

unveiled during this past September's Congressional Black Caucus meeting in Washington, D.C. Johnson has made it clear that he will not waver from the fraternity's commitment to stand in the forefront of the civil rights movement. The national memorial to Dr. King for which Johnson is working to bring to fruition is a symbol of that commitment.

Included in Johnson's agenda for the next four years is an Economic Development plan that will allow Alpha Phi Alpha members the opportunity to infuse their local economies by bringing in National franchise into inner cities. He will also continue planning for the Centennial Celebration of the fraternity's founding. Rich with history, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. is the first intercollegiate Greek-letter fraternity founded for African-Americans. In 1906, the fraternity's founders had two motives in starting the organization: empowering African-Americans through their continuance of their education and promoting fellowship and unity among college men in their continuous fight for African-American civil rights. Among those who have led the fight are distinguished Alpha Phi Alpha members such as W.E.B. DuBois, Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., Edward Brooke, Martin Luther King, Jr., Thurgood Marshall, Andrew Young, William Gray, Paul Robeson, and many others.

The inaugural event Harry Johnson is hosting in Houston sets the stage for a continuation of Alpha's dedication to public service. The theme for this unprecedented event, "Commitment, Excellence & Achievement . . . A New Generation of Leadership," will help Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity to move forward with vigor, dedication and vision.

Mr. Speaker, Harry Johnson believes that regardless of our socio-economic backgrounds, in some capacity, we are all affected by the hardships that institutionalized racism has placed on African-American men. As the new General President of Alpha Phi Alpha, his commitment to education and mentorship will serve the communities of his fraternity well. I congratulate Alpha Phi Alpha and my fellow Texan and friend, Harry E. Johnson, Sr.

RECOGNIZE REVEREND RONALD I. SCHUPP FOR HIS DEDICATION TOWARDS A FREE TIBET

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, January 6, 2001

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to give my full support once again to the work of Chicago civil and human rights leader Reverend Ronald I. Schupp, who is embarking on his fifth annual peaceful twenty-four hour fast and vigil outside of the Chinese Consulate in Chicago. Reverend Schupp is calling upon the government of the People's Republic of China to grant independence to Tibet and its people.

His vigil will be held on March 10, the day that is known each year as Tibetan National Day. This day recognizes the ongoing efforts and continuing struggle of the Tibetan people to gain their freedom.

I fully support Reverend Schupp and the vigil he is undertaking once again.

OBJECTION

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, January 6, 2001

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, in a short while we will gather in a joint session to count the electoral vote from November's Presidential contest. We will count these votes even though the Republican appointees on the Supreme Court slammed the door in the face of thousands of Florida voters by refusing to allow their votes to be counted. Ironically, Republican legal advisors used the "equal protection" clause of the 14th amendment to argue their case while denying equal protection to thousands whose votes were never counted. The message calls to mind George Orwell's famous words that "some are more equal than others."

One fact is not in dispute: that Vice President AL GORE won over 539,000 more votes nationwide than George W. Bush. That makes it even more important that we get an accurate vote in Florida.

As a member of the House International Relations Committee, I have had the privilege of monitoring elections around the world. Never have I seen a case like this—where one candidate's first cousin was hired by a major news network to call the election results; where that same candidate's campaign co-chair had the authority to certify the election results and rushed to do so before all ballots had been counted; where the certification was signed by the candidate's brother, the Governor, and where Supreme Court members appointed by the candidate's father halted a vote count. Is this the model of democracy we want to hold up to the rest of the world? I urge my colleagues to refuse to be a part of this undemocratic process.

IN MEMORY OF PAUL STANLEY EBENSTEINER

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, January 6, 2001

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I wish to pay tribute to Paul Stanley Ebensteiner, a decorated patriot, a successful businessman, a loving family man, a philanthropist, and a good friend.

Paul passed away Sunday, leaving behind a legacy of living, achieving and sharing the American dream.

He joined the Marines during the Korean War, where he served with distinction. An excerpt from his official service record book reads: "Combat operations against North Korean Forces; assault and seizure of Inchon, Korea; capture and securing of Seoul, Korea; operations against enemy forces in south and central Korea; is authorized to wear the Bronze Star, Good Conduct Medal, Korean Service with three stars, Presidential Unit Citation with one star, Purple Heart, and the United Nations Service ribbons." Paul retired from the Marines at the rank of Technical Sergeant.

In 1970, he founded the Ebensteiner Company, one of the largest general engineering contractors in California. He was named Contractor of the Year in 1999, and was a member in good standing with the Southern California Contractors Association.

At about the same time as he founded Ebensteiner Company, he married June. Together they raised seven children: Paul George, Rebecca, Pennie, Debra, Suzanne, Therese, and Christine. Paul and June are also blessed with 10 grandchildren.

Paul Stanley Ebensteiner was a successful family man and businessman, and he believed in sharing his blessings with the community. Among the philanthropic organizations he and June supported were Mary Health for the Sick, the building of the Los Angeles Cathedral, the United States Hospice Foundation, and the June Ebensteiner Hospice Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, Paul realized his dream and then shared his dream with many, many more. He was, to me, the definition of a Great American. I know my colleagues will join me in sending condolences to his family and in paying tribute to his memory.

SALUTE TO FIRE ENGINEER CHRIS ALTEN

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, January 6, 2001

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to salute Fire Engineer Chris Alten, the Montclair Fire Department Employee of the Year.

Our brave firefighters do a hero's work, exposing themselves to danger, in acts of selfless heroism. As Fire Engineer, Chris ensures that the Montclair Fire Department is in top condition to meet these challenges, contribution to excellent quality and livability of fire stations.

Chris joined the Montclair Fire Department as a Comprehensive Employment Training Act (C.E.T.A.) Firefighter in October 1976. Chris was hired as a regular Firefighter in October 1979. Chris' mechanical abilities and skills contributed to his quick promotion to Fire Engineer in July 1980.

It is a combination of Chris' mechanical abilities, his "can do" attitude and his steady and extremely dependable contribution to his crew and to the Montclair Fire Department that led to his selection as the Montclair Fire Department Employee of the Year.

During his employment, Chris has saved the City thousands of dollars in both time and material through a variety of construction projects that would have otherwise been done by outside vendors. Examples include: the replacement of all of the sinks and faucets in the fire stations, several remodeling projects that included framing, drywall and the installation of windows and doors in both stations and innumerable small projects.

Chris is a multi-talented and valued employee of the Montclair Fire Department. We in the Congress salute him for his selfless efforts and achievements.