

RECOGNIZING THE SIGNIFICANCE
OF RED CROSS MONTH

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 2010

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 67th annual Red Cross Month. For more than 125 years, the mission of the American Red Cross has been to help individuals and families prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies, and each year, nearly half a million volunteers respond to more than 70,000 disasters nationwide.

I am particularly proud of the American Red Cross and its Georgia chapters, including Metro Atlanta, for their swift, substantial, and heart-warming aid to my home state of Georgia during the catastrophic floods of last September. In the immediate aftermath, and in the weeks that followed, the American Red Cross opened eight shelters that provided a safe haven for nearly 500 people displaced by the floods. With the aid of over 800 volunteers and employees, health professionals were able to reach out to 3,400 victims in flood-drenched neighborhoods.

Without the help of these dedicated volunteers and employees, flood-affected men, women, and children would not have received more than 44,000 meals, nor, after losing their homes, would they have been given 3,723 clean-up and comfort kits. The kindness of strangers provided emergency financial assistance for more than 1,700 families.

As the Spring flood season begins to take its course, I urge my constituents and fellow Americans to do what they can to support the American Red Cross. The Red Cross relies on donations of time, money and blood to respond quickly to emergencies ranging from hurricanes to earthquakes and from fires to tornadoes. I commend the Red Cross for their efforts.

RECOGNITION OF THE MISS
GREATER SPRINGFIELD SCHOLARSHIP
ORGANIZATION

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a community organization serving Northern Virginia, the Miss Greater Springfield Scholarship Organization. The Miss Greater Springfield Scholarship Organization is an affiliate of the Miss Virginia and Miss America Scholarship Organizations. The Miss America Organization, with its State and local affiliates, is the number one resource in the world for women's educational scholarships; in 2006 alone over \$45 million dollars was awarded to 12,000 women from throughout the country.

Miss Greater Springfield is now going into its 7th year, and has consistently upheld a high standard for its competitors, attracting participants that have demonstrated a strong commitment to the community and a desire to improve the world around them. The contestants support a variety of issues including autism advocacy and awareness, The Children's

Miracle Network, and promoting organ donation. Miss Greater Springfield of 2009, Bethany Munt, has used her title as a platform to address the challenges facing our Nation's schools and education system, and has been active with the Boys and Girls Clubs of America. Ms. Munt received her undergraduate degree in child development and has taught school in New York State and New Zealand.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Ms. Munt and the Miss Greater Springfield Scholarship Organization for their efforts to improve our community and the lives of our young people.

CLAUDE ARTHUR WHARTON, III

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 2010

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Claude Arthur "Skip" Wharton, III, of Seneca, South Carolina, and fellow alumnus of The Citadel, for a lifetime of distinguished service to the citizens of our state and to our country. From his time as a cadet at The Citadel to his current position as Director of Business Operations for the Applied Research and Development Institute, ARDI, of the South Carolina Research Authority, SCRA, Skip has led an admirable life and maintained a strong work ethic. His contributions to South Carolina and the United States in the fields of government contract administration, compliance, finance, budgeting, and costing are truly commendable. In my view, Skip is the embodiment of an upstanding and fine American citizen.

After receiving his undergraduate degree from The Citadel, Skip served our country for four years in the United States Army as an Armored Cavalry Platoon Leader and a Troop Commander in Vietnam and Germany. For his service to our country, Skip was awarded the Silver Star Medal, the third highest medal awarded by the United States Armed Forces, for combat valor.

After his military service, Mr. Wharton spent seven years in management in small business in both California and Louisiana. From 1980 through 1987, Mr. Wharton was with the American Development Corporation, ADCOR, a defense manufacturing contractor located in Charleston, South Carolina. At ADCOR, he was responsible for adhering to the Federal Acquisition Regulations, FAR, in the development of annual corporate and departmental budgets, in excess of \$20 million per year; the promulgation and defense of all indirect rates; and the formulation of all pricing proposals. In 1988, Mr. Wharton joined SCRA in Charleston and served as the Director of Budgeting and Costing. In this capacity, he was responsible for financial analyses at the project, group, segment, and company levels; corporate budgeting; management reporting; and tracking performance against strategic goals.

In October of 2000, Mr. Wharton was assigned to ARDI as the Director of Contracts and Procurement and was responsible for establishing the contracts administration staff and the administrative functions of the Composites Manufacturing Technology Center, a United States Navy Center of Excellence. Skip also served as the ARDI Facility Security Offi-

cer and was responsible for all interaction with the Defense Security Service; physical security of the office; the safeguarding of all classified documents, software and hardware; and the processing and maintenance of individual security clearances.

Through hard work and dedication, Skip has made significant contributions to our state and our country. His distinguished service has been invaluable, and for this, I applaud him. His dedication to his family, friends, and colleagues should stand as an example of what we should all strive to be. I join Skip's colleagues at the Applied Research and Development Institute, the citizens of our state, and his entire family, including his wife, Patricia, his children and grandchild, in commending Skip for his lifetime of service to South Carolina and this great nation. May God bless them all.

RECOGNIZING GRACIA MOLINA DE
PICK UPON THE OCCASION OF
HER 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 2010

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Gracia Molina de Pick, a distinguished activist, feminist, author, and educator in the San Diego community, upon her 80th birthday.

Born into a politically active family in Mexico, Gracia Molina de Pick moved to San Diego in 1957, and has maintained her spirit of activism through her many years of work and service in our region. Along the way, she received her master's degree from San Diego State University and participated in doctoral studies at the University of California, San Diego and a doctoral fellowship at the University of Southern California.

Gracia Molina de Pick has been fighting for the rights of Latinos and Chicanos since she was a teenager. She is the founder of IMPACT, an early community grassroots organization that fought for the civil rights of Mexican-Americans in San Diego. From 1969 to 1977 she served on the National Council of La Raza, the first civil rights advocacy group for Hispanic Americans. In 1970, she also founded the first national feminist Chicana Association, the Comision Femenil Mexicana Nacional, and the following year she served as the Chicana Caucus Chair of the National Women's Political Caucus. She is the national organizer for Chicana participation at the United Nations World Conferences on Women.

Gracia Molina de Pick has tirelessly persisted in her efforts to secure equality for women. She helped to organize and found the Partido Popular, a Mexican political party that fought to secure voting rights for women. A published author, she has penned numerous articles and co-authored two books. Her most recent book, *Mujeres en la Historia & Historias de Mujeres*, offers readers biographies of influential women in Mexican history.

Understandably, many prominent organizations have honored Gracia Molina de Pick with well-deserved awards and recognition. In 2001, Assemblymember Christine Kehoe named Gracia "Woman of the Year," and she