hope that some day, greatness will rise up in all of us. In the past several decades, several notable Hispanics have fought for the world heavyweight title, and despite their valor, have not achieved it; when one reviews the list, one sees how great this achievement is:

1923—Luis “The Wild Bull of the Pampas” Firpo vs. Jack Dempsey
1968—Manuel Ramos vs. Joe Frazier
1975—Joe “King” Roman vs. George Foreman
1977—Alfredo Evangelista vs. Muhammad Ali
1979—Alfredo Evangelista vs. Larry Holmes
1989—Lucien Rodriguez vs. Larry Holmes

John’s win has special personal significance for me. As a former ball-player, both in school and semi-professionally, I recognize the special labors of our athletes, and the inspiration that athletics can play in our lives, particularly to minority youngsters. Athletics can be a motivating factor, something that gives us a sense of identity, something to work for. Athletics ultimately caused me to finish school, serve my country in the military, go to college, and become a college community trustee, Assembly Member, State Senator, and Member of Congress. It was not always easy, but I had role models, and I am pleased that John is a role model for today’s youth.

I would hope that Hispanic youth, indeed, all the youth of America, look at the achievement of John Ruiz and see they can reach equally great heights, whether it is in athletics, academics, or the world of business, science, public service, or the arts. America’s youth need to know that we believe in them, and they should believe in themselves. Because God gives us all talents.

In the short run, there is nothing so sweet as a victory, and nothing so stinging as a defeat. But what is ultimately important is good sportsmanship, good conduct, playing a worthy game, facing a worthy adversary. Living to fight another day. In that sense, both John and Jocelyn have fought the good fight, the noble fight.

As a young man, I can remember admiring the work of Shirley Chisholm, the first African American woman elected to serve in the United States Congress from my home state of New York. Former Congresswoman Chisholm was first elected into office in 1968, as a representative for the 12th Congressional District of New York and served for 15 years until she retired in 1983.

She was a great advocate for education, day care and providing other resources to improve the quality of life in inner cities. She also fought to decrease defense spending and to end the military draft. I believe that Ms. Chisholm’s legacy is one that should always be remembered, honored and cherished along with many others. That is why this publication is so very important.

Since its last publication, an additional 40 distinguished African Americans have served in either the House or Senate. Moreover, many of the biographies of several senior members of the House have grown outdated and I believe that the time has come to revise and reprint this important historical work.

This legislation would allow the Library of Congress to revise the current volume under the direction of House Administration. In addition, the bill would allow for the copying, binding and distribution of the book to Members in both the House and Senate.

Mr. Speaker, this next edition of “Black Americans in Congress” will undoubtedly be a great resource and a treasured addition to every member of the House and the Senate, as well as the Library of Congress and libraries throughout this country.

I urge my colleagues to join in support of this concurrent resolution.

PERMANENT HOUSING HOMELESS PREVENTION GRANT RENEWAL ACT

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, March 6, 2001

Mr. LAFAULCE. Mr. Speaker, today, along with Representatives WELLER, FRANK, QUINN, SABO, BIGGERT, and LEE, I will be introducing the “Permanent Housing Homeless Prevention Grant Renewal Act.”

This bi-partisan legislation authorizes renewal of expiring Shelter Plus Care and SHP permanent housing rental assistance grants through the HUD Section 8 Housing Certificate Fund. Currently, some 75,000 vulnerable families, including veterans, disabled, mentally ill, and other families at risk of homelessness, receive monthly rental assistance under these two important McKinney-Vento Act homeless programs.

The legislation is supported by a broad group of national and regional organizations which fight homelessness, including Catholic Charities, the National Alliance to End Homelessness, the Corporation for Supportive Housing, and the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill. These groups have jointly written “to offer our support and assistance in moving this important legislation forward,” and noted that “This bill will have the effect of providing new rental assistance to more homeless people with disabilities, as well as preventing catastrophic losses of housing for some of the most vulnerable Americans.”

Renewing Shelter Plus Care and SHP permanent housing through Section 8 is a solution to the annual uncertainty over renewals. Currently, when the initial term of a Shelter Plus Care or SHP permanent grant expires, a grantee must re-apply each year for continued assistance. If a grant is not renewed, the families which are receiving rental assistance under the grant face the risk of eviction and homelessness.

This is not an idle risk. Just fourteen months ago, HUD failed to renew rental assistance grants for thousands of families nationwide. It took over an emergency appropriation bill in July of last year to reinstate funding for these grants. In the interim, many communities were forced to scramble for funds to cover the gap; many families confronted the very real risk that they would lose their monthly rental assistance.

Last year, the House devised a permanent solution to this problem, as part of the House VA-HUD appropriations bill. That bill funded all renewals of expiring Shelter Plus Care grants through the HUD Section 8 Housing Certificate Fund. This approach is justified on broad policy grounds. Congress routinely renews portable and project-based Section 8 rental assistance; only the most vulnerable families at risk of homelessness face the annual risk of non-renewal.

Funding these renewals through Section 8 also means that critically needed new permanent supportive housing proposals will not have to compete with renewals for scarce resources. And, providing a reliable source of renewals after the initial grant term will make it easier for project sponsors to build permanent housing.
Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to place in the record a letter to the Washington Post published on February 14, 2001, which cites the dedicated service of Mr. Bernard Hollander for 51 years in the Antitrust Division of the U.S. Department of Justice. I want to note that the long and distinguished career of Mr. Hollander includes two important contributions to American Samoa.

In the 1960’s, Mr. Hollander prosecuted an antitrust case which opened up the petroleum storage facilities in American Samoa to multiple suppliers, thus bringing the benefits of competition in fuel supply to our economy. The court decree requiring open access to our petroleum market remains in place, and Mr. Hollander continues to represent the United States in the case.

Mr. Hollander was also instrumental in opening the American Samoa market to competition in long-haul air service. Acting as special counsel to the Governor of American Samoa, Mr. Hollander participated in proceedings before the Civil Aeronautics Board which authorized competition in U.S. air service to our territory. Prior to that case, only one airline was authorized to provide service connecting American Samoa with Hawaii and the U.S. mainland.

I am pleased to note for the record the service of Mr. Bernard Hollander to American Samoa. We wish him many years of good health and good work.

LEGENDS OF JUSTICE

As a Jan. 30 news story reported, the Justice Department’s eminent tax lawyer, Ernest Brown, has retired at age 94 after 30 years of service.

But Bernard Hollander, another Justice Department legend at age 85 and a former student of Ernest Brown’s at Harvard Law School, continues to work in the department’s antitrust division as he has for 51 years.

The public is fortunate to have the benefit of lawyers as talented and dedicated as Ernest Brown and Bernard Hollander.

ROBERT B. NICHOLSON, Chevy Chase.

A TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN DANIEL H. RUFFLE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to honor police Captain Daniel H. Ruffle, who will be honored for his distinguished service as the Commanding Officer of the 63rd police precinct on Thursday, March 8th, 2001. Let it be known that he shares this honor with his wife of 27 years, LaVerne, and his daughter Adrienne.

Dan received his appointment to the New York City Police Department as a police trainee in June 1967. It was at that time he embarked on a thus far 34 year career. While working as a police officer assigned to the 79th and 60th precincts, Officer Ruffle displayed an intensity and drive in performing his duties that resulted in his being appointed as a citywide narcotics investigator in March 1977.

Dan Ruffle’s exemplary work was recognized and rewarded with a promotion to Detective in October 1979. As a detective, Ruffle was assigned to the Manhattan Special Victims Squad. Dan’s special sense of caring and inner strength became invaluable qualities as he handled some of the most difficult and heinous crime investigations a police officer must face.

In September 1983, Daniel Ruffle was promoted to Sergeant and served the communities of both the 68th and 60th precincts. As a supervisor, Ruffle’s easygoing demeanor enabled him to encourage and develop relationships between the police officers and the community. Police participation and community involvement continued to be areas that Dan Ruffle stressed during his tenure as a Lieutenant assigned to the 70th, 61st, and 62nd precincts. Dan also served as Lieutenant for the N.S.U. 10. While at the Neighborhood Stabilization Unit, Ruffle was responsible for training hundreds of new police officers. It was his personal insight into policing as well as his dedication to community service that Dan used to influence and develop the careers of the rookie officers in his charge. Many of whom have gone on to have outstanding careers as police officers.

December 1995 was when Daniel H. Ruffle was promoted to the rank of captain. He first served as the Executive Officer of the 67th precinct. It was not long before Dan was appointed as the Commanding Officer of the Brooklyn South Task Force. The Task Force under his direction was used on various occasions as a utility unit to provide back up, support, and expertise to local precincts.

The 63rd precinct became Dan’s command in May 1997. It was here that Captain Ruffle’s experience and continued pursuit of excellence were realized with consistent reductions in crime. Year after year the 63rd precinct has been lauded for all of the contributions that have been made in maintaining and improving the quality of life in the neighborhoods it serves. This is a result of the outstanding leadership of Captain Daniel H. Ruffle.

Mr. Speaker, Captain Daniel H. Ruffle is more than worthy of receiving this honor and our praises, and I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in recognizing this truly remarkable man.