

honored to join in this celebration and encourage all to participate in the Moonfest 1999 activities.

A POINT OF LIGHT FOR ALL AMERICANS: REVEREND BOOKER T. MCCOLLUM

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 15, 1999

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Reverend Booker T. McCollum, an individual who has tirelessly dedicated his life to making society better. This individual has made a lifetime commitment to the church and to the community. His vision, generosity, and devotion have empowered Reverend McCollum to not only spread the word of God but to uplift all those he has encountered. Reverend Booker T. McCollum is a great "Point-of-Light" whose work has not gone unappreciated or unnoticed.

Although his roots are in Mississippi, Reverend McCollum began his ministry in Brooklyn, NY. After relocating to New York, he joined the Friendship Baptist Church in Brooklyn and faithfully served as assistant church clerk, chairman of the trustees and deacon boards, and later as assistant to the pastor. In 1964, Reverend McCollum accepted the call to preach. By 1966, the reverend became an ordained and licensed Baptist minister. He continued to work diligently at the Friendship Baptist Church until he was moved by God to pursue his vision of starting a new church mission.

The vision would materialize as the St. Anthony Baptist Church located at 425 Utica Avenue, Brooklyn, NY. Reverend McCollum adopted the philosophy: "St. Anthony Baptist Church is the church where everybody is somebody and God is over all and where there are no big I's and little U's." This philosophy has helped what was once a gathering of a few faithful members at the home of Mr. & Mrs. James Parker become a pillar in the Brooklyn community.

Reverend McCollum was educated at Cornell Labor College of Law and the Baptist Education Center. His professional career includes employment with The United Furniture Workers Labor Union, Local 140 where he held the position of secretary/treasurer. He served in a religious capacity as president of the Evangelical Minister's Union, and he is the recipient of countless awards and citations. In addition to serving God and his community, Reverend McCollum served his country with distinction in the U.S. Navy.

Reverend Booker T. McCollum married "Grace Barnes" in 1943. There were happily married for more than 50 years and had three children: David, Gloria and Russell. His distinguished life marks one of dedication to community, to God, and to family. Reverend McCollum is a great "Point of Light," not only for people of his New York community, but for all of the people of America.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF HOUSTON ASTROS MANAGER LARRY DIERKER

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 15, 1999

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I want to offer my best wishes to Houston Astros manager Larry Dierker who will return to the dugout tonight, just four weeks after undergoing surgery that removed the cause of a grand mal seizure he suffered on June 13, 1999.

Although he must still take medication for the foreseeable future, Larry's doctors have told him he has little chance of recurrence of the seizure that struck without warning as he sat in the Astros' dugout. Like all Houstonians, I was shocked and alarmed by the severity of the seizure which played out on television and before nearly 30,000 fans at the Astrodome in Houston. In the moments following his seizure, I was struck by the presence and courage of the Astros players, personnel and paramedics who rushed to Larry's aid. In particular, I was impressed by the response of outfielder Derek Bell, who took direct, physical action to keep Larry from further injury.

As every Astros fan knows, Larry Dierker is in his third season as manager of the Astros. In 1998, he was named the National League Manager of the Year after leading the Astros to a record 102 wins. Before taking over as manager in October 1996, Dierker spent 17 seasons as an Astros radio and television broadcaster. He led the Astros to the National League Central title in his first season, then to their second straight division crown in 1998. For those of us that remember the early days of the Astros, we also know Larry for his 14 remarkable seasons as a top-notch pitcher in the National League who was the Astros' first 20-game winner in 1969. He was named to two All-Star games and pitched a no-hitter in 1976.

Mr. Chairman, many sports fans, including myself, can easily become caught-up in the importance of winning games, division titles and championships. We rejoice at the success of the great athletes, whose guile and ability seem to defy our human limitations. While winning is important, injuries and losses teach both athletes and fans alike to keep humility in check, for we are all mortal, and every moment of triumph and success can be quickly supplanted with bad fortune and loss. In many ways, the battles of winning and losing, through good times and bad, mirror the unpredictable course of our own lives.

On June 13, 1999, Larry Dierker, a quiet, humble man who has accomplished many great things in the arena of baseball, brought this lesson home to the sports fans of Houston. Now that he has rejoined the Astros, I join with Larry Dierker's family and many friends in the major leagues in celebrating his quick recovery and offering my best wishes in his able return to the Astros dugout.

July 15, 1999

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 14, 1999

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2466) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes:

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, today I rise to support Representative SLAUGHTER's amendment which will add money to the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).

Ms. SLAUGHTER's amendment raises the appropriation level for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) by \$10 million each.

The NEH is vital to our educational systems and provides numerous services in the area of the humanities. The NEH provides grants to individuals and institutions. These grants support valuable aspects of the humanities such as research in the humanities; educational opportunities for teachers; the preservation of texts and materials; translations of important works; museum exhibitions, television and radio programs; and public discussion and study.

The humanities encompass a wide variety of subject matter. They are all around us and evident in our daily lives. When you visit an exhibition on "The Many Realms of King Arthur" at your local library, that is the humanities. When you read the diary of a 17th-century New England midwife, that is the humanities. When you watch an episode of "The Civil War," that is the humanities, too. The humanities include the study of literature, history, philosophy, religion, art, history, and archaeology.

NEH also provides many educational tools for children. Most recently, the NEH has provided students with the educational foundations necessary for the use of the internet. NEH maintains EDSITEMent, a gateway Web site that provides links to 49 sites carefully selected for their quality of educational content and design. Instead of having to sift through more than 65,000 humanities-related sites on the Web, anyone seeking the best humanities education materials on the Internet can easily find and access them through EDSITEMent. Each site comes with lesson plans offering suggestions on how to use the materials effectively in the classroom.

NEH works closely with schools and is currently awarding grants to schools around the nation through an initiative called "Schools for a New Millennium," which will enable those schools to become models of how teachers, principals, librarians, and the community can fully incorporate CD-ROM's and the Internet into their everyday teaching.

To increase its efficiency, the NEH is organized into three divisions—Education and Research, Preservation and Access, and Public