

places in the world have become and it tells a story of the Caribbean's good fortune in being a politically stable region where governments are far more interested in upgrading people's daily lives than possessing the bomb and remaining in office at all cost.

Our hearts go out to those Ms. Bhutto has left behind, especially her children.

We didn't believe she was the answer for what ails Pakistan. During her years at the helm, Pakistan was a politically divided country where well connected politicians and families lived off the fat of the land, like feudal overlords while more than 40 million people lived in abject poverty.

Another thing. U.S. policy in the Indian sub-continent is now in shambles. The Bush administration unwisely encouraged Bhutto to go back to Pakistan, knowing that her family's enemies in and out of the army and the radical community wouldn't rest until they had done her harm. Unfortunately, they succeeded.

The Bush White House embraced Musharraf, whose dictatorial tendencies are well known. His lack of respect for the independence of the judiciary and the press should have made him a pariah in Washington's eyes. But the Republicans looked the other way because of its "war on terrorism."

Washington's contradictory policies are evident in its warm relations with Musharraf and its disdain for Venezuela's leader Hugo Chavez. Although the Latin American President was voted into office by wide margins in free and fair elections, the U.S. labeled him a dictator and joined forces with his enemies to try to discredit him.

Perhaps, 2008, President Bush's final year in office may bring some meaningful and positive changes in his foreign and economic policy.

An important change would be its stance on the issue of Antigua, Internet gambling and the World Trade Organization. The WTO's recent decision to give Antigua the greenlight to secure compensation following the U.S. high-handed attack on a legitimate business that once employed thousands of Antiguans was probably not what the government in St. John's wanted. But it is a step in the right direction.

The Baldwin Spencer government should be applauded for its tenacity and its ability to remind Washington that the law of the jungle, might is right, can backfire. The U.S. acted to outlaw Internet gaming in Antigua and other countries while allowing gambling at home, in the form of lotteries, off-track betting on horse races and in casinos in Las Vegas, Atlantic City and other parts of the U.S.

We trust that the U.S. abide by the WTO ruling and make 2008 the year when it ended its unworthy battles against a tiny neighbor which wants nothing more than to boost its economy and improve living the conditions of its people.

This year should also see New York playing the role of host to Caribbean Presidents and Prime Ministers who are due in the City in June to meet with business and political leaders and the large Caribbean immigrant community.

U.S. Congressman Charles Rangel, Chairman of the powerful Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives, who is perhaps the region's best friend on Capitol Hill is expected to do his part in making the meetings a success.

They are to be a follow-up to last year's Caribbean conference in Washington which culminated with sessions with Mr. Rangel and other members of his Committee, the Black Caucus and President George Bush.

Clearly, then, 2008 promises to be a year of action.

HONORING WILLIAM H. EASTBURN III

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2008

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of William H. Eastburn III. Mr. Eastburn passed away on March 7, 2008, following a long and courageous battle with cancer. Mr. Eastburn lived an honorable and noteworthy life, dedicating himself to helping those in his community.

Mr. Eastburn began his career of service to others as a prosecutor at the Bucks County District Attorney's office and then later at the state Attorney General's office. After his work as a prosecutor, Mr. Eastburn became a fourth generation member of the law firm of Eastburn and Gray, Bucks County's largest law firm.

In addition to his distinguished legal career, Mr. Eastburn will be long remembered for his philanthropic work within Bucks County. Mr. Eastburn founded and served as chairman of the board for the Voice of Reason, an organization dedicated to ending gun violence. He served for several years as the chairman of both the Bucks County Commission on Violence Prevention Task Force and the Bucks County Implementation Commission on Violence Prevention. Mr. Eastburn also dedicated his time to the Heritage Conservancy, Western Health Foundations, First Service Bank, and the Free Clinic of Doylestown Hospital.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Eastburn spent his life working to improve, not just Bucks County but the larger American community as well. He established and participated in various organizations that benefited people all across the United States. Along with his wife Connie, Mr. Eastburn helped found the Americans for Native Americans, which raised money and gathered supplies for Native Americans living in the Southwest United States. Mr. Eastburn helped organize and lead the Bucks-Mont Bay Waveland Katrina Relief Project which raised over \$2 million for the hurricane ravaged area of Hancock County, Mississippi.

As his outstanding work and achievements show, William Eastburn III dedicated his life to helping those in his community and beyond. Through his lifelong efforts, Mr. Eastburn has transformed Bucks County and America for the better. Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Mr. Eastburn for his lifetime of extraordinary accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO PAUL FACCHINA SR.

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2008

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, today I want to commend Paul Facchina, Sr., for his out-

standing contributions to the natural heritage of the State of Maryland. Mr. Facchina has made his name as one of Maryland's leading businessmen—but I suspect that he will be remembered just as much for his wonderful generosity. He has left our State a gift whose value cannot be measured in dollars: the gift of open, unspoiled land.

Most recently, Mr. Facchina made headlines with his donation of 179 acres in St. Mary's County to the Maryland Environmental Trust. No doubt, he could have sold development rights on that land for a significant profit. But by placing it under a conservation easement, he ensured that it will remain pristine and largely undeveloped. Wetlands and woods will stand in place of housing tracts. And our State's environmental health will benefit: By including vital waterfront land in his grant, Mr. Facchina contributed to our efforts to clean up and preserve the endangered Chesapeake Bay.

At the same time, the grant strengthens one of southern Maryland's most valuable economic resources, the Patuxent River Naval Air Station. By protecting the buffer surrounding the Navy base, Mr. Facchina's donation helps ensure that the Naval Air Station will remain open and viable, creating jobs in St. Mary's County and driving the local economy. In cases like this one, conservation often proves to be good business.

So I thank Paul Facchina, not only for his most recent gift, but for a long and proud legacy of giving that includes an historic plantation, headwater streams of the St. Mary's River, and the forest habitats of Maryland birds. In all, his family has entrusted more than 2,100 acres to the environmental care of our State. When Maryland residents enjoy that open land, and all of its benefits, I hope they will remember whom to thank.

I also want to take this opportunity to recognize the excellent work of the Maryland Environmental Trust, which will take care of that land as part of its more than 112,000 acres. Since 1967, the Trust has worked to help keep our State beautiful, and to help landowners preserve their piece of it. For more than four decades, landowners have relied on the Trust to watch over the legacies they leave, and I'm sure that they will be able to do so for decades to come.

ON RISING VIOLENT CRIME IN THE CARIBBEAN AND WHAT SHOULD BE DONE ABOUT IT

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the pressing matter of increasing violent crime in the Caribbean and to introduce a New York CARIB News editorial that eloquently elucidates the problems and speaks to possible solutions. A conflux of drugs, guns, disaffected youth, and poverty has gripped the area's island nations, particularly Jamaica, with a world-leading 59 homicides for every 100,000 people. This is an issue neither solely endemic, nor of sole concern, to the Caribbean. The international community, rather, must accept its contribution to