

classroom at JHS 271 in the late 1960s was a model of "afri-centricism" and educational liberation.

A Training Coordinator of AFRAM Associates, she nurtured her decision-making role of parents on 9 different sites, public and private, located in 5 different States and the District of Columbia. She co-developed with Preston Wilcox and the late Kenneth W. Haskins, a tested and copyrighted educational model: Parent Implementation (Decision-Making) in Education. She also is the author of a major AFRAM Publication: The HAMPTON Experiences.

Currently employed at the Fort Greene Senior Citizens Center where she combines a variety of services for senior citizens, youth and graduate students (Lincoln University of Human Services Program), into a simulated social mission.

Joan is best known for the services she provides to the community as Joan has never forgotten where she came from. While serving "at-risk" youth at Bed-Stuy Restoration, her commitment to others became quite evident. She did not approach these youth as potential problems. Instead, she worked to convince them that they were in fact, "diamonds in the rough."

Mr. Speaker, Joan Eastmond has been a leader in her community through her efforts to improve our educational system and serve those in need. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF MR. JOEL O. SWANSON

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2005

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, Mobile County, and indeed the entire State of Alabama, recently lost a dear friend, and I rise today to honor him and pay tribute to his memory.

Mr. Joel O. Swanson was a devoted family man and dedicated community leader throughout his life. A native of Mobile, Alabama, Mr. Swanson moved at an early age to Port Arthur, Texas, with his father and mother, Captain and Mrs. Joel Arvid Swanson. In 1951, he and his family moved back to Mobile and established the advertising department for a local supermarket chain, Delchamps. Over the next four decades, he worked tirelessly to continue Delchamps' growth in the Mobile area, serving as advertising manager, corporate secretary, and executive vice president. He continued to work in the family business until his retirement in 1991.

In the midst of his intense professional schedule, Mr. Swanson always found time to serve with many community organizations and on several boards of directors. He served as president of the boards for the Mobile Mental Health Association, the Lions Club of Mobile, the Mobile Opera, and Symphony Concerts of Mobile. Additionally, he was a member of the Lions Club of Mobile and took an active role in the Museum of Mobile Board and the Friends of the Library.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated community leader and friend to many throughout South Alabama. Mr. Swanson will be deeply missed by his family—his wife of 61 years, Marilyn Morris Swanson; his children, Jan Swanson, Joel Craig Swanson, and Kirk Swanson; and one granddaughter—as well as the countless friends he leaves behind. Our thoughts and prayers are with them all at this difficult time.

HONORING MR. LARRY TEAGUE

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2005

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor Mr. Larry Teague, Mayor of Mabank, Texas for his longtime support of agriculture in and around Mabank, Texas. Mr. Teague is a recipient of the Woodrow Walker Award from the Henderson County Livestock Show Association, for which he has served as a buyer for 25 years. In addition, Mr. Teague has also been a buyer for the Kaufman County Junior Livestock Show and a member and officer of the Mabank Ag Booster Club.

A father to three children, Randy, Rachelle, and Robby, Mr. Teague married his wife, Linda Carter, in June of 1972. Along with his agricultural activities, Mr. Teague is a member, deacon, and trustee at the First Baptist Church in Mabank. He is the president of Mabank Economic Development, and a supporter of a number of charitable programs including Kids Across America, the Special Olympics, and the Make a Wish Foundation.

As a father, a husband, a devout churchgoer, and a community leader, Mr. Larry Teague has embodied the values of family, faith, and hard work that lie at the core of American society. As his representative in Congress, it is my distinct pleasure to honor him today on the floor of the United States House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING THE DEDICATION OF "A GIRL'S PLACE" IN FAIRFIELD, CA

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2005

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the March 24, 2005 dedication of "A Girl's Place," the Fairfield Facility of the Girl Scout Council of Napa-Solano.

This facility symbolizes a commitment from the community to ensuring that girls have a place to feel safe and to call their own. In June 1931, the residents of the City of Fairfield and Solano County came together to dedicate a building for the Girl Scouts of their community. Today, 75 years later, they have joined together again to reaffirm their pledge to the Girl Scouts and to dedicate a new facility. This new building replaces the old, which made way for modernization and offers the community hope and vision for the future.

"A Girl's Place" will stand as an icon in the community, offering a safe haven for girls ages 5-17 and a place for adults who give freely of their time and love to come together to gain knowledge of our ever-changing young women.

The Girl Scouts of Napa-Solano serve 4,500 girls and 1,300 adult volunteers; nearly 1 in every 10 girls is a Girl Scout. Today Girl Scouts are reaching out into the community to provide a solid foundation for every girl, everywhere. Girls are participating in Girl Scouting in homes, schools, boys and girls clubs, juvenile halls, low-income housing complexes, emergency women's shelters, foster care programs, and churches. Girl Scouting helps girls mold their values and teaches self-confidence, leadership, teamwork and pride in her community. This collaboration inspires us all.

As the Girl Scouts' Honorary Congressional Co-Troop Leader, I am honored to recognize "A Girl's Place" as a proud addition to our community and I look forward to the generations of strong women who will spring from its steps.

INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE GOAL OF INCREASED HOMEOWNERSHIP IN THE UNITED STATES AND RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF HOMEOWNERSHIP PROGRAMS, FAIR LENDING LAWS, AND FAIR HOUSING LAWS IN ACHIEVING THIS GOAL

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2005

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution that supports the goal of increased homeownership in the United States and recognizes the importance of homeownership programs, fair lending laws, and fair housing laws in achieving those goals.

This resolution specifically urges the President to designate April 2005 as National Fair Housing Month. It also urges the House of Representatives to recommit itself to making fair housing and homeownership a legislative priority in the 109th Congress.

We owe it to our constituents and the American people to support first-time homeownership programs, which help families who have never owned a home experience the benefits of home ownership.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution contains the importance of first-time homeownership, combating disparities in minority home ownership, and fighting the scourge of predatory lending. As the land of opportunity, we must ensure that all U.S. citizens are given a fair opportunity to achieve the American Dream, a significant component of which is homeownership.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution. As Members of Congress, it is our moral responsibility to ensure that all citizens have the opportunity to purchase a home, no matter their ethnicity, race, or religion. I look forward to working with my colleagues and moving this promising resolution forward.