TRIBUTE TO FRANK B. SOLLARS

HON. MARION BERRY
OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. BERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an honorable lifelong farmer, fine American and dear friend who made significant contributions to the agricultural community for our nation.

Frank Sollars was born in 1921 in Concord Township, Ohio to Walter Eugene and Mabel Blanche Bowers Sollars and graduated from Washington High School in 1939.

Although he was a farmer by profession, Frank was also a leader in agricultural cooperatives, the insurance business and agricultural financing. As an International Cooperative Alliance Central Committee member, Frank hosted delegations from Russia, Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, China, Japan, and Taiwan on the farm. Frank served as president of the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation, the Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts and the Ohio Agricultural Marketing Association. He served as a board member of the American Farm Bureau Federation, the American Agricultural Marketing Association and served on the Board of Governors of the National Agricultural Hall of Fame. He was a board member on the first Soil Conservation Service Board in Fayette County for ten years and was chairman for five years.

Frank held numerous leadership roles in the finance industry including Chairman of the Board of Nationwide Insurance, Chairman of the Board of the National Cooperative Business Association, a director of the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Ohio Consumers council and a director of the Fifth Third Bank of Columbus. He served on the Federal Reserve Bank Advisory Committee and was instrumental in establishing the National Cooperative Bank in Washington, D.C. where he served as Board Chairman from 1980–1998 after being appointed by Presidents Carter, Reagan and Bush.

Commonly referred to as the “Founding Father of the National Cooperative Banks,” Frank was awarded the Stanley W. Dreyer Spirit of Cooperation Award in 2006 for his commitment and dedication to banking. In recognition of Frank as an international cooperative mentor, The Frank B. Sollars Foundation for International Cooperation was established in 1998.

Locally, Frank was a member of the Fayette County Farm Bureau, Fayette County Agronomy Committee and Agronomy Club, and the Concord Township Farm Bureau Advisory Council. He served as a board member of the American Red Cross of Greater Columbus representing Fayette County and was a trustee of the Southern State Community College Foundation. Frank served on the board as chairman of the Fayette County Bank and Sollars Brothers Corporation.

Frank received numerous honors throughout his life including being inducted into the Ohio Agricultural Hall of Fame, Fayette Agricultural Hall of Fame, National Cooperative Business Association Hall of Fame and the Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Hall of Fame. He received the Distinguished Service Award from the Ohio Farm Bureau and was named the Outstanding Young Farmer by the Ohio Jaycees in 1956.

Although Frank has been recognized for numerous honors, he always believed his family was his greatest accomplishment. Frank gave many years of his life to improve and promote the agricultural industry he loved, because he truly believed it was his duty to serve his family and his country. He was a member of the Grace United Methodist Church.

A devout public servant, Frank was a man of honor and compassion. On behalf of the Congress, I extend sympathies to his family and gratitude for all he did to improve agriculture for our nation. His service and friendship will be missed by all.

TRIBUTE TO THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

HON. PAUL RYAN
OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise to mark the 46th anniversary of independence for the United Republic of Tanzania, and to congratulate the leaders and citizens of that great Nation for all that they have achieved.

It’s impossible to talk about Tanzania’s history and development without remembering the Nation’s founder and first president, Julius Nyerere, the “Teacher,” as he was affectionately known, was a great man among African leaders of his time. He dedicated his life to building a sense of national identity and unity. He wanted his countrymen to think of themselves as Tanzanians first and foremost, and not to set themselves apart because of their religion or ethnicity. Nearly a half century later, it is clear that his dream is alive and well.

We should also commend Tanzania’s president, Jakaya Kikwete, for all of his efforts to carry on the good work of Mwalimu and other Tanzanian leaders. From his leadership of Tanzania’s National Testing Campaign, his AIDS/HIV to his calls for greater transparency in government and an end to corruption, President Kikwete has tirelessly dedicated himself to a brighter future for his country and his people.

As Tanzania enters its 47th year of independence on December 9, 2007, let us celebrate Tanzania’s legacy of peace and stability, thank Tanzania for its close friendship with the United States, and pledge ourselves to work closely with President Kikwete and his people as they move boldly into the future.

COMMENDING TRIANGLE STUDENTS FOR PARTICIPATING IN DARFURFAST

HON. DAVID E. PRICE
OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise to commend the students, friends and family members from the Carolina Friends School community in Durham, North Carolina who are making a simple, but powerful, statement today to raise awareness of a topic that compels the attention of this body—the plight of Sudanese citizens driven to camps for refugees and internally displaced persons, or IDPs, by the horrific genocide occurring in Darfur.

The Carolina Friends School community members, along with others from across the country and around the world, have given up one luxury item today—something like a restaurant dinner, a movie or a cup of coffee—and will donate the money they would have spent to the Genocide Intervention Network’s Civilian Protection program.

I applaud these students and community members for their message, and urge my colleagues to listen to it closely. Let us ask ourselves, what could we, here in Congress, give up for Darfur? Would we be willing to give up one day of spending in Iraq—worth about $200 million—to save lives in Darfur? Would we forego even a few tax cuts for the wealthy? What are we willing to sacrifice to stop the genocide and save the lives of millions of innocent civilians threatened every day by savage militias and a heartless regime in Khartoum that refuses to stop them?

I urge my colleagues to listen to it closely. Let us ask ourselves, what could we, here in Congress, give up for Darfur? Would we be willing to give up one day of spending in Iraq—worth about $200 million—to save lives in Darfur? Would we forego even a few tax cuts for the wealthy? What are we willing to sacrifice to stop the genocide and save the lives of millions of innocent civilians threatened every day by savage militias and a heartless regime in Khartoum that refuses to stop them?

Madam Speaker, once again, I urge my colleagues to listen to it closely. Let us ask ourselves, what could we, here in Congress, give up for Darfur? Would we be willing to give up one day of spending in Iraq—worth about $200 million—to save lives in Darfur? Would we forego even a few tax cuts for the wealthy? What are we willing to sacrifice to stop the genocide and save the lives of millions of innocent civilians threatened every day by savage militias and a heartless regime in Khartoum that refuses to stop them?
PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEVIN NUNES
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. NUNES, Madam Speaker, on the legislative day of Tuesday, December 4, 2007, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to cast a vote on a number of rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted: rollcall 1123—“nay”; rollcall 1124—“yes”; rollcall 1125—“yes”; rollcall 1126—“yes.”

RECOGNIZING THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF FLINT ODYSSEY HOUSE

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

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Flint Odyssey House. On December 6th Flint Odyssey House will be holding an open house to celebrate the 35th anniversary of the Odyssey Institute.

Dr. Judianne Densen-Gerber began her career in substance abuse treatment in 1966 working with 17 heroin addicts. She quickly realized that for successful rehabilitation, the root causes of addiction had to be addressed. She developed a model of treatment that tackled the traumatic experiences in an addict’s life and its impact on a person’s well-being and self-image. The treatment methodology consists of five stages: Orientation, Cocoon Phase, Incubator Phase, Self-Awareness and Reformation Phase, and Butterfly Post-Treatment. From her treatment model, the Odyssey Institute was born and now operates in communities around the world.

Started in 1979 by Ronald Sahara Brown, Flint Odyssey House was a satellite program of the Detroit Rubicon Odyssey House. When the Detroit program was forced to close its doors, Ronald Brown kept the Flint Odyssey House open. He had $300 in food stamps and the determination to make the program a success. As a former addict and a graduate of the program, Ronald knew firsthand how beneficial the Odyssey House concept of treatment could be to a recovering substance abuser. He invited clients of the closed Detroit Rubicon Odyssey House to join him in the Flint program. With a skeleton crew, he operated the program on a shoestring. His perseverance paid off, and the Michigan Department of Social Services and the Genesee County Commission on Substance Abuse started to provide financial assistance. From that first adult treatment center, the program has grown to provide a wide range of services.

Ronald Brown has expanded Flint Odyssey House to meet the needs of the community. The treatment facility was located in a drug-and crime-infested neighborhood, and Ronald took to the streets, reclaiming and renovating the crack houses in the area. Starting the Treat the Streets Program, Flint Odyssey House reclaimed the area and earned Ronald Sahara Brown the title of Chief of Odyssey Village. Flint Odyssey House has moved from being a substance abuse treatment agency to a human development agency and is a model for programs throughout the United States. It operates many programs, and treats hundreds of persons, including pregnant addicts and mothers with children. Accredited through the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, Flint Odyssey House has expanded and now operates a program in Saginaw Michigan.

In 1993, Flint Odyssey House received the Martin Luther King, Jr. Award from the Michigan Department of Public Health and the Clayton R. Stroup Award. In 1996 Ronald Sahara Brown was the recipient of the Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leadership Award. Ronald used the $100,000 stipend that came with this award to purchase and operate an old-age home in the neighborhood that was about to close. This kept the residents from being evicted and provided one more service to the community.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with and applaud the work of Ronald Sahara Brown, the staff, volunteers and the clients of Flint Odyssey House. Their courage and determination to bring out the power in each and every one of us to effect change in our world. May they continue to provide service and compassion for many, many more years.

TRIBUTE TO MR. SANFORD HELLER

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

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate my constituent, Mr. Sanford Heller of Rockville, Maryland, as he prepares to celebrate his 100th birthday. Mr. Heller was born on December 27, 1907 in The Bronx, New York and lived in New York City until he has 95. He owned his own home, mortgage free, for more than 50 years.

Mr. Heller has dedicated his life to public service and took part in events that shaped our nation. During the 1930s, he processed the arrival of new immigrants at Ellis Island. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. After his military service, he held positions in Federal, State, and city government.

To this day, Mr. Heller keeps himself busy. He reads the New York Times cover to cover, has traveled to over 35 countries, and can still fit into the same tuxedo he bought during the Great Depression. He is in excellent health, takes no medication, and walks every day.

Mr. Heller, a mandolin player, also enjoys entertaining for friends, family, and fellow residents of the Ring House, where he now resides. He was married to Ethel Heller for over 64 years until her death at age 92 in 2005. He has two children, five grandchildren, and ten great grandchildren. I join with Mr. Heller’s family and friends in wishing him a most joyous birthday. He has my warmest congratulations and best wishes.

RECOGNIZING NANCY CHANDLER AS AN OUTSTANDING ADVOCATE FOR CHILDREN

HON. TED POE
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, It has been said that “child abuse casts a shadow the length of a lifetime.” Nancy Chandler has dedicated her life to changing this. For over 25 years, Nancy has advocated for children and improved their futures.

After receiving her Masters in Social Work from the University of Georgia, Nancy was the founding Executive Director of the Memphis Child Advocacy Center. This Center helps “victims become children again.” Since April 1994, Nancy Chandler has served as the Executive Director of the National Children’s Alliance (NCA), a not-for-profit membership organization that represents more than 700 Children’s Advocacy Centers. For 13 years, Nancy has led and managed NCA’s finances, and developed resources, training, programs, communications, and membership services. Nancy also led and inspired a staff of dedicated advocates. As Executive Director of NCA, Nancy educated and motivated advocates at over 400 conferences and workshops across the United States.

Throughout her remarkable career in children’s advocacy, Nancy was a member of Leadership Memphis and a founding board member of the National Network of Children’s Advocacy Centers. She also served on the National Advisory Committee for Darkness to Light, a primary prevention program aimed at reducing the incidence and consequence of child sexual abuse, and as Senior Warden of The Church of the Epiphany in Washington, DC. Nancy has proven herself as an experienced leader and a compassionate advocate for children. And that’s just the way it is.