

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PAYING TRIBUTE TO FRED GUTIERREZ

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Fred Gutierrez who has diligently served the Las Vegas community for 36 years as a Metropolitan Police Officer.

Fred Gutierrez was the longest-serving police officer with the Metropolitan Police Department. Fred was one of seven current officers who worked for the Las Vegas Police Department or Clark County Sheriff's Department before they consolidated in 1973. Fred was dedicated to serving the public and found his efforts could best be put to use by moving from the traffic section in 1977 to patrolling the Las Vegas valley's roadways and investigating accidents. It was there that he felt he could accomplish the most and spent the next 24 years in this division. In 2001, he moved to the agency's DUI detail to help research the criminal background of those arrested for driving under the influence.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Fred Gutierrez. His commitment to protecting the Las Vegas Metropolitan community and exemplary record of service is admirable. He serves as an example to all of us and I wish him the best in his retirement.

ESTABLISHING THE HOUSE DEMOCRACY ASSISTANCE COMMISSION FOR THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH CONGRESS

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 24, establishing the House Democracy Assistance Commission for the One Hundred Tenth Congress.

The House Democracy Assistance Commission's mission is to strengthen democratic institutions around the world by fostering working relationships with emerging or existing democracies and providing expert insight into the democratic process. Members of Congress, key staff, and Congressional support agencies meet with selected legislative leaders from around the world to offer assistance that will enhance accountability, transparency, legislative independence, and government oversight in foreign parliaments.

We are in unprecedented times, and today the mission of the House Democracy Assistance Commission is especially vital. Promoting democracy throughout the world is essential to our Nation's immediate and long-term security, and to the future of our global community. As a member of the House Democracy Assistance Commission from its in-

ception in 2005 through the conclusion of the 109th Congress, I know the profound effect these interactions have in the precious development of democratic governance in some of the world's fledgling democracies.

Madam Speaker, I have witnessed firsthand the good that can come from the House Democracy Assistance Commission, and I ask that all my colleagues join me in supporting H. Res. 24.

RECOGNIZING THE WORK AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MR. BRITT "MAX" MAYFIELD, DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER'S TROPICAL PREDICTION CENTER UPON HIS RETIREMENT

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2007

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to honor the years and extraordinary work by Britt "Max" Mayfield the Director of the National Hurricane Center's Tropical Prediction Center. His work has been invaluable to the State of Texas and this Nation.

Mr. Mayfield has played a key role in forecast and service improvements for over 33 years.

A Fellow of the American Meteorological Society, he has lectured in the United Nations' World Meteorological Organization sponsored training sessions, and provides numerous works for the worldwide media.

In 1996, Britt "Max" Mayfield was honored by the American Meteorological Society with the Francis W. Reichelderfer Award for an exemplary work as the coordinator of the National Hurricane Center.

His calm voice but unwavering strength has guided Florida and million others through some of the worst hurricane seasons in the history of the United States and has helped saved millions of American lives.

In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, Mayfield was summoned to testify at six congressional hearings.

He and his staff won numerous praises for their efforts to alert the people of Louisiana and Tennessee.

As he leaves the Hurricane Center's Tropical Prediction Center, he continues to serve his nation and the world. Mayfield is the current member chairman of the World Meteorological Organization's Regional Association—IV, which supports 26 members from Atlantic and eastern Pacific countries.

Therefore Mr. Speaker, I rise with great pleasure to honor Britt "Max" Mayfield.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LARRY RUVO

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Larry Ruvo, founder of the Keep Memory Alive Foundation and the Lou Ruvo Brain Institute.

Larry Ruvo is a pillar in the Las Vegas community. He is a business leader and philanthropist with an extraordinary commitment to improving the world around him. Larry is senior managing partner of Southern Wines and Spirits and has contributed in a number of ways to Southern Nevada. Larry spearheaded the establishment of UNLVino wine tasting, America's largest single-day wine tasting charitable event, raising millions of dollars for the students of the William F. Harrah College of Hotel Administration at UNLV. Larry is also a founding member of the Young Presidents' Organization, Nevada Chapter and a member of the World Presidents' Organization, as well as a board member of the Nevada Ballet Dance Theater and the American Gaming Association. For his efforts, Larry has been recognized as Man of the Year by the Muscular Dystrophy Association and received Man of the Year honors from the University of Nevada Las Vegas and the Food and Beverage Directors Association.

Although all of these accomplishments have contributed immensely to the enrichment of the southern Nevada community, Larry Ruvo's vision and commitment to fighting Alzheimer's disease is perhaps his most important contribution. After experiencing the devastating loss of his father, Lou Ruvo, to Alzheimer's disease, Larry worked with members of our community as well as prominent members of the medical community to found the Keep Memory Alive Foundation to raise funds for the Lou Ruvo Brain Institute. Since its founding, the Keep Memory Alive Foundation has become one of Las Vegas's most important charity initiatives and a key participant in the Nation's fight against Alzheimer's disease. As a result of the foundation's proactive mission to fight neurological diseases, the Keep Memory Alive Foundation has raised more than \$20 million and recruited leading specialists to become a part of this vital project. This month, the foundation will break ground on the Lou Ruvo Brain Institute, which will become an incredible force for researching and developing new treatments for neurological diseases including Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and Huntington's diseases.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Larry Ruvo. Through a number of endeavors he has greatly enriched the lives of those in the Las Vegas community. I commend his efforts in the fight against Alzheimer's and other neurological diseases. I express my sincerest gratitude for his vision and his commitment to this important cause and I congratulate him on the opening of the Lou Ruvo Brain Institute.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO AMEND PL 10-348 TO EXTEND THE AUTHORIZATION FOR ESTABLISHING A MEMORIAL IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA OR ITS ENVIRONS TO HONOR VETERANS WHO BECAME DISABLED SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES

HON. PHIL HARE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. HARE. Madam Speaker, today I am proud to introduce a bill to ensure the creation of a Disabled Veterans Memorial. This bill would extend the memorial's charter until 2015, allowing the necessary time to raise the private resources and navigate the 10-year approval process required to bring the memorial to life in Washington, DC.

There are more than 3 million disabled veterans living today, and millions of veterans from past and future conflicts who will be honored by this long-overdue memorial. The memorial will be located on an impressive 2-acre site within full view of the U.S. Capitol, adjacent to the National Mall, and across Independence Avenue from the U.S. Botanical Garden, at Washington Avenue—Canal Street—and Second Street, SW.

Adding to the beauty of our Nation's capital, the memorial will soon become one of our country's treasured landmarks. It will bring together visitors of all ages and backgrounds—a fitting tribute to the brave men and women who stand watch over America. No Federal funds have been or may be used for planning and construction of the memorial.

In the 109th Congress this bipartisan bill passed by voice vote, but it was not taken up by the Senate. Therefore it is critical that this legislation be considered this Congress, since the authorization for the memorial expires in October 2007.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure the creation of this memorial to honor those who have sacrificed so much for our Nation.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO
JIMMIE JACK KNOX, SR.

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my friend, Jimmie Jack Knox Sr., who died December 5th, 2006.

Jimmie was the former owner of Boulder City Marine, but his biggest accomplishments were serving and playing an active part in the community. He was always eager to get involved in community activities and philanthropic efforts. He was a member of the Rotary International, Boulder City Elks Lodge, Veterans of Foreign Wars, a lifetime member of the National Rifle Association, and a co-founder of Operation Godspeed. Jimmie served as the president of the National Midget Racing Association. In addition he was Vice President of Public Relations for St. Jude's Ranch for Children in which he assisted St.

Jude's with grants that have provided new playgrounds and educational classroom facilities to expand the outreach program.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor the life and legacy of my friend Jimmie Jack Knox Sr. for his work on behalf of Boulder City community. His was dedicated to the community and enriched countless lives in southern Nevada. He was truly a distinguished humanitarian and will be profoundly missed.

RECOGNIZING DEBORAH MOSS AS WASHINGTON COUNTY, FLORIDA'S TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today to recognize Deborah Moss as Washington County's Teacher of the Year.

Deborah Moss joined the Washington County School District Administration in 1996, with an education background in speech pathology and 17 years of teaching experience in Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties of northwest Florida. Mrs. Moss has proudly served the Washington County School District for over 10 years, where she currently serves as a speech pathologist at Kate M. Smith Elementary School in Chipley, Florida.

As a speech pathologist, Deborah Moss enjoys working with students from kindergarten to fourth grade who experience difficulty in the classroom due to articulation, language, voice, and stuttering disorders. She has been defined as an educator with enthusiasm, dedication, and integrity. Her passion for teaching and her love for children have positively shaped her students in a way that they are able to overcome their challenges and are given the hope and strength that is needed to succeed.

The Teacher of the Year recognition highlights one year of teaching, but the proof of greatness lies well beyond the title—it lies in the hearts and minds of the students who have been deeply affected. Deborah Moss has left her footprints over much of northwest Florida and has touched a number of lives. Through her hard work and dedication, the impact she has had on her students has proven her to be among the great teachers in northwest Florida, and Washington County is honored to have her as one of their own.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize Deborah Moss on this outstanding achievement and her exemplary service in the Washington County School District.

TRIBUTE TO SGT. CARLOS
MADDEN

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. CAPUANO. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Sgt. Carlos Madden, a heroic citizen-soldier. On Saturday, February 10,

2007, Sgt. Madden was awarded the Soldier's Medal, the highest decoration given by the United States for "heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy."

On December 22, 2005, a neighbor of Sgt. Madden, Mary Elizabeth Hooker, a professor at UMass Lowell, was attacked by a knife-wielding assailant. Sgt. Madden's 13-year-old sister, Mary, heard her screams and called her brother who rushed, unarmed, to Ms. Hooker's aid. He confronted her attacker and, directing another neighbor to call 911, pursued the man, caught him, and held him until the police arrived. His swift action very likely saved Ms. Hooker's life: his presence brought an end to the stabbing and secured prompt medical attention.

Sgt. Madden is a graduate of Cambridge Rindge and Latin High School and a junior majoring in American history at Framingham State College. He joined the Army Reserve in February 2002, and serves with the 401st Chemical Company, commanded by Capt. Jeffrey A. Fidler. Seventy members of his unit, his family, and Ms. Hooker were present to see Col. Stephen Falcone present the award.

We all hope that we would act in a crisis as Sgt. Madden did. Most of us are never tested and we do not know if we would put ourselves in harm's way, without hesitation, to save the life of another person. Carlos Madden inspires us with his bravery and with his reflections on the event. "I know I would do it again, for any of you," he said, "and I know all of you would do the same for me." Madam Speaker, I want to thank Sgt. Madden for his courage and for his faith in his fellow citizens.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO
EUGENE EISENMAN

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dr. Eugene Eisenman, who passed away on January 29, 2007.

Eugene Eisenman was born on August 15, 1945 in St. Augustine, FL, and studied medicine at the Universidad Autonoma in Guadalajara, Mexico. Eugene completed his medical residency at Tulane University in New Orleans where he specialized in obstetrics. In 1981, Dr. Eisenman moved to Nevada to practice medicine. Throughout his 25-year medical career in Nevada, he served as chairman of Sunrise Hospital's Obstetrics Department and was president of the Clark County OB-GYN Society. During his many years of devoted service to the community, Dr. Eisenman delivered thousands of babies and cared for his patients with enduring compassion.

In addition to Eugene's many years of service to the medical community, he also served his country as an airman in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam war, was a member of the Chabad Synagogue in Las Vegas, and dedicated himself to his family and community.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor the life and the legacy of Eugene Eisenman. His lasting dedication to the community should serve as an example to us all. I applaud his efforts and his life's work.

TRIBUTE TO KOON-JA KIM

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to 81-year-old Koon-Ja Kim, a survivor of the Japanese Imperial Army's "comfort women" system of the World War II era.

Koon-Ja Kim was born in Pyung-Chang, in Korea's Kangwon Province. She was orphaned at the age of 14 and, to support herself and her siblings, she worked as a maid. At the age of 17, she was forcibly drafted by the Japanese Government to serve as a sex slave, or what is now euphemistically termed a "comfort woman," in China. After 3 years of being physically abused and raped on a daily basis, the war ended. With no money and physically defeated bodies, she and a small group of other women summoned their strength of spirit to walk hundreds of miles over several weeks back into Korea.

Since 1998 she has been living with nine former comfort women at the House of Sharing. All she wants in her remaining life is to receive an official apology and fair compensation from the Japanese Government. She plans to donate the money to the public if she receives the compensation. Until now, Kim had collected compensation she had received from the Korean Government—\$43,000—and her life savings, and donated \$100,000 to the Beautiful Foundation, which provides financial aid for orphans to continue their studies, \$10,000 to the House of Sharing, and \$5,000 to a Catholic organization.

At the Beautiful Foundation, the "Kim Koon-Ja Fund" was established in 2000, where the proceeds go to college students who grew up at orphanages so that they can continue with their education. Kim dedicates her life to helping disadvantaged children to attain education because she herself grew up as an orphan, and the only education she had received was 8 months at a night school.

The House of Sharing Establishment Committee was founded in June 1992 and is supported by Buddhist organizations and other donors. Koon-Ja Kim, along with other women at the House of Sharing and around the world, has engaged in a daily battle since 1992 to educate the public about the Japanese military's brutal abuse of women, and to put pressure on the Japanese Government to apologize for their past atrocities. Koon-Ja Kim meets with community organizations, students, and activists from South Korea, the United States, and other countries around the world to inspire others to know and advocate for the comfort women's cause.

Madam Speaker, on February 15, the Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and the Global Environment of the Committee on Foreign Affairs will convene a hearing entitled "Protecting the Human Rights of Comfort Women." Koon-Ja Kim has been invited to share her story with members of the subcommittee along with other surviving comfort women who want to see justice prevail.

On January 31, I introduced H. Res. 121, which expresses "the sense of the House of Representatives that the Government of Japan should formally acknowledge, apologize, and accept historical responsibility in a clear and unequivocal manner for its Imperial Armed

Force's coercion of young women into sexual slavery, known to the world as 'comfort women,' during its colonial and wartime occupation of Asia and the Pacific Islands from the 1930s through the duration of World War II."

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in tribute to Koon-Ja Kim and the thousands of surviving comfort women.

STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 808 "DEPARTMENT OF PEACE AND NONVIOLENCE ACT"

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise in strong support of H.R. 808, the "Department of Peace and Nonviolence Act." This bill places efforts toward peace and nonviolence high on this Nation's list of priorities, efforts which deserve the same attention and organized structure that this government gives war through its Department of Defense.

I thank the gentleman from Ohio, Mr. KUCINICH, for introducing this legislation, to reduce violence both within our borders and across the globe.

Here at home, the Department of Peace would seek to reduce domestic violence, gang violence, child abuse, violence in schools, hate crimes, racial violence, and mistreatment of the elderly. It would also seek to develop peace education programs, instructing students in peaceful conflict resolution skills both at home and abroad.

The Department of Peace would also strive to make a difference in the current United States foreign policy. This administration's attitude toward the international community has been far too aggressive, while critical human rights issues have been ignored. The Department of Peace would analyze these aspects of foreign policy and make recommendations to the President to ensure that human rights are protected and to lessen armed international conflict as a whole. Specifically, the Department of Peace and Nonviolence would seek to strengthen nonmilitary means of peacemaking and to promote the development of human potential. It is high time for the United States to change its approach to diplomatic efforts.

We have seen in Iraq how an aggressive foreign policy can destroy so many lives, throw a country into chaos and civil war, and drain the resources and social services of the American people. We are tired of this war, yet the President announced yesterday that he wants another \$235 billion for military operations in the Middle East, while cutting away funds for the American people, such as healthcare and transportation.

Let us get our priorities straight. Let us put the American people's tax dollars in programs that benefit them, not in this meaningless war. Let us promote policies of peace and make this world a better place.

HONORING GEORGE B. GOULD
IN RETIREMENT**HON. TOM DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. George B. Gould for over 27 years of dedicated service to the National Association of Letter Carriers, NALC.

Since joining NALC in 1979, George has been a legislative consultant involved in numerous issues, such as budget, appropriations, health care, retirement, and education. Through his advocacy, on behalf of the 300,000 members of NALC, George has made great progress on issues affecting postal operations. This progress includes his instrumental work in the creation of NALC's political action fund as well as his work in advancing political freedoms for federal workers through his efforts in reforming the Hatch Act in 1993.

During his career, Mr. Gould co-chaired the Coalition to Preserve the Postal Service, a group consisting of representatives from the mailers community, the U.S. Postal Service, the postal supervisors and managers, and postal unions. The coalition worked to secure funds for the anthrax cleanup, to bring Civil Service Retirement System funding to the Postal Service, and to make general postal reforms.

Mr. Gould also chaired the Fund for Assuring an Independent Retirement, FAIR, Committee on Legislative and Political Affairs. Representing over 8 million active and retired employees, FAIR fights to protect and enhance Federal employee pensions and other benefits.

Mr. Gould has been recognized by *Regardie's Magazine* on their Power 100 List of the most influential people in Washington. Additionally, he has been featured in *Roll Call*, *The Washington Post*, *The Washington Times*, *Legal Times*, *The Federal Times*, and *The Boston Globe* for his effective and tireless lobbying efforts. Mr. Gould has also received acknowledgement from Project Vote and in 1990 he received the "Good Guy" award from the National Women's Political Caucus.

It was apparent to all those who worked with George that he had a knack for the policy process and a desire to improve public policy for the Federal employee. Drawing on his years of experience, Mr. Gould went out of his way to be a teacher and mentor to the staff of NALC. As his last act of service, he trained an able replacement to ensure that the ideals and issues important to NALC do not suffer in his absence.

Madam Speaker, in closing I would like to commend and congratulate Mr. George B. Gould on all of his accomplishments. His efforts have deeply impacted the public discussion, but more importantly the policy that affects the postal service, truly meriting recognition. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding George for his past accomplishments and in wishing him a happy and healthy retirement.

TRIBUTE TO YONG-SOO LEE

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Yong-Soo Lee, a South Korean woman who, decades after enduring torture and abuse by the Japanese Imperial Army, has taken it upon herself to stand up for human rights and the dignity of all by telling her personal story and demanding that the Government of Japan acknowledge and apologize for its role in the "comfort women" system of World War II.

Yong-Soo Lee is one of over 200,000 "comfort women" in Asia who suffered unimaginable dehumanization by the Japanese Imperial Army during Japan's colonial and wartime occupation of Asia and the Pacific Islands from the 1930s through the duration of World War II.

These women—who came from China, Indonesia, Korea, the Philippines, and elsewhere—suffered experiences which were unprecedented in cruelty and were officially commissioned by the Government of Japan. They endured gang rape, forced abortions, humiliation, and sexual violence resulting in mutilation, death, or eventual suicide—and to this date, they have still not received justice from this tragedy.

The hope of Yong-Soo Lee and her sisters is a modest one: Simply stated, that the government of Japan acknowledges, apologizes for, and accepts full historical responsibility for these atrocities.

Yong-Soo Lee has a poignant story to tell. At 16, she was taken far from her home in Korea to an outpost on Taiwan, where she and her schoolmates, among others, were forced to provide sexual services to Japanese soldiers and airmen in the waning days of World War II. She suffered seasickness, sleeplessness, hunger, venereal disease, and bodily harm.

When she was able to return home after the war, the pain and shame were so much that she was never able to marry, which caused conflict and ostracization within her family.

Still, she went on with her life, and in 1992 began to unburden herself of her memories. Working with the Korean Council for the Women Drafted for Military Sexual Slavery by Japan, she came forward with her story—which she had kept secret from her family for almost five decades—in order that other women will not have to endure the same sort of suffering.

Madam Speaker, on February 15, the Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and the Global Environment of the Committee on Foreign Affairs will convene a hearing entitled "Protecting the Human Rights of Comfort Women." Yong-Soo Lee has been invited to share her story with members of the subcommittee along with other surviving comfort women who want to see justice prevail.

On January 31, I, along with several of my colleagues, introduced H. Res. 121, which expresses "the sense of the House of Representatives that the Government of Japan should formally acknowledge, apologize, and accept historical responsibility in a clear and unequivocal manner for its Imperial Armed Force's coercion of young women into sexual

slavery, known to the world as "comfort women" during its colonial and wartime occupation of Asia and the Pacific Islands from the 1930s through the duration of World War II."

We appreciate the dedication of women like Yong-Soo Lee, who are traveling thousands of miles to be with us in Washington, to help us better understand their personal experiences and to help us formulate appropriate policy responses to both historical events and their modern equivalents. They stand as beacons of inspiration to us as we combat human rights violations and seek to extirpate war crimes wherever they might occur. By telling their stories, Yong-Soo Lee and her fellow comfort women provide the foundation for the protection of the rights of women throughout the world.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in tribute to Yong-Soo Lee and the thousands of surviving comfort women.

COMMISSION TO STUDY THE POTENTIAL CREATION OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN LATINO ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2007

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 512, to establish the commission to study the potential creation of the National Museum of the American Latino to develop a plan of action for the establishment and maintenance of a National Museum of the American Latino in Washington, DC, and for other purposes.

Here in our Nation's Capitol we are proud of the history from the past that surrounds us and embrace the history that is made each and every day. Amongst the many museums that pay tribute to our rich history as a nation, there still remains a sense of incompleteness in our lessons of our history, art and culture. Even though 40 million United States residents share the Latino heritage and culture, hardly any permanent exhibits in Washington's museums commemorate their cultural contributions. I commend Representative BECERRA for recognizing the need to share the collective history of Latino-Americans and to ensure that their stories, cultural contributions and heritage are not forgotten for generations to come.

This bipartisan bill was first introduced as H.R. 2134 during the 109th Congress and passed by a unanimous vote but time ran out before the Senate could act on the bill. I was a co-sponsor of H.R. 2134 and it is my sincere hope that my colleagues in the Senate will take quick action and speedily move this important legislation forward upon its passage in the House. This legislation recognizes the need for detailed and careful planning and proposes a 23 member commission to discuss the museum's vitality and is charged with producing a national conference to bring stakeholders, experts, policy makers and other interested parties together. It is important to take the chief ideas discussed and move them from concept to reality; the commission would be tasked with designing a fundraising plan to create an extensive public-private partnership

as well as reporting to Congress a detailed recommended plan of action on how to do so.

Again, I thank my colleague, Mr. BECERRA, for introducing this important legislation, to ensure that we celebrate, commemorate and remember the contribution of Latino Americans by moving to establish a National museum and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution.

HONORING MRS. EDITH EDNA
"BETTY" VAUGHN

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Edith Edna "Betty" Vaughn for a lifetime of service as a health care professional.

Born Edith Edna Lunn on November 3, 1945, Betty, as she later preferred to be called, was the only girl of her parents' four children. She became interested in nursing and health care at an early age, often having to look after her brothers. Betty decided to turn this interest into a career when she attended nursing school in 1963. She graduated in 1967 with a diploma of nursing from the University of Essex in England.

Betty met her husband, Victor Vaughn, at a hospital dance and married him 1 year later. The Vaughn's moved to Richmond, VA, where Betty began her career at the Johnston-Willis Hospital.

In 1974 the Vaughns moved to Blacksburg, VA, where Victor attended Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Betty continued her career of service working at the local community hospital. Mrs. Vaughn was a dedicated professional during the days and a loving, supportive wife to her husband at night.

Upon completion of Mr. Vaughn's education, the family moved to northern Virginia where Betty joined the staff at Fairfax Hospital, today known as INOVA Fairfax Hospital. Betty has been a cheerful, positive employee to the hospital, spreading joy to all patients she encounters. While her retirement is well deserved, she will be greatly missed.

Madam Speaker, in closing I would like to commend Mrs. Edith Edna "Betty" Vaughn for her lifetime of service. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding Betty for her past accomplishments and in wishing her a happy and healthy retirement.

TRIBUTE TO JAN RUFF-O'HERNE

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize and honor an extraordinary woman of courage and integrity who is visiting Washington this week.

During World War II, Jan Ruff-O'Herne was a young Dutch national, born and raised in what is now Indonesia. She was kidnapped by Japanese Imperial forces and forced to serve as what is euphemistically known as a "comfort woman" in a brothel for the entertainment of Japanese soldiers.

For nearly 50 years, Mrs. Ruff-O'Herne kept her tortures to herself, too ashamed to admit her horrid experiences even to the people closest to her. In 1992, however, after seeing reports of other comfort women who were speaking out about the atrocities they endured, she decided to make her memories public.

Her 1994 autobiography, *50 Years of Silence*, which was later adapted into a widely-praised and award-winning documentary film, explains in excruciating detail her life in the so-called "comfort station." That she survived this ordeal speaks volumes about her strength, courage, and spiritual convictions.

In the years since she brought her story to public attention, Jan Ruff-O'Herne has been granted honors by Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands, Queen Elizabeth, and Pope John Paul II, in recognition of her efforts to support the human rights of women around the globe.

On February 15, the Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and the Global Environment of the Committee on Foreign Affairs will convene a hearing entitled "Protecting the Human Rights of Comfort Women." Jan Ruff-O'Herne has been invited to share her story with members of the subcommittee.

Thousands of the comfort women of World War II survive today. They are seeking a formal apology from the government of Japan, which has been unwilling to accept responsibility for violating the human rights of these women.

Madam Speaker, last month I introduced a resolution, H. Res. 121, which calls on Japan to formally and unambiguously apologize and acknowledge the tragedy that the comfort women endured under its Imperial Army during World War II. Not only should Japan's Prime Minister issue a public apology, Japan must take responsibility unequivocally.

The Japanese government owes such an apology to brave women like Jan Ruff-O'Herne.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in tribute to Jan Ruff-O'Herne and the hundreds of thousands of comfort women who endured unspeakable tortures during World War II and who continue to fight for the human rights of all people more than 60 years later.

TRIBUTE TO CAROLYN CLOSS
WALFORD

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Carolyn Closs Walford on the occasion of her promotion to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel after 20 years of service in the U.S. Army.

LTC Walford is known to many of my colleagues, because she has served in the Army's House Liaison Division for more than 3 years. Many of us have had the good fortune of working with her on a wide variety of legislative initiatives and programs. She has also coordinated 14 Congressional Delegations to Iraq, more than any other Legislative Liaison currently assigned to the Chief of the Legislative Liaison Office. LTC Walford coordinated official visits I made to Morocco, Israel, and Egypt, and I can therefore attest from first-

hand experience to her professionalism and commitment to duty.

LTC Walford was born and reared in Louisburg, NC. She is the daughter of the late William L. Closs and Fannie S. Closs, the youngest in a large and loving family of ten. Her oldest brother is 30 years her senior and her oldest sister is 18 years older.

LTC Walford is not the first in her family to honorably serve in this Nation's armed forces, although she is the first generation of her family to serve in an integrated military. Her father, SSG William L. Closs, served in WWII during the Normandy Campaign with the 443rd QM Trucking Company. He was awarded the Purple Heart for his bravery and commitment to duty.

LTC Walford was a daddy's girl who joined the Reserve Officer Training Corps, ROTC, while attending Winston-Salem State University. She was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Signal Corps upon graduation and accepted a reserve commission in the Army Reserve. She completed the Signal Officers Basic Course at Ft. Gordon, GA, relocated to Washington, DC, to pursue a fulltime career in the private sector while fulfilling her military commitment in the Army Reserve and completing her graduate studies. LTC Walford later made the decision to branch transfer to the Quartermaster Corps, a branch more fitting to support the Army Reserve mission of combat service support. LTC Walford held various positions while serving as the "Citizen Soldiers," to include Company Command, Aide-de-Camp to the Commanding General of the 352d Civil Affairs Command, Host Nations Support and a variety of logistics assignments. LTC Walford deployed and served seven months in Southwest Asia during Operation Desert Storm.

The Chief, Army Reserve requested her assistance in the start up of a new unit in 1999, the Logistics Civil Augmentation Program, LOGCAP. LTC Walford's civilian expertise in contracting and her logistical background made her a prime candidate to help facilitate this new unit. Once again, she answered the call to serve and became a fulltime active soldier. She has served in the Army's Guard/Reserve, AGR, Program since 1999.

LTC Walford has received numerous awards throughout her career, including the Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Accommodation Medal, the Office of the Secretary of Defense Badge, and the Army Staff Badge. She is a graduate of the Army's Command and General Staff Officers Course, The Quartermaster and Civil Affairs Advanced course, and the U.S. Army Paratrooper School.

This soldier's unique skill set and extraordinarily diverse level of experience both in the public and private sector has been a tremendous asset to our great country. She is a pillar of strength for our Army, her fellow comrades-in-arms, and for her family and friends. My best wishes go out to LTC Walford on her well-deserved promotion, and to her husband, Raymond L. Walford, and her entire extended family on this important occasion.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLIE NORWOOD

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. NORWOOD. Madam Speaker, had I been present on rollcall vote No. 74, I would have voted "yea"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 75, I would have voted "yea"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 76, I would have voted "yea"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 77, I would have voted "yea"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 78, I would have voted "yea"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 79, I would have voted "yea"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 80, I would have voted "yea"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 81, I would have voted "no"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 82, I would have voted "aye"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 83, I would have voted "aye"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 84, I would have voted "aye"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 85, I would have voted "aye"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 86, I would have voted "aye"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 87, I would have voted "yea"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 88, I would have voted "yea"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 89, I would have voted "yea"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 90, I would have voted "yea"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 91, I would have voted "aye"; had I been present on rollcall vote No. 92, I would have voted "aye."

TRIBUTE TO THE WYOMING BOARD
OF REGISTRATION FOR PROFESSIONAL
ENGINEERS AND PROFESSIONAL
LAND SURVEYORS

HON. BARBARA CUBIN

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mrs. CUBIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Wyoming Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors. This board has been serving Wyoming for 100 years by certifying engineers in order to ensure their competence and the highest level of training.

In 1907, when Clarence T. Johnston became the Wyoming State Engineer, there was no national or State certification process for workers. Realizing that many engineers were not trained for their positions, and thus were providing sub-par workmanship, he proposed to the Wyoming State legislature a bill to mandate registration of engineers and to create a board of examiners.

Wyoming became the first State with an engineer licensure law in 1907. Soon after, the Nation followed step; and in 1920, the organization now known as the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying was born. This organization has created licensure standards and professional ethics for engineers countrywide.

Through its licensure regulations and training, the National Council ensures the safety of our Nation's infrastructure. Engineers design our buildings and bridges, they develop our

technology, and they manufacture our machines. All U.S. citizens are affected by their work, and ensuring public safety through the guarantee of quality products is a noble cause.

I am proud to represent the first State to create accountability for engineer workmanship. I commend the Wyoming Board of Registration for their continued service, and congratulate them once again on their 100-year anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO JIM MACK

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, the manufacturing sector plays a pivotal role in the economic success of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as well as that of the Nation. The pre-eminent association that represents the producers of U.S. advanced manufacturing technology equipment, promotes manufacturing equipment sales both at home and abroad, and tries to shape legislation important to the manufacturing community is AMT—the Association for Manufacturing Technology, led by its President, John B. Byrd III.

For the past 32 years, the voice for AMT on Capitol Hill has been the tireless, knowledgeable, and ardent advocate for the association's legislative and regulatory goals, James H. Mack. Jim served AMT as the vice president for Government Relations for 27 years and most recently as vice president—Tax and Economic Policy. He has also been an important aide to former Illinois Governor Richard B. Ogilvie and public affairs manager for Illinois Tool Works in Chicago.

After earning his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Wisconsin, Jim demonstrated a life-long commitment to the manufacturing technology industry and its employees—providers of the vital equipment that has made our Nation the manufacturing leader in the world.

As Jim retires from this phase of his career, I wish to acknowledge the achievements of a man so many of us know and admire. Let he be considered merely a master of the Tax Code wearing a smile that always includes a pipe, let me add that I know him to be trustworthy, an honest broker, and all around decent and caring individual.

Hats off and continued success to a great American, Jim Mack.

TRIBUTE TO THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH IN CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 150th Birthday of the First United Methodist Church in Champaign, Illinois. This sesquicentennial celebration marks not only a significant moment for the church, but also a significant moment in

the community, culture and history of Champaign.

The First United Methodist Church was first recognized as a Methodist Episcopal church on December 7, 1856 by the Illinois Annual Conference; however, the contributions of the Church go further back to 1793. With its rich history and loyal dedication to serving the community, the Church has been a vital influence in the shaping of the fine citizens of Champaign.

Officially recognized in 1856, the First United Methodist Church began with holding Sunday services in a brick schoolhouse nearby. Started with a small loyal following, the Church grew to record highs of 4,163 members. As its size and congregation grew, so did their devotion to the community.

The First United Methodist Church has been steadfast in providing a positive influence to the entire community of Champaign. Members of the Church have active roles in mission programs both local and international, volunteered in local service projects, and helped run local food banks.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the 150th Birthday of the First United Methodist church as well as their 150 years of accomplishments and noble servitude for the city of Champaign.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE EDWARD WILLIAM BROOKE III CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, Senator EDWARD KENNEDY, the Massachusetts delegation, Congressional Black Caucus Chair CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK, and I are proud to introduce the Edward William Brooke III Congressional Gold Medal Act. Senator Edward Brooke has been much honored as an outstanding two-term Senator (1967–1979) who is still remembered for his courage and independence on the difficult issues of his time—from the Vietnam War to his leading work in the passage of the Fair Housing Act of 1968. President Bush awarded Senator Brooke the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2004. At 87, his autobiography, *Bridging the Divide: My Life* tells the Senator's remarkable story. That story began here in the District of Columbia, where Senator Brooke was born and raised, and graduated from Dunbar High School and Howard University. Senator Brooke rose to the rank of captain in the segregated 366th Infantry Regiment in the U.S. Army, and won a Bronze Star Medal and the Distinguished Service Award. His autobiography reads like a personal and political adventure of a man born in the segregated capital, a city with no local elected officials or Members of Congress, who went on to become the first African American official elected statewide, when he won election as Attorney General, the second highest office in the state, and the only Republican to win statewide election that year. In 1966, Senator Brooke became the first African American elected by popular vote to the Senate of the United States. "Trailblazer" does not aptly describe the courage it took for an African American to run, much less win state-wide office as

a Republican in a predominately Democratic state, where 2 percent of the population was African American.

I take special pride and pleasure in introducing this bill in the House, along with the Massachusetts delegation and the chair of the Congressional Black Caucus. My Massachusetts colleagues justifiably claim Senator Brooke as a son of Massachusetts. We in the District concede that Massachusetts voters also deserve credit in refusing to allow racial barriers, that still remain formidable in most states, overwhelm Senator Brooke's qualifications for high office. However, I hope that Massachusetts citizens will forgive the residents of the Senator's hometown if we insist that Edward William Brooke III be counted the adopted son of Massachusetts. Senator Brooke's family, the District of Columbia Public Schools, Howard University, and the proud African American community both sheltered and prepared him for his remarkable life and service to the people of Massachusetts and the Nation.

We are especially grateful for the Senator's devotion to H.R. 328, the District of Columbia Fair and Equal House Voting Rights Act of 2007. Senator Brooke has worked devotedly for passage of the pending legislation. While in the Senate, he never forgot that his hometown had no Senator and needed him, too. Speaking on the Senate floor for passage of the Voting Rights Amendment in 1978, Senator Brooke made it clear, as he does today, that this matter also was personal for him. He said, in part, "My enthusiastic endorsement of House Joint Resolution 554 is based primarily on fundamental concepts of liberty and justice, but my support and interest are also intensely personal, for my roots are in Washington, D.C. I was born and raised here. I attended and graduated from Shaw Junior High School, Dunbar High School, and Howard University. For as long as I can remember, I have fought, along with family and friends and colleagues, to attain the goal of providing for the citizens of the District of Columbia the same rights and privileges that other citizens throughout the Nation have enjoyed." Because the Congressional Gold Medal is the highest honor that Congress can bestow, it is necessary that at least 290 Representatives and 67 Senators sign on as cosponsors. I urge every Member of the House and Senate to become co-sponsors before the end of Black History Month on February 28th.

RAISING THE BAR: PIONEERS IN THE LEGAL PROFESSION

Born October 26, 1919, Edward Brooke was the first African American elected to major statewide office in Massachusetts (Attorney General, 1962) and the first African American elected and re-elected to the U.S. Senate (1967–79) by popular vote. His father, Edward Brooke, Jr. was a graduate of Howard University School of Law (1918) and served as an attorney for the Veterans Administration for 50 years—an exceptional achievement for an African-American person at that time.

Brooke attended public schools in Washington, DC, and graduated from Paul Laurence Dunbar High School in 1936. When he entered Howard University he originally planned to be a pre-med. major, but he changed to Sociology because he found the coursework more interesting. His professor of Political Science at Howard was diplomat, statesman and Nobel Prize winner, Ralph Bunche.

After graduating from Howard and the Reserve Officers Training Corps in 1941, he was

drafted into the U.S. Army. He served with the all-Black 366th Combat Infantry Regiment. In charge of discipline and recreation at Fort Devens, in Massachusetts, Brooke defended enlisted men in military court cases.

For his leadership during 195 days in combat in Italy, he was awarded the Bronze Star and promoted to captain. He also received the Distinguished Service Award.

Motivated by his experience in the army, Brooke enrolled in Boston University Law School in 1946, and became editor of the Boston University Law Review. He earned an LLB in 1948 and an LLM in 1949 and began his private law practice in Roxbury, after declining offers to join other firms, including an offer from his father to begin a father and son practice in Washington, DC. Friends encouraged Brooke to run for political office. His first efforts to enter politics on the Republican slate in 1950 and 1952 were promising, but unsuccessful.

After those bids for office, he increased his involvement with community affairs, and became active with various groups, including the Boston branch of the NAACP and the Greater Boston Urban League, the Boy Scouts of America and the American Veterans of WW II. He also focused on his law practice during that time. In 1960 he ran for Massachusetts' Secretary of State and became the first African American to be nominated by a major party for a statewide office in Massachusetts—considered quite an accomplishment since there were only 93,000 black residents in the state. He received over one million votes, but did not win that election. In 1962, without the support of Republican party leaders who had endorsed his candidacy for lower offices earlier, he won the election to the office of Attorney General and became the first African American to be elected as a state's attorney general.

As Massachusetts' Attorney General, he battled corruption in government and targeted organized crime. He proposed laws that protected consumers, struck at housing discrimination and reduced air pollution. Brooke worked closely with the Massachusetts Crime Commission and successfully conducted the massive investigation in the "Boston Strangler Case." Due to some of his seemingly conservative and unpopular stances on issues such as a black student boycott of Boston's public schools, he endured the wrath of civil rights leaders.

In 1965 he decided to seek election to the U.S. Senate. In his book, *The Challenge of Change: Crisis in Our Two-Party System*, published in 1966, he attempted to encourage his Republican Party to become more responsive to social change, and he identified discrimination against 10 percent of the country's population, due to the color of their skin, as an important issue. Edward Brooke won the election, with a margin of almost a half million votes, and became the first African American to serve since Reconstruction. (He was the third black American in the U.S. Senate and the first to win a seat in a popular election.) He served two terms—enjoying an overwhelming re-election in 1972.

Appointed by President Lyndon Johnson to the Commission on Civil Disorders, Senator Brooke's work included making recommendations for the protection of black people and civil rights workers from harassment. Later, that work was expanded to include protection against housing discrimination, which led to the 1968 Civil Rights Act. He was a strong opponent of the escalation of the Vietnam War and fought proposals that would have expanded Cold War nuclear arsenals. He also worked to improve relations with the People's Republic of China, which led to the recognition of that country.

Although he had supported Richard Nixon's campaigns in 1968 and 1972, he clashed with Nixon on several issues, including the nomination of two anti-civil rights judges to the Supreme Court. He was the first senator to call for the President's resignation during the Watergate scandal.

After Senator Brooke was defeated in the 1978 election, he resumed his law practice and headed the National Low Income Housing Coalition. Senator Brooke is the father of three and currently lives with his wife in Warrenton, Virginia. He has received over 30 honorary degrees and awards, including the NAACP Springarn Medal and the National Conference of Christians & Jews' Charles Evans Hughes Award.

Throughout his career, Senator Brooke has endeavored to make America a better place for all Americans. His efforts and service to the commonwealth of Massachusetts and the United States were recognized recently, when a state courthouse in Massachusetts was named the Edward W. Brooke courthouse. He thus became the first black American to have a state courthouse named in his honor.

LAMAR UNIVERSITY

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, today I take pride in sharing with you a grand and historic milestone for the State of Texas, specifically the Second Congressional District. Today, Madam Speaker, Lamar University's Mary and John Gray Library commemorates its fiftieth year as a federal depository. Lamar University, as well as I take great pleasure in celebrating and honoring the Mary and John Gray Library's steadfast dedication to providing and safeguarding the citizens' of Texas right to know.

The Federal Library Depository Program was created over one hundred and forty years ago with the sole purpose of keeping America informed by treasuring, producing, and distributing the Federal government information. The Mary and John Gray Library carries on this very valid and noble duty by being the only Federal depository within the region. The library plays a vital link between the government and Texas citizens. With its dedicated staff readily available to help students and Southeast Texans obtain governmental information, the Mary and John Gray Library collects, maintains, and preserves over sixty-four percent of the documents made available by the Federal government.

Ground was broken for the library in 1973. The eight story structure was constructed to be a visible monument for Lamar University. With the two main goals of expressing deserved appreciation for past services and that the name be inspirational for the future greatness of Lamar University, the library was officially dedicated in honor of Mary and John Gray on April 26, 1976. To this day it continues to be a fount of scholarly information.

The library teaches information gathering skills to promote and foster academic success, along with adding essential information for those wishing to continue their educational learning. By developing appropriate learning collections, it is able to provide efficient services within a friendly, relaxed, and educational

environment. It continues to provide leadership for campus information policy.

Madam Speaker, I join the citizens of the Second Congressional District in extolling Lamar University and the Mary and John Gray Library on realizing its goal of creating a depository that fosters, preserves, and maintains the American public's right to know. Lamar University is appreciated by the good citizens of the South East Texas.

That is just the way it is.

TRIBUTE TO THROGS NECK LITTLE LEAGUE

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a number of my constituents, the Throgs Neck Little League team of Bronx, NY. I wish to recognize the Throgs Neck Little League for celebrating their 55th anniversary this year as a community association dedicated to improving the lives of countless youth. The commitment and contributions of coaches, families, and loyal fans deserve to be acknowledged and these community members commended for their steadfast devotion to this organization.

Madam Speaker, I join to congratulate the Throgs Neck Little League for their achievements thus far and I wish them continued luck and many wins ahead in future seasons.

RECOGNIZING THE PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA FAIR ON ITS 60TH AN- NIVERSARY CELEBRATION

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Pasco County, Florida for hosting a fun and exciting annual fair for the past 60 years. While the first year of the Fair was not until 1947, Pasco County consistently won first place with its community booth at the Florida State Fair throughout the early 1940s. Partly due to Pasco County's success, the State Fair instituted a rule change that prohibited one county from winning first place more than three consecutive years.

Because of the rule change, prominent San Antonio rancher D. E. "Dan" Cannon formed a group to establish a county fair. Joined by Pasco County's agricultural agent Jimmy Higgins, Dade City businessmen Joe Collura, George Nikolai and Bob Williams began searching for property to host the Fair. Eventually finding 40 acres with a rolling hillside just west of Dade City, the group met in City Hall to raise the necessary funds to purchase the land.

On April 7, 1947, the Pasco County Fair Association was chartered for the purpose of hosting an annual fair. In the early days, they borrowed the midway rides from the Florida State Fair and drove to Tampa to disassemble the rides, deliver them to Dade City on the back of Dan Cannon's milk truck and then reassemble them on site. When the fair was

over, they would disassemble the rides and return them to Tampa. The early fairs included contests in fruit packing, orange peeling and eating. In addition, there were car races and rodeos.

In 1948, the late Hazel Whitman, also a charter member, started the Miss Pasco County Pageant as a fundraiser for the fair. "Heart of Florida" was added as the fair's logo about 10 years later and is still used today.

The association originally sold memberships for \$25 to raise money to host the fair. It is unique because throughout the years, it has remained a non-profit organization supported by its membership. The Fair is a great example of how entrepreneurs and warm-hearted individuals can make a difference in the community, without relying on the government for support.

Madam, Speaker, the Pasco County Fair is a beloved institution throughout the entire region. Thousands of area residents have spent their childhoods on the carnival rides and have fond memories of competing in the beauty pageant and eating contests. This year the Fair will celebrate its 60th consecutive year of offering a week of fun and excitement for my Pasco County constituents. I wish the Fair organizers best wishes during this year's Fair and hope that they will continue their efforts for another 60 years into the future.

CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF
ISAAC RICHARD LESLIE

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I am happy to congratulate Ian and Carolyn Leslie of Beaufort, South Carolina, on the birth of their new baby boy. Isaac Richard Leslie was born in Beaufort on February 7, 2007, at 4:06 p.m., weighing 8 pounds and 3 ounces. He has been born into a loving home, where he will be raised by parents who are devoted to his well-being and bright future.

His father, Ian Leslie, serves as City Editor for The Beaufort Gazette, one of the biggest and most historic newspapers in South Carolina. His mother, Carolyn Leslie, is a teacher at the E C Montessori School in Beaufort. They are both natives of New York, but have chosen South Carolina as their new home. I congratulate the Leslie family on Isaac's birth.

PELL GRANT EQUITY ACT OF 2007

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleagues Rep. BUCK MCKEON, Rep. RUBEN HINOJOSA and Rep. RIC KELLER to introduce the Pell Grant Equity Act of 2007.

As we all know, Pell Grants are the cornerstone of our federal student aid system providing approximately \$13 billion for more than 5 million undergraduate students, mostly from low-income households.

Unfortunately, hundreds of thousands of low-income students, who would otherwise

qualify for a full Pell Grant, have been unable to do so because of the current "tuition sensitivity" rule.

"Tuition sensitivity" is intended to reduce the Pell Grant for students attending higher education institutions that charge very low tuition.

Current law punishes very low cost schools and the students who attend those schools by reducing the Pell Grant aid they can receive.

The Pell Grant Equity Act addresses this imbalance by eliminating the discriminating "tuition sensitivity" provision in the law and ensuring students continued eligibility for the full amount of aid they would have otherwise received.

According to the Congressional Research Service, the students most negatively affected by this policy are "the poorest students attending institutions with very low tuition charges."

Since 2001, tuition and fees at public colleges and universities have exploded, increasing by 41 percent after inflation.

The exception to the rule of rising tuition and fees, are California's community colleges. This year, instead of seeing an increase in tuition and fees, California community college students' enrollment fees witnessed a decrease from \$26 to \$20 per unit.

The California community college system, and any other college system that experience cost reductions, is unfairly penalized by the "tuition sensitivity" provision.

Based on estimates from the Chancellor's office of the California community college system, more than 260,000 California community college students are expected to receive reduced Pell Grants because of the tuition sensitivity provision.

Rather than limit the Pell Grant—our goal is to expand it, which is what we accomplish through the Pell Grant Equity Act.

We must ensure that every student in this country has the opportunity to pursue their educational dreams, particularly those from low- and middle-income families.

There is no goal more important for our nation's students and families, for our economy and our future.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 982, THE
ADVANCE DEMOCRACY ACT OF 2007

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to inform my colleagues that today I, along with FRANK WOLF, DAVID PRICE, ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN and a number of other members have introduced the Advancing Democratic Values, Addressing Non-Democratic Countries and Enhancing (ADVANCE) Democracy Act of 2007. In the 109th Congress, precursor legislation spurred the Administration to start a number of changes in its approach, including adding capacity to the Department's Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, and creating an Advisory Committee on Democracy Promotion. H.R. 982 builds on that momentum by continuing to try to achieve five major reforms. H.R. 982

(1) Requires the Secretary to develop long-term strategies for democracy promotion and human rights protection for non-democratic

and democratic transition countries and countries where there are severe human rights violations, and focuses such strategies on building democratic institutions.

(2) Requires that such strategies be developed in consultation with individuals and groups from each particular country that support democratic values and that such strategies be carried out in cooperation with our friends and allies and with international organizations.

(3) Requires training on democracy promotion and human rights protection throughout the careers of members of the Foreign Service and other State Department employees.

(4) Creates financial and promotion incentives for State Department employees who excel in democracy promotion and human rights protection.

(5) Requires that Ambassadors and other senior members of the Foreign Service do more to reach out to foreign audiences and engage robustly with government officials, foreign media, non-governmental organizations and students to have serious discussions about U.S. foreign policy, particularly that related to democracy and human rights.

The ADVANCE Democracy Act also contains a number of other additional reforms, such as requiring the establishment of an office to serve as a contact point for emerging activists, the development of guidelines for when nongovernmental organizations and contractors are appropriate implementing partners, and efforts to foster more multilateral cooperation on democracy promotion. The central thrust of these reforms is to ensure that democracy promotion is based on a long-term, multilateral approach that is created in consultation with those who are risking their lives for dignity and freedom and that does not ignore the most difficult countries.

Madam Speaker, the promotion of democracy and the protection of human rights are two sides of the same coin. We all recognize that these must be fundamental components of U.S. foreign policy, just as we realize that they are not the only components of U.S. foreign policy. We recognize the tension between these and other imperatives, but must always remember that building of democratic institutions and forward movement on democracy and human rights is always in U.S. interest, even if such movement is not as fast.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this important reform initiative.

TRIBUTE TO THE HISTORY OF AFRICAN AMERICAN CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR NATION'S CAPTIOL

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, the role of African Americans in the Capitol's history precedes our arrival as elected officials. In fact, the very foundations on which we stand bear witness to the involvement of African American people. Some names became famous, such as Benjamin Banneker. He was a free African American mathematician who helped layout our capital city 1791.

But many more names will never be widely known. Although they labored in obscurity, their contributions stand today as monuments to their tenacity. Among them were skilled and unskilled laborers who helped build the U.S. Capitol building in 1793. Both free and enslaved people labored side by side to create this architectural gem. They were carpenters, sawyers, blacksmiths, bricklayers, and brickmakers. Ironically, it was an enslaved person who helped cast our magnificent Statue of Freedom. Another slave—Philip Reid—used his mechanical expertise to lift that statue to the top of the Capitol Dome in 1863.

Eventually, African-Americans moved into domestic service roles. They served as messengers, groundskeepers, cafeteria workers, and in similar service capacities. Yet black people were excluded from professional jobs until the 20th century.

The first African American known to be hired as a professional clerk was Jesse Nichols, a government documents clerk for the Senate Finance Committee from 1937 to 1971.

Later Christine McCreary, who worked for Senators Stuart Symington and John Glenn, was one of the first staffers to challenge the de facto segregation that existed on Capitol Hill. Sadly, this second class status for blacks persisted well into the 1960s. And to some degree it stubbornly persists.

In 1985, Trudi Morrison became the first woman and the first African American to serve as Deputy Sergeant at Arms of the Senate. Three years ago we saw another first for African Americans when the Senate appointed Dr. Barry C. Black as Chaplain. He continues to hold this position today.

And this year, Madam Speaker, you have expanded the train of firsts into the House of Representatives. The appointment of Lorraine C. Miller as Clerk of the House makes her the first African American to serve as an official of this chamber.

These are the unsung heroes that made possible all of the successes African Americans in civil service positions enjoy today. Whether elected or appointed, it is on their shoulders that we stand. In this month when we heighten awareness of African-American history, it is critical that we acknowledge them and pay down our debt of gratitude.

TRIBUTE TO JONATHAN RIVERA

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the accomplishments of one of my constituents, Jonathan Rivera of Bronx, NY. I wish to recognize Mr. Rivera for being named a semi-finalist in The New York Times College Scholarship Program. Currently a senior at Monsignor Scanlan High School, Jonathan has demonstrated both a commitment to academic excellence and to serving the community through his involvement in the Campus Ministry, making him a deserving recipient of this honor.

The New York Times awards 4-year scholarships and mentoring opportunities to only 20 students each year attending New York City public schools. Recipients are selected for at-

taining high levels of scholastic achievement in the face of adversity.

Madam Speaker, I join to wish Mr. Rivera best wishes and good fortune in his future projects.

GEORGE MCGOVERN SPEAKS ON IRAQ AT THE NATIONAL PRESS CLUB

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, last month, on January 12th, Senator George McGovern spoke at the National Press Club about what he would advise President Bush to do on the Iraq War.

At 84 years of age, and as a veteran of World War II, Senator McGovern has the experience and knowledge that leads him to focus on the important questions surrounding this critical policy question. I hope all my colleagues, on both sides of the aisle, will review Senator McGovern's remarks and ask the same questions of our president.

REMARKS BY SENATOR GEORGE MCGOVERN TO
THE NATIONAL PRESS CLUB

[Jan. 12, 2007]

I'm glad to be back at the National Press Club. Indeed, at the age of 84, I'm glad to be anywhere. In my younger years when the subject of aging came up, trying to sound worldly wise, I would say, "It doesn't matter so much the number of years you have, but what you do with those years." I don't say that anymore. I now want to reach a hundred. Why? Because I thoroughly enjoy life and there are so many things I must still do before entering the mystery beyond. The most urgent of these is to get American soldiers out of the Iraqi hellhole Bush-Cheney and their neo-conservative theorists have created in what was once called the cradle of civilization. It is believed to be the location of the Garden of Eden. I mention the neo-conservative theorists to recall Walter Lippman's observance, "There is nothing so dangerous as a belligerent professor."

One of the things I miss about my 18 years in the U.S. Senate are the stories of the old Southern Democrats. I didn't always vote with them, but I loved their technique of responding to an opponent's questions with a humorous story. Once when Senator Sam Ervin of North Carolina had to handle a tough question from Mike Mansfield, he said, "You know, Mr. Leader, that question reminds me of the old Baptist preacher who was telling a class of Sunday school boys the creation story. 'God created Adam and Eve and from this union came two sons, Cain and Abel and thus the human race developed.' A boy in the class then asked, 'Reverend, where did Cain and Abel get their wives?' After frowning for a moment, the preacher replied, 'Young man—it's impertinent questions like that that's hurtin' religion.'"

Well, Mr. Bush, Jr. I have some pertinent questions for you.

Mr. President, Sir, when reporter Bob Woodward asked you if you had consulted with your father before ordering our army into Iraq you said, "No, he's not the father you call on a decision like this. I talked to my heavenly Father above." My question, Mr. President: If God asked you to bombard, invade and occupy Iraq for four years, why did he send an opposite message to the Pope? Did you not know that your father, George

Bush, Sr., his Secretary of State James Baker and his National Security Advisor General Skowcroft were all opposed to your invasion? Wouldn't you, our troops, the American people and the Iraqis all be much better off if you had listened to your more experienced elders including your earthly father? Instead of blaming God for the awful catastrophe you have unleashed in Iraq, wouldn't it have been less self-righteous if you had fallen back on the oft-quoted explanation of wrongdoing, "The devil made me do it?"

And Mr. President, after the 9-11 hit against the Twin Towers in New York, which gained us the sympathy and support of the entire world, why did you then order the invasion of Iraq, which had nothing to do with 9-11? Are you aware that your actions destroyed the international reservoir of good will towards the United States? What is the cost to America of shattering the standing and influence of our country in the eyes of the world?

Why, Mr. President did you pressure the CIA to report falsely that Iraq was building weapons of mass destruction including nuclear weapons? And when you ordered your Secretary of State, Colin Powell, to go to New York and present to the U.N. the Administration's "evidence" that Iraq was an imminent nuclear threat to the United States, were you aware that after reading this deceitful statement to the U.N., Mr. Powell told an aid that the so-called evidence was "bullshit"?

Is it reasonable to you, President Bush, that Colin Powell told you near the end of your first term that he would not be in your administration if you were to receive a second term? What decent person could survive two full terms of forced lying and deceit?

And Mr. President, how do you enjoy your leisure time, and how can you sleep at night knowing that 3014 young Americans have died in a war you mistakenly ordered? What do you say to the 48,000 young Americans who have been crippled for life in mind or body? What is your reaction to the conclusion of the leading British medical journal (Lancet) that since you ordered the bombardment and occupation of Iraq four years ago, 600 thousand Iraqi men, women and children have been killed? What do you think of the destruction of the Iraqi's homes, their electrical and water systems, their public buildings?

And Mr. Bush and Mr. Cheney, while neither of you has ever been in combat (Mr. Cheney asking and receiving five deferments from the Vietnam War), have you not at least read or been briefed on the terrible costs of that ill-advised and seemingly endless American war in tiny Vietnam? Do you realize that another Texas President, Lyndon Baines Johnson, declined to seek a second term in part because he had lost his credibility over the disastrous war in Vietnam? Are you aware that one of the chief architects of that war, Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara, resigned his office and years later published a book declaring that the war was all a tragic mistake? Do you know this recent history in which 58,000 young Americans died in the process of killing 2 million Vietnamese men, women and children? If you do not know about this terrible blunder in Vietnam, are you not ignoring the conclusion of one of our great philosophers: "Those who are ignorant of history are condemned to repeat it." And, Mr. President, in your ignorance of the lessons of Vietnam, are you not condemning our troops and our people to repeat the same tragedy in Iraq?

During the long years between 1964 and 1975 when I fought to end the American war in Vietnam, first as a U.S. Senator from

South Dakota and then as my party's nominee for President, my four daughters ganged up on my one night. "Dad, why don't you give up this battle? You've been speaking out against this crazy war since we were little kids. When you won the Democratic presidential nomination, you got snowed under by President Nixon." In reply I said, "Just remember that sometimes in history even a tragic mistake produces something good. The good about Vietnam is that it is such a terrible blunder, we'll never go down that road again." Mr. President, we're going down that road again. So, what do I tell my daughters? And what do you tell your daughters?

Mr. President, I do not speak either as a pacifist or a draft dodger. I speak as one who after the attack on Pearl Harbor, volunteered at the age of nineteen for the Army Air Corps and flew 35 missions as a B-24 bomber. I believed in that war then and I still do 65 years later. And so did the rest of America. Mr. President, are you missing the intellectual and moral capacity to know the difference between a justified war and a war of folly in Vietnam or Iraq?

Public opinion polls indicate that two-thirds of the American people think that the war in Iraq has been a mistake on your part. It is widely believed that this war was the central reason Democrats captured control of both houses of Congress. Polls among the people of Iraq indicate that nearly all Iraqis want our military presence in their country for the last four years to end now. Why do you persist in defying public opinion in both the United States and Iraq and throughout the other countries around the globe? Do you see yourself as omniscient? What is your view of the doctrine of self-determination, which we Americans hold dear?

And wonder of wonders, Mr. President, after such needless death and destruction, first in the Vietnamese jungle and now in the Arabian desert, how can you order 21,500 more American troops to Iraq? Are you aware that as the war in Vietnam went from bad to worse, our leaders sent in more troops and wasted more billions of dollars until we had 550,000 U.S. troops in that little country? It makes me shudder as an aging bomber pilot to remember that we dropped more bombs on the Vietnamese and their country than the total of all the bombs dropped by all the air forces around the world in World War II. Do you, Mr. President, honestly believe that we need tens of thousands of additional troops plus a supplemental military appropriation of 200 billion dollars before we can bring our troops home from this nightmare in ancient Baghdad?

In your initial campaign for the Presidency, Mr. Bush, you described yourself as a "compassionate conservative." What is compassionate about consigning America's youth to a needless and seemingly endless war that has now lasted longer than World War II? And what is conservative about reducing the taxes needed to finance this war and instead running our national debt to nine trillion dollars with money borrowed from China, Japan, Germany and Britain? Is this wild deficit financing your idea of conservatism? Mr. President, how can a true conservative be indifferent to the steadily rising cost of a war that claims over seven billion dollars a month, 237 million dollars every day? Are you troubled to know as a conservative that just the interest on our skyrocketing national debt is \$760,000 every day? Mr. President, our Nobel Prize winning economist, Joseph Stiglitz, estimates that if the war were to continue until 2010 as you have indicated it might, the cost would be over a trillion dollars.

Perhaps, Mr. President, you should ponder the words of a genuine conservative—England's 19th Century member of Parliament,

Edmund Burke: "A conscientious man would be cautious how he dealt in blood."

And, Mr. President at a time when your most respected generals have concluded that the chaos and conflict in Iraq cannot be resolved by more American dollars and more American young bodies, do you ever consider the needs here at home of our own anxious and troubled society? What about the words of another true conservative, General and President Dwight Eisenhower who said that, "Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and not clothed."

And, Mr. President, would not you and all the rest of us do well to ponder the farewell words of President Eisenhower: "In the councils of government; we must guard against the acquisition of the unwarranted influence of the military-industrial complex. The potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists and will persist."

Finally, Mr. President, I ask have you kept your oath of office to uphold the Constitution when you use what you call the war on terrorism to undermine the Bill of Rights? On what constitutional theory do you seize and imprison suspects without charge, sometimes torturing them in foreign jails? On what constitutional or legal basis have you tapped the phones of Americans without approval of the courts as required by law? Are you above the Constitution, above the law, and above the Geneva accords? If we are fighting for freedom in Iraq as you say, why are you so indifferent to protecting liberty here in America?

Many Americans are now saying in effect, "The American war in Iraq has created a horrible mess but how can we now walk away from it?" William Polk, a former Harvard and University of Chicago professor of Middle East Studies and a former State Department expert on the Middle East, has teamed up with me on a recent book requested by Simon and Schuster. It is entitled, "Out of Iraq: A Practical Plan for Withdrawal Now." I feel awkward praising it, so I give you the respected journalist of the New York Times, and now of Newsweek, Anna Quindlen who told Charlie Rose on his excellent TV program: "There is a wonderful book I am recommending to everyone. It's a very small, readable book by George McGovern and William Polk called "Out of Iraq". And it just very quickly runs you through the history of the country, the makeup of the country, how we got in, the arguments for getting in—many of which don't withstand scrutiny—and how we can get out. It's like a little primer. I think the entire nation should read it and then we will be united."

If you need a second for the judgment of Anna Quindlen, I give you the esteemed Library Journal: "In this crisp and cogently argued book, former Senator McGovern and scholar Polk offer a trenchant and straightforward critique of the war in Iraq. What makes their highly readable book unique is that it not only argues why the United States needs to disengage militarily from Iraq now . . . but also clearly delineates practical steps for troop withdrawal . . . Essential reading for anybody who wants to cut through the maze of confusion that surrounds current U.S. policy in Iraq, this book is highly recommended for public and academic libraries."

Professor Polk is a descendant of President Polk and the brother of the noted George Polk, is here today from his home in southern France and he will join me at the podium as I conclude this impartial interrogation of President Bush. And now, members of the National Press Club and your guests, it's your turn to cross-examine Bill Polk and me in, of course, an equally impartial manner.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, February 8, 2007, I was attending the funeral of the father of a member of my staff and missed rollcall votes No. 81–92. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes No. 81, 82, 83, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90 and "aye" on final passage of H.R. 547, the Advanced Fuels Infrastructure Research and Development Act (rollcall vote No. 92). I would have voted "nay" on rollcall votes No. 84 and 91.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall vote No. 85, on agreeing to the Rogers amendment to H.R. 547, at 4:01 p.m. on February 8, 2007.

If present, I would have voted "aye."

RECOGNIZING DR. STEVEN SCOTT FOR HIS WORK ON BEHALF OF AMERICA'S VETERANS

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Steven G. Scott, a nominee for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Employee of the Year Award, issued annually by the Disabled American Veterans. As someone who had dedicated their professional career to meeting the healthcare needs of his patients, Dr. Scott deserves recognition for his work on behalf of our nation's veterans.

While stationed at the James A. Haley VA Medical Center in Tampa, Florida for the past sixteen years, Dr. Scott has been instrumental in bringing specialized healthcare to soldiers with traumatic injuries. His work has focused on providing care for those individuals wounded through explosions, as well as those afflicted with spinal cord injuries.

Without Dr. Scott's tireless efforts, these soldiers would not have access to the high quality care they receive today. I have toured the facilities at Haley in person, and can attest to the outstanding facilities, excellent staff, and professional atmosphere. Dr. Scott deserves a great deal of the credit for the quality care provided to the severely wounded at Haley. Families around the country request the Haley Center because of the superior healthcare services Dr. Scott has brought to the Polytrauma Center.

Dr. Scott has also been recognized for his outstanding work serving veterans injured in combat. The 2006 recipient of the Tampa Bay Business Journal's Health Care Heroes Award

for Health Care Innovation and Research, Dr. Scott was also awarded the 2004 Olin E. Teague Award, the highest award for treating war-related injuries in the VA.

Madam Speaker, dedicated public servants like Dr. Steven G. Scott should be recognized for their years of service to America's veterans. I know that he will continue to help the patients at James Haley VA Medical Center recover from their injuries and improve their medical care. Congress should recognize the men and women like Dr. Scott who work day in and day out on behalf of our veterans.

TRIBUTE TO JOANNA KURYLO

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Joanna Kurylo of Queens, NY. I wish to recognize Ms. Kurylo for being awarded the 2007 New York State Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Youth Award. Joanna is a student at Christ the King Regional High School where she has achieved a high level of excellence and has already established herself as a community leader. While participating in a number of extra-curricular school activities, Joanna was honored for her notable fundraising efforts which brought aid to the Darfur region and helped advance the battle against leprosy. This award is granted to five students throughout New York State each year.

Madam Speaker, I join to wish Ms. Kurylo best wishes and good fortune in her future projects.

HONORING DR. EMIL FREI III

HON. DEAN HELLER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. HELLER of Nevada. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Emil Frei III, a pioneer in cancer treatment, one of the world's foremost oncologists, and a leader in medical education.

In addition to his many different leadership roles, throughout his career Dr. Frei has made notable advances in cancer treatment. His clinical research has made major contributions to the successful application of chemotherapy, a treatment method that has cured tens of thousands of patients. Dr. Frei served as Chief of Medicine at the National Cancer Institute, Associate Scientific Director Head at M.D. Anderson, Director and Physician-in-Chief at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, and is now the Physician-in-Chief, Emeritus, at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. He has also served on the advisory or director boards of numerous companies and non-profit organizations, including: Adherex Technologies, Angstrom, CaP Cure, Celator Pharmaceuticals, DIAD Research, Immunogen, Infinity Pharmaceuticals, Vion Pharmaceuticals, Aid for Cancer Research, the Cancer Research Institute, the Journal of Clinical Oncology, and the New England Journal of Medicine. Dr. Frei's contributions have been recognized by numerous

awards including the Lasker Award, the Kettering Prize from the General Motors Cancer Research Foundation, and most recently the Inaugural Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Association for Cancer Research.

Not only a medical practitioner but a distinguished educator, Dr. Frei served as Professor of Medicine at The University of Texas for seven years, and at Harvard Medical School for 24 years. The textbook he co-authored, *Cancer Medicine*, was the first published about oncology, and remains a seminal text in this field of medicine.

Dr. Frei is now retired in southern Nevada, but continues to lecture, write, and offer advice about the field in which he worked for more than 50 years. He now serves on the chapter board of the Southern Nevada Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, which will be hosting the inaugural Dr. Emil Frei III Symposium in March 2007.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to pay tribute to Dr. Frei for his committed service to medical oncology, service that has helped thousands of cancer patients under his care and innumerable patients in the future through his leadership and instruction. His exceptional career deserves the highest commendation and praise.

TRIBUTE TO OUR TROOPS

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 12, 2007

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to submit to the RECORD an article by the writer, actor, economist and lawyer, Ben Stein. This article, titled "Greetings from Rancho Mirage", expresses support and encouragement to our many hardworking and dedicated troops abroad:

GREETINGS FROM RANCHO MIRAGE—BY BEN STEIN

Dear Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, National Guard, Reservists, in Iraq, in the Middle East theater, in Afghanistan, in the area near Afghanistan, in any base anywhere in the world, and your families:

Let me tell you about why you guys own about 90 percent of the backbone in the whole world right now and should be happy with yourselves and proud of whom you are.

It was a dazzlingly hot day here in Rancho Mirage today. I did small errands like going to the bank to pay my mortgage, finding a new bed at a price I can afford, practicing driving with my new 5 wood, paying bills for about two hours. I spoke for a long time to a woman who is going through a nasty child custody fight. I got e-mails from a woman who was fired today from her job for not paying attention. I read about multi-billion-dollar mergers in Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. I noticed how overweight I am, for the millionth time. In other words, I did a lot of nothing.

Like every other American who is not in the armed forces family, I basically just rearranged the deck chairs on the Titanic in my trivial, self-important, meaningless way.

Above all, I talked to a friend of more than forty-three years who told me he thought his life had no meaning because all he did was count his money. And, friends in the armed forces, this is the story of all of America today. We are doing nothing but treading

water while you guys carry on the life or death struggle against worldwide militant Islamic terrorism. Our lives are about nothing: paying bills, going to humdrum jobs, waiting until we can go to sleep and then do it all again. Our most vivid issues are trivia compared with what you do every day, every minute, every second.

Oprah Winfrey talks a lot about "meaning" in life. For her, "meaning" is dieting and then having her photo on the cover of her magazine every single month (surely a new world record for egomania). This is not "meaning."

—Meaning is doing for others.

—Meaning is risking your life for hers.

—Meaning is putting your bodies and families' peace of mind on the line to defeat some of the most evil, sick killers the world has ever known.

—Meaning is leaving the comfort of home to fight to make sure that there still will be a home for your family and for your nation and for free men and women everywhere.

Look, soldiers and Marines and sailors and airmen and Coast Guardsmen, there are eight billion people in this world. The whole fate of this world turns on what you people, 1.4 million, more or less, do every day. The fate of mankind depends on what about 2/100 of one percent of the people in this world do every day and you are those people. And joining you is every policeman, fireman, and Emergency Medical Technician in the country, also holding back the tide of chaos.

Do you know how important you are? Do you know how indispensable you are? Do you know how humbly grateful any of us who has a head on his shoulders is to you? Do you know that if you never do another thing in your lives, you will always still be heroes? That we could live without hollywood or Wall Street or the NFL, but we cannot live for a week without you?

We are on our knees to you and we bless and pray for you every moment. And Oprah Winfrey, if she were a size two, would not have one millionth of your importance, and all of the Wall Street billionaires will never mean what the least of you do, and if Barry Bonds hits hundreds of home runs it would not mean as much as you going on one patrol or driving one truck to the Baghdad airport.

You are everything to us, as we go through our little days, and you are in the prayers of the nation and of every decent man and woman on the planet. That's who you are and what you mean. I hope you know that.

Love,

BEN STEIN.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, February 13, 2007 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

FEBRUARY 14

9:30 a.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider the Mental Health Parity Act of 2007, the Head Start for School Readiness Act, and any pending nominations.

SD-430

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the semi-annual monetary policy report to the Congress.

SD-106

Budget

To hold hearings to examine the President's fiscal year 2008 budget proposals on tax compliance.

SD-608

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 4, to make the United States more secure by implementing unfinished recommendations of the 9/11 Commission to fight the war on terror more effectively, to improve homeland security, S. 343, to extend the District of Columbia College Access Act of 1999, S. 457, to extend the date on which the National Security Personnel System will first apply to certain defense laboratories, a proposed bill to preserve existing judgeships on the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, S. 550, to preserve existing judgeships on the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, S. 171, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 301 Commerce Street in Commerce, Oklahoma, as the "Mickey Mantle Post Office Building", S. 194 and H.R. 49, bills to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1300 North Frontage Road West in Vail, Colorado, as the "Gerald R. Ford, Jr. Post Office Building", S. 219 and H.R. 335, bills to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 152 North 5th Street in Laramie, Wyoming, as the "Gale W. McGee Post Office", S. 303, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 324 Main Street in Grambling, Louisiana, shall be known and designated as the "Coach Eddie Robinson Post Office Building", S. 412 and H.R. 521, bills to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2633 11th Street in Rock Island, Illinois, as the "Lane Evans Post Office Building", H.R. 433, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1700 Main Street in Little Rock, Arkansas, as the "Scipio A. Jones Post Office Building", H.R. 514, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 16150 Aviation Loop Drive in Brooksville, Florida, as the "Sergeant Lea Robert Mills Brooksville Aviation Branch Post Office", and H.R. 577, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3903 South Congress Avenue in Austin, Texas, as the "Sergeant Henry Ybarra III Post Office Building".

SD-342

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine judicial security and independence.

SH-216

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Trade, Tourism, and Economic Development Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine overseas sweatshop abuses, focusing on their impact on U.S. workers and the need for anti-sweatshop legislation.

SR-253

11:30 a.m.

Rules and Administration

To hold hearings to examine Senate Committee budget Requests.

SR-301

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Fisheries and Coast Guard Subcommittee

To hold an oversight hearing to examine recent setbacks to the Coast Guard Deepwater Program.

SR-253

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

FEBRUARY 15

9:15 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Ryan C. Crocker, of Washington, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Iraq, and William B. Wood, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.

SD-628

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the current and future readiness of the Army and Marine Corps; there is a possibility of a closed session in SR-222 following the open session.

SH-216

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Aviation Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the Administration's proposal to reauthorize the Federal Aviation Administration (Part 1).

SR-253

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2008 for the Department of the Interior.

SD-366

Indian Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the President's budget request for fiscal year 2008 for tribal programs.

SR-485

10 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2008 for the Environmental Protection Agency.

SD-406

Finance

To hold hearings to examine the Administration trade agenda for 2007.

SD-215

Judiciary

Business meeting to consider the nomination of Beryl A. Howell, of the District of Columbia, and Dabney Langhorne Friedrich, of Virginia, both to be a Member of the United States Sentencing Commission, S. 316, to prohibit brand name drug companies from compensating generic drug companies to delay the entry of a generic drug into the market, S. 236, to require re-

ports to Congress on Federal agency use of data mining, S. 378, to amend title 18, United States Code, to protect judges, prosecutors, witnesses, victims, and their family members, S. 442, to provide for loan repayment for prosecutors and public defenders, S. Res. 41, honoring and the life and recognizing the accomplishments of Tom Mooney, president of the Ohio Federation of Teachers, S. Res. 47, honoring the life and achievements of George C. Springer, Sr., the Northeast regional director and a former vice president of the American Federation of Teachers, S. Res. 49, recognizing and celebrating the 50th anniversary of the entry of Alaska into the Union as the 49th State, S. Res. 53, congratulating Illinois State University as it marks its sesquicentennial, and S. Res. 69, recognizing the African-American spiritual as a national treasure.

SD-226

Aging

To hold hearings to examine those Americans born between 1946 and 1964 (baby boomers), focusing on the federal budget and senior citizens.

SD-562

2:30 p.m.

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

3 p.m.

Armed Services

Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee

To receive a briefing on the reorganization of the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

SR-232A

FEBRUARY 16

10 a.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine paying for college in the future relating to higher education, higher cost and higher student debt.

SD-430

FEBRUARY 27

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of the Disabled American Veterans.

345 CHOB

FEBRUARY 28

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Science and Space Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the President's budget request for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

SR-253

MARCH 1

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Veterans Administration adjudication process.

SR-418

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine universal service.

SR-253

MARCH 6

MARCH 8

MARCH 29

9:30 a.m.

9:30 a.m.

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

Veterans' Affairs

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

345 CHOB

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, Jewish War Veterans, and Blinded Veterans Association.

SD-106

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of AMVETS, Ex-POWs, Military Order of the Purple Heart, and Fleet Reserve Association.

SD-106