

In 1849, after her owner died, she fled alone to Philadelphia on the underground railroad. Congress then passed the 1850 Fugitive Slave Act, a law that criminalized providing help to runaway slaves. Nevertheless, Harriet immediately dared to make her first return trip. Over the next decade, Tubman used the Underground Railroad to make 18 separate trips to free slaves. In total, she helped more than 3,000 slaves escape and earned the nickname "Moses" for having led so many of her people to freedom.

It is said that she planned carefully, never repeated her route, and became an inspirational role model. Her success is measured by the reactions of slave owners, who placed a \$40,000 bounty on her head, a fortune in today's dollars.

During the Civil War, she worked as a Union spy, scout, and nurse. In these roles, she helped even more slaves to escape. After the Civil War, she campaigned to raise funds for black schools. Later, she established the Harriet Tubman Home for Indigent Aged Negroes in her own home. Like many others who have dedicated their lives to social justice, Harriet lived her later years in poverty. A few years before her death, Congress finally awarded her a monthly pension. Today, I urge my colleagues to refresh our recognition of her life and good works.

The date of Harriet Ross Tubman's birth is uncertain, but experts believe it is March 10, 1820. She died on March 10, 1913. It is, therefore, highly appropriate to honor this American hero during March's Women's History Month. At her death, Tubman was impoverished in economic terms, but her life was rich with great accomplishments, great works, and the knowledge that she had brought freedom to thousands of slaves. She is an inspiration to all of us.

“PROJECT 2000”—A NATIONAL MODEL FOR HUMANITARIAN SUPPORT

**HON. HAROLD E. FORD, JR.**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 1999

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent, friend and esteemed member of the clergy from Tennessee's Ninth District, Reverend Bill Adkins.

On Wednesday, March 15, Reverend Adkins announced an ambitious project in Memphis that will bring together people of faith from across the city, from all dominations, to address our community's most pressing needs. Entitled "Project 2000," the initiative would begin on Easter Sunday and continue throughout the year. Participating churches would set aside the receipt from one Sunday's collection for a special community project.

Reverend Adkins described this initiative best when he urged his fellow clergy to join him in his cause:

"We pray about poverty, housing, incarceration, illnesses and the lack of jobs, and we should. But what are the churches doing? Why can't we take one Sunday out of 52 and do something together for the betterment of

the community? One hundred churches alone in Memphis could generate several million dollars." (Source: The Commercial Appeal, March 16, 1999)

"Project 2000" exemplifies the American ideals of community and mutual responsibility. As Americans, we should not live as individuals in isolation, but as members of a community, working together to solve our common problems. In our labors, we should draw on the spiritual, moral, intellectual and financial strength of our church community. There is no limit to what we can accomplish when we marshal the good will and resources of the more than 150 million people of faith who attend weekly services in over 300,000 congregations in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me today in honoring Reverend Adkins and "Project 2000." But more than that, Mr. Speaker, I believe the best tribute to Reverend Adkins and "Project 2000" would be for all of my colleagues in the House of Representatives to introduce this unique initiative to their constituents. I have included a copy of a recent news article describing this initiative and ask that it be included in the RECORD.

[From The Commercial Appeal, Mar. 16, 1999]

CHURCHES ASKED TO DONATE A SUNDAY

(By David Waters)

Monday, he was on the radio rallying citizens to do something positive for the oft-maligned neighborhood of Whitehaven.

Tuesday, he was at the City Council meeting, lobbying council members to do something to fix a voting plan he thinks is unfair.

Wednesday, he held a press conference and challenged his congregation and others to do something collectively to help the community.

"We pray about poverty, housing, incarceration, illness and the lack of jobs, and we should," Rev. Bill Adkins, pastor of Greater Imani Church, said as he presented his idea for Project 2000.

"But what are the churches doing?"

Adkins suggested that, starting next year, all local churches contribute one Sunday's receipts to a special community project.

The first Project 2000 Sunday could be Jan. 30, 2000, the fifth Sunday of that month.

"Most churches consider fifth Sundays as gravy," Adkins said.

"Why can't we take one Sunday out of 52 and do something together for the betterment of the community?"

Adkins would like to get representatives from each participating congregation to form a board to choose a Project 2000 recipient.

"One hundred churches alone in Memphis could generate several million dollars," he said.

"The church, especially the traditional black church, has the might to bring resurrection power to this community."

Adkins said Project 2000 will begin on Easter Sunday.

Easter this year falls on April 4 for the first time since Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was killed on that date in Memphis in 1968.

To commemorate that date, Adkins said Greater Imani will celebrate Easter at the Mid-South Coliseum this year. The service will begin at 9 a.m.

THE IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER INCENTIVE ACT OF 1999

**HON. PHILIP M. CRANE**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 1999

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, today I am joined by my Ways and Means Committee colleague Mr. NEAL in introducing the IRA Charitable Rollover Incentive Act. This bill will allow Americans who have reached age 59½ to donate their IRA assets to a charity without incurring income tax on the distribution.

Under current law, distributions from IRA's are taken in as income to the account holder and taxed. This proposal will allow the assets in the IRA to pass directly to the charity without being taken in and taxed as income. However, the donor may not also claim a charitable contribution deduction as the IRA assets represent previously untaxed income.

The IRA Charitable Rollover Incentive Act has come about thanks to the valuable input from hundreds of charitable organizations across the country. I want to specifically thank Northwestern University President Henry Bienen for bringing to my attention the problems the current laws governing IRA's have created for donors who wish to transfer their assets to charities.

This bill has the potential for unlocking significant financial resources for charitable organizations. I urge my colleagues to join us in this effort by cosponsoring the IRA Charitable Rollover Incentive Act.

IN HONOR OF TOM AND PAUL CALAMARAS

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 1999

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Tom and Paul Calamaras. They were honored on November 20, 1998, as "Men of the Year" by the Broadway-Astoria Merchants & Professionals Association at their 18th Annual Dinner Dance at the Crystal Palace.

Tom and Paul Calamaras, the owners of the Crystal Palace and Oyster Bay Catering Hall, have played an immensely significant role in New York City's Greek-American community.

The history of the Calamaras family is the story of the American Dream. Thomas, Paul, and their sister, Eleni, were born in Sparta to Despina and John Calamaras. When the children were still young, John came to the United States to support his family. He worked at the Oyster Bay Restaurant, first as a dishwasher and later as a chef. In 1944, John opened a small coffee shop on the Lower East Side.

John, who was not a citizen, was finally able to bring his family to the United States in the late 1940s. The Calamaras family ran the coffee shop, and when the restaurant next door became available, they expanded the restaurant into the Blue Sea Restaurant.

In 1957, Paul returned to Greece where he met and married Mary Stefanos Resiopoulou

of Athens. They returned to the United States in 1958. Today, they live on the north shore of Long Island with their three sons, John, Stefanos, and Athanasios.

In 1959, Tom also returned to Greece where he met and married Aphrodite Christopoulos of Kalamata. They currently live on the Upper East Side of Manhattan.

In 1959, John, Paul and Tom purchased the Oyster Bay Restaurant, John's first place of employment in the United States. The Oyster Bay joined the Blue Sea Restaurant and many other diners and restaurants run by the Calamaras family. In 1961, John fulfilled another one of his dreams when he purchased the Broadway Movie Theater. The Calamaras family also established the Crystal Palace Caterers around this time.

Sadly, John passed away in 1973, but Tom and Paul are continuing his legacy. They still own and operate their father's restaurant and they are also continuing his tradition of honoring their Greek roots.

In recognition of their continued support of causes that promote Hellenism in America, in February of this year Thomas and Paul Calamaras received the title of Archon Deputatos by the Ecumenical Patriarch Dimitrios.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to bring to your attention these important men, Tom and Paul Calamaras, as they are honored as "Men of the Year." I would also like to offer my sincere congratulations to the Broadway-Astoria Merchants & Professionals Association as it celebrates its 18th Annual Dinner Dance.

#### A TRIBUTE TO ED HASTEY

### HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 1999

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention today the fine work and outstanding public service of my very good friend, Ed Haste. Ed is looking forward to a full and productive retirement after serving the Bureau of Land Management, the State of California, and the nation for over 46 years.

A fourth generation Californian and native of Pacific Grove, Ed attended Fresno State College and Monterey Peninsula College, and following his service in the military, graduated from the University of Washington in 1957. He joined BLM in 1957 after several years in the Army Airborne. Over the years, he served as the BLM's national budget officer, assistant director for administration, and as associate director in Washington, DC. He also served two stints as BLM's California State Director, the last stretching from 1982 to the present.

During his tenure at the BLM, Ed spent most of his career directing the management of 16 million acres of public lands in California and Northern Nevada. In that time, he has worked under a dozen Secretaries of Interior. "I once referred to Ed Haste as 'the viceroy of California,' and I truly believe no single individual has had a more positive impact on California's landscapes than Ed," said Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt. "He will be missed."

Ed is widely credited with founding the California Biodiversity Council which draws together all Federal and State land management and environmental agencies with County Supervisors Associations from throughout the state to collaborate on ways to better manage California's diverse natural resources.

Ed is especially proud of the land exchange and acquisition program that he directed in cooperation with the State of California and several private land conservancies that has ensured protection of many unique California landscapes. Several examples include the King Range National Conservation Area on the north coast, the Carrizo Plain in central California, the Santa Rosa Mountains in Southern California, and Cosummes Preserve in Sacramento County, and numerous other areas throughout the state. Ed was also instrumental in the recent acquisition of the Headwaters Forest in Humboldt County which the BLM will manage in partnership with the state.

On a personal note, Ed has been a longtime friend and trusted advisor on important public land issues affecting my congressional district in southern California. We have, over the years, enjoyed many back country excursions together. I know that our friendship will continue and fully expect to spend many more days together exploring the vast and beautiful California wilderness.

Mr. Speaker, few people in public life ever make the type of contributions made by my very good friend, Ed Haste. As he begins his well-deserved retirement, Ed leaves many admirers in and out of government who respect him for his work, his fundamental sense of decency, and most importantly, his integrity. All of us wish Ed, his wife of 45 years, Joyce, and his family much happiness in the coming years. It is only appropriate that the House pay tribute to Ed Haste today.

#### HONORING COAHOMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 1999

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to stand before you today to honor an institution of higher learning that is currently enjoying its 50th year of academic excellence.

Coahoma Community College, nestled in Clarksdale, Mississippi, was established on June 8, 1949, by the Board of Trustees of Coahoma County agricultural High School. Back then, they got together to discuss adding a freshman year of college to the high school as provided by a special act of the state legislature. At the same time, they changed the name of the school to Coahoma Junior College and Agricultural High School which now stands as Coahoma Community College.

Coahoma Community College started out as a college where African-American students could pursue their dreams of obtaining a college education when no other opportunities were available to them. Today, they strive to meet the dreams of every student, adult and

businessperson who has a desire to improve his or her place in life.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I want to add that Coahoma Community College is just that . . . a college for the community. It has definitely come a long way since 1949. With the additions of the Skill/Tech Industrial Training Center and other programs, Coahoma works with businesses and industrial plants offering start-up training, employee and skills enhancement training and health and safety training. Through its academic, vo-tech and skill/tech classes, the college offers a variety of non-credit courses designed to enhance the quality of life in the community as well as increase a person's skills in lifelong learning.

From a college that gave blacks an opportunity to attain a college education to providing the community with diverse centers for learning, Coahoma Community College continues to fulfill its original mission of providing opportunities for advancement for the people it serves.

#### THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF CORTEZ GROWERS

### HON. GARY A. CONDIT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 1999

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the 75th Anniversary of Cortez Growers.

Many of the original founders of the Cortez Growers Association first came to California in 1910. The farming cooperative takes its name from the small Santa Fe Railroad stop north of Livingston and southeast of Turlock in my district in California's great Central Valley.

Lured to the Valley by a popular Japanese-language newspaper, the immigrants, unable to speak English and ineligible to own land or become U.S. citizens doggedly pursued the American dream, eventually catching it, revolutionizing farming and transforming Merced County into a major agricultural center.

Immigrating in search of opportunity, they lived as sharecroppers and laborers while searching for the American dream in Berkeley, Watsonville, Salinas, Woodlands, Sacramento, San Francisco and nearly any other place where they found inexpensive farmland where they quickly found they could grow nearly anything.

With little money the immigrants faced incredible odds. Under the Alien Land Law of 1913, Asians couldn't own land because they couldn't become citizens. At the same time, many of the established farmers around Livingston didn't welcome the newcomers. Meeting the challenges steadfastly, the new residents of Cortez formed their grower's association on April 18, 1924.

They struggled with anti-Japanese sentiments during World War II, with many forced into internment camps. Though thousands of Japanese-Americans lost everything during the war, the crisis did not end the dreams of the Cortez members. By January, 1945, the tides of war had firmly turned in the Allied forces' favor, and the Western Defense Command had lifted military restrictions on Japanese-Americans. Following the war, the association began radical changes that would see