

"Amazing Grace," as she was nicknamed by former Tampa Congressman Sam Gibbons, was born in North Dakota in 1908. She attended the University of South Dakota and the University of Minnesota, where she graduated with degrees in English and Secondary Education. After graduation, Allen taught high school English and secondary education.

She met her husband, John Allen at the University of Minnesota, and they married in 1933. The couple moved to Gainesville, Florida in 1948, where her husband was appointed President of the University of Florida, and from 1954 to 1955, Grace served as the University of Florida's interim First Lady.

In 1957, John was named as the first president of a yet unnamed and newly established university in Tampa. Grace and her husband moved to Tampa, where they would remain for the rest of their lives. As classes weren't scheduled to start until 1960, the Allens themselves, shaped what would later be known as the University of South Florida.

The summer before the University opened its doors, "Amazing Grace" invited all of USF's wives and female staff members to her home. With this group of women, she established the USF Women's Club, which remains active on campus today as a social, cultural, and philanthropic organization. In 1994, the USF Women's Club endowed the Grace Allen Scholarship, and within the first ten years of being established, it awarded 119 full tuition scholarships for excellence in academics, leadership, and service.

Another endowed fund of the USF Women's Club was given to the University in Mrs. Allen's name to provide funds to the university's library.

The Allens were one of the first families to live in the Tampa neighborhood of Carrollwood, where Grace also made her mark. She started a tradition where residents set luminaries outside of their homes on Christmas Eve. Pilots have been known to divert their planes over the neighborhood to see the lights each year.

When John retired from the University in 1970, the Board of Regents named USF's administration building after John and Grace in recognition of their lasting contributions to the university community. In 1996, USF awarded Grace the honorary degree of Doctorate of Humane Letters.

Until her death on December 16, 2007 at the age of 99, Grace remained an active member of and advocate for the University of South Florida's community. She is remembered as a powerful spokesperson for academic excellence, and as a caring, spirited woman by the countless friends, staff members and students whose lives she touched.

The Tampa community honors the life of Grace Allen for her outstanding contributions to the University of South Florida and the Tampa Bay area. Her life serves as an inspiration and will continue to influence the lives of people in our community for years to come.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 18, 2007*

Mrs. MYRICK. Madam Speaker, I was unable to participate in the following votes. If I

had been present, I would have voted as follows:

December 17, 2007: Rollcall vote 1163, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution—H. Res. 856, expressing heartfelt sympathy for the victims and families of the shootings in Omaha, Nebraska, on Wednesday, December 5, 2007—I would have voted "aye."

Rollcall vote 1164, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution—H. Res. 851, honoring local and state first responders, and the citizens of the Pacific Northwest in facing the severe winter storm of December 2 and 3, 2007—I would have voted "aye."

Rollcall vote 1165, on ordering the previous question—H. Res. 873, waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules—I would have voted "nay."

Rollcall vote 1166, on agreeing to the resolution—H. Res. 873, waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules—I would have voted "nay."

Rollcall vote 1167, on agreeing to the resolution—H. Con. Res. 271, providing for the sine die adjournment of the first session of the 110th Congress—I would have voted "nay."

Rollcall vote 1168, on ordering the previous question—H. Res. 878, providing for the consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 2764) making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes—I would have voted "nay."

Rollcall vote 1169, on agreeing to the resolution—H. Res. 878, providing for the consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 2764) making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes—I would have voted "nay."

Rollcall vote 1170, on motion to suspend the rules and pass—H.R. 4286, to award a congressional gold medal to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in recognition of her courageous and unwavering commitment to peace, non-violence, human rights, and democracy in Burma—I would have voted "aye."

#### IN RECOGNITION OF JIMMY BRISTOW

### HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 18, 2007*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I wish to recognize James E. "Jimmy" Bristow of West Columbia, South Carolina for his many years of public service to the people of South Carolina and the country, and congratulate him on a successful year of leadership as President of Ruritan National.

Ruritan National is a national civic organization made up of 33,000 members with 1,178 clubs in 25 States. Since its founding in 1928, Ruritan has built a strong reputation as one of our Nation's leading community service organizations. Under the excellent leadership of Mr. Bristow, Ruritan has continued to grow

and make a substantial and positive impact in the community.

Mr. Bristow is a graduate of The Citadel with 31 years of experience working with community businesses. He now serves as vice president and resident construction lender for Security Federal Bank. In addition to his work with local businesses, Mr. Bristow is a life-long member of the Mount Hebron United Methodist Church where he has taught Sunday school for 22 years. Over the last decade, he has served as Scoutmaster for Troop 331 of the Indian Waters Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

For his years of public service, Mr. Bristow has received numerous honors and recognitions including the Order of the Silver Crescent from South Carolina Governor Mark Sanford—the State's highest honor given for volunteer and community service.

I am grateful for Mr. Bristow's service to his community. I want to recognize and thank his wife Fran and their three sons—Jeremy, Andrew, and Ryan—for their years of support, and wish them many more years of happiness.

#### INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 1413

### HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 18, 2007*

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1413, which would create a pilot program testing the effectiveness of physically screening 100 percent of airport workers with access to secure and sterile areas at seven airports across the country.

I want to thank Homeland Security Chairman BENNIE THOMPSON, Ranking Member PETER KING, Representative GINNY BROWN-WAITE and the other members of the Homeland Security Committee for their support of this legislation. I also want to thank Rosaline Cohen, Michael Stroud and Matt Washington from the majority staff of the committee, Coley O'Brien and Jennifer Arangio from the minority staff, and Justin Wein from my staff.

Meticulously screening passengers but giving workers open access is like installing an expensive home security system but leaving your back door wide open.

In 2001, Congress recognized that while we were investing significant resources in screening passengers and their baggage, we needed to close the backdoor of airports as well. That's why we passed the Aviation and Transportation Security Act which required the Transportation Security Agency to screen all airport workers.

Yet, nearly six years after September 11th and passage of legislation requiring the physical screening of all airport workers, astonishingly TSA has failed to implement this basic policy or set a deadline for doing so.

At Heathrow Airport, the busiest international airport in the world, 100% of workers are screened, yet TSA refuses to acknowledge the national security benefits of following the same procedures here at home.

We know there is criminal activity taking place at some of our airports. Just this year alone, there have been frightening security breaches at Orlando International Airport, the arrest of a former airport worker as part of a