

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING VERNON RAY ROSE

**HON. RON LEWIS**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Master Sergeant Vernon Ray Rose, a remarkable man with a long history of service to his country and community.

Mr. Rose had a distinguished 18-year career in the United States Army leading men into combat during a tour of duty in Southeast Asia. He was a platoon sergeant of an infantry platoon with A Troop, 7th Squadron, 17th Cavalry, Air, during the Vietnam war. His platoon had the responsibility of rescuing downed U.S. helicopter pilots. In March 1968, Mr. Rose was severely wounded by an enemy hand grenade and was medically retired from the Army.

Vernon Ray Rose was the recipient of many honors during his exemplary military career including the Bronze Star Medal, a Purple Heart, the Army Commendation Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, the Army Occupation Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Combat Infantryman Badge, the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Ribbon, the Parachutist Badge, and the Ranger Arc Tab.

Mr. Rose's service did not end once he retired from the military. Mr. Rose chose to become a National Veteran Service Officer, dedicating his life to serving veterans over the course of three decades.

It is my privilege to honor Vernon Ray Rose today, before the entire United States House of Representatives, for his service to our country and to his fellow veterans. His contributions are worthy of our collective appreciation and respect.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION  
COMMEMORATING THE BICENTENNIAL  
OF THE GALLATIN PLAN

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing, along with Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. WALSH, Mr. PETRI, and Mr. FARR, a resolution to commemorate the bicentennial of the Gallatin plan for infrastructure investment. This plan built on George Washington's vision of connecting the interior settlements with the markets and ports of the East Coast through a network of roads and canals. As Congress looks at major infrastructure investments for this century, it is worthwhile to remember that the achievements of the past were based on sound planning, and important to note that the value of infrastructure investments is dependent on national planning ef-

orts. As we embark on efforts to improve our Nation's civil infrastructure, we should acknowledge and honor the plans that laid the groundwork for our Nation's greatness.

HONORING AMANDA TAVARES

**HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Amanda Tavares of Robstown, TX, for her hard work in successfully completing the Congressional page program. Amanda has been a shining example of the potential and leadership skills those selected for this selective honor entail.

Amanda, who hails from my hometown, has taken full advantage of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to learn firsthand how Congress works while gaining valuable experience about the legislative process. She excelled in the challenging environment of the Capitol, got to know new and interesting people, and attend the prestigious House Page School with some of the country's brightest young minds.

Prior to her time in Washington, DC, Amanda was involved in numerous activities at her school and church. She has served as a mentor, tutor, and missionary to an orphanage in Reynosa, Mexico. In addition, she has done home improvement work with the Nehemiah project of World Changers in Norfolk, VA.

Amanda's sparkling personality and engaging demeanor have been appreciated by my office and her fellow pages. The people whom a page meets here will be the movers and shakers in the country for the rest of their life. Washington, DC, is an exciting place and every page who leaves the program tells us the experience profoundly changed their life. Amanda has shared that sentiment and I have no doubt that her time as page will influence her goals.

As Amanda heads back to Texas, I am sure that she will take many of the lessons learned here and apply to her all life and activities. I am proud of hard work and accomplishments, despite being so far from her home and her family. I wish her the best of luck when she returns to school, and know she will use her experiences here to go on and do great things.

HONORING JIM CARROLL

**HON. RON LEWIS**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Jim Carroll, a proud veteran and dedicated public servant. Mr. Carroll is retiring this year after 38 years of Federal service, most of which has been

spent with the National Park Service at Mammoth Cave National Park.

Jim Carroll grew up in Hart County, Kentucky, and graduated from Munfordville High School in 1966. He was drafted into the Army in 1968 and served in Vietnam. Upon his return, he enrolled at Western Kentucky University and graduated in 1975.

Mr. Carroll began his tenure with the Park Service in 1972 as a seasonal guide at Mammoth Cave National Park. After a brief assignment at Biscayne National Park in Florida, he returned to Mammoth Cave as a full time Park Ranger. Mr. Carroll then served as a Split Ranger, working with the law enforcement and resources management divisions of the park. Mr. Carroll has been supervised nearly all aspects of Mammoth Cave National Park.

In 1995, Mr. Carroll was named Chief of the Division of External Programs. His responsibilities have included media relations, publications, information technology, concessions management, and community relations.

It is my privilege to honor Jim Carroll today, before the entire United States House of Representatives, for his service to Mammoth Cave National Park. I wish Jim, and his wife Sina a safe and happy retirement.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION  
COMMEMORATING THE CENTENNIAL  
OF PRESIDENT THEODORE  
ROOSEVELT'S CONFERENCE OF  
GOVERNORS

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing, along with Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. WALSH, Mr. PETRI, and Mr. FARR, a resolution to commemorate the centennial of President Theodore Roosevelt's Conference of Governors. That conference, which included many State Governors, the members of President Roosevelt's Cabinet, Members of Congress, professional organizations, and Government bureaus—and which served as the first meeting of what today has become the National Governors Association—resulted in a report that incorporated the growing interest in conservation as well as articulated the need for future investments in civil infrastructure. The conference laid the groundwork for many of the critical investments of the 20th century and serves as an important reminder that the value of infrastructure investments is dependent on national planning efforts. In the past few decades, our critical infrastructure has fallen into disrepair. As we embark on efforts to improve our Nation's civil infrastructure, we should acknowledge and honor the plans that laid the groundwork for our Nation's greatness.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

## HONORING NANDO GOMEZ

**HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to one of my most trusted staff members, my Chief of Staff, Fernando P. "Nando" Gomez, Jr. After working in Congress for 7 years, the past 2 as my chief of staff, Nando will be joining the private sector.

Nando's dedication to and interest in public service has led him from the small town of Gregory, TX, to the corridors of two Capitols. During his senior year at the University of Texas in 1994, he began working for the Texas House Speaker James E. "Pete" Laney. Nando worked for Speaker Laney for nearly 5 years and was appointed the House reading clerk during the 74th and 75th Legislative Sessions.

He then moved to Washington, DC, in 2001 and worked for Congressman Martin Frost, serving as legislative assistant and then as legislative director. He joined my staff in 2005 and rose from legislative director to chief of staff.

Words cannot begin to describe what Nando has meant to me, my staff, and the people of the 27th District of Texas. I have relied on Nando for his professionalism, work ethic, and friendship. He takes pride in his work, which is especially personal to him because he was born and raised in the district I represent. For him, it has not just been about serving as my chief of staff—it is about advocating for the issues of his hometown, his family, and his roots.

Nando has also taken an active role with local youth. He serves in Brothers/Big Sisters Mentor program, where he has had the honor of serving as big brother to his little brother, Franklin, for nearly 5 years. Nando is an avid sports fan whose allegiances lie with the Texas Longhorns, Houston Astros, San Antonio Spurs, and the Dallas Cowboys.

Though I bid Nando a sad farewell from my office, it will certainly not be a good-bye. I look forward to seeing him around the Capitol when he comes up to catch up with old friends.

Nando remains a trusted member of my family, and I will always seek his counsel on matters political and personal. I wish him, his wife Kristy and son Dominic the best of luck during the new phase of his life.

## FREEDOM FOR RAUDEL MARTINEZ GOMEZ

**HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak about Raudel Martinez Gomez, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Martinez Gomez is a member of the Plantados Movement for Cuban Freedom. He along with fellow dissidents Victor Yunier Ferenandez Martinez and Joenny Alonso Asiz, were arrested in February 2006 for a crime the Cuban dictatorship calls "dangerousness."

In sham trials they were each convicted, with Mr. Martinez Gomez sentenced to 3 years in prison.

Unfortunately, his imprisonment for what is really political dissent is nothing new for his family. While Mr. Martinez Gomez was facing trial before the dictatorship's facade of a judicial system, his father was imprisoned in a Cuban gulag for nothing more than participating in a peaceful pro-democracy protest outside the French embassy in Havana. The Cuban regime released his father this past May without formally charging him with any crime.

Shortly after his father's arrest, the local chief of the so-called "Committee for the Defense of the Revolution" came to the home Mr. Martinez Gomez shared with his father. Mr. Martinez Gomez was forced out of his home along with his wife, who was 7 months pregnant at the time. But these local vigilance committee goons were not content with forcing Martinez Gomez and his pregnant wife from their home, they wanted to add insult to injury. So they sent a group of ruffians to shout insults and obscenities at Martinez Gomez and his wife as they left the home they had known for the last 11 years.

What exactly did Mr. Martinez Gomez do to cause his conviction for the so-called crime of "dangerousness?" This is impossible to fully know in the totalitarian circus of present day Cuba but perhaps the regime was afraid of the courage repeatedly demonstrated by Mr. Martinez Gomez.

Madam Speaker, this is just another condemnable occurrence in the constant pattern of brutality by the totalitarian tyranny just 90 miles from our shores. And yet, though the tyranny has attempted to stop Mr. Martinez Gomez, he will never cease in his commitment to freedom for Cuba. My colleagues, we must demand the immediate release of Raudel Martinez Gomez and all prisoners of conscience in totalitarian Cuba.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS A MORAL RESPONSIBILITY TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THOSE PERSONS, GROUPS AND COMMUNITIES THAT ARE IMPOVERISHED, DISADVANTAGED OR OTHERWISE IN POVERTY

SPEECH OF

**HON. JOE BACA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 22, 2008*

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House for 1 minute.

I rise today in strong support of H. Con. Res. 198.

Poverty is all too real an issue in America today.

As a co-chair of the Congressional Out of Poverty Caucus, I have worked with my colleagues to create a world where no child goes to bed hungry, and where every parent can put a roof over their family's heads.

We have made progress this Congress—but we still have a long road ahead of us.

And while poverty disproportionately affects our minority communities—it does not discriminate on a basis of color.

We must remember poverty is not just a Hispanic, or a Black, or an Asian issue—it is a "people" issue.

Whether it's a family trying to put food on the table, or a child in need of basic health care—when poverty affects one of us, it affects all of us.

I urge my colleagues to join the Out of Poverty Caucus in voicing their dedication to creating a better America for everyone, not just the privileged few.

I ask my colleagues to vote in favor of H. Con. Res. 198.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. PHIL HARE**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. HARE. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, January 22, 2008, I was unavoidably detained. I ask for unanimous consent that the RECORD reflect had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 19, H.R. 4211—To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 725 Roanoke Avenue in Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina, as the "Judge Richard B. Allsbrook Post Office"; and I would have vote "aye" on rollcall No. 20, H. Res. 866—Honoring the brave men and women of the United States Coast Guard whose tireless work, dedication, and commitment to protecting the United States have led to the Coast Guard seizing over 350,000 pounds of cocaine at sea during 2007, far surpassing all of our previous records.

## HONORING DALLAS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. JEB HENSARLING**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, today I would like to rise to recognize Dallas Christian School and join with them in celebrating their 50th anniversary.

In 1957, Dallas Christian School was established with a mission to train students academically, physically, and spiritually. Five decades later, this nationally recognized Blue Ribbon School continues to accomplish its mission by supplementing its academic curriculum with daily Bible classes and chapel services, college courses, extracurricular activities, and an athletic department.

Located in Mesquite, Texas, 90 percent of Dallas Christian School graduates attend institutions of higher education, and since 1992, 20 seniors have qualified for the National Merit Scholarship.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Fifth District of Texas, I am honored to recognize Dallas Christian School's 50th anniversary, and I would like to commend the students, board of directors, faculty, and staff for helping to shape a brighter future for our community and our country.

RECOGNIZING REV. CHARLES L. MOSELEY ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. J. RANDY FORBES**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. FORBES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize my pastor and dear friend, Rev. Charles L. Moseley on the occasion of his retirement from nearly 40 years of service as pastor of Great Bridge Baptist Church in Chesapeake, VA.

Charles Moseley was born in Camden, SC, the fifth child and only son of Fred and Julia Moseley. Growing up in a small town, Charles felt the influence of his godly mother and father. One evening in October 1949 after a revival service at First Baptist of Camden, while Charles and his friends were watching an eclipse of the moon, he felt the call of God to full-time Christian ministry.

Charles started his higher education achieving his associate of arts degree from Wingate Jr. College in January 1952. He went on to receive his bachelor of arts degree in English from Coker College in January 1954. Continuing to be led by the Lord, Charles then entered Southeastern Seminary at Wake Forest, NC, and graduated with a bachelor of divinity in January 1958. He later earned a master of divinity from Southeastern Seminary in the early 1970s. Throughout these years of college, Charles continued to see God's hand on his life in many ways through financial help, mentoring from professors, and preaching in churches in the area.

During his time at seminary, Charles preached in many churches but was led to pastor two churches in Dillon County, SC. He would travel between the two churches on Sunday preaching at one at 10 a.m. and the other at 11 a.m. It was during this time in December 1956 that he met his future wife, Louise Martin. At the time, Lou was serving as education director of the First Baptist Church of Dillon, SC. They were married in June 1957.

As a senior at seminary, many offers from churches came for him to serve as pastor but Charles was not led to any of them until he received an offer from a small church in Valdese, NC, in early 1958. Abee's Grove Baptist was a small country church located in the mountains of North Carolina with a Sunday morning attendance between 100 to 150 people.

Pastor Moseley and his family left this church in 1962 to begin a ministry at the First Baptist Church of Carthage, NC. Located near Pinehurst, NC, First Baptist was a dignified little church with a beautiful pipe organ, stained glass windows and friendly congregation.

From the beginning of his studies, Charles had the desire to be a chaplain in the Air Force but that was not the Lord's path for him. He did however, serve in the National Guard and proudly retired from the U.S. Army Reserve with 23 years of service.

Even in the beginning of his ministry, Charles had always thought he would be the pastor of a small church, never imagining that the Lord would lead him to shepherd a large,

vibrant, and growing church. However, in 1969 Charles and his family felt the call to Great Bridge Baptist Church, a church of 650 members in a rural area near Norfolk, VA. Throughout his ministry at Great Bridge Baptist, Pastor Moseley has always maintained that he is a pastor first, serving his people wherever their needs are. His greatest desire is to be a servant reaching out to his congregants during their most important times—marriage, birth, death, crisis, sickness, sorrow, fear, joy.

When asked what he would say is a highlight of his ministry at Great Bridge Baptist, Pastor Moseley recalled that one of the greatest of his delights is experiencing someone coming to know the Lord. The blessing of leading a person to know Christ as his/her Savior is the joy of his life.

Madam Speaker, in the nearly 40 years of service at Great Bridge Baptist Church, Pastor Moseley has steadfastly led his congregation in the footsteps of Christ, touching thousands of lives with the joy and peace of the Lord. Through the many years that my family and I have attended Great Bridge Baptist, I have come to know Rev. Moseley as a model of selfless service and great spiritual leadership. Today we thank him for his service to us and most importantly his service to the Lord and we ask God's special blessing on him and his family as they pursue the joys and challenges of this next phase of his life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, unfortunately yesterday, January 22, 2008, my flight to Washington, DC was delayed, and I was unable to cast my votes on H.R. 4211 and H. Res. 866 and wish the RECORD to reflect my intentions had I been able to vote.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 19 on suspending the rules and passing H.R. 4211, naming the Judge Richard B. Allbrook Post Office, I would have voted "aye".

Had I been present for rollcall No. 20 on suspending the rules and passing H. Res. 866, honoring the brave men and women of the United States Coast Guard whose tireless work, dedication, and commitment to protecting the United States have led to the Coast Guard seizing over 350,000 pounds of cocaine at sea during 2007, far surpassing all of our previous records, I would have voted "aye."

AMERICAN JOBS CREATION AND ECONOMIC STIMULUS ACT OF 2008

**HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. MANZULLO. Madam Speaker, last week, the Congressional Budget Office, CBO, released its report outlining options for re-

sponding to the Nation's short-term economic weakness. One key finding of the report contains a warning: Any stimulus that a short-term economic package "can provide to the economy depends on how much of the resultant spending goes to purchase domestically produced goods. The degree of stimulus that a policy can provide to the economy also depends on how much of the resultant spending goes to purchase domestically produced goods. If the additional consumption, or investment, demand is satisfied by imported goods, the income of foreign producers will rise, and the stimulus essentially will be exported."

Simply put, the benefits of the proposed \$145 billion U.S. economic stimulus package should not go abroad. The benefits of this package should help Americans as much as possible. That's why I, along with Representatives BILL LIPINSKI, ERIC CANTOR, WALLY HERGER, and JEFF FORTENBERRY, am proud to introduce today the American Jobs Creation and Economic Stimulus Act of 2008. This bill will provide a quick power boost to the economy that does not cost too much and rewards companies for keeping and adding jobs in America. This proposal simply accelerates the phase-in of the domestic manufacturing tax benefit by 2 years. Any economic stimulus package that is crafted by Congress should include this provision.

The domestic manufacturing tax deduction, now section 199 of the U.S. Tax Code, started in 2005 at 3 percent as part of the 2004 law that replaced the Foreign Sales Corporation/ Extraterritorial Income, FSC/ETI tax structure, which was ruled as an illegal export subsidy by the World Trade Organization, WTO. Last year, the domestic manufacturing tax deduction increased to 6 percent. The final phase—raising the domestic manufacturing deduction to 9 percent—is scheduled to start in 2010. The American Jobs Creations and Economic Stimulus Act of 2008 simply changes the start date of the 9 percent domestic manufacturing tax deduction from January 1, 2010, to January 1, 2008, thus providing an additional 3 percent tax incentive for all domestic manufacturers right now.

According to the Internal Revenue Service, IRS, 378,627 small and large manufacturers, as broadly defined by the U.S. Treasury, were helped by this benefit in 2005. One year later, that number grew to over 400,000. The domestic manufacturing benefit applies to firms of all types—C Corporations, S Corporations, Limited Liability Companies, LLCs, and sole proprietorships.

This tax deduction is ideal because it only applies to revenue generated by operations based in the United States and discourages the "off-shoring" of American production. No other economic stimulus idea ties tax relief to requiring companies to keep production and jobs in the United States. The American Jobs Creation and Economic Stimulus Act of 2008 is a simple bipartisan low-cost idea that will make a real difference right now. It also fits within the parameters, as outlined by the President on Friday, of what could be included in an economic stimulus package.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully urge the inclusion of accelerating the phase-in of the domestic manufacturing tax deduction in any economic stimulus legislation that will be voted on by the House this year.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to explain my absence from votes cast on January 22, 2008. I was in Houston meeting with constituents at a town-hall meeting our office scheduled prior to knowing votes would take place last night.

On rollcall vote No. 19, to approve H.R. 4211, had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall vote No. 20, to approve H. Res. 866, had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

"ONE LESS ANGEL WILL CRY"

**HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, I was recently visited in my office by one of my constituents from the second district of Tennessee, Julie Rich. Julie is one of six winners in a nationwide contest for the March for Life Education and Defense Fund of 2008. I would like to call to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD her winning poem.

## ONE LESS ANGEL WILL CRY

A guardian angel looks up from Earth  
And prays each day to the Lord in the hope  
That one particular baby will survive until  
birth  
The mother does not want it; she is scared  
She has by now reached the end of her rope  
O Lord! Please let the child be spared!  
She throws up her hands and yells, "I'm  
through!  
I don't want to be in this position  
I will abort. It's something I must do!"  
The angel wept  
What a horrid decision!  
Up to heaven the angel and the baby's soul  
leapt  
The gates were wide open and the soul was  
ushered in  
And why not  
For one whose lifespan was tremendously  
thin?  
The devastating thought of abortion should  
be left far behind  
It is like a blot  
On all of mankind  
"Build Unity on the Life Principles through-  
out America.  
No Exception! No Compromise!"  
We must be strong with these words, Amer-  
ica  
Because millions upon millions have died  
this way  
Abortion has claimed too many lives  
Babies perish like this every single day  
What if it had been you? One of the ones  
killed?  
You would not know  
Your body would have been chilled  
Mothers please do not tell your infants good-  
bye  
Let the babies live, let them grow!  
And one less angel will cry

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Ms. BERKLEY. Madam Speaker, because I was attending to important constituent matters in my congressional district involving the historic Nevada Presidential Caucus, I was unable to vote on rollcall Nos. 1 through 18. Had I been present, I would have voted "present" on rollcall No. 1; "yes" on rollcall Nos. 2-7, 11-12, and 17-18; and "no" on rollcall Nos. 8-10 and 13-16.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. KEITH ELLISON**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, on January 22, 2008, I failed to vote on rollcall Nos. 19 and 20 because my flight was unexpectedly delayed. Had I voted, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 19 and "yea" on rollcall No. 20.

## RECOGNIZING TIBOTEC THERAPEUTICS FOR THEIR INNOVATION AND CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY IN DEVELOPING NEW TREATMENTS FOR AMERICANS WITH HIV/AIDS

**HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Tibotec Therapeutics for their innovation and corporate responsibility in developing new, effective treatments for people living with HIV/AIDS. On Friday, January 18, 2008, the Food and Drug Administration approved Tibotec's second HIV drug, INTELENCE™, for the treatment of HIV infection.

We are all aware of the success HIV therapies have had on prolonging and enhancing the quality of life for those infected with HIV/AIDS. As the infected population lives longer and becomes increasingly resistant to current treatment regimens, there is a growing need to focus on access to newer therapies for treatment experienced. HIV drug manufacturers are being challenged to meet the treatment needs of this changing population.

Tibotec Therapeutics, an operating company of Johnson & Johnson, has a strong history of advancing the science of HIV treatment, and INTELENCE™ is another shining example of this cutting-edge research and development.

INTELENCE™, also known as TMC125, is the first new drug in the NNRTI class to be approved in a decade. It brings new hope to HIV patients whose HIV virus has become resistant to other HIV therapies, including drugs in the same NNRTI class.

I would also like to recognize Tibotec Therapeutics for their outstanding work with the HIV

patient and physician communities during the development and approval of both PREZITSA™ and INTELENCE™. Tibotec Therapeutics worked closely with leaders in the HIV community on the development of the pivotal clinical trials that led to FDA approval of this product. Notably, the FDA approved INTELENCE™ through an accelerated approval procedure—a process that is reserved for the early approval of drugs that show a meaningful therapeutic advantage over existing treatments for serious or life-threatening diseases.

In addition, Tibotec Therapeutics acted responsibly in pricing INTELENCE™, a fact recognized by many leaders in the HIV community. In fact, one leading HIV patient advocate stated, "With the introduction of INTELENCE, Tibotec Therapeutics has demonstrated exceptional leadership in working with the HIV community in an effort to address pricing and access issues. Tibotec has repeatedly recognized the necessity of responsibly pricing HIV products and should be commended for its leadership in this regard."

Once again, I commend Tibotec Therapeutics for its innovation and corporate responsibility. I applaud the fact that Americans living with HIV/AIDS will now have access to a new and important treatment option, affording them the possibility of living healthier and productive lives.

HONORING THE UNITED STATES  
COAST GUARD

SPEECH OF

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 22, 2008*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 866, a resolution commending the dedicated men and women of the Coast Guard on their remarkable drug interdiction efforts, which have resulted in the record seizure of 355,755 pounds of cocaine, valued at more than \$4.7 billion.

Embodying its motto of Semper Paratus or "Always Ready", the Coast Guard has used improved information-sharing and intelligence to anticipate and combat smuggling, piracy and other threats before they reach America's shores. For example, in September, the Coast Guard stopped a vessel loaded with 3,600 gallons of cocaine dissolved in diesel fuel. This liquid cocaine could have been converted into 15,800 pounds of pure cocaine. Earlier last year, the Coast Guard made its largest maritime cocaine seizure when it intercepted a Panamanian vessel carrying approximately 20 tons of the drug.

Since the tragic events of 9/11, the Coast Guard's mission has taken on increased significance, as they have added critical homeland security responsibilities to their traditional missions. As chairman of the Committee on Homeland Security, I am well acquainted with the extraordinary job the Coast Guard does in fulfilling these missions on behalf of our Nation. H. Res. 866 affirms our appreciation for the valiant members of the United States Coast Guard, who risk their lives every day to rescue and protect the American people and preserve the Nation's security. I encourage my

colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT JAMIE  
O'DELL MAUGANS

**HON. TODD TIAHRT**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, today I have the honor to introduce a bill naming the post office in Derby, KS, after a fallen hero, SGT Jamie O'Dell Maugans. Sergeant Maugans was the first casualty of the Global War on Terror from the 4th District of Kansas. A Derby native, Sergeant Maugans graduated from Derby High School and attended the University of Kansas and Cowley County Community College before joining the Army.

Sergeant Maugans was an ordnance disposal specialist and stationed in San Diego when our Nation was attacked on September 11, 2001. He was deployed to Afghanistan in connection with Operation Enduring Freedom—Afghanistan.

On April 15th, 2002, while disposing of ordnances near Kandahar, Afghanistan, Sergeant Maugans was killed along with three others, including fellow Kansan SSG Justin Galewski, from Olathe. He was only 27 years old.

Sergeant Jamie Maugans' family, including his mother Kathy Wurdeman, his father Bryce Maugans and stepmother, Mary Maugans, his brother and four sisters, are very proud of him. His commitment to family, friends and country are well known. By naming this post office, I hope that everyone in South Central Kansas will come to know and remember this young man and his sacrifice. We all owe a debt of gratitude to Sergeant Maugans and his fellow servicemen and women.

Naming the post office in Derby after Sergeant Jamie Maugans is but a simple way we can honor his memory and the memory of all those who have fallen in battle for the defense of this nation. I ask my colleagues to support this important effort.

HONORING CAPTAIN WILLIAM  
HENRY MULLIGAN

**HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor and recognize Captain William Henry Mulligan for his extraordinary career and accomplishments as he plans to step down as president of the Suffolk County Police Superior Officers Association (SOA).

Bill Mulligan was raised in the great town of Hempstead, NY. He proudly served our country in the United States Navy, from 1961 to his honorable discharge in 1964.

Bill joined the Suffolk County Police Department (SCPD) in August of 1967 as a patrolman, and his commitment to law enforcement led to numerous promotions within the department and the Suffolk County Superior Officers Association (SOA). Among the police department, Bill was known for his dedicated work as an officer and as a lover of sports. Bill

managed and played for the SCPD softball team which won medals in the New York State Police Olympics and gained national notoriety for its outstanding play.

In 2005, Captain Mulligan was named president of the Suffolk County SOA. The SOA is responsible for representing the labor interests of its members in the Suffolk County Police Department. The organization acts as the exclusive majority representative in negotiating for improved wages, hours, working conditions, welfare and job security, as well as for all other aspects of collective bargaining. As president, Captain Mulligan represented over 500 supervisors and administrators in the Suffolk County Police Department and he has held the position with distinction for the last 3 years.

Today Bill lives in the town of Riverhead, NY with his wife of 42 years, Janet, and their three beautiful daughters, Janine, Elizabeth and Michele.

I am proud to honor Captain William Henry Mulligan for his service to our country and our community. Madam Speaker, on behalf of all New Yorkers, it is with great pride that I recognize and thank Captain Mulligan for a truly distinguished career. We wish him and his family the best in the future.

IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM "SYKES"  
HARRIS

**HON. MIKE ROSS**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of William "Sykes" Harris of Warren, AR, who passed away January 15, 2008, at the age of 89.

Sykes Harris was a true pioneer in the wood flooring business in south Arkansas. After nobly serving his country in World War II, he returned to his childhood home of Warren, where he began a lifetime in business making a positive impact on countless Arkansans through Wilson Oak Flooring, which he would successfully own and operate for nearly 25 years.

Although Sykes Harris had a career in business, his calling and real passion was in community development. The City of Warren and its residents were extremely fortunate to gain from his selfless gifts of time and energy to make his community a better place to live. He took a keen interest in seeing businesses flourish throughout Warren and Bradley County, and this was evident through his service in the Warren Rotary Club, the Warren Country Club and the Warren Bank and Trust Company.

In addition, Sykes Harris was deeply honored to be appointed by then-Governor Bill Clinton to serve on the board of trustees of the University of Arkansas in 1983. Upon completing his 10-year term, the City of Fayetteville recognized his invaluable contributions and efforts by naming him an honorary citizen and presenting him with a key to the city. When Sykes was not working in business or giving back to the community, he could be found relaxing and sitting on his floating duck blind in Arkansas City with any number of family and friends.

I send my deepest condolences to his daughter, Sally Harris Barnett, of Casscoe,

AR; his sister, Frances Harris Hedrick of Warren, AR; and to his numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Sykes Harris will be missed by his family, his community and all those who knew him and called him a friend. His focus on the community and his spirit of selfless service to others will never be forgotten. I will continue to keep his family in my deepest thoughts and prayers.

BAYTOWN, TEXAS

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, the city of Baytown, Texas will celebrate its 60th anniversary on January 24, 2008. Baytown's rich history of rugged Texas pioneers, oil boom settlements and economic contributions to Texas span more than 150 years.

Some of the first settlers to the area included Nathaniel Lynch who set up a ferry crossing in 1822 at the junction of the San Jacinto River and Buffalo Bayou. The crossing, now known as the Lynchburg Ferry, continues in operation today by Harris County.

William Scott, one of Stephen F. Austin's Old Three Hundred families, received a land grant in 1824. A settlement grew near his home on San Jacinto Bay which included a small store and a sawmill. This settlement became known as Bay Town.

The story of the present Baytown also encompasses the cities of Goose Creek and Pelly. The discovery of oil was the common thread that wove the three cities' history together.

In 1916, the Goose Creek oilfield became famous as the first offshore drilling operation in Texas. Both of the towns of Pelly and Goose Creek developed around the oil field. Ross S. Sterling and his business associates built a refinery near Goose Creek in 1917 and founded the Humble Oil and Refining Company which later became Exxon Company U.S.A.

Humble Oil purchased 2,200 acres in the area and called it Baytown. The town grew up around the refinery as the company built streets, sold lots, provided utilities and offered financing for workers to purchase a home.

Each city operated independently for several years but talks began to arise among residents of consolidating the three cities after World War I. After several failed attempts at consolidation, the cities reached an agreement in 1947. On January 24, 1948, the city of Baytown was officially established.

Today, Baytown continues to live up to its rich legacy of industry and community spirit. Exxon is still a major part of the city's petroleum industry along with several other major oil companies. Baytown is now also home to Goose Creek Consolidated ISD and Lee College which provide outstanding educational opportunities for students. The future of Baytown shines bright as a great city in which to live, work and play.

There are two well-known landmarks in Baytown, a giant live oak tree and the Fred Hartman Bridge. One landmark illustrates the rich history of the city's past and the other symbolizes its promising future.

The live oak tree, estimated to be more than 1,000 years old, grows in the center of West Texas Avenue. It has lived since Native Americans roamed the coastal plains, the battles of the Texas Revolution were fought and the Texas oil field discoveries were made.

The 440-foot tall Fred Hartman Bridge, a steel cable bridge that spans across the Houston Ship Channel, is Baytown's symbol of modern engineering and Texas-sized strength.

It is an honor to represent a part of Baytown as a portion of the Second Congressional District. My fellow colleague and friend, Gene Green represents the other part of Baytown in the United States Congress. Congressman Green and I are proud to have worked with Baytown Mayor Stephen DonCarlos and the city council on numerous projects concerning the city. They are commended for their leadership in helping Baytown grow.

I look forward to seeing Baytown prosper in the future and wish the city Happy Birthday as it celebrates its 60th anniversary.

And that's just the way it is.

#### TRIBUTE TO TIBOTEC THERAPEUTICS

#### HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Tibotec Therapeutics for their innovation and corporate responsibility in developing new, effective treatments for people living with HIV/AIDS. On Friday, January 18, 2008, the Food and Drug Administration approved Tibotec's second HIV drug, INTELENCE™ (etravirine), for the treatment of HIV infection.

In my home state of North Carolina, there are an estimated 31,000 people living with HIV/AIDS, many of whom may not be aware that they are infected with this life-threatening illness. Unfortunately, the Black Community in North Carolina as well as others across the southern United States are disproportionately impacted by HIV/AIDS. A high percentage of people in these communities are diagnosed in the later stages of HIV disease—a fact that further complicates their chances for successful ongoing treatment. Furthermore, Black women are disproportionately impacted by HIV/AIDS in our state, with an HIV infection rate almost seventeen times higher than among non-Hispanic white women.

We are all aware of the success HIV therapies have had on prolonging and enhancing the quality of life for those infected with HIV/AIDS. As the infected population lives longer and becomes increasingly resistant to current treatment regimens; there is a growing need to focus on access to newer therapies for treatment experienced. HIV drug manufacturers are being challenged to meet the treatment needs of this changing population. Federal and State governments, public health programs, medical and community-based providers in addition to drug manufacturers are all challenged to find ways to better serve disproportionately impacted and underserved communities.

Tibotec Therapeutics is also a leader in reaching out to underserved communities highly impacted by HIV. A primary example of

this is Tibotec's GRACE study, a first-of-its-kind clinical trial that will compare gender differences in the efficacy, safety and tolerability of an FDA-approved HIV therapy in women, and will also explore racial differences in treatment outcomes.

Tibotec Therapeutics, an operating company of Johnson & Johnson, has a strong history of advancing the science of HIV treatment, and INTELENCE™ is another shining example of this cutting-edge research and development. INTELENCE™, also known as TMC 125, is the first new drug in the NNRTI class to be approved in a decade. It brings new hope to HIV patients, whose HIV virus has become resistant to other HIV therapies, including drugs in the same NNRTI class. Notably, the FDA approved INTELENCE™ through an accelerated approval procedure—a process that is reserved for the early approval of drugs that show a meaningful therapeutic advantage over existing treatments for serious or life-threatening diseases.

Finally, Tibotec Therapeutics acted responsibly in pricing INTELENCE™, a fact recognized by many leaders in the HIV community. In fact, one leading HIV patient advocate stated, "With the introduction of INTELENCE, Tibotec Therapeutics has demonstrated exceptional leadership in working with the HIV community in an effort to address pricing and access issues. Tibotec has repeatedly recognized the necessity of responsibly pricing HIV products and should be commended for its leadership in this regard." This type of responsible corporate behavior is especially welcomed in my state of North Carolina, which has struggled in the past to provide access to HIV therapies for eligible lower-income individuals.

In closing, I would like to once again, I commend Tibotec Therapeutics for its innovation and corporate responsibility. I applaud the fact that North Carolinians living with HIV/AIDS will now have access to a new and important treatment option, affording them the possibility of living healthier and productive lives.

#### TRIBUTE TO DONALD GILMER

#### HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the inspiring career of Donald Gilmer, of Augusta, MI. A dedicated and selfless individual, Don has enthusiastically served the public for the past 33 years.

Don's career has served as an example of the definition of "public servant" and could be added to any dictionary listing.

Don has served Michigan citizens in a wide variety of significant roles, including 11 terms as a member of the Michigan House of Representatives, 3 of which he served as the chairman of the Appropriations Committee. Don has also served on the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners, as Michigan's lottery commissioner, as Governor John Engler's budget director, and most recently, as Kalamazoo County's Administrator. His services to Kalamazoo County and to the State of Michigan are truly commendable.

As my good friend retires, he closes one chapter of his inspiring career and embarks on

a new phase of his life. I am confident that this retirement is far from the end of Don's public service and that he will remain committed to the citizens of our great State and community. Don's humor and kind heart will be greatly missed by his colleagues. I wish Don all the best in retirement.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, on January 16, 2008, I erroneously voted in favor of an amendment offered by Representative JOE WILSON (SC) to H.R. 2768 (roll No. 8), the Supplemental Mine Improvement and New Emergency Response (S-MINER) Act. Please let the record show that I intended to vote against this amendment.

#### HONORING JACQUELINE MONTEIRO DACOSTA

#### HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my sympathies to a wonderful Rhode Island family who has lost a devoted loved one named Jacqueline Monteiro Dacosta and to briefly share with you the impact she had on so many lives just by being kind.

Jackie was a loving mother, sister and daughter who always exuded a sense of comfort to all. That's why she was perfect for her job as a constituent case worker in my district office in Rhode Island. For the past 11 years she reached out to countless people who sought her advice and help on a multitude of issues and she always put them at ease while they told her their life problems. She reassured them—people she had just met—that she would do what she could to help, and then she did. I have a file of letters in my office from people who wrote to me just to praise Jackie for her hard work and more than that, to recognize her kindness.

Her sudden passing took us all by surprise. We knew instantly our office would never be the same without her presence, her funny stories, her smile. When thousands showed up for her wake and funeral to celebrate her life, it was such a testament to how truly loved she was in the community. No one had seen anything like it. Her family has been overwhelmed with an outpouring of support and sympathy from all over the state.

On my next trip to Cape Verde, her family members and I will plant a tree in Jackie's memory. Her spirit on earth will be forever surrounded by the unspoiled beauty of her homeland and the sounds of the island music she loved so much. We will never forget Jackie and her special qualities that touched so many lives and made life that much better.

We join Jackie's parents, Jose and Adelisa Monteiro; her children Stephanie and Justin and her siblings, Filomena, Osvaldo and Jose Jr. in continuing to honor Jackie's memory and her joyous spirit.

COMMEMORATING THE 35TH  
ANNIVERSARY OF ROE V. WADE

SPEECH OF

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 22, 2008*

Mr. SHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, thirty-five years ago today, the Supreme Court guaranteed American women the right to choose abortion in its landmark decision *Roe v. Wade*. In doing so, the Supreme Court brought an end to decades of State and Federal laws that outlawed or restricted abortions and put reproductive choice back in the hands of women and gave them safe, medical options.

Since that time, however, a concerted and organized campaign aimed at diminishing this momentous decision has succeeded in whittling down the original intent of the decision and now presents a very serious threat to the long-term security of *Roe* itself.

I rise today not only to commemorate this important day in American history, but also to remind the supporters of *Roe v. Wade* that it is absolutely critical that the pro-choice movement remain united and vigilant against all attempts to take away a woman's right to choose. As a member of the Pro-Choice Caucus, I promise to do my part and continue to oppose any attempts in Congress to limit, restrict or deny a woman's reproductive rights.

In conclusion, I believe that it is imperative, not only for women's rights, but for women's health as well, that the United States not return to an era in which the government gets to decide what a woman can and cannot do with her own body.

JUDGE RICHARD B. ALLSBROOK  
POST OFFICE

SPEECH OF

**HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 22, 2008*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great leader and powerful figure in North Carolina by naming the post office located at 725 Roanoke Avenue in Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina as the Judge Richard B. Allsbrook Post Office. Unfortunately, Judge Allsbrook passed away on October 26, 2007, just a few months before we were able to bestow upon him this great honor.

Judge Allsbrook was a native of Halifax County, North Carolina—one of the largest and most populated areas of my congressional district. He was born in 1929 to State Senator Julian and Mrs. Frances Allsbrook.

In his formative years, Richard Allsbrook attended Roanoke Rapids High School where he excelled academically. After graduating, Richard attended the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill where he received a bachelor's of arts degree. He went on to attend law school at the prestigious University of North Carolina School of Law, and subsequently served for 4 years with the United States Navy as a second lieutenant.

Mr. Speaker, after honorably serving his country in the military, Richard returned to Ro-

anoke Rapids to practice law with his father in the firm of Allsbrook, Benton and Knott. During his 20 years as a practicing attorney, he always took time for his clients and worked diligently to ensure that they were represented to the best of his ability. His meticulous nature and even temperament served him well when he was appointed resident superior court judge for the Sixth Judicial District in 1978. Over the next 22 years, he tempered justice with mercy, earning a reputation as a fair, compassionate jurist. All those present in his courtroom—attorneys, defendants, jurors, witnesses and court personnel—consistently found him to be well-prepared, respectful, and courteous. I had the privilege of practicing law before Judge Allsbrook on many occasions prior to my election as Resident Superior Court Judge when I became his colleague.

After serving as Senior Resident Superior Court Judge for over two decades, he retired in September 2000 and worked as a mediator in the North Carolina judicial system.

Judge Allsbrook attended the Rosemary Baptist Church for over 50 years. He was a dedicated deacon, trustee and Sunday School teacher where he worked to enrich each person with whom he came into contact. He was also dedicated to improving the community through his involvement in the Kiwanis Club where he served as president, and also the Roanoke Rapids Chamber of Commerce where he also served as president. Because of his dedication and commitment to the community, Judge Allsbrook received the Jaycees' Distinguished Service Award and also received the Boy Scouts of America Distinguished Citizen Award.

Mr. Speaker, sadly, Judge Allsbrook's devoted and loving wife Barbara passed away in February of last year—just 8 months before Judge Allsbrook. Judge Allsbrook and his wife Barbara reared two children, Barbara Alison who resides in Roanoke, and Richard Jr., who resides in Boston.

Judge Richard Allsbrook was indeed a pillar of the Halifax community. He was my dear friend and I am so proud to have known him. Roanoke Rapids, Halifax County, and the State of North Carolina is a better place because of Richard Allsbrook's sacrifices and contributions on behalf of so many.

This legislation—H.R. 4211—has bipartisan support and is cosponsored by the entire North Carolina Congressional Delegation. It is my hope that my colleagues here in the House will join me and my North Carolina colleagues in voting "aye" on H.R. 4211.

HONORING ISAIAS R. GOMEZ

**HON. JOE BACA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I stand here today to honor and remember a community activist, friend, loving husband, and father—Isaias R. Gomez.

Isaias passed away on January 18, 2008 at his home in Colton, California.

He was born in Gallup, New Mexico, and was a resident of Colton, which is in my Congressional District, for almost 55 years.

While born in New Mexico, Isaias was raised in Jalostotitlan, Jalisco, Mexico. There

he met and married his wife, Jessie Gomez. He and Jessie returned to Gallup, where Isaias began to work in the coal mines. Then in 1953, he and Jessie moved to Colton, and Isaias went to work for the Santa Fe Railroad.

Isaias and Jessie's 6 children—Rosa, Eloise, Isaias Jr., Yolanda, Tommy, and Terri—where all raised in Colton. After initially working with the railroad, Isaias eventually became a successful real estate developer and builder.

I had the great privilege of knowing Isaias personally through his daughter Eloise and her husband Frank Reyes, who are both good friends of mine.

In fact, I gave Eloise Reyes a "Woman of the Year" award in 1993, when I was in the California State Legislature. She was recognized for all her great work in the community, and for being a true trailblazer as the first Hispanic, female attorney in the Inland Empire.

Isaias always let everyone know that his family was his greatest blessing. He cherished his time with them—especially the time he spent with his 9 grandchildren.

Isaias will always be remembered for his amazing work ethic and his unending dedication to friends and family. His great influence on those around him is evidenced in the outstanding character of his children and grandchildren.

In addition to his children and grandchildren, Isaias is survived by his wife Jessie; his sisters Angelita, Alfonsina, and Isabel; and his brothers Joel, Jesus, and Arturo.

Let us take the time to pay tribute to this wonderful man. Let us celebrate the life he lived and the example he led.

Although he is no longer with us, Isaias's legacy and spirit will continue to live on through the lives of everyone he has touched.

The thoughts and prayers of my wife Barbara, my family and I are with his family at this time.

HONORING MR. STU PIKEN

**HON. MIKE FERGUSON**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. FERGUSON. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. Stu Piken upon his retirement from civil service in February.

For the past 10 years, Mr. Piken has served as Deputy District Engineer for Project Management in the New York District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He is the senior civilian responsible for more than \$650 million in projects for civil works, military, hazardous and toxic waste remediation and interagency agreements.

After my first election to the House in 2000, I have worked closely with him on a project of great importance to the 7th District that I represent, the Green Brook Flood Control Project.

In September 1999, portions of my district were devastated by Hurricane Floyd. Among the areas hardest hit were the communities of Manville and Bound Brook, New Jersey. The flooding in these communities resulted in two deaths, the evacuation of thousands of citizens, damages exceeding \$100 million, major disruption to municipal services, and disruption to the lives of thousands of my constituents.

The Green Brook Flood Control Project began in response to Floyd and other storms.

The Army Corps of Engineers is implementing the project—which includes a system of levees, flood walls, flood gates, pumping stations and retention basins—to protect low-lying communities along flood plains of the Raritan River and its tributaries. Green Brook has received more than \$65 million in federal funding since 2001, and Mr. Piken has been instrumental in its progress.

Before his current assignment, Mr. Piken served in the North Atlantic Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, on a special assignment as the Director of Programs. In that position, he was responsible for the development of the water resources program for the Northeast as well as the management of all military design and construction in the Northeast and Europe.

I join the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in thanking Stu Piken for his dedicated service—especially to the constituents I represent—and I wish him the best in his future endeavors.

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TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT PHILLIP  
A. BOCKS

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**HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, I want to pay tribute to a hero from my congressional district, Sergeant Phillip A. Bocks of Troy, Michigan. Today, I ask that the House of Representatives honor and remember this incredible young man who died serving his country.

Phillip Bocks was not one to back down from a challenge. From the time he was five years old, Phillip insisted on skiing adult courses, and at age fourteen, joined a hockey league even though he had never worn a pair of ice skates. While in high school, Phillip was a member of the swim team, acted in plays, and developed a flair for cooking.

After graduating from high school, Phillip joined the Marines in 2000 and was assigned to the Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center in Bridgeport, California. As an instructor, Phillip trained Marines how to survive and fight in rugged terrain. On November 9, 2007, while on a mission to a village near Aranus, Afghanistan to make sure the residents had medical supplies and food, Sgt. Bocks was killed in an ambush.

My thoughts, prayers, and deepest gratitude for their sacrifice go to Phillip's family. There are no words that can relieve their pain and I can only offer to convey my deep respect and highest appreciation.

Madam Speaker, Sgt. Bocks gave the ultimate sacrifice not only for the freedom and security of his family and our country, but for the people of Afghanistan. I wish to remember his bravery and selflessness as he is honored today.

COMMENDING DISTRICT 02 FIRE  
DEPARTMENTS FOR A JOB WELL  
DONE

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**HON. STEVE ISRAEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam, Speaker. I rise today to congratulate the brave men and women from the Deer Park, Lindenhurst, North Babylon, West Babylon and Wyandanch Fire Departments. There is no question as to why the firefighters belonging to the FDNY are considered New York's bravest. The exemplary behavior and actions of these fine individuals represent just that, bravery.

When a fire broke out at Our Lady of Miraculous Medal Church in Wyandanch fire fighters' from not only this town, but surrounding towns, joined together. They used their resources and managed to put out a fire that was large enough to severely damage the church rectory, food pantry and community outreach center. They managed to achieve this with no fatalities or injuries.

Our Lady of Miraculous Medal Church has provided outreach services for over 30 years. While it saddens me that an individual would intentionally start a fire at a place that has provided such charity, I feel a sense of ease at knowing that the brave fire fighters worked so quickly to counter these acts.

In closing, Madam Speaker, I want to commend the emergency responders for their bravery and a job well done. I would also like to express my deep gratitude to these men and women for their services not only on December 30th but on every day that they go out and risk their lives for others.

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HONORING CATHY AND LEN  
UNGER

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**HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, my colleague, Congressman HENRY WAXMAN and I rise to pay tribute to our good friends, Cathy and Len Unger, who are being honored by the American Jewish Committee, AJC, at the Ira E. Yellin Community Leadership Award Dinner on January 24, 2008.

The AJC has chosen to recognize Cathy and Len, two remarkable leaders for their deep commitment to ensuring equal opportunities for all people and protecting their essential rights and liberties. For over 100 years, the AJC has been a vital organization in the Jewish community. It has continued its efforts to combat anti-Semitism, promote pluralism and democratic values, support Israel's quest for peace and security, advocate for energy independence and strengthen Jewish life.

As with all of us, Cathy and Len are the products of their family experiences. Len was born in a displaced persons camp after his parents survived the Holocaust. Although Cathy's father is a native Angeleno, Cathy's mother fled Germany with her family in 1933.

Cathy and Len were introduced to the AJC by Cathy's father, but their active participation started after a trip to Israel, organized by Ira

Yellin, where they witnessed firsthand the impact of this outstanding organization. Upon their return, they joined the board of the Los Angeles chapter and have worked diligently to help the AJC attain its important mission.

Len graduated from UCLA and received his JD degree from Boalt Hall at UC Berkeley. Cathy also graduated from Berkeley. Len began his legal career in New York, where his pro bono work in a death penalty case earned him a Thurgood Marshall Award from the New York City Bar Association. When he relocated to Los Angeles, he joined the law firm of Levine and Krom, now Levine and Unger, where he currently practices.

Cathy became involved in politics, first working as a staff member for former Congressman Mel Levine during his tenure as a State Assemblyman, and then as a political and non-profit fundraiser. Both Cathy and Len have been politically active at local, State and national levels.

Their community interests involve many organizations. Cathy was appointed to the board of governors of the California Community Colleges. She is active on the local and national boards of Planned Parenthood and currently serves as chair of its Advocacy Project. She co-chaired the Women's Political Committee. Len is a member of the board and former chair of the southern California chapter of the Arthritis Foundation and is a recipient of the organization's Jane Wyman Humanitarian Award. He served as vice-chair of the national board of trustees of the Arthritis Foundation, and he currently sits on the board of Reprise! Broadway's Best, as well as on the boards of several charitable foundations. He also serves as a trustee of the investment board of the Los Angeles County Retirement Association.

Cathy and Len are the proud grandparents of Jack, Emma and Nate, children of Laura and Randy Dudley; and of Dylan, daughter of Susan and Daniel Unger.

We ask our colleagues to join us in saluting Cathy and Len Unger for their long-time commitment to public service.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

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**HON. MIKE ROSS**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, January 22, 2008, I was not present for votes as my flight from Arkansas to Washington, D.C. was delayed.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 19, H.R. 4211, a bill to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 725 Roanoke Avenue in Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina, as the Judge Richard B. Allsbrook Post Office, I would have voted "yea."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 20, H. Res. 866, a bill honoring the brave men and women of the United States Coast Guard whose tireless work, dedication, and commitment to protecting the United States have led to the Coast Guard seizing over 350,000 pounds of cocaine at sea during 2007, far surpassing all of our previous records, I would have voted "yea."

TWELVE PINELLAS COUNTY CITIES HONORED BY THE ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION

**HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, twelve Pinellas County, Florida cities were honored by the Arbor Day Foundation this year for their commitment to improving the environment.

This Tree City USA designation recognizes the commitment of towns and cities throughout our nation to preserving open lands and to beautify their streets and public lands through the planting of trees and other natural vegetation. Pinellas County, which I have the privilege to represent, has taken significant steps to maintain and enhance our state's natural beauty, even though it is Florida's most densely populated county.

The U.S. Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry program provides key federal support for these efforts through state and local grants as well as with advice to local community leaders. Together, this federal, state and local initiative is making our communities better places to live.

The 12 Pinellas County communities honored this year as Tree Cities USA are the Town of Belleair led by Mayor George Mariani; the City of Clearwater led by Mayor Frank Hibbard; the City of Dunedin led by Mayor Robert Hackworth; the City of Gulfport led by Mayor Michael Yakes; the City of Largo led by Mayor Patricia Gerard; the City of Oldsmar led by Mayor Jim Ronecker; the City of Safety Harbor led by Mayor Andy Steingold; the City of St. Petersburg led by Mayor Rick Baker; the City of Seminole led by Jimmy Johnson; the City of South Pasadena led by Mayor Dick Holmes; the City of St. Pete Beach led by Mayor Ward Friszolowski; and the City of Treasure Island led by Mayor Mary Maloof.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would ask my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating these 12 cities and the commitment of their residents to making them such special places to live, to work, and to play.

HONORING MARY LOIS McMILLAN

**HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mary Lois McMillan upon her retirement as a Career Counselor at WorkForce Essentials.

Since joining the Franklin Career Center more than fifteen years ago, she has been a cornerstone in the center's efforts to prepare Williamson County citizens for new and challenging careers. During her tenure, the Williamson County office was recognized as Career Center of the Year and received the Business Services Award on multiple occasions. Employers in the county trusted that any candidate she sent to them would be a viable and well-prepared applicant. Mary Lois McMillan is known throughout WorkForce Essentials as a dedicated team player with a tre-

mendous work ethic. She will clearly be missed.

In addition to her efforts at the Career Center, she has consistently given back to the community through her volunteer work with the Williamson County Chamber of Commerce, the Carnton Plantation, the Heritage Foundation of Franklin and Williamson County, and the Dress for Success program.

Please join me in thanking Mary Lois McMillan for her contributions to our community and to Tennessee. We should all be proud of the work she has done.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF CAPTAIN DAVID MARTIN KARASEK FROM THE FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today in recognition of Captain David Martin Karasek upon his retirement from the Florida Highway Patrol.

Captain Karasek's commitment to his country and community spans several decades. After serving in the United States Air Force for six years, Captain Karasek attended the Florida Highway Patrol Training Academy where he was appointed State Trooper on January 9, 1978. For over ten years, Captain Karasek served various communities in the State of Florida and attained numerous promotions. In 1990, Lieutenant Karasek transferred to the Florida Highway Patrol Training Academy where his experience and dedication made him instrumental in the fashioning of future State Troopers. A year later, Lieutenant Karasek was promoted to Captain and District Commander, where he has served for almost seventeen years.

Throughout his thirty year career with the Florida Highway Patrol, Captain Karasek has been awarded Trooper of the Month on six separate occasions, and in 1981 he was elected Exchange Club Trooper of the Year. From 1992 to 1994, Captain Karasek served as Vice President of the First Judicial Circuit Law Enforcement Association. Escambia County and Northwest Florida communities are deeply indebted to Captain Karasek, whose continual commitment provided safety and security for our roads in Florida.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to honor Captain David Martin Karasek for his enduring allegiance to the State of Florida and our great Nation.

HONORING CAPTAIN LOREN V. HECKELMAN

**HON. THELMA D. DRAKE**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mrs. DRAKE. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this moment and thank my constituent, Captain Loren V. Heckelman, for his 28 years of service in the U.S. Navy. Captain Heckelman retired on January 1, 2008.

Captain Loren V. Heckelman served as Fleet Comptroller in the U.S. Atlantic Fleet from July, 2004 to June, 2007, administering a budget of \$8.4 billion.

Prior to July, 2004, he commanded the Fleet and Industrial Supply Center Norfolk, the Navy's largest supply center. In that position, Heckelman was also responsible for Program Manager, Supply and Logistics for the Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic.

He has served in the United States Navy in several abroad tours. He served as supply officer for the nuclear powered aircraft carrier USS *Abraham Lincoln* while on deployment to the Persian Gulf and North Arabian Ocean and he was recognized as having the best service and sales operations among Navy aircraft carriers. In June, 1995, he acted as the Executive Officer in Yokosuka, Japan.

Heckelman was selected by the Undersecretary of the Navy to serve in the Department of the Navy's 1995 Base Realignment and Closure team, acting as the Infrastructure Analyst and the senior Supply Corps officer.

He served as the Executive Assistant to the Commander, Naval Informative Systems Management Center in Washington, DC.

Before receiving his master's degree of business administration from the University of Michigan, he served on the USS *Carl Vinson* as Stock Control and Readiness Officer.

His first command was on the destroyer USS *Bigelow*, first as Distributing Officer and quickly advancing to Sales Officer.

Highlighting his career in the United States Navy, Captain Heckelman has earned many awards including the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Naval Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, and the Meritorious Unit Commendation award.

I would like to convey my gratitude and congratulations to Captain Loren V. Heckelman for his 28 year commitment to the United States Navy and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING THE ACADEMY REVIEW BOARD AND ACADEMY NOMINEES FOR 2008

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, every year, more high school seniors from the 11th Congressional District trade in varsity jackets for Navy pea coats, Air Force flight suits, and Army brass buckles than most other districts in the country. But this is nothing new—our area has repeatedly sent an above average portion of its sons and daughters to the Nation's military academies for decades.

This fact should not come as a surprise. The educational excellence of area schools is well known and has long been a magnet for families looking for the best environment in which to raise their children. Our graduates are skilled not only in mathematics, science, and social studies, but also have solid backgrounds in sports, debate teams, and other extracurricular activities. This diverse upbringing makes military academy recruiters sit up and take note—indeed, many recruiters know our towns and schools by name.

Since the 1830s, Members of Congress have enjoyed meeting, talking with, and nominating these superb young people to our military academies. But how did this process evolve? In 1843, when West Point was the sole academy, Congress ratified the nominating process and became directly involved in the makeup of our military's leadership. This was not an act of an imperial Congress bent on controlling every aspect of Government. Rather, the procedure still used today was, and is, a further check and balance in our democracy. It was originally designed to weaken and divide political coloration in the officer corps, provide geographical balance to our armed services, and to make the officer corps more resilient to unfettered nepotism and handicapped European armies.

In 1854, Representative Gerritt Smith of New York added a new component to the academy nomination process—the academy review board. This was the first time a Member of Congress appointed prominent citizens from his district to screen applicants and assist with the serious duty of nominating candidates for academy admission. Today, I am honored to continue this wise tradition in my service to the 11th Congressional District.

The Academy Review Board is composed of six local citizens (several of whom are distinguished veterans) who have shown exemplary service to New Jersey, to their communities, and to the continued excellence of education in our area. Though from diverse backgrounds and professions, they all share a common dedication that the best qualified and motivated graduates attend our academies. And, as true for most volunteer groups, their service goes largely unnoticed.

I would like to take a moment to recognize these men and women and thank them publicly for participating in this important panel. Being on the Board requires hard work and an objective mind. Members have the responsibility of interviewing upwards of 50 outstanding high school seniors every year in the academy review process.

The nomination process follows a general timetable. High school seniors mail personal information directly to the Military Academy, the Naval Academy, the Air Force Academy, and the Merchant Marine Academy once they become interested in attending. Information includes academic achievement, college entry test scores, and other activities. At this time, they also inform my office of their desire to be nominated.

The academies then assess the applicants, rank them based on the data supplied, and return the files to my office with their notations. In late November, our Academy Review Board interviews all of the applicants over the course of two days. They assess a student's qualifications and analyze character, desire to serve, and other talents that may be hidden on paper.

This year the board interviewed 38 applicants. Nominations included 10 to the Naval Academy, 8 to the Military Academy, 5 to the Merchant Marine Academy, and 5 to the Air Force Academy—the Coast Guard Academy does not use the congressional nomination process. The recommendations are then forwarded to the academies by January 31, where admissions staff reviewed files and notified applicants and my office of their final decision on admittance.

As these highly motivated and talented young men and women go through the acad-

emy nominating process, never let us forget the sacrifice they are preparing to make: to defend our country and protect our citizens. This holds especially true at a time when our Nation is fighting the war against terrorism. Whether it is in Afghanistan, the Iraq, or other hot spots around the world, no doubt we are constantly reminded that wars are fought by the young. And, while our military missions are both important and sometimes dangerous, it is reassuring to know that we continue to put America's best and brightest in command.

ACADEMY NOMINEES FOR 2008, 11TH  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT NEW JERSEY  
AIR FORCE ACADEMY

Chelsea A. Bailey, Chatham, Academy of Arts Science & Engineering.

Phillip XG Choy, Basking Ridge, Ridge H.S.

Kenneth A. Natelli, Andover, Lenape Valley H.S.

Ethan J. Proll, West Caldwell, Trinity Christian School.

William D. Thimmel, Pompton Plains, Don Bosco.

MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY

Michael C. Jones, Basking Ridge, Ridge H.S.

Leslie M. Martin, Parsippany, DePaul H.S.  
Jack A. Morado, West Caldwell, St. Benedict's Prep.

Evan Prill, Boonton, Boonton H.S.

Matthew J. White, Bloomingdale, Butler H.S.

MILITARY ACADEMY

Brian P. Greely, Lake Hopatcong, Pope John XXIII.

Travis Hughes, Randolph, Randolph H.S.

Vincent J. Lally, Sparta, Sparta H.S.

James J. Mariani, Fairfield, West Essex H.S.

Mark E. McConnell, Lake Hopatcong, Jefferson H.S.

Alexander G. Pagoulatos, Basking Ridge, Ridge H.S.

Jason S. Rothamel, Basking Ridge, Ridge H.S.

Brendan J. Ward, Chatham, Chatham H.S.

NAVAL ACADEMY

William B. Brundage, New Vernon, The Pingry School.

Aaron Z. Dewitt, Mendham, W. Morris Mendham H.S.

Katherine S. Drainsfield, Bridgewater, Bridgewater-Raritan H.S.

Zachery R. Hoyt, Morristown, Delbarton School.

Anthony J. Kline, Boonton, Seton Hall Prep.

Kenneth L. Miltenberger, Mendham, Mendham H.S.

Kevin A. Petty, Succasunna, Roxbury H.S.

Colin R. Price, North Caldwell, Home School.

Nicholas G. Tepfenhart, Long Valley, West Morris Central.

David C. Wenger, Montville, Montville H.S.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CLARENCE CENTER VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2008

Mr. REYNOLDS. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Clarence Center Volunteer Fire Company of Clarence, New

York. For a century the members of the Clarence Hose Company have been volunteering to protect their neighbors.

The Clarence Center Volunteer Fire Company became the first fire company in the Town of Clarence in 1908. The company began as a stock company and was able to purchase a hand drawn hose cart and chemical fire extinguishers. Land for a fire hall was donated to the Fire Company by a local businessman, and fundraising for the construction began in July 1908 with the First Firemen's picnic in Clarence. With the help of a local farmer, Wesley Williams, the Company raised enough money to construct Williams Hall.

The year 1922 marked a milestone for the Clarence Center Volunteer Fire Company. In February of this year the Company was able to purchase its first fire truck. The acquisition of this truck was important to the protection that the fire company offered the people in Clarence. Additionally, the first annual Labor Day Picnic was held in 1922. This is a time-honored event in the town of Clarence; not only is it a way for the fire company to raise funds for improvements to the equipment used to serve the people of Clarence, but it is an event that families throughout the town look forward to every year.

Since its beginnings the Clarence Volunteer Fire Company has become an indispensable part of the town. The Company remains committed to providing fire, rescue, and EMS services to the citizens that reside within the district boundaries. They've continued to meet the needs of the rapidly growing population of Clarence Center. As we reach the 100th anniversary of this fire company the volunteers continue to dedicate themselves to serve and assist the members of their community.

Thus Madam Speaker, in recognition of its 100th Anniversary of tremendous service in the Town of Clarence, I ask this honorable body join me in honoring the Clarence Center Volunteer Fire Company.

HONORING HRANT DINK

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2008

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Hrant Dink. He was a Turkish-Armenian journalist and a defender of the freedom of the press. His belief in this freedom never wavered despite his prosecution and conviction under Article 301 of the Turkish Penal Code, which makes it a crime to discuss the Armenian Genocide. Sadly, Mr. Dink's life was taken one year ago on January 19, 2007.

I am proud to cosponsor H. Res. 102, which condemns the assassination of Hrant Dink. This bill urges the Turkish government to continue to investigate and prosecute those responsible for Mr. Dink's murder and to protect the freedom of speech in Turkey by repealing Article 301. The repeal of this Article will ensure that Hrant Dink's legacy will live on and that his death will not have been in vain.

HONORING MARY LOUISE  
PLUNKETT

**HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute and say thanks to Mary Louise Plunkett one of the most influential people in my life for more than 25 years, and one of the most valued members of the Queens community for more than 50.

I was blessed to meet Mary Lu in my early twenties, when I stopped into the Queens Democratic County Headquarters while running errands for my Uncle Walter. That day was the start of one of the important friendships in my personal and political life.

But, long before Mary Lu became a valued part of my life, she was already a valued and well-established force in Queens County.

Brooklyn-born Mary Lu moved to Jackson Heights in 1949 with her husband, Jack. Mary Lu was quick to engage in her community and church, and we were just as quick to forgive Mary Lu for her Brooklyn past.

Mary Lu's foray into politics started when she joined the Amerind Democratic Club. She went on to volunteer at Queens County Democratic Headquarters, where she became a full time member of the staff in 1956. While working at County headquarters, Mary Lu served some of Queens finest leaders, including Moses Weinstein, Jim Roe and Tom Manton. And, her influence on them and our community was felt by all.

No political event or dinner was held without Mary Lu and her charm. She helped to welcome such dignitaries as Jack Kennedy, TED KENNEDY, Jimmy Carter, Hugh Carey, Ed Koch, Mario Cuomo, and Bill and HILLARY CLINTON in to our Queens family.

Her intelligence, warmth and kindness made all people feel welcome and comfortable.

However, Mary Lu's reach went far beyond local politics. When she was not at County headquarters, she was working to create a better Queens. For example, she hosted an annual fundraiser to help the children of St. Gertrude's Parish in Far Rockaway.

On top of all she does for others, most important to her is her role as mother and grandmother. There is nothing Mary Lu won't or hasn't done for her two children—Steven and Jamie and her three grandchildren—Matthew, Christopher and Caroline.

I have tremendous respect for Mary Lu and all she has accomplished, but as her friend I am most proud of how she has led her family.

In the coming weeks, my fellow friends and colleagues in Queens will gather to honor Mary Lu for her lifetime of service to Queens, New York.

We will applaud her for her charity, wit and political skill. And, I will thank her for being a mentor and friend.

Mary Lu, congratulations on a lifetime of achievements.

SUNSET MEMORIAL

**HON. TRENT FRANKS**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Madam Speaker, because the end of the hour grows close, I would now come before this body with a sunset memorial. We intend to repeat this from time to time to chronicle the loss of life by abortion on demand in this country.

Madam Speaker, it is January 23, 2008, in the land of the free and the home of the brave, and before the sun sets today in America, almost 4,000 more defenseless unborn children were killed by abortion on demand just today.

Exactly 35 years today, the tragic judicial fiat called *Roe v. Wade* was handed down. Since then, the very foundation of this Nation has been stained by the blood of almost 50 million children. Madam Speaker, that is more than 16,000 times the number of innocent lives lost on September 11.

Each of the 4,000 children that we lost today had at least four things in common. They were each just little babies who had done nothing wrong to anyone. And each one of them died a nameless and lonely death. And each of their mothers, whether she realizes it immediately or not, will never be the same. And all the gifts that these children might have brought to humanity are now lost forever.

Madam Speaker, those noble heroes lying in frozen silence out in Arlington National Cemetery did not die so America could shred her own Constitution, as well as her own children, by the millions. It seems that we are never quite so eloquent as when we decry the genocidal crimes of past generations, those who allowed their courts to strip the black man and the Jew of their constitutional personhood, and then proceeded to murderously desecrate millions of these, God's own children.

Yet even in the full glare of such tragedy, this generation clings to blindness and invincible ignorance while history repeats itself and our own genocide mercilessly annihilates the most helpless of all victims to date, those yet unborn.

Perhaps it is important for those of us in this Chamber to remind ourselves again of why we are really all here.

Thomas Jefferson said, "The care of human life and its happiness and not its destruction is the chief and only object of good government."

Madam Speaker, protecting the lives of our innocent citizens and their constitutional rights is why we are all here. It is our sworn oath. The phrase in the 14th amendment capsulizes our entire Constitution. It says: "No state shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law."

The bedrock foundation of this Republic is the Declaration, not the casual notion, but the Declaration of the self-evident truth that all human beings are created equal and endowed by their creator with the unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Every conflict and battle our Nation has ever faced can be traced to our commitment to this core self-evident truth. It has made us the beacon of hope for the entire world. It is who we are.

And yet today, Madam Speaker, in this body we fail to honor that commitment. We fail our

sworn oath and our God-given responsibility as we broke faith with nearly 4,000 innocent American babies who died without the protection we should have been given them.

Madam Speaker, I believe that this discussion presents this Congress and the American people with two destiny questions.

The first that all of us must ask ourselves is very simple: Does abortion really kill a baby? If the answer to that question is "yes," there is a second destiny question that inevitably follows. And it is this, Madam Speaker: Will we allow ourselves to be dragged by those who have lost their way into a darkness where the light of human compassion has gone out and the predatory survival of the fittest prevails over humanity? Or will America embrace her destiny to lead the world to cherish and honor the God-given miracle of each human life?

Madam Speaker, it has been said that every baby comes with a message, that God has not yet despaired of mankind. And I mourn that those 4,000 messages sent to us today will never be heard. Madam Speaker, I also have not yet despaired. Because tonight maybe someone new, maybe even someone in this Congress, who heard this sunset memorial will finally realize that abortion really does kill a baby, that it hurts mothers more than anyone else, and that nearly 50 million dead children in America is enough. And that America is great enough to find a better way than abortion on demand.

So tonight, Madam Speaker, may we each remind ourselves that our own days in this sunshine of life are numbered and that all too soon each of us will walk from these Chambers for the very last time.

And if it should be that this Congress is allowed to convene on another day yet to come, may that be the day that we hear the cries of the unborn at last. May that be the day we find the humanity, the courage, and the will to embrace together our human and our constitutional duty to protect the least of these, our tiny American brothers and sisters, from this murderous scourge upon our Nation called abortion on demand.

This is a sunset memorial, Madam Speaker. It is January 23, 2008, in the land of free and the home of the brave.

NEW TREATMENT FOR HIV/AIDS

**HON. MARY BONO MACK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mrs. BONO MACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the approval of a new treatment that will provide renewed health and hope for people living with HIV/AIDS. On Friday, January 18, 2008, the Food and Drug Administration approved INTELENCE™, for the treatment of HIV infection. Tibotec Therapeutics innovative efforts in developing new, effective treatments for people living with HIV/AIDS should be commended.

We are all aware of the success HIV therapies have had on prolonging and enhancing the quality of life for those infected with HIV/AIDS. As the infected population lives longer and becomes increasingly resistant to current treatment regimens, there is a growing need to focus on access to newer therapies for treatment experienced. HIV drug manufacturers are being challenged to meet the treatment needs of this changing population.

INTELENCE™, also known as TMC125, is the first new drug in the NNRTI class to be approved in a decade. It brings new hope to HIV patients, whose HIV virus has become resistant to other HIV therapies, including drugs in the same NNRTI class.

Tibotec Therapeutics has worked with the HIV patient and physician communities in the 45th Congressional district among many others during the development and approval of INTELENCE™. The results of these efforts and clinical trials have been positive; patients are achieving and maintaining suppressed viral loads with minimal side effects. Notably, the FDA approved INTELENCE™ through an accelerated approval procedure—a process that is reserved for the early approval of drugs that show a meaningful therapeutic advantage over existing treatments for serious or life-threatening diseases.

I applaud the fact that Americans living with HIV/AIDS will now have access to a new and important treatment option, affording them the possibility of living healthier and productive lives.

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HONORING THE LIFE OF DIANE  
WOLF

**HON. JOHN L. MICA**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and special contributions of Diane Wolf who passed away unexpectedly at age 53 on January 12, 2008.

Our nation's capital city has lost one of its great cultural patrons. The Wolf family has lost a beloved daughter, sister and loved one and I have lost a wonderful friend. Diane Wolf was blessed to be part of one of America's most successful families. Through the years, I have had the privilege of knowing and working with her. She devoted her boundless energy, time and resources to advance history, art and culture not only for Washington, D.C., but also for the people of our country. I had the honor of working with her to raise private funds for construction of the new visitor center for our U.S. Capitol building. Her service on numerous boards aided the National Archives, the Kennedy Center, the National Gallery of Art, and the Smithsonian Institution.

In New York City, Diane Wolf was renowned for her work and support of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art, and the Frick Collection.

Miss Wolf was appointed by President Reagan in 1985 to serve on the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts. She also served on the U.S. Senate Preservation Board of Trustees, and the Washington National Opera Board of Trustees.

A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and with a master's degree from Columbia University, she went on to earn a law degree from Georgetown University.

Miss Wolf also served as president of the Capitol Hill Federal Bar Association.

Of all the individuals I have worked with in our nation's capitol during the past three decades, no one has been more personally dedicated to making a difference in promoting artistic and cultural endeavors than Diane Wolf.

Miss Wolf was born in Cheyenne, Wyoming and raised in Denver, maintained residences in New York City and Washington, D.C.

To her parents, Erving and Joyce Wolf; and two brothers, Daniel Wolf and Matthew Wolf; and on behalf of the House of Representatives, we extend our deepest sympathy.

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HONORING JUDGE PHILLIP FIGA

**HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to U.S. District Judge Phillip Figa, who passed away earlier this month at his home in Greenwood Village, Colorado after a struggle with cancer.

A native of Chicago, Illinois, Judge Figa received his legal credentials from Cornell Law School in 1976 before becoming a highly-successful litigation lawyer and co-founding the Burns, Figa & Will P.C. law group, where he built a reputation for fairness and impartiality. He became Chair of the Colorado Bar Association Ethics Committee in 1984 and eventually President of the Association in 1995.

In 2003 President Bush appointed Judge Figa to the U.S. District Court for Colorado where he served our nation as a fair and dedicated jurist. Colorado has lost a fine public servant with the passing of Judge Figa. Our best wishes and heartfelt condolences go out to all who knew and loved him.

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TRIBUTE TO TOM TERRELL

**HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. WEINER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Tom Terrell, a versatile music journalist, promoter and DJ, who was among the first industry insiders to focus attention on reggae and world music. Tom was a cornerstone of the New York music community for 16 years before returning to his native Washington, DC, where he passed away on November 29, 2007, after a brave battle with prostate cancer. He was 57 years old.

Mr. Terrell, who was ubiquitous in Washington music circles in the 1970s and 1980s, seemed to know everyone and to be ahead of every trend. After beginning his journalistic career at Howard University, he worked as a disc jockey at local stations and wrote about music for the Unicorn Times, the Washington City Paper, and other publications. As the house DJ at d.c. space and the 9:30 Club, he introduced audiences to an eclectic selection of records reflecting his interest in soul, jazz, New Wave, reggae, and African music.

Mr. Terrell's unique, humorous, insightful, and always honest voice was ubiquitous in places such as Vibe, Essence, JazzTimes, the Village Voice and National Public Radio. Mr. Terrell's journalism was often a spirited blend of autobiography and musicology, leavened with slang, profanity, and the knowledge of every trend in popular music for the past half-century. He wrote about virtually every form of music from Africa and the Americas.

Between his DJ work and writing, he promoted concerts for artists as diverse as Cab Calloway, the Art Ensemble of Chicago and

Mali's Salif Keita. After moving to New York in 1990, he worked in marketing for Island Records, Gee Street Records, and Verve, wrote for magazines and served as the DJ for jazz giant Ornette Coleman's 70th birthday party. Mr. Terrell was also an accomplished photographer who photographed hundreds of musicians in performance.

Back in Washington, one of his final projects was to write liner notes and record video interviews for a six-CD box set of Miles Davis's "On the Corner" recordings of the early 1970s.

Mr. Terrell was much more than a talented writer and musicologist with a gift for discovering artists and musical developments. He was a radiant, joyful presence, whose enthusiasm and appreciation for life, music, and a good joke will continue to inspire those who were fortunate enough to know him. Above all, his life represented the ideal that music could be a beneficial force in the world, uniting people across racial, social and geographical boundaries. This was his magic.

As his sister Bevadine Z. Terrell says, "He loved bringing new music to people. He loved bringing people together, not just African Americans, but white people, Asian people, African people."

Mr. Terrell set a great example of community for artists to follow. "How can I help you?" was a question Tom was always asking. May his memory serve as a reminder to all of us to keep asking that question.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and was not present for rollcall Nos. 19 and 20 on Tuesday, January 22. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 19 to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 4211 to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 725 Roanoke Avenue in Roanoke Rapids, NC, as the "Judge Richard B. Allsbrook Post Office" and "yea" on rollcall No. 20 to suspend the rules and pass H. Res. 866 honoring the brave men and women of the United States Coast Guard whose tireless work, dedication, and commitment to protecting the United States have led to the Coast Guard seizing over 350,000 pounds of cocaine at sea during 2007, far surpassing all of our previous records.

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HONORING JEANNIE HASTINGS

**HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, this weekend, the Family and Children's Services of Nashville, Davidson County, TN will honor the dedication and service of a trusted and treasured volunteer, the late Jeannie Hastings.

Jeannie loved the organization and served it well, providing both guidance and leadership as it worked to fulfill its mission to provide

needed services to Nashville families. Jeannie Hastings loved people and loved doing good for her community. It was apparent in how she chose to spend her time and energy—working for a better quality of life for everyone.

Mrs. Hastings graduated from Milan High School and with honors from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. With her husband Jim, she raised three sons and co-founded Hastings Architecture Associates, LLC. As a community leader, she served as president of the University of Tennessee National Alumni Association, chairman of the Nashville Symphony Board and was a member of the Volunteer Council Board of Directors for the American Symphony Orchestra League and the Nashville Chamber of Commerce Board.

She also chaired the Nashville Downtown Partnership Board, the Women's Fund of the Community Foundation Advisory Board, the TSU Foundation Board, the Nashville Symphony Guild, the Arthritis Foundation Nashville branch and the Heart Gala Board of Directors.

She also found time to serve on the Family and Children's Services Board, the Nashville Sports Council Board and the University of Tennessee Alumni Board of Governors. She was also a member of the Downtown Exchange Club and Leadership Nashville.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in reflecting on the remarkable example of balancing family, business and community service that Jeannie set. I am so pleased to count myself among the many Tennesseans who are better for having known her.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 2008

**HON. JOHN LEWIS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, today I rise to introduce the Civil Rights Act of 2008. This legislation will keep the promise of equality that this Congress has made in passing our civil rights laws and ensure that discriminators are held accountable for their actions. Over the years, Congress has addressed some of our most pressing civil rights concerns by passing bipartisan legislation, legislation that protects American workers from discrimination on the basis of color, race, religion, age, disability, and sex. Our civil rights laws have strengthened our country, providing opportunity to those who had been denied opportunity and affording the Nation the benefit of abilities that would have otherwise been wasted. They have brought us closer to the beloved community where all people are able to succeed based on their abilities.

Unfortunately, over the years, the Supreme Court has weakened some of these basic protections in ways that Congress never intended. They have undermined the protections for workers, for older Americans, for the disabled, for racial and ethnic minorities, for women, and for those in the military. So today, I join Senator EDWARD KENNEDY in introducing the Civil Rights Act of 2008 to restore workers' rights and strengthens and reaffirms our commitment to the promise of equal opportunity. The bill corrects the misinterpretations of our civil rights laws that have left too many American workers without a remedy when they have suffered discrimination.

The relationship between workers and civil rights in America runs wide and deep. It was the laborers—the sharecroppers, the sanitation workers, the teachers, the students, the construction workers, and the street sweepers—who tore down the walls of racial segregation in the South. It is these ordinary men and women with extraordinary vision who have sacrificed their lives in confrontations throughout American history to help build this democracy. We cannot stand by and let their hard-earned victories be erased.

This bill better protects workers from discrimination in agencies that receive Federal money, defends students against harassment, fortifies civil rights for State employees, and prevents employers from forcing workers to give up their right to a day in court. It also ensures remedies for undocumented workers who are victims of unfair labor practices. It restores the individual right to challenge practices that have an unjustified discriminatory effect based on race, color, national origin, disability, age, or gender. It ensures that members of the Armed Forces who work for State governments are protected from discrimination.

If you work for a State government, you should have the same protections from discrimination as a person working in private industry—but the courts didn't see it that way. Students who are victims of sexual harassment shouldn't have to meet a higher standard of proof than their teachers—but the courts didn't see it that way. Members of the uniformed services should be able to get relief if they are discriminated against while they are on active military duty, whether they are employees of State governments or the private industry—but the courts didn't see it that way.

The struggle for civil rights is beyond one bill, one vote, or one judicial decision. It's beyond one Presidential term or act of Congress. Ours is the struggle of a lifetime, and each generation, each citizen, each president and each member of Congress must do his or her part. Together all of our efforts comprise the struggle of a nation to build the beloved community, a nation at peace with itself and its own ideals. This bill is just another step in that

struggle to ensure the freedoms of all Americans to pursue their dreams.

#### FAMILY SECURITY AND SMALL BUSINESS STIMULUS ACT OF 2008

**HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2008*

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Family Security and Small Business Stimulus Act of 2008. It is impossible to ignore the economic indicators that suggest our economy is slowing down. In my own home State of Michigan, citizens have been faced with a sluggish economy for some time now. We can and should take steps to give the economy a shot in the arm. This is a problem facing all Americans, and it will take a strong, bipartisan effort to solve it.

One important way to address this problem is to reduce the tax burden on families and small businesses. My bill utilizes three ideas to accomplish these goals: a new, permanent 5 percent tax bracket; an instant advance on this tax cut for 2008; and increasing the limit of small business expensing.

The Family Security and Small Business Stimulus Act of 2008 will create a new, permanent 5 percent tax bracket, reducing taxes by either \$400 for an individual or \$800 for a family per year. This is critical as we try to enable families to keep more of their hard-earned money in their pockets, allowing them to use it for their ever-increasing expenses. Families would receive this tax cut in the form of an instant advance payment, to be delivered upon 30 days after enactment.

Additionally, my bill will increase the Section 179 small business expensing limit from \$125,000 to \$375,000 per year for 2 years. Increasing the amount a small business could expense encourages capital purchases. When a small business knows it can expense a new purchase, it is more likely to make the investment. Enabling small businesses to invest in new equipment and expand their operations will promote significant economic growth at a time when job creation is crucial.

We shouldn't stop here. We need to make the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts permanent, and pass other important pro-growth legislation. But this is something we can come together and accomplish quickly.

It is time for us to lift ourselves out of our current economic slowdown and restore our strength in the global economy. That is why I have introduced this legislation. I hope you will help America succeed by joining me on this important legislation.

## SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, January 24, 2008 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULED

## JANUARY 29

10 a.m.

## Budget

To hold hearings to examine the long-term budget outlook.

SD-608

## Finance

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Douglas H. Shulman, of the District of Columbia, to be Commissioner of Internal Revenue, Department of the Treasury.

SD-215

## JANUARY 30

10 a.m.

## Budget

To hold hearings to examine the economic stimulus, focusing on budget policy for a strong economy over the short-and long-term budget outlook.

SD-608

## Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the threats and protections for the polar bear.

SD-406

## Finance

To hold hearings to examine private fees for service in Medicare Advantage plans.

SD-215

## Judiciary

To hold oversight hearings to examine the Department of Justice.

SH-216

## Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold hearings to examine the Small Business Administration's accountability, focusing on the efficacy of women's contracting and lender oversight.

SR-428A

## JANUARY 31

10:30 a.m.

## Aging

To hold hearings to examine elderly voters, focusing on opportunities and challenges for the 2008 election.

SH-216

## FEBRUARY 5

9:30 a.m.

## Veterans' Affairs

To continue oversight hearings to examine veterans disability compensation.

SR-418

## FEBRUARY 7

10 a.m.

## Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Robert A. Sturgell, of Maryland, to be Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, and Simon Charles Gros, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of Transportation.

SR-253

## FEBRUARY 12

10 a.m.

## Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine pending judicial nominations.

SD-226

## FEBRUARY 13

9:30 a.m.

## Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2009 for veterans programs.

SR-418

## FEBRUARY 27

2:30 p.m.

## Commerce, Science, and Transportation

## Space, Aeronautics, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2009 for the National Space and Aeronautics Administration (NASA).

SR-253