

IN RECOGNITION OF THE MICHAEL ALLEN DAVIDSON 9/11 FOUNDATION

HON. FRANK PALLONE JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2011

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the philanthropic activities of the Michael Allen Davidson (M.A.D.) 9/11 Foundation and their efforts to provide a new playground facility in Neptune, New Jersey. The late Michael Davidson is remembered as a young professional determined to make a difference in the lives of those around him, yet tragically lost his life in the North Tower of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. The new playground facility in Neptune has been erected in his honor and will continue to stand as a symbol of Michael's spirit and fortitude.

Michael Allen Davidson was an impressive individual, dedicated to building a successful professional career while assisting others. Michael was a member of the Rutgers University Class of 1997 and applied his educational background to become a successful trader. In 2001, Michael was to be named the youngest Partner at Cantor Fitzgerald, located on the 104th floor of the World Trade Center, North Tower. At the early age of 27, Michael tragically lost his life during the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. He is remembered for his uncanny ability to make others smile and laugh. These characteristics are a testament to his continuous outpouring of love and compassion for others.

The M.A.D. 9/11 Foundation has continued to organize various philanthropic activities in honor of the late Michael Davidson. Playgrounds, for children ages 2 through 5, have been erected in Tinton Falls, Wall, and Eatontown, New Jersey. The most recent project in Neptune has expanded the recreational facilities for children in the community and continues to provide a beautiful landscape for children to grow, while commemorating the life of an outstanding individual. Among many other projects, the foundation has also committed to fund the majority of a rehabilitation project—a World Trade Center replica memorial that sits in front of the Tinton Falls Fire Department. The M.A.D. 9/11 Foundation has been supported by caring individuals dedicated to making a difference in the community on behalf of the late Michael Allen Davidson.

As a result of their outstanding efforts, the M.A.D. 9/11 Foundation was awarded the 2001 Fay S. Mathewson Award, presented by the New Jersey Recreation and Parks Association as a testament to their contributions to the Monmouth County community. They are also the recipient of the 2009 Monmouth County Parks and Recreation Difference Maker Award and the Tinton Falls Appreciation Award.

Mr. Speaker, once again please join me in thanking the Michael Allen Davidson 9/11 Foundation for their dedication to the Monmouth County community and commemorate the life of Michael Allen Davidson.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DIANE BLACK

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2011

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, on amendment rollcall Nos. 622, No. 623, No. 624, No. 625, No. 626, No. 627, No. 628 as well as rollcall No. 629 for final passage of H.R. 2551, I am not recorded because I was attending to a family matter. Had I been present, I would have voted:

“Yes”—Representative Melvin Watt Amendment;

“Yes”—Representative Nan Hayworth Amendment;

“No”—Representative Paul Broun Amendment;

“Yes”—Representative Marlin Stutzman Amendment;

“No”—Representative Glenn Thompson Amendment;

“No”—Representative James Moran Amendment;

“No”—Representative Rush Holt Amendment; and

“Yes”—Final Passage of H.R. 2551.

HONORING THE COHOCTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2011

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the brave men and women of the Cohocton Volunteer Fire Department who have tirelessly served our local and national community for 125 years. As the Cohocton Volunteer Fire Department celebrates its 125th anniversary, I applaud the many ways they have served our community.

From July 22–24, members of the department will hold several events commemorating the service of their valiant volunteers. Historical displays, parades, competitions and dinners will be held. The department will even be publishing a commemorative book on its history to celebrate this milestone.

For the past 125 years, members have selflessly given their time and energy to serve our community throughout periods of emergency and disaster. While the Cohocton Volunteer Fire Department should be commemorated for all of their service to our community, I want to especially highlight their tireless work during the 1972 Flood, the Ice Storm of 1991 and the Blizzard of 1993—three major storms which devastated the Chemung Valley.

Furthermore, the department also aided the national community during the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Under a mutual aid request, the department sent an ambulance and personnel to the Twin Towers Site after the attack. The ambulance was equipped with medical supplies donated by the local community for use by the FDNY.

Members of the Cohocton Volunteer Fire Department have repeatedly risked their lives in order to save our friends and neighbors. I am proud to recognize such a self-sacrificing and courageous organization. I congratulate the Cohocton Volunteer Fire Department and thank them for their 125 years of service.

MASSACHUSETTS AND PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL WILL GREATLY MISS MYRA KRAFT

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2011

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, last week, one of Massachusetts' leading citizens succumbed to a long illness, which she had courageously fought. Myra Kraft was the partner and wife of Robert Kraft, and co-owner of the New England Patriots. Under the leadership of the Kraft family, the Patriots became one of the great sports franchises in America, not simply because of their extremely impressive record of Super Bowl championships, but because of the honorable way in which they conducted their business, and because of the great contributions they made to their community. I have the honor of representing the Town of Foxboro, in which the Patriots play, and in which the Kraft family created a wonderful commercial complex that adds a great deal to the economic and cultural life not just of the town but of the entire region.

Mr. Speaker, I've had the pleasure of walking through the complex with members of the Kraft family and I can report to you that the residents of New England—not just Massachusetts—are understandably great enthusiasts of the work the family has done.

Myra Kraft was an extraordinary contributor to the society around her, not just through the work of the Patriots, but through her great charitable efforts. She was a leading member of the organized work of the Jewish community of Greater Boston, but her good works were not confined.

All of Massachusetts will miss her, even those who did not know of the work she did, because she was not one to seek publicity for her efforts. And those of us who did have the privilege of knowing her are particularly saddened by her loss.

Mr. Speaker, the Boston Globe for Friday, July 22, in its lead editorial expressed what our community feels about Myra Kraft and I ask that because she presented such a wonderful example of good citizenship in a democracy, that this editorial be printed.

[From the Boston Globe, July 22, 2011]

MYRA KRAFT WAS A ROLE MODEL FOR FAMILY LOYALTY AND GIVING

Bob Kraft, the developer turned football impresario, made the once-derided New England Patriots a symbol of local pride. Myra, his wife of 48 years, made the Kraft family a symbol of civic responsibility. Her numerous charitable works, including chairing the local boards of the Combined Jewish Philanthropies and the Boys & Girls Clubs, paralleled Bob's rise in the statewide business community.

The Krafts were an unbreakable unit. Bob and Myra's four sons shared in all their parents' endeavors. On May 3, the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce honored the family for their work on behalf of the community, fueled by Myra's tireless exertions.

She was too ill to attend the banquet, but her husband, sons, daughters-in-law, and grandchildren all stood proudly together on the dais—an honor guard of which any mother would be eternally proud.

“I got it right the first time,” quipped Bob, referring to Myra, whom he married when she was just 20. Myra Kraft, who died

Wednesday and for whom services will be held today made many contributions to the Boston area. Foremost among them is the example she set for family loyalty and shared commitment. It will live on not only through her offspring, but through others who tightened their own family bonds, even if in a small way, in response to her inspiration.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 21, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2551) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the FY 2012 Legislative Branch Appropriations Bill. Not because I object to cuts affecting Members of Congress or their staff. I do not. As I have repeatedly said, I believe a responsible solution to our national debt will require shared sacrifice from every American—and that includes Members of Congress, their staff and other employees of this House.

I object to this legislation because of the wrongheaded choices it makes elsewhere in the legislative branch of our government. For example, H.R. 2551 cuts funding for the Government Accountability Office by 6.4%—despite the fact that every dollar spent by the GAO on its oversight activities returns \$4 in savings to the taxpayers. Additionally, as we wrestle with difficult issues in an increasingly complex world, I think Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle would agree that policymakers need access to more objective and independent expert analysis, not less. Yet this bill slashes funding for the Library of Congress and its widely respected nonpartisan Congressional Research Service by 8.5%—and it cuts funding for the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office that serves as the definitive scorekeeper for every measure Congress considers by 6.4%.

Mr. Speaker, there are responsible and effective ways to reduce federal spending, and there are irresponsible and ineffective ways to reduce Federal spending. Unfortunately, this bill has too much of the latter and not enough of the former.

I urge a no vote.

RECOGNIZING THE 2011 SAGE
WORLD CUP

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2011

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2011 SAGE World Cup, which is being hosted by Canisius College in Buffalo, NY.

SAGE (Students for the Advancement of Global Entrepreneurship) is an international

network dedicated to creating leaders, innovations, and social enterprises to address the world's needs. Founded in 2002 by Dr. Curtis L. DeBerg, the network now extends to over 500 high schools in 17 countries, and is run completely by volunteers.

Each year, the winners of SAGE's national competitions advance to the "SAGE World Cup," where teams are judged not only on marketplace viability, but also on social impact, environmental stewardship, and civic engagement. This year, the World Cup will be held in Buffalo and Niagara Falls, NY.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that you will join me in honoring SAGE and its 2011 World Cup participants, whose dedication to creating better futures for themselves and others through socially responsible enterprises and businesses is commendable.

IN HONOR OF MRS. IRENE M.
MORROW

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mrs. Irene Morrow who is being honored at this year's American Nationalities Movement's awards dinner.

Mrs. Morrow began her work in the public sector in 1964 when she was appointed as Deputy Registrar for the Board of Elections and began working for the Notary Public Commission. During the same year, she began serving as Deputy Auditor in the Cuyahoga County Auditor's Office where she would remain for eight years. Subsequently, Irene worked as the Personnel Administrator and Secretary of the Civil Service Commission for seventeen years. In 1978 she was elected Executive Secretary and Treasurer of the American Nationalities Movement, a post which she retained until 2011. In 2004, Irene established the Ralph J. Perk Foundation, an organization which works to fund free mammograms and prostate screenings for the inner-city poor.

Mrs. Morrow has received numerous awards and honors throughout her decades of public service. She was presented with the Keys to the City of Cleveland from Mayor Ralph J. Perk and then Mayor George V. Voinovich in 1977 and again in 1985. In 1982 she was honored as one of the forty most outstanding women in Ohio by Mrs. Barbara Bush. She has also received accolades from the Polonia Foundation of Ohio in 1985, the American Nationalities Movement in 1988, and she was presented with an Appreciation Award from the United Hungarian Societies in 2007. Last year, she was inducted into the International Hall of Fame of Greater Cleveland.

Irene is married to Mr. Edward Morrow, and together they have six children and six grandchildren. She continues to serve on the Advisory Board of Fairview Park and Lutheran Hospitals.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Mrs. Irene M. Morrow, a woman who has done so much for her community and for her country.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE MURID ISLAMIC COMMUNITY IN AMERICA'S 23RD ANNUAL CHEIKH AHMADOU BAMBA MBACKE ISLAMIC CULTURAL WEEK CELEBRATION IN NEW YORK CITY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2011

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor, recognize, and celebrate the Murid Islamic Community in America's 23rd Annual Cheikh Ahmadou Bamba Mbacke Islamic Cultural Week Celebration in New York City. On Thursday, July 21, the Murid Islamic Community in America (MICA) will host its annual welcome reception at Wadleigh Secondary School for the Performing & Visual Arts in Harlem, where they will officially launch the North American Tour of the Cheikh Ahmadou Bamba Mbacke Islamic Cultural Weeks.

The Honorable Iman Ababacar Dabo, President of the Murid Islamic Community in America and The Honorable Serigne Mame Mor Mbacke, grandson to Cheikh Ahmadou Bamba Mbacke will pay special tribute to my brother, the Honorable David N. Dinkins, first African American and 106th Mayor of the City of New York. David Dinkins was the first public official outside of Senegal, West Africa to proclaim "Cheikh Ahmadou Bamba Day" in celebration of his profound philosophies of Universal Peace and International Brotherhood.

Cheikh Ahmadou Bamba was born in the year 1271 (A.H.), which is 1853 in Mbacke Baol, a small village in Senegal. Cheikh Ahmadou Bamba Mbakke was born in the village of Mbacké Mbakke Bawol in Wolof in the Kingdom of Baol, the son of a Marabout from the Xaadri Qadriyya brotherhood, the oldest in Senegal. A religious prayer leader, poet and monk, Ahmadou Bamba founded the Mouride brotherhood in 1883 and the city of Touba. In one of his numerous writings, Matlابل Fawzeyni the quest for happiness in both worlds, Sheikh Ahmadou Bamba describes the purpose of the city, which he founded in 1887. In his concept, Touba should reconcile the spiritual and the temporal.

Cheikh Ahmadou Bamba intended to have the spiritual capital of Brotherhood, by showing all the characteristics of a Muslim city. He is the son of Muhammad, and grandson of Abibul-allah, who was the son of Muhammad. His father Mohammad Ibn Habiballah was a famous Juriconsult and a well-respected Imam. The Cheikh's mother was known as Diaratoullah close to Allah, because of her renowned piety and chastity. Cheikh Ahmadou Bamba memorized the Holy Qu'ran very early. He was very educated in the different fields of Islamic sciences and the Arabic language. He wrote many books in the teaching of Islam, and great poems dedicated to the Prophet Muhammad.

As his fame spread, the French colonial government worried about Bamba's growing power and potential to wage war against them. He had converted a number of traditional kings and their followers and no doubt could have raised a huge military force, as Muslim leaders like Umar Tall and Samory Touré had before him.

The French sentenced him to exile in Gabon 1895–1902 and later in Mauritania