

2000, with an idea in mind, Mr. Assemi returned to Fresno with a vision for creating a thriving arts community in downtown Fresno. With his father as a financial partner, Mr. Assemi purchased the former Red Cross Building and in sixteen months the Pearl Building was up and running as a true multi-use building. The Pearl Building now serves as a place for artists to live, work and show their work to the public. It also has a community space with plenty of room to bring in guest artists and show their work without opening the doors to private living spaces.

Shortly after developing the Pearl Building, Mr. Assemi took on a redevelopment project for the Vagabond Motel, also located in downtown Fresno. The building is about a block away from the Pearl Building, making the site perfect for creating a community and helping the area grow. This is also a mixed use project; the site also serves as a commercial space, affordable housing, and artist spaces at market rate rent. Since then, Mr. Assemi has completed one project after another.

In the ten years since moving back to Fresno, Mr. Assemi has brought nearly two hundred residential units to downtown Fresno. His most recent project, the Iron Bird Lofts, was completed December 1, 2009. He has already begun looking to his next project, restoring a historic downtown Fresno building to create twenty-three residential lofts. His vision for establishing a viable, economically stable neighborhood and thriving arts community has made Mr. Assemi a pioneer in the downtown development of Fresno.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Reza Assemi for his tremendous contributions to the revitalization of downtown Fresno and upon being awarded the "You Get It Award." Invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Assemi many years of continued success.

**MEDIA GIVE OBAMA BETTER
COVERAGE THAN BUSH**

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, the national media gave President Obama about twice as much favorable news coverage as they gave former President George W. Bush during the first year of their presidencies, according to a study by the Center for Media and Public Affairs.

The analysis revealed that while around half the stories about President Obama were positive, just 25 percent of stories about President Bush were favorable.

Not surprisingly, the New York Times gave President Obama the most favorable coverage, followed by Time Magazine and Newsweek.

It's no wonder seven out of ten Americans say the national media are promoting the Obama presidency, according to a recent public opinion poll.

The national media should give Americans the facts, not tell them what to think.

HONORING MEDGAR EVERS

SPEECH OF

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 2010

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support H. Res. 1022, a resolution honoring the life and sacrifice of Medgar Evers and congratulating the United States Navy for naming a supply ship after him.

I would like to thank my colleague, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, for introducing this significant piece of legislation.

On October 9, 2009, the United States Navy announced that the Lewis and Clark dry cargo and ammunition ship would be named. United States Navy Ship *Medgar Evers*.

The U.S. Navy's dedication to Medgar Evers recognizes the slain civil rights pioneer who led efforts to secure the right to vote for all African-Americans and to integrate public facilities, schools, and restaurants.

Medgar Evers rose to prominence in the civil rights movement in his home state of Mississippi. He discovered his passion for activism while working for the Regional Council of Negro Leadership, which he began in 1951 upon graduating from Alcorn University.

Appointed Mississippi's first field secretary for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Evers established local chapters of the NAACP throughout the Delta region.

As an NAACP worker, Medgar Evers fought against segregation and Jim Crow laws by organizing boycotts on gasoline stations that refused to allow blacks to use their restrooms. His boycott of Jackson, Mississippi merchants in the early 1960's attracted national attention, and his effort to have James Meredith admitted to the University of Mississippi in 1962 brought much needed federal assistance.

In 1963, Evers met an untimely death when he was assassinated in his driveway. He was murdered just hours after President John F. Kennedy's speech on national television in support of civil rights. However, Medgar Evers' sacrifice and legacy of challenging racism and segregation endures today.

I join my colleagues in honoring Medgar Evers and applaud the U.S. Navy for recognizing him by naming one of its vessels after such a great American activist.

**INTRODUCTION OF THE SMALL
BUSINESS JOB CREATION TAX
ACT 2010**

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, since the recession began in December 2007, 8 million jobs have been lost in America. The unemployment rate has more than doubled since then to 10% and the underemployment rate is at 17%. To keep pace with population growth, 127,000 jobs must be created each month just to keep unemployment from rising. Historically, small business has generated 64 percent of net new jobs over the past 15 years, according to the Small Business Administration.

That is why today, along with Congressman GENE GREEN, I am introducing the Small Business Job Creation Tax Act 2010. This bill will provide tax cuts to employers who increase their payroll over one year based on a percentage of that increase.

This legislation will provide businesses a tax cut worth 15 percent of the cost of a new job. Small businesses would receive an additional 5%, allowing them to deduct 20% of their increased payroll costs. The tax cut would be structured based on a firm's quarterly payroll increase over the previous year, meaning companies would also have an incentive to expand part-time workers to full-time, or eliminate salary cuts instituted during the downturn. This would also provide protection against fraud by preventing employers from firing and re-hiring employees to claim the tax cut. The legislation would also contain additional protections against abuse by including a limit on the tax cut claimed by any one firm to \$500,000 and excluding mergers or acquisitions where no new jobs are actually created.

In his State of the Union Address, President Obama stressed the importance of creating jobs. I cannot think of a more important action we can take as a Congress than creating incentives for businesses to grow their job force. I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

**COMMEMORATING 65TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE LIBERATION OF
AUSCHWITZ**

SPEECH OF

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 2010

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, this year we remember the 65th Anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz concentration camp by U.S. Armed Forces. After Auschwitz opened in 1940 the Nazi army wasted little time in rounding up Polish prisoners for imprisonment at this killing field.

Auschwitz-Birkenau, also known as Auschwitz II, was the largest killing center of all. SS authorities established it in the spring of 1942. It was not subordinated to the regional SS, but was part of the SS Economic-Administration Main Office.

"Block 10" was where the Nazis, including Mengele, the "Angel of Death," conducted unspeakable medical experiments on prisoners and "Block 11" was where people were lined up against a wall and shot.

Before the death camp's liberation on January 27, 1945, almost a million Jews from Poland and adjoining nations died there along with 21,000 Roma (gypsies) and countless homosexuals, communists and Soviet and Ukrainian POWs. At least 75,000 Poles were summarily executed. When all acts of horror ceased, the Nazis had murdered 1.1 million people at this site.

Mr. Marian Wojciechowski, a constituent and lifelong friend of mine, is a survivor of Auschwitz and Block 11. He served as an officer in the Polish cavalry and bravely fought Nazi tanks as they rolled into his homeland of Poland near the Czech border as World War II began on September 1, 1939.

He and colleagues in his unit fought with such valor against the invaders they were