had had the proper body armor. The Navy had ordered the armor. As of January 7, the Army had not. This indicates a neglect of the troops, not support for the troops.

I am also glad that the Times repeats a truth well worth repeating and one I hope the country will finally understand and will not only demand Secretary Rumsfeld's resignation but hold him responsible for the many unnecessary deaths in Iraq caused by his refusal to listen to his own senior generals.

According to the Times and according to my belief and that of many of my Democratic colleagues: "The prospects of Iraq might have been very different today if Mr. Rumsfeld had listened to some of his own senior generals and occupation officials and authorized significantly larger ground forces from the beginning. The early looting might have been contained before it shattered political confidence and

vital infrastructure. The insurgency might never have gotten such a head start. . . . But the obstinate ideologues in Mr. Rumsfeld's Pentagon have never accepted the fact that the reality of Iraq did not fit their assumptions. The budget and the four-year plan released with it read almost as if the current conflict had never happened and could never happen again."

The budget priorities reveal Mr. Rumsfeld's utter disdain for our troops and an almost unbelievable disconnect from what is actually happening in Iraq. In his speech before the National Press Club on February 3, 2006, Secretary Rumsfeld reiterated his view of the war Americans now face, a war he calls a "generational war." This is the war both he and the President have variously described as the war on fascist Islamic fundamentalists; or against al Qaeda terrorists, or ideologues determined to replace our American values with the values of those who hate freedom and hate our way of life.

A very important point made by the Times editorial and the one I want to particularly emphasize is the complete disconnect between the Pentagon budget and spending plan set out and explained to the National Press Club on February 3, 2006, and what Mr. Rumsfeld is spending on in 2007. The President and Mr. Rumsfeld have told the Nation it will be fighting for the next 30 years or perhaps forever a long war against an army we can't see because it does not represent a nation state; it may not wear a uniform; it could be in any country at any time. But, as the Times points out: "Instead of reallocating resources toward the real threat America faces, the military services continue to pour their money into fighting fictive superpowers in the wild blue yonder and on and below the seven seas. Pentagon budgeters showed themselves so pathetically unable to restrain spending on expensive ships and planes that they actually cut back, rather than increased the overall size of the Army over the next few years to pay for it.

It would cost about \$4 billion to \$5 billion a year to give the Army 30,000 more troops, the minimum it needs to check its alarming slide. Instead the Pentagon chose to begin the construction of two unneeded new stealth destroyers, which will end up costing \$2 billion to \$3 billion each.

It also decided to splurge on a new nuclear attack submarine for \$2.6 billion and to shell out \$5.5 billion for separate Navy and Air Force versions of new stealth fighter jets, plus another \$5.5 billion for yet a third version that either can use. In all the Pentagon is asking for \$84 billion to buy weapons systems—twice what it got in 1996—and \$73 billion more for research and development.

This budget would be wasteful even under a worst-case assumption that had a second superpower arising within the life span of these weapons, turning hostile to America and arming itself to the teeth with the most advanced weapons. There's still unnecessary spending that could be used to repair the Army, which has been ground down at least as much by Pentagon miserliness as by Iraqi insurgents.

The citizens of this country, all of them care about the troops. Disagreeing with the President's policies or lack of them does not mean an American does not care about the troops. I would argue those questioning the President

care more about the troops than the President. In the same way, Secretary Rumsfeld, preparing for wars with fictive superpowers while still ignoring the very real need of the troops in Iraq, reveals a chilling lack of concern for the troops.

[From the Washington Post, Feb. 3, 2006]

ARMY PLEDGES NO CUTBACKS IN NATIONAL GUARD

(By Ann Scott Tyson)

Facing pressure from both parties in Congress and state National Guard leaders, the Army yesterday committed to keeping the National Guard's authorized manpower at 350,000 and promised to fund it up to that level.

"If they recruit 350,000, the funding's there. Their authorization remains 350,000," Gen. Peter Schoomaker, the Army's chief of staff, said at a Pentagon news conference yesterday.

Because of recruiting shortfalls, the Guard has about 333,000 soldiers on the rolls, but Guard leaders say they are confident of reaching the goal of 350,000 this year. "We are on a glide path to get to 350,000," said Lt. Gen. Clyde Vaughn, director of the Army National Guard, who appeared at the briefing with Schoomaker.

The Army had proposed cutting the budgeted Guard strength by about 17,000 positions, in part by replacing six combat brigades that each have 3,500 to 4,000 slots with brigade headquarters that have only a few hundred, said Maj. Gen. Roger P. Lempke, president of the Adjutants General Association of the United States.

The National Guard, which represents about 38 percent of the U.S. military's force structure, has served heavily in Iraq, deploying seven combat brigades as well as headquarters and other units with tens of thousands of troops since the war began. Last fall, it surged 50,000 troops to respond to hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

"There's a very strong sense out there among our political leadership that the Guard should not be reduced in any way right now," Lempke said yesterday. "We don't know where the war is going. We're very heavily deployed" and the suggested cuts "didn't set well," said Lempke, whose association represents the senior leaders of the Army and Air National Guard in the 54 states, territories and the District of Columbia.

A bipartisan group of 75 U.S. senators yesterday sent Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld a letter stating they "strongly oppose" reported proposals by the Pentagon to cut National Guard force levels.

"We respectfully oppose proposals to cut the end-strength of the National Guard," said the letter from Sen. Christopher S. Bond (R-Mo.) and Sen. Patrick J. Leahy (D-Vt.), co-chairs of the Senate's National Guard Caucus. The letter signed by 73 other senators.

Lempke said he welcomed the Army's commitment to keep end strength at 350,000, which he said will help ensure budget money is allocated for the necessary training and recruitment.

Schoomaker said the Army would progress with a plan to cut the number of National Guard combat brigades from 34 to 28, but reiterated a plan to replace them with six support brigades. One reason for the reduction in combat brigades, he said, was that many of the units were not fully manned or equipped, a situation worsened when soldiers and gear were shifted to units deploying for Iraq—a process the Army calls "cross-leveling."

"We've used 34 brigades all over the world, and we've had to cross-level big time since 9/11 to make that happen," Vaughn said.

The Army plan calls for ensuring the 28 remaining combat brigades will be fully manned, trained and equipped to be ready to deploy, Schoomaker said. Toward this goal, the Army has budgeted about \$21 billion from 2005 to 2011 to modernize equipment for the National Guard, which he said was a fourfold increase over funding levels in 1999.

"This is a tremendous investment," Schoomaker said. "This is not taking things down; this is building wholeness up."

[From the New York Times, Feb. 10, 2006]

STILL SHORTCHANGING THE TROOPS

It's amazing how Donald Rumsfeld's Defense Department can produce a \$439 billion spending plan and still skimp on the one thing the American military desperately needs: expanded ground forces so the weakened and cannibalized Army can meet the requirements of Iraq without hurting its ability to respond to other threats.

While the Pentagon intends to increase pay and recruitment bonuses, no part of its nearly 7 percent budget increase is aimed at raising overall troop strength. Instead, a large chunk of this nearly \$30 billion bonanza goes to buying more new weapons and postponing overdue cuts in wasteful Air Force and Navy projects unrelated to fighting terrorism.

The prospects for Iraq might be very different today if Mr. Rumsfeld had listened to some of his own senior generals and occupation officials and authorized significantly larger ground forces from the beginning. The early looting might have been contained before it shattered political confidence and vital infrastructure. The insurgency might never have gotten such a head start. The incineration tactics of Falluja and the Abu Ghraib nightmare might have been avoided. And the Army's downward spiral of readiness, recruitment and morale might never have begun. But the obstinate ideologues in Mr. Rumsfeld's Pentagon have never accepted the fact that the reality of Iraq did not fit their assumptions. The budget and the four-year plan released with it read almost as if the current conflict had never happened and could never happen again.

Instead of reallocating resources toward the real threats America faces, the military services continue to pour their money into fighting fictive superpowers in the wild blue yonder and on and below the seven seas. Pentagon budgeters showed themselves so pathetically unable to restrain spending on expensive ships and planes that they actually cut back, rather than increased, the overall size of the Army over the next few years to pay for it.

It would cost about \$4 billion to \$5 billion a year to give the Army 30,000 more troops, the minimum it needs to check its alarming slide. Instead the Pentagon chose to begin the construction of two unneeded new stealth destroyers, which will end up costing \$2 billion to \$3 billion each.

It also decided to splurge on a new nuclear attack submarine for \$2.6 billion and to shell out \$5.5 billion for separate Navy and Air Force versions of new stealth fighter jets, plus another \$5.5 billion for yet a third version that either can use. In all, the Pentagon is asking for \$84 billion to buy weapons systems (twice what it got in 1996) and \$73 billion more for research and development.

This budget would be wasteful even under a worst-case assumption that had a second superpower arising within the lifespan of these weapons, turning hostile to America and arming itself to the teeth with the most advanced weapons. There's still unnecessary spending that could be used to repair the Army, which has been ground down at least

as much by Pentagon miserliness as by Iraqi insurgents.

The military contractors are doing just fine. It's the troops in Iraq who need help from Washington.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. RICHARD P. MCCORMICK

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Dr. Richard P. McCormick, professor, dean, and historian of Rutgers—the State University of New Jersey, as well as president of the New Jersey Historical Society, who passed away on January 16, 2006. Having faithfully served the University and the State of New Jersey for over six decades, Dr. McCormick died after an extended illness at the age of 89.

Born December 14, 1916, in Queens, New York, Richard Patrick McCormick moved to Tenafly, New Jersey, and attended Rutgers College, graduating with a bachelor's degree in 1938. In 1940, he earned a master's degree in history from Rutgers Graduate School—New Brunswick and then received his doctorate in 1948 from the University of Pennsylvania.

After teaching in the history department for three years, Dr. McCormick was appointed the Rutgers University Historian in 1948, at which time he developed a full-year course on New Jersey's history. A prolific writer, Dr. McCormick was awarded the biennial book prize from the American Association for State and Local History in 1968 for his work "Rutgers, a Bicentennial History." He remained at Rutgers where he chaired the history department from 1966 to 1969, chaired the Rutgers College Coeducational Committee in 1971, and served as dean of Rutgers College from 1974 to 1977.

Following his retirement in 1982, Dr. McCormick remained active on campus and was awarded an honorary doctor of letters degree by the University, a rare distinction for faculty members. In 1990, he was inducted into the Rutgers Hall of Distinguished Alumni, and in 2002, the American Historical Association granted Dr. McCormick the Award for Scholarly Distinction for lifetime achievement. Additionally, this past fall, the Rutgers College Educational Opportunity Fund created the Richard P. McCormick Social Justice Award in recognition of his 1969 efforts to address African-American issues at the school, despite protests on three of the University's campuses. These honors, among others, depict a man of great worth who will surely be missed.

Dr. McCormick is survived by his wife of 60 years, Katherine Levis McCormick, as well as their daughter, Dorothy Boulia; son, the current president of Rutgers, Richard L. McCormick; and three grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to commemorate Dr. McCormick and to thank his family for the countless contributions that he made to the community and the State of New Jersey. His dedication to education, history, and activism will not be forgotten.

RECOGNIZING MR. ADAM BROWN
OF BOILING SPRINGS, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. TODD RUSSELL PLATTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the patriotic essay on military service by one of my young constituents, Mr. Adam Brown of Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania.

Adam's essay entitled, "Narratives of Soldierly," was submitted for publication by Mr. Larry Babbitts, a twice-wounded, two-war combat veteran and commander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Capitol City—West Shore Chapter 11, Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania. In his essay, Adam pays tribute to the courageous service and sacrifice of those men and women in uniform who selflessly guard our individual freedoms and liberties here at home and throughout the world.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to submit ADAM's essay for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, at Mr. Babbitts' request. Adam's essay reminds all Americans that it is our solemn national duty to support our fellow citizens who volunteer to forfeit their own security to defend and preserve the rights and liberties that make our Nation the world's pinnacle of freedom. In Adam's words, "there is no greater gift than serving your country."

NARRATIVES OF SOLDIERLY

(By Adam Brown)

Hang your head in shame, those who think themselves too good for service, for there is no man who may say it with truth. Those who find themselves in wealth's company and belittle the soldier, hold your self-righteous tongues in the presence of men greater than yourselves. Before your mercurial words lash on the backs of the men who fight, remember this; the dream that you live was delivered by those men whom you belittled. For a rich man who thinks himself too valuable for soldiery is worth less than the vagabond who answers his nation's call.

All men of a free nation are indebted to nation that grants them that freedom. And the soldier, violent so as his acts may be, is the vessel with which those freedoms are delivered. Go Curser of the warrior, exercise your freedoms; speak what you will, worship what you will, and congregate where you will, but rest your head at night with an uneasy conscience. For when your nation looked for your service in time of war, you lowered your head, so as not to be recognized, so let your head stay lowered in dishonor. Wise is the common man who recognizes his debt, and pays it with his service, for there is no greater gift than serving your country.

Common man, you may walk the roads of your country knowing one absolute truth, every time you fought on our behalf, every time you killed out of orders, and every time you held a dying brother, you earned your rights. Every American gets them, but you, oh noble veteran, have earned them in a way the nay-sayer will never. And his riches can never buy what you have earned. Keep this knowledge sacred, that in paying the debt to your country, all others now owe that debt to you. You now owe no man, only God.

Common man of soldiery, what you have done will be forever with you, both your valiance and your nightmares. For every soldier remembers, be it right or wrong, taking life. So when you wake in your bed with cold sweat, find comfort; find comfort in the fact that the actions that give you nightmares,

have also brought you honor. And search for a small measure of peace. In a world that was fair, no one would ask you to be strong again, because you have shown enough strength for your entire lifetime. But, alas, this world lacks perfection, and you are never rid of what is asked of you.

Though it isn't fair, still you must be strong, strong for your family, and your community. Do not search for recognition for what you have done; it will come of itself. It seems impossible to find enough toughness in oneself to remain the pillar of strength for so many, but you can do it, and you must do it. People will look to you as the military, be it invited or not. So your actions reflect on the military, the entire military, regardless of your branch, it is for this reason you must still be strong. Though you may not think it, you will find inner strength to hold up all that you need to.

You who retreats from honor's light, again you are addressed. When a soldier enters your presence, dare you not to criticize or even meet eyes with him. For you did cower, and no self-justification will nullify that fact. You have the luxury of speaking ill of the nation, and its leader. Carry with you any politics you may, speak ill of your government if you see fit, for that is the first liberty we took upon creating our country, but see the line between the government, and the soldier. For that line is a canyon for which there is no compare. And if you truly think ill of your government, do not impose upon a soldier, your dissatisfaction. For if not for him you would hail: a British crown, a Mexican president, a slave holder, a German Furher, a Japanese Emperor, a Korean Dictator, a Russian Czar, or an Arab Sheik. This list is long and the common soldier did fight and prevail over all these. So you have no place to quarrel with such a noble man. Keep in mind, the soldier is merely the sword of his people, to do what they wish. One does not blame the sword for who it cuts down, or why it cuts, the sword only does what its wielder commands. Yet forget not your duty, to speak against the government if it should become tyrannical, because you are bound by honor to see the sword not abused.

Some men measure success in gold and things of beauty; I pity these men. Some measure success in popularity, these men too, I pity. For success is nothing more than accomplishing something correctly, every man has done this, and every man has failed at this. Men place too much importance on success, and in doing so have neglected the most important of all virtues, honor. But what is honor? Honor cannot be tasted, seen, or heard, but felt; not just by he who is honorable, but everyone around him as well. Honor is standing defiantly in the face of that which is wrong and stating with a stem voice and clenched fists, "This is not right, and I will not let this stand." Those words will emanate to the heavens and rally the angels' cheers. Those words will shake hell to hysteria and send demons fleeing in fear.

Take a moment, Common Man of the Soldier, and find simple comfort in the fact that not all turn a blind eye to what you have done. For what you carry with you; you are honored.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JO ELLE
HURNS OF THE LAUGHLIN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jo Elle Hurns, an outstanding individual

who has given nine years of invaluable service to the Laughlin Chamber of Commerce.

Before joining the Laughlin Chamber of Commerce, Jo Elle Hurns worked for twenty years in the Colorado River Communities, her first five years as a reporter. In 1990, she went to work as Marketing Director for Don Laughlin.

In 1997, Jo Elle Hurns became the Executive Director of the Laughlin Chamber of Commerce. In this position, she began by assisting the community with economic development plans for the region, including creating a consensus among nine different jurisdictions to fund the \$28 million reconstruction of Needles Highway. Her efforts in lobbying at local, state and federal levels for major infrastructure improvements in Laughlin included trails, successful multi-million dollar grant attainment and the sale of federal lands for further residential and commercial growth. Due to her heartfelt commitment to raise funds and develop programs for dozens of social service agencies including the Colorado River United Way, she greatly influenced the effectiveness of many organizations in giving service to the area.

Jo Elle Hurns was also very involved in serving the community. From 1995 to 2000 she was on the Laughlin Town Board, and in 2005 and 2006 she was a member of the Nevada Alliance for the Boys and Girls Club. She received the Spirit of the Colorado River Award in 2001, and for the past six years has been the Distinguished Woman of Southern Nevada.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for the opportunity to honor Jo Elle Hurns for her service to Laughlin and the State of Nevada.

H.R. 4744, TO DESIGNATE THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS OUTPATIENT CLINIC IN TULSA OKLAHOMA AS THE ERNEST CHILDERS DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS OUTPATIENT CLINIC

HON. JOHN SULLIVAN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. Speaker, this evening, I introduced H.R. 4744, legislation to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Outpatient Clinic in Tulsa, Oklahoma as the Ernest Childers VA Outpatient Clinic to honor one of our nation's finest military heroes.

Ernest Childers holds the distinction of being the first Native American to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor for his heroic action in 1943 at the battle of Oliveto, Italy, when he charged German machine gun nests against machine gun fire. Although suffering a broken foot in the assault, Childers ordered covering fire and advanced up a hill, single-handedly killing two snipers, silencing two machine gun nests and capturing an enemy mortar observer. His courageous action helped American troops win the battle and save the lives of American soldiers. Childers was also awarded the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star for his actions.

Born in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, Childers, enlisted in the Oklahoma National Guard in 1937 to earn extra money while attending the

Chilocco Indian School in north-central Oklahoma. While stationed at Fort Sill in Oklahoma, he was deployed to Africa to fight in World War II. Childers retired from the Army in 1965 as a Lieutenant Colonel but remained very active in the Tulsa community serving Indian youth, which led to the naming of a middle school in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma in his honor in 1985.

As a proud Creek Indian, in 1966, Childers was honored by the Tulsa Chapter of the Council of American Indians as "Oklahoma's most outstanding Indian." Of his military service in World War II, Childers once said, "The American Indian has only one country to defend, and when you're picked on, the American Indian never turns his back." A fitting quote from a man who exemplified courage under fire and dedication to defending our nation.

Until his death on March 17, 2005, Childers was Oklahoma's last Congressional Medal of Honor recipient still living in the state. I am proud to introduce this legislation to honor his life and legacy. We were honored to have him grace us with his model character, defend us with his bravery, and leave us all with a life well-lived.

IN MEMORY OF ELIZABETH
DAILEY

HON. JO ANN DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my sorrow for the loss of Stafford County Treasurer Elizabeth Dailey, who recently passed away at the young age of 47. A leader in the community, Elizabeth was a person who sincerely cared about the citizens of Stafford, and worked to make life easier for them. In her tenure as Treasurer since 1993, Elizabeth provided Stafford with service, giving citizens individual assistance with complicated tax and financial issues. As Treasurer, she was an innovative leader and a true public servant. As a colleague, she was regarded as a trusted friend. Everyday, she was a loving wife and mother.

Elizabeth Dailey will truly be missed. I express my utmost condolences to her friends and family, and in a special way, would like to thank Elizabeth's husband Donald and daughter Nicole for sharing this very special lady with the citizens of Stafford County.

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY
MONTH

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join our Nation in honoring the many great contributions of the African American Community by celebrating Black History Month.

Overcoming enormous obstacles and racial barriers, the African American community has made vast contributions to all aspects of American society—music, literature, sports, education, science, business, and politics. We

must remember not only our outstanding heroes such as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Frederick Douglass, former Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, Rosa Parks, and Coretta Scott King, this month, but also the extraordinary lives of everyday African Americans who have helped build our great Nation.

I want to particularly honor the lives of two exceptional women who we lost recently: Rosa Parks and Mrs. Coretta Scott King. Their lives and their work for civil rights reflect the struggle and contributions that African Americans have made to our society. Their actions set America on a course of inclusion and tolerance, which continues to benefit us everyday. We must follow their steps and build upon their great accomplishments for equality and justice.

During this month and throughout the year, I encourage those living in California's 32nd Congressional District and around the country to take the time to honor the African American community by learning about its vast accomplishments and rich culture.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR.
DONALD COLEMAN

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Donald Coleman, reporter for the California newspaper, The Fresno Bee.

Donald Coleman was a gentleman, a fine reporter and truly a person with a passion for life. For those of us who had the good fortune to know him or work with him there is now a very empty space. Personally, I will miss the times that Don and I shared together in the Tower District where he would humorously point out the flaws and shortcomings we all experience in life.

As we reflect upon a life well lived, we should rededicate ourselves to caring and helping those less fortunate than ourselves. And in that sense, Don was a good role model for all of us. Donald Coleman cared deeply about his family, his friends and the people who live in our Valley. His passion for people was an inspiration for all of us to try harder the next day. I know after seeing Don I always tried harder the next day. Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, "The only way to have a friend is to be one." I want to thank you, Donald Coleman, for having been a friend to those of us, who had the good fortune to know you.

The following is a wonderful description of the life and times of Donald Coleman that appeared in the Fresno Bee:

Donald Coleman, the face of The Fresno Bee for many in far-flung rural communities and a fixture in Fresno's Tower District, died of an apparent heart attack Tuesday morning. He was 57.

"We are deeply saddened by the sudden death of reporter Donald Coleman. His good cheer and graciousness were well known throughout many departments here, and he had scores of friends in the community as well. We will not only miss Don as a journalist, but also as a friend," said Charlie Waters, executive editor of The Fresno Bee.

Funeral arrangements are pending. Mr. Coleman's Mercedes rolled into flowerpots in front of the downtown Starbucks on Kern Street at 11:37 a.m. Police said they found him unconscious in the front seat.

His job was covering the rural communities surrounding the city of Fresno.

"He had a lot of concern with what was happening in these small, poorer farming communities. His heart was out here, and he personally was out here. He would visit. He would write our stories," said Joseph Amador, a former Mendota mayor. Colleagues recalled his extraordinary compassion, which he sometimes masked with impish cantankerousness.

Every December, Mr. Coleman unfurled his "Bah Humbug" sign, a banner passed on to him years ago by a cigar-chomping, old-time reporter. But every August, he threw a Christmas party, complete with a tree. The price of admission was a donation for the food banks in a season when people often forget to donate.

He showed up to tutor first-graders at Kirk Elementary School even if it was his day off. Tuesday mornings were his regular visiting day.

Mr. Coleman came to journalism later in life, one of the older students to graduate with a journalism degree from California State University, Fresno, in 1988, the year he started working at The Bee. Earlier in life, he was a college football player, a seminary student, a banker, a law student and an airline employee.

He was at times The Bee's only black news reporter.

"We discussed racial issues many times, and I learned a great deal from him. In many ways, I think he was a pioneer," said Jim Tucker, host of "Valley Press" and one of Mr. Coleman's journalism professors.

Outside of work, Mr. Coleman was the consummate man about town, friend to everyone, especially in the Tower District.

"He was the unofficial secretary of state. He knew everyone, and everyone knew him: hairstylists, lawyers, bartenders, professors, artists, poseurs and idiots. Don was wonderful to everyone. The word that comes to mind is sweet. He was the most decent guy. I don't know why he put up with all of us," said longtime friend Andrew Simmons.

He was passionate about travel and family—he carried a picture of his grandmother in his wallet. He bought lottery tickets, planning his Jamaican escape. Bee colleagues on Tuesday recalled his running shtick when the jackpots were high.

"It's my last day," he'd say. "Do you want to say goodbye?"

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
OTTAWA NATIONAL FOREST

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a northern Michigan natural phenomenon that will be celebrating its 75th Anniversary of restoring the natural beauty and resources of Michigan's Upper Peninsula (U.P.). This year the Ottawa National Forest will celebrate 75 years of service but an endless impact on the vibrant habitat.

During the early 1900's, loggers flocked to Michigan's western U.P. to take advantage of what seemed to be an endless supply of pine trees. Used for fuel, paper products and the timber necessary to build cities like Detroit and Chicago, the once lush, vast forests were gutted and left as a desolate wasteland by the late 1920's.

In 1931 the fate of that land would change forever when President Herbert Hoover signed

a proclamation establishing the Ottawa National Forest as a means of reviving the barren forest. Seventy-five years later, the restoration of the Ottawa National Forest has been described as a true success story.

Now managed for multiple uses, the Ottawa National Forest provides many products and services based on its mission of caring for the land and serving people. The Ottawa National Forest also provides a great economic impact to the region. It supplies local communities both with wood products as well as jobs. Additionally, the Ottawa National Forest is an incredible draw for tourism with such recreational activities as hiking, camping, fishing, hunting, boating and snowmobiling to name a few.

Mr. Speaker, the success of the Ottawa National Forest in revitalizing the cherished natural resource of Michigan's western Upper Peninsula pine forests is a shining example of how effective a mission carried out over time and the implementation of sensible management practices can make such a significant impact in the world.

I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the Ottawa National Forest employees from past and present on 75 years of living the proud tradition of the Forest Service mission and wish them all the best in the future toward another successful 75 years.

MR. BENJAMIN SOLOMON, LETTER
TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW
YORK TIMES

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues a letter that was published in the November 8th edition of the New York Times. The letter was composed by my constituent—Mr. Benjamin Solomon of Evanston, Illinois. Mr. Solomon writes about the critical importance of openness in government, the serious nature of war, and the importance of honoring our nation's veterans. I hope that the words of Mr. Solomon, who is a veteran of World War II, are taken into serious consideration.

[From the New York Times, Nov. 8, 2005]

KILLED, THEN EXPLOITED

To the Editor:

"The Mysterious Death of Pat Tillman," by Frank Rich (column, Nov. 6), left me sick at heart. I am a World War II veteran in my later 80's who still thinks of his tent mates who were lost to enemy action.

Pat Tillman, the Arizona Cardinals defensive back who volunteered for the Army, was killed last year in Afghanistan, apparently by friendly fire. The cynical exploitation of his death and the lies surrounding it are a betrayal of this brave soldier and his family, of all the others who made the same sacrifice in Iraq, and of the ideals of decency we claim for our nation.

The thought that the responsible high-level officials in the Pentagon and the White House are still in power frightens me.

BENJAMIN SOLOMON,
Evanston, Ill., Nov. 6, 2005.

HONORING BILL FERGUSON

HON. JOHN T. SALAZAR

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my constituents and a personal friend, Bill Ferguson. Bill Ferguson, or "Fergie" as friends like to call him has had a long and distinguished career as a rancher and public servant in Ouray County, Colorado.

Bill Ferguson was raised in Colorado. In the late 1970s he settled in the town of Ridgway. While Bill worked hard as a carpenter and his wife Liza as a waitress, they were able to save enough money to start their own business. The Park Nursery Garden Center soon became the premier native nursery in the area. Fergie also established a 120 acre ranch where he and Liza continue to raise 80–100 head of cattle per year. Both his ranch and his nursery are a great asset to the county and reflect Bill's life long ethic of caring for the land he was part of.

In the 1990's, Bill was instrumental in developing a Geographical Information System program that eventually became the Southwest Data Center. The Center is still a vital tool for land use planning and management for Ouray County, surrounding governments and local citizens in Southwest Colorado.

In 1999, Bill was appointed to the Ouray Board of County Commissioners and won reelection in November of 2000. Bill fought hard for the best interest of his community through the end of his term in 2005. He worked to protect Ouray County's financial interest, preserve the open government process and helped restore the people's faith in government. As a county commissioner, Bill was noted for being the primary force behind legislation to designate Ouray County as a "Right to Farm" community, preserving the rights of farmers and ranchers to conduct their business without interference.

A water rights' owner, Bill was appointed by Ouray County for two terms to sit on the Colorado River Conservation District Board of Directors, which is the oldest and most prestigious water conservation district in Colorado. As Ouray County's representative to the Colorado River District, Bill worked on land and water conservation projects for conservations trusts. According to fellow board members, Bill was always the best joke teller—a tough title to earn on a water district board, which is typically filled with amateur comedians. Bill also served on the Colorado River Water Users Association developing GIS-based maps for educational purposes.

With such a long list of accomplishments, it is easy to see that Bill is a leader in every sense of the word, but especially when it comes to water. Bill always has helped lead the fight to protect Western Slope water. I was honored to fight alongside him on many crucial battles to defend our rural way of life.

I have been proud to know and work with Bill Ferguson on issues that are important to the Western Slope of Colorado. He has been a great personal friend, colleague and mentor on many water issues and I am honored to represent him in Congress.

GOLD FOR GREENSBORO'S JOEY
CHEEK

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, when someone thinks sports and the Sixth District of North Carolina, most thoughts turn toward basketball, baseball and auto racing. I think it is safe to say that not many people would immediately leap to speed skating on ice. That's no longer the case, however, thanks to Joey Cheek of Greensboro. The Sixth District is now the speed skating capital of the world because Joey Cheek captured the gold medal in the Winter Olympics in Turin, Italy, by winning the 500 meter long-track speed skating event.

Proving he is a true champion in every sense of the word, immediately after he won the gold medal, Joey Cheek announced he was donating the \$25,000 he won from the U.S. Olympic Committee to refugee relief efforts in Africa. As reported in today's edition of the Greensboro News & Record, Joey said his thoughts are turning back to North Carolina. "I am really excited about going home," the News & Record reported. "Honestly, it doesn't even feel real. I'm so thrilled and so happy. But it doesn't seem to make sense. It's like it happened to someone else, and I'm just happy to sort of receive the good will for it. I'm just really excited and looking forward to the next couple of days to maybe realizing I'm an Olympic champion, will be forever, which is the coolest part of it."

Cheek is scheduled to compete in the 1,000 and 1,500 meter events next. In fact, the 1,000 meter race is considered to be Joey's strongest event, so there may be more Olympic hardware coming his way. Four years ago, he won the bronze medal in the Salt Lake City Olympics in the 1,000 meter race, so this gold medal is not at all surprising to those who follow the sport. Joey Cheek has been a skater since he was eight years old and used to skate in roller rinks in Greensboro. At 15, he switched to the ice and it's been a straight line to the winner's podium in Turin.

Joey's mother is in Turin to witness family history first-hand, while his father is following from his home office in Winston-Salem. Once all of the racing is completed, Joey hopes to return to Greensboro where he plans to obtain a law degree and practice law in North Carolina. Whatever he decides to do, as he has shown both on and off the ice in Italy, Joey Cheek will be a champion and the Sixth District of North Carolina is proud to call him one of our own.

UT SOUTHWESTERN, MEDICAL
CENTER AND BAYLOR HEALTH
CARE SYSTEM-DALLAS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute UT Southwestern Hospital and Baylor Health Care System, Dallas for their ranking in the top 5 percent of hospitals in the United States. Over

the years, both medical centers experienced phenomenal growth, fueled by people with an extraordinary vision. UT Southwestern Hospital and Baylor Health Care System received high grades for quality patient outcomes, clinical excellence, patient safety, and women's health in a survey of 5,122 nonfederal hospitals in the United States, conducted by Health Grades Inc. UT Southwestern Medical Center is the seventh-largest hospital in Dallas-Fort Worth providing inpatient hospital care to more than 90,000 people and oversees approximately 2 million outpatient visits. Annually, UT Southwestern Medical Center delivers more than 18,800 babies and provides \$282 million in unreimbursed professional service in Dallas and surrounding counties. Baylor Health Care System, established in 1903 as Texas Baptist Memorial Sanitarium, is the first health care system to provide supplemental newborn screening for more than 30 inherited metabolic diseases. Baylor provides exemplary health care with over 2,554 beds, 15,000 employees, and 3,300 physicians.

I am confident that UT Southwestern Medical Center and Baylor Health Care System will continue to provide exemplary hospital care to the North Texas community and surround areas and remain at the pinnacle of Medical institutions committed to providing compassionate health care. On behalf of the thousands of Greater Dallas Metroplex residents who have benefited from UT Southwestern Medical Center and Baylor Health Care System, I congratulate them for their contribution for improving the health of the community through high quality patient care and commitment to clinical excellence.

COMMENDING MR. EDUARDO
"LALO" GUERRERO

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on Arizona's 94th birthday to commend one of Arizona's most talented sons, Mr. Eduardo "Lalo" Guerrero, "the Father of Chicano Music."

From the beginning of his career when his first group, Los Carlistas, represented Arizona at the New York World's Fair of 1939 until his death last March, Lalo Guerrero symbolized the best of American and Latino culture. Born December 24, 1916 in Barrio Viejo, the oldest neighborhood of Tucson, Arizona, Mr. Guerrero sang songs that spoke directly to the Chicano people of the southwest throughout the course of his 60-year career.

The child of immigrants, Mr. Guerrero attributed his musical talent to his mother Concepción, who taught him to play the guitar. He has been quoted modestly, "I only wrote and sang about what I was." By doing so, Mr. Guerrero became a voice for people who rarely were shown in mainstream culture, a fact he sang about in his famous song "No Chicanos on TV."

No other Chicano artist has come close to writing and recording more great songs in virtually every genre of Latin music, including salsa, norteña, banda, rancheras, boleros, corridos, cumbias, mambos, cha chas, socially relevant songs, swing, rock & roll and blues.

In addition to being a world-class singer, he also created children's music, comedy songs and parodies.

Mr. Guerrero stood beside other great leaders in the community, among them César E. Chávez and Ruben Salazar, writing corridos about the struggles and importance of social protest. Celebrating his bicultural roots, the music pioneer and activist was the first to record bilingual songs, becoming a symbol of hope and strength to his people.

Mr. Guerrero is credited by such artists as Carlos Santana, Linda Ronstadt, and Los Lobos for opening the door for Latino musicians.

In 1996, Mr. Guerrero was awarded the National Medal of the Arts by President and Mrs. Clinton. In 1980, the Smithsonian Institution declared him a "National Folk Treasure" and he received a National Heritage Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts in 1991.

Mr. Guerrero was inducted into the Tejano Hall of Fame and was honored with Lifetime Achievement Awards from the Mexican Cultural Institute representing the Mexican Government, Luis Valdez's The Teatro Campesino and Ricardo Montalban's Nosotros Organization among other prestigious groups. Los Angeles and his adopted home of Palm Springs, California have declared "Lalo Guerrero Day" in those cities and proclamations have been awarded from numerous other cities and organizations.

Mr. Guerrero is an American original. He is a son of this Nation, a Nation of diverse people, cultures and music. Lalo Guerrero exemplifies the richness of our country and the hope of all people. His story is a gift to us all.

HONORING DR. HENRY L. COOK, SR.

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, this President's Day marks the nineteenth annual Black History Observance in Columbus, Georgia, but it also affords us the opportunity to recognize Dr. Henry L. Cook, Jr., who has chaired the event since 1988.

For 35 years Dr. Cook has practiced dentistry in Columbus. A graduate of Tuskegee University and Meharry Medical College, he has defined excellence in his field and continues to serve on the Georgia Board of Dentistry, the Georgia Dental Association and the Georgia Medicaid Advisory Committee, among other boards and organizations.

Yet beyond his chosen profession, Dr. Cook has used his life in service to others and his community. A veteran of the United States Air Force, he has received countless distinguished service awards for his work. He has served as Chairman of the Board of the Minority Assistance Corporation, the Columbus Technical College, the Columbus Technical Foundation, the Columbus Business Development Center and the A.J. McClung YMCA and has served on the Muscogee Board of Education, the Metro Board of Health and the Columbus Chamber of Commerce.

As chairman of the Annual Black History Committee, Dr. Cook has cemented the legacy of African Americans into the history of

Columbus, Georgia. Under his guidance, the Annual Black History Observance, which was started by the late former Congressman Richard Ray to improve his relationship with the African-American community, has grown into a celebration of Black history that pays tribute to the individuals, organizations and institutions that have made lasting contributions to the history of Black Americans.

Dr. Cook is married to the former Mamie Richmond and has three children, Dr. Cathy L. Cook, Dr. Henry L. Cook, II and Ms. Rosa Zanders. His extraordinary legacy in dentistry continues through Cathy and Henry II, who continue the family dental practice.

This Monday, I will have the honor of presenting Dr. Henry L. Cook, Sr. with the Legacy Leadership Award and Congressman JOHN LEWIS, a true American hero and history maker, will be the featured guest speaker. However, here in this hallowed hall, I rise on behalf of the people of the Second Congressional District and the State of Georgia to honor the extraordinary contributions that Dr. Cook has made to the African-American community, the City of Columbus, the State of Georgia and our great Country. His service is a model for all and we are grateful.

TRIBUTE TO MS. AURELIA
GREENE

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise during this month dedicated to the celebration of African Americans who have made great contributions to the world, to pay tribute to New York Assemblywoman Aurelia Greene. Aurelia is a dedicated public servant who has worked tirelessly to uplift and empower her constituents.

A native of the Bronx, Aurelia is a graduate of Livingston College at Rutgers University, where she majored in community development. For the past 24 years she has served as Assemblywoman for the 77th Assembly District, effectively using her urban planning skills to negotiate on behalf of her constituents for affordable housing, quality education, employment opportunities, affordable healthcare, senior services, and improved transportation and infrastructure.

As a member of the State Assembly, Aurelia is known for her strong work ethic and robust legislative agenda. She authored legislation, which became law in 2002, prohibiting predatory lending practices in relation to high cost home loans. In addition, she was instrumental in ensuring the passage of the Apprenticeship bill, which provided funds for supplemental and related instruction to apprentices registered by the New York State Department of Labor. And in 1994, she was awarded a gold helmet by the New York State Head Injury Association for her bicycle helmet legislation.

As a result of her competence as a legislator and considerable personal charm, Aurelia has been successful in rising through the ranks of the New York State Assembly. She previously served as Deputy Majority Leader and is the first woman to chair the Assembly Standing Committee on Banks. In addition, she recently became the first African American

to serve as Speaker Pro Tempore in the State Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this week we said a final goodbye to Mrs. Coretta Scott King, a woman of great resolve and patience, who helped to change the world. Today we honor a woman who stands on her shoulders. Working tirelessly to change the world in her own right, Ms. Greene is the hope and dream of countless men and women of African descent who silently contributed to the pages of history. As a result of the efforts of the likes of Mrs. King and Rosa Parks, Aurelia's contributions to this nation have not gone unnoticed.

For her unyielding spirit, and willingness to serve others, I ask that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Ms. Aurelia Greene and in honoring the great women upon whose shoulders she stands.

TRIBUTE TO MS. PAULA J.
MARTIN

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise during this month, dedicated to the celebration of African Americans who have made great contributions to the world, to pay tribute to Ms. Paula J. Martin, a woman who has worked vigorously to ensure the less fortunate of her community have the necessary skills to succeed in life.

Paula serves as the Executive Director of the Harlem Center for Education (HCE), a community based non-profit organization located in East Harlem, New York. Among its programs, HCE counts two federal TRIO Talent Search projects and one Educational Opportunity Center Project. Paula has been involved in TRIO programs for over 32 years.

During the 20 years she has served as Executive Director of HCE, the organization has grown from an operational budget of \$137,000 to one that is currently over \$1,000,000. Her unique ability to secure timely grants has allowed the Harlem Center for Education to grow and reach more deserving young people and adults.

Like most of the students with whom she works, Paula is a first generation college student. A graduate of Hunter College High School, she went on to receive a bachelor's degree from Syracuse University and a master's degree in developmental psychology from Columbia University. This achievement alone is worthy of praise; but Paula did not stop there. She decided to dedicate her entire professional career to empowering individuals who shared her life struggles, thus helping to ensure that the cycle of poverty is broken.

Booker T. Washington once said: "Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has overcome." Indeed, Paula has overcome great obstacles to achieve the position that she now holds and would surely be considered a great success by Washington's standards. However, what impresses me the most about this incredible woman is that she was not satisfied with achieving success for herself. Like Washington, she has worked tirelessly to pull others up from the depths of despair, providing them with opportunities to find success in their own lives.

Mr. Speaker, this country owes much of its greatness to the countless men and women of color who silently contributed to the pages of history. Today, I ask that my colleagues join me in saluting them for their efforts and in paying tribute to the great leaders who stand upon their shoulders, such as Ms. Paula J. Martin.

TRIBUTE TO MR. DENNIS TERRY

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise during this month dedicated to the celebration of African Americans who have made great contributions to the world, to pay tribute to Mr. Dennis Terry, an individual who has worked throughout his life to fortify the bonds that unite the people of the Bronx in order to help them find success.

Born in North Carolina, Dennis has been a Bronx resident since 1969. He is a graduate of Howard University in Washington, DC. Dennis is a retired manager from Lilco (now known as Keyspan) and is currently engaged in part-time consulting.

The extensive involvement of Dennis in the community and civic life of his borough and city is reflected in his numerous organizational affiliations. These affiliations include: Mid-Bronx Senior Citizen's Council (chairperson); Concourse Day Care Center (member); and HAC Family Services (member). Dennis' past affiliations include: Bronx Lebanon Hospital Center (former chairperson); The Bronx Health Link (former chairperson); SOBRO (member, Executive Committee); The New York Urban League (member and former chairman of the Bronx Advisory Board); Community Planning Board 4 (former chairman); and the Mayor's Community Planning Board 4 Task Force.

Throughout his lifetime of community involvement, Dennis has sought to construct collaborative platforms and organizational networks that maximize the strength of the Bronx's multi-ethnic, multi-cultural, and religious diversity. Dennis' efforts have enabled the institutions that he has been affiliated with, and in many cases led, to define, develop, and deliver much needed services. He has focused his public service in the areas of senior and child care, healthcare, housing, employment, and economic development.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. King once stated that "All men are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality." This is a statement that Dennis understands all too well. The Bronx is a melting pot of ethnic and religious groups, none of which can survive without the help of another. Fortunately, the Bronx is home to individuals like Dennis Terry, a man of vision and understanding who has helped tear down the walls that so often divide us. He has forced us to see the great potential we can unleash when we work together.

He stands on the shoulders of giants, yet he himself has become a giant, espousing a philosophy of tolerance and understanding in order to uplift his fellow citizens. For his selfless attitude and unyielding spirit, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Mr. Dennis Terry and the giants upon whose shoulders he stands.

TRIBUTE TO MS. GLORIA DENARD

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise during this month dedicated to the celebration of African Americans who have made great contributions to the world, to pay tribute to Ms. Gloria Denard, an accomplished musician who has helped to improve the quality of life for the people of her community.

Born into a family of musicians and raised in the Bedford-Stuyvesant neighborhood of Brooklyn, Gloria was destined to be a great musician herself. Under the tutelage of her mother, she began her musical training at the tender age of three. Later in life, she studied at Julliard where she concentrated on classical music and majored in voice with a piano minor.

After Julliard, Gloria married and moved to East Harlem. She performed nationally and internationally, including stints in Italy, Bermuda, Greenland and Canada.

Although she enjoyed great success as a musician, Gloria was consumed by the desire to improve the quality of life of the people in her community. To that end, she established Manna House Workshops to serve the social and cultural needs of her talented neighbors. Gloria, who by this time had two children, worked without salary and maintained a staff of six teachers. In 1970 she decided to purchase a five story building and establish the current home of Manna House Workshops. After 38 years of service, Manna House Workshops continues to serve as a bright beacon of hope in its community, providing training in music and dance to all who enter their doors.

In 1980, Gloria conceived Music for Entertainment Education and Enlightenment (MEEE), a jazz concert series featuring emerging and professional artists presented in the Manna Mini Theatre. In addition, she has maintained her own vocal career and has released two CDs including "Come Feel the Things You Cannot Touch" and "Two for Jazz". An additional CD will be released in March of this year. She also produces and hosts a cable show every month entitled "The Best Kept Secret" on the Manhattan Neighborhood Network.

Mr. Speaker, it is impossible to discuss the contributions of African Americans to the history of the world and not mention the great influence they have had upon music. Often great beauty comes from great pain and suffering. It was this sacred art that helped so many find light in times of darkness and peace in times of stifling oppression. From gospel to blues to jazz, and most recently, hip hop, African Americans have not only provided the world with new forms of entertainment, but have found a way to provide insight into their struggles and aspirations. A student of this art, Gloria teaches music to the next generation, hoping to instill in them a sense of self confidence and pride so that they may one day share their gifts with the world.

For her beautiful voice and spirit, and her willingness to help others find their own voice, I ask that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Ms. Gloria Denard, and the countless African Americans who came before her and enabled her to find her own voice.