

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE  
LANE EVANS, MEMBER OF CON-  
GRESS

SPEECH OF

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 7, 2006*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in honoring the service of a highly effective and respected 24-year Member of Congress, on the occasion of his departure. I am grateful that I have been able to serve with Congressman LANE EVANS, who has long been a champion of working people and will always be remembered as a special champion of our Nation's veterans. The American people and our veterans are particularly fortunate indeed that Congressman EVANS served as ranking member of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs, beginning in 1995.

I associate myself with the remarks of my colleagues, who have spoken of LANE'S many accomplishments during his tenure here. He has adroitly used his legislative skills and concern to the benefit and well-being of the American people during his entire service, but his single-minded concentration on veterans' issues made that in many ways his very own issue. LANE'S experience in the Marine Corps, his service in Vietnam, and the affects of military service on the families of enlisted men and women never left LANE EVANS.

Over the course of his career, Congressman EVANS led a successful effort to pass legislation compensating Vietnam veterans for diseases linked to Agent Orange exposure, secured passage of legislation that provides health and compensation benefits for children of veterans exposed to Agent Orange, and co-sponsored legislation to ban the use of anti-personnel landmines which kill and maim people worldwide. It is no wonder that Congressman EVANS was named the recipient of the Vietnam Veterans of America's first annual Presidents Award for Outstanding Achievement, as well as the prestigious AMVET Silver Helmet Award.

I am pleased and proud to have served with Congressman LANE EVANS. I am certain that constituents and family are especially proud of his many accomplishments. LANE goes home with the best wishes and gratitude of Republicans and Democrats alike in this House.

HONORING CATHERINE LAMY, RE-  
CIPIENT OF THE ART PORTFOLIO  
SILVER AWARD

**HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Catherine Lamy, an outstanding young artist from my district and recipient of the Art Portfolio Silver Award. This award, presented by the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, recognizes outstanding talent and creativity displayed by young artists and writers.

Under the guidance of her instructor at Stagg High School, Mr. Wesley Gonzalez, Catherine has created a remarkable portfolio, including eight award-winning pieces that are

acclaimed by the Alliance. These pieces clearly demonstrate her incredible ability and potential as an up-and-coming artist. As a recipient of this award, Catherine serves as an example to other young students who aspire to advance their creativity as a life path.

This year, the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers recognized a total of 1,448 students in the organization's Scholastic Art & Writing Awards in New York City. The students were honored by their peers at Carnegie Hall, where they had an opportunity to review the work of other students and meet with professional artists and writers.

It is my honor today to recognize Catherine Lamy as one of the outstanding young creative minds in our country, I am also pleased to acknowledge the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers for their work in encouraging the talent of young people. We must continue to encourage, foster, and recognize the skills and abilities of our Nation's youth not only on special occasions, but on a daily basis.

HONORING HOLLOWAY HIGH  
SCHOOL AS A NO CHILD LEFT  
BEHIND BLUE RIBBON AWARD  
WINNER

**HON. BART GORDON**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the students, faculty and staff of Holloway High School for earning a 2006 No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon Award for academic superiority.

Located in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, Holloway High School serves 176 Rutherford County students who have fallen behind academically but have a sincere desire to catch up and graduate. The school was named a Blue Ribbon school by the U.S. Department of Education for scoring in the top 10 percent of all schools in Tennessee for 3 consecutive years.

No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon schools are selected by the U.S. Department of Education as a way to recognize schools across the country that show either high achievement or dramatic improvement.

Principal Ivan Duggin says the school will continue to evolve and do whatever it takes to remain one of the top schools in the state of Tennessee and the country. Mr. Duggin has said, "We will not rest on success. We will constantly be focused and seeking to find the best people, practices and strategies which will yield superior results."

This award is evidence of the hard work put forth by the faculty, students and staff at Holloway High School. I am truly proud of them for their efforts, and I commend them on this achievement.

IN RECOGNITION OF RIDGEWOOD  
PROPERTY OWNERS AND CIVIC  
ASSOCIATION

**HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the floor of the U.S. House of Representa-

tives to recognize the 75th anniversary of the Ridgewood Property Owners and Civic Association (RPOCA), a not for profit organization committed to the development of a more vibrant place to live, work, and play.

Since its inception, RPOCA has served countless property owners and residents in the Ridgewood community of Queens, New York. This first rate organization has been instrumental in the ongoing restoration of our historically rich community, proactively supporting beautification projects throughout Ridgewood and advocating against redevelopment that threatens the livelihood of our neighborhoods.

RPOCA has taken a leadership role in supporting the revitalization of our neighborhoods, educating homeowners and spearheading initiatives that protect affordable housing for working families in Ridgewood. This unwavering commitment to civic participation in local preservation efforts is commendable and has strengthened the foundation upon which the community continues to grow.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I rise with my colleagues in the House of Representatives to congratulate the RPOCA, its Board of Directors, membership, and this year's honorees—Angie Tantillo and Frank Cicero—upon celebrating 75 years of service to Ridgewood residents.

TRIBUTE TO THE FELIX FAMILY

**HON. RON KIND**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Felix Family of Viroqua, Wisconsin. On December 16, 2006, after 100 years and three generations, Felix's Men's and Women's Clothing will be closing. This store has been a pillar of Viroqua's downtown business district and an integral part of the community. Thanks to Felix's and other small businesses, Viroqua continues to have a vibrant downtown.

Steve Felix has owned and operated Ted Felix's since the early 1970s. Steve is a good friend who is not shy in imparting his advice on me during my frequent visits to Felix's. Steve told me once that back when Senator Proxmire served the people of Wisconsin, he would often stop at Felix's and shake Steve's hand. On one of these occasions, Steve scolded the Senator and told him that he needed to start dressing better in order to look like a United States Senator. Senator Proxmire bought a suit from Steve that very day, and during every occasion when he saw Steve he would ask Steve how he looked to ensure his dress was appropriate. As my wife Tawni can attest, Steve has continued this tradition by selling me suits so I am more appropriately dressed.

Small businesses like Felix's are vital to the well-being of rural America because of the unique spirit, personal service, and character they impart on small towns. They are what make shopping on our main streets an enjoyable and personal experience.

Steve's leadership and dedication, along with his wife Betty and their two children Randy and Erica, has made Viroqua and Vernon County a better place to live, work, and raise a family. I commend Steve, the Felix

family, and all of the other small businesses that continue to serve America and drive our economy. I wish them well and Godspeed in their future ventures.

THE MCKINNEY AFFAIR—RAM-PAGING RACISM AND A COWARDLY CAUCUS

HON. CYNTHIA MCKINNEY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2006

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following for the RECORD.

[From the Black Commentator, Apr. 13, 2006]

THE MCKINNEY AFFAIR—RAM-PAGING RACISM AND A COWARDLY CAUCUS

(By Glen Ford and Peter Gamble)

There are profound lessons to be learned from the ongoing travails of Congresswoman Cynthia McKinney (D-GA), under siege by white America at large, the leadership of her own party, and the chairman of her own caucus.

In the aftermath of McKinney's run-in with a Capitol Hill police officer, we have witnessed an orgy of unadulterated defamation that is actually directed at Black women in general. In rejecting and denouncing McKinney's defense, her tormentors demonstrate that the very concept of racial profiling was never sincerely accepted among most white Americans, and that 9/11 is just an excuse for undoing decades of legal and political struggles against the abominable practice.

So virulent and shameless have been the attacks on McKinney—spewing caricatures of the six-term lawmaker that reflect whites' own hallucinatory visions of Black people—it leads us to conclude that racists are conducting a kind of ritual, an exorcism to cast the "militant Black" out of the national polity, once and for all. Disgustingly, a number of Black voices have joined mob, in order to prove that they are reasonable and trustworthy Negroes who won't intrude on white folks' illusions of innocence.

Most distressingly, the McKinney affair dramatically demonstrates that the Congressional Black Caucus has been eviscerated as a body. The CBC is revealed as collectively gutless, devoid of any semblance of Black solidarity, without which it has no reason for being.

CBC HITS NEW LOW

We at BC had previously believed that April, 2005, when 37 percent of the 42 Black House members voted for Republican bills, was the lowest point in Congressional Black Caucus history. A year later, the CBC has found a new nadir. On the evening of April 5, undoubtedly on orders from House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, CBC chairman Mel Watt gathered twenty or so members to browbeat McKinney into firing her legal team and cease appearing before the media. Watt absented himself from the beat-down, so that it would not appear to be an "official" CBC event.

As congressional aides wandered in and out of the room, some Members dutifully echoed Pelosi's demand that McKinney not frame the March 28 confrontation with the policeman as a "racial" incident, and that she issue an apology on the House floor the following morning. According to several sources who spoke with BC on condition of anonymity, and based on an account given by McKinney staff assistant Faye Coffield to a weekly Atlanta meeting of the Georgia Co-

alition for the People's Agenda, a "consensus" was reached that McKinney would deliver the apology and abandon efforts to defend herself in the media (although not her legal team).

The next morning, at the appointed hour, McKinney was prepared to offer her apology to the House. But Mel Watt had already put the word out that CBC members were to renege on their part of the deal. The Caucus must not stand with McKinney when she stepped to the microphone. Mel Watt, Nancy Pelosi's poodle, attempted to enforce his Mistress's wish that McKinney appear utterly isolated and alone. Nothing should distract from the Democrats' non-strategy of doing and saying nothing until mid-term elections in November. The Republicans must be allowed to self-destruct without interference. McKinney's charge of racial profiling was a distraction from the Democratic non-strategy—so she must be shunned. Mel Watt was the enforcer—the designated shunner-in-chief.

Pelosi appears to harbor a deep hatred for McKinney, whom she cannot control. Most recently, the 51-year-old Georgia lawmaker defied the Leader's orders, voting in favor of a Republican bill, cynically modeled on Democrat John Murtha's measure for a quick exit from Iraq. She was among only three Democrats, and the only CBC member, to do so. McKinney also ignored Pelosi's order that Democrats boycott hearings on Katrina and leave the field to Republicans.

However, Pelosi has been the aggressor all along, bent on bringing the CBC and other progressives to heel as she pursues her spineless non-strategy for victory by default over the GOP—a scenario that by definition requires African Americans to mute their own demands, to be quiet and compliant. When McKinney returned to congress in January 2005 after a two-year hiatus, Pelosi denied her seniority, bumping her down to freshman status despite her previous ten years on The Hill. Not a peep from the CBC, cowed by their Leader and, recent events have shown, packed with members who are themselves fearful that McKinney's militancy will raise the bar of constituent expectations for their own performances on Black people's behalf.

On the House floor, the morning of April 6, Pelosi/Watt had set McKinney up for further humiliation. Not only would she be required to deliver an apology that would be seen as an admission of guilt (by those who had already condemned and defamed her), but the absence of CBC members at her side would mark her as a lone "extremist," a "loon" whose politics could be dismissed out of hand. Why, even McKinney's own colleagues won't stand with her. She's crazy (like the rest of those darkies who cry racism).

According to several congressional sources, McKinney confronted a gaggle of CBC members, reminding them of the consensus agreement of the night before, in which they had promised a display of physical solidarity at the microphone in return for her concessions. White Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur (D-OH), seeing the commotion, hurried over to the Black circle: "I'll stand with you, Cynthia." Others stepped forward to fulfill their pledge, despite CBC chairman Mel Watt's treacherous machinations.

Here is a partial list of those who were videotaped standing with McKinney when she read the words of apology that had been demanded of her:

\*Elijah Cummings (MD), \*Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick (MI), \*Barbara Lee (CA), \*Alcee Hastings (FL), \*Maxine Waters (CA), \*Bobby Rush (IL), \*Corrine Brown (FL), \*Major Owens (NY), \*Sheila Jackson-Lee (TX), Marcy Kaptur (OH), Dennis Kucinich (OH), Jose Serrano (NY), Bob Filner (CA), (\*CBC members).

Only nine of the 20-plus CBC members who had reached "consensus" on standing with their sister the night before, bucked Pelosi's petty dictatorial edict—and straw-boss Mel Watt's attempt to enforce it.

Once upon a time, the CBC could collectively call itself "the conscience of the congress." No more.

MULTI-PROFILING AND SHEER MALEVOLENCE

By bowing to Pelosi, Black congresspersons reinforce her and other white's belief that they can pick and choose the African American leaders and representatives they deal with, and isolate the rest, while still retaining mass Black support for the Democratic Party. Such Blacks are enablers of racism, and must eventually pay the price at the hands of their constituents, who are no different than the Black Georgia voters who sent McKinney to Washington six times. Worse, in urging McKinney to drop the "racial" aspect of her defense—to pretend that she was not racially profiled, when they know that police profiling is near-universal—they do grave injury to fundamental Black interests.

Days after his attempt to pound McKinney into dust, the duplicitous Mel Watt related to the Charlotte Observer his own scary run-in with Capitol police "a year or so ago":

"I was running to the floor to vote and an officer said, 'Can I see your ID?' and I said, 'No' and kept running. I looked back and he had his hand on his gun. Then another (Capitol) police officer said, 'Member.' He recognized me (as a House member). It just so happened that the first (officer) was white and the other one was black . . . I was probably very rash. In retrospect, I thought to myself, 'You had to be out of your mind.' I was trying to get to a vote and he had a job to do."

Watt understands very well that the Black officer, who didn't go for his gun, but instead called his white partner off, was intervening in a case of racial profiling. Yet Watt's desire to stay in the good graces of his Leader, Pelosi, drives him to conspire against a fellow Black congressperson, Cynthia McKinney, whose recent hair makeover is said to have made her fair game to be accosted by Capitol police. Said McKinney:

"Do I have to contact the police every time I change my hairstyle? How do we account for the fact that when I wore my braids every day for 11 years, I still faced this problem, primarily from certain police officers."

Nobody knows better than Black officers that racism is rampant in the Capitol Police force. Of the 1,200 officers, 29 percent are Black, and many still have racial bias suits outstanding. "You have, basically, a renegade police department up here, that's been operating under the protection of Congress," said Charles J. Ware, an attorney representing the Capitol Black Police Association.

But it's not just race. Police officers, like workers in any organization, spend much of their time talking shop. For Capitol police, the subject of their shop-talk is the members of congress they are hired to protect. Cynthia McKinney is famous—no less so on Capitol Hill. She is the Black woman viciously branded as a friend of "terrorists," the most uppity African American in the federal legislature. The cops are quite aware of what she looks like, new hair-do or not.

A McKinney lawyer got it right when he told a Howard University press conference that his client was targeted for reasons of "sex, race and Ms. McKinney's progressiveness."

The cops know who McKinney is—they have profiled her politically. Michael C. Ruppert, former Los Angeles cop and current honcho of the popular web site From the Wilderness, has felt the police hostility directed at his longtime friend, Cynthia McKinney: