

A TRIBUTE TO GINA PARHAM

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 2, 2010*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Gina Parham.

Gina Parham was born on August 30, 1957, in Brooklyn, New York. She is the daughter of the late Gloria Green and mother of Tavelle S. Parham. Gina was raised by her extended family.

Gina received her education in the Public School System here in Brooklyn. She attended college in New York City, and has returned to complete her Bachelor of Arts in Human Resources. She accepted Christ and was baptized at the early age of ten, under the Pastorate of the late Rev. Dr. Hylton L. James. Dr. James allowed the youth of Berean to take a part in the morning worship program and this is where her Christian journey began.

Her work experience spans from city to private corporations. She is presently employed by Vanguard Temporaries, New York and White Plains, New York as a Human Resources/Benefit Administrator and an Administrative Assistant. She loves to help others. Rarely will she turn anyone down if in need of her assistance. She is an event planner, loves to read, travel and cook.

Her past and present affiliations include the following: President and Dean of Pledges for Zeta Phi Beta, Sorority, Inc. Omicron Beta Chapter in Brooklyn; Officer and member of various youth organizations at Berean, such as the Girl Scouts, Jr. Ushers, Youth Lay League, Cherub Choir and Gregory Daffin Singers; Co-Chairperson on the Culinary and Decoration Committee for Women's Day Committee 2007; and was a student in Berean's Bible Institute. She currently serves as Assistant Financial Secretary and Luncheon Co-Chairperson for the Brooklyn Sunday School Union; she is a member of Church Women United in Brooklyn, Inc., Berean's Joint Usher Ministry, where she serves as a supervisor to the Jr. Usher Ministry, Berean Broadcaster and Sunday School Ministry. She also is a graduate of George T. Grier School of Ushering in June 2010.

Volunteering is important to Gina. She continues to do volunteer work three days a week or more at the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Epiphany, Epiphany Lutheran School. She volunteers for voter registration drives, assists seniors when in need, (i.e. shopping, going to the doctor or any other task they may ask of her). Gina loves to work with the seniors at Berean, especially on Senior Emphasis Sunday, an experience that brings joy to her heart.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of Gina Parham.

NEW YORK TIMES SHOWS DOUBLE STANDARD ON LEAKS

**HON. LAMAR SMITH**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 2, 2010*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, the New York Times recently decided to print classified State Department documents obtained illegally by WikiLeaks.

But one year ago, The Times declined to print information released during the ClimateGate scandal that showed scientists were hiding contradictory temperature data.

Regarding its decision to print the WikiLeaks documents, The Times wrote: "For The Times to ignore this material would be to deny its own readers the careful reporting and thoughtful analysis they expect when this kind of information becomes public."

In contrast, The Times said they did not publish the ClimateGate documents because, "The documents appear to have been acquired illegally and contain all manner of private information and statements that were never intended for the public eye, so they won't be posted here."

There is no better example of a double standard.

A TRIBUTE TO MS. DONNA  
EVELYN ANDERSON WHITE**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 2, 2010*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ms. Donna Evelyn Anderson White.

Ms. White was born on February 23, 1960, in Manhattan, New York, where she spent most of her childhood. She attended P.S. 103 and Montauk Junior High School for her elementary education, graduated with honors from Franklin Delano Roosevelt High School and received a Bachelors of Arts in Humans Services from the University of Buffalo.

A strong love for children led Ms. White to become a teacher at the Trey Whitfield School. She started out as a substitute teacher at the school, but a commitment to the institution and its children kept her there. Now, after teaching Kindergarten for sixteen years at the Trey Whitfield School, Ms. White teaches Pre-K. Teaching has been her passion and one of her greatest joys in life; she loves helping students achieve their personal and academic goals. Ms. White is considered "the other mother" to some at the Trey Whitfield School because children can come and talk to her about anything. She strongly believes that in life, one cannot do it alone; as the old adage goes, "it takes a village to raise a child."

Ms. White has always enjoyed singing—whether at church or just for fun. She shares this passion by serving as the choir director for the Trey Whitfield School's Children's Concert Choir. This choir is seasoned! They sing from state to state and, under Ms. White's direction, bless people with beautiful music.

Ms. White recently received the Mary McLeod Bethune Award for Excellence in Education/Song Bird. For her continuous efforts in the education for the children, this recognition was long overdue. After receiving this award and many other honors, Ms. White knows that she is not doing the work alone. God is on her side. Beyond her teaching duties, Ms. White proudly serves her community by tutoring and mentoring inner-city youth.

In addition to caring for children in the community, it should also be noted that Ms. White lives for her own children as well. She is a proud mother of two daughters: Whitney and Whynter. Whitney is a senior at Loyola University in Baltimore, Maryland, and Whynter is a sophomore at Nazareth Regional High School in Brooklyn, New York.

Ms. White owes all of her success to two women: Her mother, Patricia Robinson, and her deceased grandmother, Evelyn Jenkins. Ms. White's mother is not just a parental figure, but a best friend; her grandmother always provided guidance, telling her that, "little becomes much when you place it in the Master's hand." Both women offered constant support, encouragement and taught her how to bring out the best in others. Ms. White stands on the shoulders of these two valiant women and her life is a testament to their love.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of Ms. Donna Evelyn Anderson White.

HONORING THE OUTSTANDING  
PUBLIC SERVICE OF KATHY  
BECKER**HON. JOHN S. TANNER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 2, 2010*

Mr. TANNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to tell you about a dear friend of mine who has served the House of Representatives longer than you, me and the vast majority of our colleagues.

Kathy Becker's distinguished career on Capitol Hill spans more than 40 years, during which she has made important contributions not only to the districts she has served but to our country and our international alliances.

Kathy grew up near here in Federalsburg, Maryland, on the Eastern Shore and attended the University of Maryland and George Washington University before coming to Capitol Hill in May 1971. She worked almost four years for Congressman Frank Denholm of South Dakota and then—fortunately, for us—came to the Tennessee delegation, where she has served much longer than any of us elected to represent Tennessee in this chamber. She worked for 3rd District Congresswoman Marilyn Lloyd for more than 4 years and then joined the 8th District team working for my predecessor, Congressman Ed Jones.

When Betty Ann and I took office in 1989, we were very grateful that Kathy agreed to stay on the team as executive assistant, and she has been a loyal, dedicated staff member to us and an exceptional public servant to the people of west and middle Tennessee.

Kathy has been on Capitol Hill for some of history's biggest moments. She has seen eight

presidential administrations, including one president who was impeached and another who resigned to avoid the same. Kathy was here when the Vietnam War ended, the Berlin Wall came down and fundamental extremists attacked our country on September 11, 2001.

One of the great honors I have had is representing the House of Representatives on the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, serving 6 years as chairman of the U.S. delegation to that body and 2 years as President of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. This opportunity has allowed us to help strengthen diplomatic ties with parliamentarians from our closest allies, relationships that had been strained in recent years.

Our efforts there would not have been possible without Kathy's work staffing the U.S. delegation here and abroad. She has helped us stay in communication with our allies and the NATO Parliamentary Assembly team in Brussels; organized important sessions to help us get to know our fellow parliamentarians more closely; and ensured we are able to best represent our country and the House of Representatives on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean. Her commitment and hard work have helped our country continue rebuilding its reputation with our NATO allies, which is especially important to the men and women in uniform who are serving our nation around the world.

In January, Kathy will retire from Federal service, and she can do so proudly, knowing that in a career that spanned more than 4 decades, she has been a part of history and has served our district and her country honorably. Madam Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join Betty Ann, our family and me in congratulating and thanking Kathy Becker for her unparalleled commitment to public service.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO BERNIE  
AND REEVA NOWITZ

**HON. PAUL TONKO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 2, 2010*

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I would like to call the attention of the House to the remarkable accomplishments of Reeva and Bernie Nowitz as The Israel Center, a program of Jewish Educational Resources of New York, JERNY, prepares to honor them later this week.

Bernie Nowitz is a retired pharmacist. As the former president of Burns Pharmaceuticals in Rensselaer, New York, Bernie served my constituents faithfully for 24 years. After his retirement, he worked as a pharmacy consultant and then as a volunteer for the Schenectady Free Clinic. He has served as a board member of Jewish Family Services, and is a past president of Temple Beth El in Troy, where he currently serves on the Religious Committee.

As part of a fact-finding mission, Bernie traveled to the former Soviet Union and Austria to understand the plight of Jewish refugees. He has also traveled to Israel with the Volunteers for Israel project on two separate occasions. Bernie and his wife, Reeva, have

been strong supporters of Israel since their first trip 35 years ago. They have been long-time supporters of JERNY and Hadassah as well.

Reeva Nowitz, who is also being honored by JERNY, was Vice President of Burns Pharmaceuticals, working alongside her husband. Since her retirement she has been involved with the Jewish Federation, serving as president of the Women's Division and has been on the boards of the Jewish Federation of Northeastern New York and the Daughters of Sarah Foundation. She is the current president of Temple Beth El in Troy and helped in the formation of the Albany Area Jewish Cemetery Association of Northeastern New York.

Reeva and Bernie are shining examples of Americans who actively demonstrate their commitment to their family, their community and their faith. Bernie often assists Reeva with her duties at Temple Beth El of Troy where she has served as president for several years. Together with the other families that make up this small but active congregation, Temple Beth El has come to be known in the community as a place where friends and family gather each week for informal services. There, spiritual leader Alan Bell works with the members to develop weekly educational and religious activities for members and non-members alike. The services are inclusive and accessible, bringing children and grandchildren into active participation during worship.

The Nowitzes have lived the dream of seeing their love survive many decades, as their children grow to be fine adults and their family blossoms to include grandchildren. They have been members of Temple Beth El for more than 50 years and attended Hebrew School there. Reeva was born in nearby Cohoes. Bernie was born in the Bronx and moved upstate to Troy at age three.

Reeva and Bernie have been married for more than 46 happy years and have been part of the Temple Beth El and Troy community for that entire time. They have been blessed with two daughters, Cheryl and Nicole. Cheryl is married to Anthony Klein and they live in Palto Alto, California with their children Alex and Daniel. Nicole works in real estate in New York City.

I ask my colleagues to pause to congratulate Reeva and Bernie for being among the honorees at the Israel Heroes Dinner on Thursday, December 2, 2010.

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HONORING STEVEN HURD

**HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 2, 2010*

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Steven Hurd on the occasion of his retirement after 38 years of dedicated service in the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Throughout his career, Steve has fought tenaciously to improve the quality of life of veterans and their caregivers. Steve began his VA career in 1972 and served in a variety of Recreation Therapy positions. From 1983 to 1987, he served as the Assistant Chief of Vol-

untary Service at the Brockton, Massachusetts VA Medical Center. For the past 23 years, Steve has served as the Chief of Voluntary Service at the Togus, Maine VA Medical Center.

Under his leadership, a number of new programs have been established at Togus, including the 'Caught Ya' program to recognize staff members that go above and beyond their duties in caring for veterans, the Service Recovery Program, and new volunteer assignments to provide mealtime companions and other quality of care initiatives for hospitalized veterans. These programs have greatly enhanced and expanded the use of volunteers and staff in improving veterans' healthcare experiences at Togus.

Steve is also an active leader in other sectors of Veterans Affairs. He serves as the VISN 1 Voluntary Service Liaison Chief, is an active member and past president of the Maine Society of Directors of Healthcare Volunteer Services and is current president of the New England Association of Directors of Healthcare Volunteer Services. In his capacity as VISN Liaison Chief, Steve has also mentored incoming Voluntary Service Chiefs in other Medical Centers in VISN 1. In 2008, Steve served as the president of the Association of Healthcare Volunteer Resource Professionals, becoming the first VA Voluntary Service staff member to be elected to this position.

Through his dedication and valued work, Steve has garnered well-deserved appreciation and numerous accolades including the Voluntary Service Award for Excellence, the Governors' Volunteer Service Award for Excellence in Volunteer Administration and most recently, the Award for Excellence from the Association of Volunteer Resource Professionals.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Steven Hurd for his compassion and tireless efforts on behalf of the veterans in Maine.

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A TRIBUTE TO ANN-MARIE K.  
FOSTER

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 2, 2010*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ann-Marie K. Foster.

Ann-Marie Karlene Goddard Foster was born to serve and help others. Born in Brooklyn, New York on June 22, 1969, she is the eldest of three children born to the late Marva Williams. After losing her mother to gun violence at the tender age of eight years old, Ann-Marie's desire to help others in her community began to take root. Ms. Foster was raised by her loving grandmother, Josephine Ellis, and her late grandfather, Clayton Ellis; her grandparents instilled in her that a solid education was the key to endless opportunities, and a mantra such as "what is in your head can't nobody take it away from you." She graduated at the age of 16 with a Regents diploma from Brooklyn Technical High School in 1986. She went on to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Utica College of Syracuse University in 1990 with intentions of serving in the health care community.