

Committed to uplifting the people of her community, Cathy serves as Executive Director of River Watch Inc., a neighborhood network center, which is committed to developing and implementing educational and training programs to empower residents of the Bronx. She also directs a youth activity center that provides homework assistance, fun activities and trips for community youth.

A widowed mother of three, grandmother of seven and adopted grandmother of four, Cathy still finds the time and energy to serve as the New York State Committeewoman of the 77 AD and be an active church official at Refuge Temple Annex.

Mr. Speaker, during this month of February in which we celebrate Black History it is important that we give extra praise and recognition to African American women, who overcame not only racial discrimination but gender discrimination as well. Strong women such as Mary McCloud Bethune, Sojourner Truth and Harriet Tubman, who was also known as Moses on the account that she led so many of her people to freedom. I believe that we have an obligation to continue not only to recognize these strong influential women for the many contributions they have made to American society but also to recognize the women of today who overcome oppression in order to lead the people of their community from the bondage of despair. In that spirit, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Ms. Cathy Stroud.

HONORING JAMES O. PEOPLES, JR.

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 10, 2005*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today on behalf of Foss Avenue Baptist Church, in my hometown of Flint, Michigan, to honor James O. Peoples, Jr., for 48 years of dedicated service as the Church's Director of Music. On Sunday, March 13, 2005, the congregation of Foss Avenue will recognize Mr. Peoples' accomplishments during a celebration, which will include a musical program and reception, to be held at the church.

James Peoples, Jr. has been blessed with a natural talent and passion for music. His obvious abilities were refined as he studied Management and Music at C.S. Mott Community College, and later Music Theory at Cook Conservatory of Music. James's education did not end there, as he spent 11 years under the direction of various professionals in a wide array of styles including opera, classical, and lyrical melodies and harmony.

Since 1956, Mr. Peoples has performed the Lord's work as Director of Music for Foss Avenue Baptist Church. As Director, he has managed over 200 voices and staff, and recorded three albums. In addition, from 1987 to 1992, he served simultaneously as Director of Music for the Wolverine State Baptist Convention and Musical Director of the National Baptist Convention. Mr. Peoples has also acted as Director of the Flint Symphony Orchestra.

Mr. Peoples is best noted for his work with anthems, hymns and spiritual arrangements.

He has conducted music workshops throughout the state, and in March 2003, he was recognized as Music Director of the Year by the Wolverine Baptist Convention Women's Auxiliary. Aside from being an outstanding leader and role model, Mr. Peoples is also a loving husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather.

Mr. Speaker, Psalms 66:1-2 says: "Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands: Sing forth the honor of his name: make his praise glorious." For 48 years, the members of Foss Avenue Baptist Church have indeed made a joyful noise, and it is because of people like James Peoples, Jr. I ask my colleagues in the 109th Congress to please join me in honoring Mr. Peoples' contributions to spreading the Lord's word.

SMYRNA BAPTIST CHURCH

**HON. SHERWOOD BOEHLERT**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 10, 2005*

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the parish of Smyrna Baptist Church on their 200 years of history. Located in Chenango County, New York, the Smyrna Baptist Church has become not only a religious institution, but also a historical institution in Central New York.

Founded on the 22nd day of December 1804, by Joseph Tobey, Joel Ellis, Samuel Barber, and others, the Church began as a group dedicated to prayer, meeting in the personal residences of Church members. As the parish expanded, their need for a larger meeting place led them to assemble in the town schoolhouse. And finally to serve its ever-growing congregation, the Church purchased a piece of property in 1837 where it has remained for the past 167 years.

I congratulate the Smyrna Baptist Church on their 200th Anniversary and their continued role in the community. I also congratulate Pastor Dale Sanders, under whose leadership and spiritual guidance, the Church celebrates this momentous occasion.

SECURITY AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION HAS DUTY TO DELAY MANDATORY EXPENSING OF STOCK OPTIONS

**HON. ERIC CANTOR**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 10, 2005*

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, today we are facing a problem that if gone unchecked will have a detrimental effect on business's ability to create jobs and opportunity. In June, small and large companies will be subject to mandatory expensing of their stock options as required by the Financial Accounting Standards Board. If businesses are forced to adhere to this untested and risky expensing method, it could hamper our growing economy at a time when it is crucial to sustain growth and create jobs, not stop it.

It is important that businesses continue to be able to use this valuable tool to attract employees to the market. Expensing of stock options will cause a blow to small business's investment and innovation. It will harm a market that uses stock options as a tool to recruit high quality employees to small firms. These innovators would be lost to larger, more established companies.

Stock options serve as a tool to drive innovation and creativity by linking company success to employee success. The Security and Exchange Commission has the duty to delay this plan until the valuation methods can be improved; I urge them to do so.

IN MEMORY OF DEACON MOSES SUMMERVILLE

**HON. MIKE ROSS**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 10, 2005*

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of a devoted and well-respected Arkansan, Deacon Moses Summerville.

A native of Portland, Arkansas and the youngest of 12 children, Deacon Summerville married the late Lenora Vaughn on December 16, 1940. After accepting a job with the Crossett Lumber Company, Deacon Summerville and his young family moved to Crossett. Deacon Summerville quickly became involved with the First Baptist Church; later changing his membership to the young New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, where he served as Deacon and Trustee.

As a young child, Deacon Summerville had an avid interest in vocal music. He became involved with the music ministry at New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church and started singing bass in the Senior Choir, later becoming director of the choir. Deacon Summerville founded the Keystone Gospel Singers, and the group sung on stage with many famous quartet groups including the Staple Sisters. Deacon Summerville also taught music through the Southeast Arkansas District Association using the shape-note music notation for vocal music, and was honored by the American Quartet Convention in Alabama for his music ability.

In addition to music, Deacon Summerville had a profound interest in the welfare of Ashley County. A hunter and gardener at a time when most people raised vegetables out of necessity, Deacon Summerville devoted both time and effort to supplement the meals of many local residents. He raised fresh vegetables in his garden, and for years brought home many squirrels, rabbits and coons to Sunday Fried Chicken Dinners.

I extend my deepest and sincere sympathies to Deacon Summerville's five children, Ruby, Annie Pearl, Willie T., Sarah, and Bertha Sue, his friends, and colleagues. I will continue to keep Deacon Summerville and his family in my thoughts and prayers.

COMMENDING SALLY SMITH FOR EXEMPLARY COMMUNITY SERVICE AND SERVICE AS CHAIR OF THE CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 10, 2005*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the exemplary public service of Sally Smith, a resident of the Chautauqua County town of Pomfret, upon the occasion of her retirement as Chair of the Chautauqua County Democratic Committee.

Sally's dedication to public service has been manifest, and her commitment to the residents of her town and her county has been outstanding.

Sally served for many years as an employee at Fredonia State College. During that time, Sally served as Director of the Region 6 Political Action Committee for the Civil Service Employees Association (CSEA). At the same time, Sally served as Chair of her hometown Democratic Party committee.

In January 2003, after her election as First Vice Chair of the Chautauqua County Democratic Committee, Sally was elevated to Chair after the resignation of the incumbent, being elected to that position in full in June of that year. She was re-elected Chair in September 2004.

Sally's tenure as Chair has by all objective analysis been a rousing success. Sally oversaw the re-election of the Chautauqua County Legislature's Democratic Majority in 2003, an election which also saw success for Democrats at every local level, from village trustees to county legislators. In 2004, Sally was part of a coalition of party leaders that helped elect a Democrat to Congress from Chautauqua County for the first time since 1984, which was the last election for Congress won by former Representative Stan Lundine of Jamestown.

Sally has never forgotten her roots as the leader of a rural county. In April 2004, Sally and the Chautauqua County Democrats hosted the New York State Democratic Rural Conference in Jamestown, putting the statewide spotlight on Jamestown and Chautauqua County. Later that year, when Senator JOHN EDWARDS of North Carolina visited the world-renowned Chautauqua Institution to prepare for his the Vice Presidential debate, Sally and other Democrats—many of whom had never participated locally before—organized a Democratic march and rally at Fredonia State College in support of the Democratic ticket.

On a strictly personal level, it has been nothing short of a delight to work with Sally. A consummate professional and someone with a steadfast affection and connection to both her community as well as the Democratic Party, my time in working with Sally Smith has always been characterized by her support for working men and women in Western New York, about the dignity and her refusal to allow her community to be taken for granted.

Her work on behalf of her community has been without fanfare, but has been tremendously effective.

Now in her retired years, Sally and her husband Dan want to enjoy more personal time with friends and family, prompting her to resign her post as Chair, turning over the reins to another great Democrat, Chautauqua County Legislature Chairman Keith Ahlstrom. As Sally leaves active service as County Chair—but remains as Pomfret Town Chair—we must pause to consider the contributions she has made, not just to the Democratic Party in general, but to the people of her community, her county and to western New York as well. Chautauqua County is a better place because of Sally Smith's commitment to public service, and I am proud, Mr. Speaker, to have an opportunity to honor her today.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF SAN ANTONIO MAYOR ED GARZA

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 10, 2005*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished public service of San Antonio Mayor Ed Garza.

A native of San Antonio, Garza is a graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School, and still lives in the same historic Woodlawn Lake neighborhood where he grew up. He attended the University of Texas at Austin and Texas A&M University, where he received a Bachelor's degree in Landscape Architecture. He has retained his connection with Texas' colleges, serving as an adjunct professor at the University of Texas at San Antonio and at St. Mary's University.

Mr. Garza has had a tremendously productive career in public service. He served two terms as District 7 Representative on the San Antonio City Council, where he focused on economic, urban, and human development. He was elected Mayor of San Antonio, and re-elected in 2003.

Following the attacks of September 11, Mayor Garza collaborated with other local elected officials to create one of the nation's first comprehensive city-county antiterrorism plans, leading CNN to recognize San Antonio as the second most prepared city in the country, after New York. He has worked to ensure that San Antonio remains a defense leader, and to constantly reform city government to make it more efficient and responsive.

Mayor Garza has volunteered his time to advocate for health and fitness in San Antonio. He has helped raise awareness for organizations such as the American Diabetes Association and the Cystic Fibrosis foundation, and has raised money for the Cancer Therapy and Research Center and the San Antonio Children's Shelter.

Mr. Speaker, Ed Garza is an exemplary public servant. His work has made San Antonio safer, healthier, more efficient and more prosperous. I am proud to have the chance to thank him here today for all he has done for his fellow Texans.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING COMMANDER GRADY JAY WILLIAMS

**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 10, 2005*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Commander Williams is a life member of the Sons of AMVETS Squadron 95; and

Whereas, Commander Williams has held all offices at the local level and was instrumental in projects such as Adopt a Highway, Christmas Baskets for the needy, and the 'Thank a Vet' program; and

Whereas, Commander Williams also served as the Sons of AMVETS 12th District as 1st Vice Membership and Commander, during which time he developed a positive rapport with veterans' facilities in Ohio and worked with the program 'Robes for Vets,' which places a warm bathrobe for each veteran in each of the Veterans Affairs facilities in Ohio; and

Whereas, Commander Williams is a loving husband to his wife, Cindy, and father to his children, Britney, Sarah, and Cassie.

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District in commending Commander Grady Jay Williams for his unwavering service to the Sons of AMVETS.

A TRIBUTE TO THE GIRL SCOUTS OF WHISPERING OAKS COUNCIL WOMEN OF DISTINCTION: KAY LLEWELLYN, REBECCA JOWORSKI CORTEZ, THERESE SCHEY

**HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 10, 2005*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to three outstanding women in my district whose contributions to their communities have been recognized by an outstanding organization in my district.

Kay Llewellyn, Rebecca Joworski Cortez and Therese Schey were named Women of Distinction by the Girl Scouts of Whispering Oaks Council. This prestigious award, bestowed annually for the past 12 years, recognizes three community, business and educational leaders who are role models for young women.

Ms. Llewellyn has taught sixth grade at Pleasantdale Middle School in Burr Ridge for 23 years, specializing in science instruction. She has also counseled young women from less advantaged backgrounds to help them establish educational and career goals. Her advice to young women is simple, yet timeless: "Being true to yourself and your beliefs and morals is never easy. But in the end that's what makes one a stronger person."

Ms. Cortez is a graphic designer with the world renowned Field Museum and has worked with several Chicago museums and the Brookfield Zoo in my District. She has volunteered extensively at Forest Road School in