

Mr. Quinn has covered many major events over the past decades, including numerous presidential elections. In 1988, he was the associate producer for coverage of the presidential caucuses in Iowa. Mr. Quinn was the producer of the 2000 Republican National Convention CBS coverage in Philadelphia. Mr. Quinn also was the producer of the inauguration coverage of President George W. Bush in both 2001 and 2005.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Quinn spent his long career providing the people of Philadelphia with compelling news coverage. Mr. Quinn's hard work and dedication to his chosen field has touched the lives of millions of Americans. I commend Mr. Quinn for his commitment to broadcast journalism and wish him the best for his retirement.

FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
"CHRONICLE OF CURRENT
EVENTS"

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2008

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, this week marks the 40th anniversary of the initial publication of the "Chronicle of Current Events," the "underground newspaper of record," if you will, of the Soviet human rights movement in the years before the collapse of the Soviet Union.

The "Chronicle" was a samizdat, or "self-published," journal created to break through the government's monopoly on the flow of information and report to its readers the truth about human rights in the "workers' paradise." Described recently by the Russian human rights organization "Memorial" as the "fullest and most precise compilation of historical information about dissident activity and political persecutions in the USSR between 1968 and 1982," it was distributed via underground channels to readers in the Soviet Union and to foreign journalists and diplomats. In short time, the "Chronicle" gained a reputation for veracity and straight-forward reporting, and when copies reached the West, the contents were broadcast back to the Soviet Union by international radio stations such as Radio Liberty, BBC, Deutschewelle and others.

Meanwhile, the KGB expended a huge amount of effort and time to expose and apprehend the editors, contributors, and distributors of these two dozen or so typewritten sheets of onionskin paper. Possession, and especially distribution, of the "Chronicle" could result in lengthy labor camp sentences and internal exile. As might be expected, the list of persons involved in producing the "Chronicle" is a "Who's Who" of former Soviet dissidents and political prisoners. Despite the hardships and dangers involved, these brave individuals managed to compile and distribute over 60 issues of the publication.

Besides supplying otherwise unavailable information on human rights issues, the "Chronicle" inspired the establishment of similar publications devoted to specific themes and geographic regions. These would include the fate of the Catholic Church in Lithuania, the abuse of psychiatry for political purposes, and the fate of national minorities, such as the Crimean Tatars, under the Soviet system.

Madam Speaker, I would also mention that through the tireless efforts of Mr. Edward Kline, Professor Peter Reddaway, and exiled Soviet dissidents Valery Chalidze and Pavel Litvinov, an English version of the "Chronicle" became available in the West, allowing many non-specialists to become familiar with the deplorable human rights situation in the Soviet Union.

Eventually, with former KGB head Yuri Andropov in command in the Kremlin, the authorities managed to imprison, exile, or neutralize so many contributors to the "Chronicle" that it ceased publication in 1982. However, the folly of insulating the Soviet system from the free flow of information that was encircling the globe while trying to maintain a decent economy, let alone super-power status, was becoming by this time obvious to the more perceptive apparatchiks in the Kremlin's corridors of power. Three years later, Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev was selected to lead the Communist Party, and 6 years later the hammer and sickle banner of Soviet communism was replaced by the tri-color of the Russian Federation.

Today, Russia and the nations that comprised the Soviet Union are now independent and sovereign states. However, the free flow of information and media pluralism, though in immeasurably better condition than during the Soviet period, is still problematic. As Freedom House points out in its recently issued annual survey of press freedom throughout the world, Russia is among several nations of the former Soviet bloc that have suffered setbacks in the area of press freedom. There seems to be a rush by the government to characterize, with little serious justification, as "extremist" certain books and articles, opposition journalists and newspapers have been harassed, and new legislation recently introduced in the Duma would make it easier for the government to close down media outlets for allegedly publishing libel and slander.

Madam Speaker, let us hope that President-elect Medvedev recognizes that if Russia is to prosper in the global community, the free flow of information must be a vital component of the nation's commercial, social, and political infrastructure, and that if Russian citizens wish to view underground publications such as the "Chronicle of Current Events," they might better find them freely available in museums and libraries.

RECOGNIZING PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT
OF COMMUNITY AWARDS WINNERS

HON. BILL SALI

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2008

Mr. SALI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize three admirable teens from Idaho. Danielle Manning, 15, of Meridian, and Taylor Leavitt, 14 of Melba were recently named the top two youth volunteers in Idaho for 2008 in the 13th annual Prudential Spirit of Community Awards.

The Prudential awards are the country's largest program that recognizes the power of youth volunteerism. Additionally, Katie Williams of Eagle was named a finalist in the program.

Danielle saw a need in her community to help teen mothers. She collected more than

700 packages of diapers and raised almost \$1,300 to stock Marian Pritchett High School in Boise, a public school for teen mothers, with diapers.

Taylor saw a need in his community too. The 8th grader worked on several volunteer projects such as rounding up Boy Scouts to mow the lawn, pick up garbage and clean out the garage of a grieving family. They also spent time with local senior citizens and helped folks moving into the community.

Katie worked with a group of high school girls to collect more than \$70,000, books and school uniforms for a school in the slums of Nairobi, Kenya. Katie will receive an engraved bronze medallion as a finalist.

These three students deserve our appreciation and gratitude. They represent the greatness that our youth have to offer, demonstrating the power each one of us has to contribute to our communities and help our neighbors. And I note they did so without the aid or intervention of a government agency or federal program.

Thank you Danielle, Taylor and Katie for your willingness to dedicate your time to worthy causes. Your work serves as an example for all of us.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF ANNA
M. SANDERS

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2008

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague from California, Congressman DENNIS CARDOZA to pay tribute to the life of Anna M. Sanders of Merced, California, who recently passed away at 88 years of age. Mrs. Sanders was an exceptional lady filled with passion, love and a voracious appetite for knowledge. She leaves behind a loving family including three sons, three grandsons, two granddaughters, and one great granddaughter.

A longtime Democrat, Anna spent nearly 40 years of her life as a teacher with the Atwater Elementary School District. As a zealous educator, she took great pride in the successes of her students. Over the years she was able to encourage and motivate countless young minds.

Anna spent her life in California's Central Valley, where she got both her bachelors and masters degrees. She also tenderly raised her three sons in the area, while maintaining a household which was often described as painstakingly organized.

Anna was the type of woman who took great care in everything she did. Her zest for life included an interest in greeting cards, crossword puzzles, and current politics. It is then to no one's surprise that one of her sons is a teacher, and the other two are actively involved in local and state politics.

A woman described as kindhearted and courageous, Anna worked to advance the causes of groups who were marginalized, oppressed and underserved by volunteering her time with many worthwhile organizations. Anna will be remembered for her formidable spirit and splendid character.

It goes without saying that Mrs. Anna Sanders was a positive influence in the area. Her

commitment to family and community will forever live in the lives of the people she so graciously touched. I am honored and humbled to join her family in celebrating the life of this amazing woman who will never be forgotten.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. CHARLES ROBINSON-SNEAD

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday May 1, 2008

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize Mr. Charles Robinson-Snead, who was nominated to be the 2008 Delaware Boys & Girls Club Youth of the Year.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of America and the Reader's Digest have nationally sponsored the Youth of the Year program since 1947. The goal of Youth of the Year has been to recognize outstanding members of the Boys & Girls Club and their contributions to their Club, community, school, and family. More than 32,000 youth are served by the Boys & Girls Clubs of Delaware.

Twelve students were nominated for the honor of Youth of the Year through an intensive local and State level selection process, including the nominees' personal contribution to home and family, community, school and their Boys & Girls Club. The nominees had to prepare two essays explaining why post-high school education is important and what the Club means to them. Additionally, students had to prepare a 3–5-minute speech and have an interview session with a panel of judges. The candidates attended the Youth of the Year Summit, where they received professional guidance regarding public speaking, writing, and interviewing skills.

After winning the Local Youth of the Year Award, Charles moved on to the State level competition, where he refined his essay and prepared for the next round of interviews. Charles was a highly qualified candidate for the Youth of the Year 2008. At Laurel Boys & Girls Club Charles serves as a tutor and mentor for other club members.

Once again, I would like to commend Charles Robinson-Snead for being nominated as the Boys & Girls Club of Delaware's Youth of the Year.

HONORING BONNIE COX

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2008

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bonnie Cox, a remarkable employee and public servant at the Department of Disability Determinations in Frankfort, Kentucky. Bonnie is retiring this month, ending her three decade career in Kentucky State government.

Bonnie began her career at the DDS in the operations support branch and advanced through numerous positions to her current executive secretary position in the Commissioner's office. She has spent the last 25 years with the Department of Disability Determinations.

Bonnie has been an invaluable participant in many events outside the realm of her daily job duties. She has been the chairperson for the agency's Kentucky Employees Charitable Campaign and has worked tirelessly in this capacity. Having been touched by the generosity of KECC in her own personal life, Bonnie was the perfect advocate for KECC at the agency and brought a newfound inspiration into the DDS regarding this worthy organization.

In addition to her compassion, dedication, and good works for KECC, Bonnie also organizes appointments for the Red Cross blood drive, is instrumental in preparing information for the PRIDE, People Respectably Influencing Decisional Excellence awards, and organizes retirement receptions and other noteworthy meetings within the DDS. She has received numerous awards and commendations for her dedication and commitment to these endeavors.

Bonnie has touched countless lives through her contacts with congressional inquiry claims. Her caring attitude and compassionate spirit have made her one of the strongest advocates for Kentucky's disabled citizens.

State government will lose a "voice" for the disabled and a friend to all when Bonnie retires. On behalf of the countless men and women who have benefited from her dedicated service, I would like to express my profound appreciation to Bonnie Cox and wish her a very happy and healthy retirement.

THE UNITED STATES NEEDS TO PROVIDE COUNTER-NARCOTICS ASSISTANCE TO CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES TO ERADICATE ILLEGAL DRUG ACTIVITY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to support H. Res. 865 which urges the United States Government to consider fully and carefully the recommendations in the UNODC and World Bank Report entitled "Crime, Violence, and Development: Trends, Costs, and Policy Options in the Caribbean."

Although using Caribbean nations as major transit points for illegal drugs is not a new problem, it does shed light on a longstanding issue—the U.S. policy on providing assistance to the Caribbean nations in combating illegal drug activity. A major contributing factor to illegal drug activity remains the lack of resources Caribbean nations possess to combat this growing and menacing problem.

This problem will not resolve itself. Some steps the United States should take to assist the member states of CARICOM and the Dominican Republic include, but are not limited to: coordinating policy development and implementation, providing counter-narcotics assistance, and a continuance of policy initiatives that are working, such as the bilateral cooperation between the United States and the Government of Jamaica. Under this initiative, the U.S. provides training and material support to sections of Jamaican law enforcement agencies to strengthen their counter-narcotics capabilities. This is an excellent example that should be modeled throughout the Caribbean.

It is imperative for the United States to work with CARICOM member states and the Do-

minican Republic to establish effective programs to mitigate and ultimately, eradicate illegal drug activity. This will take a coordinated and aggressive collaboration by CARICOM member states, the Dominican Republic and the United States to have an impact on drugs being transported through the Caribbean and into the U.S. Even though this is a very daunting problem, working together and fully and carefully considering the recommendations in the UNODC and World Bank report is certainly a major step in the right direction.

TRIBUTE TO MR. FERNANDO "CHITO" SALINAS

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2008

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Fernando "Chito" Salinas for his induction as a laureate in the 2008 Laredo Business Hall of Fame, and for his incredible dedication to the city of Laredo, Texas.

Fernando Salinas is a 1942 graduate of Martin High School, and attended Tulane University in New Orleans after transferring from Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas. After attending Tulane, Fernando returned back to work at his family's department store, Los Dos Laredos, in downtown Laredo. Five years later, he worked as a salesman at the famed Joe Brand store, and used his knowledge of men's retail to launch his own new department store, Don Antonio's in 1952. The business flourished during the 1960s, attracting a steady clientele from both sides of the United States-Mexico border.

After his retirement from the retail business in 2005, Fernando established a charitable trust that has donated \$1.35 million for causes that enrich education, the arts and human services, and pledged nearly \$95,000 in scholarships for college-bound students. The scholarships are given to hard-working students at Laredo Community College and Texas A&M International University. Fernando has admirably served the community of Laredo, Texas, through his philanthropic work at his charitable trust. He has also contributed to the youth of Laredo through his Junior League Achievement sponsorship of Christen Middle School. For his dedication and hard work in making the Laredo business community stronger and better, Fernando will be honored by the Junior Achievement League through his induction into the 2008 Business Hall of Fame.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to recognize the bravery and dedication of Mr. Fernando Salinas, and I thank you for this time.

COMBUSTIBLE DUST EXPLOSION AND FIRE PREVENTION ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. PHIL HARE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2008

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under