

May 8, 2001

for U.S. businesses, or declare that the U.S. government does not care if U.S. tax laws give a competitive advantage to foreign companies doing business in the United States.

BASE-SPONSORED VIOLENCE
PREVENTION WEEK

HON. FELIX J. GRUCCI, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2001

Mr. GRUCCI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work and dedication of literally thousands of students, parents, teachers, school districts and officials of government from New York's First Congressional District who come together to promote and participate in the first annual Violence Prevention Week, May 1-7, 2001.

BASE, or Building A Safe Environment, is a grassroots community awareness group founded by Janine Giordano and Tracie Jedlicka.

BASE reached across to 11 school districts and communities to encourage children to be better people, more caring and considerate to one another, and active participants in making their neighborhoods a better place.

As the former Town Supervisor of Brookhaven, I worked with BASE on this worthwhile and important initiative.

Young people and community groups throughout the First District of New York and Suffolk County expressed their support by displaying lavender ribbons, creating banners and signs marking Violence Prevention Week, and held community meetings and student assemblies.

BASE's goal could have only been achieved through the hard work and support of many volunteers, parents, students, schools and government officials. These schools and groups include:

Miller Place, Rocky Point, Shoreham-Wading River, Comsewogue, Sachem, Longwood, Middle Country, Patchogue-Medford, Bellport, Bayport-Bluepoint and Commack, the North Shore Youth Council, Brookhaven Town and Suffolk County.

Mr. Speaker, I want to add my voice and that of the First Congressional District of New York in congratulating the fine work of BASE and all those who participated in making Violence Prevention Week in Suffolk County a success.

ACHIEVING POLITICAL STABILITY
AND BALANCE IN HAITI

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2001

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, on the heels of a successful OAS summit in Quebec, Canada, Haiti President Jean Bertrand Aristide has redoubled his personal efforts to include all parties in achieving political stability and balance in Haiti. In an effort to achieve this objective, on his return from the Summit, President

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

Aristide, publicly stated, "This is the hour of dialogue, this is the hour of consultation, this is the hour of consensus, this is the hour of compromise. Our arms are open to receive all our citizens in mutual respect to continue to find those essential solutions for democratic growth."

Putting words into action, the President invited all opposition groups, as well as members of the private sector and civil society to meet with him at the National Palace on May 2, 2001 to "promote transparency and expand the dialogue toward a solution to the crisis resulting from the 2000 election."

Although 12 opposition groups accepted the invitation to the meeting, one of the opposition groups known as Convergence continues to refuse to meet and talk with the President. President Aristide invited Convergence representatives to meet at the Presidential Palace and work towards solutions in Haiti's remaining political and election issues. Despite this personal invitation and the President's demonstrated intention and willingness to work with all groups to establish the strongest possible democracy in Haiti, Convergence continues to refuse to participate.

President Aristide's efforts in this regard are consistent with his stated commitment to resolve this electoral situation as quickly as possible, and to get on with the governing of Haiti. In addition, the President's actions affirm his commitment made to President Bush and others to quickly resolve any remaining election issues in a fair and open manner that recognizes and protects the decisions already made by Haiti's voters.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE JACK L.
ROMANO

HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2001

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to pay tribute to Jack L. Romano, a great leader in the Tampa Bay community, who recently lost his valiant battle with cancer at age 62.

Jack was known in Tampa for his selfless and tireless efforts on behalf of countless local charities and community organizations. Jack Romano lived his life to the fullest, always looking for ways to give back to his home. Whether he was volunteering as president of the Southwest Florida Blood Bank, or on the board of the Gulf Ridge Council of Boy Scouts, the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce, Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla or the Tampa Museum of Art, Jack gave 110 percent. Jack didn't know the meaning of "half-way." His talent and dedication touched virtually every facet of our community and his limitless good deeds will continue to inspire others to follow his example.

Jack's character was equally inspiring. His kindness was always evident in his broad smile and his welcoming handshake. He never came upon a stranger, and he treated everyone he encountered with respect and appreciation. Jack Romano was truly a gentleman in the finest sense of the word. In business, fam-

ily and community, Jack was loved and respected.

Today, I would like to thank Jack Romano for dedicating his life to making Tampa and Hillsborough County a better place to live and work, and extend heartfelt sympathies on behalf of our entire community to the Romano family for their loss. Jack's departure is very much our loss too.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2001

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, due to the cancellation of my flight to Washington from my Congressional District on May 1, I missed the following 2 rollcall votes:

Rollcall No. 90, on H. Con. Res. 91, "Recognizing the importance of increasing awareness of the autism spectrum disorder, and supporting programs for greater research and improved treatment of autism," which passed the House 418-1. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall No. 91 on H. Con. Res. 95, "Supporting a National Charter Schools Week," which passed the House 404-6 with 7 voting present. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

IN RECOGNITION OF KRISTIN
DEVAUL

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2001

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I come before you today to honor Kristin DeVaul of Mannington, West Virginia. Kristin has accomplished a most amazing feat, of perfect attendance, through the first 13 years of her education, from kindergarten all the way through high school.

North Marion High School is lucky to have such an outstanding student who is committed, to what she believes. Kristin, by attending every day, through sickness, conflict, and affliction, has shown that she truly believes in the importance of an education, and recognizes at an age when not all others do, the value of being educated. It is students like Kristin that make the fight for better educational standards worthwhile.

Marion County, West Virginia is home to a person with an amazing will to accomplish what she sets her mind to, and she will undoubtedly succeed in life with the strong resolve that she possesses. I would like to extend my congratulations for a job well done, and for an outstanding commitment to education!

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TRIBUTE TO REVEREND DR.
RONALD DURHAM

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2001

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in honoring a very special and dedicated person, Reverend Dr. L. Ronald Durham, who celebrated his 10th Pastoral Anniversary at First Mount Zion Baptist Church in my home city of Newark, New Jersey. Friends gathered on Friday, May 4th, in New Jersey to mark this milestone and to express appreciation for Reverend Dr. Durham's dynamic leadership.

Reverend Dr. Ronald Durham began his ministry at the age of 17. After studying at Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina on full scholarship, he received his Bachelor's Degree in Theology from Evangel Christian University in Louisiana. He holds his Masters of Theology Degree from United Christian Seminary, as well as a Doctor of Divinity and Doctor of Christian Ministry. Dr. Durham was also given an Honorary Doctor of Sacred Theology Degree from the American Bible Institute in Falls Church, Virginia. After 16 years of faithful service to First Baptist Church of Anderson, North Carolina, Dr. Durham joined First Mt. Zion in April of 1991. First Mt. Zion's historical background inspired him to write his Doctoral Thesis entitled "The History of the Black Baptist Church in New Jersey." During his ten years at First Mt. Zion, Pastor Durham has had many notable achievements. Inspired by the recovery story of a good friend, Pastor Durham established the "21 Club," a Drug and Alcohol Education Program in Newark, New Jersey. He has been recognized by the City of Newark on several occasions for his outstanding community service. He initiated the Federal "Weed and Seed" program for Newark, which continues to bring millions of Federal dollars into the city to combat illegal drugs and restore Newark's communities. Other outstanding achievements under his inspirational leadership include: restoration of the 123-year-old sanctuary; purchasing of a church van and bus; refurbishing of a three-family property; and establishment of a stock investment program with Merrill Lynch. He has established the Inspirational Choir, Sanctuary Choir, Community Outreach Ministry; a new Youth Ministry, the Women's Support Ministry, Mother Board, Prayer Band, and the First Mt. Zion Theological Institute. He has worked to promote economic growth among African Americans. Dr. Durham led a group of 75 churches to purchase a 42-acre campground in Pennsylvania. In addition, Dr. Durham recently authored his first book entitled *The Secret Power of Prayer*, and he writes quarterly lessons entitled *The Baptist Layman*, a publication of the National Baptist Convention. He is a seminar leader for the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education. He serves as confidant and teacher to pastors and preachers all over the United States through his Internet ministry.

Mr. Speaker, let us offer our congratulations on this special occasion and send our best

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

wishes for continued success to Reverend Dr. Ronald Durham as he pursues his important spiritual mission.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO MRS.
MARY LOU KUHLMAN ON NA-
TIONAL TEACHER'S DAY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2001

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Teacher's Day and to pay tribute to a very special teacher who has touched many lives. Seldom do we acknowledge the importance of the job or the depth of a teacher's commitment to our children. While many people spend their lives building careers, teachers spend their careers building lives. For this they deserve our support, praise and gratitude.

One teacher in particular deserves special recognition on National Teacher's Day, Mrs. Mary Lou Kuhlman. After 35 years of touching the lives of countless children she will be retiring. This is a true loss for my district and the state of Ohio. The children she has taught will become our future leaders, scientists, and teachers.

Mrs. Kuhlman's long and distinguished career began in the same district where she continues to teach today. A graduate of the Glandorf High School in 1960, she currently teaches at Glandorf Elementary School. She holds a degree from Mary Manse College in Toledo and has completed graduate work at Bowling Green State University. The Martha Holden Jennings Foundation honored Mrs. Kuhlman by naming her a Scholar in 1982. The Foundation seeks to give students a greater opportunity to succeed and to empower teachers. Not only is Mrs. Kuhlman a remarkable teacher, but also greatly involved in countless religious and community service organizations.

Year after year professionals dedicate their lives to the future of America. There is no more important or challenging job than that of our nation's teachers. The job of a teacher is to open a child's mind to the magic of ideas, knowledge, and dreams. Also, teachers are true guardians of the American democracy by instilling a sense of citizenship in the children they teach. Teachers not only educate but also act as listeners, facilitators, role models, and mentors, encouraging our children to reach further than they would have thought possible. Teachers continue to influence us long after our school days are only memories.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that Mrs. Kuhlman's own words ring true on this very special day, "Teaching has always been rewarding, satisfying, and enjoyable. Children are our most important asset. I feel so fulfilled when I can make a difference in a child's life and improve their situation."

May 8, 2001

CINCO DE MAYO

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2001

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, this past weekend Mexican-Americans joined our neighbor to the South in celebrating a day dedicated to the recognition of a successful fight for freedom. In Detroit, the Latino community gathered together to celebrate Cinco de Mayo and I want to recognize the Bagley Housing Association, the Mexican Patriotic Committee of Detroit, the El Central newspaper, and the Mexican Town Community Development Corporation for making that celebration possible. Cinco de Mayo is a story of unity, of strength, of faith, and of a country's ability to overcome insurmountable odds.

On May 5, 1862, in the town of Puebla, Mexican General Ignacio Zaragoza led a hastily gathered group of forces to the defeat of the French army, which had not faced defeat in over 50 years. The French outnumbered the Mexican forces by at least two to one and had some of the most superior military training the world had ever seen. Despite all this, the might and spirit of the Mexican people prevailed. After this embarrassing defeat, the French army retreated and took another full year to prepare before they finally took Mexico City. However, Mexican resistance to the French occupation and increasing pressure from the United States forced the French to withdraw after only 3 years.

The battle that took place on Cinco de Mayo was primarily a battle for freedom. However, I believe that this important day has come to symbolize not only the fight for freedom, but the fight for justice as well.

The growing Latino population in Michigan and in the United States enriches our culture in many ways. One can see the Latino influence in our music, our food, our language, and our art. Their commitment both to their faith and their family is a proud heritage. Because Latinos have contributed so much to this country, we must fight to protect the rights of Latino citizens and all Latinos in this country. We must continue this struggle for justice in our workplaces, in our schools, and in our communities because, in the words of Benito Juarez, "sooner or later the cause of rights and justice will triumph."

Just as those brave Mexican soldiers overcame overwhelming odds to defeat the French army in 1862, I believe that our Latino population will use their strength, unity, and faith to overcome any obstacle. We must all work together to stop English-only, anti-immigrant, and anti-affirmative action laws. In recognition of this Cinco de Mayo, let us all remember and be inspired by Cesar Chavez who said, "Once social change begins, it cannot be reversed. You cannot uneducate the person who has learned to read. You cannot humiliate the person who feels pride. You cannot oppress the people who are not afraid anymore."