

succeed in the community. This organization builds relationships with financial institutions in the area. S.A.A.M.B.A. also sponsors training workshops, seminars or conferences like this one, educates and answers questions of African-American business owners and other people with similar interests. This organization's efforts to increase membership each year have been successful and its members look forward to many more years of building relationships and promoting business opportunities.

The first Civil Rights legislation was enacted in 1964, and the fight for equal treatment under the law continues today. Dr. Martin Luther King dreamed of a color-blind world, and organizations like S.A.A.M.B.A. are committed to supporting his ideal by helping African-Americans in business. They work to achieve equality for African-Americans, and are constantly changing attitudes in the business community. Our country has come a long way, but we have much work to do, and organizations like S.A.A.M.B.A. are paving the way for minorities in the business world.

Mr. Speaker, the Saginaw African-American Minority Business Association is a strong foundation for African-American adults, youth and the community. I urge you and our colleagues to join me in recognizing the outstanding contributions to the community and congratulating the President, Corrine S. Williams and the dedicated staff of S.A.A.M.B.A. on their accomplishments this year.

IN HONOR OF CAPTAIN JAMES
SPRAYBERRY, WINNER OF THE
CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF
HONOR

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 9, 1998

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a great American hero: Captain James Sprayberry, born in LaGrange, Georgia. As a soldier in Vietnam, Captain James Sprayberry selflessly risked his own life to repeatedly charge enemy machine gun nests to rescue pinned-down American soldiers. In the process, he personally saved many of their lives, while killing twelve enemy soldiers, destroying two machine-guns, and eliminating numerous enemy bunkers. For this extraordinary bravery, Captain Sprayberry was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, our nation's highest military decoration. On October 26, 1998, a road in my district will officially be named after him.

In times of peace, it is far too easy to forget that freedom carries a high price. Captain Sprayberry was willing to pay that price. He deserves the undying gratitude of a grateful nation that enjoys peace today thanks to the sacrifices he and all of our other veterans have made over the years.

AGAINST HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION 254

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 9, 1998

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to comment on House Concurrent Resolution 254 which passed the House on September 14, 1998. I inaccurately voted in favor of this bill when I should have voted "no."

The bill calls upon the Government of Cuba to expatriate to the United States Ms. Joanne Chesimard as well as all other individuals who have fled the U.S. from political persecution and received political asylum in Cuba.

I wish to officially go on record as opposed to this measure. Unfortunately, the bill was placed on the suspension calendar, which is usually reserved for non-controversial measures. Furthermore, none of the many advocacy groups that monitor this vote informed my office of their concern.

I oppose H. Con. Res. 254 because I support the right of all nations to grant political asylum to individuals fleeing political persecution. The United States grants political asylum to individuals from all over the world. Other independent nations have the same right, including Cuba.

I strongly believe that the right for various governments to grant political asylum should not be disturbed. I am aware of the fact that this body often does not agree with the particular decisions made by other independent governments regarding political asylum. However, I have stood before this house many times defending and advocating for the rights of immigrants and refugees in the United States. Just as we maintain our right as a nation to welcome those from other shores, whether immigrant or refugee—we must respect the Cuban Government's right to grant political asylum for individuals from the U.S. fleeing political persecution.

TRIBUTE TO MEREDITH BIXBY

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 9, 1998

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Meredith Bixby from Saline, Michigan.

On October 18, 1998, the Saline Culture and Commerce Center will open the Bixby Marionette Exhibit. This exhibit includes over 100 of Meredith Bixby's hand-crafted marionettes which he gave to the City of Saline.

Meredith Bixby is affectionately known as the "Master of Marionettes." His company "Meredith Marionettes Touring Company" toured the Midwest and South for more than 40 years, performing in schools, theaters and community centers.

I personally admire Meredith Bixby because his stated goal was, "to present programs that we [that is Meredith and his wife Thyra] thought were in good taste." This is an element so often missing in theater productions of today.

I want to commend Meredith Bixby for his hard work and dedication. It is estimated that

in 88 years, he has performed more than 20,000 marionette plays.

A TRIBUTE TO RICHARD CHERRY

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 9, 1998

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Richard Cherry, a member of the American Legion in my district. Dick is being feted by his comrades and friends at a special Appreciation Dinner to be held on November 14, 1998 at the Adams Township Post No 553 of the American Legion. I will be proud and humbled to participate in this well-deserved recognition.

Dick Cherry currently serves as National Committeeman for the more than 164,000 members of the Ohio American Legion. In his 29 years with the Legion, he has also served as Commander of the Department of Ohio, First Vice and Second Vice Commander of the Department of Ohio, Commander of the Great First District of Ohio, Commander of Lucas County, Commander of the Adams township Post, and Delegate to Lucas County, the First District, Department of Ohio, and National Organization. He also diligently labors on countless committees on the County, District, Department of Ohio, and National levels.

A member of the United States Army, Dick is a veteran of the Korean War who served with the Second Division, 23 Infantry Battalion. With the deepest of understanding of the importance of remembering our nation's veterans, he is an active member of the Toledo Soldiers Memorial Association, and the Lucas County Veterans Service Commission, and the Soldiers and Sailors Relief Association.

Listing his involvement in civic and veteran organizations only gives one a glimpse of the man. Dick Cherry is a man of the greatest compassion and empathy, with a sharp mind and a deep soul. He has been a trusted advisor to me on veterans issues, offering wise counsel regarding health care in our nation's VA medical centers, compensation and pension benefits for veterans and their families, and the "veterans position" on national issues. In any forum, he conducts himself with dignity and grace, quietly but effectively conveying the message that we must never forget our veterans, their courage, or the sacrifices they made to bring us the freedom we know today.

If a measure of a man is the esteem in which others hold him, then Dick Cherry is a man beyond measure. I join his wife Carol, his family, friends, and colleagues in paying homage to a most down-to-earth yet most remarkable man.

IN HONOR OF THE SESQUICENTEN-
NIAL OF FLOYD SPRINGS
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH LO-
CATED IN FLOYD COUNTY, GEOR-
GIA

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 9, 1998

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Floyd Springs United Methodist Church of Floyd County, Georgia which

is celebrating its Sesquicentennial anniversary this fall. For 150 years, since its founding in 1848, the church has been a focal point for the worship of God, religious education, and community service to the Floyd Springs area and beyond. The church is a part of the Rome-Carrollton District, North Georgia conference of the United Methodist Church, and is located at 1954 Floyd Springs Road, Armuchee, Georgia.

Institutions of faith have always provided a vital service to America; by encouraging moral behavior, assisting citizens in need, and guiding the spiritual development of millions. For 150 years, Floyd Springs United Methodist Church has been in the forefront of that cause. Now, in 1998, we need the spiritual Christian leadership and service this great church offers.

The congregation has planned special activities during October to commemorate this historic event, and I am proud to lend my voice to this effort.

IN HONOR OF ERIC DELUCIEN AND
NEW DIRECTIONS, INC.

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 9, 1998

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of my colleagues a courageous 5-day journey passing through my district on the Central Coast today.

Eric DeLucien, an Americorps volunteer, is undertaking a 500 mile fundraising bike ride from San Francisco to Los Angeles, California, which will benefit New Directions, Inc.'s education fund. New Directions Inc., a nonprofit self-help program, provides free comprehensive rehabilitative services to homeless veterans with histories of chronic substance abuse and other disorders like Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Through this program, veterans receive the encouragement and job training they need to compete in today's job market.

My late husband, Walter Capps, was empathetic to the plight of all veterans; I share his concern and commitment to this community. I hope that this bicycle fundraiser will increase public awareness to the problems facing many of our veterans today, and I would like to thank New Directions, Inc. for providing the opportunities and tools they need to succeed.

Mr. Speaker, I conclude that the On the Road for Homeless Vets bike ride is a noble cause, and commend Eric DeLucien and New Directions, Inc. for their dedication to improving the lives of veterans in our country.

TRIBUTE TO LOUIS STOKES

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 9, 1998

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, over the past few months there have been many tributes to our departing colleague, Congressman LOU STOKES. The accolades have been lengthy because there is a great deal to be said about the thirty year record of Congressman STOKES. Unfortunately, the most senior Mem-

bers have been accorded the privilege of speaking first, and thus, I have been deprived of my opportunity to also praise LOU STOKES.

As a Member who has worked with LOU STOKES for sixteen of his thirty years, I feel I have known him long enough to speak with authority but not so long and so close that I have lost my capacity for some objectivity. We are all familiar with the concept of the "Renaissance Man" with a broad array of talents. In the power arena LOU STOKES is a "Renaissance Political Man." He possesses the unique ability and capacity to perform as a deal maker; as a champion for issues; as a program innovator; as a team player and institution builder.

Watching LOU perform over the years has been an inspiring learning experience. As a key member of the Appropriations Committee he has repeatedly made the right deals for worthwhile programs. When the authorizing committee, ten years ago, established Title III-B for the direct funding of Historically Black Colleges and Universities, STOKES did the necessary homework to obtain immediate funding for this program which has now provided more than one billion dollars for higher education. Beyond serving as a conduit or vehicle for the obtainment of dollars, LOU served as an advocate and champion for the neglected African American colleges.

We have watched and greatly appreciated LOU STOKES' use of power to address complex and difficult problems. His service on the Ethics Committee, the Intelligence Committee and numerous groups that took him beyond the call of duty, has led to the acquisition of enormous amounts of respect and influence. He has repeatedly used this influence to introduce constructive innovations without lengthy legislation. Hundreds of minority youth have benefited from programs for interns and fellows originated by LOU in the various agencies of government.

Despite the enormous responsibilities which have come with his accrued powers, LOU has remained a consummate team player and institution builder. The personality cult has never claimed STOKES. He has worked tirelessly to build the Congressional Black Caucus. The CBC Health Braintrust is the model for all current and future meaningful Braintrust operations. Certainly the inspiration for a strong CBC Education Braintrust has come via the observance of the Health Braintrust. More people are engaged year round in the Health Braintrust than in any other CBC activity. This organization is the primary beneficiary of STOKES' habit of doing careful homework. Without a doubt the Health Braintrust is an institution that LOU has made strong enough to endure long after his resignation.

LOU STOKES, the "Renaissance Political Man" has not only performed magnificently in Washington, but also back home. His imprint is deeply embedded in the governance of his City of Cleveland, Ohio. Despite the fact that he still has many years left to enjoy his retirement, LOU has already been enshrined as a hero of his city. The new state-of-the-art Cleveland Public Library building bears the name of Congressman LOUIS STOKES. Needless to say, as the only Librarian ever elected to Congress, I find this achievement profoundly impressive.

For his comprehensive, across the board performance LOU STOKES stands high above his peers. When you consider the attributes

and character traits necessary for productivity and success in the political arena, most Members of Congress can claim certain areas of strength while admitting to other areas of weakness. But only LOU can lay claim to titles all across the spectrum. He is a great deal maker, a champion advocate for issues; a program innovator, a team player; and an institution builder.

LOU STOKES, the "Renaissance Political Man" leaves very high standards for all future Members of Congress to utilize to measure their performance and their productivity.

CONGRESS SHOULD TAKE ACTION
TO PRESERVE MEDICARE'S
HOME HEALTH BENEFITS BE-
FORE ADJOURNMENT

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 9, 1998

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of efforts to reform Medicare's home health payment system now, before unreasonably low payment caps negatively impact quality and access to care. While they are not as comprehensive as the changes that I and many other members sought, the changes H.R. 4567 makes to the interim payment system (IPS) will give much-needed relief to home care agencies in my Congressional district and many others.

I am very concerned that we are considering paying for this change by expanding Roth IRAs. This expansion would raise the \$2.4 billion we need in the first 5 years, but it will cost us \$10.7 billion in the years after that. Financing this much-needed change in this way is a little like borrowing from a loan shark. We get a little bit of money now, but we'll have an even bigger bill to pay later.

The Senate is working on a version of this bill which would give even more relief to efficient agencies and would block the 15% across the board cut scheduled for next year. Home health agencies in my district have told me the impending 15% cut will have a destructive effect on their ability to provide services, and I would prefer not to wait until next year to address their concerns. The Senate bill is not paid for using the Roth IRA method, which I believe is better policy. Wednesday night I joined several of my colleagues in introducing a House bill which is nearly identical to the bipartisan Senate bill.

I will support H.R. 4567 in an attempt to move the process forward and craft a home health care solution in this Congress. However, I hope the House will move toward the Senate position in the conference. I believe doing so will give us a better bill, one which provides more relief for efficient agencies and frees all agencies from the specter of the 15% cut.

CONGRATULATIONS, SAGINAW

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 9, 1998

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud the good work of the City of Saginaw,