people of the United States, and stewardship of the marine environment by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and its predecessor agencies, and for other purposes.

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, NOAA, for their 200 years of dedicated research and service to the United States.

NOAA and its predecessors conducted some of the earliest oceanographic research and have continued to serve the United States for commerce, defense, and environmental purposes. NOAA is a leader for scientific research and environmental monitoring and protection, providing an outstanding example to the international community.

NOAA continues that storied legacy in the 21st century with and oceanographic monitoring, the protection of our natural resources, its stewardship of the marine environment, and as our first line of warning for storms and hurricanes.

NOAA programs have provided invaluable service to commerce and defense, serving throughout the country’s history in war and peace; more than 100 million maps and charts for U.S. and Allied Forces.

Their programs promote safe and efficient commerce/transportation and work toward the advancement of an environmental observation system. Programs also include missions for the conservation of marine resources, coastal management, and protection from storms and other hazards—especially Gulf Coast hurricanes.

NOAA’s National Weather Service/Weather Forecast Offices at the Corpus Christi International Airport and the Brownsville/South Padre Island International Airport provide weather and flood warnings, daily forecasts, and meteorological and hydrologic data for the South Texas Gulf Coast area.

NOAA’s National Marine Fisheries Service/Seafood Inspection Program in Brownsville offers a voluntary inspection program for fishery products on a fee-for-service basis, as well as services to local fishermen and fish processors.

NOAA’s National Ocean Service operates seven tide stations in Texas to monitor sea level trends, provide real-time data for storm surge warning, including South Texas locations in Corpus Christi and Port Isabel.

This week I will greet NOAA researchers in my district who are seeking a new location for a weather research center. I look forward to welcoming these distinguished researchers and discussing their needs for the future weather research center.

HONORING HOLLY AND HENRY WENDT

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my colleague Representative THOMPSON to congratulate Holly and Henry Wendt, who are being honored by Healthcare Foundation Northern Sonoma County with the first annual Wetzel Community Leadership Award. They are being recognized for their contributions to life in Sonoma County and their philanthropic leadership on behalf of numerous local causes and organizations.

Henry and Holly have been fixtures in Sonoma County for many years, where until recently they owned the highly regarded Quivira Vineyards. Mr. Wendt, formerly the CEO of SmithKline Beecham, spent four decades working in the pharmaceutical and health care industry, and he remains active on the boards of several major corporations.

Together, the Wendts have given greatly to the community in Sonoma County, particularly in the fields of education and health care. They offered their substantial resources to Healdsburg High School to renovate and expand the Holly and Henry Wendt Library. In addition, their work with the Pediatric Dental Initiative, for which Mr. Wendt serves on the advisory board, has progressed the work of the soon to be opened Redwood Empire Urgent Care Center. This facility will bring the highest quality dental care to youngsters in coastal northern California.

Mr. Wendt has given generously with his time and deep knowledge of healthcare to facilitate the work of Healthcare Foundation Northern Sonoma County. His substantial leadership gift helped ensure that the Healdsburg District Hospital campaign was successful and the hospital remains an outstanding health care provider. Further, he has been instrumental in the success of the Community Foundation Sonoma County. Having served multiple terms as chairman of the board, he provided superb guidance and experience to help the foundation expand its resources and reach, and he remains a member of the leadership board.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, at this time it is appropriate that we congratulate Holly and Henry Wendt, who are receiving the Wetzel Community Leadership Award. The Wendts have been dynamic and generous figures in Sonoma County, and the wisdom and guidance they bring to philanthropic endeavors has been a boon to the community.

HONORING HOLLY AND HENRY WENDT

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my colleague Representative WOOLSEY to congratulate Holly and Henry Wendt, who are being honored by Healthcare Foundation Northern Sonoma County with the first annual Wetzel Community Leadership Award. They are being recognized for their contributions to life in Sonoma County and their philanthropic leadership on behalf of numerous local causes and organizations.

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A TRIBUTE TO JAMES P. FREELAND

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and honor James P. Freeland. James was born January 7, 1940, in Durham, NC, to Willie and Annie Freeland. The youngest of six children, at age 11 he was selected as one of the Red Feather Poster Kids for the United Way Campaign representing the John Avery Boys Club for the city of Durham. He graduated high school in 1958 and was later employed by a local supermarket for 7 years as the assistant butcher.


James joined New Canaan Baptist Church, the same year he married Gennie Chennault. In 1980, their daughter Jamelia was born. He is a member of the mass choir and the North Carolina Club. James also serves as the Men’s Day chairman and president of the Building Fund Committee. In addition, he sings with the male choir and is a member of the trustee board, the Missionary Disciples Outreach Ministry and donates his time as a Sunday school teacher.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize James Freeland for his huge heart and generous spirit. He is a man who has a great sense of humor and who is always willing to lend a helping hand.
Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to James F. Free-

land.

A TRIBUTE TO KIM WILLIAMS CLARK

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Kim Williams Clark, an ac-

claimed attorney, educator, and community leader.

Kim Williams Clark earned her B.S. in crimi-
nal justice from John Jay College, and earned her
law degree from Rutgers University at Camden
with the distinguished honor of rece-

ieving a Dean’s list award. Daughter to com-

munity advocate Bessie L. Williams and
former worker with Board of Education Jesse
E. Williams, Kim currently serves as dean of
the Office of Institutional Advancement at the
Brooklyn campus of Long Island University.
In this capacity, she builds corporate and founda-
tion support, and creates new partnerships
gearied toward increasing funding for university
projects, student centered initiatives, and ex-
ternal outreach.

Prior to her work with Long Island Univer-
sity, Kim Williams Clark served as associate
dean of the Center for Continuing Education and Professional Development at Georgetown
University. In addition, she also served as special
advisor to the provost, director of institu-
tional advancement and paralegal studies at
the Brooklyn campus of Long Island University.
During her career, she has organized re-
sources and built alliances with government
agencies and generated millions of dollars to
support youth programming and urban com-

munity development. Coupled with this, she
has maintained a law office in the New York
City’s financial district with a concentration in
family and non-profit law, where she dedicates
much of her time to representing indigent per-
sons.

In addition to her professional endeavors,
Kim is a member of numerous boards and
councils including, the Carver Scholarship
Board, Greater New York and District of
Columbia Chapters of the Links, Inc., and
Coney Island and Crown Heights Neighbor-
hood Advisory Board(s). Her many accom-
plishments have not gone unnoticed for Kim
Williams Clark received the Trailblazer Award
from New York State Senator Velmanette
Williams Clark received the Trailblazer Award
 foe her contributions to the Brooklyn
community.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to
join me in paying tribute to a great individual of
high morals, ethics, and integrity.

TRIBUTE TO MR. WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN
OF MARYLAND
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, it is my
pleasure to recognize a true Maryland legend, Mr. William Donald Schaefer, on the occasion of
his 86th birthday.

Mr. Schaefer was born in Baltimore, a city
upon which he would come to have a lasting
impact, on November 21, 1921. Following
service in the U.S. Army during WWII, Mr.
Schaefer returned to Maryland to work in law
and eventually enter politics.

Over the course of 50 years, Mr. Schaefer
would serve several years on the Baltimore
City Council, four terms as Baltimore mayor,
two terms as Maryland governor, and two
terms as State Comptroller. He has left an in-
delible mark on Maryland and its people from
his 50 years of public service.

He has been known for his colorful per-

sonality, but his tireless efforts and dedication
to public service have never wavered. He has
acquired friends and admirers from both sides
of the aisle because of this commitment.

His famous mantra as Baltimore mayor, “Do
It Now,” reflects his ability to get things done.
The redeveloped and rejuvenated Baltimore,
which so many of us today enjoy, is largely a
result of his efforts during that time. Today,
there are few Marylanders who can say that
they haven’t been positively affected by his
leadership.

On a personal note, I had the great privilege
of working for Governor Schaefer. His “do it
now” philosophy provided a very valuable les-

son for all of us in public office. He wanted to
make sure that Maryland government ad-

ressed the needs of every Maryland resident
regardless of their circumstances. He has al-
ways been one with little patience for pomp
and circumstance.

On behalf of the residents of Maryland’s
Eighth Congressional District, I am proud to
offer my best wishes to Mr. Schaefer.

HONORING LOIS CORBA

HON. DALE E. KILDEE
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to
honor Lois Corba as she celebrates her birth-
day. A party will be held in her honor on
December 29th in Frankenmuth, MI.

Lois was born in Tecumseh, MI, one of nine
children. The family moved to Flint and after
her father purchased a farm, the family moved
to West Branch. She attended St. Joseph
Catholic School in West Branch and gradu-
ated the salutatorian from the high school in
1951. After graduation she returned to Flint
and worked for an insurance agency for 7
years. She married Paul Corba in 1957. The
couple had 7 children, Michelle, Paul Michael,
Jon, Marsha, Bernadette, Angela and David.
Paul passed away in 1987.

Continuing to work, Lois spent 17 years
working as a secretary with the AC Spark Plug
Division of General Motors. She retired from
this position in 1992. After two years Lois de-

cided to return to the workforce and became
the assistant to the director of the
Frankenmuth Historical Association. From
there she took her current position as the re-
ceptionist with Independence Village in
Frankenmuth. She is active with the Widow’s
Group in Frankenmuth and Blessed Trinity
Catholic Church.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Rep-
resentatives to join me in congratulating Lois
Corba as she celebrates her birthday and I
wish her many, many more.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

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

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, yesterday, I
mistakenly voted against H. Res. 37, pro-
viding for the concurrence by the House in the
Senate amendment to H.R. 710, with amend-
ments. In fact, I support this critical legislation,
which would make paired kidney donation legal
and allow organizations like the United
Network for Organ Sharing to track eligibility
for paired donation.

I voted for passage of the original bill, H.R.
710, The Charlie Norwood Living Organ Dona-

tion Act, on March 7, 2007.

INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION TO
COMMENORATE THE 60TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE EVERGLADES
NATIONAL PARK

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker,
I am pleased to rise today to introduce signifi-
cant bipartisan legislation with my colleague
and fellow co-chair of the Everglades Caucus,
Representative MARCO DIAZ-BALART to com-
nemorate the 60th anniversary of Everglades
National Park.

For years, Representative Diaz-Balart and
I have been working together to preserve
and restore the Everglades, and I am pleased to
be introducing this resolution with him.
Sixty years ago tomorrow, President Harry
S. Truman dedicated Everglades National Park.
Today, this vast subtropical wilderness in the
United States is habitat to many endan-
gered species as well as an international cen-
ter for business, agriculture, and tourism.

Everglades National Park has been des-
ignated an International Biosphere Reserve, a
World Heritage Site, and a Wetland of Inter-
national Importance in recognition of its signifi-
cance to all the people of the world.

Over time, however, management and de-
velopment activities have destroyed our na-

tions’ majestic wetlands. Today the River of
Grass is only half of its original size.

Sadly, the ecosystem’s tree islands and
mangroves have been largely destroyed and
its estuaries have become barren. In
response to threats to this pristine eco-
system, in 2000, Congress passed an ambili-
tous restoration plan called the Comprehen-

sive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP). In