

Elizabeth Mull—who met her future husband at a church revival in Lenoir City—was “100 percent his eyes,” Hutchison said.

“Everywhere they went, she drove him; she led him everywhere.” She also read the Bible to the Rev. Mull.

As a young man, it was sometimes Hutchison’s job to guide his grandfather to the microphone to emcee the gospel concerts he promoted.

During the 1970s and early ’80s, the Rev. Mull presented 60 to 75 concerts a year throughout the Southeast, Hutchison said.

More recently, “Mull Singing Convention” concerts have been limited to two per year at Governor’s Palace in Sevierville.

During his broadcast heyday in the 1960s and ’70s, the Rev. Mull was heard on a network of powerful radio stations that carried his preaching and concerts coast-to-coast.

Family vacations were rare, said Hutchison, who said his grandfather “believed in work.”

Once, however, the family took a trip to the Bahamas, and a waiter at a restaurant instantly recognized the Rev. Mull’s voice when he ordered a meal. The Bahamian was a regular listener to the “Mull Singing Convention,” which reached the islands via New Orleans radio station WWL.

J. Bazzel and Elizabeth Mull were inducted into the Gospel Music Association Gospel Music Hall of Fame and the Southern Gospel Music Association’s Southern Gospel Hall of Fame.

The Rev. Mull presented top Southern gospel acts at his concerts, including fellow Hall of Fame members the Chuck Wagon Gang. Hutchison said his grandfather discovered the group, moving it from Texas to Knoxville.

Like his good friend Cas Walker, the millionaire grocer and politician who died in 1998 at age 96, the Rev. Mull truly achieved the status of icon in his home region.

Most longtime Knoxvilleans have a J. Bazzel Mull story to tell, or at least have uttered a gravelly “Ain’t that right, Mizz Mull?” at some point in their lives.

The Rev. Mull had personality, his grandson said. “He loved to laugh and he loved to preach. And he would mix the two. He’d tell a joke to break the ice, then he would preach to you before you knew what happened.”

That voice the Rev. Mull’s extended neighbors knew so well and loved to imitate was naturally his own, his grandson said. “He never smoked; he never drank, nothing. That was just his voice. And it was very distinctive.”

WJBZ will pay tribute to the Rev. Mull all this week. Listeners and gospel music artists will share their memories on air.

The funeral service will be Thursday at Mann Heritage Chapel, 6200 Kingston Pike.

Receiving of friends will be 2-4 p.m. and 5-8 p.m., with a service following. The Revs. Mike Ramage and Dino Bray will officiate.

The burial service will be 11 a.m. Friday in Lenoir City. Interment will be at Lakeview Cemetery at Lenoir City Park.

“It’s hard to be sad for him at 91,” Hutchison said of his grandfather’s death. “The sorrow is for us, the joy is for him. He can see now and the first thing he had ever seen was the face of Jesus.”

#### TRIBUTE TO OBERLIN COLLEGE

### HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 25, 2006*

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Oberlin College and its

distinguished African American alumni during the October 6-8, 2006 reunion of the Oberlin College Alumni Association’s affiliate group, the Oberlin Alumni Association of African Ancestry. The reunion entitled, “And We Rise! . . . Celebrating over 170 years of the Black Presence at Oberlin College,” acknowledges the historic and present contributions of Oberlin College and its illustrious African American alumni toward the establishment of a world and a nation based upon the principles of social and economic justice.

We commend Oberlin College for its remarkable role in fostering higher education among African Americans and we encourage Oberlin’s African American alumni to keep engaged with their alma mater to ensure that future generations will have educational access to develop the skills needed to address the complex challenges that face our people and our Nation in the days ahead.

#### RESOLUTION TO CALL FOR INTER-RELIGIOUS UNDERSTANDING AND DIALOGUE

### HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 25, 2006*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution calling on the people of the world and their religious and political leaders to work towards ecumenical understanding and interfaith dialogue.

Usually, it is not my habit to address religious issues on the floor. I strongly believe in a person’s right to religious freedom, as well as the separation of church and state. However, due to recent incidents in various parts of the world I am deeply concerned about the apparent lack of religious respect and tolerance. Therefore, I could not stand by without introducing this resolution.

Not just Christians and Jews, but also Muslims, Buddhists, Hindus and the followers of many other religions believe in values like peace, respect, tolerance and dignity. These are values that bring people together and enable us to build responsible and solid communities. I strongly believe that this is what religion is, or should be about. People all over the world share these universal values.

While few religious leaders and scholars would doubt the commonalities that exist among the various religious groups, the followers of these religions unfortunately struggle in their effort to peacefully coexist. It is my impression that too often, the differences in belief are stressed instead of their common grounds. Too frequently, religious feelings get hurt—sometimes intentionally, but more often, unintentionally.

In the last few weeks, we have again witnessed a lack of mutual understanding and misled reaction. These recent events have shown that even religious leaders are sometimes prone to lacking the adequate sensitivity in dealing with other people’s beliefs. The reaction to this incident on the other hand was definitely disproportional, which indicates that the situation was used for political reasons.

The specific incident I am referring to is this: His Holiness Pope Benedict’s debatable statement about the prophet Muhammad at a German university two weeks ago and the fol-

lowing unrest in parts of the Arab world. The subsequent unrest resulted in the murder of a nun in Somalia and the burning of churches in the Gaza Strip.

Mr. Speaker, I am deeply concerned that many regions of this world are suffering from the effects of armed conflicts with religious aspects. I believe that the differences of faith are not the real reason for these conflicts. As a matter of fact, religious differences are actually exploited to convince people to participate in primarily political conflicts.

Given the fact that most religions share basic values, it is most unfortunate that religious people can be played off against each other so easily. One possible reason for this may be that people do not know enough about other people’s beliefs.

This resolution encourages the peoples of the world and their political leaders, including the ones in our country, to learn about their neighbor’s beliefs.

I am convinced that religious and spiritual understanding plays a positive role in facilitating trust and overcoming political differences.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution expresses our assistance for all projects that support a productive and constructive inter-faith dialogue. I know that there are people here in the States and in many other countries of the world, working hard on this issue. I am aware of the fact that some of them risk their political and social credibility or even their lives. All of them deserve our deepest recognition.

Moreover, I want us to urge political and religious leaders, and all peoples of the world, to move forward in a conciliatory spirit, to deal with religious matters in a responsible and balanced way, and to focus on their common grounds.

We all know that there will be no peace among the nations without peace among the religions, and we also know that there will be no peace among the religions without a dialogue among the religions. To support this dialogue and to show that we are conscious of its importance, I ask you to support this resolution.

#### A TRIBUTE TO HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

### HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 25, 2006*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Holy Family Catholic Community parish in Glendale, California. In 2007, Holy Family will celebrate its 100th anniversary.

Holy Family Catholic Community was founded in 1907, in Glendale, California by Father James O’Neal. The parish originally consisted of only 15 members, who met for weekly services in residential homes. Today, the parish proudly counts over 4,000 families in its membership.

The Holy Family Catholic Community is committed to emphasizing education for the young people of the community. The parish operates both a high school and a grammar school, and hosts annual fundraising events in order to fund quality education for its students. For over a decade, Holy Family High School has sent 100 percent of its graduating seniors