passed that would lower speed limits in school zones, and proposed legislation to beautify the business district by removing unsightly security gates. Campaigning on quality of life issues, Mr. Pettus has worked to ensure that all of the residents of Hempstead can enjoy the quality of life they deserve.

Perry Pettus strongly believes in community policing and that an effective police force is there to serve and protect all of the village’s residents. He recently provided scholarships to individuals from the community who were interested in taking the NCPD test. His efforts will hopefully give the Hempstead Village Police Department a list of community-based candidates.

Perry Pettus and his wife Kennetha have five children.

Madam Speaker, I would also like to recognize the impressive achievements of Perry Pettus. He has received numerous awards and citations from organizations like the Hempstead NAACP, Hofstra University, 100 Black Men, the Central Nassau Club, the Black and Puerto Rican Caucus, and the Chamber of Commerce, Operation Get Ahead, and the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this outstanding citizen and all the great things he stands for.

RECOGNIZING FORMER CHIEF OF STAFF JULIA E. HUDSON

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON
OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I ask the House to recognize Julia Hudson, who served as my chief of staff for 8 years and has been a member of my staff throughout most of my own service in the Congress. On September 5, 2007, Julia left the House of Representatives to pursue a career in public relations, the field for which she prepared herself in graduate school. The loss to my office, to me personally, and to the people of the District of Columbia is immense. However, Julia has spent nearly her entire professional life in my office serving the people of this city with excellence and special dedication to her job and to me in pursuit of my work in the House. It is understandable that she would want to pursue her chosen profession.

Julia’s career here in the House of Representatives demonstrates the opportunities for upward mobility that are available based on hard work and proven capability. Starting as a staff assistant, an entry level job, she was promoted to legislative correspondent and to a sub-committee staff position before leaving for a short time to work in the Clinton administration in 1999. Because of her great skill, initiative and hard work, I later asked her to return, and she continued to work her way up to become my chief of staff when political guru Donna Brazile resigned after 10 years with me to spearhead the Gore-Lieberman 2000 presidential bid.

In addition to her non-stop work leading “Team Norton,” as Julia christened our staff, Julia, a native Washingtonian, has always performed outstanding public service here in her hometown. She is a member of the Links, Incorporated and serves as the chair of the Links’ High Expectations Mentoring Program. The Links is an organization of accomplished, dedicated women who are active in their community here and nationwide. The Links members are activists, volunteers, mentors, role models and newsmakers who make the name “Links” mean not only a chain of friendship, but also of purposeful service. Over the years, I have watched Julia serve as a mentor and role model for the aspiring professionals who interned in our office. She set the perfect example for them to strive for the best and to take every opportunity from their internship to learn all that they could.

Julia’s cordial relations with others in the Congress was an added asset to us in our work. She was always as agreeable and collegial as she was efficient and able. She is remembered for her friendships and for her professionalism, dedication, generosity, patience and her willingness to always “go that extra mile” in performing her chief of staff duties. She set a gold standard for staff. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Julia Hudson for outstanding service to the House of Representatives and to the residents of the District of Columbia. Julia will remain a dear friend to us all, and, of course, a life member of Team Norton.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF SUE LARRIMORE

HON. JEFF MILLER
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, it is an honor for me to rise and recognize the retirement of Sue Larrimore, a great educator.

For three decades, Sue has dedicated her work toward helping students realize their full potential. Teaching elementary, middle, and junior high school students, she has touched the lives of countless individuals through different parts of the country. These students are our Nation’s future, and I am confident that her influence upon their lives will steer them toward working toward the betterment of society.

Sue has worked tirelessly as an educator for over 25 years in my district in northwest Florida, and has served as the principal of Destin Elementary School for the last 5 years. During those 5 years, Destin Elementary received an “A” grade every year for providing an exceptional educational experience. With an undergraduate degree in early childhood education and a master’s degree in educational leadership, there is no question that Sue knew what she wanted to do early on in her life, and her successes both at Destin Elementary as well as at the other schools at which she served are a testament to her achieving that goal.

Madame Speaker, Sue’s leadership and effectiveness will be missed by past and current students as well as all others that work with her in the educational community. She is a model citizen who set out and achieved the goal of making our Nation and the world a better place, and I know many will look to her as a great educator for a long time to come.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PRO IP ACT OF 2007

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing the Prioritizing Resources and Organization for Intellectual Property (“PRO IP”) Act of 2007, legislation that highlights the importance of intellectual property enforcement by making several changes to substantive civil and criminal laws; providing for more efficient and directed coordination efforts among the various agencies; and allocating more resources towards enforcement efforts. I am joined by Representatives Berman, Smith, Schiff, Feeney, Issa, Chabot, Cohen, Keller, Jackson-Lee and Goodlatte.

The objectives and content of this legislation are supported by a broad range of interests. Many unions and guilds, such as the Teamsters, Directors Guild of America, SEIU, AFTRA, Unite Here, AFM, Laborers, OPEN, IATSE, and others, have sent letters in support of comprehensive IP enforcement legislation, in general, and more specifically, of many of the provisions contained in this bill. On the industry side, the Coalition Against Counterfeiting and Piracy, which represents 500 companies and trade associations, from the Motor Equipment Manufacturing Association and PHARMA to NBC Universal and Cleveland Golf, issued a June 2007 set of legislative objectives that are largely captured in this bill.

This legislation is an important and necessary step in the fight to maintain our competitive edge in a global marketplace. By providing additional resources for enforcement of intellectual property, we ensure that innovation and creativity will continue to prosper in our society.