PAYING TRIBUTE TO KATHERINE E. WHITE

HON. MIKE ROGERS
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, July 10, 2001

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Katherine E. White of Ann Arbor, Michigan for being named a 2001–2002 White House Fellow by President Bush.

Lyndon Johnson once said “a genuinely free society cannot be a spectator society.” Through her hard work and service, Katherine White has proven to be anything but a spectator.

Mrs. White is an assistant professor of law at Wayne State University where she teaches about intellectual property laws.

In previous experience, Mrs. White was a Fulbright Senior Scholar, a Major in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General’s Corp, as well as a legal clerk for Judge Randall R. Rader, U.S. Court of Appeals. She currently serves on the National Patent Board and is a member of the University of Michigan’s Board of Regents. She was chosen out of a field of 540 applicants to receive a White House Fellowship.

Therefore Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Katherine E. White for appointment as one of the 12 new White House fellows.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS
FRENCH HERITAGE WEEK IN THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN
OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, July 10, 2001

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of all the people of French descent in my district, the U.S. Virgin Islands, on the occasion of the annual observance of French Heritage Week, an event that revolves around Bastille Day—which commemorates the destruction of the Bastille, the state prison in Paris, France, on July 14, 1789, which brought about one of the most significant movements in world history—the French Revolution.

The destruction of the Bastille, Mr. Speaker, was a significant act of bravery that not only affected the French but also became the symbol of democracy and human rights and the founding event for the movement towards liberty and liberal democracy around the world.

Today, I am proud to represent a strong and vibrant community of people of French descent who have inhabited the U.S. Virgin Islands for centuries—contributing their expertise in fishing, farming, the professions and other vocations that have made significant differences in the political, social, cultural and economic progress and growth on the Territory.

Among the many treasures that make the Virgin Islands unique and special is our diversity. In particular, the French community has been a cultural asset through its presence and the many cultural, business and civic activities it promotes. One event put on by the Virgin Islands French Community that comes to mind, is the Father’s Day celebration held each year in Frenchtown. Here, the French community recognizing the value in our fathers sponsors a weeklong celebration in their honor.

I am especially pleased and privileged to be able to pay homage to our French Community and the Virgin Islands community at-large during the 2001 French Heritage Week celebrations. While it is not generally known, my maternal great grandmother was a Parisian, and so I proudly claim kinship, although my command of the French language is limited.

This U.S. Virgin Islands French Heritage Week is a celebration of our heritage and national pride—things that are important to the survival of any society. I congratulate Senator Lorraine L. Berry, a ten-term member of the Virgin Islands Legislature, for her continual efforts to enlighten her fellow Virgin Islanders on the rich traditions of French culture and history.

On behalf of my family, staff and myself, I wish to congratulate the members of the French community of the U.S. Virgin Islands for their many contributions to our community and for so generously sharing their history, culture and crafts with each generation of Virgin Islanders.

May God continue to bless our citizens of French descent and may they continue in the rich and strong democratic traditions of their motherland, France. Best wishes for an eventful, fulfilling “French Heritage Week.”

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM JACKSON BEVIS, SR.

HON. MARION BERRY
OF ARKANSAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, July 10, 2001

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great Arkansan and an outstanding citizen, and I am proud to recognize William Jackson Bevis, Sr. in the Congress for his invaluable contributions and service to his community, to our state, and our nation.

William was from Scott, Arkansas, and was born on August 14, 1922, in Pulaski County, Arkansas. He married Mary Jo Barnett in 1942, and they were blessed with three sons, Bill Bevis, Jr., Don R. Bevis, and Bob Bevis.

William was President of W.J. Bevis & Sons, Inc. and owner of William J. and Mary Jo Bevis Farms. He attended Peabody School and graduated from Scott High School in 1941. He was elected to Lonoke County Agriculture Conservation and Stabilization Service Commission in 1950 and served off and on for 25 years. He served 20 years on the District Soil and Water Conservation Board and was appointed by then-Gov. Dale Bumpers to chair a study of water diversions from the Arkansas River to the eastern Arkansas Delta. He served on the Lonoke School Board from 1962 and 1972. William was elected to the Federal Land Bank Board and served 15 years, 10 years as chairman. He was President of Farm Credit Services of Central Arkansas for 10 years and was appointed by Farm Credit of St. Louis to a task force for Missouri, Illinois, and Arkansas, to restructure regulations for farm loans and credit in these states.