

1997, Treasurer, 1994–1995; Health Partnership of Johnson County, 1994–1995, Treasurer, 1994–1995; Blue Valley School District Board, Member 1995–2003, President 1998–2000; Blue Valley School District Bond Campaigns, Campaign Co-Chairman 1998, 2005; Johnson County Sales Tax for Benefit of Public Schools Campaign, Campaign Co-Chairman 2002, 2005; Menorah Medical Center Foundation, 1998–2003; Enterprise Center of Johnson County Board, 1998–2006, Vice Chairman, 2002–2003, Chairman 2003–2005.

Overland Park Chamber Research & Development Foundation, 2000–2004; Health Midwest Johnson County Board, 2001–2003; United Community Services “Navigating the Future” Task Force, 2002–2003; Salvation Army Christmas Campaign Chairperson, 2003; Honorary Co-chairman Ronald McDonald Hope Is Building Campaign, 2003–2006; Honorary Vice Chairman Avila College Capital Campaign, 2003–2006; Menorah Medical Center Board of Trustees, 2003–2007, Vice Chairman, 2005–2007; Menorah Legacy Foundation Board, 2003–2006; Co-Chairman of Development Committee, 2004–2006; Truman Medical Center Foundation, Co-Chairman, Capital Campaign for Behavioral Health Network, 2005–2007; Honorary Dinner Co-chair 30th Annual Jewish Community Relations Bureau/American Jewish Committee Human Relations Dinner, 2006; Arts Council of Johnson County, Shooting Stars Gala, Honorary Chairperson, 2007.

#### CIVIC—PRESENT COMMITMENTS

Johnson County Community College Foundation Board, 1996–Present, Some Enchanted Evening Scholarship Dinner, 1996–2001, Executive Committee, 1999–Present, Some Enchanted Evening Chair Couple—2000, Chairman Technology Center “Blue Ribbon Task Force”—2002, Chairman Business & Technology Center Capital Campaign, 2003–Present, Vice Chairman 2005–Present, Chairman 2007–Present; Kansas University Edward’s Campus Board of Advisors, 2000–Present; Greater Kansas City Chamber Johnson County Leadership Council, 2001–Present, Chairman, 2004–2007; Community Foundation of Johnson County Board, 2002–Present, Vice Chairman, 2005–2006; Union Station Kansas City Board, 2003–Present, Vice Chairman, 2005–Present; REACH Foundation, 2003–Present, Secretary 2003–2006, Chairman 2006–Present; Greater Kansas City Chamber Board of Directors, 2003–Present, Co-Chairman of Annual Meeting, 2004, Vice Chairman & Treasurer, 2004–2005, 2nd Vice Chairman, 2005–2006 1st Vice Chairman, 2006–2007; Chairman 2007–Present.

Civic Council of Kansas City, 2003–Present, Regional Infrastructure Task Force, 2003–Present, P-12 Education Task Force, 2004–Present, Board of Directors, 2004–Present, Vice Chairman, 2007–Present; Arts Council of Greater Kansas City, 2004–Present, Vice Chairman, 2005–Present; Greater Kansas City Community Foundation Board, 2005–Present; Midwest Research Institute, Board of Trustees, 2005–Present; University of Kansas Medical Center & Hospital Advancement Board, 2006–Present; United Way of Greater Kansas City, Board of Directors, 2007–Present, Nelson Atkins Museum of Art, Board of Trustees, 2007–Present; University of Kansas Hospital Authority, Board of Directors, 2007–Present.

#### PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC RECOGNITION

UMKC Block School Alumni Achievement Award, 1996; Ernst & Young Financial Entrepreneur of the Year, 1998; Overland Park Chamber of Commerce “OP Award”—2002, 2004, 2005; Wayside Waifs “Fur Ball” Honoree, 2003; Johnson County Community Col-

lege “Johnson Countian of the Year,” 2004; Johnson County Housing Coalition Sunflower Award for Community Service, 2004; Salvation Army “Others Award,” 2005; Jewish Family and Children’s Services Alfred Benjamin Award, 2005.

Safehome “Jubilee Gala” Honoree, 2005; Health Partnership of Johnson County “Evening of Stars” Honoree, 2006; Johnson County Community College “Open Petal Award,” 2006; Midwest Christian Counseling Center “Ethics in Business” Award Finalist, 2006; Baker University “Distinguished Leadership in Business” Award, 2006; NAACP, Olathe Branch Martin Luther King Legacy Award, 2007; Shawnee Mission Educational Foundation Patron Award Recipient, 2007; Volunteer Center of Johnson County “Volunteer of the Year,” 2007.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO MRS. MARY BAILEY WHITTINGTON “WHITT” DAVENPORT

#### HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 15, 2008*

Mr. HINCHEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor posthumously Mrs. Mary Bailey Whittington “Whitt” Davenport for her invaluable contributions in the areas of education, the arts and historic preservation in Ulster County, New York. For more than 70 years, Whitt Davenport was the epitome of generosity and benevolence. Her pioneering spirit is directly responsible for the creation of a consolidated school system in the Rondout Valley and the construction of Marbleton Elementary School. One of her most notable efforts was advocating for the establishment of Ulster County Community College, where her husband went on to serve as its first president.

Whitt Davenport was born in Greenwood, Mississippi on June 3, 1911 to William and Anna Whittington. Her father, a lawyer and cotton planter, also had the distinct honor of being a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 28 years. Whitt met Kenneth Davenport during her tenure as a student at Vassar College in Poughkeepsie. They married shortly after her graduation in September 1933.

Once the Davenports took up residence in their historic home in Stone Ridge, Mrs. Davenport quickly become an active member of her newly adopted community. As a native Southerner, she retained her distinctive accent and brought a sense of Southern charm to all of her endeavors. Over the years, she opened her home for the many parties needed to support her philanthropic efforts and was often honored for her volunteerism.

Whitt Davenport was well known for her interest in books and volunteered at the Stone Ridge Library, going on to serve as both a librarian and president of the library board. Her commitment to the arts remains unparalleled, and she has even been called “Queen of the Arts.” She served on the Board of the Ulster Performing Arts Center, Music in the Mountains, and the Hudson Valley Philharmonic. After the death of her husband in 1982, she, along with her family, established the Kenneth Davenport National Competition for Orchestral Works.

Her drive and determination helped save the landmark Luke Kiersted House in Kingston’s Stockade District from the threat of Urban Renewal demolition and she planned the restoration of the gardens at the Senate House Historic site. Mrs. Davenport gave her time to many other organizations, lending them her sense of purpose, strength, and wisdom.

Madam Speaker, I had the pleasure of knowing Whitt Davenport over the course of many years. Her work on behalf of her community was inspiring and commendable. In fact, Whitt Davenport was a force to be reckoned with. It is with sorrow that we mark her passing and with pride and gratitude that we remember her grand accomplishments.

#### APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 4040, CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY MODERNIZATION ACT

SPEECH OF

#### HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 14, 2008*

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to first state that it was a pleasure, in my former capacity as Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade and Consumer Protection, to work with my good friend from Illinois, Chairman RUSH, in crafting this important legislation. H.R. 4040, the Consumer Product Safety Commission Reform Act, will greatly enhance the ability of the CPSC to secure the proper funding and sufficient number of employees to ensure that the products we import from abroad and manufacture here at home will not harm those who purchase them.

Millions of Americans are concerned with the safety of toys and other children’s products due to lead contamination found in millions of toys imported from China. I commend my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for coming together and taking action to safeguard consumers from lead exposure, and to provide the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) with the tools and funding it needs to safeguard the public.

The House on December 19, 2007, overwhelmingly approved H.R. 4040, a bill that will change current law and add more stringent lead paint and lead content standards, making them the toughest in the world. It also requires testing of children’s products in accredited labs, and tracking labels on all children’s products.

Furthermore, the bill authorizes increased funding for the CPSC to hire more personnel, creation of a new state-of-the-art laboratory, and the institution of an expedited release of information on health safety risks to the public. All of which will make the CPSC more effective.

The House Committee on Energy and Commerce worked tirelessly to produce this bipartisan legislation and I now ask my colleagues to vote “Yes” on this Motion to instruct conferees and support this bipartisan House passed legislation and call for this bill to remain unchanged through the conference negotiations with the Senate.