

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF THE HELLENIC ASSOCIATION KRIKOS ON THE OCCASION OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX NEW YEAR

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Hellenic organization Krikos. Founded in 1974 to preserve and enrich Hellenic heritage and culture, Krikos and its members are dedicated to fostering and promoting co-operation and fellowship among Hellenes and phil-Hellenes throughout the world.

In its ongoing effort to increase the understanding of issues affecting people of Greek descent and a greater appreciation of Hellenic culture, Krikos has organized more than 50 conferences throughout the world, frequently publishing reports of their proceedings. Among the subjects examined at various conferences were topics including the growing impact of globalism, biotechnology, telecommunications, the Greek response to military conflicts in the Balkans, domestic political and cultural issues, Hellenic and Hellenic-American contributions to the art land culture of the United States, and thought-provoking issues in Hellenic and American culture.

Krikos has provided guidance to college and college-bound Hellenic youth in the United States and elsewhere in the world. Additionally, Krikos has made it possible for students to visit abroad through a world-study program. In keeping with this dedication to scholarship and education, Krikos donated 5,000 books to the Polytechnic University in Athens.

Krikos was instrumental in documenting the artistic and historic treasures located in the Saint Catherine Monastery on Mount Sinai. For hundreds of years St. Catherine's has been a prime destination for pilgrims to the Holy Land. Krikos and its dedicated members helped facilitate this sacred monument's ability to serve its vital mission in the modern world by computerizing its properties and their operations. In the past many prominent Hellenes and phil-Hellenes have been honored by Krikos and spoken at various symposiums, conferences and testimonial events.

This exemplary organization is now headed by Denise Constantopoulou, President, and John Belleas, past President. Under their able leadership, Krikos continues to make significant and enduring contributions to Hellenic and world culture and civilization.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in acknowledging the tremendous contributions to the civic and cultural life of our Nation and our world by Krikos and its members.

HONORING MRS. MARY EDITH BROWN COLEMAN ON HER 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2007

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure and honor that I congratulate Mrs. Mary Edith Brown Coleman on a momentous milestone, her 90th birthday, which will be on February 13, 2007. Edith will be celebrating this milestone with family and friends on Saturday, February 10, 2007, at her home in Schererville, Indiana. Throughout the past 67 years, Edith's presence in Northwest Indiana has allowed her the opportunity to touch the lives of countless people.

Edith Brown was born on February 13, 1917 in Muskogee, Oklahoma. She was one of four children born to Luther Albert Brown and Dora Rozolia Draper Brown. Having gone on to live in Kansas City, Kansas and Chicago, Illinois, Edith finally relocated to Gary, Indiana in 1940. Quite the accomplished student, Edith completed her Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in education at Indiana University in Bloomington. From there, she decided to go into the teaching profession. As a teacher at Frederick Douglass Elementary School in Gary for over 27 years, Edith was able to enrich the lives of so many young people in the Gary community. For her commitment to the youth of Northwest Indiana, she is worthy of the highest praise.

Equally as impressive, Edith has always been seen as the foundation of her family. She and her husband, the late William Henry Coleman, were blessed with the births of two wonderful children: Norma Louise Coleman and Merle Jean Coleman. Edith's family, as well as those whose lives she has touched, admire her for devoting unselfish love, time, dedication, guidance, and spirit to her family, her students, and her friends.

As well as being dearly loved and respected by her family, her students, and her community, Edith is also well known for her involvement with her church, the First Church of God in Gary, and several other organizations. For years, Edith has been a distinguished member of the American Association of University Women, the Women's Association of the Northwest Indiana Symphony Society, the Red Hat Society, and the Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority. Since her arrival in Northwest Indiana, Edith has always been known as a good-hearted woman who is always willing to help the people in her community. For her selflessness, she is to be commended and admired.

Madam Speaker, Mary Edith Brown Coleman has always given her time and efforts selflessly to the youth and the community in Northwest Indiana throughout her illustrious life. She has taught every member of her family and extended family the true meaning of service to others. I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in wishing Edith a very happy 90th birthday.

A CONGRESSIONAL TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF DOWNEY ON THE OCCASION OF THE CITY'S 50TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2007

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the city of Downey and ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating its residents on the city's recent 50th anniversary. I am honored to represent this unique and proud city as part of my 34th Congressional District of California.

Although we celebrate 50 years since the city's official incorporation, the history of Downey begins in the late 1700s when Spanish missionaries settled along the California coast. In 1784, former soldier Juan Nietos was granted provisional use of 300,000 acres of ranch land and, after his death, the portion of the land lying between the San Gabriel and Rio Hondo Rivers was carved out and named Rancho San Gertrudes. In 1873, a 96-acre parcel of the Rancho became the central district of a community called Downey City. The town was named after John Gately Downey, an Irish immigrant who journeyed to California during the Gold Rush and later became governor of the State.

The development of Downey City began slowly. A tract map from 1873 shows a town consisting of only 16 blocks with 10 acres for a railroad station. However, the small city prospered, soon becoming a commercial center for agricultural products and poultry raising. It was that agricultural industry that made it possible for Downey to sustain itself during the Depression.

By the early 20th century, Downey had become a haven for business, entering an era that became known as the city's "golden age." Downey's "dare devil" era brought the aviation industry to the city, and the Downey Board of Trade, known today as the Downey Chamber of Commerce, was founded.

The 1940s and '50s brought a population boom to Downey, growing from 12,000 residents in 1940 to over 86,000 residents by 1956. With its significant increase in population, Downey's leaders moved to incorporate, and on December 4, 1956, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved the incorporation of the city. The new City Council, under the leadership of the city's first mayor, James L. Stamps, were trailblazers, paving the way for the city's resounding future success.

Today, Downey boasts its "Future Unlimited" slogan and is a prosperous city that has managed to maintain its small town atmosphere. The city's residents and visitors can enjoy a wide range of activities—from great shopping to parks and museums; from golf courses to the Symphony Orchestra or the model City Library. Downey is where the Apollo Space program began its journey to the stars, and

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