

study science, math, computer applications, and foreign language. This program has allowed hundreds of our teachers to improve their own skills which have been of great benefit to the thousands of students they have and will continue to instruct. In addition to these educational initiatives, Howard, both through the Foundation and personally, has generously supported cultural and health institutions throughout the Greater Hartford Area. His outstanding efforts on behalf of our teachers and public education system were recognized by both the Connecticut Commissioner of Education and the Connecticut State Board of Education and in 2002 he was honored by the Hartford Business Journal with their Accolades Award for Individual Giving.

I have often said that our communities would not be the same without those individuals who selflessly dedicate their time and energies to making them better places to live and work—individuals like Howard Fromson who has quietly touched the lives of many and made all the difference in our community. I consider myself fortunate to call him my friend and I know that sentiment is shared by many. Today, as he celebrates his 85th birthday, he also reflects on a lifetime of invaluable contributions and endless generosity—a legacy which is sure to inspire others. It is with my heartfelt congratulations and warmest wishes that I join his wife, Sandy; his children, Michele, Michael, Timothy, and Brett; his seven grandchildren; family and friends in this wondrous celebration.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 468 I was on the floor for this vote and others in series. My vote on H.R. 6095, Immigration Law Enforcement Act of 2006, did not register. I would have voted "yea."

IMMIGRATION LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 21, 2006

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Immigration Law Enforcement Act of 2006. This bill reaffirms the inherent authority of State and local law enforcement to voluntarily investigate, identify, apprehend, arrest, detain and transfer to federal custody aliens in the U.S. in order to assist in the enforcement of the immigration laws.

Presently, many cities are enacting so-called "sanctuary" policies, which prohibit local police from asking about a person's immigration status or reporting illegal aliens who commit crimes to immigration authorities for deportation. Passed in 1996, the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act forbids localities from preventing their police officers from asking for or reporting immigration

information to the Federal Government. Existing federal law says:

Notwithstanding any other provision of Federal, State or local law, a Federal, State, or local government entity or official may not prohibit or in any way restrict any government entity or official from sending to or receiving information regarding the citizenship or immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual.

Despite this ban, some cities continue to prohibit their officers from asking about immigration status or providing information to the Federal Government. Make no mistake about it: This is a situation of local governments blatantly violating Federal law.

As a result, U.S. taxpayers pay to incarcerate illegal alien prisoners who are later released back onto the streets. Sanctuary policies tie the hands of local law enforcement officers and keep illegal aliens who commit crimes in our country, rather than deporting criminals according to U.S. law. These sanctuary policies have disastrous consequences.

Our State and local governments serve as the front line of defense against terrorism and criminal aliens. Every murder, every rape, every violent gang crime committed against Americans by illegal aliens is an utterly preventable crime. If we better enforce our immigration laws to keep criminals out, we will save lives. We must use the law enforcement resources we have, at every level, to enforce our laws, with the end result of making our Nation a safer place for our grandchildren to grow up in.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GRANITE CITY

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 100th Anniversary of the First Presbyterian Church of Granite City, Illinois.

In 1906, a major earthquake rocked San Francisco, President Theodore Roosevelt became the first American to win the Nobel Peace Prize, the Dow Industrial Average closed above 100 for the first time and the Wright brothers received a patent for their flying machine. Also in 1906, a growing group of Christians who had been meeting weekly in a local school organized the First Presbyterian Church of Granite City.

From the initial 25 members, the congregation had grown to 112 when the first service was held on Easter Sunday, April 15, 1906. The coming years would see continued growth, both in the size of the congregation and in the physical facilities. The church, on 2160 Delmar, in Granite City, was completed in 1916 and an educational wing was added in 1930.

Also, in 1930, a new organ was installed. That organ was replaced in 1951 and again in 1961. Music has always played an important part in the life of the First Presbyterian Church and that was further enhanced with the creation of two paid positions of organist and choir director in 1942. In 1993, the Grand

Concert Series was instituted which allowed the Church to extend its musical gifts to the community at large.

The 1990s saw even more changes for the First Presbyterian Church. A fire, in 1994, caused extensive damage and made it necessary to move services to a nearby church while the church could be restored. The resulting renovation brought about not only a beautiful new sanctuary but also a spirit of renewal for the church family. This spirit was further enhanced as First Presbyterian merged with Mitchell Presbyterian in 1998.

As the First Presbyterian Church has weathered the changes of the past 100 years, so has the neighboring community. In response to the changing conditions, First Presbyterian has initiated and joined in a number of programs to expand their ministry. A Vacation Bible School, summer drama camp, and an association with the United Congregations of Metro-East are but a few examples of this community outreach.

As much as they celebrate their past, the congregation of First Presbyterian Church looks forward to the future. Their strong commitment to their faith, their families and their community enables them to constantly strive for new ways to fulfill their mission, "Bringing People to Christ."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 100th anniversary of the First Presbyterian Church of Granite City and to wish the best to them for many years to come.

CHÁVEZ: OUTRAGEOUS AND OUTLANDISH

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, the Boston Globe Editorial on Friday, September 22, accurately describes the antics of Venezuelan President Chávez at the U.N. He was simultaneously outrageous and outlandish, using the great forum of the U.N. General Assembly for a semi-coherent diatribe. He gave a clear example of why his support in elections in Latin America has been toxic to those who've received it. Recently, in Peru and in Mexico, being tied to Chávez by their opponents, accurately or not, was very damaging to presidential candidates.

I hope Americans will also make it clear to Chávez that his crudity and disrespect for democracy will find little support here.

DEVIL IN DISGUISE

The Bush Administration deserves to be criticized for many of its foreign policies, but Hugo Chávez is not the one to do it. By his intemperate and foolish remarks at the United Nations Wednesday and his continuing support for authoritarian regimes, the Venezuelan president has forfeited his claim to leadership in world affairs.

"The devil came here yesterday," Chávez said in reference to President Bush's speech of the day before. Chávez made the sign of the cross and engaged in other theatrics to provoke his audience of the U.N. General Assembly. George Bush was reelected with 50.7 percent of the vote in 2004 after a vigorously fought, unfettered campaign, and he will leave office without a fuss in 2009 after eight years. Bush can be called many things but not the ultimate embodiment of evil.

Chávez has been brandishing anti-Americanism ever since he became president in 1998. He intensified his denunciation of the Bush administration after a failed coup in 2002, which he believed Washington had fomented. Venezuela, with its vast oil reserves, has benefited greatly from the surge in oil prices since 2001. Chávez is criticizing the leading force behind a world economic system that has enriched his country and enhanced his power.

Were Chávez really concerned with the oppressed of the world, he would not consort with Kim Jong Il and Bashir Assad, who have continued their fathers' repressive regimes in North Korea and Syria. Nor would he have created an informal alliance with antidemocratic Iran, or extended a lifeline to Fidel Castro in Cuba, or visited Iraq in 2000 to support Saddam Hussein. If the United States opposes a dictator, Chávez backs him.

This monotone foreign policy, combined with his outburst this week, undercuts Venezuela's campaign for the Latin American seat on the U.N. Security Council, which will be decided by a two-thirds majority of the General Assembly on Oct. 16. The Security Council has important votes coming up in the next year, on sanctions against Iran and action to stop genocide in Darfur, among others. Venezuela, under the leadership of Chávez, would not make a positive contribution.

Deprived of an international forum, Chávez would have more time to spend on his reelection campaign. It ought to be as freely contested as the 2004 race between Bush and John F. Kerry. And if Chávez wins on Dec. 3, he ought to devote his six-year term to solving the great recurring problem of Venezuela: How a country endowed with such natural wealth can leave almost half its people in utter poverty. Chávez would earn more enduring fame by leading Venezuela out of this resource trap.

HONORING MARY ELIZA MAHONEY,
AMERICA'S FIRST PROFESSIONALLY TRAINED
AFRICAN-AMERICAN NURSE

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in honoring Mary Eliza Mahoney who was the first African-American registered nurse in the United States. She was a visionary, a leader, and because of her dedication and untiring will to encourage future generations, would become an inspiration to thousands of men and women of color who work diligently every day in the field of nursing.

Mary Mahoney's interest in the nursing profession began when she was just a young girl. She worked for fifteen years at the New England Hospital for Women and Children (now Dimock Community Health Center) in Roxbury, Massachusetts as a nurse's assistant, but this would not be her only occupation. She also worked as a cook, a janitor, and a washerwoman. In 1878, at the age of 33, she was admitted as a student into the hospital's nursing program established by Dr. Marie Zakrzewska. Sixteen months later, she was one of four who completed the course.

After graduation she worked primarily as a private duty nurse for the next 30 years all

over the Eastern Seaboard of the United States. At the culmination of her nursing career, she was the director of an orphanage in Long Island, New York, a position she held for 10 years.

In 1896, Mahoney became one of the first African-American members of the predominantly white American Nurses Association (ANA). However, recognizing the need for nurses to work together to improve the status of African Americans in the profession, she helped to establish the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses (NACGN). This was important in many ways. It was because of her inspiring efforts and unselfish devotion to caring for others that helped make it possible for nurses to be received at the White House by President Warren G. Harding. Mahoney also gave the welcoming address at the first convention of the NACGN and served as the association's national chaplain.

Mahoney's life of tending to the needs of the sick ended with her death on January 4, 1926. She was indeed an icon in the nursing profession, bringing to light the hard work, sacrifice, and commitment that nurses put forth everyday.

My sister Frances was a nurse for many years before retiring, and I saw the hard work, the sacrifice, and long hours of commitment that she gave to this notable profession. She made me appreciate even more what nurses do and how they are a vital and valued part of the healthcare industry.

Mary Mahoney advanced the nursing profession and was not afraid to confront issues that affect nurses. She was a woman of superlatively high standards, complete integrity, and boundless enthusiasm for whatever task she took in hand. It was because of the life she lived and her outstanding contributions to nursing, that The Mary Mahoney Medal was established in her honor posthumously by the NACGN in 1936. In 1976, she would be further remembered by being inducted into the Nursing Hall of Fame.

Madam Speaker, let us honor this woman of courage and faith by passing this resolution.

TRIBUTE TO BERTHA GARDNER
BYNUM

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an ordinary woman, who has led an extraordinary life. Mrs. Bertha Gardner Bynum turned 107 years old on September 15th, and I ask you to join me in celebrating her long and wonderful life.

Bertha Gardner was born on September 15, 1899 in the Privateer area of Clarendon County, South Carolina. She attended St. James and Bracey Schools. However, the State of South Carolina didn't make the educating of young African American children a priority in the early 20th century. Consequently, when they had exhausted what little formal education that was available to them, Bertha and her siblings had to find work as sharecroppers on local farms to help out the family.

Her family eventually moved to nearby Sumter to find a better life, but Bertha dreamed of much more. Bertha left South Carolina and

moved to New York, where she did domestic work. She was later blessed with her only child, Elizabeth Gardner Nelson.

Bertha returned to Sumter and on January 20, 1943 she married Simon Bynum. After Simon's death, Bertha led the life of a very independent woman. She lived alone and traveled almost everywhere she went on foot. She became a member of Jehovah Baptist Church, and later transferred to Salem Baptist. There she served as a member of the Usher Board, and is presently recognized as the Mother of Salem Baptist Church. However, declining health has prevented her from attending in recent years.

Blessed with a long life, Mrs. Bynum has struggled through adversity and witnessed extraordinary changes in the world around her. Today she continues to read her bible and shares advice with all that will listen. She is the last survivor of her 13 siblings and lives with her daughter and son-in-law where she is surrounded by the love of five generations of her extended family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me today in sending best wishes and Godspeed to the matriarch of the Gardner family. She has shown a true devotion to her faith and her family, and is a living legacy. She deserves our deepest respect and admiration.

HONORING THE SHENENDEHOWA
HIGH SCHOOL COLOR GUARD

HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor the young women of the Shenendehowa High School's Color Guard for their second place finish at the Scholastic Open Class Winter Guard 2006 World Championship in Dayton, Ohio. This accomplishment reflects the immeasurable amount of time and effort that each member of the team made in order to succeed. Their triumphant endeavor is a tribute to the dedication of the team, their training staff, and their families.

Competitive Color Guards provide an educational experience through a combination of sport and performing arts. The experience promotes perseverance and teamwork, which will be beneficial to the performers throughout their lives. The talented young women comprising this accomplished team are: Amelia Allen; Lauren Anderson; Larissa Krushelnytsky; Beth Murphy; Leah Homing; Taylor Nelson; Amanda Lesniewski; Ali Kawola; Sarah Ozols; Carolyn Drislane; Lauren Drislane; Faith Beidl; Kim Cologgi; Kaitlin Lacey; Casey Breen; Jessica Young; Samantha Lovering.

The success of this devoted team is also due to the hard work and commitment of their Director, Scott Snell and Show Designer, Jeff Namian as well as the rest of the staff, including: Jennifer Lawrence; Christine Mertes; Gretchen Shyne; Bill Ryan; Patrick Leombrone; Nick Charles; Sonya Balaban.

It is my privilege to recognize the Shenendehowa Color Guard for their achievement. Their ability to come together as a group of individuals and finish at the top of a world-class event is inspiring. On behalf of the