

Williams teaches chemistry-intense courses in restoration and finishing with longtime friend and colleague Kohanek.

Childress returns to Dakota almost every summer for additional advance course work, and for years he and Williams had been looking for just the right in-depth project to blend their skills and experiences.

"The reclamation of the Cannon 311 rostrum's previous grandeur could have only been accomplished by someone with Tredway's remarkable combination of talent, education, craft skill and commitment to preserving past treasures," Williams said. "There aren't many of us around who can carefully remove a disfiguring top coat and leave behind the beautiful old shellac finish underneath, then blend it all back in with a French polish that almost literally glows in the dark without looking cheesy. But Tredway did it."

His work on Capitol Hill also includes re-finishing all chairs on the floor of the House of Representatives. On this project, Childress and his crew took off the existing coating and brought it back to its original shellac. They also decided to replace the gold painted molding with gilded molding, as had been done originally.

"Going through Mitch's school, I really had the knowledge and know how to do what needed to be done instead of just looking at it and saying, 'Let's put another coat on it,'" Childress said. "By studying and knowing the chemistry behind what needed to be done and understanding what you could and could not do, and making the chemistry work in our favor instead of stripping it . . . you just don't get out of a weekend class."

Childress is one of Kohanek's many students who went into restoration and conservation. Other graduates have found ways to make a living from finishing new wood or by becoming furniture service technicians who repair wood on location.

"There are so many opportunities for custom wood finishers because wood finishing is still to this day considered a mystic trade when it really is a blend of art and science," said Kohanek. "Once one understands how those two facets work together, you can use inexpensive wood and create an expensive look, or make expensive wood look even more beautiful. You also know how to repair and restore it."

Kohanek emphasizes that his certification program makes graduates valued wood finishing employees off the bat, and enables them to go immediately into their own business if they choose that direction. Like Childress, the best graduates of the NIWF are setting the standards of what should be expected of a wood finisher as they apply to any wood finishing facility, he concluded.

HONORING THE JOHNSON CHAPEL
A.M.E. CHURCH

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 3, 2007

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor the Johnson Chapel A.M.E. Church in Malakoff, TX, as they celebrate more than a century of worship.

The Johnson Chapel A.M.E. Church has a very storied past. It was first organized in a creek bottom on Abe Johnson's Farm in 1897 and has experienced many changes in more than a century of existence.

Six months after its inception, the congregation constructed their first permanent structure.

Oak planks nailed to blocks were used as benches and lighting was provided by kerosene lanterns. The Church would move to a new location on a nearby farm in 1915 and continue to meet in that location until 1926. In that year the congregation was forced to divide due to the threat of flooding as well as poorly constructed roads, which made travel to the church difficult. The remaining members stayed until 1938, when they moved to their present location. In 1944 and then again in 1968, the church was destroyed by inclement weather; however, after each misfortune the congregation was able to band together and rebuild.

Today, the Johnson Chapel A.M.E. Church continues to worship and serve the community of Malakoff. In September of 2005, the congregation saw another milestone when they appointed the Reverend Cynthia Cole as their first female pastor.

Madam Speaker, as the representative of Malakoff, TX, it is my honor to congratulate the Johnson Chapel A.M.E. Church for its more than one hundred years of existence as a place of worship.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO YAFFA
DAHAN

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 3, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my friend Yaffa Dahan, who passed away on July 26th, 2007.

Yaffa Dahan was born December 29th, 1954, in Morocco. Shortly after her birth, she moved to a small town in Israel where she was raised. In a large family with nine brothers and sisters, she was brought up in traditional Jewish culture where music, love, and laughter were an integral part of her home. At age 20, she married David Dahan and moved to Las Vegas to start a family and a new chapter in their lives together.

Yaffa was a spiritual woman with an amazing personality, grace, intelligence and a sincere love for her family, friends, and our community. Yaffa was dedicated to education and eventually learned five languages, including Hebrew, Yiddish, French, Arabic, and English. She then went on to earn her MBA in business management and a Ph.D. in administrative healthcare. She then became a registered nurse, which she practiced for 28 years, touching the lives of many in southern Nevada. She was also a member of the Honors Society in Nursing at UNLV, and recently was honored as an outstanding alumna. She was a dedicated member of the Jewish community, being active in AIPAC and the Jewish Federation in Nevada.

Through all of these accomplishments, what strikes me most is the great number of people whose lives she touched. Her obituary, posted online through a local newspaper, gave an opportunity for well-wishers to leave comments. She received comments from former employees stating how she was a favorite manager who was admired for her talents as well as her passion. Included in these postings were comments from her local Rabbi, from family in Israel, and from friends from California to Wisconsin to North Carolina and many places in

between. She was truly an incredible woman who will be remembered by all.

Madam Speaker, I am sincerely proud to honor and celebrate the life of Yaffa Dahan. I would like to take this time to give my deepest condolences to Yaffa's family and friends.

INDIAN HELICOPTERS FOR BURMA

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 3, 2007

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, I was deeply disturbed to read a recently released report, by European Union non-governmental organizations, entitled Indian Helicopters for Burma: making a mockery of embargoes? The report provided details on India's negotiations with Burma's military junta since late 2006 and focused on the transfer of Advanced Light Helicopters (ALH) to Burma's military. India, the world's largest democracy, has increasingly spurned democracy supporters in Burma in favor of increased cooperation with Burma's military regime, even providing Burma's ruling generals with tanks, aircraft, artillery guns, radar, small arms, and the ALH. Absent any external enemy, Burma's military rulers have employed these arms and military equipment against its ethnic minority civilian population, resulting in the destruction of more than 3,000 villages, the use of forced labor, and the rape and murder of thousands of ethnic minority civilians.

Even more appalling than the increased military cooperation and sales between the Government of India and Burma's military regime is evidence that the transfer of military hardware risks violating both European Union and U.S. arms restrictions in place against Burma's military regime. Parts and technologies vital to the manufacture of the ALH were provided by several European companies and two American companies, Aitech Systems, Ltd. and Lord Corporation. It is essential that our government immediately investigate whether or not the inclusion of American parts and technologies in the production of India's ALHs and the potential impending transfer of the ALHs from the Government of India to Burma's brutal military generals violate U.S. export control regulations and the U.S. arms embargo on Burma.

The brutality of Burma's generals towards its own people continues to increase. It is obvious to all familiar with the regime's use of forced labor, its systematic use of rape as a weapon of war, its destruction of villages and livelihoods in its efforts to ethnically cleanse Burma of all its ethnic minorities, that the purchase of these military helicopters is for one purpose and one purpose only—strengthening and increasing military attacks against ethnic minority civilians. Already humanitarian aid groups operating in Eastern Burma have noticed a number of areas in which helicopter landing pads are appearing, a sight very new to the landscape of ethnic minority territory. These landing pads will give Burmese generals the ability to transport soldiers quickly and easily into areas where civilians are fleeing. The ethnic minorities fear that the regime plans to increase its attacks against them.

The U.S. government must take immediate steps to implement the recommendations outlined in the newly released report, including,