

bringing smiles to the faces of citizens through her considerable volunteer efforts.

Mrs. LaTronica brought a spirit of joy to all of those around her no matter where or what she was doing. It is this sense of joy and happiness that will be missed, but not soon forgotten.

Ms. LaTronica was a great citizen and an even better person. She will be greatly missed by friends, family and the citizens of Pueblo.

IN HONOR OF THE UNION CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY, CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Housing Authority of Union City, New Jersey, celebrating a half-century of providing affordable housing to area families.

The 50th anniversary of the Union City Housing Authority is a wonderful cause for celebration. However, the real celebration lies in the extraordinary success the Authority has achieved in community building, which has led to its recognition as one of the top performing housing authorities in the nation.

This success has been accomplished through a clear understanding that building houses alone will not build communities. Compassion, hard work, dedication, and solid planning are the heart and mind of the Union City Housing Authority, and it is this heart and mind that builds prosperous communities.

When people envision public housing, they do not envision communities that provide for the spiritual and social needs of residents. Most picture dismal, neglected houses, empty streets, and residents disconnected from the mainstream.

Public housing has changed because we have changed. For many years now, the Union City Housing Authority has had a different vision of public housing; and today, that vision has touched countless lives, satisfying for many the age-old need for a real home—not just a shelter from the harsh elements.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me as I honor the Union City Housing Authority for its extraordinary success at providing affordable housing, establishing communities, and changing lives.

TRIBUTE TO MS. KATHRINE SMITH OF MADISON COUNTY, ALABAMA

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a wonderful woman in my district, Ms. Kathrine "Kate" Smith. Today Ms. Smith celebrates her 94th birthday. For almost a century, she has graced North Alabama with her dignified presence and has shared her talents and gifts with her community.

Ms. Smith's community service accomplishments would fill many a page, so it will suffice to say that she gives back to her community tenfold. Ms. Smith has been recognized for her service with many awards, plaques and certificates and thus it is fitting that the United States Congress join the many others in honoring her for her full and selfless life.

In addition to her outstanding community service, she is also a member of First Missionary Baptist Church, she sings in the church choir and is a member of the Missionary Society, OES (Eastern Star) and The Good Neighbor's Club.

I join Ms. Smith's friends and family who love her dearly in wishing her a happy and healthy 94th year. I thank her for her extraordinary contributions to our community and wish her a well-deserved happy birthday.

TRIBUTE TO CASTRO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT AND ST. MARY'S COLLEGE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding public-private partnership in my district and all the participants who share a deep commitment for the education of our children. Castro Valley Unified School District and St. Mary's College of California have developed and implemented a partnership that has led to a comprehensive literacy development program at kindergarten through post-graduate collegiate levels.

I commend St. Mary's College of California for forming a public-private partnership with the Castro Valley Unified School District. This commitment to the betterment of children and education by extending professional learning experiences and teaching strategies has greatly increased the school district's ability to deliver a comprehensive literacy program. Because of their efforts, almost all Castro Valley Unified School District students completing third grade are at or above reading level, student achievement is up, literacy attainment is heightened, and teaching strategies are being redefined and better directed.

I take great pride in honoring the dedication and professional leadership that St. Mary's College has taken in establishing this partnership. The partnership has helped expand the role of the public school teacher to a researcher, writer, and facilitator and created a model for successful literacy teacher-training programs. I believe that this public-private partnership should serve as a model to school districts and colleges across the country in order to create higher standards of literacy and literacy education at kindergarten through post-graduate collegiate levels.

HONORING PATTY ARAGON

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to celebrate the wonderful life of Patricia Aragon. Mrs. Aragon recently passed on after a courageous battle with cancer.

Patty was a beloved citizen of Pagosa Springs where she and her husband, Ross, raised their six children. And with Patty, it was always children—hers and others in her community—that came first. She served on the local school board for over a decade where she was proud to pass out diplomas at commencement ceremonies. Everyone who came in contact with Patty was instantly overtaken with her loving spirit. When she wasn't helping the school system, she could be found serving patron's of her restaurant. She and her husband owned Al's and Al's West restaurants where Patty was famous for her chiliburgers and homemade tortillas.

Patty Aragon was an incredibly spirited person who loved to see others smile. Through her business and public service, she touched the lives of hundreds children and adults alike.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say thank you to this remarkable woman and great Coloradan. She will be greatly missed, but not soon forgotten.

LEBARON TAYLOR—A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, next week the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation will host its 30th Annual Legislative Weekend. For the first time in the history of this event, we will be without our beloved friend, and former CBC Foundation Chairman and board member, H. LeBaron Taylor. LeBaron died from cardiac arrest on July 19th.

LeBaron was both Senior Vice President for Corporate Affairs at Sony Music Entertainment and Vice President for Corporate Affairs at Sony Software Corporation. His responsibilities ranged from government and public affairs issues to corporate responsibilities including equal opportunity employment and minority development and corporate philanthropy. LeBaron's impact on the entertainment industry, however, far exceed his formal titles or positions within the Sony corporate structure.

From his entry in the music industry as a broadcast engineer as well as an on-air personality and program director at WCHB in Detroit to a stint as station manager at WDAS in Philadelphia to his move into the record business with the creation of Revilot Records in 1967, LeBaron was a pioneer in the promotion of Black music. He would later move to Atlantic Records in New York City before joining CBS Records in 1974. Black Enterprise magazine noted that LeBaron "defined black music in the '70's."

LeBaron's unique relationships with artists led to his position with CBS Records as the head of their marketing department for Black music. Under his leadership, CBS Records' Black music Marketing department became the model for the entire industry. Three years later, he became the company's first vice president of Black Music Marketing, with the added responsibility of Jazz/Progressive Music Marketing. LeBaron was recognized by Ebony magazine as one of the "Top 50 Black American Executives in Corporate America" and, most recently, as one of the top Blacks in the entertainment industry.

Throughout his career, he received numerous awards for his public service activities and his pioneering efforts in Black music marketing. A two-time recipient of the Congressional Black Caucus Chair Award, LeBaron also received the Chairman's Humanitarian Award from TransAfrica Forum; the NAACP Corporate Image Award; and awards from the National Urban League; the National Association of Black Owned Broadcasters; The Black Entertainment and Sports Lawyers Hall of Fame, the White House Conference on Small Business and The Business Policy Review Council among many others that are too numerous to mention. His civic activities included board membership with organizations such as the CBC Foundation, the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies Board of Governors and the Rhythm & Blues Foundation.

Characteristically, the accomplishment of which LeBaron was most proud was his recognition by the Black Employees Organization of CBS Inc. for mentoring and fostering the growth and development of minorities within the company.

A native of Detroit, LeBaron graduated from Wayne State University and recently was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Law degree from Miles College in Fairfield, Alabama. He was also a board member of the Grand Boule Foundation of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity and chaired its Social Action Committee. He is survived by his wife, Kay Loverlace Taylor, Ed.D. and four children: Eric and Tiffani from his first marriage and his stepchildren, Laura and Jason, from his second marriage. His first wife, Yvonne passed away in January of 1997.

The CBC Foundation's Annual Legislative Weekend will be forever changed by the absence of LeBaron Taylor not only because of his dedication to our Weekend's activities, but also because of his lasting contributions to the public service work of the Foundation, his friendship and support for CBC Members and his contributions to the Black music industry.

IN HONOR OF ELLI
STASSINOPOULOS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the extraordinary life of Elli Stassinopoulos, mother and grandmother, whose singular, unselfish devotion to her family and friends places her in that pantheon which awaits all those who have made the

every need of their loved ones a higher cause than themselves. "Angles fly because they take themselves lightly," she would tell her children. Elli's voyage through life was that of a lighted persona which the darkness of history could not comprehend, nor could personal tragedy embitter.

Elli Stassinopoulos knew peril and hardship early in life. Her family fled Russia during the 1917 Revolution. She was captured by the Germans when she joined the anti-Nazi Greek resistance. She surmounted a disappointing marriage. Despite her early travails, she lived each day in simplicity and humility, triumphant, with a grateful heart and a sense of wonder. She slipped past the would-be conquerors of spirit to establish her domain in the sanctity of the home. In it she created magic with food and philosophy. Her household sustained and uplifted body, mind and spirit for her beloved daughters, Arianna, and Agapi and granddaughters Christina and Isabella.

"From the heirloom carpet spirited out of the Caucasus to her last pair of gold earrings, she sold everything along the way to pay for our schooling, sending me to Cambridge, and my sister Agapi to the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts. But far beyond an education, she gave us what I know is the greatest gift a mother can give her child: her attention, her energy, her unconditional loving," wrote Arianna in a recent Mother's Day tribute to "Yaya" (Greek for grandmother).

Yaya's knowledge of the Greek classics, her stunning eloquence and her joy of living defined enchantment for all visitors to her home. Her life was an unceasing hymn of praise to her loved ones. And long after her beautiful voice has become a blessed memory, the music of that praise will be felt in the hearts of those who loved her so much, and all re-echo in the voices of her daughters and granddaughters through the years. Great love reverberates greatly.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all Members of the House of Representatives to join with me in recognizing the life of Elli Stassinopoulos, a woman who exemplified the kind of caring and devoted love of a mother and grandmother which is cherished and which makes each home a holy place.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR CLYDE
FOSTER OF TRIANA, ALABAMA

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Clyde Foster, a resident of my district and the former Mayor of Triana, Alabama. The City of Triana has designated today as "Clyde Foster Day" and I want to join the City in recognizing their unsung hero.

Mr. Foster has dedicated many years of outstanding public service to his community and to the entire state of Alabama. He has accumulated over fifty years of community service including the twenty he spent as Mayor of the lovely city of Triana. In the position of Mayor, Mr. Foster held the city together improving the lives of its citizens and making Triana a better place to work and raise a family.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Foster for his exemplary role as a leader in our community. I join the Governor of Alabama and the State Senate in commending Mr. Foster for his selfless lifetime commitment to improving his city. As his friends, neighbors and family join today to honor him, I share their pride in and gratitude for the life and accomplishments of their beloved Mr. Foster. On behalf of the United States Congress, I thank him for a job well done.

A TRUE COLORADO HERO

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize an extraordinary young man, Travis Stout. Travis, a young Cub Scout, just recently received the Boy Scouts of America Medal of Merit. It was on November 24, 1999 that Travis' quick actions and knowledge of emergency actions allowed him to save his father from danger. This lifesaving award is being presented to a young man that not only saved his father, but also exemplified the characteristics of what it takes to be a true hero.

Travis, his younger brother Allen, and father Wayne were checking oil field generators as they often do on weekends. When methanol was blown back out of the line, Wayne was hit in the eyes and mouth. Travis, realizing the danger of the event, quickly flushed out his father's eyes with water and dialed help. With help unable to reach the area in time, Travis operated his father's truck and drove to the Utah-Colorado border to meet help.

Travis, a ten-year-old, took it upon himself to help his father and in doing so became a hero of a size much greater than his own. I think we all owe this young gentleman our congratulations and commendations on this incredible feat of heroism. Travis is a true hero and an outstanding citizen of our great nation, as well as an example for all to follow.

IN TRIBUTE TO JIM AND MARIE
MCCOY

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute to Jim and Marie McCoy, who recently celebrated 40 years as owners and operators of McCoy's Automotive & Towing in Santa Paula, California, a city in my district known for its world-renowned citrus and hardworking citizens.

McCoy's Automotive offers foreign and domestic car service to its customers. Jim and Marie McCoy offer dedication and devotion to their community.

While building a thriving business, Jim McCoy also found time to be president of the Chamber of Commerce, a City Councilman and Santa Paula's mayor. Marie McCoy has