

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING THE SLOVAK LEAGUE OF AMERICA ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 54TH CONGRESS IN SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to the Slovak League of America which is celebrating its 54th Congress on March 31 in Scranton, Pennsylvania, an event hosted by the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union.

The Slovak League of America is a civic and cultural federation of Americans of Slovak ancestry that was founded in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1907.

The Slovak League was founded in response to the need to bring the sad political and social plight of the Slovak nation to the attention of all Americans.

Since Slovakia's independence from the Czech Republic in 1993, the Slovak League actively promotes close American-Slovak ties through various cultural and educational exchanges and projects.

As an umbrella organization, it represents the overwhelming majority of organized Americans of Slovak ancestry. The Slovak League remains a positive bridge uniting the old world and the new so that Slovak culture and traditions are better appreciated. Slovak Americans can be very proud of their many contributions to the cultural, educational, business and religious traditions which form the fabric of American life.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Slovak League of America on this auspicious occasion. The determination and commitment of a proud people to celebrate their ethnic heritage and pass on their cultural traditions to new generations enriches the quality of life in this nation for all and should be applauded.

CONGRATULATING MS. CHELSEA COOK

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Chelsea Cooke for being named to the 2006 University Interscholastic League Class 2A All-Tournament team for girl's basketball. Ms. Cook helped lead Argyle to its first state championship in any team sport with the 51-33 victory over Wall in the Texas State Championship Game.

In addition to her valuable teamwork in the state championship game, Cook shined as

she dominated in the semifinal win over Poth, just missing a triple-double with 14 points, 8 rebounds and 8 assists. She then followed that up with seven points, eight rebounds and five assists in the title game.

Chelsea Cook has illustrated her talent and team spirit. She is very deserving to be named as a member of the All-Tournament team.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Ms. Chelsea Cook on receiving this award and praise her dedication to help fellow teammates, her sport, and her school.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MARIANNE BLUM FOR 50 YEARS IN THE NURSING PROFESSION

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Marianne Blum, who, this month, will pass the 50-year mark in her career as a nurse.

Enrolled in grammar school 2 years early and finishing high school a year ahead of her classmates, Marianne entered the Long Island College Hospital School of Nursing at age 16. After graduating in 1956, she began her career at the Manhattan Veterans Hospital, and then moved to Queens General Medical Center to be a surgical staff nurse. There, she met her husband Herbert, an emergency room physician. The two moved to California in the 1980s.

Marianne is known for her compassionate, kind and level headed demeanor. Even in chaotic situations she can be counted on for excellent care. Patients will say that she does everything she can to make sure they are comfortable and keep their dignity and self esteem while being institutionalized.

At the age of 66, Marianne is currently working at Del Mar Gardens Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, a long-term assisted care center in Henderson, NV. Retirement is nowhere in her near future and, at a time when nursing shortages are a nationwide concern, her continued service is greatly appreciated.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Marianne Blum on the floor of the House. She is a fine example of the workforce in Nevada and a good role model for aspiring young women.

A TRIBUTE TO SARAH KEYS EVANS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Sarah Keys Evans, a distin-

guished member of the Brooklyn community. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing her impressive accomplishments.

Sarah Keys Evans was born in rural Washington, NC, in 1929. As the second oldest of seven children, she lived in a small community and is a proud graduate of Mercy Catholic High School. She went on to Perth Amboy, NJ Hospital School of Nursing in 1948, and moved to New York that December. She found a kind home at the Franciscan Handmaids of Mary Convent in Harlem for Career Girls, and remained in New York for 2 years before enlisting in the Women Army Corps in 1951.

Following her honorable discharge as a private first class in 1953, she worked full-time and attended beauty school at night. What followed was a successful 30-year career as a hair stylist, including her ownership of Glamour Nook, Ltd. However, Sarah Keys Evans had no way of knowing that her stand for dignity would lay the foundation for Rosa Parks and the Montgomery, AL, bus boycott.

In August 1952, while traveling home on furlough from the Army in uniform, Sarah Keys Evans was asked to give up her seat on the bus for a white sailor. She refused and was arrested and fined \$25.00 for her actions. Her proud stance led to a 3-year legal battle that culminated in the historic ruling that outlawed segregation in interstate bus travel. In November of 1955, the Interstate Commerce Commission reversed the "separate but equal" policy and ruled that black passengers who paid the same amount for rail and bus fare as white passengers must receive the same service, without being shunted into seats reserved only for Blacks.

Sarah Keys Evans's brave actions resulted in many well-deserved honors. Her contributions to America's civil rights movement brought an award from the New York State Beauty Culture Association and the Martin Luther King, Jr. "Living the Dream Award."

The former Sarah L. Keys married George C. Evans, Jr., a native of Beaumont, TX, in 1958. She has lived in Brooklyn since 1954.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Sarah Keys Evans, as she offers her talents, perseverance and community services for the good of our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, Sarah Keys Evans's selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes her most worthy of our recognition today.

Mr. Speaker, please join our community in honoring Sarah Keys Evans for her dedication and outstanding service to our community.

• 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.

CONGRATULATING THE 2005 PENN HIGH SCHOOL SPELL BOWL TEAM ON WINNING THE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. CHRIS CHOCOLA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. CHOCOLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2005 Penn High School Spell Bowl Team on winning its seventh consecutive Indiana State Championship on November 12, 2005.

This incredible team won all six of its invitational competitions in 2005, as well as eight consecutive regional championships.

The Penn High School Spell Bowl Team has been unbeaten since the beginning of the 1999 season, winning a State-best 44 consecutive competition championships.

The 2005 Penn High School Spell Bowl team members are Carolyn Chang, Jenny DeVito, Linda Huang, Josh Kelver, Kelsey McClure, Calvin Molnar, Jasmyrn Russell, Kurt Vanlandingham, Yeona Chun, Sarah Han, Eunice Jeong, Sarah Kiefer, Adam McGinn, Vik Rao, Courtney Stuck, Justin Villa, Ashika David, Alvin Hu, Virginian Johnson, Alissa Kish, Laura McGinn, Brendan Roberts, Naoko Sugama, and Abby Walton.

The team is coached by Pete De Keever.

Mr. Speaker, this amazing team deserves our admiration, but without the support and help of their parents, these young men and women would not have been able to accomplish these great things, so I stand here to congratulate them as well.

On behalf of the citizens of the Second Congressional District of Indiana, I congratulate the Penn High School Spell Bowl Team on winning the 2005 Indiana State Spell Bowl Championships.

IN HONOR OF THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS, POST 579 OF SS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH OF LAKEWOOD, OHIO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of all members past and present, of the Catholic War Veterans, Post 579, as they commemorate sixty years of unity, honor and steadfast service to our community and to our country.

The members of the Catholic War Veterans, Post 579, reflect a legacy of support and friendship for United States Veterans and their families. Their individual and collective service is framed in honor, integrity, courage and great sacrifice. The Catholic War Veterans, representing all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces, is a brethren of soldiers connected by triumph, tragedy and is held aloft by friendship, faith and community.

Led by Post Commander and WWII Veteran John Sterba, the Catholic War Veterans volun-

teer their time and efforts to ensure that the memory and service of the men and women who served our country, will never be forgotten. Every Memorial Day for the past fifty-four years, nearly 14,000 American Flags mark the graves of veterans laid to rest at Holy Cross Cemetery—a unified community endeavor organized and carried out annually by the Catholic War Veterans and volunteers from local churches.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of the 60th Anniversary of the Catholic War Veterans, Post 579, of SS. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church. Unwavering service and deep sacrifice personifies the duty of our United States Veterans, forever reflecting humankind's innate struggle and quest for peace, justice and resolution—and their individual and collective contribution to our Nation will be remembered for all time.

TRIBUTE TO WILSON HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an extraordinary group of students and their dedicated teacher and mentor. They are one of the American Government classes from Wilson High School and will represent the state of South Carolina in the national We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution Mock Congressional Hearing Competition. That event will be held here in Washington, DC during the month of April. Located in Florence, South Carolina, Wilson High School is one of the outstanding public schools I proudly represent in this body.

These young scholars have worked diligently to reach the national finals and through their experiences have gained profound knowledge and understanding of the fundamental principles and values of our constitutional democracy.

The students are: Jordan Berry, Robert Bonanno, Alyssa Carver, Kevin Cielo, Alexx Diera, Amanda Fan, Jessica Frieson, Carrie Goforth, Meagan Harley, James Howell, David Hubbs, Praveen Jacob, Challis King, Amit Om, Bradley Orr, Louis Palles, Robert Razick, Daniel Schuetz, and Ana Weiland.

In addition, I would like to commend their teacher, Yvonne Rhodes, who deserves much of the credit for the success of the class. This is the third time Mrs. Rhoads has led a team of Wilson High Students to these national competitions. We certainly hope for their continued success. Also worthy of special recognition is Beth DeHart, the state coordinator, and Marsha Burch, the district coordinator, who are among those responsible for implementing the We the People program in my district.

We the People is one of the most extensive educational programs in the country specifically developed to educate young people about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The three-day national competition is modeled after congressional hearings and they consist of oral presentations by the high school stu-

dents before a panel of judges. The students' testimony is followed by a period of questioning by the simulated congressional committee. The judges probe students for their depth of understanding and ability to apply their constitutional knowledge.

Findings suggest that national finalists are less cynical about politics and public officials and participate in politics at a higher rate than do their peers. Administered by the Center for Civic Education, the We the People program has provided curriculum materials at the upper elementary, middle, and high school levels for more than 26.5 million students nationwide. Members of Congress and our staffs enhance the program by discussing current constitutional issues with students and teachers and by participating in other educational activities. As a former high school history teacher, I am pleased to know that this program provides students with a working knowledge of our Constitution, Bill of Rights, and the principles of our democratic government.

The class from Wilson High School is currently conducting research and preparing for the upcoming national competition in Washington, D.C. I wish these young scholars the best of luck at We the People's national finals and I look forward to greeting them when they visit the Capitol.

Mr. Speaker, please join me and my colleagues as we congratulate these young scholars from Wilson High School as they compete in this national civics competition.

RECOGNIZING MURRAY UFBERG AS HE IS HONORED BY THE FRIENDS OF SCOUTING OF THE NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL, BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Attorney Murray Ufberg, of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, who is being honored by the Friends of Scouting of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Council, Boy Scouts of America.

Mr. Ufberg was chosen by the Friends of Scouting for this honor due to his years of community service and civic leadership.

Mr. Ufberg is the managing partner of the law firm of Rosenn, Jenkins and Greenwald, L.L.P. He currently serves on the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Independent Regulatory Review Commission.

He is a member of the board of trustees of College Misericordia, the board of directors of WVIA-TV/FM and he serves as the chairman of the Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of Greater Wilkes-Barre.

Mr. Ufberg also serves on the boards of directors of the Jewish Federation, the Jewish Community Center of Wyoming Valley and Penn's Northeast, Inc. He is a member of the Luzerne County Advisory Committee to the Pennsylvania Economy League and of the Keystone College President's Advisory Council.

Mr. Ufberg has served as chairman of the United Way of Wyoming Valley's General Campaign in 1990 and he served on and chaired the board of directors of the United Way. He is a past chairman of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business and Industry and he chaired the Luzerne County Business Roundtable.

He is past president of Congregation Ohav Zedek, the Jewish Community Center and the Jewish Federation of Greater Wilkes-Barre. He also served as president of the Seligman J. Strauss Lodge and he was past president of the Duquesne University School of Law Alumni Association of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Mr. Ufberg has been a practicing attorney in the Wyoming Valley for 37 years. He is admitted to practice law before the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, the Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas and various federal courts. He is a member of the Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association and the Pennsylvania and American Bar Associations. He graduated from Wyoming Seminary and received degrees from Bucknell University and the Duquesne University School of Law.

Mr. Ufberg resides in Kingston, Pennsylvania, with his wife, Margery Ann. They are the parents of three children.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Ufberg on this auspicious occasion. His commitment to community service has helped improve the quality of life in the greater Wyoming Valley and it is fitting that the Northeastern Pennsylvania Council, Boy Scouts of America, recognizes his contributions.

CONGRATULATING MS. ALLY
CLARDY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Ally Clardy for being named to the 2006 University Interscholastic League Class 2A All-Tournament team for girl's basketball. Ms. Clardy helped lead Argyle to its first state championship in any team sport with the 51-33 victory over Wall in the Texas State Championship Game.

In addition to being an outstanding team member, Ms. Clardy was selected the tournament's "Most Valuable Player" honor by scoring 20 points in the Texas State Championship Game. She also contributed 14 points in the state semifinal game.

Ally Clardy has illustrated her talent and team spirit. She is very deserving to be named as a member of the All-Tournament team.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Ms. Ally Clardy on receiving this award and praise her dedication to help fellow teammates, her sport, and her school.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
OTHMAN SHEMISA, M.D.

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Othman Shemisa,

MD., Ph.D, for his dedication and concern for families and individuals in need, here in Cleveland and miles beyond.

Dr. Shemisa was recently honored by the Islamic Center of Cleveland for his volunteer efforts in assisting the victims of Hurricane Katrina. Last September, Dr. Shemisa traveled to New Orleans, where he lived for more than a month, volunteering his time and medical expertise to heal the women, men and children who had been left injured or sick in the wake of the devastating storm.

Dr. Shemisa's professional excellence, integrity and contribution is reflected throughout his family medical practice, as well as within the research and academic community, where he has served as professor, lecturer and researcher. Moreover, Dr. Shemisa's unwavering focus on assisting the most vulnerable members of our society—our poor and disenfranchised citizens, has uplifted the lives of countless families and individuals throughout the Cleveland area. His focus on outreach and advocacy is clearly evidenced throughout Cleveland's Arab American community, where he is an active member and leader.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Dr. Othman Shemisa, whose willingness to help those in need and sincere concern for others reflects America's greatest legacy—our generous and compassionate citizenry. Dr. Shemisa's medical expertise, energy and efforts in giving back to the community serves to strengthen the very foundation that unifies our Cleveland community, reflecting hope for a better tomorrow for each and every one of us.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BILL BOYD

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bill Boyd who died on December 21, 2005. Bill will be remembered for his contributions to the Southern Nevada Officials Association as a baseball umpire and to the youth of Henderson and Las Vegas as a mentor and friend.

Bill began his career as an umpire in San Diego, where he was president and instructional chair-person of the Baseball Umpires Association from 1986 to 1993. He was also a football coach at three different high schools in the San Diego area. His most famed pupil was current NFL player John Lynch, whom he coached at Torrey Pines High School in Del Mar, California. In 1995, Bill moved with his family to Henderson and began serving as an umpire. He umpired Division I collegiate baseball in the Mountain West conference and the Western Athletic Conference, and was an alternate umpire for the Las Vegas 51s.

Youth Baseball, however, was his passion. Bill could be seen at almost every youth play-off game or tournament in the area. He umpired at the American Legion World Series and many other youth sporting events, including football around the Las Vegas Valley. He cared for everyone around him and showed it through his dedicated service and good example, on and off the field.

Mr. Speaker, today, as I stand on the floor of the House, I am honored for the opportunity

to pay tribute to Bill Boyd and the great life that he lived.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. SHEILA
TOMLIN-REID

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I ask today that we recognize Dr. Sheila Tomlin-Reid, a distinguished member of the Brooklyn community. I am honored to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing her impressive accomplishments.

Dr. Sheila Tomlin-Reid excelled in her education earning both a Masters of Science Degree in School Administration, Supervision and Leadership from Touro College School of Education and Psychology in New York City and a Masters of Science Degree and Advanced Post Graduate certificate in Guidance and Counseling from Brooklyn College of the City University of New York. In addition, she received a Doctorate in Education from Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Dr. Sheila Tomlin-Reid has worked with energy and dedication for many years as an Assistant Principal with the Department of Education at FDNY High School for Fire and Life Safety. Her passion and concern for New York's youth inspired her to found The Tomlin Foundation in 2003. Dr. Reid, who is currently CEO of the foundation, established the foundation to commemorate the life and visions of Elliott and Michael Tomlin. The foundation strives to provide educational scholarships to inner-city youth, which financially assists their goals and educational pursuits. The foundation also provides mentorship programs and health awareness programs to inner-city children and community residents.

Dr. Reid is an active member of the community, especially in the area of health and wellness of women. Dr. Reid is a member of the Professional Women's Speaker Bureau which specializes in seminars, workshops and counseling designed to motivate women to increase self-esteem, personal and professional development, business etiquette and leadership skills. She is also a member of the Women's Caucus of Edolphus Towns Organization and a member of Calvary U.F.W Baptist Church in Brooklyn.

Dr. Sheila Tomlin-Reid is a phenomenal role model to not only the women of our community, but to our community as a whole. She has worked to better the lives of women and young children with contagious persistence. Her passionate and sensitivity deserves our thanks and for that I ask that we applaud Dr. Reid's outstanding achievements in our community.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Dr. Sheila Tomlin-Reid, as she offers her talents and community services for the good of our local communities.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Sheila Tomlin-Reid selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes her most worthy of our recognition today.

Mr. Speaker, please join our community in honoring Dr. Sheila Tomlin-Reid for her dedication and outstanding service to our community.

CONGRATULATING THE JIMTOWN
JIMMIES ON WINNING THE INDIANA
CLASS 2A FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. CHRIS CHOCOLA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. CHOCOLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Jimtown Jimmies on winning the Indiana Class 2A Football Championship.

The Jimmies scored 31.1 points per game, allowing their opponents only 6.7. They averaged 12.7 first downs per game, and 293.7 yards. Their strong showing on both sides of the ball led them to a 14-1 season record.

It was truly a remarkable season for Jimtown. Their 14-win season included six shutouts, and in 11 of those victories, they held their opponent to 10 points or less.

Their season culminated in the Class 2A state championship game on November 26, 2005, at the RCA Dome in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Deadlocked at seven points with the North Posey Vikings at halftime, the Jimtown Jimmies went on to score 28 second-half points, while holding their opponents to zero, and won the game 35-7.

I'd like to congratulate everyone involved in making this season successful: Their school Superintendent Jerry Cook, Principal Nathan Dean; Assistant Principal Mitch Mawhorter; Athletic Director Bill Sharpe; Head Coach Bill Sharpe; Assistant Coaches: Ned Cook, Gene Johnson, Mark Ward, Mark Kern, Scott Bovenkerk, David Sharpe, Matt LaFree, Mike Hosinski, David Pontius, Travis Daniels, Athletic Trainer Rick Yurko; Student Managers: Julia Politowics, Nicole Hayes, and Ricky Hayes.

The Indiana Class 2A Football Champs are: Caleb Pettis, Matthew Yurko, Zachary Fisher, Zachary DuBois, Colton Vincent, Adam Sharpe, Mark Svetanoff, John Soli, Tyler Nine, Mike Meyer, Joshua Ruben, Tony Byers, Brandon Kozelka, Brian DeShone, Joshua Deak, Tyler Forgey, Garrett Kavas, Mark Clere, Tyler Spurgeon, Ryan Konrath, David Schenk, Nate Klosinski, Lantz Kulp, Zach Spurgeon, Ross Bauman, Allen Konrath, Nick Maygar, Braxton Metcalf, Jason Sharp, Owen Peterkin, Jared Ward, Chris Vogel, Logan Frye, Josh Polston, Brett Horien, Scott Kindig, Travis Barber, J.J. Short, Seth Anglemeyer, Brad McClellan, Robert Morris, Josh Slocum, Anthony Lowe, Steve Thayer, Brandtley Miller, Kyle Clodfelter, Adam Zimmer, Nick Pooler, Jordan Pirtle, Ty Thomsen, Shazzar Mack, Chris Gregory, Rob George, Jesse Bowen, Andrew Allman, Leon Myrick, James Byers, Chris Reid, Eric Vance, Adrian Worsham, Seth Kindig, Ryan Johnson, Graig Armstrong, Tristin Funnell, Justin Nowak, Ron Shekell, Brandon Riffle, Robert Reid, Rich Hahn, Brandon Bridwell, Ethan Legg, Matt Peters, Zach Stone, Kevin Kelley, Jon Shafer, John Dickson, Derek Willard, Anthony Edwards, Dalton Swann, Austin Pirtle, Elijah Tucker, Matt Pepple, Trevor Herrli, David Johnson, Kyle Moyer, and Derek Watts.

Mr. Speaker, as a parent myself, I would be remiss if I did not congratulate the parents of these young men as well. Their support was vital to the victory of this team and they deserve our gratitude as well.

Again, on behalf of their parents, fans, and classmates as well as the very proud citizens of the Second Congressional District of Indiana, I would like to congratulate the Jimtown Jimmies on winning the Indiana Class 2A Football Championship.

TRIBUTE TO ORANGEBURG
COUNTY

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Orangeburg County, South Carolina upon their receipt of the All-America County Award. This award, the oldest and most prestigious civic award in existence, recognizes communities for their outstanding problem solving efforts through local collaboration. It gives me great pleasure to acknowledge their tremendous achievement.

I would also like to applaud the efforts of the local leaders that have worked so hard and accomplished so much. They include the Orangeburg County Council: John H. Rickenbacker, Harry F. Wimberly, Clyde B. Livingston, Heyward H. Livingston, Johnny Ravenell, and Johnnie Wright, Sr.; the Orangeburg County Administrator: Bill Clark; and the Orangeburg County Development Commission: B. Jeannine Kees, George R. Dean, Joey A. Williamson, Jr., E. J. Ayers, Willie R. Cantey, Barron Driskell, James C. Hunter, Jr., Ken Middleton, Marion F. Moore, Harry Nesmith, Alva Whetsell, Jr., and C. Gregory Robinson.

Community pride has spurred many of the creative ideas leading to Orangeburg County's All-America County Award. This honor is a testament to business, government, and education communities working together for the good of the whole. These partnerships can be seen throughout the county. With this cooperative approach by the entire "county community," improvements have been made to the quality of life for all citizens in the County of Orangeburg. Inventive initiatives have been implemented in the following areas: community development and revitalization, creative funding for public infrastructure, and improvement of the lives of "at-risk" children.

Revitalization and community development have also been achieved in all 17 municipalities. This economic development achievement reflects 100 percent participation of local areas, including the following: Orangeburg, Livingston, North, Neeses, Woodford, Norway, Branchville, Santee, Rowesville, Springfield, Holly Hill, Eutawville, Bowman, Cordova, Cope, Vance, and Ellore.

Funding through the Penny Sales Tax Capital Project has provided critical infrastructure investment in road construction, water and wastewater facilities, and other important areas such as parks and recreational projects. The original penny tax in 1998 funded 116 projects across the county, totaling \$53 million in investment. The renewal in 2004 provides investment funds for 108 projects totaling \$71 million.

Creative youth and outreach projects such as Healing Species, a 3rd grade curriculum, which uses neglected and abused dogs in crime prevention seminars, have improved the lives of "at-risk" children county-wide. Created by Orangeburg County, the program is now being replicated nationally. The Youth Enhancement Summit is another successful community collaboration. Partnering with the County, South Carolina State University, and the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice, the initiative brings children's service agencies across the entire county together to improve their overall effectiveness.

Additionally, Orangeburg County's Community of Character effort is a collaborative initiative to partner with all segments of the community such as education, business, industry, family, faith, government, media, and civic. It establishes a community culture that encourages, recognizes, and rewards good character. Orangeburg County is one of only two counties in South Carolina, and 28 counties nationwide who have passed character resolutions.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in commending Orangeburg County for its well-deserved distinction as All-America County. Orangeburg County continues to make great strides in education, economic growth, and community development. Its dedicated citizens work everyday to create new promise. I am proud to represent them in this body and of their hard work and vision.

RECOGNIZING THOMAS KARAM AS
HE IS HONORED BY THE
FRIENDS OF SCOUTING OF THE
NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA
COUNCIL, BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Mr. Thomas F. Karam, of Waverly, Pennsylvania, who is being honored by the Friends of Scouting of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Council, Boy Scouts of America.

Mr. Karam was chosen for this accolade due to his business accomplishments and his community service.

Mr. Karam is recently retired from Southern Union Company, where he served from 2001 to 2005 as president and chief operating officer.

He previously served as executive vice president of corporate development for the company and president and CEO of its PG Energy Division.

Mr. Karam had also been president and CEO of Pennsylvania Enterprises, Inc., from 1996 until 1999, when it was acquired by Southern Union. From September, 1995, to August, 1996, he served as executive vice president of Pennsylvania Enterprises.

Before joining Pennsylvania Enterprises and then Southern Union, from 1986 to 1995, Mr. Karam developed a strong background in finance and investment banking as vice president of investment banking at Legg Mason, Inc., Baltimore. From 1984 to 1986, he served

as vice president of investment banking for Thomson McKinnon, New York City.

Mr. Karam earned bachelor of science degrees in political science and accounting from the University of Scranton. He serves on the board of trustees of the University of Scranton. He also serves on the executive committee of the board of directors of Team Pennsylvania and on the board of directors of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Northeast Pennsylvania.

Mr. Karam and his wife, Flora Keating Karam, reside in Waverly, Pennsylvania. They are the parents of two children.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Karam on the occasion of this honor. His leadership and commitment to service is an inspiration to the entire community and his recognition by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Council, Boy Scouts of America is well deserved.

IN MEMORY OF MR. JOSEPH "JOE"
BLAIR, JR.

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give tribute to Mr. Joseph "Joe" Blair, Jr., from Everman, Texas in the 26th Congressional District of Texas, for his lifelong contributions to his community. Mr. Blair was a founder of the Wildcat Sportsman Club, which is dedicated to helping Dunbar High School student athletes. Mr. Blair died on February 21, 2006 at the age of 66.

I would like to recognize and celebrate Joseph Blair's life. Born and raised in Stop Six, Mr. Blair was a long time resident of Everman. After graduating from Prairie View A&M University he became a local businessman and was owner of Hipper-Throne Shoe Repair Service. In addition to his professional career, he was an active member of Allen Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church and participated on the Fort Worth school district's redistricting committee. Throughout his life he was passionate about bettering his community.

Through the Wildcat Sportsman Club, Mr. Blair was able to mentor local students. Joe was proud of Dunbar High School, and he wanted the students there to know they were capable of achieving great things. In an effort to spread this message of encouragement to college students, he regularly planned trips to Prairie View A&M with fellow alumni to discuss the importance of continuing their education.

Joe Blair has been honored by receiving a proclamation from the Fort Worth City Council for his many years of community service, and today, I extend my sympathies to his family and friends on his passing.

The compassion shown by Mr. Joseph Blair is truly remarkable, and he should serve as an example to all. Such a man can never be replaced and will be dearly missed.

IN HONOR OF JAMES "JIMMY"
DEANE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Jimmy Deane, as he is named the Irish Good Person of the Year by the Irish Good Fellowship Club of Cleveland, Ohio. Mr. Deane's lifelong leadership and advocacy on behalf of worker's rights has served to empower countless individuals and families throughout our labor community.

With the promise of honest work and hope for a new beginning, Mr. Deane journeyed to America from Ireland in 1962. He began work as a laborer in the construction trades and became a member of the union in 1962. In 1991, he was appointed to the position of Field Representative, and in 1995, he accepted the appointment of Business Manager. Throughout his union tenure, Mr. Deane remained focused on workers' rights, benefits, and safety. As a result of his concern, expertise and leadership, Laborers' Union, Local 310 reflected fiscal responsibility, integrity and effectiveness in representing and protecting its members.

Mr. Deane's activism extends throughout our local labor and political landscapes. He is a member of the Laborers District Council of Ohio, an Executive Board Trustee of the Ohio Laborers Training Fund, and has also served as delegate to the AFL-CIO. Though his Irish homeland lives forever in his heart, Mr. Deane wholly embraced all that is America. His activism within our democratic processes and support of local candidates continues to strengthen our community and illuminates the core foundation of America—a union of workers who fight for equal representation, protection and justice for all.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor, gratitude and recognition of my good friend, Mr. Jimmy Deane, as he is rightfully named the Irish Good Person of the Year. Mr. Deane's integrity, conviction, and exceptional ability to bring people and ideas together for the common good, has served to raise the bar on all levels within the union, the workplace, and within our community. I wish Jimmy Deane and his entire family an abundance of health, peace and happiness, today and always.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BOULDER
CITY, NEVADA

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Boulder City, Nevada, which celebrates its seventy-fifth anniversary on March 11, 2006.

Boulder City is a unique community located in southern Nevada, with a population of approximately 15,000 people. The City was created by the Federal Government to provide homes for those who built Hoover Dam. In April 1931, the Boulder City Company was organized to manage the town of Boulder City for the Government, and the majority of the

town was ready for occupancy by the end of that same year.

Constructed during the Great Depression, Boulder City was designed to be a model city to which Americans could look to in hope of a better future. In order to accommodate more than 5,000 men and their families in Boulder City, Six Companies built housing for employees, a department store, a post office, a laundry, a recreation hall, a school, and a hospital. For a mere \$1.60 per day, the workers received a private room with a bed, mattress, pillow, bedding, chair, meals, and transportation to work.

Life during construction of Hoover Dam was not easy. Temperatures would often reach more than 115 degrees during the day and only fall to 95 degrees at night. The heat was so intense that groups of people would huddle beneath the shadows or stand in the river in an effort to keep cool. During the summer of 1933, one worker every two days died due to heat prostration.

Although the population of Boulder City declined following the completion of Hoover Dam, it did not become a ghost town as many predicted. October 1, 1959, Boulder City was incorporated under Nevada law, and it was officially separated from the U.S. Government. There was some opposition to the separation of Boulder City from the Government and concerns that the policies prohibiting gambling and hard liquor sales would be overturned. The leaders of Boulder City elected to continue the conservative restrictions set by the Government during the construction of Hoover Dam. Boulder City today is the only town in Nevada that does not allow gambling establishments within its City limits.

Today, Boulder City is a place where you can enjoy numerous outdoor activities. Consider climbing the river mountain trail with its breathtaking view of Lake Mead and Las Vegas. The world-renown Bootleg Canyon Trail is located in Boulder City. It has cross country trails and downhill trails used primarily by bicyclists, but also enjoyed by hikers. Boulder City's newest recreational project is the Bootleg Canyon Park. This area is currently being developed for various desert preserves and gardens, with walking trails throughout the park. Boulder City treasures its valuable assets and its uniqueness. It will continue to maintain and embellish its resources, both natural and man-made, to ensure future generations will benefit from its numerous outdoor activities, its recreational areas and parks, its walkable areas, and its open spaces.

Mr. Speaker, It is an honor to recognize Boulder City and its accomplishments in Nevada's history. It was built as a model for all American cities and continues to give hope for a better future.

A TRIBUTE TO ESTER E.
WATERMAN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ester E. Waterman, a distinguished member of the Brooklyn community. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope my colleagues will join me

in recognizing her impressive accomplishments.

Ester E. Waterman is the daughter of Joseph and Mavis Waterman. Ms. Waterman was born in Trinidad, West Indies and spent her childhood in San Fernando, Trinidad. In 1970, Ms. Waterman migrated to the United States where she attended Erasmus Hall High School. Upon high school graduation, Ms. Waterman was accepted to New York University. A tireless and devoted undergraduate, Ms. Waterman worked her way through college and graduated with a degree in Computer Science. Her professional experience includes American Express, Alexander & Alexander Benefit Services and AON Consulting Company.

Today, Ester E. Waterman is an active community resident of Brooklyn, New York and an inspiration to those around her. She is deeply committed to her love for children and learning. In 1998, Ms. Waterman fulfilled her community's need for a childcare service when she established "Loving Arms Learning Day Care Center."

Community members and leaders alike have praised Ms. Waterman's work. In 2002, The Caribbean American International Child Care Network Inc. & United Family Services Inc. recognized Ms. Waterman for her work and dedication to children. In 2004, New York City Councilmember Leroy Comrie awarded Ms. Waterman with the New York City Council Citation for Child Care and in 2005, New York State Assemblyman Nick Perry presented her with the New York State Assembly Certificate of Merit.

Ms. Waterman continues to dedicate her time to the people and children of Brooklyn. She has truly made a strong positive impact on the community and for that I ask that we recognize and give thanks to Ester E. Waterman for her wonderful contribution to our community.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Ester E. Waterman, as she offers her talents and community services for the good of our local communities.

Mr. Speaker, Ester E. Waterman selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes her most worthy of our recognition today.

Mr. Speaker, please join our community in honoring Ester E. Waterman for her dedication and outstanding service to our community.

CONGRATULATING ROBERT COLLINS AS HE IS NAMED "MAN OF THE YEAR" BY THE PITTSBURGH FRIENDLY SONS OF SAINT PATRICK

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Robert P. Collins, of Wyoming, Pennsylvania, who is being honored by the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick of Greater Pittsburgh as their "Man of the Year" for 2006.

Raised in the city of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, he attended St. Mary's High School in

Wilkes-Barre. He also attended St. Joseph's Seminary in Callicoon, New York. He is a member of the Third Order of St. Francis.

Mr. Collins served with the United States Army during the Korean War and has been the president of the United States Army 306th Field Hospital Association for the past 20 years.

He is a life member of the Disabled American Veterans, Kingston Post 102, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Wyoming Post 396. He is a past commander of American Legion Post 670 and the Korean Veterans Association of the Wyoming Valley.

Mr. Collins is a member of St. Joseph's Church in Wyoming where he has served as a lector and altar server. He is a life member of the Knights of Columbus Council 302, Wilkes-Barre, and Bishop Hafey Assembly Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus.

Mr. Collins is a life member of the Wyoming Hose Company, No. 1, and is a former school board member of the Wyoming Area School District.

Mr. Collins is a past president of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, Avoca Division, the Northeastern Pennsylvania Emerald Society and the Donegal Society of Wilkes-Barre.

Mr. Collins was a member of the Governor's Committee on the Handicapped, having served three Pennsylvania Governors. He was also a member of the White House Committee on the Handicapped, having served three Presidents.

Mr. Collins was assistant to the President of Nelson Manufacturing Company for seven years and has been affiliated with the Metcalf and Shaver Funeral Home for 36 years.

Married to the late Mary Eicke Collins of Wyoming, they had three children.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Collins on the occasion of this honor. Mr. Collins epitomizes what it means to be a community servant. The countless hours he has spent supporting worthy causes and projects has improved the quality of life in the greater Wyoming Valley immensely.

CONGRATULATING MR. MIKE TRIMBLE

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mike Trimble of the Denton Record-Chronicle for winning the Distinguished Writing Award for Editorials from the American Society of Newspaper Editors.

The American Society of Newspaper Editors is the principal organization of American newspaper editors and annual awards for distinguished individuals in various categories of writing and photography are given. This year, the awards will be presented on April 27th during ASNE's convention in Seattle.

Mr. Trimble, who is described by coworker Donna Fielder as having "a down-home, Mark Twain kind of way that is always engaging and sometimes mind-boggling," was chosen in the category of Editorial Writing from a contest that attracted almost 600 entries this year. Trimble is often described as a man who "inspires people to laugh, to cry, to think and to protest."

The Denton Record Chronicle is my hometown paper and since coming to Congress, I have frequently worked with Mike Trimble. His writing is both informative and fair, and I commend Mike for the integrity and honesty of his writings over the years. I look forward to many more years of excellent journalism.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Mr. Mike Trimble on receiving the ASNE Distinguished Writing Award and commend his dedication and desire to help educate our local community through quality writing.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SONJA AND MIKE SALTMAN

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sonja and Mike Saltman for their contributions to the communities of southern Nevada and their humanitarian efforts worldwide. On Saturday, March 11, 2006 they will be presented with the David L. Simon Bridge Builder for Peace Award during the Champions of Freedom Dinner Gala at the Venetian Resort Hotel Casino.

Mike Saltman is President of The Vista Group, a developer and manager of office, retail, industrial and housing projects in Nevada, California, Florida and Utah. He is a partner with FFL Partners, Bounty Hunter, LLC, VMA California, LLC, a Director of US Bank's Advisory Board in Las Vegas, and practiced as a private attorney in Munich, Germany, in the 1970s. While in Munich, he also held the post of Corporate Counsel and Director of International Operations for Shareholders Capital Corporation. Additionally, Mike served as Staff Counsel, IOS in London and Geneva. Mike Saltman's community activities include membership in the Urban Land Institute, Nevada Development Authority Board of Trustees, National Home Builders Association, the Clean Air Action Plan Task Force and the World Presidents' Organization. He is a member of the Young Presidents Association and a board member of the Nevada Dance Theatre, the Las Vegas Symphony, KNPR—Nevada Public Radio and The Nevada Institute of Contemporary Arts.

Sonja Saltman earned her master's degree in psychology from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in 1980, is a Co-Founder and board member of the Existential Humanistic Institute, which seeks therapeutic methods for dealing with psychological problems, and is the only non-Jewish member of the Anti-Defamation League. Sonja is an Emerald Lion of Judah, has served on the Women's Division Board and currently serves on the Women's Philanthropy Executive Council of The United Jewish Community.

In 2003, Sonja and Mike co-founded the Saltman Center for Conflict Resolution at UNLV's William S. Boyd School of Law. The Saltman Center has already undertaken significant efforts related to teaching, scholarship and public service. Sonja and Mike also support several UNLV academic programs through the President's Inner Circle Giving Club and a graduation award in the College of Liberal Arts.

Not only interested in the local area, Sonja and Mike have devoted their lives to many

causes around the world. In 1967, Mike set up several companies in Israel to help put the country on the fast track to success. In Bosnia, Sonja and Mike have done incredible work. Undeterred by the front line proximity to the fighting, they buy and rebuild damaged homes in the ravaged country to provide shelter for those who are most needy. Mike actually strapped on his tool belt and grabbed a hammer to help. This is a man of great determination who is unable to sit by and watch his dream being built by others. They also provide food and other basic needs to grateful Bosnians.

While working with a group that brings humanitarian aid to all walks of life in Bosnia, Mike came across a family who had to wade across a river in order to rebuild their home on the other side. Efforts to rebuild the bridge had been thwarted by conflicts with Serbs in the area. Mike offered his finances and services and the bridge was built. Several families have used the bridge to help rebuild their homes.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Sonja and Mike Saltman on the floor of the House today. Through their promotion of peace, understanding and compassion throughout the world, they have built many bridges, traversing great spans that bring people, ideas and dreams together.

IN HONOR OF JUSTICE ADRIAN HARDIMAN OF THE SUPREME COURT OF IRELAND AND JUSTICE YVONNE MURPHY OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF IRELAND

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor, welcome and recognition of Justice Adrian Hardiman of the Supreme Court of Ireland and Justice Yvonne Murphy of the Circuit Court of Ireland—united in marriage and also in their quest for truth and justice—and I welcome them both to Cleveland, Ohio, on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, 2006.

For the past twenty-seven years, Tim Collins and Thomas Scanlon have organized the St. Patrick's Day Party and Parade, a joyous event that brings people together in the heart of Cleveland and is one that promotes and preserves the treasured traditions of their beloved Irish homeland. Once again, Euclid Avenue will spring to life as a sea of green and the spirited sound of drums and bagpipes begin their march along our city streets. This enchanted day promises old friendships renewed, the discovery of new ones, and serves as a living bridge that transcends space and time, connecting the north coast of Cleveland to the shores of the Emerald Isle.

Justice Adrian Hardiman was born in Dublin and was called to the Bar in 1974, the Inner Bar as Senior Counsel in 1989, and was appointed to the Supreme Court in 2000. Justice Hardiman continues to be actively involved in social issues in Ireland. He speaks fluent Irish and is an advocate within the Court on behalf of the rights of those who speak native Irish. In 1974, Justice Hardiman married Justice Yvonne Murphy, judge of the Circuit Court of Ireland. They have three sons. Justice Murphy was born in Donegal and was a practicing bar-

rist in County Donegal until being appointed as Judge of the Circuit Court in 1998. She has worked as a journalist in both print and radio mediums and is the author of several books, including "Journalism and the Law" and "Insider Dealing". Justice Murphy is chairwoman of the Irish Association of Women Judges.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor of the Honorable Justice Adrian Hardiman and the Honorable Justice Yvonne Murphy, for joining us in Cleveland as we celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Please also join me in recognition of Tim Collins and Thomas Scanlon for organizing this wondrous St. Patrick's Day party this year, as they have for the past 27 years. "Ni dheanfaidh smaoinéamh an treabhadh duit—You'll never plough a field by turning it over in your mind"—Old Irish Proverb.

RECOGNIZING WILLIAM ANZALONE AS HE RECEIVES THE SWINGLE AWARD FROM THE PITTSBURGH FRIENDLY SONS OF SAINT PATRICK

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my good friend Attorney William Anzalone of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, who is being honored by the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick of Greater Pittston as the recipient of their annual Swingle Award.

Mr. Anzalone owns and operates Anzalone Law Offices, a personal injury trial practice with offices in Wilkes-Barre, Scranton and Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania.

A past president of the Luzerne County Bar Association, the Northeastern Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers Association and the Luzerne County Bar Charitable Foundation, he has received certification by the National Board of Trial Advocacy and the American Board of Trial Advocates.

Attorney Anzalone has been chosen by his peers for the title of "Super Lawyer" for the past three years, a distinction that places him in the top five percent of practicing lawyers in Pennsylvania.

Bill has served numerous civic organizations. He is a past president of the Wilkes-Barre Chapter of UNICO, having chaired its annual football game for several years. He currently serves as chairman of UNICO's gift committee.

He is a past member of the board of directors of the St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen, the Lackawanna Junior College, the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business and Industry and Leadership Wilkes-Barre.

In 2005, he was inducted into the Luzerne County Sports Hall of Fame due to his performance as a defensive back on Temple University's football team.

Bill is married to the former Tina Medico and they are the parents of three beautiful children.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Attorney Anzalone on this auspicious occasion. Attorney Anzalone's contributions to his community speak for themselves. His commitment to service is an inspiration to all.

CONGRATULATING THE DALLAS/FORT WORTH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate The Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport for being named the best cargo airport in the world by Air Cargo World magazine.

Based on an evaluation by survey participants, the winner is chosen from the categories of performance, value, facilities and operations. The survey was announced in Air Cargo World in the March 6th issue.

The Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport soared above tough competition in order to earn the title of "World's Best Cargo Airport." Not only has the airport been experiencing impressive growth this past year, they have also done so while maintaining excellence as a top priority.

As a representative of part of the DFW Airport, and a frequent traveler between DFW and Washington Reagan, I am grateful to know that they have earned such a wonderful distinction of excellence.

I extend my sincere congratulations to the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport and its CEO Jeff Fegan, for their demand for quality and merit, as well as their integral role in securing our citizens.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO AMERICAN LEGION BOULDER CITY POST 31

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor American Legion Boulder City Post 31 which celebrates its 87th birthday this month.

American Legion Boulder City Post 31 was organized October 12, 1931 by WWI Veterans working on the Hoover Dam project, with a charter membership of over 400. The permanent charter was granted March 28, 1932.

After being without their own building for several years, the members decided to construct a permanent home for Post 31. They made extensive use of volunteer labor, including many recently discharged WWII Veterans, and used surplus building materials obtained from a number of government agencies. The building was completed in 1948 and has been the home of Post 31 since that time. Activities held in the new building, such as movies and dances with live bands, constituted some of the first entertainment in Boulder City.

One of the most popular events put on by Post 31 is the well-known Fourth of July celebration and parade known as the "Damboree." A symbol of the service to and involvement with the community, the parade is still popular, with the American Legion Post 31 Color Guard leading the event every year.

Post 31 continues to give dedicated service the community and the military. They reinitiated the blue star program used in the Second World War so that families may show a banner in their windows when they have someone

in the active military. When conflicts began in Iraq and Afghanistan, Post 31 had beautiful metal signs made to display names of members of the military from Boulder City that are on active duty. These signs are on every light pole along Veterans Memorial Drive in Boulder City. Each month Post 31 collects used ink cartridges and old cell phones to raise money that goes toward the American Legion Legacy Fund, which helps educate children of members of the military who lost their lives during the present conflict in the Middle East.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize American Legion Boulder City Post 31 on the floor of the House today. I congratulate them for 87 years of contributions to the veterans and citizens of southern Nevada and thank them for their continued service.

CONGRATULATING JUDGE MARK CIAVARELLA, JR. AS HE IS NAMED "MAN OF THE YEAR" BY THE WILKES-BARRE FRIENDLY SONS OF SAINT PATRICK

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas Judge Mark A. Ciavarella, Jr., who is being honored by the Wilkes-Barre Friendly Sons of St. Patrick as their 2006 "Man of the Year."

A son of Mary Cunningham Ciavarella and the late Mark A. Ciavarella, Sr., Judge Ciavarella was born and raised in the East End section of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

Following his graduation from St. Mary's High School, he earned his Bachelor of Arts degree with honors in history/government and pre-law from King's College. While at King's he attained membership in the Aquinas Honor Society.

He was awarded his Juris Doctorate degree from Duquesne University School of Law in 1975. While at Duquesne, he was inducted into the Order of Barristers, which is an organization that recognizes individuals who have attained outstanding achievement in appellate advocacy.

From 1975 until 1995, Judge Ciavarella maintained a private law practice in the City of Wilkes-Barre. He was a partner in the law firm of Lowery, Ciavarella and Rogers.

From 1976 until 1978, he served as solicitor for the City of Wilkes-Barre and from 1978 until December 31, 1995 he served as solicitor for the Wilkes-Barre City Zoning Hearing Board.

In November of 1995, he was elected to the Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas and in November 2005, he was retained by the voters of Luzerne County for another 10-year term.

Judge Ciavarella was formerly a member of Wilkes-Barre Police Civil Service Commission; the pastoral council and finance committee of St. Therese's Church in Wilkes-Barre; Scranton Catholic Diocesan School Board; United Rehabilitation Services, Inc.; Wilkes-Barre Area School District Long Range Planning Committee; Wyoming Valley Catholic Youth Center Girls Co-Swim Coach and a member

of the board of directors of the Luzerne County Association for Retarded Citizens.

He also served as chairman of the Wyoming Valley Catholic Youth Center's Board of Directors and he was an assistant little league coach.

Judge Ciavarella is currently a member of the Wyoming Valley Catholic Youth Center's Board of Directors and the Wilkes-Barre Chapter of UNICO.

In addition to his duties handling criminal and civil judicial matters, he also serves as Luzerne County Juvenile Court Judge.

Judge Ciavarella is married to the former Cindy Baer. The couple has three children.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Judge Ciavarella on the occasion of this fine honor. Judge Ciavarella has served his community well both on the bench of the Luzerne County Court and in the many leadership roles he has undertaken with numerous civic organizations. The quality of life in the greater Wyoming Valley is made better due to the works of people like Judge Mark Ciavarella.

TRIBUTE TO SHANNON ALLEN

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Shannon Allen for her heroic actions Wednesday, January 25, 2006 at Rayburn Elementary School in McAllen, Texas.

At approximately 2:00 pm on Wednesday, an intruder entered the Rayburn Elementary School where Mrs. Allen is the Principal. Maria Tovar, the academic coordinator, escorted the intruder to the administrative office for failure to have a school identification card. Mrs. Tovar discovered the intruder was carrying a handgun and instructed him to place the weapon in a nearby waste basket. Mrs. Allen was informed of the situation and initiated a lock down of the entire school via code over the intercom. When Mrs. Allen approached the intruder he became agitated and attempted to reach for the loaded and cocked handgun in the waste basket. Mrs. Allen, out of concern for the safety of her students and staff, tackled the intruder to prevent him from retrieving the gun.

Mrs. Allen was able to restrain the intruder with the assistance of Coach Jason Duon and custodian Joe Rico. Seconds later, Officer Ed Perez handcuffed and placed the intruder in custody.

Mr. Speaker, Shannon Allen endangered her life to protect her students and staff at Rayburn Elementary School. Given her heroic actions, I rise to honor Shannon Allen.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM "JACK" GENTRY ON EARNING THE BEN FRANKLIN AWARD

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Jack

Gentry, the winner of the Benjamin Franklin Community Newspaper and Postal Partnership Award of Excellence.

Nominated for this award because of his commitment to provide top-notch customer service, it is an honor to highlight the Florida postmaster's excellence on the floor today.

It is encouraging to learn of the many lengths Mr. Gentry would reach to ensure reliable delivery of the community's newspapers.

Rather than going through the everyday motions of his postal route, Jack helped improve the delivery system—even making it more efficient.

I am sure the members of the community who benefit from Mr. Gentry's dedication to quality service are as thrilled as I am he will be recognized for his great work.

Mr. Gentry will receive this award today at the Library of Congress. I commend him for his work ethic and commitment to community newspapers.

HONORING THE RANDOLPH-CLAY RED DEVILS

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, Cuthbert, Georgia is a small, rural community, six hundred and sixty-nine miles from the U.S. Capitol. It is home to a rich agrarian tradition, the oldest known pecan tree in the state of Georgia and a high school basketball team known as the Red Devils, who on March 1, 2006, did something that they hadn't done in over three years. They lost a game.

Yet I rise today, not in recognition of this inconsequential loss, but in honor of the remarkable team that won ninety straight games, breaking the Georgia High School Association's record for the most consecutive wins and inspiring a community to believe in the impossible.

For forty-four years, Coach Joe Williams has led the Randolph-Clay Red Devils to 964 wins and six state titles. His focus on aggressive, man-to-man defense has forced his players to test their limits and grow as competitors, at the same time that he has molded boys into a team of men that every young player in Cuthbert dreams of playing for.

For three years the Red Devils have dominated every court that they have taken, winning nearly all of their games by double figures, including a 100–30 victory over Central Talbotton. Yet they took every game seriously, stating simply, "We play basketball."

As long as high school basketball is played in the state of Georgia, teams will attempt to duplicate the Red Devils' history-making streak. But they won't succeed; because, while they will emulate their style of play, it is impossible to capture the passion and the ability that has defined these exceptional young men and the dream that they have made leg- end.

Therefore, here in this hallowed hall, I rise on behalf of the people of Cuthbert, the Second Congressional District and the state of Georgia to honor the extraordinary accomplishment of Coach Williams and the Randolph-Clay Red Devils. You have inspired us all.

ARTHUR WINSTON "EMPLOYEE OF THE CENTURY"

HON. DIANE E. WATSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great American and my constituent, Mr. Arthur Winston. This year Mr. Winston will mark over three quarters of a century as an employee of the transportation agencies that have made Los Angeles County's buses and trains move millions of people a year. In fact, since Mr. Winston began his employment with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Agency's (Metro) predecessor agencies in 1924, millions of people have been safely delivered on billions of trips across Los Angeles County. Arthur can and should be proud to have been an important part of the historic growth of mass transit in California's 22nd Congressional District, which I proudly represent, and throughout the rest of Los Angeles County.

Arthur Winston was born in Okemie, Oklahoma on March 22, 1906 before Oklahoma was officially recognized as a state. He and his family moved to Los Angeles in 1918, when Arthur was 12. His father found work in the maintenance department for one of Metro's predecessors, the Pacific Electric Railway Company. Arthur attended Jefferson High School in Southern California, graduating in 1922.

Arthur Winston was 28 years old when he started his remarkable 72 years of continuous work at Metro. If you account for the years he spent, beginning at age 15, helping his father at the Pacific Electric Railway Company, Arthur has worked a remarkable 76 years for Los Angeles transit agencies. Mr. Winston was first employed by Metro's predecessor agency in December 1924 and worked until mid-1928. He resumed his employment with the agency in January of 1934. Amazingly, Arthur has missed only one day of work in 76 years, having taken a day off on the day of his wife's death in 1988.

In 1996, Arthur Winston received a Congressional Citation from President Clinton as "Employee of the Century." In his more than seven decades of Metro employment, Arthur has received many honors for his work ethic and longevity on the job. In 1997 Metro's Board of Directors named the agency's bus operating division in South Central Los Angeles (Chesterfield Square) after him. He has also appeared on the Oprah Winfrey television show and has appropriately been honored by a large number of community and civic organizations in Los Angeles County.

At the Arthur Winston Division, Arthur is a service attendant leader, directing a crew of 11 employees who clean, maintain, and refuel 240 Metro buses before they go out onto city streets. Remarking about his longevity at Metro, Arthur had this to say, "I stayed with Metro through all these years because I felt comfortable here. After a certain age I decided to stay on the job until I'm 100 years old."

Arthur Winston turns 100 on March 22, 2006 and has announced his retirement from Metro, quite fittingly, on his birthday. In the meantime, Arthur will spend his remaining days on the job waking up at his usual time, 4 a.m., and driving his 1994 Toyota sedan to work.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join Los Angeles Metro in saluting Arthur Winston and his unparalleled work ethic. May Arthur Winston's long record of public service serve to inspire Americans, young and old, to dedicate their energy and intellect for the benefit of the general public.

TRIBUTE TO JASON McELWAIN

HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize an outstanding young man, his supportive teammates, and an inspirational performance on the basketball court. In a matter of just 4 minutes, Jason McElwain and the Greece Athena High School Trojans showed us all the power of dedication, teamwork, and perseverance.

Jason has always been a steadfast and energetic contributor to the Greece Athena Varsity Basketball team in his role as team manager. Although never getting a chance to play, Jason placed his heart and soul into helping the team and became an indispensable teammate, day in and day out.

Jason also has been challenged everyday by autism, a disability that, while difficult, has not undercut Jason's goals or his involvement with the team. In turn, Jason's teammates, led by Coach Jim Johnson, have embraced him and believed in him. To them, Jason is not an autistic team manager; rather he is simply, emphatically a teammate. And a passionate teammate—Jason never misses practice and is always a helpful supporter at games, dispensing water bottles and advice from the team bench dressed in his trademark shirt and tie.

That was until February 15, when Coach Johnson told Jason to suit up in the Trojan uniform for the first time for the last game of the regular season. Jason's dedication, his teammates' support, his coach's trust, all were set to pay off in a most dramatic way.

With only 4 minutes remaining in the game, Jason got the call off the bench. He took the floor, and his fellow students went wild. They held up signs. They chanted his nickname, "J-Mac." The cheers and chants would only grow louder as Jason put on a performance that the town of Greece will never forget. In his short but remarkable debut for Greece Athena, Jason made not one, not two, but six 3 pointers, and finished the game with 20 points. As his final shot swished clean through the net with 2 seconds to play, the raucous fans rushed the court. Coach Johnson, along with most, was brought to tears. Jason's teammates hoisted him upon their shoulders. A true hero and the true meaning of teamwork were discovered that night on the hardwood in Greece.

And the Trojans weren't finished. Two weeks later, that teamwork propelled the Spartans to the very top, as they won their sectional championship. Jason, back in his shirt and tie, yet never more important a teammate, cheered and assisted from the bench. When the championship trophy was presented, Jason was the first to lift it over his head.

Jason's perseverance and his teammates' support serve as a great example to us all.

Mr. Speaker, in recognition of their remarkable achievement, I ask that this honorable body join me in honoring Jason McElwain and the Greece Athena High School Basketball Trojans.

BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS DAY

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Ms. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I am a member of the Brain Injury Task Force—a group dedicated to drawing attention to this tragic and life-altering impairment. I am also proud to represent Nazareth Hospital, a facility that has provided healthcare services to the Philadelphia region for over 60 years and a national leader in the acute and chronic care of stroke.

Today, representatives of Nazareth Hospital are on Capitol Hill for Brain Injury Awareness Day. This important event helps to increase awareness for Traumatic Brain Injury, TBI, and the specific challenges facing individuals who have suffered brain injury and their families.

As many know, brain injury comes in many forms. The two most prevalent brain injuries—stroke and trauma—affect more than 2.2 million Americans, and these numbers are expected to grow. TBI has been called "the signature injury of modern American warfare" due to the unprecedented number of service men and women who have suffered from head trauma while deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan. This reality, coupled with the growing number of seniors in the U.S., means that our healthcare system will have to provide for more and more brain injury patients in the coming years.

There is currently no cure for individuals with brain injuries. So they must vigilantly manage their chronic symptoms, often relying on the care and assistance of their families, friends and facilities like Nazareth Hospital.

Nazareth is ahead of the curve—providing high-quality education and case management system for brain injury patients based on years of experience of working with patients, primary care physicians, nurses, family members, and other care givers.

Because of their experience, the Department of Defense is considering a partnership with Nazareth. The DOD recognizes that Nazareth has a proven education and brain injury management plan, and believes it might be a system worth applying to military hospitals and clinics. As a strong supporter of public-private sector cooperation, I will be working to advance this shared effort.

Together, I know we can reduce the emotional and financial effects of brain injury, and I am honored to represent an organization at the forefront of developing new treatments and discoveries. And, I am confident that Nazareth Hospital's first-rate care, which has benefited so many in my district, will be an asset for DOD as it expands continuing care services for the men and women who have sacrificed so much for our Nation.

NATIONAL UNIFORMITY FOR FOOD
ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4167) to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide for uniform food safety warning notification requirements, and for other purposes:

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Chairman, H.R. 4167 is being considered today without benefit of hearings and with no Subcommittee markup. As a result, Members have not had a full opportunity to learn about and debate the provisions of this legislation. This is no minor bill—it will bar States from adopting food safety, labeling, and warning standards that are not identical to Federal standards.

State food and drug officials are very concerned about the impact this bill could have on public health. They have expressed their opinion that this legislation would harm homeland security. The State food and drug officials are certainly a credible group and their concerns are not new.

Almost two years ago, the Association of Food and Drug Officials told us that a bill virtually identical to the one before us today, “threatens to eviscerate this system. The ramifications of this bill, intended or not, will dissolve our Nation’s biodefense capabilities.”

They went on to say that this legislation “undermines our Nation’s whole biosurveillance system by preempting and invalidating many of the State and Local food safety laws and regulations that provide the necessary authority for State and Local agencies to operate food safety and security programs. The pre-9/11 concept embodied in this bill is very much out of line with current threats that confront our food safety and security system.”

They also said that preemption and invalidation of State and local food safety and security activities will “severely hamper” the U.S. Food and Drug Administration’s ability to detect and respond to acts of terrorism. They added, “Our current food safety and security system will be significantly disrupted . . . and our inability to track suspected acts of intentional adulteration will be exploited by those who seek to do harm to our Nation.” The Association of Food and Drug Officials has recently restated these concerns with respect to H.R. 4167.

On September 23, 2004, I wrote a letter to Secretary Thompson asking whether or not he agreed with these assertions. I never received a reply to my letter, so here we are today, voting on this bill and we do not know whether or not the Administration believes it poses a threat to homeland security. Indeed, we do not have the benefit of the Administration’s views on any aspect of this bill. Does the Administration support this bill, or not? This bill affects public health and the American public deserves more than stony silence from this Administration.

What is wrong with having a hearing to explore what the language in this bill means? Why was the report on this bill filed less than 24 hours before amendments were due at the

Rules Committee? Why did the Rules Committee deny important amendments such as an amendment by Representative DeGette to ensure that FDA has the necessary funds to implement the law, or an amendment by Representative Stupak to allow States to warn consumers when their meat has been injected with carbon monoxide?

This process will ultimately hurt the ability to get legislation to the President’s desk. I am sympathetic to the need for national uniformity, however, I cannot support this bill without more careful consideration.

I urge my colleagues to vote no on this bill.

HONORING WALT AND KAREN
WORTHY AND THE STAFF OF
THE DAVENPORT HOTEL**HON. CATHY McMORRIS**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Miss McMORRIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Walt and Karen Worthy and the staff of The Davenport Hotel for ranking among the top ten hotels nationwide in customer satisfaction. In a recent survey completed by Expedia.com, The Davenport Hotel was the only Pacific Northwest hotel on the list. The Davenport Hotel also ranked third on Expedia.com’s traveler’s picks for the top ten four-star hotels nationwide.

Originally built in 1914 by Mr. Lewellyn “Louis” Davenport, The Davenport Hotel quickly became known around the world. It was the first hotel to have air conditioning, a central vacuum system, housekeeping carts, and accordion ballroom doors. Mr. Davenport sold the hotel in 1945 and the hotel was eventually closed in 1985.

Mr. Worthy and his wife, Karen, purchased The Davenport Hotel in May 2000 after most lost hope that the abandoned hotel would ever regain its grand status among hotels in America. Through their hard work and personal financial investment, they, along with their staff, have restored The Davenport Hotel to its once world famous status. To this day, the motto of Mr. Davenport remains their own:

“In all things, the hotel sincerely tries to so well please its guests that they will be glad they came, sorry to leave and eager to return.”—Louis Davenport. 1914, Walt Worthy, 2002.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Mr. and Mrs. Worthy and the staff for their exceptional service to the city of Spokane and the nation, and to thank them for the role they have played in revitalizing the downtown area of Spokane, Washington. I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating Walt and Karen Worthy and the staff of The Davenport Hotel on this hard earned, and much deserved, rank among the top ten hotels nationwide for customer satisfaction.

CONGRATULATING THE CORNELL
BLACK ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ON
ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to honor The Cornell Black Alumni Association as they prepare to celebrate not only the 30th Anniversary of their revered organization, but the 100th Anniversary of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Founded in 1976, the Cornell Black Alumni Association, CBAA, was conceived as an organization devoted to providing a communication network for Black alumni. Its current mission is to promote the professional development of Black alumni; to provide opportunities for alumni to give back to the Cornell community; to provide support for current Black students at Cornell through the endowment of scholarships and the development of other resources; and to aid in maintaining the diversity of the student body at Cornell by assisting the University in its recruitment efforts.

The distinctive attributes of this fine Association speak volumes for their ambition, commitment, and drive to inspiring young people to pursue higher education, is to be applauded.

Through their leadership, knowledge, and vigorous enthusiasm, the Cornell Black Alumni Association has served the Cornell family and community admirably and with great integrity. They have, in the very best traditions of Cornell University, reached out and have given back whereby their efforts have resulted in countless programs that have had a direct and significant impact on alumni and future Cornell students.

By the same token, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., of which I am a proud member has supplied voice and vision to African-Americans and people of color around the world since its inception in 1906 on the campus of Cornell University. This first intercollegiate Greek-letter fraternity initially served as a study and support group for minority students who faced racial prejudice, both educationally and socially at Cornell. However, in time, the Fraternity would succeed in laying a firm foundation for Alpha Phi Alpha’s principles of scholarship, fellowship, good character, and the uplifting of humanity.

Mr. Speaker, this June as the Cornell Black Alumni Association celebrates their 30th Anniversary and the centennial of Alpha Phi Alpha, it is my hope that they will seize every opportunity to “celebrate the legacy and embrace the future.”

FREEDOM FOR FIDEL GARCÍA
ROLDÁN**HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Fidel García Roldán, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. García Roldán is a pro-democracy activist and a member of the 24 February Movement, named for both the commencement of

the glorious Cuban War of Independence in 1895, and the day in 1996 when two civilian aircraft carrying four members of the Brothers to the Rescue organization were shot down over international waters by the Cuban dictatorship's fighter jets. The 24 February Movement desires, and struggles for, freedom in Cuba.

According to reports, Mr. García Roldán has been imprisoned since April 16, 2004 and, after a sham trial, sentenced to 4 years in the totalitarian gulag. In the U.S. Department of State's Country Reports on Human Rights Practices—2005, it is reported "On February 19, a 'reeducation specialist' forced political prisoner Fidel García Roldán into a cell, pushed him against the wall, then hit him repeatedly in the head."

That same report details the abhorrent conditions in the gulag:

Prison conditions continued to be harsh and life threatening. Conditions in detention facilities also were harsh. Prison authorities frequently beat, neglected, isolated, and denied medical treatment to detainees and prisoners, particularly those convicted of political crimes or those who persisted in expressing their views . . . Prisoners sometimes were held in "punishment cells," which usually were located in the basement of a prison, with continuous semi-dark conditions, no available water, and only a hole for a toilet.

Mr. García Roldán, despite being imprisoned, despite facing even more severe maltreatment in the inhuman gulag, continues to advocate for liberty. Mr. García Roldán is a brilliant example of the heroism of the Cuban people. No matter how intense the repression, no matter how horrifically brutal the consequences of a dignified struggle for liberty, the totalitarian gulags are full of men and women of all backgrounds and ages who represent the best of the Cuban nation.

Mr. Speaker, we must speak out and act against this abominable disregard for human rights, human dignity, and human freedom just 90 miles from our shore. It is categorically unacceptable that men and women who demand freedom from tyranny are locked in dungeons and abused by totalitarian monsters. My Colleagues, we must demand the immediate and unconditional release of Fidel García Roldán and every political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

ENDORSEMENT OF PROFESSOR
JEFFREY LEIGH SEDGWICK

HON. JOHN W. OLVER

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I ask that this statement be inserted into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD at the appropriate place:

"On Tuesday the Senate Judiciary Committee will hold a hearing on the nomination of Professor Jeffrey Leigh Sedgwick to head the Bureau of Justice Statistics. For over 24 years Professor Sedgwick has taught students at the University of Massachusetts the intricacies of the American Political System. Throughout the course of his established career he has also spread his expertise to other educational institutions, such as Smith College in Massachusetts and the University of Virginia. It is time now for Professor Sedgwick to loan his knowl-

edge and experience to the Federal Government as the head of the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

"Professor Sedgwick has devoted much of his career to the study and interpretation of criminal justice and through the years he has developed a strong sense of our Nation's criminal justice system. His in-depth research has led to a number of books, articles and editorials offering insight into crime and punishment in the United States. These qualifications give Professor Sedgwick a solid foundation for taking over the responsibilities of the head of the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

"This would not be Professor Sedgwick's first experience in the Federal Government. In 1984 he served as the Deputy Director for Data Analysis within the Bureau of Justice Statistics. In this position he gained a familiarity for the work that this bureau does and moved on to a career of studying crime and justice. Professor Sedgwick is indisputably qualified to take over operations at the Bureau of Justice Statistics and I urge my colleagues in the Senate to confirm him for this post."

HONORING GREATER BETHEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN OVERTOWN FOR 110 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the Greater Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church (BAME) as it celebrates its 110th Anniversary on Sunday, March 12, 2006 in the Overtown community of Miami-Dade County, Florida. This important milestone is truly a testament to the leadership of the church and the commitment of the faithful and the church's theme reflects it: "Greater Bethel AME: A Beacon of Light Shining Bright for 110 Years."

I commend the entire Greater Bethel AME family, including the Senior Pastor, Reverend Milton Broomfield and Ms. Barbara Brown, the Chairperson, on this wonderful occasion. It is the thorough exercise of faith that we are emboldened by God's Blessed Assurance spoken through the Prophet Isaiah (Chapter 58, Verses 9–11): ". . . You shall call, and the Lord will answer. For if you bestow your bread on the hungry and satisfy the afflicted, then light shall rise for you in the darkness . . . and the Lord will guide you always."

Greater Bethel AME Church symbolizes an unshakable monument that has manifested and continues to manifest our community's faith in God. The longevity of this landmark church—not only through its members' genuine caring of one another, but also through the outreach efforts of its services and good works for those it has been privileged to serve—is truly remarkable. Despite the pain and agony that our community suffered in the midst of many years of disenfranchisement and misrepresentation, Greater Bethel AME Church stood out as a beacon of Hope and a citadel of Truth by which God has called our community to respond to the mandate of Christian stewardship.

It is with this spirit that I recognize this historic Church on its 110th Anniversary, defined

by determination and courage throughout its ministry. We are grateful for what Greater Bethel AME Church symbolizes for all of us, even as we look forward to the challenges of the future.

PRESENTATION OF THE TOUCHSTONE AWARD TO RICHARD J. KURTZ

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my good friend, Richard J. Kurtz, as he receives the prestigious Touchstone Award, the highest honor bestowed by the Englewood Hospital and Medical Center in Englewood, New Jersey. This award is bestowed by the Medical Center to an individual who exemplifies the premier standard for philanthropic endeavors.

Richard Kurtz, the founder of the Kamson Corporation in Englewood Cliffs, is a prominent real estate investor, developer, philanthropist, and a good friend to so many. The leadership and unwavering dedication shown by Richard to community service, humanitarian values and charitable causes is well-known, both in northern New Jersey and throughout the Nation.

Richard actively serves on many boards including the Jewish Community Center (JCC) on the Palisades, the Englewood Hospital and Medical Center, and he serves as chairman of the Englewood Hospital and Medical Center Foundation. He has also given his enthusiastic and generous support to the Boy Scouts of America, Cresskill Athletic Boosters, Walk for Awareness: Our Fight Against Breast Cancer, Quest Autism Foundation and the Jewish Home at Rockleigh. Richard has given generously to his alma mater, the University of Miami, and the Katrina relief efforts. His service to these distinguished boards and causes embodies his belief in and commitment to compassion and caring for others.

Richard's devotion to his wife, Patti, his children and their spouses, Pamela Kurtz, Sharon and Jeff Kurtz, and Kimberly and Joseph Spadaccini, and six grandchildren is a reflection of this dedicated family man and community leader. Richard is an extraordinary individual, and he is very deserving of the renowned honor embodied by the Touchstone Award. I am pleased to extend my congratulations to my good friend Richard Kurtz and his family on this wonderful occasion.

USA PATRIOT ACT ADDITIONAL
REAUTHORIZING AMENDMENTS
ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2006

Mr. CARDIN. Madam Speaker, one of the most important responsibilities for Congress after the September 11 terrorist attacks is to balance the needs of law enforcement to have effective tools to combat terrorism with the civil liberties and civil rights of Americans.

I am pleased that the Senate bill strengthens the civil liberties protections of the PATRIOT Act, and provides for increased judicial oversight of the Justice Department as it uses these powers.

The bill before us enacts a number of much-needed procedural changes that will enhance judicial oversight of Section 215 orders. Under current law, the recipient of a Section 215 order lacks an explicit statutory right to petition the FISA (Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act) court to modify or set aside either the production order or the non-disclosure requirement. The conference report provides that recipients have an explicit right to challenge the legality of the Section 215 order in certain FISA courts. This bill further expands the individual's right to challenge the government assertion that a business records search must remain secret.

The legislation also reforms the FBI process used to issue National Security Letters (NSL). Unlike current law, the conference report explicitly permits recipients of NSLs to consult with an attorney to challenge the letter in court. This bill further strengthens individual rights by allowing the recipient of an NSL to consult with an attorney in secret, and does not require the recipient to disclose the name of the attorney to the FBI.

Finally, this bill provides that public, academic, or research libraries that offer Internet access or other electronic research tools are not considered to be electronic communication services, and therefore are not subject to search by an NSL.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL
PARK WILDERNESS AND THE INDIAN
PEAKS WILDERNESS EXPANSION ACT

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a revised bill to designate as wilderness most of the lands within the Rocky Mountain National Park, in Colorado.

Since introduction of my previous bill (H.R. 3193), I have heard from a number of local communities and other interests on the western side of the park regarding some issues and accommodations they would like to see reflected in the bill. The bill I am introducing today reflects that input.

This legislation will provide important protection and management direction for some truly remarkable country, adding well over 200,000 acres in the park to the National Wilderness Preservation System. The bill is similar to one previously introduced by my predecessor, Representative David Skaggs, and one I introduced in the 107th and 108th Congresses. Those bills in turn were based on similar measures earlier proposed, including some by former Senator Bill Armstrong and others.

Over a number of years my predecessor and I have worked with the National Park Service and others to refine the boundaries of the areas proposed for wilderness designation and consulted closely with many interested parties in Colorado, including local officials and both the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District and the St. Vrain & Left

Hand Ditch Water Conservancy District. These consultations provided the basis for many of the provisions of the bill I am introducing today, particularly regarding the status of existing water facilities.

Unlike these previous bills, the new bill includes designation as wilderness of more than 700 acres in the Twin Sisters area south of Estes Park. These lands were acquired by the United States and made part of the park after submission to Congress of the original wilderness recommendation for the park in the 1970s, and so were not included in that recommendation. They are lands of a wilderness character and their designation will not conflict with any current uses.

Since I introduced the earlier bill in this Congress, the communities bordering the park have been considering this wilderness proposal. The communities and local governments along the eastern side of the Park have expressed support for this proposal, including the Town of Estes Park and Larimer County.

On the west side, the Town of Grand Lake and Grand County requested that about 650 acres inward from the Park boundary around the Town be omitted from the wilderness designation in order to allow the Park to respond to potential forest fire threats. The revised bill reflects this change.

In addition, the Town of Grand Lake, Grand County and the Headwaters Trails Alliance (a group composed of local communities in Grand County that seeks to establish opportunities for mountain biking) requested that an additional non-wilderness area remain along the western park boundary, running south along Lake Granby from the Town to the park's southern boundary. This request was made to allow the National Park Service to retain the option of authorizing construction of a possible future mountain bike route within this part of the park.

The revised bill introduced today responds to that request by omitting from wilderness an area, called the East Shore Trail Area, in this part of the park. However, it provides that the area will become wilderness 25 years after enactment unless a bicycle trail has been constructed before then.

During the discussions of the previous version of the bill, it was suggested that the existing Indian Peaks Wilderness Area (within the Arapaho National Forest) should be expanded.

The new bill adopts that suggestion by inclusion of a new section that would expand the Indian Peaks Wilderness Area by 1,000 acres in the area south of the park and north of Lake Granby. The lands involved are currently managed as part of the Arapaho National Recreation Area, which accordingly would be reduced by about 1,000 acres.

In addition, this section of the revised bill would amend the original Indian Peaks Wilderness Act to reflect this additional acreage as well as the 2,232-acre Ranch Creek Addition and the 963-acre Fourth of July Addition to the Indian Peaks Wilderness Area that were made in the James Peak Wilderness and Protection Area Act in 2001. These changes will be reflected by a new official map for both areas which will establish the precise location of the Indian Peaks Wilderness Area boundary north of Lake Granby and the corresponding boundary change to the Arapaho National Recreation Area.

Finally, a new section has been added to authorize the park to lease a property called

the Leiffer Property. This 11-acre property was donated to the National Park Service in 1977, under terms requiring it to be retained by the Park Service. It is an isolated tract outside the boundaries of the park and has two buildings, including a house that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Park Service would like to have the option of leasing the tract, but their leasing authority is limited to "property administered . . . as part of the National Park System," and this property does not qualify because it is neither within nor contiguous to the park's boundaries. The new section would allow the Park Service to lease the property as if it were located inside or contiguous to the park.

The wilderness designation for the park will cover some 94 percent of the park, including Longs Peaks and other major mountains along the Great Continental Divide, glacial cirques and snow fields, broad expanses of alpine tundra and wet meadows, old-growth forests, and hundreds of lakes and streams, all untrammelled by human structures or passage. Indeed, examples of all the natural ecosystems that make up the splendor of the Park are included in the wilderness that would be designated by this bill.

The features of these lands and waters that make Rocky Mountain National Park a true gem in our national parks system also make it an outstanding wilderness candidate.

The wilderness boundaries will assure continued access for use of existing roadways, buildings and developed areas, privately owned land, and areas where additional facilities and roadwork will improve park management and visitor services. In addition, specific provisions are included to assure that there will be no adverse effects on continue use of existing water facilities.

This bill is based on National Park Service recommendations, prepared more than 25 years ago and presented to Congress by President Richard Nixon. It seems to me that, in that time, there has been sufficient study, consideration, and refinement of those recommendations so that Congress can proceed with this legislation. I believe that this bill constitutes a fair and complete proposal, sufficiently providing for the legitimate needs of the public at large and all interested groups, and deserves to be enacted.

It took more than a decade before the Colorado delegation and the Congress were finally able, in 1993, to pass a statewide national forest wilderness bill. Since then, action has been completed on bills designating wilderness in the Spanish Peaks area of the San Isabel National Forest as well as in the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park, the Gunnison Gorge, the Black Ridge portion of the Colorado Canyons National Conservation Area, and the James Peak area of the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests.

We now need to continue making progress regarding wilderness designations for deserving lands, including other public lands in our state that are managed by the Bureau of Land Management. And the time is ripe for finally resolving the status of the lands within Rocky Mountain National Park that are dealt with in the bill I am introducing today.

All Coloradans know that the question of possible impacts on water rights can be a primary point of contention in Congressional debates over designating wilderness areas. So,

it's very important to understand that the question of water rights for Rocky Mountain National Park wilderness is entirely different from many considered before, and is far simpler.

To begin with, it has long been recognized under the laws of the United States and Colorado, including a decision of the Colorado Supreme Court, that Rocky Mountain National Park already has extensive federal reserved water rights arising from the creation of the national park itself.

This is not, so far as I have been able to find out, a controversial decision, because there is a widespread consensus that there should be no new water projects developed within Rocky Mountain National Park. And, since the park sits astride the continental divide, there's no higher land around from which streams flow into the park, so there is no possibility of any upstream diversions. And it's important to emphasize that in any event water rights associated with wilderness would amount only to guarantees that water will continue to flow through and out of the park as it always has. This preserves the natural environment of the park, but it doesn't affect downstream water use.

The bottom line is that once water leaves the park, it will continue to be available for diversion and use under Colorado law regardless of whether or not lands within the park are designated as wilderness.

These legal and practical realities are reflected in my bill—as in my predecessor's—by inclusion of a finding that because the park already has these extensive reserved rights to water, there is no need for any additional reservation of such right, and an explicit disclaimer that the bill effects any such reservation.

Some may ask, why should we designate wilderness in a national park? Isn't park protection the same as wilderness, or at least as good? The answer is that the wilderness designation will give an important additional level of protection to most of the park.

Our national park system was created, in part, to recognize and preserve prime examples of outstanding landscape. At Rocky Mountain National Park in particular, good Park Service management over the past 83 years has kept most of the park in a natural condition. And all the lands that are covered by this bill are currently being managed, in essence, to protect their wilderness character. Formal wilderness designation will no longer leave this question to the discretion of the Park Service, but will make it clear that within the designated areas there will never be roads, visitor facilities, or other manmade features that interfere with the spectacular natural beauty and wildness of the mountains.

This kind of protection is especially important for a park like Rocky Mountain, which is relatively small by western standards. As nearby land development and alteration has accelerated in recent years, the pristine nature of the park's backcountry becomes an increasingly rare feature of Colorado's landscape.

Further, Rocky Mountain National Park's popularity demands definitive and permanent protection for wild areas against possible pressures for development within the park. While only about one tenth the size of Yellowstone National Park, Rocky Mountain sees nearly the same number of visitors each year as does our first national park.

At the same time, designating these carefully selected portions of Rocky Mountain as

wilderness will make other areas, now restricted under interim wilderness protection management, available for overdue improvements to park roads and visitor facilities.

So, Mr. Speaker, this bill will protect some of our nation's finest wild lands. It will protect existing rights. It will not limit any existing opportunity for new water development. And it will affirm our commitment in Colorado to preserving the very features that make our State such a remarkable place to live. So, I think the bill deserves prompt enactment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to participate in the following votes. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

February 28, 2006: Rollcall vote 14, on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1096, to establish the Thomas Edison National Historical Park, I would have voted "aye." Rollcall vote 15, on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 668—celebrating the 40th anniversary of Texas Western's 1966 NCAA Basketball Championship, I would have voted "aye." Rollcall vote 16, on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1259—to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress, I would have voted "aye."

March 1, 2006: Rollcall vote 17, on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 357—honoring Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, I would have voted "aye."

March 2, 2006: Rollcall vote 18, on ordering the previous question, H. Res. 702—providing for consideration of H.R. 4167, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, I would have voted "aye."

TRIBUTE TO FAMILY-LIFE TV

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize and honor the 30th Anniversary of Family-Life TV. Throughout its existence, Family-Life TV has offered quality religious, entertainment, and informational programming and it is my hope that it will continue to provide these services long into the future.

Founded on March 7, 1976, Family-Life TV was the brainchild of David J. Croyle. Too young to legally run the station himself, David's father, Reverend Robert F. Croyle, served as the station's first President. This role passed to David upon his father's death in 2001.

The station initially broadcasted three hours each day and only reached cable subscribers in central Armstrong County. Since that time, Family-Life TV has grown rapidly. It now offers 24 hour programming and reaches cable subscribers well beyond its initial range. Additionally, Family-Life TV has ventured into the realm of the internet, touching the lives of indi-

viduals from over 30 different nations worldwide.

Family-Life TV has become the thread that binds the Armstrong community together and ties it to the world. For this, its record of impeccable quality programming, and its 30 years of broadcasting, Family-Life TV deserves thanks and congratulations.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my fellow members will join me at this time, and once again congratulate Family-Life TV on its 30th Anniversary and wish it a long and successful future.

OPPOSITION TO LIMITATIONS ON RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN ROMANIA

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my opposition to any limitations on religious freedom in Romania.

The religion bill that recently passed the Romanian Senate, discriminates against virtually all Christians except the dominant Orthodox Church. The bill that now stands before the Chamber of Deputies would in many ways treat Evangelical Protestants and Catholics as inferior.

The Romanian bill would restrict minority religious education and the use of church cemeteries, and would not protect private legal rights for all religious denominations or allow tax incentives to donors.

The spokesperson for a leading human rights group in Bucharest said "the draft law infringes many laws and the Constitution of Romania, as well as international human rights commitments to which Romania is subject" and that "it would close the possibility for religious communities, such as the Greek Catholic churches, to reclaim any property in the hands of other faiths." The head of the Romanian Evangelical Alliance, Dr. Paul Negrut, pronounced NAY GROOTS, with whom I met two weeks ago said: "this is a very critical time for religious liberty in Romania."

Because we as Americans have to stand for religious freedom everywhere, we are especially concerned about this development in an emerging democracy that is a friend and ally of the U.S.

As one who has championed the Houses of Worship bill in the U.S. Congress, it is a personal matter of importance to me.

I urge the Romanian President and the Romanian Parliament to reject this discriminatory religious bill to help protect freedom of religion and to help improve U.S.-Romanian relations.

CALLING FOR THE IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION OF THE "FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT OF 2005"

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call for the immediate passage of H. Res. 614, a bill which allows for the consideration of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 2005, to provide for an increase in the Federal minimum wage.

The Fair Labor Standards Act of 2005 will provide a desperately needed raise in the minimum wage from \$5.15 per hour to \$7.25 per hour.

The members of the Congress that have denied a minimum wage increase while voting themselves seven pay increases worth \$28,000 should be ashamed of themselves.

On Tuesday, January 17th, 2006, Maryland became the 18th state in the Nation to enact a law that will make Maryland's minimum wage higher than the federal. Even in my home state of California, the minimum wage is \$6.75 an hour. The current minimum has not been raised in over 7 years!

The minimum wage was established to assure that people who work are not forced to live in poverty. Wage inequality keeps increasing in the United States, in part because of the declining real value of the minimum wage, yet this Congress refused to adjust the minimum wage even for inflation. If the minimum wage had kept pace with inflation since 1968 (when it was \$1.60 an hour) it would have been \$9.14 an hour in 2005.

Nearly 36 million people live below the poverty-line today—4.3 million more than when President Bush took office—and that number includes 13 million children. Among full-time, year-round workers, poverty has doubled since the late 1970s—from roughly 1.3 million then to more than 2.6 million today. And a report from the Children's Defense Fund shows that a single parent working full-time at the current minimum wage earns enough to cover only 40 percent of the cost of raising two children.

Today, the minimum wage is 33 percent of the average hourly wage of American workers, the lowest level since 1949.

Contrary to misinformation spread by opponents of the minimum wage, adults make up the largest share of workers who would benefit from a minimum wage increase. Forty percent of minimum wage workers are the sole breadwinners in their families. Moreover, despite what many opponents of the minimum wage say, there is no evidence of job loss from the last minimum wage increase.

A hike in the federal minimum wage is long overdue! We must restore the value of the federal wage floor in order to lift families out of poverty. An increase in the minimum wage is both humane and good for the economy because it would raise the standard of living of millions of Americans, while providing the economy with a needed boost by increasing the purchasing power of working families.

Seven and a half million workers and their families would directly benefit from the proposed minimum wage increase. An additional eight million workers would benefit indirectly, via resulting raises. Women and minorities would especially benefit. 61 percent of minimum wage earners are women and almost one-third of those women are raising children; And 35 percent of them are their families' sole earners! 19 percent of minimum wage earners are Hispanic American; and 15 percent are African American.

Women and minorities are disproportionately affected by the refusal of this Congress to pass a higher minimum wage. This issue shouldn't be a political debate. It should simply be about helping America's families. And that help won't come until workers in those low-wage occupations are paid more than poverty-level wages. I have always and will continue

to fight for a minimum wage that provides a future for America's families.

NATIONAL UNIFORMITY FOR FOOD ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN J.H. "JOE" SCHWARZ

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4167) to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide for uniform food safety warning notification requirements, and for other purposes:

Mr. SCHWARZ of Michigan. Mr. Chairman, the National Uniformity for Food Act deserves our full support. The issue is important to consumers and has achieved bipartisan support.

This act is consistent with our long tradition of prudent Congressional oversight of interstate commerce to protect American consumers. The act is simple. Its purpose is to provide equitable protection of consumers by requiring the States and the FDA to provide consumers with a single standard for food safety that is based on a consensus interpretation of all available science.

I believe the National Uniformity for Food Act is the best way to ensure that the safeguards we now have over meat, poultry, drugs, and many other products be applied to packaged food. Under the bill, States would retain their important functions such as sanitation, inspections and enforcement. The act contains mechanisms to review State food safety laws and consider them for national application.

This act provides important Federal protections, while retaining valuable input from States and coordination between State and Federal food safety experts. There is no better way to assure Americans that packaged food they find on our store shelves is safe for them and their families. I urge all my colleagues to join me in supporting this important act.

COMMEMORATING THE SESQUICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF LA CROSSE, WISCONSIN

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the sesquicentennial anniversary of my hometown of La Crosse, Wisconsin. I cannot think of a better place to grow up, live, and raise a family. From the rolling bluffs to the lakes and rivers and the miles of hiking and biking trails, La Crosse truly is God's country. Its warm, generous, and adventurous citizens are examples of the best our country has to offer.

This beautiful river town was founded at the confluence of the Mississippi, the La Crosse, and the Black Rivers, an area first used by Native Americans as a passageway through the prairie lands of the Upper Midwest. The Native Americans were followed by French fur

traders, who established commerce with the Indians living along the river's edge. The traders named La Crosse after the Native American game played with netted sticks used to catch a ball. From the Native Americans and French fur traders to the vast grain barges of today, the movement of goods along the water keeps La Crosse thriving.

La Crosse was founded in 1841, by a pioneer from New York named Nathan Myrick. Myrick established a trading post on Barron Island where he first traded with the Ho-Chunk Indians. Once Myrick extended his business to trading with steamboat passengers, settlers began targeting La Crosse for its rich farming potential. Soon thereafter, the lumber industry blossomed. Using the river as their natural transportation, lumberjacks floated logs downriver to be processed. By 1858, the railroad was built, bringing with it additional growth and development.

Having been born and raised in the city and traveled to other places around the world, I truly appreciate the solid Midwestern values and spirit of the people in La Crosse—values that emphasize kindness, honesty, family, and community combined with the can-do attitude of the town's founders.

Home to ten grade schools, two high schools, two universities, and one technical school, La Crosse highly values quality education for its youth. The city has adjusted to the changing times to remain an important center of transportation, commerce, and industry in western Wisconsin. La Crosse has succeeded in establishing a family- and business-friendly environment and will continue to thrive well beyond its next 150 years.

La Crosse's sesquicentennial provides an opportunity to commemorate the town's history, ancestors, and traditions. With its historic homes, commercial district, natural areas, museums, restaurants, and specialty shops, La Crosse provides residents and visitors with much to choose from. I enthusiastically invite all my colleagues, their families and friends to visit the Coulee Region and the city of La Crosse.

The people of La Crosse are committed to growth in their community while maintaining the harmony of the surrounding land, and I am proud to call this beautiful and friendly city my home.

CONGRATULATING PETER J. FORBES AS HE IS HONORED BY THE QUIET MAN SOCIETY OF SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Mr. Peter J. Forbes, of northeastern Pennsylvania, this year's recipient of The Quiet Man Society's "Michael F. King, Jr. Armed Forces Veterans Award."

The award is presented annually to a local individual who, after serving in the Armed Forces, by their actions and involvement in community events, exhibited exemplary continued service to God, family and country.

The award was endowed by The Quiet Man Society in honor of Mr. King, a charter member of the Society, who was wounded twice in

World War II. He is best remembered for the countless hours he spent serving St. Paul's Church, Holy Rosary Church, Holy Family Residence, The Penn Ridge Club and the Irish American Men's Association.

Mr. Forbes served with the Australian Army in the Republic of South Vietnam in the 3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, in 1971 as a combat medic. He also served as a drum major and a piper.

Following a successful business career, Mr. Forbes settled in northeastern Pennsylvania where he currently serves as national commander of the Veterans of the Vietnam War, Inc., and the Veterans Coalition, which is headquartered in Pittston, Luzerne County.

Mr. Forbes has made it known that he will dedicate his award to the memory of three Scranton natives who served during the Vietnam War and are believed to have made the ultimate sacrifice and were declared missing in action. Their names are: Frederick Krupa, Wesley Ratzel and Lothar Terla.

To further honor the memories of these men, Mr. Forbes will present a synopsis of their service records to student representatives at each of Scranton's four high schools so the stories of their heroic service can be retold and so the present generation understands that they and all others who have died fighting for our country are gone . . . but not forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Forbes for his selfless service to military veterans. Those who serve to protect others deserve the best this grateful nation has to give. Mr. Forbes has spent many years advocating for veterans rights, a crusade that has improved the quality of life for all who have worn a uniform and volunteered to place themselves in harm's way.

TRIBUTE TO HARRY BERGER

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, in honor of the 90th birthday of Harry Berger, I am proud to share with my colleagues a tribute to this great American, lovingly written by his son Robert I. Berger. Clearly Mr. Berger is deserving of this recognition by the United States House of Representatives.

Harry Berger was born on March 26, 1916 in Hungary. During World War II, he and his family were forcibly removed from their homes and taken by the Nazis to live in a crowded Jewish ghetto. Not long after, my father, along with other men his age, were taken by German and Hungarian soldiers to work as slave laborers for the balance of the war. After my father was liberated by American soldiers, and unable to return to his home because it was then under Russian control, he obtained a temporary visa to live and work in Brussels, Belgium. It was there that my father met my mother, Helen Berger, a survivor of Auschwitz, with whom he will celebrate 58 years of marriage on February 28, 2006.

My parents, together with me age 2½, arrived in the United States on January 6, 1952, and settled in the Albany Park neighborhood of Chicago. My sister Margaret was born in Chicago in 1954. My parents and I became

naturalized citizens in 1957. In 1964, my parents achieved the American dream and purchased their own home in the Rogers Park neighborhood of Chicago where they lived until 1992 when they moved to Lincolnwood, Illinois.

My father worked as a tailor at Broadlane Clothiers in the Uptown neighborhood of Chicago from the time he arrived in the United States until the store closed in approximately 1980. My father then worked for Lytton's and then Mark Shale on Michigan Avenue, where he was awarded Employee of the Year honors before retiring in 1995.

In addition to having worked hard to provide for his family, my father made time and worked tirelessly for many good causes in the service of others. My father served on the Synagogue Board and Men's Club Board of Congregation Ezras Israel in the Rogers Park neighborhood of Chicago and served two terms as President of the Men's Club and two terms as President of the Congregation. More amazing is that my father served as President of the Congregation when he was in his mid-eighties.

My father was also a Board Member and two term President of the Zionist Organization of Chicago (ZOC), the Chicago chapter of the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA). The ZOA is one of the oldest and largest Israel advocacy organizations in the United States. Founded in 1897, to support the establishment of a Jewish state, past presidents of the ZOA include Justice Louis D. Brandeis. In 1996, the ZOC honored my father and mother with the State of Israel Award for their long-time commitment and service to the organization and to the State of Israel.

My father has also helped raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for the State of Israel. In 2001, my father and mother were honored at an Israel Bond Luncheon that raised over one half million dollars in Israel bonds. My father has supported many other Jewish charities including the JUF.

My father has lived in the United States for the past 54 years and has loved all of the ideals for which this country was founded. He has been an exemplary citizen, never taking for granted the freedom and opportunity that this country afforded him and his family. He has voted in every election, he has always kept informed of the issues facing America, and he has worked for candidates for various elective office. My father has lived the American dream. He came to this country a Holocaust survivor and refugee with a wife and young son and barely a penny to his name. He worked hard, bought a home, paid off the mortgage, raised two children, provided for his family, and has and continues to live a decent and productive life.

One of my father's great pleasures is sports. As a young boy in Hungary he loved to play soccer. In his new home, he came to understand and love baseball, football and basketball. He loves the White Sox, Cubs, Bears and Bulls, and would often take me to games on Sundays, his one day off of work. My father's joy was immeasurable when his beloved White Sox finally won the World Series this past Fall.

My father's 90 years, 54 of them in the United States, is an example of what Tom Brokaw called "The Greatest Generation." He provided for his family and found time and energy to help others. His life is to be celebrated and honored.

HONORING EDGERTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend congratulations to the Edgerton Public Library in Edgerton, Wisconsin, on the occasion of its grand opening celebration. Housed in the Carnegie building originally built in 1907, the library is an impressive tribute to the people of Edgerton.

A public library serves as the cornerstone of democracy. A library fosters intellectual freedom and makes available to all citizens an extensive information network. In a local setting, citizens have access to global resources of information. The educational importance of a public library is immensely important in improving the community by providing access to higher learning. A library is a requirement for a cultivated democratic society.

A public library allows citizens to perform their civic duties placed upon them in our noble democratic nation. It not only provides free worldwide access to information, but also is a place where residents can obtain information about their community, and where internet access, tax forms and voter registration forms are provided. The role of the public library is essential in supporting a democratic state. The Edgerton Public Library has gone beyond its civic duty in providing these services for the public.

In spite of the many challenges they faced, the people of Edgerton were committed to this important project. I am proud to recognize the efforts of a community that created a dream and followed through to success. I join the residents of Edgerton in celebrating the grand opening of the newly expanded and renovated Edgerton Public Library and wish them the best for many years to come.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA LEGISLATIVE AUTONOMY ACT OF 2006

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing the District of Columbia Legislative Autonomy Act of 2006, the second in a series of "Free and Equal D.C." bills to remove the remaining congressional statutes that impose discriminatory and unequal treatment on the District of Columbia as a U.S. jurisdiction, on its elected and public officials, and on its citizens. These bills are different from the No Taxation without Representation Act, which in addition to providing equal treatment, would remedy a major violation of basic human rights recognized under international law and treaties and, moreover, a human rights denial found only in the United States. Residents justifiably focus on this most basic of infringements, but our city can and must make more progress on other unnecessary requirements and denials that violate the rights of the tax-paying American citizens who live in the Nation's capital as well.

The Free and Equal D.C. series addresses privileges, rights and benefits universally enjoyed not only by the citizens of State and local jurisdictions, but also by the four territories, under Federal principles of local control that govern the United States. Among the most important are the right to enact local budget, civil and criminal laws free from Federal interference. This bill's fraternal twin, the most important in the Free and Equal D.C. series, H.R. 1629, the District of Columbia Budget Autonomy Act of 2005, sponsored by Government Reform Committee Chairman TOM DAVIS and I, was introduced last year as the first bill of the series. The Senate passed the bill in 2003, and my goal is to achieve passage by both Houses this session.

Because the period of congressional review involves only legislative days, when Congress is in session, not calendar days, D.C. laws typically do not become law for months, not days. A required hold on all D.C. bills, forces the City Council to pass most legislation using a cumbersome and complicated process in which bills are passed concurrently on an emergency, temporary, and permanent basis to ensure that the operations of the large and rapidly changing city continue. The Legislative Autonomy bill would eliminate the need for the District to engage in this Byzantine process that often requires a two-thirds super majority even for ordinary legislation.

This second bill in the Free and Equal D.C. series would eliminate the congressional review period for civil and criminal District acts of 30 days and 60 days respectively. I have introduced today's legislative autonomy bill before, but today's bill is particularly timely because of substantial changes in congressional approach and practices in responding to Council-passed law. In effect, Congress has eliminated the review or layover period. My bill would do no more than align D.C. City Council practices with the approaches Congress uses today.

Moreover, although control of the Congress changed in 1994 for the first time in 40 years, no resolution of disapproval has been heard in committee or used on the floor of either House. Instead of the cumbersome formal filing of bills that require processing in the House and the Senate, both use other more efficient processes, particularly appropriations or attachments to other bills. My bill would eliminate a formal review system that has died of old age and non-use. Congress has walked away from layover review and should allow the city to do the same.

Today's bill, of course, does not prevent review of District laws by Congress. Under Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution, the House Government Reform Committee and the Senate Government Affairs Committee could scrutinize every piece of legislation passed by the City Council, if desired, and could change or strike legislation under the plenary constitutional authority over the District. However, today Congress prefers more rapid approaches. My bill merely eliminates the automatic hold placed on local legislation and eliminates the need for the City Council to use a Byzantine emergency and temporary process to keep the District functioning under law.

Since the Home Rule Act became effective in 1974, of over 2000 legislative acts that have been passed by the Council and signed into law by the Mayor, only three resolutions to disapprove a D.C. bill have been enacted, and

two involved a distinct Federal interest; only 43 acts have been challenged by a congressional disapproval resolution. Federal law to correct for a Federal interest, of course, would be appropriate for any jurisdiction, but placing a hold on 2000 bills has not only proved unnecessary, but has meant untold costs in money, staff and time to the District and the Congress.

We continually urge the District government to pursue greater efficiency and savings. Congress must now do its part to promote greater efficiency both here and in the District by streamlining its own cumbersome, redundant, and obsolescent review processes. Eliminating the hold on D.C. legislation would not only save scarce D.C. taxpayer revenue; my bill would benefit the city's bond rating, which is effected by the shadow of congressional review that delays the certainty of finality to District legislation. At the same time, Congress would give up none of its plenary power because the Congress may intervene into any District matter at any time.

Thus, the limited legislative autonomy granted in this bill would allow the District to realize the greater measure of meaningful self-government and Home Rule it deserves and has more than earned in the 32 years since the Home Rule Act became effective. This goal can be achieved not only without prejudice to congressional authority. A congressional practice for many years now that has meant savings to Congress should now be reciprocated to the City Council as well. I urge my colleagues to pass this important measure.

ON THE INTRODUCTION OF HER
BILL SUPPORTING A SALVA-
DORAN-AMERICAN DAY

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill supporting the goals and ideals of a Salvadoran-American Day (El Dia del Salvadoreño) in recognition of all Salvadoran-Americans for their hard work, dedication and contribution to the stability and well-being of the United States.

Forty years of internal political turmoil forced hundreds of thousands of individuals from the Republic of El Salvador to flee the country and seek peace and security in the United States. Currently, there are over 900,000 Salvadoran-Americans living in the United States, with the majority of them living in California, the Washington, DC Metropolitan Area and New York. In the Los Angeles metropolitan area alone, there are roughly 400,000 Salvadoran-Americans.

In California, the state with the largest population of Salvadoran Americans, El Dia del Salvadoreño is widely celebrated among the Latino community. This celebration of Salvadoran traditions dates back to 1525, when on August 6 the city of Villa De San Salvador was founded. August 6 also marks the date when Salvadorans around the United States celebrate the "Fiestas Agostinas" (August Holidays.) This celebration pays homage to the cultural festivities of El Salvador while adapting itself to the lives of Salvadorans in the United States. Celebrated by Salvadoran-

Americans in California and throughout our country, Salvadoran-American Day has grown in significance over the years.

Let us not forget that our Nation was built by people from many nations and cultures whose lives and work have contributed to the greatness of our Nation. Likewise, we must recognize the efforts of Salvadoran-Americans for their cultural and economic contributions to the United States and support the ideals of a Salvadoran-American Day.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF
LENA CARDOSO COSTA

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague Congressman DENNIS CARDOZA, to share the obituary of Lena Cardoso Costa a loving mother to our dear friend and colleague, Congressman JIM COSTA. She was a loving mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother who meant a great deal to a great many people. Knowing of the important bond between JIM COSTA and his mother Lena, we express our deepest sympathies for his loss.

Mr. Speaker, please join us in honoring and remembering the life of Lena Cardoso Costa.

OBITUARY TO LENA CARDOSO COSTA

Surrounded by loved ones Lena Cardoso Costa completed her long journey of 90 years during which she contributed generously to the lives of her family and her community. As a member of what has been described as "America's Greatest Generation", she knew first hand the hard-scrabble days of the Great Depression, the uncertainty of living in a nation at war and the joy that comes from seeing the success of her children and family.

Born in Corcoran, California on August 20, 1915 to Joseph and Georgina Cardoso, Portuguese emigrants from the Azore Islands, Lena Cardoso was raised in Stratford, California along with her 5 brothers and 2 sisters. Her parents came to America to establish for themselves and their children a better life. During Lena's childhood her family endured very difficult economic times, but they persevered to realize the American Dream. The values of Lena's parents, hard work and dedication to family, were passed on to their children.

On October 11, 1936, Lena Cardoso married Manuel Costa and joined the large extended family of John C. Costa Sr. Along with his brother and his wife, John and Mary Costa, Lena and Manuel established a dairy and farming business that moved permanently to the Kearney Park area in 1942.

During the 1950's, 1960's and 1970's Lena was deeply involved in her community, cooking at the Kearney Elementary School and serving on the school's district's Board of Trustees. Because she had to quit school at the 9th grade to help her family, she placed an extraordinary importance on education for her children and grandchildren. As a matter of fact, Lena decided for her own satisfaction in 1985, at age 70, to go back to school and earned her General Education Degree.

In addition, Lena was appointed to the Fresno County Social Services Commission upon which she served through the late 60's and early 70's. She was active in the Fresno County Cabrillo Club for over 60 years in support of the club's numerous civic and charitable events and for years represented

the club at the Naturalization ceremonies for new citizens. Lena served as a delegate to the state Democratic convention and was a member of the Fresno Democratic Women's Club. One of her proudest moments was on January 4, 2005 when she saw her son, Jim, sworn in as a Member of Congress in Washington, D.C. as the Representative for the 20th Congressional District.

During her lifetime Lena was well read and enjoyed as hobbies traveling, painting, ceramics and playing cards. For over 50 years she and a group of friends played bridge together at least once a month. Lena was also active within the Portuguese lodges SPRSI and as a charter member of the UPPEC of Kerman.

Lena Costa is survived by her children, Congressman Jim Costa of Fresno and Bette O'Sullivan and her husband Denis of Mountain Lakes, NJ; grandchildren Roberta Rasmussen Vinkhuyzen and her husband Dr Erik Vinkhuyzen of Tokyo, Japan; Eric Rasmussen of Los Gatos; Dr Christopher Rasmussen of Pasadena; Kurt Rasmussen of Eureka; and Laura Rasmussen Nichols and her husband Kallen, who is stationed at Lemoore Naval Air Station; Kerin O'Sullivan Berghaier and her husband Richard of Chalfont, PA; Cathlyn O'Sullivan Markel and her husband Howard of Zephyrhills, FL; and Patricia O'Sullivan Jacobson and her husband Michael of Randolph, NJ. Lena is also survived by her great-grandchildren Saskia, Pascale, and Lukas Vinkhuyzen; Shayla Nichols and Tucker Rasmussen; Nikolas and Alexander Jacobson; and Emma Rose Markel.

She is also survived by her sister Elsie Martin of Hanford; brothers Tony Cardoso of Kerman, Emidio Cardoso of Fresno, Lee Cardoso of Hanford, Dimas Cardoso of Pismo Beach; and brother-in-law Leonel Costa of Fallon Nevada. She leaves 26 nieces and nephews that she loved dearly.

Lena Costa was preceded in death by her husband Manuel and sister Georgina Roza.

IN MEMORY OF KUNI HIRONAKA

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in tribute to a dear friend, tireless volunteer and community leader. Kuni Hironaka, served our nation through many decades of service at McClellan Air Force Base as well as volunteering with numerous community organizations in the Sacramento region with great passion, integrity and commitment. He passed away on March 8th. As his family and friends gather to honor and remember his wonderful life, I ask all my colleagues to join me in saluting one of Sacramento's most well-respected figures, and my friend, Kuni Hironaka.

Kuni was born and raised in Sacramento, where he lived for most of his life. He worked for 37 years at McClellan Air Force Base as a civilian employee. In 1967 he observed that Asian Americans were not a protected minority in the federal workforce. At McClellan there were no Asian American supervisors or foremen in the maintenance department or in the base's management, even though there were a considerable number of qualified individuals with the experience and education necessary to do the job well.

Taking a personal and professional risk, Kuni strived to change this. He repeatedly in-

quired with the McClellan Air Force Base chain of command and did not rest until the Department of Defense reviewed their hiring and promotion practices. Ultimately, his decision to challenge the status quo resulted in more qualified Asian Americans being promoted in the civilian workforce and the removal of the term "Oriental" as an ethnic identifier. Kuni played a crucial role in ensuring that all minorities were treated fairly and protected in the workplace.

Kuni was always one to give back to our community, spending most of his free time helping others. He was active with the Sacramento Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League, the Sacramento Asian Sports Foundation, Bocho Doshi Kai and the South Tanoshimi Kai. The day of his passing, he spent all morning volunteering at the Japanese American National Bowling Association's annual tournament.

In recognition of his longtime dedication to numerous non-profit causes and his commitment to civil rights, Kuni was honored as an "Asian Pacific American Heritage Hero" by Sacramento's public television station, KVIE, just last April. It was a fitting honor for a man who gave so much to so many others.

Bob and I were truly lucky to know Kuni so well and to be able to call him our friend. He was always there to help us and our family. Brian, Amy, Anna and I, as well as countless others in Sacramento will miss him deeply.

Kuni is survived by a loving family, including his wonderful wife Rose, their four children, David, Amy, Arlene, and Richard, and seven grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, as Kuni Hironaka's family members and friends gather to honor his legacy and many contributions, I am honored to pay tribute to one of my closest friends. I ask all my colleagues to join with me in paying respect to and acknowledging the life of an extraordinarily caring man.

IN RECOGNITION OF 50-YEAR MEMBERS OF KAPPA ALPHA PSI FRATERNITY, INC.

HON. ALBERT RUSSELL WYNN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank my college fraternity, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., for the support and encouragement they are providing to the Eastern Province of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., in recognizing its 50-year brothers and senior Kappas. I have been a member of this great fraternity for 36 years.

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. was founded nearly 100 years ago, in 1911, at Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, by eleven young African American male students, and chartered by the State of Indiana on May 15, 1911. These undergraduate students were in their late teens and early twenties and were sophomores and juniors, at Indiana University. Their parents and/or grandparents had been either slaves or freed slaves. An excerpt, in pertinent part, from the articles of incorporation reads as follows: "All the subscribers hereto, who are colored citizens of the United States and Students of Indiana University, do hereby associate themselves together . . . for

the purpose of founding a National, Secret, Greek Letter Fraternity . . . to stimulate fellow students to the attainment of high, intellectual, moral and social worth."

During the past nearly 100 years, the fraternity has grown to 370 alumni chapters and 375 undergraduate chapters. The fraternity is divided into 12 provinces (regions) throughout the United States, and in several countries abroad. My local chapter, the Hyattsville/Landover (MD) Alumni Chapter is situated in the Eastern Province. The province has 53 Chapters with approximately 1,800 brothers affiliated with chapters assigned to it.

New membership in the fraternity is not limited or restricted to undergraduate students only. Unlike many other national college fraternities, our alumni chapters are most viable and play a significant "training for leadership" role to its undergraduate brothers. This role is accomplished while these alumni members are raising families and achieving in all fields of human endeavor, including rendering community services. We also provide scholarships and loans to high school students, as well as college students, even to those who are not members of Kappa Alpha Psi.

It is noteworthy, that social outlets available to these alumni brothers during the last nearly 100 years made it most feasible and propitious to continue bonding together as they worked with the younger brothers and others in the community.

The Eastern Province has been diligent in its recognition of its senior brothers and brothers who have been members of the fraternity for fifty or more years. Beginning in May 2006, they will initiate an annual recognition activity for these brothers, in conjunction with national initiatives and special amenities, honoring their length of life and service to the fraternity and community-at-large.

Somewhere in heaven, the chapter invisible, I know our esteemed founders are smiling after noting that our senior and fifty year brothers are not being placed on the shelf and forgotten.

KBBF'S 35TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Bilingual Broadcasting Foundation, Inc. for establishing KBBF 89.1. This station has served my constituents in Sonoma County for 35 years. KBBF is an example of how local broadcasters can serve and benefit their communities. In an era where media outlets are owned by fewer and fewer corporations, KBBF's voice rings brightly throughout the North Bay.

KBBF was the dream of a few Sonoma State University students who had a vision of establishing a community owned and operated, non-commercial, bilingual, bi-cultural, educational FM radio station that would be committed to social change and advocacy for the poor and would be devoted to meeting the educational, informational, and cultural needs of the Spanish speaking community.

Its founding Board of Directors was far from the Fortune 500. It was made up of people like you and me; a farm worker, a lawyer, a

housewife, a local professor and a college student. No wonder KBBF connects so well to the community it serves.

The first test broadcast of KBBF-FM on March 31, 1973 made radio history by being the first public bi-lingual radio station in the United States. Regular broadcasts began two months later on May 31, 1973.

By 1976 the Bilingual Broadcasting Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors developed a statement of goals consistent with the philosophy of the original founders. In addition to social change and advocacy, the Board charged KBBF with programming goals to coordinate and facilitate efforts to advance the political, social, educational and economic conditions of the Chicano, and Spanish-speaking community and to provide an avenue to develop leadership and creative potential for the youth. The Board of Directors and KBBF have received national recognition from the John F. Kennedy Foundation and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for achieving these goals.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate KBBF 89.1 on its 35th Anniversary for serving my constituents and the nation by being the first bilingual educational FM radio station in the United States.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker I regret that I was out of the Chamber on Wednesday, March 8, 2006 and was unable to return before time expired on rollcall vote No. 32 on HR 4167, the National Uniformity for Food Act of 2005. Had I been allowed to record my vote, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote No. 32.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BLINN HOUSE

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Blinn House in Pasadena, California. This year, the Blinn House will celebrate its 100th Anniversary.

Edmund Blinn, an Oak Park, Illinois native enjoyed Pasadena when visiting with his wife Kate and their four children. In 1905, the Blinns decided to leave Oak Park for the warm climate and beauty of Pasadena. They hired George W. Maher to design their California home in the Midwestern Prairie School Style in 1906. Maher designed the interior of the house using harmonious natural materials with a repeated theme of wisteria vines. In his design for the Blinn house, Maher used a segmental or broken-arch theme throughout the house. Tiffany inspired leaded-glass windows with a wisteria vine motif artfully border the broken-arch windows.

At the turn of the last century a group of prestigious Chicago architects led the world in the advancement of new ideas in the design

and construction of commercial buildings. Their work is better known as the Chicago School of Architecture. One of the architects, Louis Sullivan, embellished his building designs to incorporate simple repetitive patterns taken from nature. Young architects such as George W. Maher and Frank Lloyd Wright admired Sullivan's work, and while working in a community with other Midwestern architects founded the Prairie School of Architecture. The Prairie School architects created a uniquely American style of architecture which brought natural elements of the countryside to the cities.

The Blinn House was designated a Pasadena Cultural Heritage Landmark in 1977. In 2001, it was placed on both the National Register of Historic Places and the California Register of Historical Resources. In 2002, the Blinn House Foundation was formed for the purpose of maintaining and preserving this Pasadena legacy. Home to the Women's City Club since 1945, the Blinn House continues to serve the Pasadena community as a meeting place for women's civic, cultural, and educational activities.

I am proud to recognize the Blinn House upon its 100th Anniversary and I ask all Members to join me today in honoring this historic house.

NATIONAL UNIFORMITY FOR FOOD ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4167) to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide for uniform food safety warning notification requirements, and for other purposes:

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Chairman, while I am a cosponsor of H.R. 4167, the National Uniformity for Food Act, I am concerned about the process in which the bill was brought to the floor for consideration, without a committee hearing or markup. I believe that any major legislation should be subject to a committee hearing, where members can provide input and offer amendments. I support uniform, national food safety label standards, because I believe it will enhance consumer protection. I am, however, opposed to the process in which the House will consider this legislation today, which is why I am voting against H. Res. 710, the rule for consideration of H.R. 4167.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. XXXX, COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES REFORM ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, this bill reforms the process by which the government

reviews foreign acquisitions of companies doing business in the United States for national security concerns. These reforms are badly needed. Even prior to the Dubai ports debacle, the nonpartisan Government Accounting Office had identified several serious problems with the process by which the interagency Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States reviews foreign acquisitions. The need for reform was dramatically illustrated by the failure of CFIUS process in the Dubai ports deal. Not one of the twelve agencies involved managed to identify the Dubai ports deal as one which "could affect the national security" of the United States—even though it involved acquisition of port management at 20 ports on the East Coast and Gulf by the government of Dubai.

As a threshold matter, the bill creates the CFIUS by statute and specifies the membership. It adds the Director of National Intelligence to the present group, so that the concerns of the intelligence community are represented.

The bill requires a 45-day investigation of national security concerns by CFIUS, and a recommendation to the President, in all cases of acquisition by foreign governments. This was Congress' clear intent in enacting the Byrd Amendment. But as the GAO reported, and as we have seen in the Dubai ports case, the Administration has found several ways to evade doing an investigation through strained interpretations of the statutory language.

The bill also requires that sign off at the Deputy Secretary level or above for any transaction that is not subject to a 45-day investigation but which is subject to a mitigation agreement to resolve national security concerns raised. These agreements need to be reviewed at the highest levels.

The bill also requires CFIUS to consider and specifically respond to a list of factors that might affect national security. The present statute allows but does not require such consideration. Most important, the bill adds to the list of factors that must be considered whether the transaction affects critical infrastructure. According to the GAO report, the Departments of Justice, Homeland Security and Defense all believe that a deal's effect on critical infrastructure should be considered in the CFIUS process but Treasury has prevented such consideration.

The bill requires an annual report to Congress on transactions completed and a quarterly report on pending transactions. Although the present law expressly permits Congress access to all information in the CFIUS process, Treasury has refused and continues to refuse Congress access to key information. These reports will provide, among other things, information on the nature of the transaction, the national security concerns raised by any agency; how those concerns were mitigated; and whether such acquisition was completed or not, as well as any Presidential decisions made under the statute.

Perhaps the most dangerous transactions are those that escape the CFIUS process altogether through withdrawal, as the GAO reported. To correct the problem created by companies that withdraw before completion of the CFIUS process but proceed with the transaction, the bill requires that CFIUS impose restrictions on the company after withdrawal to address any national security concerns raised, set specific time frames for the company to

refile, and track actions taken by the company during the withdrawal period.

IN TRIBUTE TO THE SHREWSBURY
HIGH SCHOOL DREAM TEAM

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Shrewsbury High School DREAM Team. During their 10 years of exceptional service, the DREAM Team, which stands for Daring to Reform Education on AIDS Matters, has played a vital role in helping those impacted by the AIDS virus. In addition to spreading awareness about AIDS, the DREAM Team is committed to helping those in the Worcester area plagued by hunger, homelessness, and other problems.

Since its creation in 1996, the Shrewsbury High School DREAM Team has raised awareness in youth of the importance of not being complacent about social crises. Although the organization's initial objective was helping the local population affected by the AIDS virus, their objective has widened to a variety of social causes, as can be seen by their involvement with the Holiday Christmas Party this year at the Community Health Link Shelter in Leominster, through which over 400 presents were collected. The Dream Team also sponsored a food drive at Thanksgiving that benefited St. Anne's Outreach Services and the Worcester County Food Bank in Shrewsbury.

The DREAM Team's concern for those in need and their acknowledgement of the critical role today's youth play in alleviating social problems is fundamental in the education of the town of Shrewsbury and the nation at large. I am grateful to the DREAM Team for their contribution to my community and ask my colleagues to join in me in honoring this exemplary organization.

IN MEMORY OF HELEN MARY
WILLIAMS

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Helen Mary Williams. Helen Mary passed away on Tuesday, January 10, 2006. She will be missed dearly by countless members of the community which she served so thoughtfully over the past 30 years.

Helen Mary was born in Chicago, Illinois and grew up during the Great Depression. She attended Coe College and graduated Cum Laude in 1942 with a Bachelor's degree in Speech. While in college, she volunteered for her local radio station, becoming one of the first women in Iowa to be on the radio. She went on to become Assistant Program Director at WIND in Gary, Indiana. Later, she moved back to Chicago where she was a writer and broadcaster for CBS.

In the late 1950s, Mrs. Williams decided to become a teacher and she made her way to Pasadena, California. As a science teacher at Cleveland Elementary School, Mrs. Williams

founded the Junior Audubon Science Club in 1959. The Club was dedicated to teaching inner-city youth about nature. With the help of community activists and involved parents, the science club expanded and was renamed Outward Bound Adventures (OBA) and incorporated as a nonprofit environmental educational youth organization. When asked about the beginnings of OBA, Mrs. Williams said, "It was really laughable when we started doing these trips back in 1959 and 1960. None of the leaders had done much in the way of High Sierra trips, so we goofed a bit. But we also learned. And now we found out that kids are basically kids; by that I mean, they respond well to positive reinforcement both inside and outside the classroom."

Mrs. Williams knew that OBA was exactly the type of program that every inner-city youth should have available to them, and by 1969, Mrs. Williams and OBA had served over 20,000 urban youth. Helen Mary Williams was a visionary. She had faith that people would believe in her vision; she had faith that every child could learn and improve academic and social skills by being exposed to the wonders of the great outdoors. Mrs. Williams served on the OBA Board of Directors until her death and received many awards throughout her career. The time and energy she gave to children and their parents was remarkable. Helen Mary leaves behind more than 30,000 youth and adults whose lives have been forever changed.

I ask all Members of the United States House of Representatives to join me today in honoring the life of Helen Mary Williams.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GORDON
ROGER ALEXANDER BUCHANAN
PARKS

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Gordon Roger Alexander Buchanan Parks and to extend my condolences to his family and friends on his death this week.

Mr. Parks was born in 1912 in Fort Scott, Kansas, where he also spent his childhood years. His life was an example of hope, tenacity, courage and accomplishment. He inspired many with thought-provoking photographs and images as seen through his lenses. He captured the poverty of many Americans, highlighted racism, and made us aware of people largely ignored.

He also captured inspiring images of beauty and courage that attested to the freedom of the human spirit. Mr. Parks was a man who found beauty nearly everywhere he went. His work told the story of freedom, of breaking boundaries and of hope in difficult times.

Freedom was, in Mr. Parks' own words, what his work was about. He helped African Americans gain new ground in their struggle for recognition of their civil rights. He helped make America aware of the gang wars within some of our urban cities. And he captured beauty wherever he saw it.

He brought to America many untold stories from other parts of the world, including his famous Life magazine account of Flavio da

Silva, the young Brazilian boy suffering from tuberculosis. Like other works of Mr. Parks, his pictures elicited action. Approximately \$30,000 was sent from readers to help bring Flavio to America where he was soon cured of tuberculosis.

Mr. Parks' success was not just in his numerous honors and awards for a lifetime of outstanding work as a photojournalist, author, film director, and musician, but also as an individual who triumphed over racism, poverty and a lack of formal education. Rather than lashing out in anger at the injustice he both experienced and witnessed though much of his life, he chose to challenge the status quo through his photography, his writings and his stories.

Kansans learned many important lessons from Mr. Parks. It took a lot of grace and courage for him to address the injustices of his past, and for that we are grateful. America needs more people who will strive to do good in the face of adversity. Our country and the world are a better place because of his example.

In 1986 Kansas honored Mr. Parks by naming him Kansan of the Year. Then in 1988, President Ronald Reagan awarded him with the National Medal of Arts. More recently, he received the University of Kansas' William Allen White Foundation National Citation for journalistic merit in 2006.

I hope the House of Representatives will quickly pass the resolution in honor of Mr. Parks sponsored by my Kansas colleague, JIM RYUN. It is appropriate that Congress acknowledge his life and many positive contributions to our country.

I hope the memory of Mr. Parks will live on for generations and that his family and friends will find solace in the legacy he leaves behind. May Gordon Parks rest in peace.

CELEBRATING THE 45TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE PEACE CORPS AND
NATIONAL PEACE CORPS WEEK

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the many men and women that serve on the Peace Corps. I believe you can either be part of the problem or part of the solution. The many men and women that serve on the Peace Corps are part of the solution in creating international peace. In 1961 when John F. Kennedy established the Peace Corps he intended to promote world peace and friendships.

Today, in the twenty first century Peace Corps members play a vital role in the United States by serving other countries in the cause of peace. The volunteers work on many different projects that help people in interested countries meet their needs for trained men and women, and also help encourage a better understanding of Americans on the part of the peoples served.

Members of the Peace Corps serve our country by assisting countries around the world. Finding common ways to address global challenges such as, the HIV/AIDS epidemic and also building unbending bonds of friendship across an ever shrinking world is one of the many developmental programs the Peace Corps offers.

Another project that Peace Corps members assisted in was the Hurricane Katrina relief efforts project. Along with FEMA they aided the many victims in need of help from the unfortunate natural disaster. Members of the Peace Corps not only bring back ideas from different cultures, they also share their American culture with foreign countries.

Join me in applauding our fellow Peace Corps members on 45 years of dedicated service to our country. I wish them much success and encourage our young people to take advantage of the great opportunities the Peace Corps has to offer.

HONORING AND PRAISING THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 97TH ANNIVERSARY

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2006

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) as they celebrate the 97th anniversary of their inception.

Since February 12, 1909, the NAACP has strived to promote their mission to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights for all persons and to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination.

As the oldest and largest civil rights organization in the nation, the members of the NAACP have sought to remove all barriers of racial discrimination through non-violence and positive reinforcement.

The NAACP won one of the nation's greatest legal victories—the 1954 Supreme Court decision *Brown v. Board of Education*. The NAACP was also a prominent power that lobbied for the passage of the Civil Rights Acts of 1957, 1960, and 1964. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 and the Fair Housing Act were also achievements of this longstanding organization.

In 2005, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People launched the Disaster Relief Fund to help Hurricane Katrina survivors in Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas, Florida, and Alabama rebuild their lives.

Today the NAACP is a network of more than 2,200 affiliates covering all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Japan and Germany. As a Californian, it is with honor that I note that our state contains 72 branches and youth units.

The perseverance demonstrated by members of the NAACP reflects the strength of this exceptional organization. Over the past 97 years, this national organization has provided communities around the United States with strong and passionate leaders who have fought for social change. I congratulate them on their successes and look forward to many more years of continued achievements in the future.

I commend the NAACP and look forward to celebrating their centennial in 3 years.

A TRIBUTE TO Foothill FAMILY SERVICE

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Foothill Family Service of Pasadena, California. During the month of March, 2006, Foothill Family Service will be celebrating its 80th Anniversary.

Believing that strong communities begin with healthy families, the mission of Foothill Family Service is to strengthen and support adults, children and families so that they can lead productive lives. Foothill Family Service is committed to the prevention and treatment of child abuse, domestic violence, school failure, teen pregnancy and school violence.

Foothill Family Service offers a plethora of mental health and social service programs to residents of the San Gabriel Valley, Pomona Valley, Glendale and Burbank communities. Some of the programs offered are Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment, Mental Health Treatment, Family Violence Prevention, Teen Pregnancy Prevention, Dual Diagnosing Services, Counseling, and Senior Services. ESTEEM School-Based Services is a program that provides on-site counseling and mental health services at schools in the San Gabriel Valley and in Glendale.

The organization has widespread support throughout the community with many volunteers that donate thousands of hours. Last year, Foothill Family Service assisted more than 20,000 children, adults, and families, most of whom receive subsidized services and have a monthly net income of under \$1,000. Services are provided in many languages, including English, Spanish, Armenian, Korean, Farsi, Vietnamese, Cantonese, Mandarin, and Japanese.

I am proud to recognize Foothill Family Service upon its 80th Anniversary and I ask all Members to join me in congratulating this invaluable organization for their remarkable achievements.

RECOGNIZING JIM MALONEY, RECIPIENT OF THE 2006 GOIN' SOUTH CIVIC PRIDE AWARD

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to stand here today to recognize Jim Maloney a remarkable citizen who will be honored on March 11, 2006, by Goin' South, a civic, social, and cultural organization based in South Buffalo, New York.

Jim is a retired railroad conductor from South Buffalo, NY. He and his wife Delores have 4 children, 12 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. Mr. Maloney is actively involved at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish and serves as President of the S.T.A. Travel Club. He also volunteers his time to assist Bishop Timon/St. Jude High School in their fundraising efforts.

Mr. Maloney's recent and most notable contribution to the South Buffalo community was unveiled in the summer of 2005 in the form of

a Law Enforcement Memorial at McKinley Parkway and Abbott Road in Heacock Park. Jim and Delores Maloney's son Daniel died tragically in the line of duty and it was his heroic sacrifice that served as Jim's inspiration. He sought to create a visual reminder of the sacrifices that law enforcement officers make every day.

Turning his vision into reality, Jim worked tirelessly with the help of friends to create the beautifully designed memorial which displays the names of over 70 fallen Western New York Law enforcement officers.

Mr. Speaker, Jim Maloney is being honored as the recipient of the 2006 Goin' South Civic Pride Award for his hard work, civic contributions and steadfast commitment to honoring Western New York's law enforcement officers who died in the line of duty. It is my distinct honor to recognize him here today.

RECOGNIZING DR. TAN SIU LIN FOR HIS SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY ON GUAM

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Tan Siu Lin for his service to our community and his civic involvement on Guam. Dr. Tan, an entrepreneur and philanthropist, has supported many community projects and initiatives since he and his family first established a business on Guam in 1972. His civic contributions have spanned the fields of education, journalism, information technology and business. Today, Dr. Tan continues to fill important leadership roles on our island and remains involved in many notable community and philanthropic projects that benefit the Western Pacific Region.

The preservation of culture has always been an important goal of Dr. Tan, who was born in Quanzhou, China in 1930. He founded the Chinese School of Guam, the Chinese Park of Guam, and Gee How Oak Tin Association of Guam. He served as the chairman of the United Chinese Association of Guam during its early stages and successfully led the organization through a period of sustained growth and activity. Today, he continues to serve the United Chinese Association of Guam as their Honorary Chairman.

He has endowed a scholarship at the University of Guam in support of academic excellence. He established "The Overseas Chinese Newspaper of Guam" to share news among the Chinese community of Guam and to promote and highlight accomplishments of their community.

His entrepreneurial success has not overshadowed his humanity and his community service. His personal motto is: "deliver to the community with what you have earned from it." He has been recognized by the governments of Malaysia and the Philippines for his philanthropic contributions. Organizations in Hong Kong and Micronesia have also honored him for his work in support of charitable causes.

As he marks another milestone this week with the opening of a new business venture on Guam, I take this occasion to recognize his achievements and his community service. I

join his wife Lam Pek Kim and his children Henry, Willie, Lilly, Jerry, Raymond and Sunny in recognizing his many professional accomplishments and his service to our community.

TRIBUTE TO MR. RAÚL DÁVILA

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and work of Raúl Dávila, the late, great Puerto Rican actor. Mr. Dávila was a leading light in the Hispanic acting community and a good friend. He will be missed by all who knew or knew of him.

Mr. Dávila was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico on September 15, 1934. He graduated from the University of Puerto Rico and Tulane University. By the time he was in his early twenties, he was acting in soap operas and other works broadcast on the island of Puerto Rico. In spite of his success in Puerto Rico, he soon felt the pull to move to a larger market and to take on more challenges. In late 1963, like so many of his generation, he moved to New York.

Upon arriving in New York, he immersed himself in the vibrant and vital Hispanic acting and arts scene. He began to work as an actor, and starred in many television shows, both in Spanish and English. He, along with other Hispanic actors, fought valiantly for the rights and recognition that Hispanic actors deserved.

One manner in which Mr. Dávila successfully pushed for equal opportunities for Hispanic actors was through his leadership at the Hispanic Organization of Latin Actors, or HOLA, of which he was president many times. Part of HOLA's mission statement reads that the organization seeks "to expand the presence of Hispanic actors in both the Latino and mainstream entertainment and communications media by facilitating industry access to employing professional and emerging Hispanic actors." Raúl Dávila's service to the community, of which he was such a vital part, focused directly on that mission. He sought to open doors for Hispanic actors here in the United States.

Today we often take for granted much of the success that Latino performers have in show business. It is important, however, to remember that this was not always the case. We must recognize those who led the way. For this reason, it is fitting that we honor this Puerto Rican actor, who was not only a pioneer in his field, but also set the standard for others to follow in the decades to come.

We must also recognize Mr. Dávila's artistic achievements, which were many. He was the star of many "telenovelas," popular Spanish-language soap operas, as well as well-received appearances in movies like "The Believers," "The Man with My Face," and "Counterplot." He was perhaps best known for his role in "Carmelo Y Punto." His acting in the play "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf" won him a prize in 1972 from the Puerto Rican Cultural Institute, and a prize from the newspaper "El Tiempo." He also never gave up his love of learning about his craft, earning a Masters in Dramatic Arts from the Pasadena Playhouse in California later in life.

Mr. Speaker, with the passing of Raúl Dávila, we have lost one of the leaders in the Hispanic acting community. His passion for acting and his dedication to promoting opportunities for other Hispanic actors was truly inspirational. Although he has passed on, his works will continue to inspire and impact the lives of generations to come. Surely, that is the mark of great life. I ask that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Raúl Dávila.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 1259—TO
AWARD A CONGRESSIONAL GOLD
MEDAL ON BEHALF OF THE
TUSKEGEE AIRMEN

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of this resolution, H.R. 1259, to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress, collectively, to the Tuskegee Airmen in recognition of their unique military record, which inspired revolutionary reform in the Armed Forces.

The Tuskegee Airmen, formed from 1,000 pilots, bombardiers and navigators, overcame segregation and racial discrimination to become national heroes and advanced our society by desegregating our armed forces. While in combat, the Tuskegee Airmen completed 15,000 missions and never lost an Allied bomber under their escort.

The Tuskegee Airmen were the first people of color in U.S. military history to see air combat. This group of brave soldiers became one of the most respected Army Air Corp Fighter Groups of World War II.

In joining the fight to save Europe and the world from a cruel and heinous regime, the Tuskegee Airmen fought for freedom that they could not enjoy in their own country. In taking to the air during the launch of military aviation,

these brave men were also fighting a war against bigotry and racism at home. Thus, they deserve the kind of recognition that the Gold Medal will give them.

The Tuskegee Airmen are now in their 80's, so we must pass this bill immediately to honor these WWII heroes so these medals will not be a posthumous honor.

RECOGNIZING DAVID D. TUNCAP
FOR HIS YEARS OF SERVICE TO
THE PEOPLE OF GUAM

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize David D. Tuncap of Tamuning, Guam for his service to our community in four decades of public service and leadership both in government and the private sector. Mr. Tuncap is one of those rare individuals on Guam whose vision and contributions to our visitor industry have benefited our community and made our island a better place to live.

Mr. Tuncap served in the Government of Guam as a Director of the Department of Commerce from 1975 to 1976 and as the first Executive Manager of the Guam Airport Authority from 1976 to 1978. He also served from 1976 to 1978 and from 1981 to 1996 as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Guam Visitors Bureau. In addition to his government experience, Mr. Tuncap held several senior management positions in the private sector in businesses related to the visitor industry. Mr. Tuncap was a key player in the development of Guam's visitor industry and in the period of rapid growth and expansion of our island's tourist infrastructure in the 1970s and 1980s. During his tenure at GVB he promoted the Chamorro culture as the foundation of the visitor experience to Guam.

David Tuncap has been a leader on Guam both within the visitor industry and as a community advocate. He is recognized as a visionary who helped to diversify and grow our island's economy. On the occasion of his retirement, I join our island in saluting his impressive accomplishments and in thanking him for his years of service to our community.

I know his wife Dolores, and his daughters, Antoinette Jo Ann, Nora Jean, Tania Paulette, are especially proud of his accomplishments. I also join them in commending David Tuncap for his lifetime of achievements and for the fine example of what it means to be a dedicated public servant and a successful business leader.