

Artha "Lady Artha" Woods, of Cleveland, Ohio, whose joyous life was dedicated to advancing the rights and opportunities for women and minorities.

Ms. Woods was a valedictorian at Cleveland Central High School. She won several academic awards, including a district-wide award as a Latin scholar. Streetwise yet elegant, articulate and refined, Ms. Woods was an unyielding activist. She served as a Cleveland Councilwoman, representing the people of Cleveland's east side with a strong and effective voice. She is credited with the expansion of two of Cleveland's premier institutions: Playhouse Square and the Cleveland Clinic. Moreover, she served as a leader in organizing residents to demand improvements to the deplorable living conditions in the Woodhill Homes public housing units.

In 1941, after protesting for equal opportunity, Ms. Woods became one of 18 African-Americans who broke the color barrier at Ohio Bell. After becoming an employee, Ms. Woods boycotted the cafeteria which helped end segregation between black and white women. She rose to the level of public relations manager at Ohio Bell and stayed with the company for many years. While serving on the City Council, Ms. Woods ran her own businesses and founded one of the first-ever modeling and charm schools for African-American women. She managed the careers of two local boxers and she owned and operated the Cedar Avenue Millinery Shop, where she sold hats to celebrities. She founded the Fairfax Area Community Congress and created the Starlight Cotillion for female graduates of neighborhood public high schools. Additionally, Ms. Woods was designated an honorary Italian by Holy Rosary Church of Cleveland and was blessed by Pope Paul VI in Rome for her work with local Catholic leaders.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor, gratitude and remembrance of my friend, Artha "Lady Artha" Woods. Ms. Woods was the loving mother of the late Eloise and Arthur. I offer my condolences to her grandchildren: Gaile, (Dominic) and Deborah (Richard); to her great-grandchildren, Dominic, Monique, Olivia, Joshua, Lauren and Richard; to her devoted companion, Stanley Tolliver, Jr.; and to her extended family and friends.

#### NATIONAL NURSES WEEK

### HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2010*

Mr. GOODLATTE. Madam Speaker, since we just commemorated National Nurses Week 2010, I rise today to call attention to the important and essential role that nurses play in providing quality health care across our Nation. Nurses are the largest group of health professionals involved on the front lines of caring for Americans. Our Nation's health care system is complex and every day people with many different health needs are served by legions of caring, qualified, and professional nurses, who are integral to our Nation's health care delivery system.

I believe every person can remember an experience when someone they loved needed health care and a nurse was the first person by their side providing care and comfort. We

all know someone who works in the field of nursing and the commitment they make to their profession, despite extraordinary challenges every day.

The Nurse in Washington Internship program recently brought representatives of this noble field to our Nation's capital to give a voice to their needs and experience. I was pleased to meet with my constituent Jennifer Vaughn (RN, BSN) from Forest, Virginia.

An adequate supply of nurses is essential to ensuring that all people receive quality care and that our Nation's public health infrastructure is strong. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, there is currently a nursing shortage of 2.5 million registered nurses in the United States. This figure is expected to grow to 41 percent by 2020.

Additional Congressional leadership is necessary to ensure that the Nation has an adequate supply of nurses to care for the patients of today and tomorrow.

#### CONGRATULATING THE COMMUNITY OF DES PLAINES, IL ON ITS 175TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2010*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the community of Des Plaines on their 175th anniversary.

I am extremely proud to represent the "City of Destiny"—a hub of ethnic diversity, a home to hardworking residents, and a thriving business center that has drawn domestic and international companies alike. Des Plaines' 175 dynamic years have made it one of the premier communities in the Chicagoland area to live, to work and to do business—a testament to the individuals who make up the rich fabric of the community.

Since 1833, when pioneers first came to Des Plaines in search of a place to build their homes, their families and their futures, the city has provided opportunities for innovation, creativity and growth. Over the past 175 years, immigrants and native-born Americans have come to Des Plaines, attracted by its outstanding schools, its entrepreneurial ethic, and its diversity.

The sense of community in Des Plaines is one that residents cherish. Whether it is organizing to ensure an accurate census count or working to deal with the impacts of the Des Plaines River flooding, people routinely come together to help each other and promote the city's interests.

Des Plaines is truly a great place to live. From the beginning, the elected leaders of Des Plaines recognized the need to build a strong transportation network, so the city is connected outward in terms of business and travel. And from the beginning, the city has recognized the importance of creating a livable community, with its own art and theater guilds, recreational system, and cultural activities.

I have long enjoyed a great working relationship with the representatives of the City of Des Plaines, including former Mayor Anthony Arredia and now with Mayor Martin Moylan. I want to congratulate them and all the people of Des Plaines for maintaining the spirit which helped create Des Plaines and ensuring that

the city reaches new heights in the 21st century.

I wish the community of Des Plaines the best in the coming 175 years and look forward to working with you to assure your continued success.

#### RECOGNIZING SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS OF U.S. AUTOMOBILE DEALERSHIPS

SPEECH OF

### HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 19, 2010*

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today as a cosponsor of H. Res. 713, which recognizes the significant contributions of United States automobile dealerships, and expresses the sense of the House of Representatives that automobile dealers that have been forced to close be given a fair opportunity to reenter the automobile market once it rebounds and stabilizes. The automobile dealer industry has an important place in our country's history and is a critical part of our economy. It is critical that we recognize the important role of automobile dealers, help them survive the ongoing economic downturn, and pave the way for their future success.

I thank Chairman WAXMAN for his leadership in bringing this resolution to the floor. I also thank the sponsor of this H. Res. 713, Congressman GREEN, for taking the time to recognize the important contributions of automobile dealers in our nation's history and their vital role in our rebounding economy.

Madam Speaker, the automobile and the automotive industry has long been a symbol of American ingenuity and a source of American prosperity. Franchised automobile dealers have played and continue to play a critical role in the automotive industry: the franchised dealership system in the United States is the independent link between the manufacturer's assembly line and the American consumer.

The automobile dealership industry is a vital part of the national economy. Virtually all new cars and light trucks are sold through franchised dealers. Dealers represent the largest retail business in the United States, with approximately \$693 billion in revenues in 2007. Franchised dealers employ over 1,100,000 people, comprise nearly 20 percent of all retail sales in the United States, and, in total, provide billions of dollars annually in tax revenue.

Madam Speaker, automobile dealers also play an important role in local communities across the country. Auto dealers have deep roots in local communities and have helped manufacturers with long-term customer relationships that create brand loyalty and maintain customer convenience. Dealerships across the country provide jobs, give direct investments to local economies, and supply tax revenue to State and local governments.

The economic downturn of the last two years has put thousands of jobs at risk, including those at automobile dealerships and automobile manufacturers. I have witnessed the effect of the recession on car dealerships in my district. That is why I recently introduced H.R. 4897, the Drivers AID Act of 2010. By making interest payments on new car purchases deductible, this bill will help consumers