

Bob has been incredibly active in the community. When he is not volunteering, he spends his time either hunting or skeet shooting. He is co-founder of the Nellis Skeet Club and has won the Senior Skeet Shooting Championship of Nevada many times in the past several years.

Carole was a professional Flamenco dancer and traveled the world performing with legendary Flamenco dancer, Jose Greco. After retiring from dancing, she opened a hair salon in New Jersey and later opened another salon in Las Vegas. Carole has used her talents to help others. She has volunteered for a number of years at local hospitals, providing haircuts to patients who are too sick to leave the hospital. She is a very warm-hearted person who is not only willing to donate her time and her talents to help others, but actively seeks opportunities to do so.

Bob and Carole have been happily married for over 20 years. Bob has three children Bobby, Stephen, and Diane.

Bob and Carole Donald are outstanding examples of what it means to be community-minded. They are genuine, giving, and kind. They constantly look for ways to contribute to the world around them. Their optimism and enthusiasm for life has made a difference for all who have the privilege of knowing them.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Bob and Carole Donald for their tremendous commitment to the Las Vegas community and to the United States. I wish the Donalds the very best as they continue to set an example of service and civic involvement.

EXPRESSING SORROW OF THE HOUSE AT THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD, MEMBER OF CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

SPEECH OF

**HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2007*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, the loss this week of our dear friend and colleague JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD was a great blow to this institution and to the people of the California's 37th Congressional District.

I extend my sincere condolences to her family during this time of sorrow, and I hope that they find some comfort in knowing how deeply loved and respected Juanita was by her constituents and by her colleagues here in the House of Representatives.

We honor her life and her accomplishments this week. Motivated by love of country, community and family, and inspired by her struggles as an African American leader and as a woman, she advocated for the rights of minorities and women in this country and throughout the world.

JUANITA was no less dedicated to the more parochial needs of her constituents and Southern California in general. As the tributes from her Committee colleagues highlight, she was a respected and effective member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, securing billions of dollars for her region and her state of California.

She worked tirelessly to secure transportation infrastructure investments, enhancing

the economic security of the region and improving the quality of life for Los Angeles County residents. She will long be remembered by Angelenos for her leading role in making possible the construction of the historic Alameda Corridor.

She was also a woman of many firsts. In the California State Assembly, JUANITA became the first woman, in her first term, to chair the powerful Insurance and Revenue and Taxation Committees.

I know how proud she was to be the first African American woman to be named Honorary Curator of the Museum of Latin American Art in Long Beach.

Most recently, JUANITA became the first African American woman to hold the distinguished position of Chair of the powerful House Administration Committee in this 110th Congress, overseeing the operations of the House of Representatives.

During her short term as Chair, her hiring and contracting practices within the House of Representatives reflected her deep commitment to diversity. She was a dedicated proponent of minority rights, and was the Founder and Executive Director of the League of African American Women, comprised of 40 African-American women's groups.

JUANITA was also the founder of the Young Advocates, a political leadership-training program for African-Americans between the ages of 18 and 35. She believed in embracing our youth and fought to give young people hope and opportunity for a better life. Juanita introduced legislation directing the Secretary of Education to study and report to Congress on the troubling dropout rate among Latino, Native American, American Samoan and African American high school students.

JUANITA will also be remembered as a strong advocate for human rights around the globe, speaking out against genocide in Cambodia, Darfur and other regions of the world where she fought against injustice and inhumanity. She worked with former Secretary of State Madelene Albright and Ambassador John Miller to address human trafficking and in support of women's rights around the world.

JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD was a dynamic member of this House, who sought to maximize her influence to better the lives of her constituents, the residents of her county and State, and all people around the world in desperate need of assistance.

JUANITA was a loving wife, mother and grandmother. And she was a beloved colleague and friend who will truly be missed.

My husband Ed and I send our deep and sincere condolences to her husband, James, her five children and five grandchildren.

We will miss you JUANITA.

SUPPORTING NIH FUNDING FOR DYSTONIA RESEARCH

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 25, 2007*

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of NIH funding for research to better understand the causes and treatments for dystonia.

My longtime friend Howard Thiel visited last week to tell me more about the problem of

dystonia; Howard experienced severe pain and disability from this condition for nine years.

Although he is now benefiting from effective treatment, he helped me better understand the problems of the many Americans who suffer from conditions of abnormal muscle tone. In compelling terms, he described the pain, disability and suffering they experience. From spasmodic dystonia of the neck, to spasmodic dysphonia of the vocal cords, and generalized whole body dystonia, these various conditions all involve distressing, often exquisitely painful difficulties with muscle tone.

As Robert F. Kennedy Jr. has noted, "Dystonia is the third most common neurological movement disorder behind Parkinson's and Tremors." Hundreds of thousands of Americans suffer with this little known disorder. As we consider the difficult budget priorities confronting us in 2007, I ask you to give serious consideration to increased NIH support for research on neurological conditions like dystonia.

HONORING HARRY HAFT'S PLACE IN THE NATIONAL JEWISH SPORTS HALL OF FAME

**HON. STEVE ISRAEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 25, 2007*

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Harry Haft, a Holocaust survivor and inductee into the National Jewish Sports Hall of Fame.

Born Hertzka Haft on July 28, 1925 in Poland, Harry Haft was only 16 when he was sent to the infamous concentration camp, Auschwitz. Here, the brave teenager was forced to fight other prisoners for the amusement of German SS guards. These perverse, bare-knuckled bouts were held while Mr. Haft routinely faced starvation, torture, and a culture of death.

However, Mr. Haft's determination and instincts kept him alive long enough to escape from the camp. After World War II ended, Mr. Haft married Miriam and traveled to America determined to find freedom. Here, he became a professional boxer, one who would battle elements of corruption and organized crime as he worked to establish himself as a professional athlete. His winning career would culminate in a bout against the future undefeated heavyweight champion of the world, Rocky Marciano. After his retirement from the ring, Mr. Haft had three children, Alan, Marty, and Helene, and today is a proud grandfather of six: Hartley, Jamie, Stephanie, Ethan, Melodie, and Jonathan,

This Sunday, April 29, 2007, Mr. Haft will take his place as a deserving member of the National Jewish Sports Hall of Fame in Commack, New York. His story is one of perseverance and survival—of a man who escaped from unimaginable horror to find a new life and success at the top of his profession. I am proud to honor him today.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO FRANK  
MARTIN

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 25, 2007*

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my good friend Frank Martin and congratulate him on 30 years of exceptional success as the President and C.E.O. of Martin-Harris Construction.

Frank founded Martin-Harris Construction in 1976 with five associates and a vision. Over 30 years his vision has been realized many times over. Since its inception, Martin-Harris has been granted general contracting licenses in Arizona, California, New Mexico and Utah and currently has over 400 associates generating over \$340 million in 2006. Martin-Harris Construction has been recognized as an industry leader; their accolades include the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year for the Inland Empire Region and the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce Community Achievement Award in Business. They have also been recognized by the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties as the Top Contracting firm in 2001, 2003, 2004, 2006 and 2007.

In addition to Frank's exceptional business success he has made a profound impact on the community through his involvement with numerous community organizations. Frank presently serves on the board of directors of U.S. Bank and Opportunity Village. He is a Life Time Board Member of the AGC, UNLV Foundation, and the CCSN Foundation Board. Frank and his wife, Bonnie, have also hosted the annual Miss Kitty's Jeans to Jewels fundraiser for Opportunity Village since 2001 at their Bitter Root Ranch.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor my friend Frank Martin. His successes in business and philanthropic pursuits are truly commendable and his dedication to community should serve as an example to us all. I wish him the best in his future endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF THE  
"MEDICARE FOR ALL ACT"

**HON. JOHN D. DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 25, 2007*

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, our Nation's healthcare system boasts many triumphs—and many failures. As a nation we spend more than \$1.9 trillion on health care, yet the number of those without insurance continues to grow. At last count, more than 46 million Americans under age 65 had no health insurance. This is an increase of 1.3 million people from the previous year, and continues this upward trend that began in 2000.

Those individuals who lack health insurance often forgo vital treatment and are left to depend upon a thinning safety net of healthcare providers. No health insurance often means filing medical bankruptcies or, worse yet, becoming one of the 18,000 premature American deaths each year that are attributable to lacking health insurance.

It is time to act. Today I am introducing "Medicare for All." It will make the tried, true,

and trusted Medicare program available to everyone under age 65. Citizens will also have the option of selecting from any of the health benefit plans available to Members of Congress, the President, and Federal employees. People with lower incomes will continue to receive extra help with cost-sharing and premiums in order to access Medicare services.

According to the Institute of Medicine, insuring all Americans would actually save the country \$380 billion a year, partly because we already pay for the health care of the uninsured, who wait until they are in crisis and often receive their care in emergency rooms. If comprehensive healthcare coverage is available to all Americans, better preventative services and earlier treatments will be received, lowering healthcare costs. All Americans will reap the economic benefits of a healthier nation, from a stronger economy to lower health insurance expenses.

This plan will save not only lives, but also American jobs. American companies are competing in the international marketplace against businesses that do not directly bear the costs of providing their employees and retirees with health care.

As a result of a slowing economy earlier in the decade and healthcare premiums increasing faster than wages and incomes, the number of people with employer-based health insurance coverage continues to decline. Approximately 12.4 million people lost their employer-based insurance between 2000 and 2005. Premiums for family coverage have increased by 87 percent since 2000. American companies are trying to do the right thing, but it is getting more difficult.

I urge my colleagues—both Democrats and Republicans—to support this bill, and join me in addressing the healthcare crisis faced by millions of Americans today.

JAMES L. WOOD—SOCIOLOGIST,  
POLITICAL ACTIVIST

**HON. BOB FILNER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 25, 2007*

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, my friend and colleague, James L. Wood, died on Wednesday, April 18, following a brief bout with an aggressive cancer. Since his retirement from San Diego State University in May 2005, Jim and his wife Patsy lived in Berkeley. Jim was an inspirational teacher and reform activist. These passions animated him throughout his life, both in his family relations and in his engagement with the larger world.

Jim was born in Oakland, CA, in 1941. After graduating from the Oakland public schools, he enrolled in the University of California, Berkeley, where he earned his Bachelor's degree and Ph.D. in sociology. As a student at Berkeley, Jim met his future wife Patsy. They studied at Berkeley in extraordinary times, when national and world affairs and their academic aspirations converged. Jim's first day of graduate school, October 1, 1964, marked the beginning of the Free Speech movement. Additionally, the Civil Rights movement and the anti-war movement's mobilization of students and broad segments of the general public against the U.S. involvement in war in Southeast Asia influenced Jim to study collective behavior and mass movements.

Upon completion of his doctoral studies at Berkeley, Jim moved to San Diego and joined the Sociology Department at San Diego State University (SDSU) in 1975. His scholarship and teaching focused on social movements and political sociology. He also taught courses on statistics and methodology. Jim assumed the duties of Department Chair, from 1991 to 2000. During these years at SDSU, Jim authored and co-authored many articles and books addressing civil rights, collective behavior and student activism, social movements, and sociological traditions.

When State budget allocations for the California State University system (CSU) declined, in the early 1990s, efforts of the SDSU leadership to restructure departments on that campus, including elimination of the Sociology Department, prompted Jim to focus intensively on the politics of higher education. As an activist and leader in the SDSU Chapter of the California Faculty Association, Jim was part of a faculty-student coalition that prompted the restoration of nine academic departments that had been slated for dismantling, and the withdrawal of termination notices for the numerous tenured faculty who would have been dismissed. For the CFA Chapter, Jim chaired the legislative committee. He also actively participated in other organizations, including the American Sociological Association. He was a member and elected officer of the American Association of University Professors. In 1996, he was a founding member and later became president of the San Diego-based Faculty Coalition for Public Higher Education, which supports funding stabilization for the State's public colleges and universities, the protection of tenure in the face of the expansion and exploitation of contingent faculty ranks, faculty control of technology in the classroom, and the exposure of corporate influence in higher education.

Following retirement, Jim and Patsy resettled in Berkeley. Jim continued to be active in sharing information and supporting the reforms for the community colleges and universities to which he had devoted so much energy over the years.

For colleagues and friends, the memory of Jim as a committed professor and activist will continue as an inspiration.

Jim is survived by his wife Patsy and daughter Ann, both of Berkeley, and son Jeff of Los Angeles.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, April 28, at 2 p.m. at the Unity Church, 2075 Eunice Street, Berkeley, CA.

HONORING ROBERT D. FITZER

**HON. TIM RYAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 25, 2007*

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Robert D. Fitzer, a longtime clarinetist, music educator, and community activist in the Mahoning Valley.

Robert Fitzer was born in Youngstown, Ohio to former YSU Dana School of Music faculty members James Fitzer and Dolores Severino. By the time he was in 8th grade he was a member of the Youngstown Symphony Youth Orchestra. He studied clarinet at Northwestern University, where he was a member of their