

TRIBUTE TO TEACHING FELLOWS FROM RICHMOND COUNTY, NC

HON. ROBIN HAYES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 1999

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to congratulate six Richmond County Senior High students who are among the 1999 recipients of the North Carolina Teaching Fellows scholarships. Each Fellow receives a \$26,000 scholarship loan from the state of North Carolina.

The full loan is forgiven after the recipient has completed four years of teaching in North Carolina public schools.

In addition, all Fellows take part in summer and academic summer enrichment programs during their college careers.

The Teaching Fellows Scholarship program was created by the North Carolina General Assembly in 1986 and has become one of the top teacher recruiting programs in the country.

This innovative program attracts talented high school seniors to become public school teachers. This is a commonsense, state-based program that will help encourage our best and brightest to come back to their communities to teach.

The 1999 recipients from Richmond County, NC, are James Haltom, Kristen McDonald, Shana McLaughlin, Matthew Pence, Patience Whitehead, and Melissa Allen.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate these individuals for the courage and desire to enter the teaching profession.

TRIBUTE TO DEE THOMAS

HON. KAREN L. THURMAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 1999

Mrs. THURMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Delores L. "Dee" Thomas, a successful businesswoman in my district who this month became the first woman to chair the national ESOP Association.

The association is made up of twenty-one hundred members representing nearly one million employee business owners across the country who participate in an Employee Stock Ownership Plan, known as an ESOP.

Ms. Thomas is well prepared for this leadership position. She cofounded a company 30 years ago that is still operating successfully today in New Port Richey and Sebring, FL.

The company, called Ewing & Thomas, is the only physical therapy company in the country that is 100 percent employee owned through an Employee Stock Ownership Plan.

Ms. Thomas is a true advocate of ESOP companies. She testified before the full Ways and Means Committee in March about the many benefits of these type of employee-owned businesses. She said, "We believe that significant employee ownership does improve performance of a corporation, and just as important does maximize human potential and self-dignity of all employees as they share in the wealth they help to create."

She cites her company as proof.

At Ewing & Thomas, where she is vice-president, employee owners are represented on all levels of the board of directors and participate in the company's decision making. In her testimony, Ms. Thomas said, "Each day incredible unselfish acts are performed by this group of employee owners."

Ms. Thomas may have given away some control and power when she decided to convert her business to employee ownership. But in return, she gained more than she ever though possible. The company's stock price and annual sales are way up, and the employees genuinely care about the company's future.

Ms. Thomas is an American success story. Through compassion, caring and of course hard work, she's moving up in the business world. But she's holding on to her principles and giving a hand up to those around her. That's her way. I also believe that's the American way.

Today, I'm not simply paying tribute to a friend and a constituent. I'm honoring a special woman who is committed to fairness and high performance. And I'm confident in this new leadership role, she will help more employee owners achieve their dreams and prosper. That too is her way. Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, please join me in paying tribute to Ms. Dee Thomas, chair of the national ESOP Association.

JESUS GALVEZ INSTALLED AS POSTMASTER

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 1999

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Jesus Galvez who will be honorably installed as Postmaster of Miami.

In 1984, Jesus joined the postal service as a letter carrier. Embodying the definition of dedication, hard work and service to his community, he was quickly promoted to Acting Supervisor, Supervisor of Mails and Delivery and Supervisor of Customer Service. Jesus was soon appointed to the position of Officer in Charge of Miami, Florida where he continued to serve South Floridians by utilizing his talents and abilities to fulfill and supercede his duties. His outstanding character and extraordinary effort enabled him to be the recipient of many prestigious awards, including VP Accomplishments for two years in a row, the UP Award, the Achievement Award, the Leadership Award and the Exceptional Individual Performance Award.

On May 14th, Jesus will be joined by his wife, Marlene, sons, Christopher and Michael, mother, Clara Fernandez and brother, Jose Galvez to be prestigiously installed as Postmaster. His commitment to excellence and extraordinary leadership will ensure his resounding success as Postmaster of Miami.

A TRIBUTE TO AILEEN DININO

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 1999

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Aileen DiNino of North Miami, who has contributed so much to the cultural atmosphere of Florida in the 48 years which she has devoted to the teaching of music in our state. Mrs. DiNino, nearly 84, works with the junior string development of the Miami Youth Symphony, volunteers at public schools, has dozens of private students, and plays at her church, as well.

The future Mrs. DiNino first took piano lessons when she was seven years old. Her first music teachers were nuns in Wisconsin, where she grew up and sometimes accompanied her grandfather's fiddle in a duet. When she was 14, Aileen DiNino began studying the violin as she entered the convent. She taught children at an Indian reservation while still a teenager. At age 21, she took her vows as a nun with the Franciscans of Perpetual Adoration. She left the order decades later, upon the demise of the health of both her mother and herself.

In Minnesota, Mrs. DiNino met her future husband, Frank, who also was a musician and who had been a member of General Pershing's band. After marriage, the couple moved to South Florida, where Mrs. DiNino became a professor at Miami-Dade Community College.

Today, as ever, Mrs. DiNino encourages here proteges to give their very best to their music. It is indeed a privilege to recognize the dedication of such an outstanding Florida citizen as Mrs. Aileen DiNino.

ADDRESS OF MR. BENJAMIN MEED AT THE NATIONAL CIVIC COMMEMORATION OF THE DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 1999

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, April 13, Members of Congress joined with representatives of the diplomatic corps, executive and judicial branch officials, and Holocaust survivors and their families to commemorate the National Days of Remembrance in the Rotunda of the United States Capitol.

The ceremony coincided with the 60th anniversary of the voyage of the SS *St. Louis*, which set sail from Germany in April 1939, carrying more than 900 Jews away from Nazi terror. Denied entry to both Cuba and the United States, the *St. Louis* was forced to send its frightened passengers back to Europe just months before the onset of World War II. Many of them were eventually murdered in Auschwitz, Treblinka, and the other death camps of Hitler's Holocaust.

The tragic fate of the SS *St. Louis* remains a symbol to all of us who believe that society must never close its eyes to the victims of