

HONORING HOUSTON WHITE

**HON. JEB HENSARLING**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 20, 2008*

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Houston White on the 60th anniversary of his participation in the establishment of the Rotary Club of Rusk, Texas.

If you've ever wondered what made individuals from the "Greatest Generation" so exceptional, one must look no further than to Mr. White. Ninety-five years old, Mr. White recalls surviving the Great Depression by spending his days picking cotton in West Texas. During World War II, Mr. White volunteered for the Navy, but that was just the beginning of his volunteerism.

Mr. White, a graduate of Jacksonville High School and Jacksonville Baptist College, helped establish the Rotary Club in Rusk, Texas in 1948. Since then, Mr. White has been an active member and was selected to serve as District Governor for Rotary District 5910, one of the highest offices a Rotarian can achieve.

Mr. White's public service includes countless civic projects, volunteer efforts, and participation in Rusk city government. In addition, Mr. White has served as a deacon and Sunday school teacher at First Baptist Church.

Mr. White is a husband to Freddy Banks Dear, a father to George White, and grandfather to Christopher White.

Abraham Lincoln once said, "In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years." Well, Mr. White has certainly made the past ninety-five years count.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize Mr. Houston White as a resident in the fifth district of Texas and would like to thank him for his tireless service to Cherokee County, Texas, and this great nation.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 20, 2008*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, I was absent from the House due to the funeral of a close friend and therefore missed rollcall votes 430 through 433.

Had I been present for rollcall 430, H.Res. 1230, on a motion to suspend the rules and agree to a measure condemning the post-election violence in Zimbabwe and calling for a peaceful resolution to the current political crisis, and for other purposes, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall 431, H.R. 2262, agreeing to Senate Amendment to House Amendment No. 1 on the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall 432, H.R. 2262, agreeing to Senate Amendment to House Amendment No. 2 on the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall 433, H.Res. 1029, on a motion to suspend the rules and

agree to a measure congratulating and recognizing Mr. Juan Antonio Chi-Chi Rodriguez for his continued success on and off the golf course, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING DOUGLAS A. FRASER

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 20, 2008*

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Douglas A. Fraser of Southfield, Michigan.

Douglas A. Fraser departed from this life Saturday, February 23, 2008 at a fulfilling 91 years old. Douglas will forever be remembered for his dedication to labor rights, as he constantly sought after fairness and justice in employment practices. Douglas led the United Auto Workers (UAW), though a period of transition in the 1970s and 1980s. As the chief of the United Auto Workers, he played an instrumental role in saving the former Chrysler Corporation from bankruptcy.

Mr. Fraser commenced his career with the auto industry by taking a job at a DeSoto plant owned by Chrysler that had been organized by the UAW. He rose rapidly in the ranks of the union, eventually being elected of Local 227, in 1944, at the age of 27. After three terms as president, in 1947 he was hired as a member of the union's international staff. In 1951, Mr. Fraser joined then UAW President Walter Reuther's staff. Because of skills at negotiation, he quickly became known for his shrewd bargaining ability.

Respected for being both an artful politician and an impassioned activist, Mr. Fraser was one of the first labor leaders to take on many of the thorny issues facing the auto industry today, from global competition to soaring health costs.

Without Mr. Fraser's aggressive lobbying on Capitol Hill and among UAW rank and file, Chrysler would not have been able to secure \$1.5 billion in federal loan guarantees in 1979, which saved the automaker from bankruptcy, according to labor historians and top UAW officials. Also, in the 1979, as president of the UAW, Mr. Fraser and his team achieved other breakthroughs: Incremental increases in pension benefits for current and future retirees, a substantial increase in reduced work time, improvements in the cost-of-living allowance formula, and Chrysler agreement to union representation on its board of directors.

In 1980, Mr. Fraser became the first American union official to sit on the board of a large corporation. He even donated his board salary to Wayne State University in Detroit.

Current UAW President Ron Gettelfinger, who has led the union through a period of labor challenges in the face of the financial downturn of the automotive "Big Three", said he often turned to Mr. Fraser for guidance and support.

Once Mr. Fraser retired as UAW president in 1983, he became a professor of labor studies at Wayne State and launched another career that spanned 25 years. In that capacity, he served as a guest faculty member at other campuses, including the University of Michigan, Harvard University and Columbia Business School, where he was labor leader in residence for 3 years.

It is with the deepest appreciation that I pay tribute to the long life of a hard-working, just and passionate man, Douglas Fraser. He lived his years in service to his family, friends and fellow United Auto Workers. May this ardent labor leader be showered with blessings into eternity and receive a loving peace.

CENTENNIAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION

**HON. DON YOUNG**

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 20, 2008*

Mr. YOUNG. Madam Speaker, I have the pleasure of informing my colleagues that the International Boundary Commission (IBC), the entity responsible for making, maintaining and mapping the Canada-U.S. border, is celebrating its centennial this month.

Through the IBC, Canada and the United States have collaborated for over 100 years to peacefully maintain the longest shared border in the world, 5525 miles long, from the Atlantic to the Pacific to the Arctic Ocean. My state of Alaska shares more boundary with Canada than any other State, 1540 miles (Water and Land). Of those 1540 miles, 710 miles of land is defined by 90 mountain peaks and 97 intermediate monuments from the Portland Canal to Mt. St. Elias. This summer, the field parties for both the U.S. and Canadian sections of the IBC will be surveying the land boundary in Southeast Alaska (710 miles). The main goal of this project is to update the boundary positions to the currently used coordinate reference system, as well as identify and mark the boundary points the original surveys were unable to physically occupy.

The work of the IBC is fundamentally important to our national interest; to law enforcement—land administration, customs and immigration; and to the management of the transboundary resources. The last 100 years of work of the IBC exemplifies the close and enduring Canada-U.S. relationship.

Madam Speaker, and my fellow members, join me in celebrating the centennial of the International Boundary Commission.

RECOGNIZING THE COMMITMENT OF THE ALI FAMILY TO THE COMMUNITY THROUGH THEIR BUSINESS, BEN'S CHILI BOWL

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 20, 2008*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to the Ali Family for 50 years of contributing to the economic vitality and culture of Washington, DC's historic U Street corridor, the "Black Broadway."

In each decade in which the Chili Bowl has been in operation, Ben and Virginia have faced challenges that for others contributed to the closing of their business. The violent unrest following the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. in 1968, disinvestment in Washington commercial districts throughout the 1970s and 80s, the complete upturning of the