

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

United States Congress, I offer my heartfelt congratulations and wish the entire team the best of luck and continued success in the future.

WELCOME TO THE PRESIDENT OF
THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

HON. CHRIS CANNON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, His Excellency Nursultan Nazarbayev, will arrive on an official visit to the United States on September 27, 2006, and it is my honor to welcome this distinguished leader to Washington.

After the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, President Nazarbayev inherited a weak economy and the world's fourth largest nuclear arsenal. While Kazakhstan could have become an immediate nuclear superpower and resolved its economic concerns through military might, President Nazarbayev instead chose a path that included economic and democratic reforms, and Kazakhstan is now one of the most stable and prosperous nations in Central Asia.

For the past six years, Kazakhstan has enjoyed a 10 percent annual growth in its GDP. Kazakhstan also became the first country in the Commonwealth of Independent States to be granted market economy status by the United States. Today, more than 300 US companies account for the largest share of Foreign Direct Investment in Kazakhstan.

By 2015, Kazakhstan is expected to be one of the top ten oil producers and exporters in the world, with reserves comparable to Kuwait's. Now more than ever we need a reliable energy partner which has proven to be a friend and ally of the United States. It is appropriate now for the United States to deepen our strategic partnership with Kazakhstan.

President Nazarbayev's visit is timely. During the course of his visit, it is my hope that we will use this opportunity to set a long-term agenda for closer cooperation with Kazakhstan.

This year, Kazakhstan will celebrate its 15th anniversary of independence, and I join my colleagues in congratulating the people and government on this important occasion. Kazakhstan's path to democracy and independence has not been easy, but its progress is impressive.

I commend President Nazarbayev for his leadership and friendship with the United States, and I remain committed to furthering our partnership.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN MARSH

HON. RICHARD W. POMBO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize John Marsh, an important figure in the history of the Nation, California, and California's 11th District. This Sunday marks the 150th anniversary of this early pioneer's death at the hand of bandits.

The legacy of John Marsh is storied. He was one of the first educated Americans to settle in the far west and was dedicated to bringing more settlers into the region. Born in 1799 in Salem, Massachusetts, he received a bachelor's degree at Harvard University in 1823. Between 1828 and 1832, Marsh studied medicine under an army physician.

Marsh arrived in Los Angeles, CA on Feb. 4, 1836. He worked as a self-appointed doctor and was paid in cowhides. Traveling to northern California, he bought a tract of land in 1837 measuring 17,000 acres. He named the land Rancho Los Meganos, which means "sand dunes." This land included parts of what is currently Contra Costa County and the northern San Joaquin Valley. He had an adobe house built on his property and would treat explorers as they came by. His payment was in heads of cattle, which increased his cattle stock to 6,000, and his settlement grew quite prosperous.

Years before the 1849 gold rush, Marsh sent out letters to his friends in Missouri, calling them to come out and enjoy California's environment. These letters were published in many Missouri newspapers and in 1841 30 travelers from that state visited his ranch. Other letters wherein Marsh gave accurate details about the land potential of California reached the governor of Michigan.

During the Mexican-American war, Marsh opposed any military endeavors in order for America to gain land. However, he supported the ideals of Manifest Destiny and peaceful westward expansion into Mexico's territory. In order to accomplish this, he continued to write letters and send maps to encourage settlers to come into the area and promote the annexation of California into the United States.

During the gold rush, Marsh was able to sell off some of his 6,000 head cattle to feed miners coming into the area. He also found gold himself near the Yuba River before the incoming rush of miners.

In 1851 he married a schoolteacher named Abigail Smith Tuck, who gave birth to his daughter Alice. He started construction on a Gothic-style manor made entirely out of stone that included a 65-foot tower. He had it built for \$20,000 and it was completed in 1856, after the death of Abigail. On September 24, 1856 Marsh was murdered by three bandits on the road to San Francisco.

The Marsh House still stands as a tribute to Marsh's contributions. Marsh's pioneer spirit helped make California and the Nation what it is today, and on the anniversary of his death, I honor his legacy.

COMMUNITY PROTECTION ACT OF
2006

SPEECH OF

HON. BRIAN P. BILBRAY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 21, 2006

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 6094, the Community Protection Act of 2006. Right now, the government is releasing numerous rapists, child molesters, murders and other dangerous illegal aliens onto our streets. The Department of Homeland Security's Inspector General said that in the first six months of 2005, more than 696 high-risk aliens were released.

This act will ensure that these dangerous illegal immigrants will not be released back into society. If we are to address the public safety concerns created by our Nation's lax illegal immigration policies, then we must adopt new procedures to will expedite the removal of dangerous criminals.

Of the 55,322 illegal alien criminals found in 2005, about 24 percent were arrested on drug offenses, 15 percent for property-related offenses and about 12 percent were arrested for more serious crimes such as murder, robbery, assault, and sexually related crimes. Even more troubling is the fact that the 55,322 illegal alien criminals committed a total of 700,000 crimes or 13 crimes each. These repeat offenders pose a serious threat to the safety and security of our country.

H.R. 6094 will give the Department of Homeland Security the authority to get these criminals off of our streets and out of our country. One of the key provisions of this bill addresses the problems created by illegal immigrants who belong to violent gangs. In the last decade, the U.S. has experienced a dramatic increase in the number and size of transnational street gangs. These gangs have held entire communities hostage with their violence and our current laws don't do enough to stop these gang members from crossing our border.

The Community Protection Act designates these violent gang members as an inadmissible class—expanding the authority of Homeland Security officials to detain and deport alien gang members. These are common sense provisions that should have adopted years ago. We now have the opportunity to do the right thing and pass this bill that will help combat the violence created from criminal aliens.

TRIBUTE TO MR. ADAN
GUTIERREZ

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Adan Gutierrez, the local columnist for the Zapata County News, one of the largest community newspapers in Zapata County.

Adan Gutierrez was born on August 29th, 1946, in the City of Zapata in the State of Texas. He currently resides in the City of Zapata as one of its most involved members of the community. He served proudly in the United States Army for ten years, and shortly after being honorably discharged, started working at the local library in 1984. His passion for literature was evident and helped him become the Assistant Librarian in less than two years. He was on his way to a higher administrative position within the Library when he suffered from a brain aneurysm in 1993.

But this did not slow him down; instead, it made him even more involved in the community through his frequent correspondence with the editor of the Zapata County News regarding current news events. Due to the quality of his writing, he was invited to become a regular columnist for the Zapata County News in writing about the history of Zapata County, cultural local events, and other social events. He presently is teaching conversational Spanish