

the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and the City of Corona, a husband and a father of three children.

On the 3rd of March, Mr. Cleghorn will be honored with the Ira. D. "Cal" Calvert Distinguished Service Award by the Corona-Norco Family YMCA. The award is given in memory of my father, "Cal" Calvert, and his enumerable philanthropic gifts to the community and his efforts to encourage others to serve their community in a similar fashion. The award recognizes Mr. Cleghorn for his exceptional devotion to developing community volunteerism.

Born in Pasadena, California, John Cleghorn developed an inherent love for law enforcement, according to his mother, from numerous "ride-a-longs" with the Pasadena Police Department—a result of his youthful desire for adventure in the neighborhoods, where he promptly got lost. He met his wife, Janet Everett, at University High, and married her following his graduation from Los Angeles City College. Intent on a career in law enforcement, John then entered the Los Angeles Police Academy, after which he was inducted in the Army and served for two years.

John's career with the LAPD lasted for an impressive 27 years where he commanded many divisions. During those years, he also worked to obtain a Bachelor of Science in Police Administration from California State University, Los Angeles and a Masters in Public Communications from Pepperdine University. After retiring from LAPD in 1985, John was named the interim police chief of Corona, and short time later officially appointed as police chief. Mr. Cleghorn and his wife have a son, two daughters and six grandchildren.

With all of these career and family commitments, John's unselfish giving of time and energy to volunteerism is all the more impressive and serves as a model to his community, neighbors and own children and grandchildren. His strong commitment to the Inland Empire has displayed in his participation in the United Way, Corona Library Foundation, Corona Regional Medical Center Foundation, Alternatives to Domestic Violence and, of course, the Corona-Norco YMCA. He has also served as president of the Rotary Club and the Navy League.

Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to thank John Cleghorn for his dedication, influence and involvement in our community. He has aided in developing and maintaining community volunteerism in the Corona-Norco area and the Inland Empire. I know that we will continue to benefit from his longtime experience in the 43rd congressional district and deep commitment to the region. It is a great pleasure for me to congratulate John on his outstanding career with the LAPD and his lifelong devotion to community volunteerism.

TRIBUTE TO AHLERMAN VAN LEWIS, SR., PRESIDENT OF OAKLAND AFRICA SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 1, 2001

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Mr. Ahlerman Van Lewis, Sr. Mr. Lewis served as the President of Oakland Africa Sister Cities International for many years and was an active member of the Ninth Congressional District. Sadly Mr. Lewis passed away on January 25, 2001 after a brief illness.

Ahlerman was the youngest son born to Fred and Mercie Lee Williams Lewis on September 11, 1931 in Diboll, Texas. He graduated from Henry G. Temple High School and attended Texas Southern University on a basketball scholarship. He was a member of the United States Air Force, where he served as a Morning Report Clerk.

After leaving the military, he joined his brothers, Raymond Rish and Henman "Lefty" Lewis, in the Oakland—Bay Area where he worked in the field of administrative services both at Fort Mason and the Presidio, in San Francisco, California.

Ahlerman married FranCione Newellene Johnson, on June 16, 1962. From this union came the two sons he cherished, Ahlerman "Ahlee" Van Lewis, II and Frederic Paul Lewis.

As the United States became vibrantly alive with civil rights activity, during the early 1960s, Ahlerman was inspired by the Black self-determination message of Malcolm X and The Honorable Elijah Muhammed, An ardent member of the Fruit Of Islam, Brother Akbar Ali, as he was known in the Muslim community, dedicated himself to working with the local community to improve the conditions of African Americans in the city of Oakland and its surrounding environs. He was a member of Muhammed's Mosque # 26 for 40 years.

Fascinated with the thrust for Black business ownership and management, Ahlerman was first drawn to the catering business. This motivated him to obtain an Associate Arts Degree in Food Management from Laney College before he matriculated to San Francisco State University.

Turning his attention to inspiring African American youth, Ahlerman began his teaching career with the Pittsburg School District before joining the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD). While teaching in Oakland, Ahlerman participated in the OUSD and Stanford University—Global Education Curriculum Development Project. This activity sparked a deep interest in West Africa. It was this interest that led Ahlerman to form Oakland Africa Sister Cities International, which was set up to foster a close relationship with Sekondi-Takarodi, Ghana. As President of the Sister Cities project, Ahlerman led the organization to host many special events. One such event was a collaboration with Rev. FranCione and the Pan Oaks Center for the Creative Arts to sponsor an exhibit of the work of more than ninety Oakland High School students' artistic impression of Jeff Stetson's play *The Meeting*.

Ahlerman worked with the OUSD's School to Careers Program to secure internships for students to work with the Sister Cities organization. One of the major projects the students were able to work on under Ahlerman's leadership was the George Washington Carver Exhibit. This exhibit was initiated by Tuskegee Institute. The exhibit was such a resounding success that Ahlerman was later invited to Tuskegee, to receive a special honor for his work commemorating Dr. George Washington Carver.

Ahlerman Van Lewis, Sr. will be deeply missed by all who were blessed to have known and worked with him. He leaves behind a rich legacy of leadership and service to the African American community in Oakland, as well as the Ghanaian community in Sekondi-Takarodi, Ghana. We in the Ninth Congressional District can pay tribute to Ahlerman's memory by carrying on his work of fostering a deeper interest and relationship with the continent of Africa, while at the same time continuing to commemorate the life of our own African American heroes, such as George Washington Carver.

RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF SUSAN B. ANTHONY ON HER 181ST BIRTHDAY

HON. ANNE M. NORTHUP

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 1, 2001

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Susan B. Anthony and her work in promoting the life of the unborn.

As you may be aware, February 15, 2001 marked the 181st birthday of Susan B. Anthony, one of our nation's greatest champions of not just of the rights of women, but of all Americans.

However, Susan B. Anthony's work to secure women's rights took place on many fronts, from opposing prostitution to demanding the right to vote. And she considered her efforts in turning women away from abortion as some of the most important work of her life. She declared that amongst her greatest joys was to have helped "bring about a better state of things for mothers generally, so that their unborn little ones could not be willed away from them."

Today, we celebrate the spirit of Susan B. Anthony and continue her work in protecting the lives of the unborn. Her labors to provide more opportunities and choices for women leaves us with many alternatives to abortion. For example, the joy of motherhood and the act of responsible parenting can be extended to millions of women today through adoption. Adoption fills a vital role, ensuring that worthy options are available for women of all social segments, races, and backgrounds. Just like Susan B. Anthony, we can devote our energies toward making women independent of, and not dependent on, abortion as a recourse.

Susan B. Anthony fought to lift the unjust burdens oppressing women, including the burden of abortion. As we celebrate her birthday and Women's History Month, let us also recommit ourselves to her goal of promoting motherhood and the unborn life.