

have inspired a similarly strong commitment to communities around the world, particularly in Africa.

In 2000, Bergh was named Honorary Consul to the United Republic of Tanzania by President Benjamin Mkapa, lending his expertise on trade, education and tourism. He is highly respected for his dedicated service to environmental and community issues such as anti-poaching and building hospitals and schools. He has been a valued resource to me and my office on the many issues facing Africa.

Among Bergh's many distinctions and awards for his service, perhaps he has the best reason to be proud of the royal decorations from his native Norway. He was bestowed Knight First Class, Royal Order of Merit by King Harald V and the prestigious St. Olav medal by the late King Olav V. In addition, he received the Royal order of the Polar Star from the Sweden's King Carl Gustaf.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Mr. Kjell Bergh on his 60th birthday. Amid his busy life and his many accomplishments and awards, I know that he is looking forward to spending this special day with the most important people in his life—his family and friends.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF CARL
PAPA, JR.

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 2006

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great Tennessean, Carl Papa, Jr. After 33 years of dedicated service to East Tennessee, Mr. Papa has retired as the Chief Pretrial Services Officer for the United States District Court for the Eastern Tennessee District.

Carl Papa, Jr. was born on June 29, 1949, in Camden, New Jersey. He graduated from Collingswood High School in Collingswood, New Jersey, in 1968. He attended Milligan College in East Tennessee, graduating in August 1972 with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Sociology.

Carl was hired by the Tennessee Department of Corrections in October 1972 as a Probation and Parole Officer. On January 5, 1976, he was appointed as the U.S. Probation Officer in the Eastern District of Tennessee by the Honorable Robert Love Taylor. Meanwhile, Carl attended the University of Tennessee, my alma mater, where he earned a Masters of Science in 1982.

He served as the U.S. Probation Officer for East Tennessee until April 19, 1993, when he was appointed the Chief Pretrial Services Officer for the Eastern Tennessee District. He retired from his position on the federal court on January 20, 2006. After 30 years of serving the community in federal court, and 33 years of public service to the citizens of East Tennessee, Mr. Papa has begun a well-earned retirement.

Carl has two children. Carl's son, Benjamin C. Papa, resides in Nashville with his children, Eli and Ella. His daughter, Bethany Burnette, lives in Knoxville. Carl has been married to Donna C. Crumpton since May 28, 2004.

I wish to express my gratitude on behalf of my fellow residents of East Tennessee for the

dedication Mr. Papa has shown over the past 33 years. I wish him and his family all the best as he begins the next stage of his life. I urge all of my colleagues to join me in thanking Mr. Papa for his service to our community.

TRIBUTE TO ILEEN GREEN

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 2006

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ileen Green, daughter to Marilyn and Harry Griver, a sister, a teacher, a mother, a peace activist, and most recently, a grandmother.

Ileen Green has spent the majority of her adult life giving to others in many special ways. Her dedication to Philadelphia students is the easiest to pinpoint. She has been a dedicated teacher in middle school and elementary school for over 20 years. Shortly after she started her career in teaching she taught one of the first desegregation classes here. She fought for everyone to have a fair opportunity for and good education. She was an activist. She became pregnant a few years later, having to leave her job as a school teacher, temporarily. She named her daughter Kelly, after an African American male student who was in her first desegregation class. "He was very gifted and special," she always said.

As a single mom and, without any outside support, Ileen raised her family, at the time women lacked many equal rights. She was unable to even sign a lease for an apartment unless a man signed it as well. There were limited opportunities for women in business and childcare was an expense she couldn't afford. Ileen worked from home, telemarketing, and made just enough to pay the bills. Her family struggled over the years. Ileen decided this wasn't enough. Ileen decided to go into business for herself and became a very successful saleswoman. This however required many travel obligations that separated her from her daughter. Ileen wanted to keep her family close and so she decided to return to teaching, where she has stayed.

Her loving daughter Kelly describes her as "the type of mother all my friends wanted. She never hesitated to give advice, support, and hugs. Several times my mother took on the extended responsibilities of becoming a foster mom. All the while, active in women's rights groups, focused on her work, and yet always finding time to be her daughter's best friend and greatest supporter."

Ileen has found herself in poor health for the last decade but through it all she returns to work finding strength in doing what she loves most, making a difference in the lives of children. Even now, in kidney failure, and facing serious decline in her health she still will not give up. She returns to the classroom, and provides the love, kindness, and education today's children desperately need. She teaches because she loves what she does and she does it well.

Ileen Green has been through her fair share of struggles. Single motherhood, survival of domestic abuse, and financial hardships have not been able to stifle her spirit. Through it all, she has continued to be a kind, loving, generous, and sincere woman and mother. The

kind that her daughter, as a recent mother herself, hopes to be. In recognition of her years of service to her community I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues rise to honor her.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 2006

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 7, H.R. 4297, had I been present, I would have voted "yea".

IN RECOGNITION OF AFRICARE'S
35TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 35th anniversary of the founding of the Africare organization. Africare is the oldest and largest African-American led organization committed to providing direct aid to the African continent—a leader in the fields of long-term sustainable development and health care, especially with regard to HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention.

The thousands of African families who have benefited through Africare's humanitarianism stand as a testament to the power of the organization's selfless mission. I am proud to offer my congratulations to Africare for many years of service embodying one of our Nation's most commendable ideal—extending our hand and heart to our fellow brothers and sisters throughout the world.

Africare helps Africa. Over the course of its history, Africare has become a pioneer among private, charitable U.S. organizations assisting Africa. The organization has supported hundreds of grassroots projects in Africa that have changed the lives of families living on the continent. Africare's programs address needs in the principal areas of food security and agriculture as well as health and HIV/AIDS. Africare also supports water resource development, environmental management, basic education, microenterprise development, governance initiatives and emergency humanitarian aid. Africare reaches families and communities in 26 countries in every major region of Sub-Saharan Africa, from Mali to South Africa and from Senegal to Mozambique.

The founders of Africare had a vision—to transform the lives of Africans and infuse into the often-forgotten and deprived continent much needed sustenance. In 1970, West Africa was suffering through one of the most severe droughts in its history which threatened the livelihood of livestock and crops. Villagers were fleeing their homes in search of water. Millions of human lives held in the balance.

Among those providing help—medical aid in Niger—were 17 American volunteers, led by Dr. William Kirker, and his wife Barbara. Together they named their group "Africare." The Kirkers themselves had been working in Africa, to improve African health care, since 1966. Although the work by the Kirkers was invaluable, more was needed to be done to stifle the

crisis sweeping through the area. Diori Hamani, then president of the Republic of Niger, sought more support from the U.S., in particular from the African-American community. C. Payne Lucas, then director of the Peace Corps Office of Returned Volunteers in Washington was one individual who answered the call. He went on to become the first president of Africare, spending 30 years at the organization. He brought a unique blend of passion and steadfast commitment during his 40-year career in African development.

Under the leadership of the Kirkers and Lucas, Africare flourished and continued to make valuable contributions towards the development of the African continent. At the annual Africare dinner last October the 13th, the founders of Africare were recognized in remarks made by Africare vice president Jeannine Scott. The event was attended by notable individuals including that year's Africare Distinguished Humanitarian Service Award recipient, General Colin Powell, the former U.S. Secretary of State, Mr. Alphonso Jackson, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Dr. Dorothy Height, president emerita of the National Council of Negro Women, and my colleagues Representatives WILLIAM JEFFERSON of Louisiana and BARBARA LEE of Texas, as well as other civil and business leaders.

At the anniversary dinner, Africare vice president Jeannine Scott introduced the founders of Africare and recounted the story of how the organization was founded. I thought it would be useful for you to understand the history of the organization and I therefore ask that the text of her speech be entered into the RECORD.

PRESENTATION OF THE FOUNDERS OF AFRICARE
(By Jeannine B. Scott)

Dr. Kirker and his wife Barbara are here with us tonight and we are honored to pay tribute to them and the vision they had to found an organization to initially respond to the many health care needs of our brothers and sisters in Africa.

In addition to these founders, we have with us some of the first volunteers who served with them. They are:

James Sattler, an attorney in Hawaii who donated his services at the very beginning of Africare's life;

Joan Victoria Saccardi—a volunteer on Africare's very first trip to Africa, and who faced her own bouts of illness while carrying out the work she believed in;

And Cosco Carlhom was also one of the dedicated volunteers on the very first trip, providing vital technical expertise and was one of only a handful of volunteers to complete the entire two-year mission.

Please join me in welcoming these very first Africare pioneers.

Another early Africare supporter, Myra Takaski, was not able to join us here tonight. Through the Savings and Loan she headed, Ms. Takaski provided Africare with all the clerical and support services the young organization needed. Our thoughts are with her this evening.

Out of the looming dilemma that Africa was facing, His Excellency Ambassador Oumarou Youssoufou, the First Secretary at the Niger Embassy, contacted his old friend C. Payne Lucas who had been Peace Corps director in Niger, beseeching him on the part of then president Hamani Diori to lend his expertise and leadership to the organization.

Ambassador Youssoufou and Mr. Lucas discussed the idea. Mr. Lucas was then working at the Peace Corps headquarters in Washington and was interested in new ways to im-

prove the quality of life in Africa. C. Payne also remembered a question that had been posed to him years earlier by President Diori: "Why don't black Americans, whose ancestors came from the continent, respond to the needs in Africa?"

Mr. Lucas agreed to assume the leadership of the organization, insisting on two important conditions. The first was to expand Africare's focus to include not only health, but water and agriculture as well. His second condition was to ensure that the organization would be rooted in the African-American community and would serve to educate all Americans about Africa—its human, spiritual, historical, and material wealth.

With these objectives on the table, Mr. Lucas became the first executive director of Africare. He reincorporated the organization in Washington, D.C. and recruited another Peace Corps staff member Dr. Joseph C. Kennedy to serve as his deputy.

With an interest-free loan of \$30,000 and a second-hand 4x4 vehicle turned over to the program in Niger after a cross-Saharan trek—both provided by a dedicated benefactor, the late Mrs. Lorraine Aimes Watriss—the "reborn" Africare was on its way.

For the next year, the only paid employee of Africare was a secretary. C. Payne himself accepted no salary and donated the basement of his house as Africare's first office. In addition to grants, Africare collected donations from ordinary people, often just a few dollars, or nickels and dimes and Mr. Lucas would say, at a time. Seeing the value of organization, the Nigerian Embassy then agreed to house Africare, volunteering the first floor of its Chancery near Dupont Circle.

It was surely not easy. But the vision and sincerest of commitments were its impetus to succeed. And succeed, I am sure ladies and gentlemen you will agree they did!

It is from these humble beginnings that the Africare you see, know and support today emerged and grew under the guidance of Mr. Lucas and Dr. Kennedy.

Thanks to their 30+ years of efforts, energy, sacrifice, risking their careers and more, a solid foundation was laid:

Enabling the original vision to become a true and tangible reality;

Fostering a legacy that has led to the transfer of over half a billion dollars for more than 2,000 economic and humanitarian assistance projects to some 36 countries throughout Africa;

Touching over 2 million lives directly on the continent;

Training and mentoring hundreds, if not thousands of young Africans and Americans to follow in their footsteps;

Constructing Africare House—home to many whose convictions and activities embrace Africa;

Educating the American people of the greatness that is Africa!

In honoring our founders this evening I would like to ask Dr. and Mrs. Kirker, along with the first Africare volunteers present here tonight, Mr. Sattler, Ms. Saccardi, and Mr. Carlhom, to join me here on the stage.

I would also like to acknowledge His Excellency Ambassador Oumarou Youssoufou. He could not be with us tonight, but is ably represented by his daughter Zouera Youssoufou. I would like to invite her onto the stage in her father's place.

I would also like to call a teacher, colleague, my professor and friend, Dr. Joseph C. Kennedy to join us here on stage.

And finally, I have the distinct honor to call a visionary leader and guide, and my mentor, Mr. C. Payne Lucas.

It is truly an honor for us to pay tribute to all of you here tonight. Please join me, la-

dies and gentlemen, in welcoming Africare's earliest pioneers and leaders: Dr. William Kirker and Mrs. Barbara Kirker, Mr. Sattler, Ms. Saccardi, and Mr. Carlhom, Dr. Joseph C. Kennedy and Mr. C. Payne Lucas—the people who made tonight's 35th anniversary possible.

I ask that the text of a statement by Africare president Julius E. Coles which outlines Africare's work today also be entered into the RECORD.

Although Africare's initial focus was on providing medical care to the needy of Africa, the methods used to raise the standard of living in Africa soon grew more diverse.

When C. Payne Lucas took the helm of Africare in 1972, he saw that in order to make a meaningful difference in the lives of Africans, the organization had to do more than provide occasional medical care. In order to change the situation in Africa, Africare would also have to assist Africans in gaining access to the tools necessary to take control of their own lives.

Following in Lucas's vision, Africare has focused on three main areas: health and HIV/AIDS, humanitarian relief, and food security. Over the years, we have developed close working relationships with African governments.

By working in tandem with governments at the national and local levels, as well as with countless communities and villages throughout Africa, we have shown ourselves to be trustworthy partners in development.

In response to Africa's need for additional medical care, we have committed ourselves to addressing the health issues that adversely affect the families we serve. Africare's programs have a strong HIV/AIDS component that tackles an entire spectrum of issues related to the disease. HIV/AIDS awareness and education programs focusing on concrete behavior change given the people we work with the knowledge they need to keep themselves safe from infection. Africare also works to address the needs of people living with AIDS and provide care for children orphaned by the disease.

Africare has also taken steps to encourage stable, long-term increases in the standard of living. Africare's Food For Development staff members in countries across Africa help locals to achieve food security by delivering food supplies and providing technical assistance to local farmers. Using food resources and funds from the U.S. government, Africare administers both emergency food distribution as well as Food For Work programs in which food supplies are exchanged for community service. Africare staff also helps locals to maximize the productivity of their land through modern farming techniques. By planting new crops and using innovative farming methods, African families can increase their annual yield and better withstand otherwise disastrous events like droughts and famines.

Africare also provides humanitarian relief services to victims of natural and manmade disasters across Africa. Our current programs distribute Title II food supplies to victims of famine and drought. Africare also works intensively with refugees to ensure that people forced to flee their homelands are provided not only with the supplies they need to survive, but the skills and resources to rebuild damaged societies.

In addition to the three pillars of health and HIV/AIDS, food security, and emergency relief, Africare works through a variety of means to facilitate positive changes in the daily life of Africa. By building wells and springs, Africare develops resources from which entire communities can draw safe, clean drinking water. Through education initiatives, children and adults gain the literacy skills necessary for long-term success

and access to practical health and nutrition information. Our environmental programs have planted thousands of trees which enrich ecosystems and will reduce soil erosion, benefiting future generations. Africare's focus on stable societies includes initiatives to foster civil society and responsive governance. Africare supports indigenous nongovernmental organizations and encourages peaceful transitions in changing societies.

Microfinance programs encourage women to start small businesses which help communities become more resistant to economic downturns.

Over the past 35 years, Africare has been able to work with millions of people in 35 countries across the continent. Our organization has grown to be leader in the field and a model of how Africans and Americans of all races can work together towards a common goal. Now we are more convinced than ever of the necessity of helping to build a stronger, more stable Africa. As we continue with our work, we will also continue to grow and evolve to meet the changing needs of Africa.

Mr. Speaker, Africare is an institution of which all Americans should be proud. Please join me in saluting Africare for all it has done over the last 35 years and wishing it well as it continues to bring hope and inspiration to millions of people throughout Africa.

TRIBUTE TO MARCH BEING THE
AMERICAN RED CROSS SOUTH-
EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA CHAP-
TER MONTH

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 2006

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge that March is the American Red Cross Month for the Southeastern chapter.

The American Red Cross Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter was officially formed on January 22, 1916, to "carry out a system of national and international relief in times of peace, and apply that system in mitigating the suffering caused by pestilence, famine, fire, floods, and other great national calamities, and to devise and carry out measures for preventing those calamities."

The American Red Cross trained more than 11 million Americans in valuable life-saving skills last year, 64,144 of them right in Philadelphia. Of a population of 4 million, the American Red Cross Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter, responded to 804 local disasters and provided relief services for 1,280 families and a total of 4,012 people. Operating 18 disaster shelters, helped 2,933 military families, and trained 61,822 individuals in Red Cross health and safety courses, and another 24,631 people in the community disaster education. The American Red Cross has housed 367 families whose homes were unexpectedly destroyed by natural disasters.

The American Red Cross has helped collect life-saving blood from 92,587 donors. 175,000 residents across the 5 counties on southeastern Pennsylvania have been a part of this to help their fellow citizens in times of need. The American Red Cross is the place that more than 25,000 people in these 5 counties turned to after the tsunami, and their contributions made it possible from 22,459 Red Cross volunteers from 40 countries to provide help

and hope to 840,000 victims 2 continents away.

One in 5 Americans is touched by the Red Cross every single year. The southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter of the Red Cross promotes economic self-sufficiency and community health through its Nurses Assistant Training program which educated 180 students last year.

I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing March as the American Red Cross Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter month.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND
IDEALS OF NATIONAL MEN-
TORING MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, as co-chair of the Congressional Mentoring Caucus I rise today in strong support for National Mentoring Month.

Millions of individuals across the country serve as mentors to young men and women—encouraging and promoting the development of strong characters and identities for youth who may not have a strong adult presence in their lives.

In my own State of Minnesota, there are over 350 mentoring programs that connect youth with positive role models. One valuable mentoring program is Big Brothers Big Sisters. In the St. Paul/Minneapolis region alone, more than 3,700 children benefit from this mentoring program with the time and energy of more than 3,200 volunteers.

Minnesota is also home to the Mentoring Partnership of Minnesota, which formed in 1994 as a community initiative to promote mentoring for Minnesota youth, particularly those who are at risk and may lack positive role models in their lives.

A mentor can be a friend, a listener, a coach, a tutor, or a confidant. A mentor simply cares enough to be a good listener, and they often open doors to new worlds—offering encouragement and support along the way. Mentoring programs create opportunities and encourage successes that can last a lifetime.

I would like to thank the sponsor of this bill, Mr. OSBORNE from Nebraska, whose cousin—the Honorable Kathleen Vellenga—was a mentor of mine when I served in the Minnesota State House of Representatives.

I encourage all of my colleagues to support this resolution and to look for opportunities to be a mentor themselves.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT WEBB

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 2006

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call your attention to the life and death of a great Tennessean.

Mr. Robert Webb accomplished more good for the people of Southeast Tennessee than many others of greater fame.

Robert Webb was born in Fort Sanders, Tennessee, in 1919. On December 22nd of 2005, he passed away at the age of 86 years. His life's work was spent nurturing Knoxville's educational needs.

Mr. Webb graduated from the renowned Bell Buckle, Tennessee, Webb School founded by his grandfather and former Senator, Robert "Old Sawney" Webb, before earning his bachelor's and master's degree from my alma mater, the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. Between degrees, he served our Country admirably in WWII.

After brief teaching stints at the Bell Buckle School and the Webb School of Claremont, California, Mr. Webb founded Knoxville's Webb School in 1955.

The school started with four boys in the basement of Sequoyah Hills Presbyterian Church. Shortly thereafter, Webb added a Girls' School.

The School stood at the forefront of educational equality when it declared an open-door policy in 1965. Mr. Webb followed this pronouncement with a then-controversial speech in favor of racial integration made to a convention of Southern private-school leaders.

Despite criticism, Mr. Webb persevered to make Knoxville's Webb School one of Tennessee's finest private educational institutions. It currently enrolls over 1,000 students in kindergarten through 12th grade, and all members of its 2005 graduating class were accepted into college.

It is significant to note that Robert Webb chose the following motto for his school: "Leaders, Not Men." This is a telling statement of how he approached service to the community and the Nation, with a willingness to blaze difficult trails so that others could follow.

Throughout his later years, Mr. Webb remained active in the community, leading the establishment of the Museum of East Tennessee History, and fundraising for the historic Bijou Theatre in Knoxville.

It is clear that his contributions to the legacy of private education in the South, and the cultural edification of Knoxville, will not soon be forgotten.

On behalf of the 2nd Congressional District of Tennessee, I express heartfelt condolences for the Webb Family, and great appreciation for the life work of Robert Webb.

I call to the attention of the readers of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD an article written by Judge Bill Swann in the Knoxville News Sentinel that accompanies these remarks.

[From the Knoxville News Sentinel]

ROBERT WEBB: GREAT TEACHERS LIVE ON

(By Bill Swann)

I remember the wonder with which Jerome Taylor and I grasped—it was September 1956, the first week in Mr. Webb's Latin class, my first week at Webb School—that you could actually say a thing some other way than English. It was a transforming moment.

There were a lot of those in my four years at Webb. Some of them were "Aha" moments, like that encounter with my first foreign language. Some of them were fill-the-backpack moments—times you knew you were loading up with information you would always need and use. Some of them were character moments—times when I was a good citizen or a poor citizen and learned the consequences. Coach Sharp had a lot to do with those.

I can still remember the wonder with which I realized that I had landed at a school