

Jewish Studies and Emeritus Fellow for Wolfson College, and is a lecturer at Oxford University and throughout the world.

In addition, Vermes is a Fellow of the British Academy (1985) and the European Academy of Arts, Sciences and Humanities (2001), holder of an Oxford higher doctorate and honorary doctorates from the universities of Edinburgh (1989), Durham (1990), Sheffield (1994) and the Central European University of Budapest (2008).

On September 24, Vermes will be a guest lecturer at the University of Louisiana—Monroe. It is an honor to welcome such a distinguished and esteemed scholar to the 5th District.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Professor Geza Vermes for his remarkable career and countless accomplishments.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING PASTOR VICTOR A. MYERS FOR HIS 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION BY THE LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 17, 2009*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker, Whereas, the dedicated people of St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church celebrate Pastor Victor A. Myers' 40 years of service as an ordained minister of the Lutheran Church in America; and

Whereas, this milestone is the result of exemplary dedication to one's church and faith; and

Whereas, occasions such as these illustrate to us that love mixed with grace and trust will stand the test of time; and

Whereas, it is the fond wish that you will continue to present your work as an example to those called to the ministry everywhere; and

Whereas, you have demonstrated excellence in your calling as a minister, and we are proud to have you serving in our midst: Now, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend you for your unwavering labor and commitment, recognizing that such great achievements come with extraordinary effort. With great appreciation and respect, we wish you continued abundant grace as you continue to labor for your community and your faith.

STUDENT AID AND FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 16, 2009*

The House in committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3221) to amend the Higher Education Act of 1966, and for other purposes:

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 3221, the Student Aid and

Fiscal Responsibility Act. As a member of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, and Education, with the responsibility for funding these programs, I want to thank Chairman MILLER for crafting this important bill and bringing it to the floor.

Education is the key to ensuring that our future leaders, scientists, teachers, doctors and others are well prepared to be globally competitive. This legislation will help countless students realize the dream of going to college by: (1) Improving college access and completion; (2) Increasing Pell Grant awards and expanding the low-cost Perkins Loans; (3) Investing in Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority-Serving Institutions; (4) Strengthening our community colleges; (5) Establishing an Early Learning Challenge Fund; (6) Streamlining student aid applications; and (7) Reforming students loans to help students not banks.

That means more of our youth will go to college and acquire the skills they need to compete in the global economy while graduating with less college debt. Now that's something we should all support.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF JIMMY COBB

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 17, 2009*

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of my fellow jazz enthusiast, Jimmy Cobb. Born in Washington, D.C. in 1929, Jimmy has for more than fifty years moved audiences with his recordings and live performances.

Jimmy's passion for jazz began at an early age. He performed his first recording with Earl Bostic, and then played extensively with Dinah Washington, Billie Holiday, Pearl Bailey, Clark Terry, and Dizzy Gillespie.

In 1957, Jimmy Cobb joined Miles Davis, Bill Evans, Wynton Kelly, Paul Chambers, John Coltrane and Julian Adderley; two years later they recorded the groundbreaking Kind of Blue album. Kind of Blue stands in American history today as one of the most influential albums in jazz history, ranking number 12 in Rolling Stone magazine's 500 greatest albums of all time.

He collaborated with Wynton Kelly and Paul Chambers to produce the Wynton Kelly Trio Albums, and later released albums with Kenny Burrell, and J.J. Johnson, among others. Jimmy then worked with Sarah Vaughn for 9 years, and freelanced with other acclaimed artists worldwide throughout the 70s, 80s and 90s including, Sonny Stitt, Nat Adderly, Ricky Ford, Hank Jones, Ron Carter, George Coleman, Fathead Newman, The Great Jazz Trio, Dave Holland and Warren Bernhardt. Jimmy has also performed on Sketches of Spain, Someday My Prince will Come, Live at Carnegie Hall, Live at the Blackhawk, and Porgy and Bess.

Jimmy was honored for his contribution to the world of jazz in 2005 when New York's longest running jazz series Highlights in Jazz chose Jimmy Cobb for its annual salute to a living jazz legend. In 2008, Jimmy received the Don Redman Heritage award. He was one of six chosen on October 17, 2008 to receive

the 2009 National Endowment for the Arts, NEA Jazz Masters award. He was also honored with his own album on the Marsalis Music Honors Series.

He currently performs and tours with his So What Band, featuring Miles Davis' protégé Wallace Roney on trumpet, Vincent Herring on alto saxophone, Javon Jackson on tenor sax, Larry Willis on piano, and Buster Williams on bass.

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of Kind of Blue, Jimmy and the So What Band will perform on September 24, 2009 in Washington, D.C. for the Congressional Black Caucus' Jazz Forum and Concert.

Today, Jimmy Cobb stands as the only surviving musician of the original Kind of Blue Sextet. His work remains a legendary standard in American jazz. Through the medium of music, he continues to inspire generations of performers and audiences.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING CENTRAL PRIMARY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 17, 2009*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker, Whereas, the Central Primary Elementary School in Logan, Ohio has displayed incredible dedication to creating well-rounded students; and

Whereas, the Central Primary School has been supportive of developing sharp young minds; and

Whereas, the Central Primary School has helped to plant the seeds of success in its students; and

Whereas, the Central Primary School has been an exemplary school in Appalachian Ohio: now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That along with their friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate the Central Primary School of Logan, Ohio on being named a Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education in recognition of its astounding academic excellence. We recognize the tremendous dedication of the school's students, teachers and staff in achieving this honor.

HONORING MATTHEW POLNOW

**HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 17, 2009*

Mr. MANZULLO. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor to take this opportunity to recognize a heroic resident of the 16th District of Illinois, Matthew Polnow of Rockford. Mr. Polnow works for the U.S. Postal Service and is a member of the National Association of Letter Carriers.

On June 11, 2008, as he was delivering mail on his postal route, Carrier Polnow witnessed a crushing three-vehicle accident. In a matter of seconds, he ran to the first car, checking to make sure that the occupants were not injured. Then he went on to the second vehicle, a truck, where fortunately no one

needed assistance. Carrier Polnow continued to the third vehicle, a van used to transport handicapped and wheelchair-bound individuals, which was beginning to burn. The driver's airbag had deployed, and the driver alerted Carrier Polnow to a handicapped passenger still inside the smoke-filled van.

With smoke continuing to circulate and flames erupting from the engine, Carrier Polnow went to work. He managed to free the side door that had been jammed by a ramp. Maneuvering the ramp into place, he unhooked the restraining belts and dragged the wheelchair—and the now terrified woman passenger—from the vehicle. Once free from the smoke, Carrier Polnow located the controls on the chair and engaged them to move the woman to safety.

Acts of bravery and fortitude such as this should not go unnoticed. Carrier Polnow's heroism has led him to be recognized by the National Association of Letter Carriers with the National Central Hero Award. I am privileged and humbled to represent great constituents like Carrier Polnow, and I wanted to take this brief opportunity today, Madam Speaker, to let my colleagues know of his great act of courage.

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TRIBUTE TO ED HAMAN

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 17, 2009*

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Ed Haman of Stanhope, Iowa, on his dedication to the community of Stanhope and his retirement as Fire Chief at the Stanhope Volunteer Fire Department after forty-one years of service.

The community of Stanhope is celebrating the retirement of this extraordinary man, but I feel it is imperative that we as a Congress celebrate Ed as an example of incredible and valuable citizenship. His service to his community, Iowa, and our nation represents an ideal that should be an inspiration for all Americans.

I commend Ed Haman for his many years of loyalty and service to Iowa and to our country. It is an immense honor to represent Ed in Congress, and I wish him and his family in Stanhope, Iowa, a long, happy and healthy retirement.

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STUDENT AID AND FISCAL  
RESPONSIBILITY ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 16, 2009*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3221) to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes:

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Chair, I rise in support of the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act and thank Congressman MILLER for his leadership on this bill. I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this historic legislation. In a time of economic crisis and increased hard-

ship across the United States, the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act ensures that students and families are supported in realizing their education goals.

Access to quality education is a key factor in securing a successful and bright future. This legislation makes historical investments to expand access to education by investing in high-quality early childhood education and increasing college affordability. It invests in community colleges and partnerships with businesses and job training programs to ensure that our nation has the most qualified workforce.

The bill ensures that the success of the students, not the private loan companies, is at the center of the student loan system by converting all federal student lending to a Direct Loan program. In addition, it increases access to federal loans by simplifying the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form. I am also pleased that the bill provides for the removal of the question regarding first-time, minor drug offenses on the FAFSA form. According to the American Civil Liberties Union, lower-income communities and communities of color are disproportionately denied access to critical federal loans due to the inclusion of this question on the FAFSA form. We have a responsibility to ensure that students wishing to improve themselves and contribute positively to our society are given the chance to do so.

As a strong proponent of early childhood education and the sponsor of H.R. 555, the Universal Prekindergarten Act, I strongly support the establishment of the Early Learning Challenge Fund in this bill. The Early Learning Challenge Fund invests \$8 billion dollars over the next eight years for increasing access to high-quality early childhood education for children of diverse economic and social backgrounds.

I am particularly pleased that two of my amendments are included in this bill. I worked with Congressman Hare on our amendment to expand reporting requirements to include reporting on barriers to high-quality early childhood education programs. Investment in developing and expanding access to high-quality early learning programs is critical in addressing the achievement gap for low-income children.

The other amendment in this bill was taken up as part of the 21st Century Green High-Performing Public School Facilities Act, which provides schools access to funds for modernization, renovation and repair projects that are safer and more energy efficient. My amendment ensures that those school funds can be used to remove sources of lead in drinking water such as pipes, solder and pipe fittings. Childhood exposure to lead has been associated with (see health effects from the press release)

I believe that access to quality education is a universal right. This legislation takes important steps to ensure that students of all social and economic backgrounds are afforded the opportunity to attend high-quality educational institutions. I strongly urge passage of this bill.

RECOGNIZING 15TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE VIOLENCE AGAINST  
WOMEN ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 14, 2009*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 738, a resolution honoring the 15th Anniversary of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). I am an original cosponsor of this resolution to support the goals and ideals of VAWA. Today we recognize the progress that has been made in reducing domestic violence in our country but also the significant work that remains.

In 1994, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) began creating safe havens for families affected by domestic violence. This historic legislation has succeeded in making America's women more safe and secure and it has strengthened America's response to the crimes of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. Victims of domestic violence are now more able to access services and counseling during their darkest hours and prosecutors have the tools to pursue perpetrators. VAWA is working to bring communities together by coordinating law enforcement officers, victim advocates and prosecutors.

No one should have to live in fear or suffer in silence from domestic violence. We as society must provide sufficient resources to federal, state and local law enforcement officers and prosecutors who specialize in crimes targeted against women. We must also support organizations that offer services to women and families who have experienced violence.

Domestic violence hurts families and entire communities. The communities of Minnesota's Fourth District learned this all too well on September 7, 2009, when North St. Paul police officer Richard Crittenden and Maplewood police officer Julie Olson answered a domestic violence call—one of the most dangerous an officer can receive. Officer Richard Crittenden was killed and Officer Olson was injured in the line of duty. Officer Crittenden made the ultimate sacrifice—his life—to protect a woman from a man who had repeatedly abused her.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I would like to acknowledge all those who work to reduce domestic violence in communities across our country. Much has been accomplished in the last fifteen years, but the number of incidents of violence against women still remains too high. On this anniversary, I urge my colleagues to recommit themselves to ending domestic violence.

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CITY OF PLAINFIELD'S 10TH  
ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL FAIR

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 17, 2009*

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise today to recognize the Plainfield Municipal Utilities Authority (PMUA). The Plainfield Municipal Utilities Authority has provided the City of Plainfield with a stable and affordable solid waste operation and sanitary sewer service for