

week by lawyers—led by Harvard’s Charles Ogletree—the justices might see that Tulsa is a whole different matter.

The 1921 Tulsa race riot began when police arrested a black youth for allegedly assaulting a white woman, a charge later dismissed. A crowd of whites gathered outside the courthouse where the youth was jailed, and there was a rumor that he would be lynched.

According to the state’s 2001 report, men from Greenwood armed themselves and went to the courthouse to defend the youth. A gunfight erupted, and the outnumbered blacks retreated to Greenwood. A white mob followed them and burned the neighborhood.

A “white mob ransacked Greenwood, shooting indiscriminately at African-Americans and burning almost every building in the community. Not only did the state and city fail to stop the destruction, but state and local officials participated in the violence and deputized and armed members of the white mob,” states the petition, filed on behalf of the riot’s survivors and their descendants.

From the get-go, Oklahomans set roadblocks to any kind of recompense for the hundreds of homeowners and businesses devastated during the riot. And then, after a state commission finally concluded in 2001—four years ago!—that more than attention must be paid to what transpired, the courts said to these black folks: Sorry. Too late. You should have filed your claims years ago. Too bad. So sad.

So, justices of the highest court in the land, rise to the dignity of your titles and do justice in this case. Do justice by 102-year-old Otis Clarke, a Greenwood victim. Do more than pay lip service to the immorality of what transpired. Reparations in the form of money, not just penance, must be paid for this act of domestic terrorism.

The lower courts said it’s too late. But the Supreme Court has the chance to do what’s right, and the time for that is now.

HONORING THE 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MINEOLA ROTARY CLUB

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2005

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to commemorate two significant anniversaries of Rotary International. On February 23, 2005, Rotary International celebrated its 100th anniversary. From its humble roots in Chicago, Illinois, Rotary International has grown into a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders whose mission is to provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. Since 1943, Rotary International has distributed more than \$1.1 billion to combat polio, promote cultural exchanges, and encourage community service.

I also want to provide special recognition to an important member of this outstanding organization, the Rotary Club of Mineola, Texas, for their sixty-five years of service to Wood County. Throughout its sixty-five year history, the Mineola Rotary Club has achieved great successes in carrying out the mission of Rotary International.

In past years, the Mineola Rotary Club has raised money to provide scholarships to local students, sponsored a reading program at the local library for students trying to learn English, and planted trees throughout the county. In addition, the club is an active fundraiser for the local library, has sponsored programs to teach students Spanish, and has been active with the Meals on Wheels program that brings food to the elderly population in the area.

Through these actions, the Rotary Club of Mineola, Texas, has exemplified the values of service and charity that lie at the heart of American society. As the congressional representative of the members of this outstanding organization, it is my distinct pleasure to be able to honor them today on the floor of the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING BEVERLY HANSON

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2005

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of one of my constituents, Ms. Beverly Hanson of Oceanside.

Several months ago, Southeast Asia was devastated by a tsunami. This terrible tragedy claimed the lives of countless thousands of people and caused horrific damage to the lives of those who survived it. Ms. Hanson was deeply touched and saddened by the lives of the children affected. Seeking to make a difference in the lives of these traumatized children, she started a toy drive she called “Teddy Bears for Tsunami Children.”

Ms. Hansen set up boxes with signs at local retail establishments, banks, and nonprofit organizations requesting donations of new and previously loved clean teddy bears and small, plush toys. The first shipment of 240 stuffed animals left San Diego for India, tightly packed into the suitcases and duffle bags of 62 doctors and nurses with Project Compassion. Approximately 300 more animals were sent in a package to Sri Lanka by Debbie and Mano Appapillai of Carmel Valley, California. Ms. Hanson is currently collecting 500 or more toys which will find their new homes this month. Ms. Hanson has worked very hard to publicize her project into North San Diego County. She utilized newspapers, drop off points, and television to get her message out. Her determination and effort are rare and worthy of the highest praise. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have Beverly Hanson as a constituent.

CONGRATULATING GEORGE K. LAI ON BEING NAMED 2005 GUAM SMALL BUSINESSPERSON OF THE YEAR BY THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2005

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and commend Mr. George K.

Lai on being named 2005 Guam Small Businessperson of the Year by the United States Small Business Administration. George Lai’s hard work and perseverance embody the spirit of the American Dream, and the SBA could not have selected a more worthy recipient.

Like many of this Nation’s great entrepreneurs, George came to the United States as an immigrant. Having grown up in Hong Kong with very little formal education in the English language, he worked hard to take advantage of opportunities for formal secondary education in Guam. After graduating from Guam’s John F. Kennedy High School with honors, George gained admission to Texas Agriculture and Mining University, where he earned a B.S. in Petroleum Engineering in 1982. After several years of working for Dower Schlumberger, a Houston-based oil service company, he and his wife, Deborah Larsen Lai, moved back to Guam and established Quality Distributors in 1986. Quality Distributors has since become the largest food wholesaler on the island.

George has provided sound leadership for Quality Distributors, which led to its awarding as “New Contractor of the Year” by the Defense Logistics Agency in 2002. Quality Distributors was subsequently awarded “Prime Vendor of the Year” by the Defense Supplies Center of Philadelphia in 2003 in recognition of its outstanding performance in the Pacific Region. Under George’s leadership, Quality Distributors has continued to provide efficient wholesale services to local retailers and value to Federal procurement officers. Because of this sound business leadership, Quality Distributors helps foster local economic growth and new jobs.

In addition to providing business leadership, George is an active participant in local trade organizations that work to enhance the overall competitiveness of firms located in Guam. He has served on the Board of Directors for the Guam Hotel and Restaurant Association and for the Guam Environmental Protection Agency; as Vice President of the Chinese Merchant Association; and has maintained an active role in the Guam Chamber of Commerce and Guam Visitors Bureau. He has also supported the Guam community by serving as Treasurer and Director of Finance for the Guam Football and Soccer Association and as Chairman of the Women’s National Soccer Team. George has also been generous in providing corporate sponsorships for important programs supporting public education, youth sports, and disaster relief in the Pacific Region.

George is a business leader, an inspiration for us all, and an individual deeply committed to utilizing his talents for the benefit of the entire Guam community. I congratulate George for being selected as the 2005 Guam Small Businessperson of the Year. Our island celebrates his national recognition with his wife Deborah and daughters Samantha and Breanna. George, we are all proud of you and we wish you continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2005

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I inadvertently voted "yes" on H.R. 1268, the Emergency Supplemental Wartime Appropriations Act. My intention was to vote "no" for the following reasons:

The President is asking for another blank check, despite the fact that its policies in Iraq have made our country and the world less safe.

The President has neither accounted for the funds spent pursuing these unsuccessful policies nor have they offered the American people a plan to stabilize the situation in Iraq and bring our troops home.

March 19, 2005, is the second anniversary of the war in Iraq and the world is a more dangerous place. To date 1,500 American troops have died in Iraq and 11,000 have been wounded.

I want to make clear that I support the courageous men and women in combat and I think it is imperative that we bring our troops home as quickly and safely as possible.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF SAN MARCOS CITY COUNCIL
MEMBER GAYLORD BOSE

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of San Marcos City Councilman Gaylord Bose, of my Congressional District.

Gaylord Bose was born near Avoca, Nebraska near Cass County, and graduated in 1957 from Avoca High School. In 1958 he enrolled at the University of Nebraska, and in 1960 he began his own business.

Mr. Bose was involved in many community activities in their hometown, he served on the school board, as a member of the Weeping Water co-op Association, Secretary of the Volunteer Fire Department, president of the local sports program for young people, a 4-H club leader, church council, Sunday school teacher, and member of the Cass County 4-H Board.

In 1982 Gaylord and his family moved to Waller, Texas to work for Star of Hope Rescue Mission, a substance abuse rehabilitation program. Wanting to expand his ability to help others, he enrolled at the University of Houston and studied chemical abuse counseling program. He later earned a license as a chemical dependency counselor. In 1989 he was offered a job with the Wackenhut Corporation and became the Center Director of the Kyle facility.

After Gaylord Bose moved to San Marcos he became an active member Greater Castle Forest Neighborhood Association, and he was appointed by the San Marcos City Council to the Transportation Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have this opportunity to recognize Gaylord Bose for his dedication and contributions in the community.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A TRIBUTE TO DEBRA A. JOHNSON,
29TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
WOMAN OF THE YEAR—
2005

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2005

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women during the month of March. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District.

I would like to recognize an outstanding woman in my Congressional District, Ms. Debra A. Johnson. For many years, Debra has brought an abounding spirit and energy to her service in the community. Those fortunate enough to meet and work with Debra instantly recognize her joy, enthusiasm and passion for helping others, especially young people.

Born in New York, Debra moved to California in 1974, while working as a Marketing Representative for Pacific Bell, now SBC. She began her nearly 30 year volunteer career in the Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) in 1978. She has been a parent/student advocate, a youth mentor, Etiquette Institute volunteer and has served on PUSD's Youth Motivational Task Force—in fact, she has volunteered at nearly all of PUSD's elementary, middle and high schools. Additionally, Debra has volunteered for South Pasadena High School, serving as a swim/track team motivator and the historian for the Parent Teacher Student Association.

In 1992, Debra founded SMILE Productions Inc., a 501(c)3 organization dedicated to supporting, motivating, investing, loving and educating youth. Her main goal is to help youth fulfill their dreams and to express themselves in creative ways through poetry, music, drama and dance, and to teach them basic etiquette, oral communication, job grooming, interviewing skills and self-esteem. Ms. Johnson also produces her own SMILE cable television talk show.

Debra is active in numerous organizations, including the Altadena Branch of the NAACP, Black Child Development Institute Inc. Pasadena, the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Association, Rosemary Children's Services, HearZero Deaf Advocates, Los Angeles County Probation Department's Operation Read, NewCo Youth Pasadena, and St. Mark's Episcopal Church, where she teaches Sunday School.

In addition to her service to the community, Debra attends Pasadena City College, working to obtain her degree in forensic social work and public relations. She and her husband Landy reside in Altadena and together they have five children and four grandchildren.

I ask all Members to join me today in honoring an outstanding woman of California's 29th Congressional District, Debra A. Johnson. The entire community joins me in thanking Debra for her success and continued efforts toward making the 29th Congressional District a more enjoyable place in which to live and work.

March 17, 2005

HONORING THE 50-YEAR MINISTRY
OF KERMIT MCGREGOR

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2005

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, on March 12, the First Baptist Church of Starkville celebrated Dr. Kermit McGregor's 50 years in the ministry. Fifty years in service to any calling is noteworthy, but it is my particular pleasure to honor him for his decades of dedication to God.

Dr. McGregor is currently serving as the transitional pastor in Starkville, but he has been a blessing to many congregations across Mississippi. Since beginning the ministry at age 16—the same year he and his wife Phyllis were married—he has preached the Gospel in Pontotoc, Dumas, Smithdale, New Albany, Bruce, Winona, Hattiesburg, Clinton, Mendenhall and now in Starkville. Additionally, he has served as director of public relations at the Baptist Children's Village in Clinton, and as a trustee and chairman of the Board of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Missouri.

A graduate of Blue Mountain College, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and William Carey College, Dr. McGregor says he works today just as hard as he did before his "retirement" 6 years ago. But he maintains that in his calling, one never actually retires.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. McGregor has over the years encountered several major heart attacks and has even been clinically dead for a short amount of time. But he persevered and lives now following a heart transplant over 10 years ago. I believe his current health, his longevity, his sharpness of mind and his continued service to God and man comes not from his physical heart, but from his heart for God which never ceased beating in the past 50 years.

A TRIBUTE TO JOAN EASTMOND

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Joan Eastmond who has dedicated her life to strengthening our educational system and improving her community.

Joan was born the youngest of 6 children into the Eastmond family and long time member of Bedford-Stuyvesant's royalty. The Eastmond family's record of community service had a profound influence on her development and ultimately, her achievements. The birth of her son, Brian, was noted by Essence Magazine.

She has always been committed to public service. As a teen she got involved with NAACP Youth Committee. She also participated in the School Integration Movement, led by her former minister, the late Dr. Milton Galamison (Siloam Presbyterian Church). She also had a unique role as a teacher. She struggled against the wishes of the prejudiced school system and the biases of the UFT. Her