

and congratulating the Saint George Serbian Orthodox Church of East Chicago, Indiana on its 100th Anniversary. Throughout many hardships and trials, the members of Saint George have dedicated themselves to preserving Serbian heritage, tradition, and spiritual beliefs. For their commitment to serving so many in need, the church leaders and congregation are to be admired and are worthy of the highest praise.

HONORING THE LIFE AND
ACHIEVEMENTS OF JUDGE J.C.
MCLIN

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2011

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a just and wise servant of the people, an even-handed and merciful adjudicator of the law, and a humble and decent man, Judge J.C. McLin. He lost his battle with pancreatic cancer on Sunday, September 4, 2011. Judge McLin was born in Trenton, Tennessee to Reverend Henry McLin and Louise Doaks McLin. After graduating from Rosenwald High School, he attended and graduated from Lane College. He received a master's degree in Education from University of Tennessee at Martin and a law degree from University of Tennessee College of Law. He was commissioned as a First Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps and was honorably discharged in 1975.

Judge McLin's selfless commitment to our community has made a lasting impact on the lives he touched. After working as an attorney for 25 years, including nine years in private practice, 19 years as a prosecutor and a staff attorney at Memphis Area Legal Services, he was elected to the Shelby County Criminal Court in 2000 where he presided as a judge. In 2004, he was appointed to the Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals by Tennessee Governor Phil Bredesen, only the second African American to hold a seat on that bench. Judge McLin was noted for his gracious, calm and efficient approach to work. He was also regarded as a fair and hard working judge who served on the bench with great dignity and integrity.

Judge McLin was a faithful member of Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church, where he served as an associate minister. He supported the work of local organizer Stevie Moore to fight youth violence and he founded the Information, Assistance, and Monitoring program which gives criminal offenders a chance to rehabilitate themselves. He served on the board of the Memphis Second Chance Program which aims to help ex-offenders find a job. He leaves behind a legacy of service and faith that will continue to resonate in the Memphis community for many years to come.

Judge McLin was 64 years of age. He is survived by his beloved wife of 42 years, Mollie Jenkins McLin; his sons, Jason and Thebe; his daughter, Monette; his mother, Louise; two sisters, Shirley Drake and Patsy Smith; and a wealth of other family, friends and colleagues who will cherish his memory. His was a life well-lived.

STATEMENT ON SOCIAL SECURITY
FROM JOHN BURTON

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2011

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker. I commend to my colleagues' attention the following statement on the debate over Social Security from John Burton, our former colleague here in the House, the former president of the California State Senate, and the current chair of the California Democratic Party. John has a long and distinguished career in standing up for the economic interests of the middle class and the long-term strength of the American economy.

NO SOCIAL SECURITY CUTS ON THE TABLE

(By John Burton)

Chair, California Democratic Party
Member of Congress 1975–1982
California State Assemblyman 1998–1994
California State Senate President 1998–2004

There has been a lot of pressure from Republicans, the Chamber of Commerce, and newspaper editorials to put everything on the table, including Social Security, in order to deal with the federal deficit. That is a load of baloney.

No way in the world should Social Security be put on the table to deal with the deficit. One thing should be abundantly clear—Social Security has nothing to do with the current budget deficit or any budget deficit for that matter. It is a self-funding program that pays for itself. The program has actually lent the government money by purchasing U.S. Treasury notes and bonds.

Furthermore, Social Security, as a separate trust fund, was never included in the U.S. budget until President Lyndon Johnson decided to include it to demonstrate that domestic spending had increased even though our military spending went up during the Vietnam War.

The social security system is in sound fiscal shape. It has a surplus that will be present until 2037. There is a great deal of fuss about the fact that benefits paid out of the program would exceed the Social Security tax revenue and the fund has to be tapped to make the difference. That is exactly how the social security trust fund is supposed to work. That's why Congress created it. The bonds in the trust fund earn interest. Therefore the total value of the fund will continue to grow after that day. If nothing else changes, the total payout benefit will not exceed tax revenue plus interest on the bonds until 2024.

Some claim that the trust fund has constantly been looted. Now it is little more than a pile of worthless paper. They are not telling the truth. That paper is in fact a pile of U.S. Treasury bonds, even now considered to be the safest investment in the world. Under the law, the federal government is obligated to pay the bonds held by the trust fund, just as it has to pay interests on other government bonds. The thought that the government would default on its bonds owed to the social security trust fund is a pipe dream.

If there are perceived future problems with the Social Security system, that is a separate issue unrelated to the "deficit crisis" and could be solved in an orderly manner. A point of fact is that if the government pays what it owes the fund, it will be solvent for another 26 years.

If the Social Security issue is "to be dealt with," the easy solution is to raise the pay-

roll tax ceiling, which is now around \$107,000. When the ceiling was set, it was assumed that payroll tax would cover 90% of all wages. When the ceiling was set in 1983, the top 1% of Americans received 11.6% of total income. Today that 1% takes in more than 20% of the total income. If the formula pushes it back up to 90% of all wages envisioned in the 1983 legislation, the ceiling would rise to \$180,000. The long-term social security problem would be solved.

In the meantime, the fund is safe and solvent through four presidential elections. It is solvent for twelve more years, if not twenty-six more years before there are any problems.

COMMEMORATION OF THE ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE WARSAW UP-
RISING

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2011

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the Helsinki Commission and Co-Chairman of the Poland Caucus, I have long been struck by the way in which history casts both long shadows and rays of light in Poland. I have had the privilege of traveling to Poland, one of America's closest allies, and was overwhelmed by the weight of history when I met with those who are building the Museum of the History of Poland's choice. Institutions like this are not only critical for Poland's future generations, but for what all of us, around the world, can learn from Poland.

Today, I rise today to commemorate the 67th anniversary of the Warsaw Uprising, a courageous act of defiance by the people of Poland against the brutal Nazi occupation during the Second World War.

On August 1, 1944, the Polish Underground began its struggle to liberate Warsaw, to further weaken the collapsing German eastern front and to establish Polish sovereignty in response to the Red Army's advance to the city's outskirts. Despite the courage and fortitude of the Polish people, the Underground could not overcome the Nazis' determination to oversee the complete destruction of the Home Army and the city, bolstered by official orders and a directive that the massacre was to serve as a "terrifying example" to Europe.

More than 200,000 civilians and members of the Home Army were killed in Warsaw over a 63-day period. Between August 5 and August 8, the Nazis murdered more than 40,000 people—overwhelmingly civilians—in the Wola district of Warsaw alone. Survivors, describing the horror of the executions, told of the indiscriminate slaughter of thousands of women and children. Approximately 700,000 Warsaw residents were expelled from their homes and forced out of the city—many sent to death, labor, or POW camps.

Hitler ordered that Warsaw should be razed to the ground; Heinrich Himmler declaring in the most chilling terms that Warsaw "must completely disappear from the surface of the earth." To that end, the Nazis systematically targeted buildings filled with deep meaning for the Poles, including cultural treasures, monuments, palaces, libraries, churches, and the Old Town. By the beginning of October, the Polish capitol was reduced to rubble—85 percent of the buildings in Warsaw had been destroyed.

But from ashes come diamonds and, despite this barbaric campaign, the Polish desire for freedom and liberty could not be extinguished—not even by the decades of communist oppression which followed the end of the war. Such courage and resilience continues to define the Polish people.

Today, Poland is a successful democracy and one of our strongest military allies. More to the point, Poland's leadership on issues related to democracy and human rights gives true meaning to the alliance concept of "shared values." Poland has tirelessly support democratic movements in Northern Africa and Eastern Europe, particularly in Tunisia, through democracy activists and transition experts, and Belarus. Poland has served as a regional force in the effort to encourage human rights and democracy in Belarus in the wake of the December 2010 post-election political crackdown, maintaining free media outlets that operate in Belarus and opening Polish universities to students expelled for pro-democracy activities.

On July 1, Poland assumed the six-months rotating Presidency of the European Union. It can only strengthen our transatlantic alliance to have the EU led by a country that has accomplished so much over the past 20 years both political and economically. As it happens, Poland has one of the fastest growing economies in Europe and is the only EU country not faced with a recession amidst the global financial crisis.

As chairman of the U.S. Helsinki Commission and co-chairman of the Congressional Poland Caucus, I commend Poland's leadership on democracy and human rights throughout the OSCE region and globally. Polish-American ties remain strong and steadfast because of such dedication to these common values. More than that, however, I have unwavering respect and admiration for the people of Poland, whose courage and determination in the face of so many historic tragedies—of which the Warsaw Massacre is only one example—is a source of continued inspiration.

TRIBUTE TO SIGMA PI PHI
FRATERNITY

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2011

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity.

In 1904, a small group of top professionals in Philadelphia set out to create an organization that would provide a vehicle for black men of high stature to network and learn the best from one another. These visionaries were Dr. Algernon B. Jackson, Dr. Henry McKee Minton, Dr. Edwin C. Howard and Dr. Richard J. Warrick.

At that time of Sigma Pi Phi's founding, accomplished black men lived and worked in isolation as they were not offered participation in professional and cultural associations organized by the white community. Inequities such as racism, discrimination, segregation, and inequality were rampant throughout the United

States. It took the ingenuity and courage displayed by these men based on their shared conditions to form an organization that would not only bring them together in fellowship, but benefit the country they loved for more than a century to come.

To quote Dr. Minton "professional men should have an organization that should be a fraternity in the true sense of the word; one whose chief thought should not be to visit the sick and bury the dead, but to bind men of like qualities, tastes and attainments into a close and sacred union that they might know the best of one another." Members would not be "selected on the basis of brains alone—but in addition to congeniality, culture and good fellowship; that they shall have behind them [at initiation] a record of accomplishment, not merely be men of promise and good education." His fraternity would contain the "best of Skull and Bones of Yale and of Phi Beta Kappa."

Today, the dream of Drs. Jackson, Minton, Howard and Warrick lives on and is stronger than ever. Sigma Pi Phi has over 5,000 members and 126 chapters throughout the United States and the West Indies. Members of Sigma Pi Phi have provided leadership and service during the Great Depression, World War I, World War II, the Civil Rights Movement, and addressed social issues such as urban housing, and many other critical issues affecting all people.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Sigma Pi Phi for their tireless work which has benefited our great nation for more than a century. Our country is a better one because of Sigma Pi Phi and I am proud to honor them today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2011

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, on September 7, 2011, I was absent from the House and missed rollcall vote 692.

Had I been present for rollcall 692, on a motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 67, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING HENRY GIVENS, JR.,
PH.D., PRESIDENT, HARRIS-
STOWE STATE UNIVERSITY,
SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2011

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a native St. Louisan, Dr. Henry Givens, Jr., who has served as president of Harris-Stowe State University since it became a state institution in 1979. He was educated in the St. Louis public schools and earned his baccalaureate degree at Lincoln University in Missouri. He earned his master's degree at the University of Illinois and his Ph.D. at Saint Louis University. His postdoctoral studies in higher education administration were at Harvard University.

Dr. Givens' professional experience in education is both broad and varied. He began his career as a teacher in the Webster Groves School District and became principal of the first prototype of a magnet school in the nation. Before leaving the Webster Groves public schools, he held the post of Assistant to the Superintendent of Schools. Soon after, he became the first African-American to serve Missouri as Assistant Commissioner of Education, which he did for 5 years.

At the request of the Governor of Missouri, Dr. Givens served as interim president at Lincoln University in Jefferson City, MO, during a financial crisis in 1987, while continuing his duties at Harris-Stowe. Such an appointment was without precedent in Missouri public higher education.

Under the leadership of Dr. Givens, Harris-Stowe has greatly expanded its degree programs; has significantly increased its facilities—from one building to seven, and including, for the first time in its long history of over 150 years, the new state-of-the-art William L. Clay, Sr. Early Childhood Development/Parenting Education Center and the Rev. Dr. William G. Gillespie Residence Hall and Student Center. An eighth new building, a second residence hall, is currently under construction. In addition, Harris-Stowe has opened its first business school satellite campus in South St. Louis; has expanded the University's academic program to include 14 degree offerings in selected applied professional disciplines; has tripled its student enrollment since entering the State System; and has changed its status from College to University, to name a few of its accomplishments.

Dr. Givens has served as Chairman of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Statewide Celebration Commission for Missouri since its inception in 1986 to 2011. Under his dynamic leadership, the State of Missouri now hosts the second-largest celebration in the nation, extending to every corner of Missouri. Dr. Givens was appointed by President Barack Obama to the HBCU Capital Finance Program Advisory Board, and has served in the past and present on local, national, and international groups as a consultant, including the U.S. State Department at its American School in Lima, Peru. In addition, he currently serves on several local, state and national Boards and Commissions. He serves on the St. Louis Regional Convention and Sports Complex Authority board, and on local and national Corporate Boards of Directors, including, U.S. Bank (Regional).

He is a past board member of Laclede Gas/Laclede Group, Peabody Energy, Inc., and Automobile Club of Missouri (AAA). President Givens is affiliated with numerous national and local professional and social organizations, and has received over 125 national, state and local awards and recognitions, including honorary doctorate degrees from Saint Louis University, Lincoln University and Washington University-St. Louis.

Dr. Givens is married to Belma Evans Givens. They have a daughter, a son, and three grandchildren.

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