

College (presently The College of Staten Island), as a student of early childhood education. Tessie then enrolled at John Jay College of Criminal Justice to study Government and Public Administration.

In 1979, Tessie became District Manager of Community Board #2. She brought her skills and talents acquired during her five years in the private sector as a program coordinator of the NY/NJ Minority Purchasing Council. Her varied abilities and new position reaffirmed an earlier awareness that true change in government begins when one becomes involved and gains knowledge of how the system works. As District Manager, she shares that knowledge and is truly committed to making a difference in the community she grew up in and now represents.

Tessie was the co-founder of the Better Education Committee, Community of Business Labor, Educational Services (CABLE), and the Brooklyn Women's Political Caucus. She is also on several boards, is an affiliate with many organizations and the recipient of numerous honors. Please join me in recognizing the contributions of one of Brooklyn's most respected city employees, Evelyn "Tessie" Williams.

NEW JERSEY SUPPORTS THE
UNITED NEGRO COLLEGE FUND

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the United Negro College Fund, and to call attention to its annual campaign celebration that will occur on March 2, 2000, in Trenton, NJ.

For nearly six decades, the United Negro College Fund has had a long and rich history of helping students in New Jersey and nationwide obtain a higher education.

In 1943, Dr. Frederick D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, wrote an open letter which appeared in the Pittsburgh Courier newspaper, which called on the presidents of the nation's private black colleges to join with him to "pool their small monies and make a united appeal to the national conscience." His words became the guiding principle for what was to become one of the world's leading education assistance organizations. One year later, on April 25 1994, the United Negro College Fund was incorporated with 27 member colleges and a combined enrollment of just 14,000 students.

Fifty-six years later, UNCF has grown to become one of our nation's oldest and most-respected educational organizations. Today, the UNCF is a strong consortium of 39 private, accredited, four-year historically black colleges and universities.

In recent years, UNCF has broadened its focus by offering programs designed to enhance educational quality, provide financial assistance to deserving students, raise funds for member colleges and universities, and supply technical assistance to member institutions.

More than 300,000 men and women have obtained an education with the support they

received from the United Negro College Fund. In communities from central New Jersey to central California and every place in between, UNCF graduates are working to build a stronger nation as community leaders in every walk of life.

On Thursday, March 2, 2000, the United Negro College Fund will kick off its yearly events with a ceremony held in Trenton, New Jersey. Through its hard work and the commitment of community leaders, including Trenton Mayor Douglas H. Palmer, and citizens, the UNCF was able to offer scholarships to several students last year, and campaign organizers hope to double their efforts in the year ahead.

Mr. Speaker, education is the admission ticket to opportunity on today's economy. The efforts and commitment of organizations like the United Negro College Fund, which have made a positive difference in the lives of so many young Americans, are to be commended and recognized.

I hope that my colleagues will join me in paying tribute to the efforts of the United Negro College Fund in central New Jersey and nationwide.

PRESENTING CONGRESSIONAL
GOLD MEDAL TO JOHN CAR-
DINAL O'CONNOR

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2000

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this legislation, and I applaud my colleague from New York City [Mr. FOSSELLA] for his work in bringing it to the floor today. I am proud to be a cosponsor of this bill honoring a great man and a great New Yorker.

I rise too, to celebrate John Cardinal O'Connor's eighty years and his more than fifteen years of service as the Archbishop of New York. Cardinal O'Connor was not only a spiritual leader, but a secular leader as well. He spoke softly—and sometimes not so softly—about our most pressing problems: homelessness, the AIDS crisis, and condition of the poor, and he worked with others on concrete plans and strategies to address them. Former Governor Mario Cuomo recently cited Cardinal O'Connor's efforts as paving the way for the City's aggressive response to AIDS.

Cardinal O'Connor was a great leader and a friend of all leaders in our city. More than one mayor told me they often consulted with him on how to handle their work and to respond to the challenges of leading the City. He received almost every award his Church and City could bestow on him, although he once told me once that the only award that impressed his mother was the time he was named Grand Marshall of the St. Patrick's Day parade.

Cardinal O'Connor was a permanent fixture at many of our City's major events. I remember him at every parade, coming out to greet the people. In addition, he was an outstanding pastor, taking care of individual needs, and

putting the most personal of touches into his sermons.

Cardinal O'Connor will be retiring later this year, and will be solely missed by all residents of the City. Whoever is selected as his successor will face a great challenge—to bring together a diverse population, and to serve—as Cardinal O'Connor did—as a beacon and an inspiration to the less fortunate and to all residents of the City.

In light of his years of public service and his devotion to people of all walks of life, it is only fitting that we give him this honor today. I applaud Cardinal O'Connor for his leadership, and for his service to the people of New York and to Catholics around the world. I thank my colleague from New York for introducing this legislation, and I urge all my colleagues to support this bill to pay a fitting tribute to a genuine humanitarian and a great leader.

HONORING THE 1999 FAIRFAX CENTRAL
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
PUBLIC SAFETY AWARD WINNERS

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure today to rise and bring to the attention of my colleagues some very special public safety personnel in Fairfax City, in the Eleventh Congressional District of Virginia. Every year the Fairfax Central Chamber of Commerce honors police officers and fire fighters who have shown the highest level of dedication to their noble duties. These individuals who are role models to others in their profession were honored on February 24, 2000 at the 1999 Public Safety Awards Luncheon.

The 1999 awards recipients are:

Career Fire Fighter of the Year: Technician James B. Jeckell: Technician Jeckell is recognized with this prestigious award for his diligent efforts, exceptional work, and commitment to the Fire Department. Technician Jeckell's attention to detail and quality is exceptional, and as the protective clothing representative, he consistently obtains the best available protective gear presently made to meet the needs of our station personnel. He also handles equipment procurement and necessary repairs needed on the Department's small equipment. Technician Jeckell serves on the Department's training committee, and is consistently methodical, goal oriented, and focused on performing his duties with the highest standards of excellence during emergency incidents.

Volunteer Fire Fighter of the Year: Hana F. Brilliant: Fire Fighter Brilliant is recognized for her tremendous commitment to the fire department in volunteering an extensive number of overtime/recall hours. She has covered shift vacancies with little or no notice, and consistently and promptly responds to requests for staffing assistance. During calendar year 1999, she volunteered 582 minimum staffing hours. In addition to her service in operational staffing roles, she is dedicated to training, and