

October 17, 2000

Tom was also involved in many civic activities in Jefferson City. He was on the Board of Directors of the Jefferson City Chamber of Commerce and the Board of Trustees of Memorial Community Hospital. He served as president of the Cole County Chapter, University of Missouri Alumni Association, and the Cole County Bar Association. He was a merit badge counselor for the Boy Scouts of America.

Tom married the late Christine Wood Graham on April 22, 1944. They were married for almost 54 years and had one son, Christopher Graham.

Mr. Speaker, Tom Graham was my good friend and a great American. I know the Members of the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to his family.

IN HONOR OF THE FORT WORTH
MASJID OF AL-ISLAM

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, this weekend in Fort Worth, Texas, it will be my honor and privilege to attend and participate in events which promote racial and religious unity and peace. On October 21, 2000, the Fort Worth Masjid of Al-Islam, under the leadership of Imam Nasir Ahmed, will host a Southwest Regional Pioneer Banquet honoring those it considers to be pioneers in the causes of diversity, religious interaction, Islam, economic development, political awareness and education.

I am humbled to be among a group of honorees which includes religious radio broadcaster and journalist, Robert Ashley; American Jewish Congress Southwest Region executive director, Joel Brooks; community relations consultant, writer and member of the Thanks-Giving Square Interfaith Council, Rose Marie Stromberg; 97-year old founder of the Tarrant County Black Historical and Genealogical Society, Lenora Rolla; long-time Muslim, 95-year old Dave Hassen; and the organizer of Brooks of Baaziga, a Muslim girl's group, Ruby B. Muhammad.

The work of the Fort Worth Masjid of Al-Islam is, by itself, noteworthy. Yet, the Masjid's efforts are heightened and broadened by the fact that this celebration will include the personage and the teachings of The Honorable Imam Warith Deen Mohammed, leader of the Muslim American Society. Throughout this country and around the world Imam Mohammed is known, respected and admired for his work towards peace, religious freedom and diversity and liberty for all people. On October 22, 2000, the Fort Worth-Dallas area will have the pleasure of receiving his message on "Dealing With Racism From Religion". It is my great pleasure, therefore, to join with the Fort Worth Masjid of Al-Islam, its brothers and sisters in the Dallas Masjid of Al-Islam and the larger Fort Worth-Dallas community in heartily welcoming Imam Mohammed to our community.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

NATIONAL AIDS TESTING DAY

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) epidemic is one of the deadliest foes that we have faced in recent history. Like any foe, we must learn all we can about this deadly virus and take appropriate action to halt its assault on society.

One of the first steps in stopping the spread of HIV is to know if one is infected. A recent study showed that 90% of the people who knew their HIV status changed their sexual behavior, thus helping to stop the spread of HIV. This statistic illustrates the importance of knowing one's HIV status. I believe it is essential for all U.S. citizens to be aware of their HIV status. This will not only help them stay healthy, but it is the first step in preventing the transmission of HIV to other.

Unfortunately, many people in this country are unaware of their HIV status. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimate that 900,000 people may be infected with HIV and nearly one-third of these individuals or 270,000 are unaware of their HIV status.

We must ensure that people have access to all FDA approved HIV tests. It is the simplest and cheapest form of prevention.

A barrier to HIV testing is that it is often perceived as painful because some testing requires blood samples taken through needles. Many people fear needles and therefore would rather not be tested than give blood.

I am pleased to learn that there is FDA approved technologies that do not require the use of needles. Companies like Calypte Biomedical, which is located in my own state of Maryland and in California, have focused on developing HIV diagnostic test than do not use needles, such as the HIV urine tests.

Why then are so many not being tested?

It has come to my attention that some facilities within the public health infrastructure are discouraging local community testing groups from using HIV tests that require only a urine sample. Some states have even passed legislation that prevents organizations from accessing FDA approved HIV urine testing technologies.

It is critical that our public health infrastructure, which receives Federal Medicare, Medicaid and block grant funds, supports all FDA approved HIV testing systems. In our efforts to help people learn their HIV status, we must guarantee access to all HIV testing options, like urine testing.

A first step in this direction is to become involved in the upcoming National AIDS Testing Day. The National AIDS Testing Day is coordinated by the National Association of People with AIDS (NAPWA), which Calypte Biomedical supports.

I strongly encourage all of my colleagues to become involved with this effort.

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TRIBUTE TO LOWELL PAXSON

HON. MARK FOLEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize a distinguished broadcaster and American, Mr. Lowell "Bud" Paxson. Mr. Paxson has been involved in the broadcasting industry for over 40 years, providing wholesome and family-friendly programming to millions of people nationwide.

PAX TV, founded by Paxson and headquartered near my West Palm Beach home, provides safe programming that the whole family can enjoy. This network has been welcomed by American parents seeking an alternative to much of the violent and sexually suggestive programming currently being marketed to America's children. As a result, the popularity of PAX TV has made it the seventh largest television network in the country.

Bud Paxson is a good friend and an upstanding civic leader. Last year, he received the "Entrepreneur of the Year" award by Florida Atlantic University. This year, he received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree by Barry University. This honor is given to individuals who have been recognized for outstanding achievements in their profession, communities, and the world.

Today I want to honor Bud for his excellent corporate example as well as thank him for his friendship and selflessness.

H.R. 5164: TRANSPORTATION RECALL ENHANCEMENT, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND DOCUMENTATION ACT

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer a few brief additional comments on the so-called "TREAD Act," which passed the House last week in order to clarify the intent of one key provision that was added after committee consideration.

The legislation as it arrived on the floor included a provision addressing child restraints. This was a provision that Representative SHIMKUS (R-IL) had promoted and a subject in which we engaged in a colloquy at the Commerce Committee markup on the bill. I am very pleased that this provision was added to the legislation as it was deliberated on the House floor.

Mr. Speaker, it has become increasingly apparent that child restraints are too often marketed for children who are larger and heavier than the anthropomorphic test dummies used by National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in the sled tests that the agency utilizes. This was highlighted for the Commerce Committee members through the work performed by Consumer Reports magazine. Its independent testing demonstrated that child restraints tested with a child at the highest weight recommended by the manufacturer of